

Building Confidence in Elections

with Connecticut's Unsung Public Servants



Office of the CT Secretary of the State



Stephanie Thomas

Connecticut Secretary of the State

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Setting the Stage

- Mistrust in elections due to national headlines
- Lack of understanding around how elections work
- Anticipating 2024 – presidential election year and first year of early voting in CT
- Looking for a creative way to build trust
- Modeled after event hosted by one town in 2023

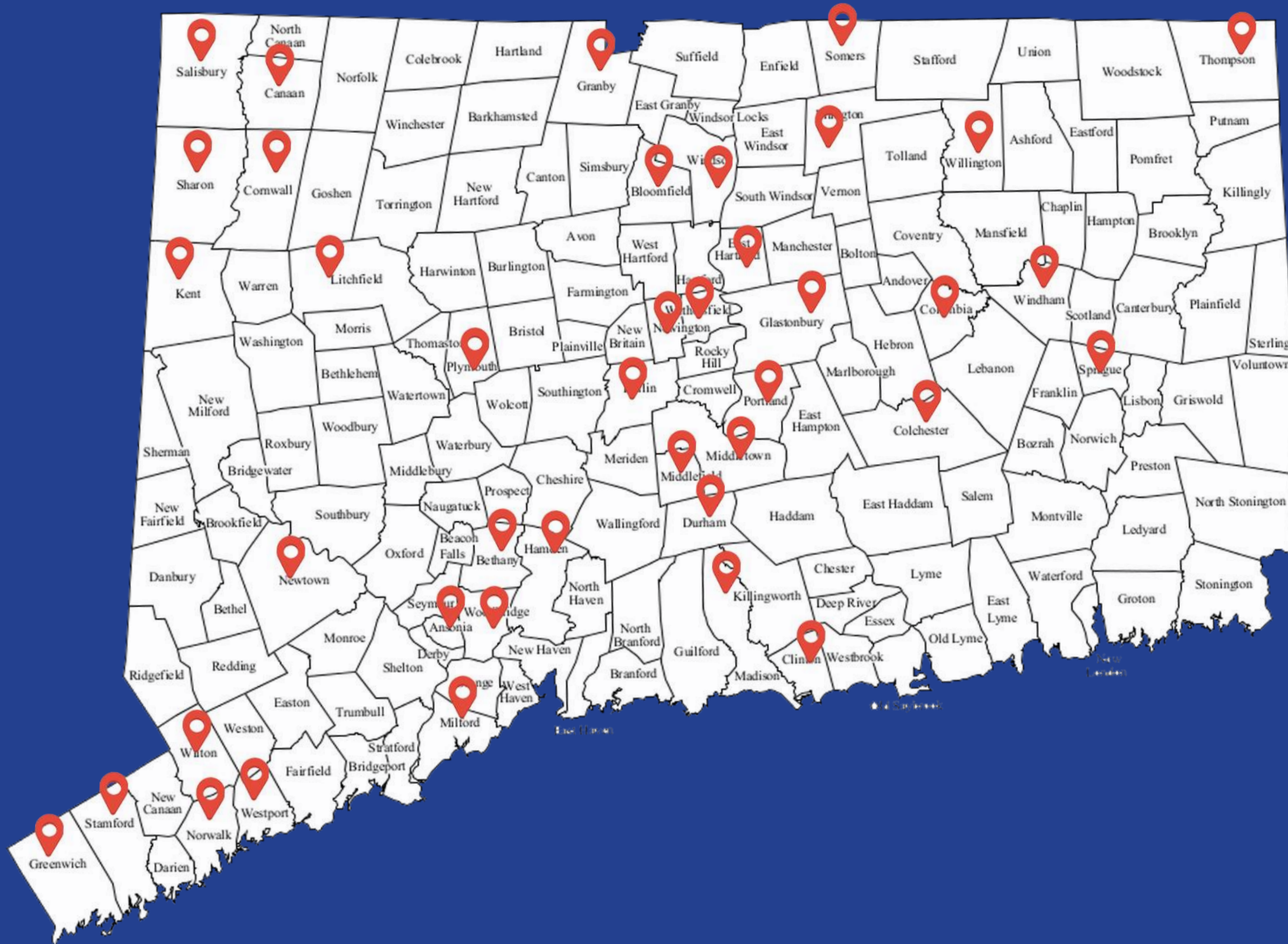


Program Goals



- Instill trust in elections
- Attract new and diverse poll workers
- Ensure Registrars of Voters, poll workers, and towns feel seen, heard, and appreciated
- Highlight nonpartisan cooperation





