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The Day



Sports: Hahn sets two meet records as East Lyme wins 21st straight ECC swimming title **E1**

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Crowd surge kills 8 at concert

“Everyone was passing out around you, and everyone was trying to help each other. But you just couldn’t move. You couldn’t do anything. You can’t even pick your arms up. It just got worse and worse.”

NICK JOHNSON, WHO ATTENDED ASTROWORLD IN HOUSTON

13 hospitalized after fans rush toward stage at Houston festival

By **JUAN A. LOZANO**
Associated Press

Houston — The crowd at a Houston music festival suddenly surged toward the stage during a performance by rapper Travis Scott, squeezing fans so tightly together that they could not breathe or move their arms

and killing eight people in the chaos. The pandemonium unfolded Friday evening at Astroworld, a sold-out, two-day event in NRG Park with an estimated 50,000 people in attendance. As a timer clicked down to the start of the performance, the crowd pushed forward.

“As soon as he jumped out on the stage, it was like an energy took over and everything went haywire,” concertgoer Niaara Goods said. “All of a sudden, your ribs are being crushed.

You have someone’s arm in your neck. You’re trying to breathe, but you can’t.”

Goods said she was so desperate to get out that she bit a man on the shoulder to get him to move.

The dead ranged in age from 14 to 27, and 13 people were still hospitalized Saturday, Mayor Sylvester Turner said. He called the disaster “a tragedy on many different levels” and said it was too early to draw conclusions about what went wrong.

“It may well be that this tragedy is the result of unpredictable events, of circumstances coming together that couldn’t possibly have been avoided,” said Judge Lina Hidalgo, Harris County’s top elected official. “But until we determine that, I will ask the tough questions.”

Experts who have studied deaths caused by crowd surges say they are often a result of density — too many people packed into a small space. The **SEE CONCERTGOERS PAGE A7**

All signs point to reelection bid by Lamont

But governor has little experience in raising funds for his party

By **MARK PAZNIOKAS**
The Connecticut Mirror

The executive director of the Connecticut Democratic Party is stepping down to make way for a successor to be chosen by Gov. Ned Lamont, a subtle confirmation of what has been clear for months: Lamont intends to seek a second term in 2022.

The move was announced Wednesday, a day after the municipal elections, when the political calendar rapidly flipped to 2022 and Democrats and Republicans sparred over what GOP wins here and elsewhere portend for Connecticut.

Lamont said the losses Tuesday in low-turnout local elections did not concern him, but the Democrats’ loss of the governor’s race in Virginia and close call in New Jersey were “a little bit of a wakeup call.”

Ben Proto, the Republican state chair, said the performance of Republicans in two states that Joe Biden carried easily — by 10 points in Virginia and 16 points in New Jersey — should leave the governor wide awake.

“I mean, across the country, Republicans did very well last (Tuesday) night and Democrats didn’t, and there’s gotta be some correlation to what’s going on in Washington, what people are seeing in their state houses,” Proto said.

On Tuesday night, Proto framed the local elections as a Republican blowout that sets up the GOP’s efforts to compete in 2022 for control of the General Assembly and the statewide offices that will be on the ballot. That opinion was seconded on Twitter by Bob Stefanowski, the Republican who lost to Lamont in 2018 and is weighing a rematch.

Republicans held on to open GOP seats for mayor and first selectman in Danbury, Westport and Darien and flipped Democratic seats in Bristol, Colchester, East Haddam and Windor Locks. They also flipped control of some local boards, allowing Proto to claim pickups in 20 towns. Democrats won GOP first selectman seats in Avon, Simsbury and Roxbury.

Lamont saw no pattern. “A lot of those are very local in terms of what’s going on town by town. I think we’re fine,” said Lamont, whose polling has been strong **SEE LAMONT PAGE A5**

Mr. Edward Stephen Harkness’ Golf Links at Eolia Waterford, Conn.

