

The Norwalk Hour

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Photos by Patrick Sikes/For Hearst Connecticut Media

Above and below, a powerful nor'easter brought blizzard conditions to Norwalk on Monday.

Blizzard pounds state with heavy snow, damaging winds

By Peter Yankowski and Nathaniel Rosenberg
STAFF WRITERS

A powerful nor'easter winter storm brought blizzard conditions to Connecticut Monday for the first time in years, as a mix of heavy snow and driving snow essentially brought the state to standstill.

The storm closed Connecticut schools and most government offices Monday. Gov. Ned Lamont has declared a state of emergency and banned commercial vehicles from Connecticut's highways.

During a news briefing a little before noon Monday, the state's emergency management director said both the commercial vehicle ban and state of emergency remained in effect until further notice.

Blizzard continues on A4



'It's a place like no other'

Latest vision for Norwalk's Manresa Wilds promises more access to water and nature

By Sandra Diamond Fox
STAFF WRITER

NORWALK — In the not-too-distant future, people of all ages will be outside, spending quality time together, taking part in a variety of educational and recreational activities, all while surrounded by nature.

That's the vision of Manresa Island Corp., a nonprofit organization that's building Manresa Wilds, a mix of restored habitats, including meadows, marshland, groves and forest, as well as walking trails and other amenities.

At a presentation Thursday evening at the Maritime Aquarium in *Vision continues on A7*

West Avenue drainage project delayed to March 1

By Shaniece Holmes-Brown
STAFF WRITER

NORWALK — The start of Norwalk's West Avenue drainage project was delayed to March 1 due to expected snow this weekend, officials said.

The state Department of Transportation was scheduled to begin the drainage improvements on Sunday, city officials announced in a Facebook post Thursday afternoon.

The post said the project will last four weeks with 24-hour continuous closures just north of the I-95 northbound on-ramp on West Avenue.

"Two-way traffic on West Avenue and access to/from I-95 and Route 7 ramps will be maintained at all times, though drivers should expect delays and detours," the post said. "Motorists should consider alternate routes to avoid the area. All lanes on West Avenue will be re-opened during weekends."

Officials said the purpose of the project is to fix a steel drainage culvert that officials said is in "critical condition" with severe corrosion and perforations.

"In several locations, the steel protective coating exhibits loss, deteriorations, or is failing and missing all together," the post said.

The post also said the project will increase the increase the culvert's capacity to handle water flow, since the area has dealt with "historical flooding" in the past.

'Co-living' is catching on in Connecticut

Here's the latest on a hot affordable lifestyle

By Alexander Soule
STAFF WRITER

They are two of the newest sets of apartments to hit the Connecticut market — one a sprawling modern complex built by a national developer near the University of Connecticut in Storrs; the other a Victorian in Willimantic, recently refurbished by an entrepreneurial couple who got their start as Airbnb hosts.

The common thread connecting them? Both allow tenants to have a private bedroom for themselves and share the kitchen, living and dining rooms, in a concept dubbed "co-living" that is catching on in other parts of the country as a way to get more bang for the apartment buck — both for landlords and renters.

In Mansfield, Landmark Properties has site preparation underway at 134 N. Eagleville Road for an apartment complex to be called The Mark Mansfield. As the case with Landmark's new Standard at Four Corners apartments at 1725 Storrs Road, The Mark Mansfield will include suites with common kitchens, living rooms and laundry units; and bedrooms with locks for individual tenants.

The idea is to offer tenants all

Living continues on A7

Jimmy Dean and Arthur Ashe were guests at this \$9.35M Conn. estate

By Joseph Tucci
STAFF WRITER



James Gagliardi/Modern Media LLC
The property at 18 Tokeneke Trail, Darien.

Once owned by a prominent tobacco executive and visited by a few famous faces, the property at 18 Tokeneke Trail in Darien is on the market for \$9.35 million.

The Mediterranean-style house was once owned by a former senior vice president of the tobacco company Philip Morris, James Bowling, as well as his wife Ann, according to William Pitt Julia B Fee Sotheby's International Realty.

Over the years, the Bowlings hosted notable individuals at the estate, including professional tennis players Arthur Ashe and Stan Smith, CBS commentator Andy *Estate continues on A4*

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Weather: Breezy and cold with sunshine and a few clouds.
High: 31. Low: 17. **Page A10**