

★★★ ELECTION 2025 ★★★



New Milford residents had a choice of stickers to show they voted at New Milford polling locations, including Sarah Noble Intermediate School, on Tuesday. As Democrats scored many victories across the state, some analysts say Democrats did turn out in force, but centrists also felt less comfortable splitting their ticket.

Blue wave rising

Analysis: What Connecticut’s big Democratic wins reveal about the state’s political future

By Jordan Nathaniel Fenster
STAFF WRITER

This year was Sue Spang’s third try in an attempt to secure the role of first selectman in Salem. In 2023, the Democrat lost against Republican incumbent Ed Chmielewski by just 124 votes, 741 to 617. Spang lost in 2017 against Republican incumbent Kevin T. Lyden by far more,

426 votes, losing 767 to 341. This year, Spang won against the Republican by the thinnest of margins. Three votes separated her from Ronald J. LaBonte, 738 for Spang, 735 for LaBonte, likely triggering a recount. A third retry, and even a second, may bring limited success in Connecticut politics. But that was not the case Tuesday night when, across the state, Democrats

won more than two dozen mayoral/first selectman seats that were previously held by Republicans. In Ansonia, Democratic candidate Frank Tyszka beat Republican incumbent David Cassetti. The same was true in Bristol and Stratford, Newtown and New Fairfield. With a few notable exceptions, Democrats won where they often hadn’t before. *Wave continues on A6*

A Mamdani exodus? After election, Conn. residents from New York talk about the mayor-elect



Cathie Miller walked toward the platform from inside the Westport Metro North station Wednesday morning, knowing exactly when her train headed to Grand Central Terminal would arrive. Into this familiar commuter routine, I asked Miller, a cor-

porate recruiter who works in the city, about New York mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani. How does she expect the self-described democratic socialist to shake up the tri-state area, especially Connecticut? “My cousin called me this morning,” the Weston resident told me, “and said, ‘Maybe we should put our houses on the market. It’s a good time to sell.’” Chatter about New Yorkers fleeing for Connecticut reached a peak on the morning after Mamdani, the charismatic 34-year-old state assembly member from Queens, *Haar continues on A6*



New York City mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani speaks during a news conference in the Queens borough of New York Wednesday.

Greenwich Dems seize BET chair

By Tyler Fedor
STAFF WRITER

GREENWICH — Though Republican Fred Camillo secured yet another term as first selectman Tuesday night, Democrats did score an important victory in town. For the second time in a hundred years, Democrats will have the chairmanship of Greenwich’s Board of Estimate and Taxation, according to Greenwich Democratic Town Committee Chair Christina Downey. Democrat incumbents Elliot Alchek, with 9,280 votes, David Weisbrod, with 9,532 votes, Stephen Selbst, with 9,282 votes and Matt DesChamps, with 9,439 votes, won seats on the board that controls the purse strings of the town. Democrats Doug Fenton and Laura Erickson were also elected to the board with 9,260 votes. *BET continues on A4*



Robert Marchant/Hearst Connecticut Media file photo

Democrats have gained chairmanship of Greenwich’s Board of Estimate and Taxation.

Can state’s schools keep feeding children?

By Natasha Sokoloff
STAFF WRITER

As food insecurity fears rise amid the longest federal government shutdown in history, thousands of Connecticut children can still find a meal at school. Funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program was paused Nov. 1, with the Trump administration saying Monday it will partially fund SNAP at some point. But state education officials confirmed this week that school meal programs are safe, for now. With thousands of Connecticut families losing food assistance payments they rely on, school districts across the state are using their school meal programs to help make sure children don’t go hungry. More than 100,000 Connecticut children *Meals continues on A4*

Conn., Newtown company fight Trump’s tariffs

By Tanya Babbar
STAFF WRITER

Connecticut, through Attorney General William Tong and a Newtown games company, is playing a key role in a multi-state battle against the legality of the Trump administration’s tariffs this week. The U.S Supreme Court heard oral arguments Wednesday in a landmark

case that deals with the question of whether the Trump administration overstepped its authority in imposing tariffs on countries based on a 1977 law that gives the president broad economic powers in a national emergency. Connecticut is one of the states that is a plaintiff in the case. Trump became the first president to use the Inter-

national Emergency Economic Power Act to levy tariffs on Canada, China and Mexico. The Supreme Court on Wednesday considered questions that have come out of lower court rulings in favor of states and businesses that sued the Trump administration over tariffs. The plaintiffs, including Tong on behalf *Fight continues on A4*

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