



RELIGION
Explaining the Santa Claus legend Page 16

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Serving the Communities of Central Connecticut



Joyce Grayson

Nurse's fatal last visit renews calls for better safety measures

DAVE COLLINS AND PAT EATON-ROBB ASSOCIATED PRESS

WILLIMANTIC — The killing of a Connecticut nurse making a house call in October was a nightmare come true for an industry gripped by the fear of violence.

Already stressed out by staffing shortages and mounting caseloads, health care workers are increasingly worrying about the possibility of a patient becoming violent — a scenario that is too common and on the rise nationwide.

Joyce Grayson, a 63-year-old mother of six, went into a halfway house for sex offenders in late October, to give medication to a man with a violent past. She didn't make it out alive.

Police found her body in the basement and have named her patient as the

See BETTER ON PAGE 4

Fuel cell and data center opening

BRIAN M. JOHNSON @BRIANJOHNSONBP

BRISTOL — The former "Dodge Village" property on Riverside Ave. may soon be demolished and replaced with a new data center building, Bristol Mayor Jeff Caggiano told the Press.

Justin Malley, economic development director, said the property at 234 Riverside Ave. has sat

vacant for "probably 15 or more years." It was previously a Dodge dealership and then was home to a used car dealership. It is now considered a Brownfield site.

"It is probably the second-biggest eyesore on Riverside Ave.," Caggiano said.

But, according to Caggiano, the vacant structure will soon be torn down and replaced by a new busi-

ness. ReNew Developers, LLC, he said, have plans to transform the site into a fuel cell and data center.

According to city records, ReNew Developers will be utilizing \$26,150 in local American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to assist with the remediation of the site prior to demolition. The new building would see a fuel cell system and associated equipment

See RENEW ON PAGE 4



The blighted former "Dodge Village" property in Bristol will now be used by ReNew Developers, LLC.



Mayor Jeff Caggiano and City Councilor Jacqueline Olsen present Fran Mirmina, owner of M&M Carpet, with a plaque congratulating him for 45 years in business.

City celebrates 45 years of M&M

BRIAN M. JOHNSON @BRIANJOHNSONBP

BRISTOL — City leaders visited M&M Carpet to congratulate owner Fran Mirmina on 45 years serving the Bristol community. Mirmina opened M&M Carpet's first location in Forestville Center right out of high school. He has had

several locations throughout town before moving to 99 Maple St., where he has been for the past 27 years. Mirmina attributes his success over so many years to the personal service that he provides customers. He does commercial and residential carpet installation as well as flooring and vinyl.

"When people come in, I

show them the carpets, help them pick one out, measure it for them, and until about a year ago I would install it too," he said. "Now I've got a guy who I've worked with for 27 years doing the installation. I get a lot of repeat customers. People tell me 'you installed my carpet 30 years ago, now I need a new one.' I also

have people come to me telling me that I did work for their parents."

Mirmina said he has enjoyed being in business in Bristol over the years. He plans to remain open for as long as he is able to.

"I don't want to retire; I like having something to do," he said. "I've had good times and bad times but I

enjoy making my customers happy. I work from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day."

Mirmina said he saw business pick up after the pandemic, with many people looking to remodel. When he isn't working at his store, he enjoys golfing, working in the yard and collecting antiques.

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The Middle School of Plainville renovation project could see a referendum set by the next Town Council meeting.

Middle School of Plainville reno could see referendum

BRIAN M. JOHNSON @BRIANJOHNSONBP

PLAINVILLE — The Middle School of Plainville renovation project could see a referendum set by the Dec. 18 Town Council meeting, Town Council Chair Chris Wazorko said.

Wazorko said the Town Council and Board of Education held a joint meeting last Wednesday to discuss the project and get new members up to date. Between now and the council's next meeting, he said, several procedural steps will be taken, including a

referral to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

"At our Dec. 18 meeting, we will likely pick a referendum date and begin sending informational pamphlets to residents," Wazorko said.

Wazorko said he will be See REFERENDUM ON PAGE 3



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Better safety measures needed

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main suspect in her killing.

Grayson's death has her peers and lawmakers renewing their yearslong pleas for better protections for home health care workers, including sending them out with escorts and providing more information about their patients. The calls come during an era of increasing violence against medical professionals in general.

"I used to go into some pretty bad neighborhoods," said Tracy Wodatch, a visiting nurse and chief executive of the Connecticut Association of Healthcare at Home. She said she used to call the police and get an officer to escort her when she felt unsafe. But, because of budget and staffing issues, this is no longer an option, she said.

Grayson, who had been a nurse for over 36 years including the last 10 as a visiting nurse, was found dead Oct. 28 in the Willimantic halfway house. She didn't return from a visit to patient Michael Reese, a convicted rapist. No charges have been filed in the killing yet.

"It's all nurses are thinking about right now, even the hospital nurses because they've had so many close calls," said Connecticut state Sen. Martha Marx, a visiting nurse and New London Democrat who is calling for changes in both state and federal laws.

Marx said she was once sent to a home and didn't find out until she talked to clients there that it was a residence for sex offenders. Often, if a nurse asks for a

chaperone, the agency will simply reassign the work to another employee who won't "make waves," she said.

