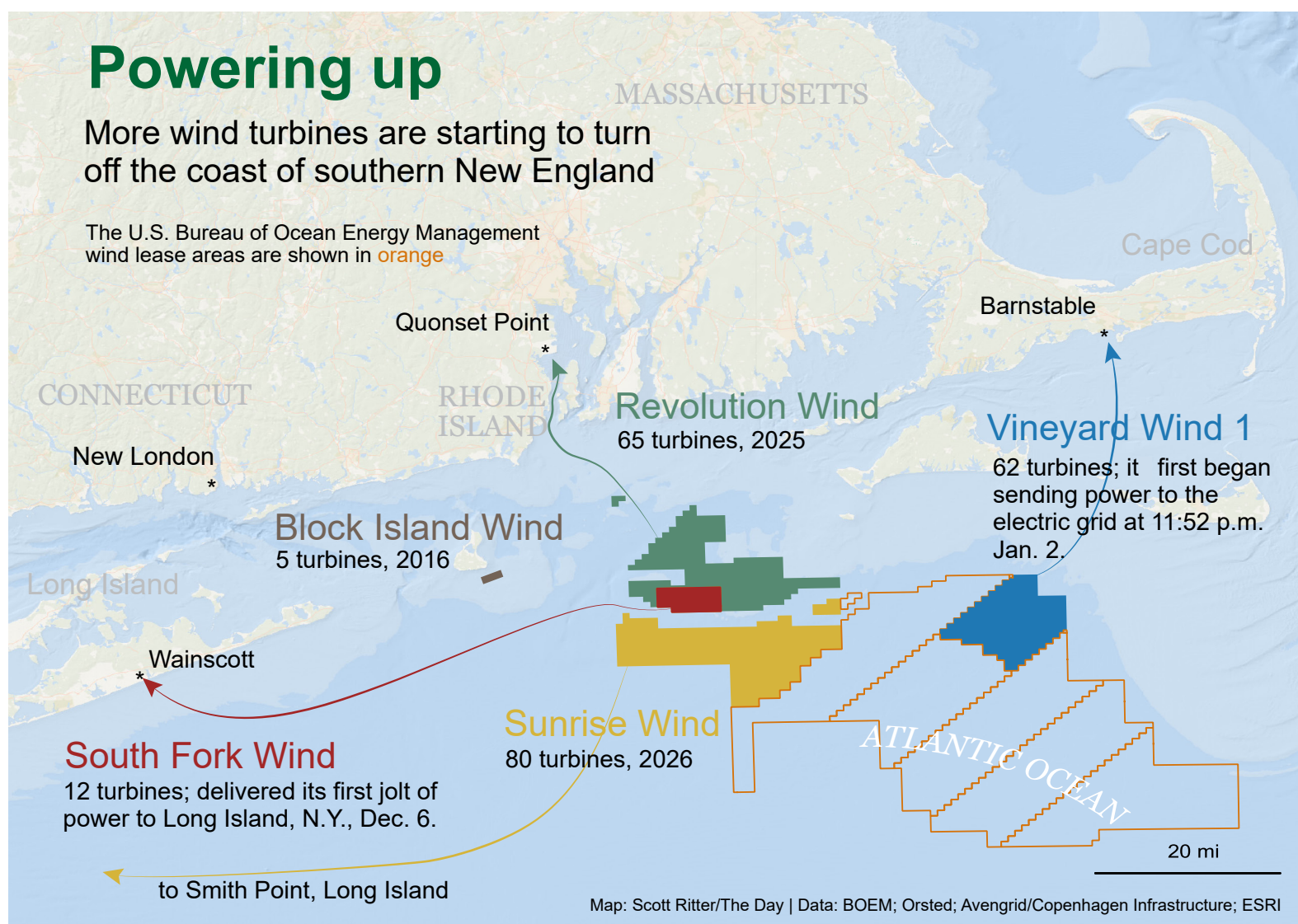


Powering up

More wind turbines are starting to turn off the coast of southern New England

The U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management wind lease areas are shown in orange



Map: Scott Ritter/The Day | Data: BOEM; Orsted; Avengrid/Copenhagen Infrastructure; ESRI

Dems toughen stance on the border

But will move toward the middle pay off?

By DAVID LAUTER
Los Angeles Times

Washington — For a decade, starting with President Barack Obama's reelection and accelerating during Donald Trump's years in office, Democrats moved to the left on immigration issues, downplaying border enforcement and advocating for the rights of migrants to seek asylum in the U.S.

For a time, the public moved with them. The harsh enforcement measures pushed by Trump, especially the separation of children from their families at the border, generated an intense backlash among voters.

Polls during Trump's tenure found a steady increase in Americans who favored more immigration and legalization for those who had entered the U.S. without papers.

That's all changed. As the number of migrants crossing the southern border has risen to record levels, public support for immigration has gone down, including among Democrats.

Republicans have pummeled President Joe Biden on the issue, and it has divided Democrats.

The Democratic response, from the White House on down, has been to shift toward advocating stronger border enforcement.

SEE DEMOCRATS PAGE A3

Last South Fork turbine parts leave NL

Revolution Wind will be next project at State Pier

By GREG SMITH
Day Staff Writer

New London — And then there were none.

Less than a year after the offshore wind industry landed in New London with the delivery of components for the nation's first utility-scale offshore wind farm, the final pieces of New York's South Fork Wind slowly made their way by barge down the Thames River on Friday night.

The parts, which include 330-foot-long turbine blades, 520-metric-ton nacelles and pieces of towers that when completed will rise 800 feet in

height, were headed 35 miles off the coast of Montauk, N.Y., to the 12-turbine wind farm.

"It has been immensely gratifying to see the assembly and delivery of South Fork Wind turbines come to completion under the intended scenario for the transformed State Pier," Ulysses Hammond, executive director of the Connecticut Port Authority, said on Friday.

South Fork Wind, a joint venture between Danish wind company Ørsted and Eversource, is on track to be completed by the end of the month, delivering 132 megawatts of power to the East Hampton, N.Y., power grid, enough to power an estimated 70,000 homes. One megawatt can

power about 500 homes.

The last barge loaded with components left State Pier at 6 p.m. New London Mayor Michael Passero said he would likely be able to catch a glimpse of the barge moving down the Thames while having dinner at On the Waterfront restaurant.

Prior to his election as mayor in 2015, Passero said he never would have predicted the \$309 million transformation of State Pier or that New London would become a centerpiece for the country's burgeoning offshore wind industry.

Aside from a \$1 million annual financial boost to the city through a host community agreement and other revenue-sharing benefits, Passero

said there is a certain prestige to being the center of attention.

"It just raises the profile of New London and helps put us back on the map the way the whaling era put us on the map," Passero said.

What's next at State Pier?

With the last wind turbine parts cleared from State Pier, Hammond said work would continue to complete the construction project, which is overseen by the port authority. Dredging is currently underway and on track for completion this month, he said. Work is also ongoing on one of two new heavy-lift platforms.

SEE STATE PAGE A3

Getting up close and personal with reptiles

'Jungle Jamboree' puts various species on display

By DANIEL DRAINVILLE
Day Staff Writer

Salem — More than 50 people came to Burnett's Country Gardens at 380 New London Road on Sunday afternoon for "Jungle Jamboree," an educational wildlife show that featured a 9-foot-long Burmese python, venomous scorpion and a lizard without legs.

The show gave 20 children the opportunity to get close to various reptiles, amphibians and arachnids while learning about the animals' adapted features.

About 1:50 p.m., Cassandra Blais, education director for the Riverside Reptiles Education Center, an Enfield-based reptile and amphibian facility that houses over 100 species, wheeled a cart stacked high with plastic coolers into the garden store's tropical greenhouse.

SEE JUNGLE PAGE A5



SARAH GORDON/THE DAY

Brothers Jordan, center, 6, and Alexander, 5, Heart, of Colchester, pet a Burmese python held by Cassandra Blais, with Riverside Reptiles Education Center in Enfield, during the Jungle Jamboree program at Burnett's Country Gardens on Sunday.

Pandemic put tax burden on state's poorest, report shows

By KEITH M. PHANEUF
The Connecticut Mirror

Connecticut's already regressive tax system swung even more sharply onto the backs of its poorest residents during the coronavirus pandemic's first year, according to a new fairness study from Gov. Ned Lamont's administration.

The lowest-earning 10% effectively spent almost 40% of their income in 2020 to cover state or municipal tax burdens, more than five times the rate faced by Connecticut's highest earners — and two-and-a-half times the statewide average, according to the tax incidence analysis released Thursday by the Department of Revenue Services.

The 39.9% state and municipal tax rate effectively paid by the poorest 10% also is up dramatically from the nearly 26% rate assigned to that same group by a 2022 DRS tax fairness study, which analyzed data from 2019.

Meanwhile, taxpayers in the two middle groups paid 13% and 11.5%, respectively, of their income to cover tax burdens in 2020, up from 9.2% and 8.6% in 2019.

"This latest study just confirms what people in Connecticut have been feeling in their wallets for the last several years — a dangerous combination of historic inflation, an upside-down tax system and an extreme disinvestment in critical public services and infrastructure," said Norma Martinez-HoSang, director of Connecticut For All, a coalition of more than 80 labor, faith and civic organizations that has advocated for higher tax rates on wealthy households and corporations to finance relief for low- and middle-income families.

The study breaks Connecticut's earners into deciles, or groups that earned 10% of all statewide income.

SEE REGRESSIVE PAGE A5

WEATHER

Today, sunny and breezy. High 39.
Tuesday, sunny and chilly. High 36.
Wednesday, partly sunny. **B8**

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TRUMP REMAINS SILENT ON THE DEATH OF ALEXEI NAVALNY

Former President Donald Trump, who earlier this month set off worries among allies after he said would encourage Russia to invade a NATO country that wasn't spending enough on defense, has remained silent on the death of Alexei Navalny, Vladimir Putin's most potent political opponent.

The front-runner of the GOP presidential primary has made multiple public appearances since Russia announced Navalny's death in a faraway Arctic prison on Friday. He has not commented on the dissident's shocking death, even though he frequently speaks about what he would do as president when confronting Russia, Putin and the war in Ukraine.

Navalny embodied the resistance to Putin's regime more than any other Russian opposition figure, and his death at 47 in the prison camp was seen as a watershed signal that no dissent will be tolerated in Russia as Putin

shifts toward a highly centralized, deeply repressive totalitarian regime.

Days before Navalny's death — the cause of which the Russian government has not yet explained — Trump, who has often praised Putin, told a crowd of supporters in South Carolina that he would encourage Russia to do "whatever the hell they want" to any NATO member country that he believes is not paying their share due to the alliance.

The remarks sparked controversy in the United States and Europe, with American leaders promising that they would remain committed to NATO allies and European leaders expressing concern that a second Trump presidency could erode the alliance.

As The Washington Post reported Friday, during his four years in office, Trump appears to have never once mentioned Navalny's name. Related stories on **A2** and **A6**.

Rough skating



JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS VIA AP

A skater falls after going over the uneven surface of the Rideau Canal Skateway in Ottawa, Ontario, after its reopening on Sunday. The National Capital Commission listed the ice condition as "very poor" and recommended users walk, rather than skate.



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