

## Greenwich rejects Bush statue proposal

Location concerns halt plan to honor 41st president with local ties

By Eric Bedner  
STAFF WRITER

GREENWICH — Members of the Representative Town Meeting voted to reject erecting a statue of former President George H.W. Bush in Greenwich, largely due to its proposed location, not the statue itself.

The project dodged a bullet

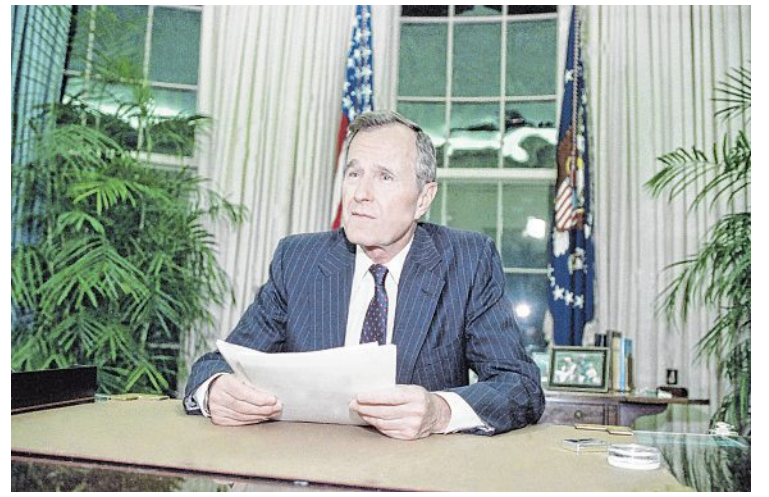
when RTM members from District 8 proposed postponing the item indefinitely.

That proposal failed after an 86-104 vote, with five abstaining, according to the town clerk's office.

"When you postpone an item indefinitely, it means you are effectively killing it, but you are not taking a vote on the merits of the item," RTM Moderator

Alexis Voulgaris told Greenwich Time. "That motion failed because I think people ultimately wanted to have an up or down vote on the merits."

Monday night's vote was specifically about accepting a \$100,000 donation from L. Scott Frantz, a long-time Greenwich resident and former state senator, to erect the statue, but with *Statue continues on A7*



Dennis Cook/Associated Press

President George H.W. Bush addresses the nation on May 1, 1992, from the Oval Office. Members of the Representative Town Meeting voted to reject erecting a statue of the former president, who had ties to Greenwich.



## GREENWICH HIGH GRADS HEAD INTO WIDER WORLD



ARNOLD GOLD/HEARST CONNECTICUT MEDIA

The members of the Class of 2026 at Greenwich High School celebrated at their graduation on Thursday in a commencement ceremony at Cardinal Stadium, where just over 660 students received their diplomas as family members, friends and faculty cheered their achievements. The ceremony included remarks from valedictorian Sonia Patel and salutatorians Marley Wies and Annabelle Wu. Colin Reynolds, the student body vice president, was the master of ceremonies for the event. Above, Sadie Trager waves to her family. At left, graduates enter Cardinal Stadium. *More photos, A3*

## Conn. research boat took roundabout route to L.I. Sound

By Austin Mirmina  
STAFF WRITER

Connecticut's newest research vessel was built to study Long Island Sound, but its first lesson came in global trade.

Assembled in the state of Washington, the \$2.2 million boat was supposed to arrive in Connecticut by cargo ship after a three-week journey through the Panama Canal. But when shipping delays tied to the Strait of Hormuz kept pushing back its arrival date, officials abandoned that plan and pieced together an alternate route involving big rigs, highway escorts and cranes.

The 48-foot aluminum catamaran, named the Sound Outlook, will be used by the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to support its Long Island Sound water quality monitoring program. Officials say the Sound Outlook (not to be confused with the DEEP newsletter of the same name) will expand the agency's ability to collect data on oxygen levels, bacteria, water temperature and other conditions that affect the health of the estuary.

BRIX Marine, the Washington-based company that built the vessel, arranged for it to begin its trip in Victoria, British Columbia, where it was scheduled to be loaded onto a specialized cargo ship in late April, according to Perry Knudson, the company's managing director.

From there, the vessel would have traveled down the Pacific coast, through the Panama Canal and up to Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. — a journey expected to take about three weeks. Crews then planned to sail the Sound Outlook the rest of the way to Connecticut, another five-day trip.

But the voyage took an unexpected turn.

The closure of the Strait of Hormuz — one of the fallouts of the U.S.-led war in the Middle East — repeatedly delayed the cargo ship's departure from Canada, Knudson said. It was

*Boat continues on A4*

## Christmas Eve bakery visit turned two strangers into 'kidney sisters'

Feeling the rush of a giving holiday spirit, Amanda Dettmer Erard visited a New Haven blood bank on Dec. 24, 2024. She had donated many times over the years and wanted to again on Christmas Eve. Her iron levels, though, were too low on this particular day, she was told.

"So I waited for my husband to donate his blood and I'm sitting there, surly, in my Santa hat," Dettmer Erard said. "I said, 'We need a sweet treat.



MIKE ANTHONY  
COMMENTARY

We're going to DiSorbo's."

There, at DiSorbo's Italian Bakery on Dixwell Avenue, Dettmer Erard would snack on

cookies and tiramisu with her family.

There, too, she would save a life and add immeasurable joy to her own.

She would start working toward those realities, anyway, after noticing fliers posted on the bakery walls.

Mother of 2, Desperately Needs a Kidney!

There were pictures of Lena DiSorbo Sorensen with her husband and two children.

*Anthony continues on A7*



Courtesy of Amanda Dettmer Erard

Amanda Dettmer Erard, left, and Lena DiSorbo Sorensen on March 12.