Grayson's death came about 11 months after another visiting nurse, Douglas Brant, was shot to death during a home visit in Spokane, Washington — a killing that also drew calls for safety reforms, including federal standards on preventing workplace violence.

While killings are rare, nursing industry groups say non-fatal violence against health care workers is not. From 2011 to 2018, the rate of non-fatal violence against health care workers increased more than 60%, according to the latest analysis by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In fact, the number of non-fatal injuries from workplace violence involving health care workers has been higher than that of other industries for years, according to the bureau.

In a survey released in late 2022 by the National Nurses United, the largest union of registered nurses in the U.S., 41% of hospital nurses reported an increase in recent workplace violence incidents, up from 30% in September 2021.

"I knew a home health aide who got punched in the stomach," said Ha Do Byon, a former visiting nurse and now a nursing professor at the University of Virginia, who has been studying violence against home health care workers. "Many more nurses got bitten, kicked, See CONT. BELOW



Fran Mirmina, owner of M&M Carpet, showing samples to Justin Malley and Dawn Nielsen from the city's economic development team as well as City Councilor Jacqueline Olsen.

45 years in business

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Visitors to M&M Carpet will notice a pair of antique barber chairs that Mirmina personally restored, as well as electronic Three Stooges and James Brown toys to name a few.

Bristol Mayor Jeff Caggiano, City Councilor Jacqueline Olsen, Justin Malley, economic develop-

ment director, and Dawn Nielsen, marketing and public relations specialist, visited M&M Carpet on Wednesday to congratulate Mirmina on his many years in business. He was presented with a plaque to display.

Caggiano said he bought flooring from Mirmina around 2005 to furnish a

cabin with. Mirmina said he sees the mayor at Starbucks most mornings.

"Maybe someday he'll be the mayor," Caggiano joked. "He must have served half of Bristol by now. Businesses like this are the heartbeat of what happens in Bristol. This is a great, local small business."

ReNew coming to Bristol

Continued from Page 1

installed with a capacity of up to four megawatts. The planned data center is approximately 40,000 square feet.

John Matheson, owner of ReNew Developers LLC, said his company is always looking for opportunities to redevelop blighted sites into modern "edge" data centers.

"AI, wearable devices and electric cars have created a demand for more localized data centers as opposed to a mile long building in California serving the data needs in Connecticut," he said. "We'll also be able to power this site with cleaner, fuel-cell energy on-site, which will result in lower emissions and a lower energy footprint. It's going to be a win-win for Bristol and the local environment."

Matheson said he chose Bristol as the site to construct this center due to the

support of city leadership.

"This was made possible for us due to the support of Mayor Jeff Caggiano and his team - Justin Malley, the city council and the boards and commission members," he said. "We made the decision to invest here because we knew that we would have the local government's support."

Matheson said ReNew Developers is looking to make approximately a \$50 million investment in this project. He estimated the site remediation would cost \$100,000. The ARPA funding assistance for the site cleanup, he said, was greatly appreciated.

"We're looking to take the existing building down in the next few months," he said. "We're hoping to begin construction in the second half of 2024 and have the data center operational in 2025. We just have to go through the rest of the permitting process."

Matheson said ReNew Developers hopes to do several projects like the one at 234 Riverside Ave. in the future. He said the Bristol site will be an opportunity to showcase the benefits of such a site redevelopment plan.

ReNew Developers' website, renewdevelopers.com, states it is a "Connecticut based sustainable real estate development firm that specializes in land acquisition and build out for utility scale renewable energy projects."

"ReNew is significantly invested in the energy sector and currently has a diverse portfolio of renewable energy projects in its pipeline," the website reads. "We specialize in Class 1 renewable energy generators such as solar and fuel cells, that are manufactured by our world-class partners to the exact specifications of the project."

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Referendum in Plainville

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glad to see the project moving along.

"It's a matter of getting it in front of the voters and letting them tell us what they want to do," he said. "So far, as of our last meeting, everyone was still in support of moving forward on this."

Wazorko said he has supported a complete "renovate like new" for the building at 150 Northwest Dr. In the past, some discussion had also been held about investing \$10 to \$12 million in maintenance upgrades to the school.

"With the reimbursement that we could receive, a

renovate like new project could be the least expensive option for taxpayers," Wazorko said. "We'd be looking at \$20 million for a completely new school."

Wazorko said he believes a renovate like new could end up saving the town more money in the long run on maintenance costs.

Cont.: Nurse's fatal visit

Continued from Page 1

or slapped by their patients or family members in the patients' homes. Some were attacked by vicious dogs or were called names or sworn at. Notably, the majority of these workers were female."

Byon said specific statistics on visiting nurses has been lacking and he has been working on improving the data. "There's no way home health workers should be sent into somebody's home

or apartment by themselves," said U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney, a Democrat who represents the congressional district where Grayson was killed. "You have to have systems and tools to reduce the risk."

Courtney has been pushing legislation since 2019 that would set up federal regulations requiring health care and social service employers to develop and implement comprehensive workplace violence prevention plans.

While several states require such prevention plans, there is no federal law, industry groups say.

He says the problem highlighted by Grayson's case is not just about safety, but also about attracting and retaining health care workers, many of whom feel the job is just too dangerous.

