

'Bipartisan as it can get'

Redistricting less contentious in Conn. than in Texas, Calif.

By Jordan Nathaniel Fenster

STAFF WRITER

Democrats in Texas fled the state in an effort to stop a Republican-led plan, proposed by President Donald Trump, to create more congressional districts. On Monday, they ended their walkout, allowing the new map to move forward.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom proposed an amendment to the state's constitution called the "Election Rigging Response Act," which would create new, temporary congressional districts. Republicans in Missouri also said they would redistrict. Democrats in New York are

trying to change the law so they can do the same. Wisconsin Democrats are filing lawsuits, and lawmakers in Maryland, Florida, Ohio and Indiana have all talked about the possibility, among other states. Despite the national hubbub and pressure from both parties, many say anything similar is unlikely to happen in

Connecticut. "Connecticut can't do what Texas and California are doing," said state Republican chairman Ben Proto. Count Proto among those who doesn't love the shape of all of Connecticut's five congressional districts. Take, for example, the 5th District "lobster claw." The dis-

Redistrict continues on A6



Jordan Nathaniel Fenster/Hearst Connecticut Media House GOP staffer Pat O'Neil sets up the various proposals for congressional redistricting.



Arnold Gold/Hearst Connecticut Media

Al DiGuido, owner of Saugatuck Sweets, in front of his store in Fairfield Thursday with a banner supporting the Fairfield National Little League baseball team. At bottom, catcher Jimmy Taxiltaridis, left, and his twin, pitcher SJ Taxiltaridis.



Scott Ericson/Hearst Connecticut Media

Ex-Fairfield National Baseball presidents Michael Broderick and Dante Gallucci and former player Zach Broderick.

By Scott Ericson

STAFF WRITER

From the moment Dante Gallucci put on a uniform in 1966 to his 23-year run as league president, Fairfield National baseball has been woven into nearly every year of his life.

'Coolest thing'

Fairfield Little League team captures heart of CT

Now, with his beloved program shining bright on the national stage, Gallucci beams with pride as Fairfield National prepares to play in the U.S Championship of the Little League Baseball World Series in Williamsport, Pa. on Saturday. Gallucci stepped down

HOW TO WATCH

Fairfield National (Conn.) vs. Summerlin South (Nev.) 3:30 p.m. Saturday on ABC

as Fairfield National president in 2021, but hasn't stopped cheering for the program.

"I never got a team to Williamsport, and I am so thrilled and proud for all those kids," Gallucci said. "It is silly, but seeing the kids make it to the World Series was a little bit of a relief. I feel like I can now die in peace."

Gallucci has lifetime ties to the team, but the boys from Fairfield National have captured the hearts of people around town, across Connecticut and na-

Town continues on A4



Mike Anthony

Commentary

Meet the 'miracle twin' preemies

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. — The Taxiltaridis brothers celebrated Fairfield National's latest victory at the Little League World Series with their preferred cuts of steaks Wednesday evening in a downtown Williamsport restaurant.



Christian Abraham / Hearst CT Media

More coverage in Sports, B1

Family dinners are rare these days. The twins are

Twins continues on A4

Jared Freed / Associated Press

Brookfield fabric store launches studio for sewing lessons

Under 'Project Runway' alum Sam Donovan

By Tanya Babbar

STAFF WRITER

In a world of fast fashion, trend cycles and mounting landfills, a small Brookfield quilt store is opening a studio for those interested in something a

little more permanent and personal — with the help of a "Project Runway" alum. Cotton Candy Fabrics, located at 450 Federal Road, is launching its new apparel studio, a years-long dream born out of demand from the store's loyal

sewers. Sam Donovan, who was the runner-up of "Project Runway: Under the Gunn" in 2014, and the fourth-place winner of "Project Runway: All Stars," said among all the corners of the fashion world he's been in, teaching apparel sewing at Cotton Candy has been the best.

Donovan has grown from driving to the Brookfield store from his Boston home a few times a year to a few times a week since 2019 to lead apparel sewing classes to an "eclectic mix" of locals, driven by everything from fast fashion frustration to a hobby for sewing garments for grandchildren.

"People are super excited about this idea of making clothes for themselves and putting their personal stamp on their wardrobe," Donovan said. "It was the right time to make it bigger, and so now we have this big, beautiful room that's filled with all these beautiful apparel

Sewing continues on A6

