

Staten Island GOP eyes secession

INSIDE, 6A

NEW ENGLAND NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR



The Standard-Times

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Retired teacher Nancy Replogle happily receives a decorated holiday tree made by Scituate High School junior Scarlett Adams, 16, left on Dec. 9. Replogle is a resident of the Cardigan Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Scituate. PHOTOS BY GREG DERR/THE PATRIOT LEDGER

Teen's Christmas gift

The power of showing seniors that they matter

Sue Scheible

The Patriot Ledger **USA TODAY NETWORK**

SCITUATE - It was an act of kind- her room. ness that made a big difference in Nancy Replogle's day. And it came at the time of year when she appreciates it the

Replogle, 60, a retired middle school teacher in Hanover, was in her room a few weeks ago at the Cardigan Nursing and Rehabilitation Center when Scarlett Adams, 16, a junior at Scituate High School, came by with a surprise.

Scarlett had a small, decorated artificial Christmas tree for Nancy. It had lights on it, and Nancy could place it anywhere in her room that she liked. Scarlett also had a homemade decorated wreath that could go on the door to

And if Nancy wanted to keep the tree and the wreath for next year, Scarlett would see that both are safely stored

"You bet!" said Replogle, who has been living at the nursing facility for four years. She keeps the tree on her bureau, near her TV, so she can see it easily from her bed whenever she wants.

"It was very thoughtful and has

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Scarlett Adams presents a holiday wreath she made to Nancy Douglas, a resident of the Cardigan Nursing and **Rehabilitation Center in Scituate on** Tuesday, Dec. 9. Scarlett made 36 small holiday trees and 20 wreaths for the residents of the facility.

MassWildlife provides lean, healthy protein to food pantries

Ruth Thompson

Wicked Local **USA TODAY NETWORK**

Food pantries throughout the state can offer a healthy source of lean protein to their customers, thanks to a program sponsored by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife).

"Hunters Share the Harvest" allows licensed hunters to donate venison to those in need while supporting forest conservation by utilizing hunting for population manage-

"The program allows us to meet our deer management goals, which is so important to conservation, while being able to address food insecurity across the Commonwealth," said Martin Feehan, deer and moose biologist at MassWildlife. "It gives those successful hunters an outlet to share their extra deer once they fill their freezers and the freezers of their friends."

Since the program started in 2022, more than 90,000 meals have been provided to families in need.

According to Feehan, the program, which is just for deer, runs the length of hunting season — from late September through Feb. 14.

Requirements to participate in the program

Deer must be:

- recovered and field dressed within 4 hours after getting shot unless the ambient air temperature stays below 37 degrees Fahrenheit; • dropped off whole and field
- dressed to a participating processor within 24 hours after they're shot; • legally reported and tagged with
- a confirmation number.

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Covert Claus delivers 'Christmas miracle'

Ryan Cormier

Delaware News Journal **USA TODAY NETWORK**

A month after she was hired as a seasonal sales associate at Burlington, Shatyra Streeter was called into the department store manager's office. She thought maybe she was in trouble.

But what was awaiting the Wilmington single mother was a Christmas gift unlike anything she had ever received.

Store manager Devin Riley told her that a stranger had come into the store and anonymously paid off the \$110 balance on her layaway purchase of clothes and shoes for her 3-year-old daughter.

At first, she couldn't wrap her head around the random act of generosity. Then, she let the joy of the moment wash over her.

"It was a real blessing," Streeter says.

"A Christmas miracle."

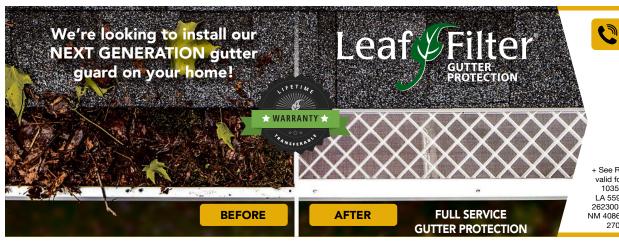
In fact, Streeter was only one of about 50 layaway accounts that were paid for that day by the mystery man, who spent about \$8,000 before walking out of the store after declining to be recognized for his good deeds.

But someone tipped off Delaware Online/The News Journal, part of the USA

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"I am very fortunate. I don't need another thing in my life, but there are plenty of people who do."

Secret Santa



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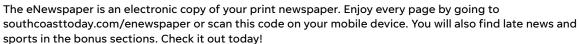
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