"It's honestly a huge factor in terms of the burnout that employers are so concerned about," Courtney said.

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Choose your school program open Page 3

HEALTH

Change your diet, save your heart Page 12

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Serving the Communities of Central Connecticut



Highway traffic in Dallas

Holiday crowds at airports, on roads should be bigger than last year

DAVID KOENIG ASSOCIATED PRESS

More Americans are expected to fly or drive far from home over Christmas than did last year, putting a cap on a busy year for travel.

Auto club AAA forecast Monday that 115.2 million people will go 50 miles or more from home during the 10 days between Dec. 23 and New Year's Day. That's 2.2% more than AAA predicted during the comparable stretch last year.

"That desire to get away is stronger than we have seen in a very long time," said AAA spokeswoman

See TRAVEL ON PAGE 4

Six nonprofits receive over \$13K

BRIAN M. JOHNSON @BRIANJOHNSONBP

BRISTOL — The Main Street Community Foundation awarded a record \$13,205 in grants from the Men & Boys Fund this November to support six nonprofit organizations working to improve the lives of local men and boys.

"This fund was established in 2016 to provide

grants to organizations that address the needs of local men and boys in the communities of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott," said Samantha Rajotte, scholarship and program officer with the Main Street Community Foundation. "From promoting emotional growth in young boys to offering

dads a place to connect with their kids and learn about fatherhood, the Men & Boys' Fund is always looking for ways to support the social, emotional, and educational needs of men and boys in the local communities." Since its establishment, Rajotte said, more than \$63,000 in grants has been awarded from the Fund to local nonprofit organizations with "the same vision of improving the quality of men and boys' lives,

increasing their self-sufficiency, and assisting them in making positive changes in their communities."

The following grants were awarded from the Fund this year:

Boys & Girls Club of Bristol — \$2,000 — Passport to Manhood, a program to engage boys ages 8-17 in discussions and activities that reinforce character, leadership and



Samantha Rajotte, Main Street Community Foundation

See MAIN ON PAGE 4

Popular Spot Turns 35



Brian Johnson

Laurie Mitchell, an employee at Rodd's Restaurant for 27 years, brings Mayor Jeff Caggiano and visitors from the City of Bristol their breakfast.

Rodd's Restaurant celebrated by city

BRIAN M. JOHNSON @BRIANJOHNSONBP

BRISTOL — City leaders congratulated popular breakfast spot Rodd's Restaurant on 35 years of serving the Bristol community.

The restaurant at 854 Farmington Ave., as on most mornings, had packed seats as Mayor Jeff Caggiano

and Dawn Nielsen, marketing and public relations specialist, stopped by to present owner Gina Legnani-Pellrine with a congratulatory plaque Friday. Customers cheered and applauded from their seats as they posed for pictures.

Legnani-Pellrine attributes the success of Rodd's Restaurant over the years

to her employees.

"We have a great staff, most of which have been with us practically the whole time," she said. "Customers also like that we make everything fresh. We make our potato pancakes, banana bread and sauces in-house. We have a lot of regulars; some of whom came here with their

parents as children when we first opened. Now, they're coming here with their kids."

Legnani-Pellrine employs eight people. Servers like Laurie Mitchell, who has worked there for 27 years, have built long-standing friendships with regulars such as Howie Faxon, Caggiano's father in law.

She said many of them sit in the same place and order the same breakfast every day.

"Howie always orders oatmeal and burnt toast," Mitchell said.

Mitchell said the motto among staff at Rodd's Restaurant is "You're never alone at Rodd's."

Customers and staff, she

See RODD'S ON PAGE 4

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Tabitha Manafort

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will wave to children this Wednesday at Norton Park in Plainville.

Santa, Mrs. Claus waving to children at Norton Park

BRIAN M. JOHNSON @BRIANJOHNSONBP

PLAINVILLE — Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will wave to children at Norton Park this Wednesday.

Plainville's annual "Wave to Santa" event will be held Wednesday

at 6 p.m. at Norton Park. Kids of all ages are invited to attend. Santa Claus & Mrs. Claus will circle the park two times accompanied by festively decorated police cars and fire trucks, with the elves handing out goodies.

Those who wish to attend

are asked to park between 5:15 and 5:45 p.m. Vehicle decorations are encouraged.

Tabitha Manafort, organizer of the annual Wave to Santa, said she and her sister, Quinn Wazorko Christopher, started the tradition when kids were

See WAVE ON PAGE 3



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Travel bigger than last year

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Aixa Diaz. "People are willing to adjust their budgets in other areas of their life, but they want to keep traveling."

The AAA predicts that the holiday season will still fall 3% short of record travel in 2019, the last Christmas before COVID-19 hit the United States.

Air travel in the U.S. has already rebounded, surpassing 2019 levels.

The number of travelers going through U.S. airport checkpoints is up 12.4% over last year and 1.49% higher than in 2019, according to the Transportation Security Administration. Travel around the Thanksgiving Day holiday topped 2019 numbers, peaking at 2.9 million — a single-day record for TSA — screened on Sunday, Nov. 26.

Airlines are predicting a blockbuster holiday season.

