

STRONG EFFORT

BODIE SARGEANT AND NAUGY HANDLE WOODLAND, PAGES 10, 12A

COURT FALLOUT

STAFF WRITER MARK JAFFEE WEIGHS IN ON THE FIRING OF HOLY CROSS BASKETBALL COACH RYAN OLSEN, PAGE 12A

Public critical of zone change

Litchfield residents told the Planning and Zoning Commission that a multifamily housing complex in the center of town would bring in too much traffic. PAGE 3A



Jury selection goes on

Seven jurors have been seated in former President Donald Trump's hush money trial. He is accused of making payoffs to two women before the 2016 election. PAGE 5B

Keep it clean, Woodbury

The town will celebrate Earth Day with lessons about sustainability this Saturday at Hollow Park. More than 60 vendors will showcase eco-friendly products. PAGE 3A

Best grub? You be the judge

Food trucks will compete for bragging rights in the third annual Connecticut Food Truck Battles Festival at Wolcott Festival Park. IN LOCA.VORE, PAGE 1B

OPINION OF THE DAY: "Perhaps holding parents legally responsible for the actions of their misbehaving children in school would be a good alternative to student arrests in school." — Joe Nolan, Waterbury
READ THE FULL LETTER ON PAGE 9A

RA TODAY AT REP-AM.COM

SOUTH OF THE BORDER Home cook Steven Valenti is making Mexican chicken and rice this week. Find the recipe and a step-by-step video in his What's for Dinner blog.

High **62** Partly sunny and pleasant with showers tonight.
Low **42** showers tonight.
Page **10B**

- Accent **1B**
- Business **3B**
- Classified **6B**
- Comics **7B**
- Crossword **8B**
- Dear Annie **9B**
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- Lottery **2A**
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- Your Day **2A**

Hate soars in state

ADL audit finds 2023 hits high for antisemitic acts

BY PAUL HUGHES
REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

The Anti-Defamation League reported a 170% increase in antisemitic incidents in Connecticut last year, calling 2023 a record-setting year for acts of anti-Jewish hatred.

The ADL released an annual audit Tuesday that said 184 antisemitic incidents were

Incidents of anti-Semitism over the years, **Page 7A.**

RA Visit rep-am.com to see a video of the audit from the Anti-Defamation League.

recorded in the state last year, up from 68 incidents recorded in 2022 and 34 in 2021.

The audit said 115 antisemitic incidents occurred fol-

lowing the Oct. 7 surprise attack by Hamas on Israel in which 1,200 people were killed and around 250 hostages were taken, including one the day after in Waterbury targeting a Jewish family walking to synagogue.

Overall, the ADL reported there were 115 recorded incidents of harassment in Connecticut and 69 incidents of vandalism in 2023. This com-

pared to 55 incidents of harassment in 2022 and 27 incidents of vandalism. There were no assaults in either year.

The ADL also issued a national audit Tuesday that showed Connecticut had the 15th most antisemitic incidents in the United States. The group noted that the state ranks No. 29 in population.

See **AUDIT, Page 7A**

WELCOME TO THE FORCE



JIM SHANNON REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

Waterbury Police Academy graduates march down East Main Street in Waterbury on Tuesday on their way to the Palace Theater, where a graduation ceremony was held for the 33 recruits. The officers have completed 32 weeks of instruction and will begin field training with their departments. Another photo on Page 6A.

"I always thought that because the record has been intact for so long, that it might be a good candidate for the Guinness Book of World Records, and this being the 85th anniversary, I thought it would be cool to have it for then to keep his memory and the record alive." — Woodbury resident Richard Matt, son of skier Toni Matt

A skier's feat for the ages

Guinness Book inks record 85 years later

BY STEVE BIGHAM
REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

The fastest descent all-time on skis of Mount Washington is now officially in the record books.

Woodbury resident Richard Matt has succeeded in getting his late father and famed skier Toni Matt into the Guinness Book of World Records as the fastest man to ever ski down New Hampshire's Mount Washington, a feat he accomplished 85 years ago to the day Tuesday.

The performance, during which the skier is estimated to have reached speeds of up to 90 mph, is considered by many to be one of the greatest feats in American ski racing history.

"We are so excited. We just got word last week," said the younger Matt. "My dad was an Austrian ski champion, who was only in America for a few months. His accomplishment on wooden skis, bear-trap bindings, and leather lace



PHOTO COURTESY OF RICHARD MATT

Richard Matt, who now lives in Woodbury, is pictured here with his father, Toni Matt, in this photo from 1959. Toni Matt now holds the Guinness World Record as the fastest man to ever ski down Mount Washington in New Hampshire.

up boots on the harsh, un-groomed and weather beaten Mount Washington, make that race part of ski history in America."

Matt said he decided to finally contact Guinness af-

ter realizing the 85th anniversary was approaching.

"The fact that it took place in 1939 presented

See **RECORD, Page 7A**

Chief public defender fights back

Bowden-Lewis claims actions were her right

BY BRUNO MATARAZZO JR.
REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

HARTFORD — TaShun Bowden-Lewis, the state's embattled chief public defender, fought to keep her position in a rare disciplinary hearing Tuesday, where she faces 16 charges by the com-



Bowden-Lewis

mission that oversees the public defenders division. The hearing, which at times became contentious, lasted four 1/2 hours and will be continued to a later date to allow Bowden-Lewis the opportunity to call witnesses. No date has been set.

"I've not been accused of embezzling funds, having intimate relations with employees or being arrested for breaking the law. I do not see anything worthy of this commission removing

See **CHARGES, Page 6A**