EOLIA					REPLACE DIVOTS				
NO.	PAR	STAKE	YDS.	FAIRWAY	NO.	PAR	STAKE	YDS.	FAIRWAY
1	317	4	9		10	317	4	10	
2	332	4	3		11	332	4	4	
3	500	5	1		12	500	5	2	
4	353	4	5		13	353	4	6	
5	180	3	15		14	180	3	16	
6	109	3	17		15	109	3	18	
7	270	4	11		16	270	4	12	
8	326	4	7		17	326	4	8	
9	277	4	13		18	277	4	14	
OUT	2644	35			IN	2644	35		
PLAYER					OUT	2644	35		
ATTENDED					TOTAL	5328	70		
DATE					HANDICAP				
					NET SCORE				

This is the possible layout of the former nine-hole golf course at Eolia, now Harkness Memorial State Park. It’s based on incomplete documentation and educated guesswork by golf researcher Bret Lawrence.

SCOTT RITTER/THE DAY

This diagram is superimposed on an aerial photo, seen on page A6, taken between 1937 and 1942. The scorecard is a digital recreation of a 1938 original that survives as a photocopy. The course’s two remaining sand traps, colored brown, are seen on the fourth fairway and beside the seventh green. Researcher Bret Lawrence theorizes that the sixth hole was added to replace the original third, abandoned in the 1930s.

In search of a lost golf course

Grounds at Harkness Memorial State Park were once a millionaire’s 9-hole links

By **JOHN RUDDY**
Day Staff Writer

WATCH YOUR STEP as you walk around at Harkness Memorial State Park in Waterford. If you don’t look where you’re going, you could end up in a ditch.

Two shallow depressions, one large and one small, seem out of place on the well-kept grounds, but they aren’t. They’re leftovers from a time when the expansive lawn was full of fairways and greens.

“What can be found of a small ... golf course on the Harkness Estate in Waterford?” reader Bill Simons asked.

Those ditches are the short answer to his question. They’re what remains of sand traps, two of many that once dotted owner Edward Harkness’ private links.

The long answer is more complicated. Vestiges of the course can be found elsewhere: in aerial photos, news stories and local memories. But for something whose existence is so well documented, the vanished course has hung onto a few of its secrets.

As millionaires go, Edward Stephen Harkness wasn’t well known, and that’s just how he wanted it. His



father had made a fortune as John D. Rockefeller’s silent partner in Standard Oil, and Harkness devoted his life to giving most of it away, anonymously whenever possible. “He considered himself a trustee of the wealth which came into his

possession,” James W. Wooster Jr. wrote in a privately published 1949 biography. “He administered this trust, for the welfare of mankind.”

Beneficiaries of Harkness’ largesse included the fine arts, hospitals and universities. Wooster figured the total, conservatively, at \$129 million. The Day once noted that Harkness “maintained a secretarial corps to dig out new philanthropies into which he could pour his wealth.”

His wife and partner in giving, Mary Stillman Harkness, came from a local family and donated generously to Connecticut College, which **SEE HARKNESS PAGE A6**

BIDEN BRINGS INFRASTRUCTURE PACKAGE ACROSS FINISH LINE

Washington — Less than 10 months after taking office and several days after his party suffered a stinging defeat in the Virginia governor’s race, President Joe Biden achieved one of his goals: a bipartisan agreement that would make major investments in all 50 states for years to come.

Shortly before midnight on Friday, when the House passed the bill 228-206 with the backing of more than 10 Republicans, Biden’s slumping political fortunes appeared to suddenly change. After seeing his poll numbers slide for weeks, he had suddenly fulfilled a core campaign promise and notched a major victory after months of legislative gridlock.

“I don’t think it’s an exaggeration to suggest that we took a monumental step forward as a nation,” Biden said Saturday

morning at the White House, flanked by Vice President Kamala Harris. “We did something long overdue, that has long been talked about in Washington, but never actually done.”

Biden called the bill a “once in a generation” investment that would create millions of jobs and improve America’s economic standing.

Biden said the measure included the most significant investment in roads and bridges in 70 years; the most significant investment in passenger rail in 50 years; and the most significant investment in public transit in history. Biden said he and Harris would have a formal signing ceremony for the measure “soon,” citing the desire for those who worked on the legislation to be able to attend.

See story on **A3**, related story on **D5**.

Museum marks anniversary



DANA JENSEN/THE DAY

People visit wigwams Saturday for the 90th anniversary of the Tantaquidgeon Museum in Uncasville. Tours, demonstrations and refreshments were available. See **D1**.

WEATHER

Today, sunshine and clouds, seasonable. High 54. Monday, sunny and more comfortable. High 59. **E6**

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Harkness golf course wasn't the first on the property

FROM A1
has a Harkness House and a Harkness Chapel.
In 1907 the couple bought a summer home on Goshen Point in Waterford. Before he sold it to them, Mary Harkness' brother-in-law had the property just long enough to build a house where the previous owner had lost two homes to fire. The Harknesses named the new building "Eolia."
Getting there allowed Harkness to indulge one of his passions, yachting. He bought a 135-foot boat to commute from his office in New York.
He also had another passion: golf. It seems natural that, as a man of means, he would want his own course. But his decision to create one at Eolia came with a twist: There was already a golf course, or at least the remnants of one, on the property.



Sand traps are the most visible feature of Edward S. Harkness' private golf course in this aerial photo, which was taken between 1937 and 1942. The green at the tip of Goshen Point was shared by two holes.



Edward Stephen Harkness, seen in a circa 1912 portrait, was among the most generous philanthropists of his time. Once, when advised not to make a large donation, he supposedly said, "What's the use of having the money if you can't have the fun of spending it?"

EDITOR'S NOTE
In addition to the sources mentioned in the text, the following were especially helpful: Mary Beth Baker, Nancy Liefert of the Connecticut State Library, Waterford Town Historian Robert Nye, Benjamin Panciera of Connecticut College, Judith Schiff of Yale University, Jeanne Shelburne and Renee Vogt of the Friends of Harkness, and Sheila M. Wertheimer. The enthusiastic response by readers to The Day's public appeal for information made this story substantially better.

In 1897, a farm just east of the future Eolia became a nine-hole course for residents of the Pequot Colony in New London. It was called the Quaganapoxet Golf Club, from an Indian word meaning "salt marshes."

For a decade the club thrived, according to Edna Tyler, who, writing around 1966, believed herself to be its last surviving member. She said a financial crisis brought on by clubhouse renovations was part of its undoing.

"Another reason was that the older men, who had taken up the game late in life, stood little or no chance in the tournaments when they had to compete with boys of 16, 17, or 18," she wrote.

The place was also hard to get to.

"If the club had only struggled on for a year or two longer, the automobile would have solved the transportation problem," Tyler wrote.

Quaganapoxet was where Camp Harkness, a state park for the disabled, is now. It has mostly disappeared from local memory. But reader Russ Bingham, in response to The Day's public appeal for help with this story, produced a photo of a silver cup his grandmother won there in an 1897 tournament.

Edward Harkness bought the property shortly after Quaganapoxet closed, and parts of the abandoned course may have been worked into his plans.

Harkness wrapped his private course around Eolia, starting northeast of the mansion and winding it south to the tip of Goshen Point. Sometime after 1917, when his next-door neighbor's home burned down, he bought the land, making room for the course to extend westward.

It was nine holes with an unconventional design. Among its quirks was a green at the tip of the point that was shared by two holes.

The layout shows a smart use of the land by a capable designer, said Anthony Pioppi of Middletown, a golf writer and historian.

"This isn't Harkness with his lawnmower," he said. So who was the designer, and when was the course created? Those questions have yielded hints but no answers.

Shortly after they bought Eolia, the Harknesses remodeled the house. Their architect was James Gamble Rogers, who designed many of the college and hospital buildings they donated. The grounds also were landscaped under Rogers' supervision. Could he have created the



The course's local rules were noted on the 1938 Eolia scorecard.

course? Some believe he did, but his papers at Yale and Columbia universities, which document his work at Eolia, make no mention of a golf course.

In 1919 the Harknesses hired Beatrix Jones Farrand, a prominent landscape architect. After creating the East Garden, Farrand worked on and off at Eolia for years. Did she design the course? Her papers, at the University of California, Berkeley offer no evidence.

There's also an intriguing third possibility.

