



Korrine's trustworthy dog, Max.



Korrine and her dog, Max. Photos provided by Korrine Herlth.

## A Girl's Best Friend: how a local dog helps his human

By Kathy Brown

Korrine Herlth, age 19, graduated from Haddam Killingworth High School in June 2017. Back in 2013, she wanted a service dog, but according to Korrine, "A lot of organizations have wait lists about 1-3 years long and were REALLY expensive!!" So she started training her dog Max, when he was 6 years old. "He had the perfect temperament and drive to be a service dog, and we already had a great bond," explained Korrine. "It took a lot of time, patience, knowledge, education, and more to train!"

The most common breeds of dog that are used for service dogs are poodles, Labrador retrievers, golden retrievers, and German shepherds. Max is a Labradoodle, which is good for Korrine because she has allergies.

A service dog is a type of assistance dog which is specifically trained to assist a person who has a disability, such as a visual impairment, hearing impairment, mental illness (such as posttraumatic stress disorder), seizure disorder, mobility impairment, autism, or diabetes. When most people think of service dogs, they think of seeing eye dogs, but they can do so much more.

To be eligible for a service dog, you need a diagnosis that qualifies you for a service dog, and some organizations that train service dogs require a prescription or recommendation from the doctor. "Many people break the law and abuse the system simply because they want to take their pet anywhere and everywhere which poses

a big issue for real service dog teams," explains Korrine. "It not only gives us access issues, it warps the perception of service dogs to the public." Usually, a service dog will wear a vest or harness identifying it as a service dog, though that isn't a requirement. If you see a dog which is identified as a service dog, it is not a pet, and you shouldn't try to pet or distract it. You could be diverting the dog from important work, such as alerting its owner of danger or a seizure.

For Korrine, Max can alert her of an impending seizure, giving her time to get to a safe place. He has different ways of alerting her depending on the seizure type. During a seizure, he often lays on Korrine and licks her to keep her conscious, or tries to rouse her if she falls unconscious. After a seizure, Max can alert anyone nearby or get someone for help, and retrieve Korrine's oximeter so that her pulse and respirations can be monitored. Alerting to an impending seizure is an innate ability in some dogs, and Max is one of those. Korrine trained him to retrieve things or people as a seizure response. Max also alerts Korrine if her heart rate goes up, wakes her from nightmares, guide work, and more.

On Dec. 13, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Korrine will be doing a presentation and demonstration about Service dogs at the Brainerd Memorial Library in Haddam. Some topics which will be included are:

*The difference between a service dog, an emotional support animal, and a*

*Continued on page H6*

## Tylerville water: A factual overview

By Meghan Peterson

### 1970s

Historically, Tylerville's contaminated groundwater can be traced to the 1970s. As AECOM noted in its 2010 Executive Summary, "[g]roundwater contamination in the area was first noted in the late 1970s and early 1980s. The evaluation of contamination focused on solvents, sodium chloride and then later on MTBE."

A number of sites for pollutant sources have been identified in multiple reports over the years: 95 Bridge Road, the former Connecticut DOT facility, former Camelot Cruises

property, 112 Bridge Road, 1564-1572 Saybrook Road, 100 Bridge Road, 55-57 Bridge Road, 79-81 Bridge Road, Tylerville Mobil Gas Station, and LukOil Gas Station. TCE, methyl tert-butyl ether and 1,4-dioxane have been detected. According to AECOM and DEEP, all of these pollutants are the "primary...contaminants of concern."

In particular, TCE is a carcinogen and its levels in drinking water are strictly regulated by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Specifically, the EPA action levels limit TCE to 1 ppb (parts per billion). TCE has been detected at 200-300 ppb in groundwater sampled in the affected Tylerville area. This also means that TCE has seeped into the Connecticut River as a result.

A study was conducted at the Marine Corps Base at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, for example, which concluded there were potential linkages between TCE, PCE, DCE, and vinyl chloride and an early age onset of male breast cancer among the male Marines stationed there. [Ruckart, Zeitz Perri, Frank J. Bove, Edwin Shanley III, and Morris Maslia. 2015. "Evaluation of contaminated drinking water and male breast cancer at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina: a case control study." *Environmental Health.*]

### 2008 – pursuit of a plan for Tylerville begins

It was in July 2008 that attention to the water pollution issue began to ramp up right here in Haddam. *Haddam News*

was able to catch up with Haddam Town Planner, Liz Glidden, on the topic.

For context, Glidden explained that in July 2008, Lisa Wadge, an environmental engineer, purchased the Tylerville complex, which houses businesses at the corner of Bridge Road and Saybrook Road (Route 154). Wadge purchased the complex from resident, Ray Bogdan. Wadge is involved with an organization called White Knight Development, LLC. This developer often purchases environmentally-challenged properties. As a result



of this transaction in the Tylerville area, Wadge directed efforts to get the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP changed to DEEP, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in 2011) to focus again on the water contamination. She was also instrumental in organizing a non-profit organization called Citizens for Clean Groundwater (CCG).

Over the last several decades, DEP was supposed to have been working on Phase I for the water, which entails a quarterly monitoring of the groundwater vis-à-vis taking groundwater samples. However, DEP was not conducting this work on a regular basis. Wadge brought the matter to DEEP and also went to the Council for Environmental Quality (CEQ), which functions as a watchdog oversight council of the agency.

In September 2008, Liz Glidden became Haddam's Town Planner. Glidden soon became involved in efforts to address Tylerville water as

*Continued on page H10*



## United Church of Christ Congregational Churches combine worship services

The First Congregational Church of Haddam (FCCH) and Higganum Congregational Church (HCC) are excited to announce that they will be coming together for combined worship services on Sunday mornings in the fall. All Sunday morning worship services will be at 9:30 a.m.

The location will alternate monthly between the two churches with worship at FCCH in September and HCC in October. Our children are enthusiastically looking forward to combining our talents and activities for a vibrant Children's Education Program. Nursery care is offered at all Sunday morning services. Both church buildings are accessible.

The members of these congregations have historically worked together on special projects such as the Crop Walk, Women's Retreats and community outreach programs. They have often combined their confirmation classes and some special services. In the past 18 months, the two churches have had monthly shared worship services the first Sunday of the month, as well as Easter and Christmas celebrations. This past summer they initiated a brief informal worship gathering at the Higganum Gazebo at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

In December of 2016 the Rev. Tomi Jacobs-Ziobro was called to be the pastor of both churches. Pastor Tomi is looking forward to the process of combining worship and other activities as these two churches work together in the coming years. She states, "HCC and FCCH are doing something voluntarily that many faith communities may be forced to do in the future. This is a chance to try new things and learn as we go."

FCCH and HCC have shared an organist and choir director, Eric Lundin, for more than a year with choir members participating in services at both churches. Anyone wishing to join in singing is wel-

come — rehearsals are currently held on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. at FCCH.

The First Congregational Church of Haddam is located at 905 Saybrook Road, Haddam (860-345-2741), this is also the location of the Church Office for both congregations. The Higganum Congregational is located at 23 Parsonage Road, Higganum (860-345-4304).

## Mark your calendars for HUMC's Open Mic Night on September 30

The Higganum United Methodist Church's next Open Mic Night will be Saturday, Sept. 30, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. You can sing, play an instrument, tell a joke, recite a poem, or just enjoy the show! Fun for all ages. Free food. The Higganum United Methodist Church is located at 248 Saybrook Road, Higganum (next to the Haddam Elementary School).

