



Photos by Jeff Doskos.

Junior Division members finish course at CT Fire Academy

By Olivia Drake,
Public Information Officer,
HVFCo.

Congratulations to Haddam Volunteer Fire Company Junior Division members John Maziarz and Marc Perras for completing the Introduction to the Fire Service course at the Connecticut Fire Academy! They were honored at a ceremony on Aug. 10, 2019.

John and Marc joined more than 30 other budding firefighters, ages 14-17, for a week-long program. All participants were affiliated with a municipal fire department in the State of Connecticut.

“The Intro program provides a wealth of knowledge and unforgettable experiences,” John said. “From the skills you learn to the friends you make,



it is an amazing first step into the fire service outside of your own department. It's hard work, but in the end, it's worth it. It was one of the best weeks of my life.”

HVFC Chief Sam Baber; Deputy Chief Peter Brown; Assistant Chief Jamie Kuchyt; Firefighter and Junior Division leader Jeff Doskos; and Firefighter Teresa Kuchyt attended the ceremony with fellow members of the company, family and friends. Firefighter and Quartermaster Ej Adametz served as a course instructor.

Once John and Marc turn 18, they have the opportunity to join the regular HVFC membership. For more information on the Junior Division program, email membership@haddamfire.org.



The summer of '69: moon rocks and rock & roll

By Deb Thomas

Part 1. Green Cheese in July

Sometimes there are whole years which contain many milestones. They are filled with events that draw us right back into a particular place and time. You cannot know at the beginning if the year is a pivotal one in your life calendar—what the year will bring; you can only look back and recall the spectacular pluses or minuses. Some years however, never fade far in your memory. That year for me was 1969.

It was the beginning of being a teenager, and the year I discovered that as much as I liked science and math—poetry (and later on, the poetry of rock and roll) was also inspiring. In the January edition of Life magazine, I selected something to read in front of my eighth grade class; our hip English teacher Andrea B. Hancock had challenged my class with a sort of show and tell with our discoveries in creative writing.

That one poem symbolized both the concrete wonder of science and ethereal beauty of poetry; worlds collided. I read and memorized James Dickey's poem “For the First Manned Moon Orbit” as it appeared in Life Magazine. The magazine gave the poem context against a ten-page photo essay of astronauts and photos of the earth from space. The poem can be seen as it was printed through Life Magazine's free public archive at: (<https://library.wustl.edu/james-dickey-and-the-apollo-program/>)

For The Manned Moon Orbit

So long
So long as the void
Is hysterical, bolted out, you float on nothing
But procedure alone,
Eating, sleeping like a man
Deprived of the weight of his own

Continued on page H8

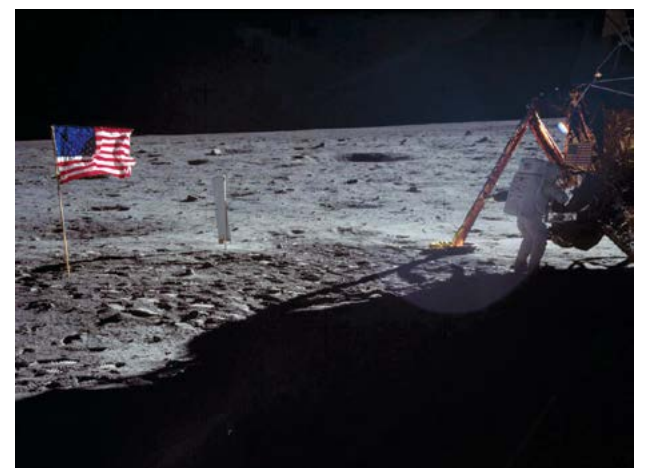


Photo courtesy of NASA.

**Mark your calendars!
September 7: Haddam
River Day 2019**

By Editorial Staff

Haddam River Day is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 7, beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Haddam Meadows State Park. Fireworks are slated to go off at 8:30 p.m. The fireworks display company is

Central Maine Pyrotechnics. Dave Peterson, lead pyrotechnician for the show (and a Haddam resident), says “Haddam Meadows is a great site to watch fireworks, because no matter where you sit, you have the best seat in the house!” Rain date is Sept. 8.