One of the Harknesses' earliest projects was a walled garden with annuals and Italianate statuary on the west side of the house. In 1909 Rogers chose a Boston firm, Brett and Hall, to do the design. The partners assigned the task to a young associate who had worked his way up from office boy.

The result, known as the West Garden, remains intact. A sketch of the plan bears Rogers' name and also that of the associate architect, Wayne E. Stiles.

A few years after that job, Stiles struck out on his own and started designing golf courses. Though without formal training, he created more than 40 courses nationwide and today is considered one of the finest course designers of his time.

"One can imagine Stiles walking around the house and grounds to find the best angles and shading for various species," Stiles' biographers, Bob Labbanace and Kevin Mendik, wrote about the West Garden. "No doubt he noticed how suitable the windy coastal grounds would have been for a links course."

Is Harkness' golf playground an early example of Stiles' work? The two tried to find out, but again, there was no documentation.

"We can only wonder," they



Golf researcher Bret Lawrence takes a swing from what's left of a sand trap while visiting Harkness Memorial State Park on Oct. 29. Lawrence has tried to puzzle out the routing of the former Harkness golf course. The sand trap, one of two that survive on the grounds, was beside the seventh green.

wrote, "if Harkness is a lost Wayne Stiles design."

Another mystery is how the course unfolded on its U-shaped journey from east to west. No plans have turned up, so the evidence consists of a 1938 scorecard and some handwritten notes on the back of an aerial photo.

Pioppi studied the documents and shared them with Bret Lawrence of Morris, a fellow golf researcher. Using the scorecard yardages and Google Earth, Lawrence worked out a plausible route for the course that doubles back from the west to the shared green on the point, then plays due north to the house (see map on the front page).

But Pioppi noted that since the course was private, it could be played however Harkness and his guests liked.

"That's the joy of owning your own golf course," he said. The course also may have changed over time. Comparing photos, Lawrence believes one hole was abandoned and another added in the 1930s.

The sand traps also vary from photo to photo. There's an unconfirmed story that Harkness' frequent partner was James Gamble Rogers, who lived at Old Black Point in East Lyme. Rogers tended to win, the story goes, so Harkness had his employees note where Rogers' shots landed and put traps there to improve his odds.

After Harkness' death in 1940 and his wife's a decade later, the course shared the fate of old soldiers and just faded away. Golf courses disappear by going fallow, Pioppi said. Either the grass is no longer cut, or it's cut evenly to lawn length.

Mary Harkness left Eolia to the state of Connecticut for the care of tuberculosis patients or veterans. Her wish

was partly fulfilled by a day camp, later Camp Harkness, that continued work with the handicapped she had begun herself. The rest of the 220-acre estate, which had included a farm, opened as Harkness Memorial State Park in 1953.

Golf wasn't part of the plan, but the course lived on in the memories of the estate's employees, some of whom had

caddied for Harkness and his guests. A few were interviewed by researchers in 1998.

Dan Pennella, a seasonal worker as a child, recalled that his father, also an employee, shot a skunk on the fourth fairway because he was afraid it would tear up the greens. He got sprayed for his efforts.

Albert Partridge, a future first selectman of Waterford, felt completely at ease talking

Musk tweets to ask if he should sell some Tesla stock

New York (AP) — Tesla CEO Elon Musk is asking on Twitter whether he should sell 10% of his stock in the electric-vehicle company amid pressure in Washington to increase taxes on billionaires like him.

Some Democrats have been pushing for billionaires to pay taxes when the price of the stocks they hold goes up, even if they don't sell any shares. It's a concept called "unrealized gains," and Musk is sitting on a lot of them with a net worth of roughly \$300 billion.

"Much is made lately of unrealized gains being a means of tax avoidance, so I propose selling 10% of my Tesla stock," he tweeted Saturday afternoon. "Do you support this?"

By 5:40 p.m. Eastern time, a little more than two hours after Musk's initial tweet, 54% said yes out of a total of 876,189 votes.

Much of Musk's wealth is held in shares of Tesla, which does not pay him a cash salary. "I only have stock, thus the only way for me to pay taxes

personally is to sell stock," he tweeted.

Musk, who is known for his sometimes flippant tweets, said he would "abide by the results of this poll."

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