## CELL PHONE SERVICE

## Sign the petition for cell phone service by September 30

Verizon, AT&T and Sprint need to hear our voices! This is the next step in the process of obtaining cell phone service for Haddam.

Do you want cell phone coverage in Haddam? This isn't just about convenience. It's also a big safety problem!

To help get cell coverage for Haddam's RT 154 corridor, the cell phone carriers need to hear from you.

To add your name to the petition, go to [www.haddamnow.com](http://www.haddamnow.com) and click on the following link: <https://www.ipetitions.com/petition/haddam-cell-tower-project>. The petition is also available at the Town Hall.

For previous articles about cell service in Haddam, please visit [www.haddamnow.com](http://www.haddamnow.com).

### Classified ads

*Haddam News will print free classified ads for individuals and non-profit organizations. These must be 25 words or less and written in a publish-ready form. Publication is subject to space availability.*

## Haddam News

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# HKHS loses to Coginchaug/Hale Ray, 34-26

By Barth Keck

The Haddam Killingworth High School Varsity football team was defeated by Coginchaug/Hale Ray on Saturday, Sept. 16, in Durham, with a final score of Coginchaug/Hale Ray 34, H-K 26. The game was a back-and-forth affair, tied 20-20 at halftime. Down 34-26 with two minutes remaining in the game, H-K was driving for a score when Coginchaug intercepted a pass intended for H-K's Zach Kauffman in the end zone. Coginchaug's Pat Ladas rushed for 110 yards on 18 carries with one touchdown and Eli Rivera threw three touchdown passes and ran for another in the Blue Devils' win in Durham. H-K's Tobey Callender led the Cougars with 95 yards on 15 carries and one touchdown. H-K's Cody Ellex rushed for 40 yards on 5 carries and threw a touchdown pass to Kauffman. Pat Dougherty rushed for two other H-K touchdowns, while Jordan Callahan had two interceptions for the Cougars, giving him three for the year.



Clockwise from top left: #34 Zachary Kauffman on his way to the endzone with a pass from QB Cody Ellex for the Cougar's second score. Photos by Chad Giulini.

#3 Quarterback Cody Ellex keeps the ball for a long run in the 4th quarter.

#7 Jordan Callahan jumps to intercept a Blue Devils pass.

## Summary:

1Q: HK - Kevin Dougherty 3 run (kick failed); Cog - (#6) 7 pass from Eli Rivera (kick by #3); Cog - (#2) 90 pass from Rivera (kick by #3)

2Q: Cog - (#2) 29 pass from Rivera

(kick failed); HK - Zach Kaufmann 29 pass from Cody Ellex (Tobey Callender run); HK - Callender 7 run (run failed)

3Q: Cog - Pat Ladas 7 run (kick

failed)

4Q: HK - Dougherty 1 run (pass failed); Cog - Rivera 3 run (Ladas run)

HK	6	14	0	6	26
Cog	14	6	6	8	34

Team records: H-K (1-1), Coginchaug/Hale Ray (2-0)

Next game: H-K at Morgan in Clinton, Friday, Sept. 22 at 6:30 p.m.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Tylerville Water — a reply to the *Haddam Bulletin*

Isn't it wonderful that we now have two newspapers in Haddam? For years we have had nothing but the *Haddam Bulletin*, with its negative spin on most positive plans or outcomes in town — if they come from those with whom they politically disagree.

Case in point: I went to the mailbox the other day and got both the *Haddam Bulletin* and the *Haddam News*. The Bulletin had an article regarding water contamination in Tylerville. Despite all of the detailed "history," the thrust of the article can be summed up as follows:

Sibley Company is responsible and, instead of any action to remediate the contamination, the state should be focusing all of its efforts on "going after them."

Connecticut Water is "expanding to Tylerville" and the state DEEP is "promoting and helping a water company expand."

The solution to the problem, which is the state funded expansion of water from Chester to Tylerville, has a "cost to Connecticut taxpayers projected to be \$7,225,900."

This is NOT a direct cost to Haddam taxpayers - it is a cost to all Connecticut taxpayers. Why is this solution to a decades-old problem bad? It appears the Bulletin's Mr. Schwing and Ms. Schlag have taken one of the most positive things to happen in Haddam in decades and tried to diminish it. As there is no definitive proof that any specific person or company caused this problem, it could be many more decades before any determination is made. In the meantime, are Tylerville residents supposed to continue to wait?

### Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor express the views of correspondents and not the Haddam News. Letters will be edited only to correct spelling and punctuation, and to conform to newspaper style. Please limit letter length to a maximum of 450 words. Letters that contain accusations, first-hand reporting of events or consumer complaints are not acceptable. To be considered for publication, letters must include the writer's name, address and daytime phone number. Letters received by Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. may appear in the following week's issue.

Haddam News  
PO Box 15  
Higganum, CT 06441

The fact that CT Water can expand into Tylerville is good! I am pleased they have the capability to do that.

In my mailbox was also the *Haddam News* with a flyer titled, "From the Desk of Lizz Milardo" contained inside. Contrary to the negative picture the Bulletin presented, Ms. Milardo laid out a very short history and, most importantly, detailed the solution, which has already been set in motion. Finally, Ms. Milardo has taken focused action to finally solve this horrible prob-

lem so the people in Tylerville will have potable water.

It's about time the *Haddam Bulletin* does some accurate reporting, especially on one of the most positive things to happen to Haddam in quite some time.

I do agree with one point in the *Bulletin's* final conclusions. We are indeed the stewards of our environment and by extension the quality of our ground water and we should guard them jealously.

Craig Salonia, Haddam

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# HKHS teams open season at Somers Big Red Invitational

By Matt Diglio

On Saturday, Sept. 9, Haddam Killingworth High School Boys and Girls Cross Country teams opened up their fall season as they traveled to Somers, NY to compete in the Somers Big Red Invitational. The season opener for both the Boys and the Girls squads was against 35 New York schools.

The HK Boys team, which is currently ranked 7th in the state of Connecticut, opened their season in victorious fashion as they easily won their Division 3 race scoring just 28 points to easily outdistance Dobbs Ferry, NY who placed 2nd with 89 points. The team was led by a pack of Cougars at the front of the 5,000 meter race: tri-captain senior Andrew Meredith placed 2nd in the race in a time of 16:37, followed closely by seniors Dan Schumann 3rd (16:38) and senior tri-captain Jonah Spector 4th (16:41). Coming in behind the trio was fellow senior Conor McCabe 7th (17:21), the another pack of HK runners led junior Kyle Criscuolo 12th (18:00), junior Seth Freeman 13th (18:01) and senior

tri-captain Kurt Sodergren 14th (18:03). In photo from left to right: Conor McCabe, Dan Schumann, Andrew Meredith, Kurt Sodergren, Jonah Spector and Seth Freeman.

The Girls team, running without several members of the Varsity team, still placed 2nd in the Girls Division 3 race, scoring 43 points and losing a close race to The Hackley School (NY). The Girls were led by senior tri-captain Kelsey D'Amico who placed 3rd in a time of 20:28 and was followed closely by senior Julie Kelly, who placed 4th in a time of 20:33 over the 3.1 mile course. Following them across the line were senior tri-captains Lexie Bout-hillier 7th (21:24) and Maggie Fisher 10th (22:23). Rounding out the team scoring for the Girls was sophomore Alex Zupan who placed 29th in a time of 26:20.