Airlines for America says 39 million people — about 2.8 million a day on average — will board U.S. flights between Dec. 20 and Jan. 2. The trade group for big U.S. carriers expects about 3 million on the peak days — the Thursday and Friday before Christmas and the four days after the holiday.

The airlines count people more than once if they take connecting flights instead of nonstops, so their numbers are higher than those reported by TSA.

Travel is strong even though many Americans say they are worried about the economy. In an AP-NORC poll last week, seven out of

10 people surveyed rated the economy as poor. But at least inflation has cooled off a bit.

Airline passengers are getting a slight break from last year's high prices. Average fares in October were 13% lower than a year earlier, according to the government's latest data.

AAA predicts that 7.5 million people will fly in the U.S. in late December, but the club expects far more — nearly 104 million — to drive over the holidays.

Motorists will pay a bit less to fill up. The national average price for a gallon of gasoline was \$3.19 at the end of last week, compared with \$3.53 a year earlier, according to AAA. Gas is under \$3 a gallon across a swath in the middle of the country.

Travel for Christmas and New Year's is spread out over a couple weeks, so the busiest days rarely match the Thanksgiving peaks — TSA counted a record 2.9 million air travelers on the Sunday after the November holiday.

Transportation data provider INRIX predicted that highways will be busiest on Saturday, Dec. 23, and Thursday, Dec. 28.

AAA's Diaz notes that many people are still working during the holidays. Vacationers heading to visit family will be mixing with commuters on the roads, "so rush hour could still be bad," she said. "We always say leave as early as possible if you're hitting the road or leave at night."



Bristol Mayor Jeff Caggiano presents Gina Legnani-Pellrine, owner of Rodd's Restaurant, and her employees with a plaque celebrating 35 years in business.

Rodd's celebrates 35

Continued from Page 1

said, share a great spirit of camaraderie.

Legnani-Pellrine, who is originally from Southington, stepped into what was formerly "Chuck's Restaurant" on her wedding day in June 1988. Her husband-to-be, Rodd, was the manager of another restaurant and offered to buy the space that would become Rodd's Restaurant.

"He bought it on a handshake," Legnani-Pellrine said. "We gave it every penny that we had. I was an X-ray tech at the time and I quit my job to work here. I handled the finances and served pancakes and toast."

Legnani-Pellrine said she and her husband eventually divorced, but they stayed friends. In 2012, Rodd became disabled and Legnani-Pellrine became

the owner of the business 10 years ago in 2013.

"I wanted to keep it going," she said. "I felt that I owed it to our staff and our customers."

The pandemic was a challenging time for Rodd's restaurant, like most restaurants, but customers continued to support them — even when they could only do to-go order. Now, post-pandemic, business has picked up again and the regulars return daily. Legnani-Pellrine said she is very grateful for their continued business.

"From the bottom of my heart, I couldn't say enough good things about Bristol as a community," she said. "They are like my family."

Legnani-Pellrine said she plans to keep Rodd's Restaurant open as long

as she can. Her daughter, Erika Legnani, has been helping her at the restaurant her whole life.

Caggiano said he comes to Rodd's Restaurant often for breakfast.

"It's very cool that we have this great, local gem," he said. "They service the entire Northeast section of Bristol consistently every morning. They are a quality establishment with a nice, small-town feel."

Nielsen referred to Rodd's Restaurant as "the breakfast spot in Bristol." "My husband moved out of Bristol, but he still comes back to eat here on Saturdays," she said. "It's just a great place to start your day."

Rodd's Restaurant is open 7 days a week, 365 days a year, from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Main Street grants awarded

Continued from Page 1

positive behavior. Bristol Family Resource Centers-\$3,000-Expansion of the WatchDOGS (Dads of Great Students) program to include South Side School and West Bristol School offering a series of 10 workshops to provide parenting education and increase fatherhood engagement.

Bristol Public Schools — \$1,500 — Wolf's Den

after-school program at West Bristol School for young male students to promote social emotional growth, confidence and leadership.

Community Counseling Centers of Central Connecticut — \$2,190 — Artful Self-Discovery program nurturing self-esteem, awareness and emotional bonds for boys through artistic exploration. Outside Perspectives

— \$3,000 — Youth Excellence Project (YEP) providing at-risk male youth with adult mentorship in outdoor spaces to promote health and build resiliency to the challenges in life.

The New England Carousel Museum — \$1,515 — Spring Afternoon STEAM program for boys to provide introduction to engineering concepts and team building skills.

'Wave to Santa' event

Continued from Page 1

unable to sit on Santa's lap at the firehouse during the pandemic.

"We felt that it was important for the kids to still be able to see Santa," she said. "This way, he could still wave to them and help everyone get in

the holiday spirit."

The event continued to prove popular even after the pandemic, as families got to see Santa from the comfort of their cars.

"We had so many people these last couple years," said Manafort. "People asked that we keep doing it."

Manafort also thanked Ben and Diane Gediman, who will be driving Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus around this year.

"People who attend are asked to remain in their car during the event and not to move their car until it is over."



MOVIES
'Wonka' is whimsical, not daring Page 14

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FILE
Town Manager Mark Sciota

Southington Town Manager Sciota to retire this summer

BRIAN M. JOHNSON
@BRIANMJOHNSONBP

SOUTHINGTON — Southington Town Manager Mark Sciota has announced his plans to retire in June, at the end of his current contract, after 29 years of service to Southington.