Ron Booth Memorial Golf Outing scheduled for September 14

By Terry Smith

The 9th Annual Ron Booth Memorial Golf Outing will be held Saturday, Sept. 14, 2019, at Black Birch Golf Club in Moodus, Conn. A portion of the proceeds will be donated in memory of Ron to The First Tee of Connecticut. First Tee, the organization chosen by Ron's family, was created to expose golf to underprivileged youth who might not normally have access to the game.

In 2010 Ron's vision of a unique golf event became a reality. He wanted it to focus on what was important in his life: family, friends, fun, faith and food. As a result, the outing is more about the comradery and raising funds to further the missions of the Higganum Congregational Church than the golf scores!

That spirit continues at the post golf festivities

originally held at his home on the river. This year's festivities will be at the home of Sam and Pam Crum, 275 Saybrook Road, Higganum, Conn. The dinner is attended by almost as many sponsors and non-golfers as golfers. Following the delicious steak and chicken dinner the trophy presentation and much-anticipated raffle of desirable donated items will keep everyone captivated.

The cost for golf and dinner is \$125; the cost for dinner only is \$25.

We invite you to join us again on the course on Saturday September 14th and offer you these additional opportunities:

Angel sponsor for a donation of \$250

Tee sponsorships for a donation of \$100

In-kind donations of goods and services for our raffle

Each sponsor will have a sign on the course and at the dinner to be attended by all the golfers and many others. They will also be mentioned in the brochure each golfer and diner will receive and in our church newsletter.

In addition, Angel Sponsors will be recognized on a banner which will be prominently displayed at the course, the dinner and the church.

If you are interested in playing golf, attending just the dinner or becoming a sponsor, please contact:

860-345-3362
ctsmith59@aol.com
32 Maple Ave. West
Higganum, CT 06441



**Enjoy Burgers & Dogs on the Grill!
at our Antique Car Show**

**Tuesday, August 27th, 2019
6:30 p.m to 8:00 p.m.**

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Masonicare 
at Chester Village


 In the event of rain, please call 860-526-6800 to ensure the event has not been cancelled.



Photo by Kathy Brown.

Antique Engine Tractor Show to take place September 14 & 15

By Howard Lineberry

The Tobacco Valley Flywheelers Antique Engine Tractor Show will be held at Haddam Meadows State Park (820 Route 154, Haddam) on Sept. 14 & 15, 2019. Gates will open at noon on Friday, Sept. 13 for show set up.

There will be FREE admission and FREE parking. Food will be available

for purchase all day. There will be steam engines and equipment, hay rides, large operating displays, hobby related flea market, hit & miss engines, antique cars and trucks, and farm tractors and machinery.


The Friends of the Valley Railroad will be giving rail car rides. For more information, call Howard Lineberry at 860-347-6252.

Letters to the Editor

We encourage Letters to the Editor which foster understanding and awareness through discourse. They should be: civil, knowledgeable, factual, and constructive. The letter must include the writer's name, town, and date, and should not exceed 400 words. The editors reserve the final

decision on any letters published; frequency of submissions from a single writer or group will be a factor in deciding whether to publish a letter. The editors may also add a short explanation of the writer's position or credentials.

Haddam News, PO Box 15,
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Library's annual Big Book Sale: September 21, 22, 23

By Robbie Marshall, BML

The Booksale begins Friday, Sept. 20, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. It continues on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 10:00 a.m. with some tasty baked treats for sale. There will be free coffee and tea, with a local hot dog vendor and lemonade stand on the premises.

On Monday, Sept. 23, 2019 remaining items will be offered at special prices from 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The Friends always accept books and DVDs, and are collecting items throughout the summer, to contribute to the BIG sale.

Please make sure that all items are saleable [not

soiled, yellowed, moldy, or damaged] and gently used!

The Friends also have a bookstore located in the library. The Book Nook holds over 3000 items and is open during library hours. Stop in to browse! Relax in our comfy chairs, have a coffee or tea and take advantage of our sales.

The Nook features: DVDs, CDs, paperbacks, and hardcover fiction and non-fiction arranged by author and subject. And don't miss our special items, like DVD series, unique books, and BML merchandise.