MAY 2023

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

	1	★	3	4	5	6
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JUNE 2023

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

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JULY 2023

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AUGUST 2023

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SEPTEMBER 2023

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OCTOBER 2023

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NOVEMBER 2023

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DECEMBER 2023

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JANUARY 2024

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FEBRUARY 2024

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MARCH 2024

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APRIL 2024

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MAY 2024

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JUNE 2024

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JULY 2024

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589 EVENT ATTENDEES

78 CITATIONS AWARDED

276 CERTIFICATES AWARDED

Teamwork!



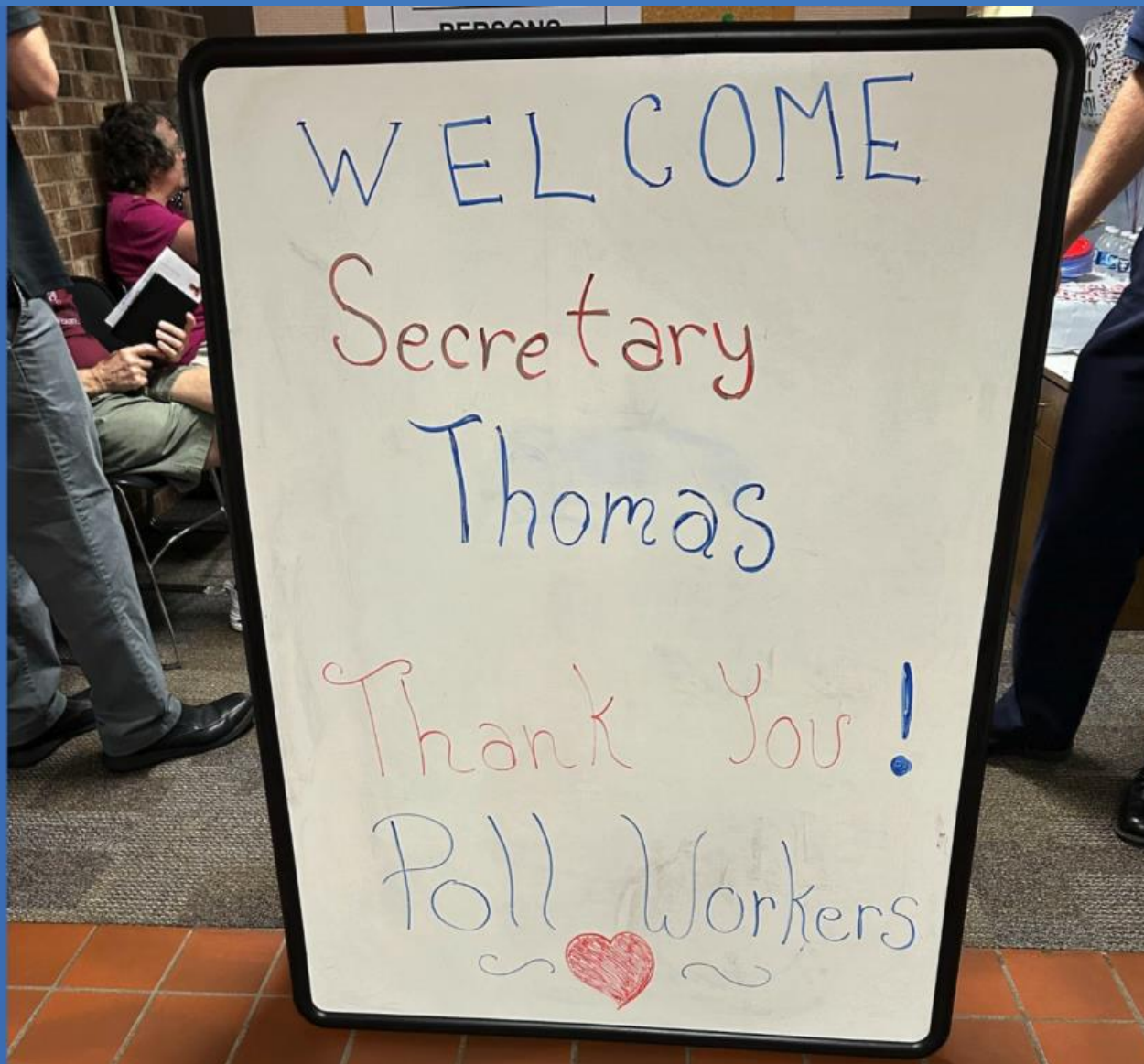
SOTS Team:

- Creates invitations
- Invites state dignitaries
- Advises press
- Creates certificates and citations
- Builds run of show
- Secretary Thomas delivers remarks

Registrars:

- Secure and set up venue
- Identify poll workers with 10+ and 20+ years of service
- Invite local dignitaries
- Provide refreshments

Culture and Community



Poll Workers Turned Influencers



WINDSOR



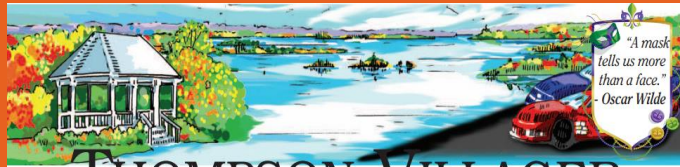
Legislative Relationships and Recognition



State Senator John Kissel (R) discusses Granby Poll Worker Appreciation event.




Local Media Coverage




THOMPSON VILLAGER
 Friday, October 27, 2023 Serving Thompson since 2005 Complimentary to homes by request

Thomas honors Thompson election workers at poll worker appreciation event



The Drummer
 PEOPLE
Secretary of State visits Granby for poll workers appreciation event
 By Shirley Murtha | March 20, 2024



February 28 was a cold windy day, but when Secretary of State Stephanie Thomas stepped inside Granby's Town Hall Meeting Room, everything brightened up. The charming and friendly government official immediately began chatting with guests and posing for photos.



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024

NEWS

Madison Poll Volunteers Honored

BY BEN RAYNER • 10/03/2023 12:46 PM EST • 10/03/2023 12:46 PM EST



Serving the Communities of Eastern Connecticut Since 1877

Town poll workers recognized

MICHELLE WARREN @mwarrentc Aug 4, 2023



THIS WEEK IN BLOOMFIELD

Poll Worker Appreciation Event



A special thank you to Connecticut Secretary of State Stephanie Thomas for attending the Poll Workers Appreciation event held last week by the Bloomfield Registrar of Voters.

We appreciate each and every one of our poll workers....Election season can not get done without your assistance.



The Newtown Bee
 Since 1877 – Best for Local News and Advertising

News

Newtown Celebrates First Poll Worker Appreciation Event



Serving the Communities of Central Connecticut

Plymouth honors its poll workers



PLYMOUTH — Secretary of State Stephanie Thomas and Mayor Joe Kilduff honored 20 local volunteer poll workers for their many years of service Wednesday.



