

Closed primary elections exclude most state voters



Philip Bump
COMMENTARY

Early voting in Connecticut's primary begins Monday, the first step in finalizing the major-party candidates who will appear on November's ballot. But, if history is a guide, those candidates will be selected by a relatively thin slice of the state's electorate — an electorate that now contains far fewer members of the two major parties.

In 102 of Connecticut's 169 towns, more

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ONLINE VOTER GUIDE

From governor to probate judge, CT Insider's primary guide has the details on all 17 primary races to be decided Aug. 11. It includes key dates, resources and a voter lookup of local races. Early voting begins Monday. Scan the QR code or go to CTInsider.com/voterguide.



Hearst Connecticut Media file photo

Recent data show Democrats lead Republicans in 102 towns, but most Connecticut voters are unaffiliated.



Photos courtesy of Sotheby's International Realty

The main house of the property at 7 Loch Lane in Greenwich, built in 2010, covers 11,373 square feet.

\$13.5M town stone manor comes with 60-foot pool

In total, main house has six bedrooms, eight full bathrooms and two half bathrooms

By Joseph Tucci
STAFF WRITER

With a stone exterior and a 60-foot swimming pool, the estate at 7 Loch Lane in Greenwich is on the market for \$13.495 million.

The 11,373-square-foot main house was built in 2010. It includes a kitchen, a primary suite with a private sitting room, home office and two walk-in dressing rooms, a laundry room, media room and fitness center. The stone English manor has 11-foot ceilings on the main floor, 10-foot ceilings upstairs and five fireplaces. In total, the main house has six bedrooms, eight full bathrooms and two half bathrooms.

Aside from the main house, there is a separate 1,500-square-foot two-bedroom guest house with a kitchen, office, fireplace and an attached two-car garage.

The outdoor area of the 3.22-acre prop-



erty has a 30-by-60-foot in-ground pool and spa with a stone pool house, as well as a large stone terrace, sweeping lawns and gardens. A private balcony overlooks the grounds.

Real estate tracking firm Redfin reported a median sale price of about \$2.57 million for homes in the property's 06830 ZIP code during the three months ending in May 2026, up 43% from the same period a

year earlier. Redfin describes the market as very competitive, with typical homes selling for about 3% above asking price and going pending in roughly 31 days. The hottest homes can sell for about 9% above asking and go pending in around 13 days.

The house is listed by Sotheby's International Realty agent Leslie McElwreath. McElwreath can be reached at 917-539-3654.

Yale study reframes kids and screens

Activities may matter more than duration

By Tracey O'Shaughnessy
STAFF WRITER

Maybe screens are not all that bad for kids.

New research from Yale suggests that *how* kids use technology may be more important than how *much* of it they're using.

"It's a mixed picture, and that's important to sit with," Jessica Hoffmann, assistant professor at the Yale Child Study Center and director of research for the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, told Yale Medicine.

"From a psychology perspective it's more about how you are feeling before, during and after screen time and is that working for you?" Hoffman said in an interview. "Was your need met or did you feel worse at the end of the day?"

The study, analyzing a national sample of 6,629 adolescents, found that some of them — especially high users of technology — felt great, most of the time. She said questions remain over long-term effects of screen use, and the reasons teens go online in the first place.

Adolescents spend more than eight hours a day on screens, according to the study, published in *Current Psychology* in January. The study found that those who used the most technology had greater positive *and* negative emotions after doing so, and that those positive emotions were most pronounced when the teens were using video games.

"It's more complex than it seems," said Hoffmann. "It's important to know what exactly are they doing? Why are they logging on? Are they lonely? Are they bored? Are they posting pictures of themselves? Our question was 'Was that need

Screens continues on A4

Connecticut's bus system is divided among 17 transit agencies

The state is trying to connect them

By Jordan Nathaniel Fenster
STAFF WRITER

Someone riding the Coastal Link bus from Norwalk to Milford may never realize they're traveling through three different transit agencies.

The bus crosses seamlessly from the Norwalk Transit District to Greater Bridgeport Transit Authority and then Milford Transit, even though each agency is governed separately and operates under its own administrative structure.

Try to take the bus from Deep River to New Haven, however,

INSIDE: CTTransit revamps website, adds 'Where's my bus?' feature, Page A3

and it will require three buses, two transfers and two different tickets — and will take three hours.

Despite spending hundreds of millions of dollars each year supporting bus service, Connecticut still lacks a unified statewide bus network, though the state is trying to fix that by integrating services across transit agencies without eliminating the districts themselves.

Instead, public bus services are divided among 17 transit agencies — eight CTtransit divisions overseen by the state and nine independent regional transit agen-

cies and districts — each with its own governance, planning, operations and in some cases, fare systems.

Transportation planners say that fragmented structure, created decades ago to preserve bus service after private companies collapsed, has become increasingly out of step with a modern economy. Economic development officials now argue the issue is no longer simply about transportation — it's about housing, workforce development and economic growth as workers routinely cross municipal bound-

Bus continues on A4



Arnold Gold/Hearst Connecticut Media

A Norwalk Transit bus pulls up to the Wheels Hub on Burnell Avenue in Norwalk on July 2. The Norwalk Transit District is one of the state's 17 transit agencies offering bus service.