We accept cash, checks, plastic, and PayPal. Friends' funds support library programs and events,

and materials, technology, and furnishing purchases.

The Friends are giving away children's tote bags which include a coupon for a free book from the Nook, bookmark to color, and library card application.

Volunteers are always welcome! Teens can fulfill their community service requirement by helping out the week of the booksale. The Friends get together on Thursday mornings and for a monthly meeting. Stop in or contact us to join. <http://www.brainerdlibrary.lioninc.org/friends>

Thank you for your generous donations and we look forward to seeing everyone at the BIG Book-sale!

PUBLIC SAFETY

Emergency team undergoes ice jam training

By Kevin McManus, Haddam Emergency Management

Members of Haddam's Emergency Management Team, along with officials from area towns, Connecticut Department of Transportation, United State Coast Guard and State Emergency Management recently underwent an "Ice Jam Training" workshop.

Speakers from the Army Corps of Engineers Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL), and the National Weather Service (NWS) discussed a number of topics regarding the development of ice jams and how they flow. This training will allow officials to recognize hazards earlier and communicate needs and hazards with proper departments.

Residents across the State are urged to sign up for emergency notifications thru the www.CTAlert.GOV program. A variety of preparedness topics for residents can be found at www.ready.gov.

TOWN & COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Please visit www.haddam.org or www.haddam-killingworthnow.com for the most current information, including cancellations, location changes, time changes.

Thursday, August 22

Haddam Blood Drive, 1:00-6:00 p.m.

The Haddam Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary is sponsoring a Blood Drive on Thursday, August 22, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Fire House at 439 Saybrook Road in Higganum. Sandwiches, desserts and drinks will be provided by the Auxiliary. To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter HADDAM.

Higganum Farmer's Market, 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Haddam's Economic Development Commission is sponsoring the Higganum Farmer's Market, which will be held every second and fourth Thursday from June 27, 2019 until October 10, 2019 on the Higganum Green, from 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Free Stop the Bleed Class, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

The Killingworth Ambulance Association will hold a "Stop the Bleed" class this month. All classes are free and open to the public. "Stop the Bleed" is a nationwide awareness campaign and call to action launched in 2015 by the White House and Department of Homeland Security. It is designed to empower bystanders with the training to deal with traumatic events and emergency bleeding situations before emergency help arrives. For more information, please contact the KAA at 860-663-2450 or log on to killingworthambulance.org.

Wednesday, August 28

SCHOOL BEGINS: REGIONAL DISTRICT 17

Registrar of Voters Office Hours, 9:00

a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Conservation Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Killingworth Farmer's Market, 3:00-7:00 p.m.

The Killingworth Farmers Market is a family-friendly, open-air market where local farmers bring fresh, locally-grown produce and farm-processed foods to sell directly to you. Our market features fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, baked goods, fish, jams and preserves, juices, honey, meat, cheese, yogurt, ice cream, prepared foods, nursery plants, and flowers.

Thursday, August 29

Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting, 7:30 p.m.



Largest Papyrus Card/Gift Store in Middlesex County

Vitamin B12 Deficiency- The Case of Pins & Needles

We have all probably gone without all the right amount of vitamins at one time or another, and in the majority of occasions this is not an issue. But, take the case of this 62-year old man who'd developed numbness, pins & needle sensations in his hands, had trouble walking, along with joint pain, turning yellow, and experiencing shortness of breath. The cause was lack of Vitamin B12 in his bloodstream. As it turns out, it could have been worse, because B-12 deficiency can lead to deep depression, paranoia, delusions, memory loss, loss of taste & smell. The body need B-12 to make red blood cells, DNA, as well as other functions. B-12 is not made by the body, and can only come from food or supplements, and there are people who might eat enough, but their bodies cannot absorb enough. One source quotes that The National Institute of Health believes 3.2% of Adults over 50 have seriously low B-12 blood levels, and another 20% of adults have a borderline deficiency.

Various causes of Vitamin B-12 deficiency are: drugs such as Metformin, a mainstay of diabetes therapy, heartburn drugs, i.e.. - proton pump inhibitors such as omeprazole and H-2 blockers such as famotidine, vegetarian diet, weight loss surgery, and aging- because our bodies cut back on stomach acid production as we age, all just to name a few.