Sciota has served for six years as town manager and served as deputy town manager from 2006 to 2017. He is the town's third town manager since the Council-Manager Government was established in 1966.

Town Council Chair Paul Chaplinsky Jr. described Sciota as having a "tireless" and "dedicated" career with the town. He said that Sciota's service has been "exemplary."

"Throughout his tenure, Mark Sciota has played a pivotal role in shaping Southington. See SCIOTA ON PAGE 4

Brewing incubator coming to city

BRIAN M. JOHNSON
@BRIANMJOHNSONBP

BRISTOL — Mayor Jeff Caggiano said a new "brewing incubator" space will be opening soon.

Caggiano said the space is opening soon at 139 Center Street. The project is currently moving through the city's permitting process.

"The city is excited to introduce a new business to Bristol," Caggiano said.

"The New Cambridge Project is revamping the space at 139 Center Street to create a 'brewing incubator' for area brewers, and will possibly bring back some old brews as well."

"The New Cambridge Project" shares a name with the original name for the area of land that would later become known as Bristol.

Caggiano said the team behind The New Cambridge Project is "updating the taproom for a completely new brewery experience."

"They are offering several house brews as permanent fixtures on tap and in stores and working with a collective of smaller breweries to help them scale production," Caggiano said.

"They are also offering their brews on tap at the Center Street Brewery and beyond. The See BREWING ON PAGE 4



Mayor Jeff Caggiano and Justin Malley meet with Spencer Shankle and his team at The New Cambridge project.



Ruby Chism, 6, with her dog Mylo. Ruby brought donations to Plainville's Pet Food Pantry on her birthday because she said she wanted to "feed the animals."

Local 6-year-old gives birthday gift

BRIAN M. JOHNSON
@BRIANMJOHNSONBP

PLAINVILLE — A local 6-year-old, Ruby Chism, made donations to the Plainville Pet Food Pantry for her birthday because she wanted to "feed the animals."

Jessica Chism, Ruby's mother, said her daughter decided to give back on her sixth birthday, which was Nov. 12. They brought over canned and dry food for dogs and cats to the Plainville Pet Food Pantry, which operates out of the Plainville Police Department at 19 Neal Court.

"Our dog, Mylo, is her absolute best buddy," Jessica Chism said.

Mylo, who is a 13-year-old pit bull mix, was rescued by Chism. He has been with the family when they lived in Florida, Kansas, Utah and now Connecticut.

This was not the first time the Chism family has made donations with Ruby either.

"It started when she was a baby," Chism said. "She was born premature and

we gave her infant clothes back for use for other premature babies. We've held a 'Ruby's Day of Giving' ever since. We donate things like blankets for families in need."

The Plainville Pet Food Pantry, founded by Plainville Animal Control Officer Donna Weinhofer, provides food and pet supplies to

those who might be struggling with food insecurity, so they don't have to choose between feeding themselves or their pets. Weinhofer said she was grateful to Ruby for her support.

"I thought it was wonderful," she said.

Chism encouraged people, even if they don't live See PET ON PAGE 4

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CCSU The Central Connecticut State University community's "Stuff the Pantry" campaign generated almost 5,000 donations.

CCSU community comes together to fill food pantry

JESSICA FONTAINE
@NEWBRITRALD

NEW BRITAIN — The Central Connecticut State University community responded to President Zuhna Toro's call on Nov. 1 to stock the campus food pantry.

The university announced that throughout the next month, the president's "Stuff the Pantry" campaign generated almost 5,000 donations of non-perishable goods and toiletries for Maria's Place, Central's on-campus food pantry.

Organizers selected 16 buildings on campus to serve as collection sites. Each building was assigned a specific priority item to collect, such as oatmeal, nut butters, cereal, feminine products, laundry supplies and utensils, the university said.

Team captains for each See CCSU ON PAGE 3



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Brewing incubator in city

Continued from Page 1
New Cambridge Project ownership group boasts significant experience in the craft brewing industry in Connecticut, including helping smaller brewers scale into some of the area's most successful operators. Caggiano said he believes the brewing incubator is a "very unique idea." "It will be good to see the original brewery space at 139 Center St. filled again," he said. "I'm very excited."

Spencer Shankle, who is starting The New Cambridge Project along with James Ferro III, Dan Parisi and Victoria Pena, said they have almost 30 years of experience in the brewery industry between them. They are hoping to have the new space open by February and plan to offer a "mug club" membership with incentives for customers. "We will have a rotating group of brewers, for the most part, but we are also looking for long-term partners," Shankle said. "We

want to provide the best experience for both our brewers and our customers." Shankle said The New Cambridge Project is hoping to open with one or two outside breweries on-board. The New Cambridge Project will provide their own, in-house brews, which Shankle said will include "traditional style beers" such as pilsners, lagers and ales. The outside breweries, he said, will then provide other styles such as IPAs, cocktails and ciders.

