

Bridgeport FOI battle continues

City appeals panel’s order to release police records to inmate

By Daniel Tepfer and Jacqueline Rabe Thomas  
STAFF WRITERS

BRIDGEPORT — City officials are appealing a ruling that they must turn over unredacted police reports to a man serving prison time for killing a rival gang member.

In a lawsuit filed in Superior Court April 27, the city states that “requiring disclosure of such unre-

dacted records given the nature of the records could expose sensitive law enforcement information, such as the identities of witnesses not otherwise known who could be subject to intimidation or harm.”

In March, frustrated by what they said was the city’s delay in turning over public records in violation of the state’s transparency **Appeal continues on A4**

*“There’s been public reporting this year that the fines for certain responding agencies have been essentially treated as the cost of doing business, because currently they are limited to a maximum of \$1,000. ... So increasing the fines would allow additional tools for the FOI Commission to enforce violations and to deter unreasonable denials.”*

State Rep. Matt Blumenthal, D-Stamford

Cities, towns could face \$10K fine for violating open records law

By Ken Dixon  
STAFF WRITER

HARTFORD — Municipalities such as Bridgeport, with a checkered record of responding to requests for public documents, could be fined as much as \$10,000 under legislation that won approval in the Judiciary Committee on Tuesday morning.

The current \$1,000 fine was viewed as inadequate

for the seriousness of failing to fulfill requests under the state Freedom of Information Act, but some lawmakers who voted for the bill, which heads next to the Senate, said that \$10,000 might be too high. Others said that a potential \$10,000 penalty could concentrate the interest — and spur action — of recalcitrant local officials to the needs of the public.

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Jay Babina, 17, gives a tour of his museum of technology, The Westport Tech Museum, in his home in Westport.

Brian A. Pounds/Hearst Connecticut Media

TEEN’S TECH HAVEN

Westport collection becomes a museum

By Kayla Mutchler  
STAFF WRITER

WESTPORT — It all started when Jay Babina found an iPod in a glove compartment about five years ago.

That discovery, combined with his ever-growing love for technology, has led to Babina’s more than 400-piece collection of computers, video game consoles, radios, electronic toys, cameras, record players and more that would make any technology lover’s jaw drop. All of the pieces are on display virtually as part of his Westport Tech Museum, which can be viewed at westporttechmuseum.com.

“I just thought that all of this old computer stuff was so cool,” said Babina, 17.

The collection is housed in one room and spans decades of technol-



An Atari video game system at Jay Babina’s museum of technology, The Westport Tech Museum.

ogy, from a lightbulb from 1910, to one of the first video game consoles, to the Apple II computer, to a 1930s radio and a crank telephone.

After finding the iPod, he found a

plastic bag of old phones in his basement. He added it to the collection, which became the first items in the museum.

Westport continues on A4

Lawmakers: Next CT high court pick should have state experience

By Ken Dixon  
STAFF WRITER

HARTFORD — After Gov. Ned Lamont’s state Supreme Court candidate, Assistant U.S. Attorney Sandra Slack Glover, failed to gain enough support in the powerful Judiciary Committee, leading to her subsequent withdrawal on Friday, lawmakers say the next nominee should have extensive experience in Connecticut law and courthouse procedures.

Legislators on both sides of the aisle on Tuesday said Glover’s two decades of working under federal rules, with little experience in Connecticut civil and criminal procedures, worked against her nomination. Her experience exacerbated committee concerns surrounding her

**Court continues on A6**

5 reasons Whalers won’t return to Hartford

It’s been 26 years since the Hartford Whalers hockey team won their last-ever home game 2-1 and tearfully waved farewell to their Connecticut fans. Every few years since then, like noisy cicada bugs, we see a fresh effort to bring major-league NHL action back to Connecticut.

We’re at it again as the Arizona Coyotes flounder in the Phoenix area. Voters there last week rejected a taxpayer-financed stadium for a losing team. A move is likely. This could be our break!

**Haar continues on A6**



Dan Haar  
COMMENTARY

Milford aldermen GOP leader enters mayor race

By Brian Gioiele  
STAFF WRITER

MILFORD — The city’s mayoral field continues to grow.

Tony Giannattasio, Republican minority leader of the Board of Aldermen, announced Tuesday that he is throwing his hat into the ring, joining



Giannattasio

Democrat Kerri Rowland in the race to fill the post long held by Democrat Ben Blake, who vacated the seat last month.

“I enjoy serving, and I want to do it at a higher level,” Giannattasio said after he filed his paperwork securing his candidacy with the city clerk Tuesday morning. “The opportunity is here for me. Milford is worth fighting for. I am running because I want what’s best for the people of this city.”

**Milford continues on A6**

Know the signs of a stroke

Have questions? Get answers. Join our LIVE Q&A on the CT Post Facebook page.

Thurs., May 25 at noon.

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