So symptoms to watch for: Strange sensations, numbness, tingling in hands, legs, or feet., difficulty walking (staggering/balance problems), swollen tongue, yellowed skin, difficulty in thinking, paranoia, weakness or fatigue. Call your doctor!! A blood test tells the story.

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Fall programs and activities

By Josselyn Salafia, Recreation Supervisor,
HK Rec. Dept.

For more information about any of the programs below, please call the HK Recreation Department at 860-345-8334 or visit us on-line at www.hkrec.com.

FITNESS YOGA

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Fitness Yoga on Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 10 – December 12 (No 10/31, 11/28) from 7:00 – 8:15 p.m. Journey through a 75 minute mind/body class. Discover the strength and cardiovascular benefits of this power yoga class and enjoy the relaxation as you reduce stress. Gain flexibility and balance through a flow of yoga poses. This is a great class for all levels including advanced, intermediate and beginners. The fees are \$156 for a 26 coupon book, \$91 for a 13 coupon book, and \$10 for one coupon. Coupons must be turned in at each class attended and are non-transferable. Participants need to bring their own yoga mat to class.

ADULT PAINT NIGHT

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department will be hosting an Adult Paint Night workshop on Friday, September 20 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the HK High School Cafeteria. The fee is \$45. Non-residents can register for an additional \$10.

Get Creative! Gather your spouse, friends and put a unique spin on a night out. Relax, enjoy light refreshments and get creative, as our professional artist takes you brushstroke by brushstroke to create a one of a kind masterpiece. All materials included, no experience necessary.

ZUMBA

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Zumba this fall! Session I will be held on Mondays (Zumba) from September 9 – October 21 (No 10/14) from 7:00-8:00 p.m. There will be a second session from November 4 – December 16 (No 11/11). The fee is \$42 each session. Non-residents can register for an additional \$10. Drop-in and try a class for \$10.

Zumba is Latin inspired dance/fitness craze sweeping the world. Fusing hypnotic Latin and other international rhythms with easy-to-follow moves, Zumba is a one-of-a-kind dance fitness class designed to burn calories and get your energy pumping. There are no complicated moves to learn and you don't need the coordination of a pro. Zumba is not only great for the body, but is also great for the mind. It's a "feel happy" workout. Stretching, abs and toning will also be added. Join the party!

ACTIVE ADULT EXERCISE

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering an exciting new program this fall for Adults. Active Adult Exercise is an exercise and wellness program that is open to everyone. This program will be on-going through December 27 (No Holidays), Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 9:00 -10:00 a.m., at St. Lawrence Church, Killingworth. The fee is \$32 for a 16 class pass (good for 1 month) or \$2.50 each class payable to the instructor.

Are you recovering from an injury, have a desire to improve your health and mobility? By offering both aerobic and weight training, with stretch and core strengthening, this program covers all sides of the exercise spectrum.

Mondays/Thursdays will be a fast paced standing aerobic exercise routine, using multiple muscle movements & hand weights. Promotes brain stimulation, muscle regeneration, improved strength, circulation and heart rate. Tuesdays will be strength training using free weights that will build core, arm and legs. Fridays will be a circuit interval class done in sets of three. Lots of stretching and slower movements.

ADULT SEMI-PRIVATE SWIM LESSONS

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Adult Semi-Private Swim Lessons at the HK High School Pool. Learn the basics including treading water, floating and stroke development such as crawl, breast, side and back.

Session I will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from September 3 – September 26, 7:50 – 8:30 p.m. There will be a second session from October 3 – October 29. Session 3 will be November 12 – December 10 (No 11/28). The fee is \$75/\$60 with pool membership.

AQUA AEROBICS

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Aqua Aerobics at the HK High School Pool. Aqua Aerobics is a great cardio-vascular workout for all ages, all fitness levels, swimmers & non-swimmers. No equipment is required. This free-style class includes a variety of styles such as an active warm-up and aerobics, kickboxing, lunges, squats, abdominal work, training, water walking, and more.

Session I will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from September 4 – October 16 (No 10/14) 6:45-7:45 p.m. There will be a second session from October 28 – December 11 (No 11/11, 11/27). The fee is \$72/\$60 (2x per week) or \$42/\$36 (1x per week) with a current pool membership and Sr. Citi-

zens each session. Drop-in for \$10 each class.

