

State explores future of nuclear power

Public forums launched as officials are trying to meet rising demand for electricity

By Luther Turmelle
STAFF WRITER

HARTFORD — Connecticut has launched the first in a series of six forums exploring whether new nuclear power plants should factor into the state's energy future, as officials look for ways to meet rising electricity de-

mand while reducing carbon emissions and controlling costs.

Wednesday's forum at the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection headquarters in Hartford discussed the national climate for new nuclear generation and the licensing process for such a facility.

The forums will continue through the first half of 2026, according to Jeffrey Semancik, director of DEEP's radiation division.

The idea for the forums came out of Public Act 25-173, which was approved by the General Assembly and signed by Gov. Ned Lamont. **Nuclear continues on A4**



Bob Child/Associated Press

The Millstone nuclear power plant in Waterford. Connecticut officials have begun holding hearings exploring whether the state should approve new nuclear generation projects.



Arnold Gold/Hearst Connecticut Media

A street closure on Bedford Street in Stamford for an emergency infrastructure repair photographed on Thursday.

Gas main break caused downtown road closures

By Peter Yankowski
STAFF WRITER

STAMFORD — Eversource said Friday it was restoring gas service after a main break Thursday prompted police to close several streets downtown.

Stamford police said Bedford, Spring and Forest streets were closed Thursday morning due to "an emergency infrastructure repair."

The roads reopened around midnight. **Gas continues on A4**

Aging-in-place push meets staffing and budget strains

By Cris Villalonga-Vivoni
STAFF WRITER

Almost one in four Connecticut residents are aged 60 or older as of 2025, with many experiencing issues that affect their everyday lives, including chronic health concerns, housing insecurity, and financial instability.

Hyperlocal resources and volunteer advocacy groups have been at the forefront of addressing the needs of Connecticut's aging population, while also facing their own fiscal and staffing challenges. A new state report, however, aims to highlight common issues across the state and to engage these groups in collaborative opportunities at the local and state levels.

It is the first attempt to identify and **Aging continues on A4**



Heather Diehl/Getty Images

Survivors and family members of gun violence and their advocates hold up photographs of victims on Thursday in the Hart Senate Office Building on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., during a news conference three days before the 13th anniversary of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting. Members of the Connecticut congressional delegation joined the news conference to push for more gun control legislation.

'I know that we can do something'

State lawmakers vow renewed gun safety push ahead of 13th anniversary of Sandy Hook massacre

By Paul Hughes
STAFF WRITER

The coming of the next anniversary of the deadly mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School always leaves U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn., feeling, in his words, heartbroken, but also inspired to continue the struggle to pass comprehensive federal gun reform legislation.

Murphy and other members of the Connecticut congressional delegation on Thursday acknowledged supporters of stronger gun laws have had little success



Heather Diehl/Getty Images

Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) speaks during the news conference Thursday.

in the three years since the U.S. Congress in 2022 passed the widest ranging

gun violence bill in decades. But they pledged not to give up during a news con-

ference at the U.S. Capitol marking the coming 13th anniversary Saturday of the murderous shooting rampage at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown.

U.S. Rep. Jahana Hayes, D-5th District, then a history teacher at Kennedy High School in Waterbury, recalled how she grappled in the classroom that day with the breaking news of the shootings at Sandy Hook 18 miles down Interstate 84.

"I felt helpless. I wanted to curl up in a ball because I felt like there was nothing I **Safety continues on A7**

Officials: The bridge at Stamford's Wire Mill Road is complete

By Shaniece Holmes-Brown
STAFF WRITER

STAMFORD — Work on the Wire Mill Road bridge replacement in Stamford is mostly complete following its May closure, officials said.

City Engineer Lou Casolo said the bridge reopened Tuesday, finishing just before its end of the year deadline.

"I'm glad to be where we are at this point, and having the traffic opened up before the holiday is also a nice gift back to the

city," he said.

Casolo said there are still a few things that need to be completed, including relocating a gas line to the new bridge. He said some of the other outstanding things that need to be done are weather dependent.

Cedar Heights Road and High Ridge Road were used as detours while construction was ongoing. Casolo said the Cedar Heights Road bridge was also replaced this year.

Casolo said the Cedar Heights and Wire Mill bridges are dependent on

one another because closing one allows traffic to flow over the other and vice versa, thus allowing work to be completed swiftly with minimal issues.

"When you have a complete closure, the project can progress at a rate that's better, that's faster, versus closing and doing things in stages," he said.

The Connecticut Department of Transportation previously said the Cedar Heights bridge was in "serious" condition, citing major defects and was **Bridge continues on A4**



The completed bridge over Haviland Brook on Wire Mill Road in Stamford on Wednesday.

Arnold Gold/Hearst Connecticut Media

