

Federal law could affect future of THC seltzers

By Jordan Nathaniel Fenster
STAFF WRITER

Nick Cimadon was living in Guam and transitioning out of the Navy when he was able to obtain a Connecticut cannabis food and beverage license. He enjoyed the Navy, but both he and his wife are Connecticut na-

tives, and it offered a chance to build a business back home. Four years later, Cimadon's business, SoundView, is divided in two. He produces cannabis edibles like gummies and chocolate bars using cannabis sourced from Connecticut. The other aspect of his business? THC seltzers using hemp from out

of state. Now, with federal law governing hemp likely to change, the future of his business is in question. "This is uncharted territory," he said. "This was out of left field. No one saw this coming." Nearly 2 million THC seltzers were sold in a four-month span this year in Connecticut. But in-

cluded in the federal bill that has led to the reopening of the federal government is a measure that closes a loophole that allowed hemp-derived THC products, such as infused seltzers, to be sold across the country. What it will mean on a state-by-state basis is not yet fully understood. But there are fears that it could



Courtesy of Float House
Float House opened earlier this year and offers THC brews in Connecticut.

have a major impact or even lead to the disallowance of selling the beverages here. "Our early analysis is this may not be all that impactful on the Connecticut Hemp continues on A5



Dave Zajac/Hearst Connecticut Media
If reelected next November, Gov. Ned Lamont could write his way into Connecticut history as the longest-serving governor since Colonial times.

Lamont could make history with run for 3rd term

A win would make him longest-serving governor since Colonial era

By Paul Hughes
STAFF WRITER

HARTFORD — If reelected next November, Gov. Ned Lamont could write his way into Connecticut history as the longest-serving governor since Colonial times. A victorious Lamont would actually be the second governor elected to a third four-year term after Gov. John G. Rowland in 2002, but he could be the first to complete a third term. Rowland resigned in 2004, avoiding



Hearst Connecticut Media file photo
Gov. John Rowland and Lt. Gov. Jodi Rell sharing a moment of exultations after winning reelection in 2002.

the impeachment process, later pleading guilty to conspiracy to commit honest services mail fraud and tax fraud. President Donald Trump pardoned Rowland's federal convictions in February. Lamont ended months of less-than-intense speculation concerning his reelection plans when he and Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz announced on Nov. 6 they had registered candidate committees with the State Elections Enforcement Commission. Lamont continues on A8

AMID RELIEF OVER HOSPITAL PURCHASE

Advocates point to risk of higher health care costs

By Liese Klein
STAFF WRITER

Holiday decorations weren't up yet, but the mood was downright festive in the Waterbury Hospital lobby last week. "Could you show everybody up here how happy you are to be here today?" Waterbury Health President and CEO Deborah Weymouth asked, prompting a torrent of applause and cheers. "We are looking forward to a very secure and bright future," Weymouth said, referring to the Costs continues on A5

What happens after a tie in a town election?

By Shaniece Holmes-Brown
STAFF WRITER

A number of Connecticut races ended in ties after the Nov. 4 municipal election, requiring recounts and additional elections to fill remaining seats. Races in Fairfield, Shelton and Monroe were among those ending in a draw this election season, but, typically, ties are Tie continues on A8

Conn. native who reinvented guitar, mourned by enthusiasts

By Susan Braden
STAFF WRITER

HAMDEN — When John Thomas, guitar enthusiast and Quinnipiac University law professor, first visited the late Ken

Parker's guitar studio in Massachusetts, he was amazed by the caliber of the instruments. Parker, who died Oct. 5 after a long battle with cancer in his Gloucester, Mass., home, wanted to make these instruments even

better, despite customers who were desperate to get them, Thomas said, which endeared the guitar maker to him. "It already was perfect. He wanted to make it more perfect," Parker continues on A8



John Thomas, left, with Ken Parker in Parker's home.

Courtesy of John Thomas



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Weather: Breezy in the morning partly sunny. High: 49. Low: 32. Page A10

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