CANINE ENCOUNTERS – DOG OBEDIENCE

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Dept. is offering Basic Dog Obedience class this fall. Class will be held on Thursdays, September 5– October 10 from 5:30 – 6:30 pm (Dogs ages 5 months and up). The 1st class is theory and is for owners only and will meet in the HK Lower Media and the remaining classes will be held at Parmelee Farm Pavillion in Killingworth. The fee is \$98 (\$78 for repeating students). Non-residents please add \$10.

Canine Encounters teaches dog owners how to teach their dogs. Classes provide socialization through a group setting and enhances the relationship between owner and dog through the partnership which is developed through training. Communication, positive reinforcement, repetition, consistency, and timing are combined to establish bonding and skills. The basic command such as sit, stay/wait, down, heel, the recall (come when called), and stand are taught in a positive and fun atmosphere. The goal is not a controlled pet but rather a well-mannered, enjoyable and loved companion that is included in our lives.

CT BASIC BOAT COURSE

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering a basic boat course this fall for ages 12 and up. The Boat Course will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays September 12, 17 and 19 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Burr Elementary School All-Purpose Room. The fee is \$15 (non-residents add \$5)

The D.E.E.P class includes instruction in legal requirements, navigation rules, safety afloat and other topics that will help participants become knowledgeable and safe boaters. Students passing will satisfy the requirements for the CT Safe Boating Certificates and Personal Watercraft Operation.

ADULT HORSEBACK RIDING

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Adult Horseback Riding Lessons this Fall. Classes run four weeks on Thursdays, September 5 – 26, 2019 5:30-7:00 p.m. The fee is \$175 (non-residents add \$10). There is a max. of 4 participants so sign up early.

This class is designed for adults who are beginners as well as for the more experienced riders. The instructional methods are based on classical riding traditions, but use a modern approach that is easy to understand and create results. The curriculum is designed to give each rider the skills necessary to ride well according to their specific body type and learning style. Participants should wear pants. A heeled shoe (boots) is preferred. Class is held at Sycamore Farm, 118 Christian Hill Rd., Higganum. *Classes

Continued on next page



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Fall programs and activities

Continued from previous page

will be held during inclement weather. There will be hands-on horse activity that provides experience and skill building working with horses. Make-up riding time on Saturdays at 10:30 am.

TODDLER SWIM CLASSES

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Parent & Tot and Pre-School swim classes this Fall. Parent and Tot is for toddlers 9 months to 3 years olds (with Parent) from 6:30 – 7:00 p.m. and Pre-school swim is for 3 year olds without the parent from 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. Class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 3 – September 26 at the HK High School Pool. The fee is \$75 or \$60 with new pool membership for residents and \$85 for non-residents. The parent and tot class is an excellent opportunity for parents to acquaint their children with the water and begin development of swimming techniques. A parent or guardian must accompany the child in the water at all times. The pre-school swim class is the perfect opportunity for your toddler to start swim lessons in a group instructional setting without the parent in the water with them.

EVERSON FALL SOCCER ACADEMY

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Everson Fall Soccer Academy for children ages Pre-K to 2nd grade. This exciting program offers instruction for younger players as well as small-sided games. Coaches from Everson Soccer will guide parents and their children through skill drills in a fun and active format. No previous experience is needed by either players or parents, a simple easy to follow format will be used. Each player is required to bring his own soccer ball and wear shinguards. The program meets on Saturdays from 9:00 – 10:00 am (ages 3-4), 9:30 – 10:30 am (ages 5- K) and 10:00 – 11:00 am (Gr. 1-2) at Eric Auer Recreational Park, beginning September 7 – October 26 (No 10/12). The fee is \$85 and includes a Youth Soccer Shirt. Non-residents can sign up for an additional \$10.

FAMILY FISHING

The Connecticut Aquatic Resources Education (CARE) Program will introduce you and your family to the sport of fishing. State Certified Instructors will teach you everything you need to know about getting started. You'll learn all about tackle and how to tie a special fishing knot. Fish identification, natural baits, regulations and casting are all part of the curriculum. The class will be followed by a fishing trip. All equipment is provided. All CARE materials and instruction are free. Fee is for administrative services.