The freshman teams also competed in the meet and were led by standout performances by Matt Jennings who won the freshman boys race in a time of 9:00 for the 1.5 mile course and the girls freshman team was led by Meara Bodak who placed 4th in a time of 10:52.



Above right: Boys Varsity team with their championship plaque and jackets. Below right: Girls team with their 2nd place plaque. Photos by Becky Schumann.

## COMMUNITY

### HCNS Harvest Fair set for September 30

By Jessica Esposito

The Haddam Cooperative Nursery School is holding a Harvest Fundraiser

on Saturday, Sept. 30, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the Higganum Town Green in Higganum Center. Mums,

pumpkins, fall decor and baked goods will be available for purchase. There will also be free activities for the little ones.

The Haddam Cooperative Nursery School (HCNS) has been operating in Haddam since 1968. The school is a non-profit organization that is licensed by the state of Connecticut. It is run by a volunteer Board made up of parents of students which creates a close-knit community for families.

### Upcoming area blood drive on September 29

Each day, the Red Cross must collect 14,000 blood donations for patients in need. Your donation is critical.

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at Middlesex Hospital (located at 28 Crescent Street, Middletown) on Friday, Sept. 29, from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. If anyone 18 or older would like to make an appointment, they can go to the RED CROSS website and pick a time. Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) and make an appointment with a representative.




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Red Yeast Rice is certainly a consideration, if you cannot tolerate the statins, or with your doctor's input, you choose to start with a homeopathic option.

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# School Year 2017: Catching up with Superintendent Thiery

By Meghan Peterson

Haddam News recently caught up with Regional School District #17 Superintendent Howard Thiery on the newly-begun school year. In the midst of the busy-ness that always accompanies the opening of a school year, Thiery was able to provide an update on school renovation projects and other items of importance to students, families, and the community.

**HN: How is the progress on the roof that was being replaced this summer at HKHS?**

HT: The roof replacement project occurred over the summer and was completed prior to the start of school.

**HN: What is the status of the other parts of that renovation project?**

HT: The other parts of the projects will be engineered and designed this Fall, with the work scheduled for the summer of 2018. These projects include the installation of solar electric panels, new heating system, and auditorium renovation.

**HN: How are we doing on the budget that was approved as part of the renovation referendum?**

HT: Quite well. The roof project came in around a million dollars *under* the amount budgeted at the referendum. At this time, the project as a whole is running under budget.

**HN: Were any other maintenance items done this summer while the schools were closed (apart from the major projects on the referendum)?**

HT: Planning for this summer began long ago when we realized our campus

would have to be closed due to the roof project.

We had to relocate all summer rec programs, ESY (Extended School Year) and Daycare programming to other buildings and move staff accordingly.

We were able to have our running track sealed, coated and re-lined, so we now have a track that looks like new and should last several more years.

We also relocated bleachers from the visitors' side of the lacrosse field to the football field - doubling our seating capacity.

Our swimming pool was drained and prepared for painting. A swimming pool paint was applied and allowed to cure and the pool was then filled with pool water.

Extensive interior painting was completed in several high traffic high visibility areas as well as floor finishing and painting of stairwell floors.

Approved repairs have been completed to our underground domestic water storage tank and all follow-up water testing was completed and the system is fully compliant.

Several plumbing repairs have been made to large copper water supply lines.

**HN: Any changes this year that parents/the community should know about?**

HT: There are no major program or course changes for this year.

**HN: How are you responding to the continued state budget problems (or more accurately, lack of a state budget) since school districts don't know what budget items the state may transfer to the district's**

responsibility?

HT: We have continued to monitor the state budget process closely though out the summer. Since funding to the towns and the school district is not known at this point, we are trying to be very fiscally conservative in order to assure that as many resources as possible are still available to react to the state budget when it happens. To this end, various strategies - including a spending cap and hiring freeze - are in place until we know more about the state funding situation. District leadership has stayed in communication with municipal and state leaders to make sure that we are all aware of what is happening at each of our levels. On Sept. 19, the Board of Education will meet with the Boards of Selectman and Finance from both Haddam and Killingworth to discuss the state budget and share information we have. This will also help keep line of communication and cooperation open so that when the state budget is passed we can work together to develop a plan on how we will move forward together.

**HN: Anything else you think might be interesting to parents/the community?**

HT: The Board of Education and School Leadership team have been working for the last year on a Strategic Capital Plan for the District. This work is intended to develop plans for sustainable upkeep and improvement of our capital resources, properties and facilities in order to support the excellence of our educational programming. Part of this work has been looking at the five schools and developing possible alternative scenarios that would support the educational program while making the school budget more sustainable for the community. A Board committee and the leadership team are currently studying various school configurations- ranging from

retaining the five schools to possibly restricting to four or even three campuses. The Committee working on this will be presenting its work to the Board of Education at a meeting prior to the regularly scheduled Board meeting on October 17.

Residents are always welcome to attend the public Board of Education meetings. Please visit <http://www.rsd17.org/district2d.shtml> for a complete meeting schedule.

## New stop sign placed at the bottom of Gunger Hill

By Kathy Brown

Drivers on Little City Road need to slow down. There's a Speed Awareness Monitor in front of RSD #17's Central Office on Little City Road, and there's a new stop sign at the bottom of Gunger Hill Road farther down Little City Road.

According to Chris Corsa, Assistant Director of Public Works in Haddam, "After a number of complaints from residents in the Gunger Hill area, it was determined that a 3-way stop was appropriate for that location." He went on to explain that there is a stop sign, and also a "stop sign ahead" sign 200 feet prior to the stop sign.

"I had [a speed awareness monitor] placed on Little City Road due to the new school year, as student athletes run on that road," explained Trooper Milardo. "The machine helps to provide vehicular speed awareness."

With school back in session and Cross Country runners on the road - as well as with the addition of a new stop sign, drivers on Little City Road need to slow down and exercise caution.

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# Charlotte Behnke: Miniature Horse Champion

By Kathy Brown

Charlotte Behnke, age 8, who attends Burr Elementary School, in Higganum, recently attended the American Miniature Horse Registry National Competition in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

According to her mother, Alli, "She's been riding and handling horses since she was three, but has been around horses since birth. I rode when I was pregnant and she's always helped me with our horses." Charlotte was competing in the "7 and under" division with four miniature horses: Dually, Hopper, JJ, and Butterfly; in multiple classes, including halter, showmanship, obstacle, hunter/jumper, and driving.

Charlotte received 2nd place/Reserve Champion, as well as other Top 5 and Top 10 placings. At the completion of the show, she was named "National Reserve Champion High Point Youth" (2nd highest overall points in her age class), "Champion High

Point One Horse/One Youth" (highest points gained by the same horse/youth competing in all areas), and National Reserve Champion High Point One Horse/One Youth" with another horse.

Charlotte has lived in town for five years. "Horses are a big part of our family and she didn't escape our love for them," explained her mother. "Charlotte has been in love with horses as long as I can remember." Charlotte has shown horses locally with 4H, as well as competing with the American Miniature Horse Registry on the East Coast. TEAMCT is made up a team of adults and children from

Connecticut. The team also works with Clearview Training Stables in Brookfield, Massachusetts to train horses to drive.

When she is not training or showing miniature horses, Charlotte also likes to do the things that other children normally do: run, draw, hike with her dogs, and play the piano.



Photos by Casey McBride.



