

Connecticut Post

4 calling birds' nests ...
The 12 Days of Christmas Cookies, In Taste

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Wolves run free

Mixed verdict: 2 acquitted, 1 convicted in conspiracy case against white supremacists

By Michael P. Mayko
Staff Writer

BRIDGEPORT — The reputed head of a local white supremacist group and a black co-defendant walked out of federal court free men early Wednesday afternoon after a jury acquitted them of charges that they conspired to sell guns and hand grenades to an FBI informant brokering the deal for a Ku Klux Klan offshoot.

Kenneth Zrallack Jr., the 29-year-old head of the Connecticut White Wolves, now known as Battalion 14, Connecticut Chapter of North East White Pride, and David Sutton, a 46-year-old landscaper from Milford, left the building in the company of their lawyers

See 2 acquitted on A6



Left, Kenneth Zrallack Jr. smiles for the camera as he leaves the federal courthouse in Bridgeport on Wednesday after being acquitted of charges he conspired to sell guns and hand grenades to a Ku Klux Klan offshoot. Zrallack, 29, of Ansonia, is the reputed head of the Connecticut White Wolves, a white supremacist group. Above, co-defendant David Sutton, 46, left, standing with his attorney Frank P. Riccio II, was also acquitted.



GO

The Ride

Many people who visit New York City for the first time say that it's like being in a movie. "The Ride," a new interactive bus tour/show, takes this notion of real fantasy New York life and runs with it in an irresistible way.

Inside



SPORTS

Moore getting job done

UConn's Maya Moore is a three-time, first-team All-American and a two-time national player of the year who is rewriting the Huskies' record book. She will enter Thursday night's game at South Florida (7, CPTV) needing only 23 points to become the team's career scoring leader.

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FAIRFIELD CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL



Sara Hopkins, of Easton, decorates the stairwell at the 29th annual Fairfield Christmas Tree Festival at the Burr Homestead in Fairfield on Tuesday. The festival opens to the public Friday. All decorations are for sale and this year's proceeds will benefit Burroughs Community Center in Bridgeport. The Fairfield Christmas Tree Festival has been helping charities since 1981.

BRIAN A. POUNDS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



ROB VARNON and JOHN BURGESON

IN YOUR CORNER

Know thy rights

For holiday gift items like electronics, stores need to honor their advertised prices, and you can hold them to that. But it does get tricky when a sale ends in the middle of the day. We at IYC tend to avoid sales like that because we think it's disreputable to treat customers that way.

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THE GIVING FUND

Holiday wish come true

At least one family's holiday was already made a bit merrier by The Giving Fund, a philanthropic effort encouraging Connecticut Post readers to contribute to needy people in the region.

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TRUMBULL

First selectman warns of pension fund going broke

By Amanda Cuda
Staff Writer

TRUMBULL — The town's pension fund could run dry in a matter of years unless major changes are made soon, said First Selectman Tim Herbst. He said these changes include increasing town and employee contributions to the fund, and decreasing the number of pension-eligible employees — particularly on the Board of Education side.

Last month, the town received the results of a valuation by West Hartford-based actuaries Hooker and Holcomb. The report, which is done every two years, showed that, as of June 30, the

town's pension fund was only about 30 percent funded, and that the town had an unfunded liability of \$40 million.

Trumbull Finance Director Maria Pires said the situation the town is facing isn't uncommon, as many municipalities in the state have underfunded pensions. "It's typical, especially since the market's been down," she said.

Before the "Great Recession" began in the fall of 2008, 80 percent of public pension plans were fully funded, according to the Center for Government Excellence. By the end of last year that figure had fallen to 36 percent and most plans will not return to the 80-percent level by

See Herbst on A6

FORWARD THINKERS

Derecktor touts hybrid ferry project

By Rob Varnon
Staff Writer

Derecktor Shipyards will launch the 600-passenger ferry New York Hornblower Hybrid in April, bringing the world's first hydrogen-powered hybrid ferry to New York City.

The multimillion-dollar vessel was commissioned by Hornblower Cruises and Events, the California parent company of New York-based Statue Cruises, which operates tourist boats to

See Derecktor on A6

Connecticut Post **extras** See page A2 for today's FREE offer.
Edible Arrangements in Monroe, Danbury, Westport 1 FREE package of holiday plates

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WEATHER



High **44** Low **31**

Sunny, clear. Full weather report on Page A14



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