The program is for children ages 8 – Adult (younger w/ parent). Please indicate how many from your family will attend when registering. The program will be held on Saturday, September 14 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The fee is \$10 per family (non-residents add \$5). Class is located at the Care Center in Killingworth on Rt. 80 near Chatfield Hollow State Park.

SKYHAWKS SUNDAY FLAG FOOTBALL

Skyhawks Flag Football is the perfect program for

young athletes who want a complete introduction to "America's Game" or for those who simply want to brush up on their skills in preparation for league play. Through our activities, campers will learn skills on both sides of the ball including the core components of passing, catching, and de-flagging or defensive positioning – all presented in a fun and positive environment. Skyhawks Flag Football is recommended for beginning to intermediate athletes.

The program is for Boys and Girls grades 1 – 6. The program will be held on Sunday, September 22 – October 27 (No 10/13) from 9:00 – 10:30 pm the fee is \$90 (non-residents add \$10). The program is located at the Haddam Killingworth Multi-Use Field.

KARATE KIDS

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Karate for boys and girls ages 5 – 12. A session will be held at Burr Elementary School Gym on Mondays from September 9 – December 9 (No 10/14 or 11/11) and on Wednesdays at Killingworth Elementary School Gym from September 11 – December 11 (No 10/9, 11/27). The classes meet from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. The fee is \$72. Non-residents can sign up for an additional \$10. Children may try the first class to see if they like it. Please e-mail Josselyn at Josselyn@hkrec.com to reserve a spot in the Demo Class.

Children will be introduced to Washin-Ryu Karate-Do, a unique form of traditional Japanese Karate; and will learn the meaning of self-respect, respect for others, self-discipline, and concentration. Mr. Moan will also talk to the kids about safety awareness and how to avoid abductions. The instructor, Mike Moan, is a 8th Degree Black Belt.

MESSY MONDAYS

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering a program for children ages 1.5 – 4 years this fall. This program offers the opportunity to meet other parents and toddlers in a playgroup atmosphere. Your child will have fun getting messy. Experiment with different textural materials such as shaving cream, goop, finger paints, play-dough, and more! Parents – leave the mess to us. This is a great social experience for both you and your toddler. The program meets Mondays at the HK Central Office Room A-117 from 10:00 – 10:45 a.m. from September 16 – October 21 (No 10/14). A second session will run from November 4 – December 9 (No 11/11). The fee is \$50 / \$35 siblings each session. (non-residents add \$10).

NATURE CLASS EXPERIENCE

Bears Bunkering Down – Learn about the black bear and discuss how it prepares for hibernation. Touch its pelt and size your hands up to its clay-cast paw prints. Enjoy a fun black bear game and take home a black bear craft. This program is for children ages 1 – 4 and meets on Wednesday September 18 from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. in the HK Central Office A-117. The fee is \$22 / \$17 2nd child and HK Cubs.

SCIENCE OUTREACH

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department has the Children's Museum of SE CT coming to HK. These programs are a mix of science demonstration

and hands-on activities for boys and girls ages 3 – 5 and boys and girls in grades K-4. The fee is \$22 each session. There is also a \$18 discount if you sign up for 2 or more classes. The topics include:

Up & Down Coasters – Up, down and loop de loop, come along on a fun roller coaster ride! Students will learn about force, motion and gravity by building roller coasters out of variety of materials along with problem-solving what to do if their roller coaster tracks don't work. This workshop will be held on Wednesday, September 25th at the HK Old Middle School Room A-117 from 1:15 – 2:00 p.m. There will also be a workshop for Boys and Girls in grades K-4, Wednesday, September 25 at Burr Elementary School and on Thursday, September 26 at Killingworth Elementary School from 3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

RUNNING RAMS "CROSS COUNTRY"

New this Fall, Running Rams program will introduce children ages 5-13 to the fun and satisfaction of running. Coach Pete is the Track & Field Coach at OSHS and has been coaching kids in running for over 10 years. The goal of this program is for the kids to be able to run in the Ivoryton 5K in mid-October (optional). Kids will practice running the course on the last night.