## H-K YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

### 24th Annual Pumpkin Run takes place on October 29

Youth & Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth will once again be hosting this popular annual event. Join us at the 24th Annual Pumpkin Run/Walk on Sunday, Oct. 29, on the Higganum Green. Get into the festive spirit and come out with your funkiest costume to be eligible for some great prizes. There will also be a prize for the most festive home along the race route. This scenic certified course is timed by the Hartford Marathon Foundation. Every runner will receive a T-shirt.

There will be a Kids Fun Run, and fun family activities like Halloween crafts, face painting and more. Registration will be at 11:30 am, the Kids

Fun Run will start at 12:15 pm, and the 5k will start at 1:00 pm. To register, go to this link: <http://hartfordmarathon.com/pumpkin-run-walk/>.

If you would like to help sponsor this popular Haddam Killingworth event or would like to volunteer to help, or just need more information, please contact 860-345-7498.

Your participation and/or sponsorship in this event enables Youth & Family Services of Haddam & Killingworth to continue to meet the needs of the community. Whether you are walking, running, or donating, all proceeds make a difference and impact the Haddam and Killingworth communities.

## FROM PAGE H1

### A Girl's Best Friend

Continued from front page  
therapy dog/animal

Different types of service dogs and what they do

Some general facts/fun facts about service dogs

How the public should react to service dogs

Tasks that Max does for her and

possibly demonstrations of some of them

Q&A with the audience

Korrine has lived in Haddam her entire life. Her favorite thing about growing up here is seeing people in town spending time with each other.

If you would like to follow Max the Service Dog, you can like his Facebook page or Instagram.

## FALL COLOR HAS ARRIVED



Halloween Fairy Garden Workshop

October 21st  
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- ♦ KALE
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# Candidate Questions: First Selectman

Haddam News reached out to both slates of candidates in the upcoming November elections – Democrats and Republicans. This week, we print responses from the candidates for First Selectman: Lizz Milardo, Republican (current First Selectwoman); Sean Moriarty, Democrat; Jonathan Wintsch, Unaffiliated. We asked all candidates the following questions:

**Getting to know you – personal information/fam-**

**Candidate profiles, pages H8–9**

ily life, etc.

**Getting to know you – professional/work – qualifications, experience for position**

**How do you see your role on the specific position/**

**board for which you are running**

**What changes would you like to see and enact if elected (what things would you like to improve and how)**

**What things would you like to see preserved (what things are working well) if elected:**

**Final thoughts to leave residents with**

# Town Registrars: November 7 election information

By Raymond Skarsten and Saralyn Twomey, Haddam Registrars of Voters

Haddam's next voting session is the "Haddam Municipal Election" on Tuesday, Nov. 7. Haddam voters will vote for Judge of Probate, First Selectman, Selectman, Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Tax Collector, Board of Finance, Board of Finance Alternate, Board of Education, Board of Assessment Appeals, Planning and Zoning Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission Alternates, Zoning Board of Appeals and Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate.

To register to vote: The Registrars' Office is open on Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or register at Haddam Town Hall, Town Clerk's office (see Town Hall hours below). You may also request the Registrar of Voters or Town Clerk to send you a mail-in voter registration form, or visit our website [haddam.org/registrar-voters](http://haddam.org/registrar-voters).

The polls are open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The three polling places are:

\*District # 001: Haddam Firehouse, Community Hall, 439 Saybrook Rd (Rte 154), Higganum, CT 06441

\*District #002: Regional School District #17, Central

Office, 57 Little City Road, Higganum, CT 06441

\*District #003: Haddam Neck Firehouse, 50 Rock Landing Road, Haddam Neck, CT 07624

\*Curb side voting is available for "voters with a disability"

### Registration Sessions:

Oct. 3, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Corrections session to complete preliminary registry list

Oct. 31, 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. – All day registration and in-person cut-off to register for the Nov. 7th "Municipal Election"

Nov. 6, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Limited Registration Session to admit those seeking to vote in election whose qualification as to age, citizenship or residence was attained since Oct. 31

The above sessions will be held at: Registrar of Voters Office, Haddam Firehouse, 439 Saybrook Road, Higganum, CT 06441

### Registration Deadlines:

Mail-in registrations must be postmarked by Oct. 31

In-person and on-line cut off is Oct. 31, by 8:00 p.m.

– (To register on-line, a DMV license is required).

NOTE: Any unregistered Connecticut resident who is eligible to vote or any resident who has moved into Haddam, may register and vote in person on Election Day – ONLY at the:

Haddam Firehouse Complex, 439 Saybrook Road (Rte 154) Higganum, CT 06441

Hours: 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 7, 2017

The Registrar of Voters STRONGLY urge Haddam residents who are not registered to vote, to register as early as possible before Nov. 7. Also, please visit our website – [haddam.org/registrar-voters](http://haddam.org/registrar-voters) – for election information and forms. A copy of the ballot will also be on our website.

Absentee ballot applications will be available on Oct. 6 at:

Haddam Town Hall, Town Clerk's office, 30 Field Park Drive, Haddam, CT 06438

Hours: Mondays-Wednesdays 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Thursdays 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Fridays 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

## HADDAM'S EXTRAORDINARY KIDS

### Higganum dancer to compete in Germany on USA Tap Team

By Kathy Brown

The USA Tap Team is composed of America's top tap dancers age 8 and up. One of those dancers this year, who will be traveling to Riesa, Germany in November, is Sarah Petrie, age 12, from Higganum. Sarah, Riley Bauer (age 15, from Deep River) and Ashley Inglis (age 12, from Clinton) are all dancers from



Back Stage Dance Center's competitive team in Killingworth. These three dancers qualified to be members of the USA Tap Team and will be competing in the IDO World Tap Dance Championships. They

have trained and rehearsed for months, and will be competing against dancers from over 40 countries across the globe.

Back Stage Dance Center is owned and operated by Michelle Bailey and Stacey Lankarge. Sarah has been dancing for 8 years, Riley has been dancing for 14 years, and Ashley has been dancing for 10 years. The girls all do ballet, jazz, lyric, and contemporary dance as well as tap, and both Sarah and Ashley also take acrobatics.

Their expenses for this trip are mounting but the girls are determined to make their dreams come true. If you would like to help the girls achieve their dream, they will be holding a bake sale to raise money for their trip at Two Wrasslin' Cats in East Haddam on Sunday, Oct. 1 at 10:00 a.m.

Mark Your Calendars for the 3rd Annual  
**Senior Information Expo**  
Hosted by Youth & Family Services of  
Haddam-Killingworth, Inc.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 3, 2017  
9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Haddam-Killingworth High School  
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Higganum, CT 06441

This FREE event is your opportunity to learn about resources and services in Middlesex County available for seniors, care givers, and family.

For more information about this event please call  
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## Lizz Milardo, First Selectman candidate (R)

It has been an honor to serve as your First Selectwoman for the past two years.

I was born in Middletown and attended St John's and Mercy High School. I have an Associate's Degree in Business Administration, a Bachelor of Science degree and finance and insurance licenses. My husband Ted and I moved to Higganum in 1989, to raise our daughter and twin boys.

I have extensive work experience in management, team building, budgeting, finance, and problem solving with both businesses and individuals. These are important skills that are vital for the daily activities of managing a town.

I previously served on the Haddam Board of Finance, and held Board positions in Little League, Burr PTO and Haddam Junior Woman's Club. I served on non-profit boards for The CT Mental Health Association and PLAN of CT (non-profit for special needs).

Currently I serve on the Board of Directors for MIRA (Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority), and Middlesex Chamber of Commerce and COST (Council of Small Towns). These are positions that benefit Haddam and provide Haddam a voice at the state level. I have taken my years of volunteering and work experience, as well as the relationships I have built, and put them to work for Haddam on a daily basis.