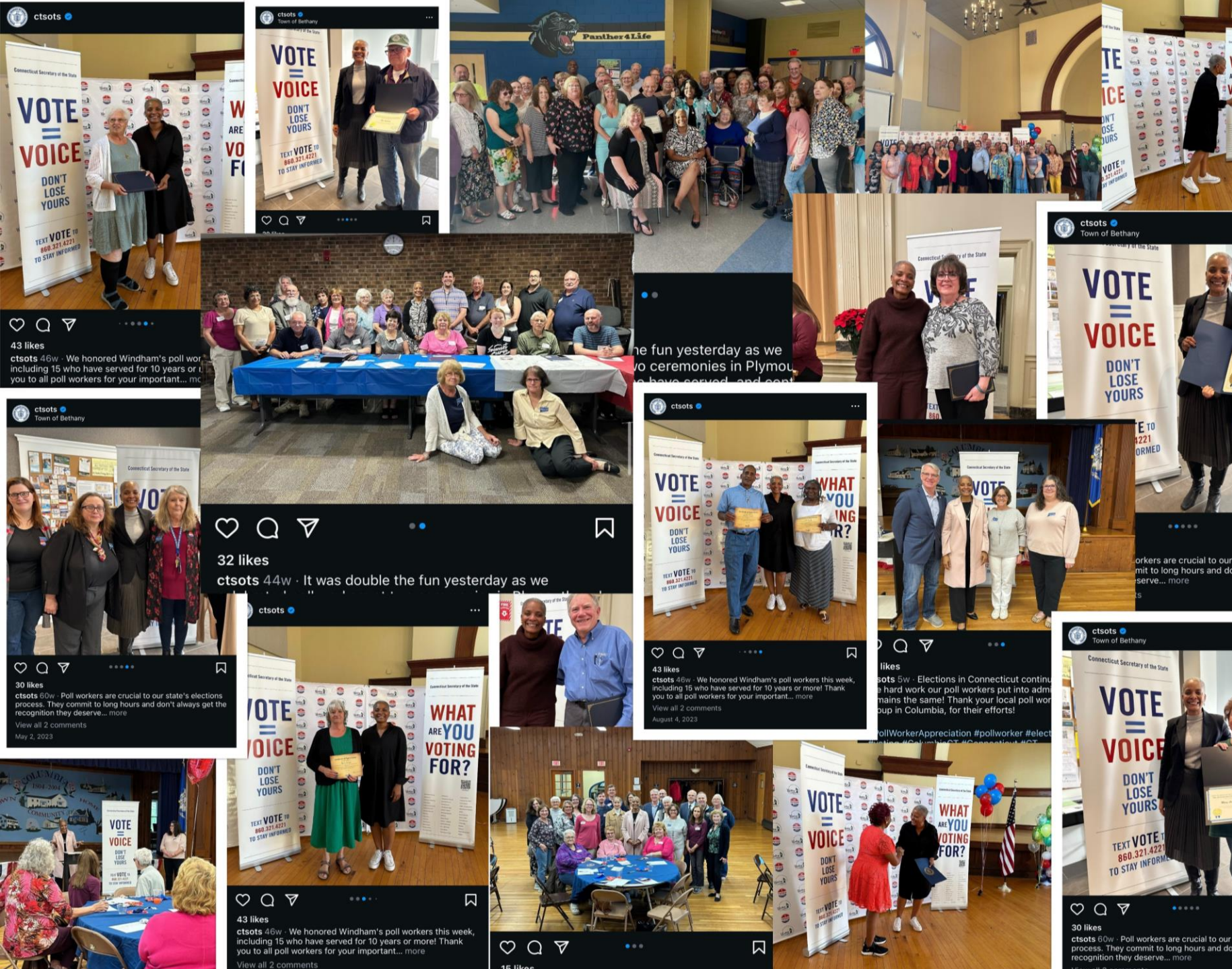
Statewide Media Coverage



FOX 61 covers a Poll Worker Appreciation event in Milford, May 31, 2023.



Social Media Engagement



Unintended Outcomes



- Direct access to poll workers and town leaders to hear feedback and discuss relevant issues
- Legislative relationships across party lines outside of the Capitol
- Boost to poll workers and Registrars of Voters
- Heartwarming and endearing



Poll Worker Promotion

- Revised website and interest form
- Relationships with trusted groups (CT Bar Association, League of Women Voters, community organizations)
- Next Gen Elections program (college students)

NEXTGEN
ELECTIONS
College Students Powering the Polls





Thank You!

To learn more,
email us!

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