"We want to have a very solid foundation of beers that everybody can enjoy," he said. "Then, we'll bring in brewers that have more fun and out there styles." Ferro III, who lives in Bristol, said he suggested the city as a location for The New Cambridge Project when Bristol's local breweries closed in the last couple years. "It felt like a great opportunity to open a space where people can get together and enjoy good brews," he said.

Pet food donation

Continued from Page 1
In Plainville, to support the work of the Plainville Pet Food Pantry. "I would love to see the community continue to reach out and pay it forward to help those around you," she said. Weinhofer also founded Plainville PAWS (Plainville Partners of the Animal Welfare Society) to raise

money for Plainville Animal Control. Recently, they held a food drive for the Plainville Pet Food Pantry, which collected almost \$800 in donations. Plainville PAWS is also collecting bottles and cans for a bottle and can drive. People can continue to bring food or bottles to the Plainville Pound at 29 Granger Lane. Donations

can be made either during open hours, or dropped off by the door, weather permitting. Weinhofer added she has recently received a \$710 check from the Main Street Community Foundation to offer a free rabies clinic, which she said she will hold in May. The date and time of the clinic will be announced in the future.

CCSU donates to pantry

Continued from Page 1
building decorated collection boxes to encourage participation and friendly competition. Maria's Place serves Central's students from a discreet location in the lower level of the Robert Vance Academic Center. The university said that to ensure privacy, students are not required to provide their names. When they sign-up, students are given a reusable shopping bag they can fill once a week. "In our most recent

annual Food and Housing Insecurity Survey, approximately half of the survey respondents reported that they worry about whether they have the funds to purchase more," Toro said. "Visits to Maria's Place in 2023 have far surpassed the total number of visits to the pantry in 2022." The university said that national statistics indicate an urgent need to address food insecurity among college students and that, according to the U.S. Department of

Education, 23 percent of undergraduates nationwide are experiencing food insecurity. The percentage represents more than four million students. Diminished academic performance among these students intensifies the stress and stigma of food insecurity, Central said. "Too many students are not thriving under our watch," Toro said. "They are not getting the most out of their college experience because they lack a basic human need. We can do better."

BRISTOL POLICE BLOTTER

December 4
Michael Guzman, 35, of 20 Danbury Lane, Bristol, was charged with 2nd degree breach of peace, 3rd degree assault.
December 5
Damian Ray Gordillo, 20, of 45 Paul St., Bristol,

operating a motor vehicle under suspension.
Dagoberto Germosen, 29, of 22 West Porter St., Waterbury, use of drug paraphernalia, sale of narcotic substance, possession of controlled substance, first offense.

Sciota is retiring in June

Continued from Page 1
the growth and development of Southington," Chaplinsky said. "Mark Sciota's professional association with the town dates to his early days in public service, having previously served in key appointed roles for 11 additional years as both town attorney and assistant town attorney during his private law practice years. His vast experience and legal acumen have been instrumental in navigating complex issues and providing valuable counsel to the town." Additionally, Chaplinsky said that under Sciota's leadership Southington has experienced "steady growth, progress and positive transformation." This, he said, includes "significant infrastructure upgrades, open space acquisitions and a respected leadership style with his team." "His commitment to fostering a vibrant community and his unwavering dedication to the well-being of Southington's residents have left an indelible mark on the town," Chaplinsky said. "Mark has been instrumen-

tal in many initiatives such as the upgrade of three elementary schools, two middle schools, the building of the new Calendar House, acquisition of the Southington Country Club development rights, the building of a new library, strong development of public safety functions and so much more." Chaplinsky said Sciota has been a town manager who truly loves his community. "Throughout his 36-year career, Mark Sciota's love and passion for Southington has been demonstrated through exceptional leadership, integrity and a passion for public service that has endeared him to colleagues and residents alike," Chaplinsky said. "His legacy of service will undoubtedly be remembered as a guiding force in the ongoing success of Southington." Sciota said it has been his "honor" to serve Southington for these many years. "I am proud of everything that we accomplished together," he said. "It was a team effort. I feel like I will be leaving the town in very good shape."

Sciota said he has worked with "probably about 15" town councils during his time in local government. He said all have worked well with him toward the betterment of their town. "Every council member that I served with had the best interests of Southington at heart," Sciota said. "They do Yeoman's work and they do it as an unpaid volunteer effort." Sciota and his wife Karen will continue to reside in Southington. He said he plans to continue to stay active in the community in various volunteer capacities, while focusing on spending more time with his family and friends. "I'm looking forward to spending more time in Old Saybrook and Florida," Sciota said. "I have another home in Old Saybrook that I go to on weekends. I also belong to a lot of clubs that I will continue to do other work with." Chaplinsky said the hiring process and decision of who will be the next town manager is the responsibility of the Town Council. It will begin shortly after the new year.

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First Baptist Church in Plymouth scholarships

BRIAN M. JOHNSON @BRIANJOHNSONBP
PLYMOUTH — First Baptist Church in Plymouth is taking applications for its 2024-2025 college and career focused educational scholarships.



Town residents interested in applying for the scholarships can find them on the church's website, fbccomm.ro, or by calling First Baptist Church at 860-283-6181 and requesting that it be sent by mail. The church must receive

printed applications by March 31. For more information, or questions, email the Scholarship Committee at fbcp24@gmail.com.



City of Bristol

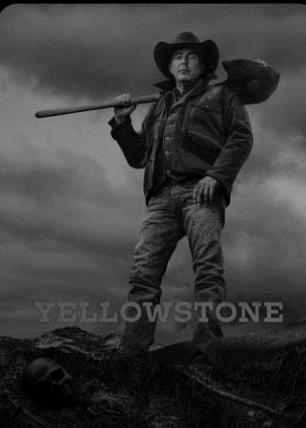
November – December 2023 Spot On Recap

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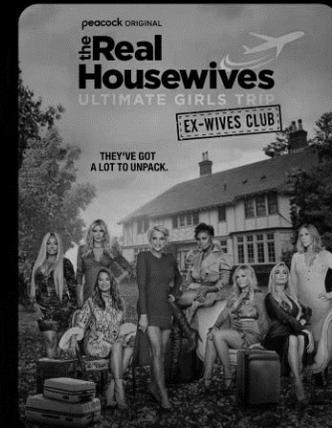
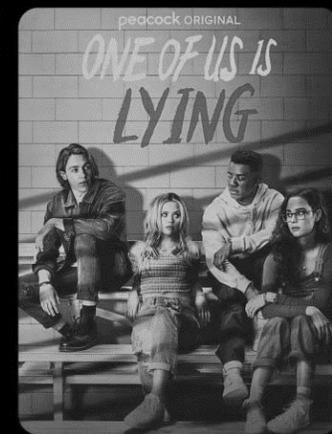
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HIT TV
SHOWS



NEW
MOVIES



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ORIGINALS



CAMPAIGN DETAILS



TIMING:
November 28 – December 15, 2023



IMPRESSIONS DELIVERED:
173,970
• Over-delivered by 4,438 impressions!



GEOGRAPHY:
Client Zip Codes



NBC SPOT ON: CAMPAIGN SUMMARY

173k

Digital impressions delivered across **PREMIUM** content



NBCU Owned Inventory



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Average video completion rate

TOP VIDEO PROVIDERS

1ST AND 3RD PARTY

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23,520 IMPRESSIONS

MSNBC

20,970 IMPRESSIONS



16,573 IMPRESSIONS



8,303 IMPRESSIONS



7,269 IMPRESSIONS

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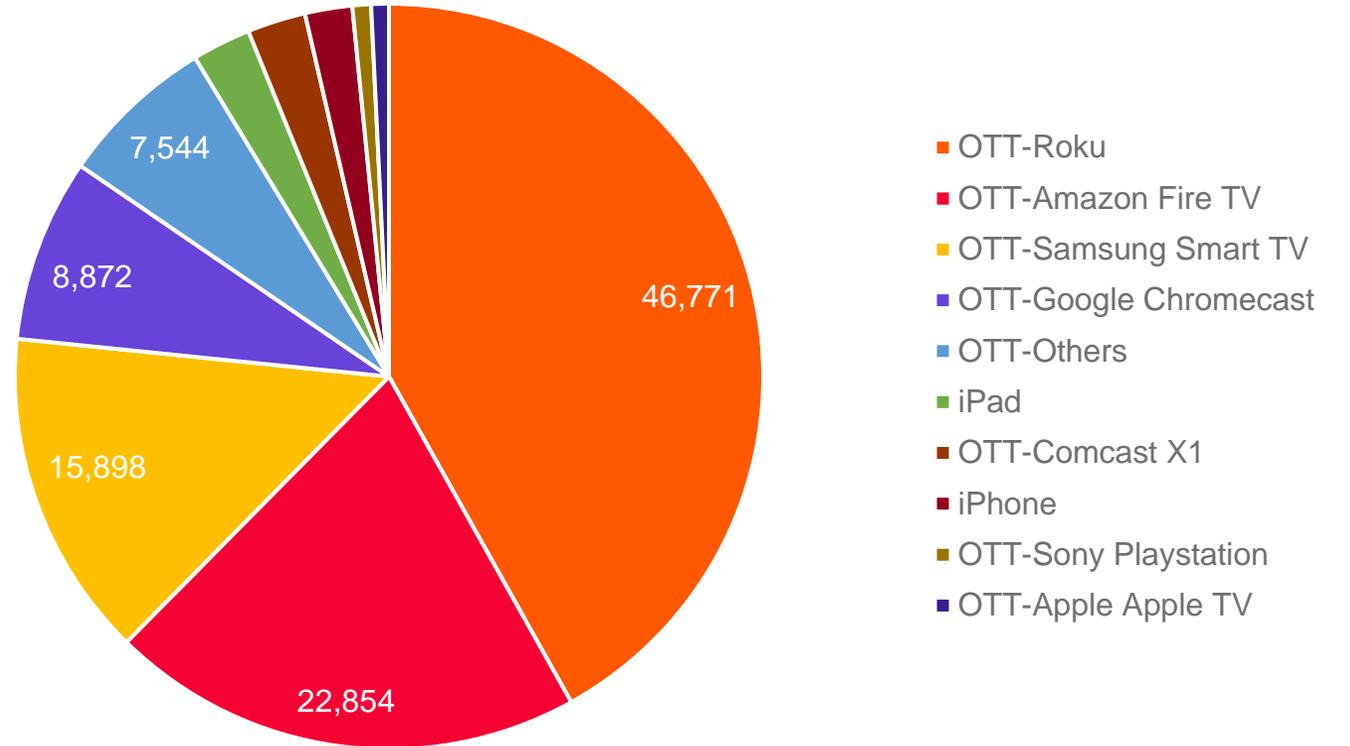
PROGRAM	IMPS
USA: Law & Order: SVU: Full Episode	4,607
MSNBC: Morning Joe: Full Episode	4,399
CNBC: Squawk Box: Full Episode	3,782
NBC News: Dateline NBC: News Now: Full Episode	3,257
CNBC: Squawk on the Street: Full Episode	2,939
MSNBC: Deadline: Full Episode	2,371
Local NBC: Fast Channel: Station WVIT: Full episode	2,257
NBC News: Dateline NBC: Full Episode	2,158
CNBC: Shark Tank: Full Episode	2,042
CNBC: Closing Bell: Full Episode	2,026



IMPRESSIONS DELIVERED BY DEVICE

TOP DEVICES	IMPRESSIONS
OTT-Roku	46,771
OTT-Amazon Fire TV	22,854
OTT-Samsung Smart TV	15,898
OTT-Google Chromecast	8,872
OTT-Others	7,544
iPad	2,834
OTT-Comcast X1	2,818
iPhone	2,280
OTT-Sony Playstation	897
OTT-Apple Apple TV	852

Top Devices

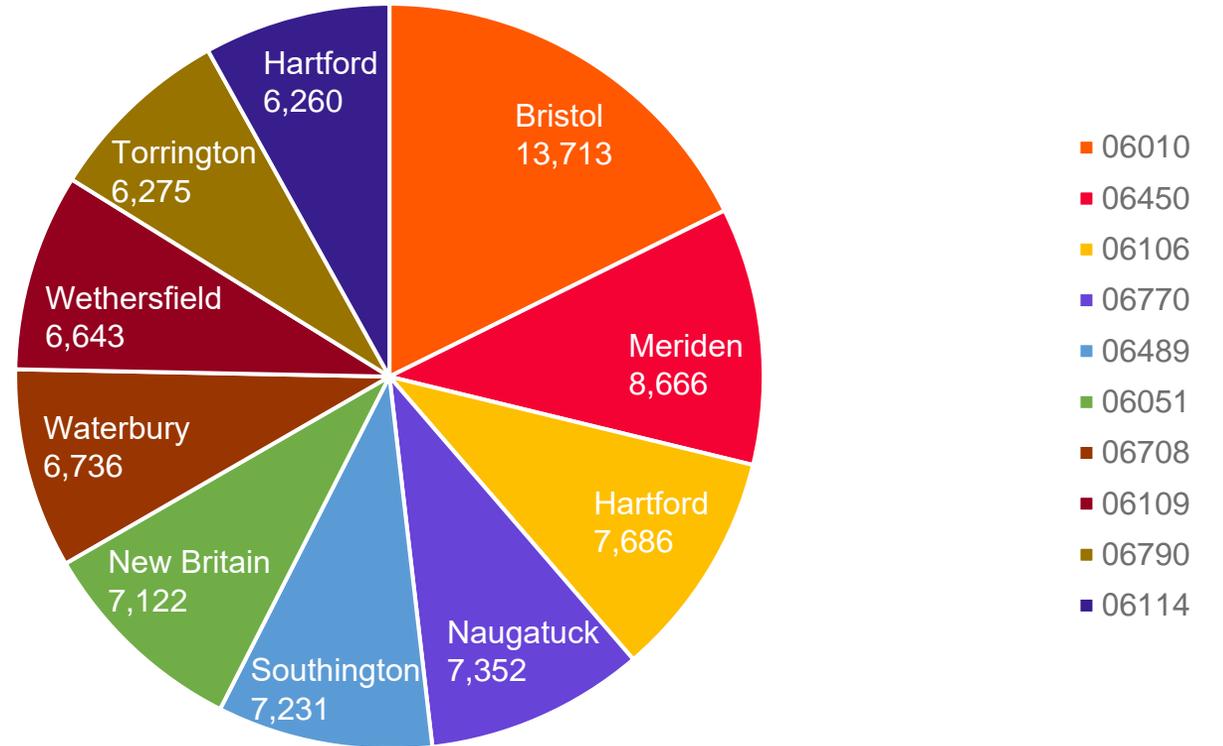


IMPRESSIONS DELIVERED BY ZIP CODE

TOP ZIPS IMPRESSIONS

06010: Bristol	13,713
06450: Meriden	8,666
06106: Hartford	7,686
06770; Naugatuck	7,352
06489: Southington	7,231
06051: New Britain	7,122
06708: Waterbury	6,736
06109: Wethersfield	6,643
06790: Torrington	6,275
06114: Hartford	6,260

Top Zips



06010 06126
 06011 06127
 06781 06129
 06062 06131
 06786 06132
 06085 06134
 06013 06140
 06782 06141
 06716 06142
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 06787 06155
 06444 06156
 06704 06160
 06467 06161
 06050 06167
 06778 06176
 06792 06180
 06001 06070
 06051 06790
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 06114
 06123

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