I ran two years ago because there were many problems and issues in Haddam that had not been addressed in years. I heard the concerns about our taxes increasing and our business economy decreasing. I heard the need to move Haddam forward from those parents and grandparents on the sport field, at the market, and just talking to neighbors and friends. For years I heard about and witnessed poor road conditions, lack of infrastructure, no cell phone service, no business growth, etc. The financial impact of the loss of tax revenue of CT Yankee and how we never properly invested in our town's future. I could not understand how these things had been let go for so long and I knew that it was about time that something positive was done about them.

I feel that leadership is one of the strongest abilities I bring to the position of First Selectwoman. If I am told



Lizz Milardo.

that something is not possible it makes me work harder to find a solution. This is who I am.

Any of you who know me know that I enjoy problem solving and getting things done. Upon being elected, I created a list of projects that are on a white board in my office and I have been diligently working to get each done. These are the hard issues that have been ignored or sat on the shelf for years including cell phone towers, water in Tylerville, road maintenance and bonding program, the Silver Springs subdivision bankruptcy, wage and hours laws that were ignored, which cost the town thousands of dollars, and many others have been addressed. This is what Haddam has needed. Many issues that have plagued our town for years I was able to take to town meetings and have the town finally decide what they want for their future.

When I took office, Haddam was in a health district that was in financial distress and under investigation by the Department of Health.

We have now changed to a health district that runs efficiently and works with our residents and local contractors. They offer health education and a public health nurse that coordinates health topics including vaccinations in our school and for our seniors and residents.

I worked to put together a plan to bring cell phone coverage along the "dead" areas on Rte 154. A town meeting of almost 100 residents approved.

We approached the state of CT to re-engage with the clean water for Ty-

*Continued on next page*

## Sean Moriarty, First Selectman candidate (D)

I have lived in Haddam for almost thirty years. I am married to a wonderfully supportive wife, Tanja Moriarty and have two children, Erin and Christopher, who both graduated from HK. I have been a volunteer coach and referee for various HK recreation sports. I am a Veteran of the Gulf War, proudly serving with the United States Army Reserve.

I started my career as a Military Police Officer in the United States Army Reserves and served during the Gulf War. In 1987, I joined the Middletown Police Department and over the past thirty years, have risen to the rank of Captain. As the manager of 80 sworn and civilian police personnel, I am responsible for the city's Patrol Division along with overseeing the S.W.A.T. Team, Marine Unit, Traffic Unit, and Animal Control. In addition, I help develop the police department's \$13 million budget, an operating budget twice as large as Haddam's, and have administered it as the Acting Administrative Captain. I look forward to retiring from the Middletown police department this fall and would be honored to apply my management, budget, and leadership skills to serve you as your next First Selectman.

My leadership skills have been honed by serving in the military and in municipal government for decades. My training and experiences have allowed me to develop unique analytical and leadership skills not offered by other candidates, skills that translate perfectly into help solving many of the challenges now faced by our community.

My role as the first selectman will be multi-faceted. Serving full time, I will be able to administer the town's day-to-day business in a more efficient manner, working closely with each department head to ensure the people of Haddam are getting the service they deserve. I will work collaboratively with our state representatives and others at the State Capitol to ensure that Haddam gets its fair share of state funding.

Look at the dysfunction in our state and federal government. Unless you have the patience and skills to work with others in a cooperative fashion nothing gets done. The reason I've been successful over the years is because at the police department I enjoy and understand the benefits of working



Sean Moriarty.

collaboratively with others such as Middletown Mayor Dan Drew, Wesleyan University, Middletown Fire Department, and Middlesex Community College.

I know that collaboration within town government agencies and active cooperation with neighboring towns is critical to Haddam's future. By getting various departments, boards, and commissions working together, we can make town government even more user-friendly for residents and local businesses; after all, the government is here for the people not the other way around.

As first selectman I will ensure, communication, collaboration, efficiency, and honesty.

I will foster and encourage discussion among the members of the board of selectmen in all matters that come before us. As leader of the board, I will ensure the rest of the board has all the information needed prior to the meeting. I have witnessed too many times where the entire Board has not been given important documents they are expected to vote on prior to the meeting.

I will streamline the permitting process for businesses, making Haddam more business-friendly and attractive for existing and new businesses.

I will work with surrounding towns to combine and share services and purchases to lower costs. I will also work with the school district to see where we can combine services to reduce expenses.

I will scour the budget line by line and present an honest budget that does

*Continued on next page*

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# Jonathan Wintsch, First Selectman candidate (U)

Since moving to Haddam more than a decade ago, my family and I have been active members of the community. I served for 4 years on the RSD 17 Board of Education and volunteered as an Emergency Medical Technician in town and in East Haddam. My ten years of work experience in the non-profit sector managing projects with limited resources have taught me fiscal responsibility, which I would bring to my work as First Selectman. I have significant management experience which I have used to do a variety of projects from building a library to large scale technology overhauls. My career has allowed me to work successfully with diverse communities from all income levels. My wife and I live in Haddam and our two children attend our District 17 schools.

I am running for First Selectman as an unaffiliated candidate because we have a partisan political climate that too closely resembles the polarization of the last national election. Currently, Haddam should be focused on making sure that we are prepared to fight the cuts coming from Hartford. Instead, we see opposing parties focusing their energy on fighting each other, making poor decisions based on rumors, and claiming conspiracy behind almost everything. The focus needs to shift from who said what on Facebook to working together to keep Haddam an affordable nurturing community. I will work hard to keep family structures intact by looking to improve the availability of affordable housing options for seniors and young families. Our focus needs to be on moving people in to our charming town, not out.

As an unaffiliated candidate, I will work with all parties to advocate for the best interests of Haddam. I would work with State representatives to overcome partisan gridlock on issues that directly impact our town. I will work hard to control costs in town even if it means we need to evaluate the closure of an elementary school. We can achieve savings by outsourcing the cleaning of town buildings to



Jonathan Wintsch.

private companies instead of using Public Works. Selectman can make few changes of his own but I am in a unique position to listen to everyone in Haddam fairly. I will also look to increase participation in town meetings by making some form of child care available to allow more voices to be heard. I would deal with sensitive issues with compassion that has been lacking in previous administrations.

I don't have a campaign team that has been fundraising for two years, but I would like to see Haddam embrace a community spirit where we look out for one another and not just our party. I plan to donate 10% of the First Selectman salary to support senior meals in Haddam, the H/K Backpack program, and other local programs as needed. My hope would be that other candidates receiving compensation from the town would make similar pledges. My family wholeheartedly supports my decision to run. My wife and I have experienced the toxic and divisive nature of Haddam politics. Rather than lashing out we want to change attitudes and actions to achieve a positive future for our community. I would devote my energy and enthusiasm to encourage everyone to work as a team. We all need to work together for a healthier and happy Haddam. I am open to your ideas and suggestions from anyone and can be reached by email at Wintsch@gmail.com.

# Milardo

*Continued from previous page*

lerville and were successful, with no additional tax increase to the residents of Haddam. Construction of the new water pipeline from Chester to Tyler-ville will begin in the spring.

We have completed the Charter Revision, which had been put aside, for updated changes and compliance and will be on the ballot for your vote this November 7th.

We improved and maintained town buildings that were neglected and cost us additional money to fix due to small repairs being allowed to turn into major problems.