This program will meet on Tuesdays, September 10 – October 1 at Eric Auer (KRP) from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. The fee is \$80. Non-Residents please add \$10

WIZARD'S SCHOOL OF MAGIC

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering a Magic Workshops for boys and girls ages 5 – 12 on Fridays, September 20 at Killingworth Elementary School Library and October 18 at Burr Elementary School Library from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. The fee is \$22 each. Non-Residents please add \$5. Children will have fun learning basic introductory magic while building self-confidence and dexterity. Five different tricks will be taught in each session. Each child will receive a magic kit which includes 5 tricks, an instruction sheet describing each trick, and a magic wand. Kids will also be entertained by Tom O'Brien's own act. Tom is a master at his craft and is a wonderful and entertaining teacher as well. New tricks this session!

PAINT & PLAY

Discover your inner artist through painting viewed as play! This program is designed to encourage individual expression and inspire creativity while providing the child with an opportunity to explore painting. Join artist, Christine Miller, as she guides and encourages your child's creative spirit to shine! All materials are included and your child will bring home a finished masterpiece!

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department will be hosting a workshop for children ages 7- 12 on Thursday, September 26 at Burr Elementary School from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. A second session will be offered at Killingworth Elementary School on Wednesday, November 6 from 3:30 -5:30 p.m. The fee is \$42. Non-residents can register for an additional \$5.

ZUMBA KIDS

The Zumba Kids program is the ultimate dance-fitness party for young Zumba fans where they can play it loud and rock with friends to their own rules! This program features age appropriate music and

Continued on next page

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Fall programs and activities

Continued from previous page

moves that will get kids movin' to the beat. Session 1 will run September 12 – October 17 at Killingworth Elementary School, Session 2 will be offered November 7 – December 19 (No 11/28) at Burr Elementary School. The fee is \$60 each session (non-residents add \$10) and meets from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

HORSEBACK RIDING

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Horseback Riding Lessons this Fall for ages 6 – 13. Classes run for 4 weeks. The fee is \$175 (non-residents add \$10). Participants can register for session 1 Tuesdays, September 3 – 24 or for session 2 Wednesdays, September 4 – 25 from 5:45 – 6:45 p.m. or 7:00 – 8:00 pm. There is a max. of 4 participants per time slot.

This beginner horseback riding class will cover grooming, saddling, riding, safety skills, as well as fun games. Lessons are geared for the novice rider. All equipment will be provided. English saddle will be used. More advanced students who have taken this class before are welcome. Please note – instructor may have to pair participants up according to age and ability. Classes are held at the Sycamore Farm, 118 Christian Hill in Higganum. *Classes will be held during inclement weather. There will be hands-on horse activity that provides experience and skill building working with horses. There will be a make-up riding time on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. so there will be no loss of riding time.

BATTLE BOT ENGINEERING

The HK Recreation Department is offering Battle-Bots this Fall. Build, Battle, Innovate, Repeat! In this modern, motorized, LEGO® version of jousting, participants will battle each other using customized monorail vehicles! Participants will need to design, customize and modify their monorail vehicle to make it progressively more efficient and effective! The program meets from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. The fee is \$22 each session.

Session 1: Tuesday, September 17 Killingworth Elementary Rm. 29

Session 2: Friday, September 20 at Burr Elementary School Library

CREATIVE ART

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Creative Art classes this fall. Children in grades K – 4 will explore a world of creativity through a variety of different projects from wood crafts to paper art and make fun projects. Each

session will also have a day of cookie decorating! Class will meet on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:45 p.m. at Killingworth Elementary School from September 10 – October 1 as well as November 7 – December 5 (No 11/28). The class will meet on Tuesdays or Thursdays at Burr Elementary from September 12 – October 10 (No 9/26) as well as November 7 – December 19 (No 11/5).

The fee is \$50 per each four-week session (non-residents add \$10). Kids should bring a smock or shirt that can get messy.

SILLY SCIENCE

This science class is packed with some amazing fun. This class involves cool experiments such as shrinky dinks, building your own parachute friend, power balls, owl pellets, play dough and various other experiments. When all else fails, build your own volcano from the leftover playdough ruins. