



H John Voorhees III/Hearst Connecticut Media file photo
Konstantinos “Kosta” Diamantis, right, the former state official found guilty of corruption last fall, walks out of court with his attorney Norm Pattis on April 20 in Bridgeport.

Diamantis becomes fugitive in Greece

By Bruno Matarazzo Jr.
STAFF WRITER

The legal odyssey of Konstantinos “Kosta” Diamantis has inevitably led him to Greece.

The 70-year-old former top school construction official who had a long list of titles with the state of Connecticut as a legislator and then employee now has a new one: fugitive from justice.

Diamantis skipped his sentencing Thursday after he fled to somewhere in Greece where he holds a passport and dual citizenship. He faced up to 12 years in prison after being convicted of more than a dozen public corruption charges, including bribery, extortion, conspiracy and lying to investigators.

When Diamantis fled is not yet known but federal prosecutors said in court Thursday that he took a boat to the Bahamas and then flew by plane to London. He eventually made his way to Greece.

Federal prosecutors signaled their intention in court on Thurs-



Dave Zajac/Hearst CT Media file photo
Konstantinos “Kosta” Diamantis, Connecticut's former top school construction official, arrives at U.S. District Court in Bridgeport last year.

day they intend to go forward with the sentencing with or without Diamantis. The new date is Sept. 30. Prosecutors requested Diamantis be imprisoned to 10 to 12 years in prison.

It's uncertain when and/or if Diamantis will be brought back to the United States. Diamantis' attorney Norm Pattis said the government will have a difficult time ex-

traditing Diamantis from Greece since he holds Greek citizenship.

Signed in 1931, the extradition treaty between the United States and Greece does include extradition for white-collar crimes similar to those for which Diamantis has been convicted.

“It is agreed that the government of the United States and the government of Greece ... deliver up to justice any person, who may be charged with, or may have been convicted of” several listed criminal acts, including “embezzlement or criminal malversation committed within the jurisdiction of one or the other party by public officers or depositaries” and “obtaining money, valuable securities or other property by false pretenses,” among others.

Pattis argued that Greece-U.S. extradition rules could create obstacles because Greece is not generally required to surrender its own citizens, and because the treaty includes a political-offense

Diamantis continues on A4



Hearst Connecticut Media file photo
Some Connecticut towns are preparing to use noise cameras to detect excessive sounds from vehicles. Above, a large modified exhaust pipe is installed on a truck.

Noise cameras add more tech to surveillance conversation

By Brianna Gurciullo
STAFF WRITER

As debates rage over the use of automated license plate readers and traffic enforcement cameras in municipalities across Connecticut, another kind of technology has entered the scene.

West Haven council members recently amended the city's code of ordinances to allow local offi-

cials to use “automated noise monitoring devices, including noise cameras.” And East Hartford's town council permitted the use of noise cameras last year as part of a package of rules it created around multiple different camera technologies.

Here are answers to some questions Connecticut residents may have about the devices, which

Cameras continues on A4

CT Insider, WFSB schedule Lamont, Fazio debate for Oct. 22

Gov. Ned Lamont and state Sen. Ryan Fazio can and will bash each other in ads, press conferences, rallies and forums, but there's nothing like a debate – and we at CT Insider will co-host the first one of the race Oct. 22 along with WFSB-TV Eyewitness News Channel 3.

The one-hour standoff between Democrat Lamont, seeking a third term, and Republican Fazio, will air live on WFSB at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, and will stream on the platforms of both media outlets. It will take place at the station's studios in Rocky Hill.

The WFSB-CT Insider debate is one of two scheduled before Election Day, and will give Fazio,



DAN HAAR
COMMENTARY

36, and Lamont, 72, both of Greenwich, a chance to directly challenge each other and respond to the same questions on issues. Both candidates have appeared and will appear at several forums, including one Thursday in Hartford sponsored by the Connecticut Business and Industry Association – typically not appearing together.

Issues taking center stage so far include jobs,

Haar continues on A4

Greenwich police help rescue owl

By Diamy Wang
STAFF WRITER

GREENWICH — Police helped rescue an injured owl in Greenwich Tuesday morning, officials said.

Authorities said residents flagged down a Greenwich police

officer after seeing a small owl that seemed injured in the roadway.

The officer called for help and blocked traffic, officials said. According to a video posted by the Greenwich Police Department on Facebook, police secured the owl and placed it in a box.

“Being a police officer in our community is about more than enforcing the law. It's about helping those in need, no matter how big or small,” the post said. “Sometimes, that even means lending a hand to a feathered member of our community.”

Connecticut specialists question viral sleepmaxxing trend

By Tracey O'Shaughnessy
STAFF WRITER

Ever try taping your mouth before bed? What about slipping on an eye mask? Popping a magnesium supplement or sipping some tart cherry juice?

Those are some of the suggestions some TikTok-

ers recommend to optimize sleep in a viral trend known as sleepmaxxing, in which people try to maximize the amount and quality of sleep they get nightly. The hashtag sleepmaxxing has more than 100 million posts on TikTok, according to Vogue. Some of the routines sound instinctive — sleeping in a cool, dark

room, listening to a meditation app or gentle stretching — while others are more unusual, like jaw strapping, consuming a sleep “mocktail” or applying numerous skin care products while listening to calming music.

The theory behind “sleepmaxxing” seems to be: if sleep is so good for you, you might as well

max out on it, right?

Not necessarily, said sleep specialist Dr. Steven Thau with Hartford HealthCare's St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport. “Like everything in life, there can be too much of a good thing,” he said. “People can overdo it.”

“What were seeing is that people can become

Sleep continues on A4



Getty Images
Sleepmaxxing is a viral trend in which people try to optimize their sleep.

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Weather: Mostly sunny, less humid in the afternoon.
High: 81. Low: 56. **Page A10**

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