We designed a new town website and Facebook page to educate and communicate with the community.

We increased services for our seniors including an active municipal agent and senior director.

A building committee has been formed to help oversee the improvements at the Jail and Scovil Hoe.

Boards and commissions are working together and communicating with each other in a way that they did not in the past. The Boards of Selectmen, Finance and Education from both Haddam and Killingworth have had more meetings in the past two years than ever before.

Although we have made great progress on my "white board" list, there is

still much to be done and that is why I ask for your vote so I can remain your First Selectwoman and continue this work.

Improving our infrastructure to grow our tax base and look for efficiencies in processes and ways to regionalize when it makes sense is critical. We need to continue to preserve our history and enjoy the beauty of our land and river by providing a viable place to afford to live.

The next 10 years are going to be very difficult. CT faces a large deficit and the property tax cannot be the only revenue stream for our towns and cities. We need revenue diversification. The Town of Haddam needs to continue to move forward to address the issues in front of us. Because the state is in a fiscal mess it doesn't mean that things stop here. Through proper management and creative thinking, we will continue to get the job done.

I am committed and engaged 24/7 in this community and am dedicated to continue to a work on your behalf.

I am asking for your support to continue the work that we've begun these past two years. Previous administrations would not tackle "controversial" or "hard" issues. I have. As a leader you can't pick and choose only the popular or easy issues. You elected me to address ALL of the issues and I have worked hard to do that.

# Moriarty

*Continued from previous page*

not use gimmicks or questionable accounting techniques.

I will open up all lines of communication and promise to listen. Breaking with present policy, there will be no time limit for public comments during Selectmen's meetings; if someone needs ten minutes to be heard then they should be heard. I will also reverse the present protocol and allow public comments whenever the selectmen call for a special meeting. And unlike the past two years, Board of Selectmen meetings will never be cancelled just because "there is nothing to vote on."

I would preserve Haddam's beautiful rural and historic charm.

I would preserve our sense of a quiet, residential community except in the town's two commercial districts, Tyler-ville and Higganum Center.

I would not tear apart our residential neighborhoods with spot zoning

industrial commercial nightmares, as has been done under this administration.

I would preserve and encourage citizen participation in town affairs.

I would preserve RSD17's well-earned reputation for educational excellence.

I would preserve and expand services for senior citizens and active older adults that have been cut or ignored.

Under normal circumstances, serving as Haddam's First Selectman is a tough job, but in the face of fiscal mess in Hartford, the job has become much more difficult. Therefore, it is not enough just to say that I'm proud to be running as a candidate for first selectman and that I'll serve you with honesty, integrity, and hard work. You would expect that of any candidate. I seek your vote because I can offer you very special skills, skills not seen in Haddam in a long time.

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## Tylerville water

Continued from front page

well. Glidden contacted the state Department of Public Health and applied for Drinking Water State Revolving funds. According to the Department of Public Health website, The Drinking Water State Revolving funds (DWSRF) program “provides long-term below market rate loans to community and non-profit, non-community public water systems to finance infrastructure improvement projects. Examples include storage tanks, treatment works, and water mains.” [<http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3139=387340>.]

The efforts by Wadge and Glidden resulted in DEP hiring a consultant to conduct a long over-due Phase I study. DEP hired AECOM to do the Phase I review. It was completed in June 2010. Phase II would then entail sampling of groundwater. Phase III would entail a full study.

In November 2009, Paul DeStefano was elected First Selectman. DeStefano’s two priority items for his administration were 1) resolving a location for the Haddam’s Transfer Station, which was partially located on DEP-owned property; 2) addressing Tylerville water. Several months later, in June 2010, Glidden sent a letter to Connecticut Water Company, which is designated by the state’s Public Utilities Regulatory Agency (PURA), as Haddam’s exclusive service provider.

The June 2, 2010 letter read in part:

*“I am writing on behalf of the Town of Haddam to request public water service to the area of Tylerville. As you are aware Connecticut Water is designated as our exclusive service provider. For the past 18 months I have been in communication with a number of public agencies including DEP, DPH, and Tom Marsten from CT Water to discuss the ground water contamination in Tylerville. The Town of Haddam seeks a solution to provide potable, clean water to its residents in this area. I am requesting that CT Water review our options and provide the town with an analysis of the best method to provide potable water. The area we are interested in is the area along 82 (Bridge Road) to the East Haddam swing bridge and a small section of 154. In addition to providing the Town with your assessment of the best method for providing clean water we will be interested in your suggestions on funding for a public system.*

*The Town has been in receipt of a 2009 STEAP grant to conduct an engineering survey for a connection to the public water main in Chester... More recently, the Town applied for DWSRF Funds in the event that we move forward with a public water main.”*

During this time period, meetings were held with both DEP and DPH. On the funding front, there was the DPH DWSRF loan which had a 20% subsidy; and a Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grant of \$500,000. DEEP had also agreed to contribute funding to a long-term solution that would equal the cost of 20 years of providing filters and bottled water to the contaminated properties. In addition, having built a rapport with then-state Senator Eileen M. Daily for the 33rd District, DeStefano sought progress on the issue. In a March 7, 2011 letter Daily sent to DeStefano, she wrote:

*“Dear Paul,*

*On February 24, 2011, the State Bond Commission approved an allocation and bond authorization in the amount of \$2,100,000.00 to provide a grant-in-aid*

*to the Town of Haddam for lateral hookups and well abandonments associated with the extension of water mains...*

*...[a]s always, I am available for assistance at any time.*

*Sincerely,*

*Eileen M. Daily, State Senator, 33rd District”*

### 2012 Water Alternatives Report – DEEP recommends public water main extension

In March 2012, DEEP again contracted with AECOM to publish a water alternatives report for Tylerville. In this report, four alternatives or options were explored. Three of the four alternatives were rejected:

- Provision of filters and bottled water over a twenty-year period, including monitoring of the properties; however, the report noted that contaminants (in particular, 1-4 Dioxane) could still pass or break through the filters
- A community well – dismissed because a community well would have to be located outside of the superfund study area, and would require the Town to vet and then purchase a site only to be handed over to CWC (Connecticut Water Company) which is the exclusive service provider for the Town
- Remediation of groundwater – dismissed because contamination had reached the bedrock; too deep to remediate

The fourth alternative, a public water main extension hooked in to Chester’s water main system, was found to be the most effective means to bring clean drinking water to Tylerville.

Based on these findings and in light of the various funding sources, DeStefano began to move forward with the Tylerville water issue. To that end, he initiated dialogue with DEEP to hold a public hearing in town. According to an October 21, 2013 letter to the Director of the Remediation Division in the Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse (within DEEP), DeStefano wrote in part:

*“We will be reviewing your Evaluation closely with the hopes of bringing the matter to a Town public hearing as soon as practicable...”*

### 2013/2014 – Progress stalls

A month later, Melissa Schlag was elected First Selectman. As with previous administrations, Schlag expressed concern with what she identified to *Haddam News* as Tylerville’s “ongoing pollution problem and contaminated wells” and wanted to address the issues. According to Glidden, Schlag preferred the community well option identified in the alternatives report (but one of the alternatives that had been rejected out of hand). In correspondence with *Haddam News*, Schlag explained that she also requested DEEP and DPH to examine other options for potable water, such as “horizontal boring on town or state land” for a community well project. The administration also expressed opposition to working with Connecticut Water as an exclusive service provider. However, that CW is Haddam’s exclusive service provider is not something the Town can change: PURA authorizes and mandates the exclusive service provider structure throughout the state.

DEEP described the path to potable water as two pronged. On the one hand, DEEP was attempting to find the most reliable, effective method to provide clean drinking water, while simultaneously trying to identify the responsible party for the contamination from whom the state could eventually seek retribution. Schlag expressed concern that if the water main were extended to the area, DEEP would abandon its efforts to find a responsible party. Schlag believed that the contamination emanating from a site on Bridge Road would then benefit in receiving public water. As Glidden points out, however, Tylerville could have had a solution in place (such as an extension of the water main), while DEEP continued the soil sampling required to identifying a responsible party.

Schlag applauded the fact that Tylerville made it to the top of the state superfund list, and said that it took years and a number of people, including then-State Rep. Phil Miller, then-First Selectman Paul DeStefano, then-State Senator Eileen Daily, Sen. Art Linares, DEEP and DPH staff, among others for working on this project and getting it to the status it has arrived at today.

### 2015/2016 – Work begins anew to correct Tylerville area water pollution

In November 2015, Lizz Milardo was elected First Selectman. Two months later, meetings were arranged with various agencies, including DEEP and DPH. DEEP told the Town that it had been three years since publication of the alternatives report, and that it would need to be updated. The updated report recommended that an 8-inch-diameter water main pipe was adequate to provide public water to Tylerville as well as allow for some planned growth. A 12-inch-diameter main would provide water in excess of what was needed and would require some water treatment for stagnation in the water line.

During the spring of 2016, then-State Representative Phil Miller and State Senator Art Linares co-sponsored a proposal that would permit an upgrade on the minimum size water main in Tylerville to address fire flow and public water supply needs. [<http://ctsenaterepublicans.com/2016/05/photo-haddam-lawmakers-proposal-to-improve-tylerville-water-services-heads-to-governor/#.WaBMdyiGPb0>]

In April 2017, Milardo and Glidden convened a meeting with individuals from DEEP – including Patrick Bowe, Director of the Remediation Division, Betsy Winfield, Bureau Chief of the Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse, State Senator Art Linares, and State Representative Bob Siegrist to discuss how to move forward. At the April 6 meeting, DEEP informed Milardo and Glidden that the agency had been prepared to move forward with the 8-inch-diameter main and bear 100% of the project cost in 2013. In 2013, however, the Schlag administration would not hold a public hearing to present the data in the 2013 “Alternatives Report” and would not enter into a consent agreement with DEEP. This agreement is the first step in establishing a path for funding. In addition, the Town did not accept DEEP’s offer to bear the full cost of the water main hook-up, nor did it seek funding from alternate sources such as bonds or loans.

*Continued on next page*



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# Healing in the Midst of Loss: Part 2

By Meghan Peterson, together with Howard and Marie Field

September 2017 is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. This month provides a time to come together to discuss a difficult topic because just one conversation can change a life.

If you or someone you know is in an emergency, call 911 immediately.

If you are in crisis or are experiencing difficult or suicidal thoughts, call the National Suicide Hotline at 1-800-273 TALK (8255) or text 741741.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), "suicidal thoughts, much like mental health conditions, can affect anyone regardless of age, gender or background. In fact, suicide is often the result of an untreated mental health condition. Suicidal thoughts, although common, should not be considered normal and often indicate more serious issues.

People are often reluctant to intervene, even if they are quite concerned about someone. There are many reasons for this, not least that they fear they will not know what to say. It is important to remember, however, that there is no hard and fast formula. Individuals who have come through an episode of severe suicidal thinking often say that they were not looking for specific advice, but that compassion and empathy from others helped to turn things around for them and point them towards recovery.

Another factor that deters people from starting the conversation is that they worry that they may make the situation worse. Again, this hesitation is understandable; broaching the topic of suicide is difficult and there is a myth that talking about suicide with someone can put the idea into their head or trigger the act.

The evidence suggests that this is not the case. Being caring and listening with a non-judgmental ear are far more likely to reduce distress than exacerbate it."

Not sure how to identify potentially suicidal ideas and behavior? Here are some warning signs:

*If an individual talks about being burdensome to others, indicates a feeling of being trapped, speaks about having no reason to live...*

*If an individual is engaging in increased use of alcohol or drugs, acting recklessly, withdrawing from activities and hobbies, withdrawing from family and friends...*

*If an individual is depressed, or expresses rage, humiliation, anxiety, among other moods...*

*...these may be warning signs and risk factors to look out for, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP). Environmental (such as a stressful lifestyle or traumatic event), medical (mental health conditions), and historical factors (family history) may also play a role.*

What can you do? When talking to a loved one or friend you may suspect is potentially suicidal, [www.helpguide.org](http://www.helpguide.org) offers the following steps:

"Be yourself"

"Listen"

"Be sympathetic"

"Offer hope"

"Take the person seriously"

"Recommend individual seek professional help"

Law enforcement can play a key role in preventing suicide. The Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) has published an online guide for law enforcement outlining the role they can play in responding to mental health calls and preventing suicide. This guide provides specific measures law enforcement and other first responders can take, including:

"Ensure the safety of everyone present"

"Assess the person for need of medical treatment"

"Establish rapport with the person"

"Assess the person for risk of suicide"

"Supervise the person constantly"

"Arrange for any person who is potentially suicidal to be transported to a local hospital's emergency department or a mental health center for an evaluation"

See [www.sprc.org](http://www.sprc.org) for additional information on these steps and other ways police can respond to mental health and suicide attempt calls.

Haddam Resident Trooper Enrico Milardo explains that "[o]ccasionally, Troopers are dispatched to calls of a person with suicidal thoughts or ideations". Troopers will respond to these calls in conjunction with local Emergency Medical Service responders. In so doing, the Troopers and EMS

provide individuals "with the professional help they need" during these moments of crisis.

In addition, Trooper Milardo says that in some cases, "Troopers are dispatched to calls that are not identified as a suicidal call, but rather a domestic disturbance or something similar". In these scenarios, Milardo says they may discover an individual has suicidal and/or homicidal thoughts. After learning this, Troopers and EMS will "try to build a rapport with that person, readjust our focus of the investigation to include providing the proper help for that person if the situation warrants it". In still other instances, Milardo reports that "sadly, there are occasions where we arrive to calls to find that a person has actually committed suicide".

Trooper Milardo wants to dispel the myth that "just because there are people who threaten suicide, they don't really do it". Here, Milardo emphasizes that we as Troopers "treat all situations seriously" and that there "are many instances where a person may be depressed and have suicidal thoughts, but all that person needs is someone to talk to and is expressing that they want help".

Finally, Troopers and EMS will provide "support and reassurance" to family members and friends who are present at the scene – often the ones who have called about the individual in need of help. Milardo says that Troopers and EMS then ensure that the individual receives an emergency evaluation and treatment at the "nearest hospital as soon as possible".

For those interested, consider looking into the following resources on mental illness and suicide prevention:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.8255 (available 24 hours/365)

National TEXT suicide help line: Text "GO" to 741741 (free, 24/7, confidential)

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Suicide Prevention Resource Center.

National Alliance on Mental Illness. The Connecticut Chapter has its website here.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Injury Prevention & Control: Division of Violence Prevention.

For more information about the Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation, Inc, visit [www.nathanielfield.org](http://www.nathanielfield.org)

Marie and Howie would like to thank everyone who supported them for the Out of Darkness Walk held on Sept. 23, in support of the AFSP.

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# Tylerville water

Continued from previous page

## 2017 – Where we stand now with Tylerville water

Finally, in Spring of 2017, the Alternatives Report was fully updated. It was at this time that both the Town of Haddam and DEEP were able to proceed with taking the steps necessary to move the project forward.

On June 21, 2017, a public hearing was held on Tylerville water. Scores of residents attended and were able to ask questions. Individuals from DEEP, DPH, and Connecticut Water were present – in addition to town and state officials.

In terms of next steps, Haddam is looking to:

- Enter a consent order with DEEP (a funding mechanism by which funds are transferred to the Town on a reimbursement basis)
- Have a water main system designed
- Have construction begin by the end of 2018 (estimated)

When *Haddam News* reached out to First Selectwoman Lizz Milardo for comment on the Tylerville water project, Milardo commented that: "It was frustrating to me when I learned of the fact that the Town had not proceeded with the water project in 2013; that alternatives (such as the community

well alternative) were being reviewed that would not correct the situation due to the extreme levels and depth of contamination into the bedrock; and moreover, that DEEP had been prepared to provide a solution and bear the full cost."

She continued: "The most disheartening fact was the February 24, 2016 e-mail I received from then-State Representative Phil Miller, whom I thank for his assistance on getting this issue resolved, informing me that the previous Town administration was "not on board" with pursuing the water main alternative solution recommended by DEEP"

The February 24, 2016 e-mail from Miller to

Milardo read in part:

*"Lizz, I am on board...Senator Kennedy\* was able to make a similar bill with Durham last year. It would have been good to go for Haddam, but the previous [Town] administration wasn't on board."*

Milardo added that she is glad Haddam is finally moving forward with a solution in hand to address the over 40-year-old pollution in the affected Tylerville area.

\*State Senator Ted Kennedy, Jr. represents the towns of Branford, Durham, Guilford, Killingworth, Madison, and North Branford.



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## CSRA donates money to Misfit Car Cruisers

By Don Dybick

Representing Connecticut Street Rod Association (CSRA), member Don Dybick is pictured presenting a \$250 check from CSRA to Don Brookes, Misfit Cruisers Car Club at a recent show.

CSRA is a group dedicated to educating and preserving our automotive heritage. This donation will help Misfit Cruisers continue holding their Tuesday evening events at the Tylerville Country Market parking lot in the future.



Don Dybick (l) presents a check from the Connecticut Street Rod Association to Don Brookes, of the Misfit Cruisers Car Club. Photo by Bette Dybick.

## Boy Scouts pancake breakfast

By Greg Nicholas

Haddam Boy Scout Troop #44 will be having their Annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 15, at the Fire House located at 439 Saybrook Road in Higganum, from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Purchase tickets in advance for \$5 from any Scout or Leader, or tickets may be purchased at the door for \$6.

## POLICE NEWS

### September 11 arrest for destruction

Mark J. Mocoski, 56, of Nason Road, Higganum, was arrested on an arrest warrant stemming from an investigation into an ongoing property line dispute, where Mocoski allegedly damaged his neighbors survey markers by discharging his firearm at them. Mocoski was charged with Destruction of Survey Markers and was released on a \$1000 non-surety bond. He was set to appear at Middlesex Superior Court on Sept. 26.

## CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

# Draft of Haddam's newly-revised Town Charter – a series: Article VII

This week, the section covering the office of the First Selectman is reprinted. The entire draft can be viewed at [www.haddam.org](http://www.haddam.org). Copies are available at Town Hall.

### ARTICLE VII - THE FIRST SELECTMAN

Section 7.1 Chief Executive and Administrative Officer

The First Selectman shall be the chief executive and administrative officer of the Town, and shall spend sufficient time required to carry out his duties as charged by the General Statutes and specifically described in Section 7.2 and 7.3 of this Charter.

The First Selectman shall have all the powers, duties, and responsibilities conferred upon that office by law and which are not inconsistent with this Charter; and in addition, he shall have such powers as are necessary or incidental to the discharge of these duties and responsibilities as set forth in this Charter.

The First Selectman shall be a full voting and participating member of the Board of Selectmen and he shall preside at meetings of the Board when present. The First Selectman shall be an ex officio member of all agencies of the town, but without the power to vote.

He may, in writing, appoint a Selectman to be his representative.

#### Section 7.2 Duties of the First Selectman

Under the general policy direction of the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman shall:

- a) Be responsible for the proper performance of the First Selectman's office, in connection with which he shall be available, in person or by telephone, at his office at specified hours during the normal working day;
- b) Be responsible for coordinating the administration of the agencies of the Town, except for those functions

expressly reserved or delegated to those agencies by law;

c) Be responsible for making a continuous review of the current and future needs of the Town, including financial needs and budget requirements, in connection with which he may require reports and information to be submitted by any Town agency. He shall keep the Board of Selectmen fully informed as to the financial condition of the Town;

d) Be responsible for seeing that the Board of Selectman are up to date on the availability of, and the requirements for, such Federal and/or State funds as the Towns may qualify for. He shall make this information available to the Board of Finance in accordance with Article IX of this Charter;

e) Be responsible for the implementation of proper financial procedures such as bidding procedures, record keeping and accounting methods which the Board of Finance may lawfully and reasonably prescribe for the Town agencies over which he has jurisdiction;

f) Be responsible for the coordination and guidance of the Board of Selectmen in the discharge of all of the Board's duties and responsibilities;

g) Be responsible for the development of a set of priorities which shall provide a guide for things the Town shall attempt to accomplish during the coming year, and which shall serve as a policy guide in the development of the Annual Town Budget;

h) Be responsible for keeping full and complete records of the doings of the office. It shall be his duty to make periodic reports to the Selectmen and the Board of Finance, to recommend to the Selectmen such motions as he shall deem necessary or expedient; and to keep or cause to be kept complete books of accounts showing the financial transactions and condition of the Town and all other accounts and records as may be prescribed by the Selectmen, the General Statutes, or the Town Meeting.

i) Be directly responsible for the duties which Section 8.8 of this Charter assigns to the Director of Public Works, until such time as the Town Meeting shall provide for a separate appointment to this office;

j) Be directly responsible for the other duties which the General Statutes assign to the chief executive in the absence of such separate municipal appointive officials as police chief or welfare officer.

k) Act as purchasing agent of the Town, subject to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Board of Selectmen and elsewhere in this Charter.

#### Section 7.3 Duties Relating to the Budget

With the guidance of the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman shall act to assemble the preliminary budgets of the Town Agencies in accordance with the manner required by the Board of Finance, after discussing them with the agency heads. Said preliminary budget shall be turned over to the Board of Finance no less than the first full week of February.

#### Section 7.4 Emergencies

a) In the event that the First Selectman shall find that a state of emergency exists within the Town, requiring immediate action to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of its citizens, he may declare that such a state of emergency exists and publish such declaration by most effective means available, and take such action as shall be in the best interest of the Town; provided that the Board of Selectmen shall meet as soon as possible to ratify such action and to take such further action as may be required by this Charter.

b) A state of emergency shall terminate when so voted by the Board of Selectmen or declared in writing by the First Selectmen, or by vote of the Town Meeting.

#### Section 7.5 Delegation of Duties

To assist in the discharge of the duties and responsibilities, of his office and of the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman may assign and delegate duties to Selectmen and to officers responsible to him, except as to such powers and duties which may not under the General Statutes be so delegated. Such assignments and delegation, if permanent, shall be made public knowledge through posting on the Town web site and shall be made known to any Town agencies affected.

## Lou Milardo

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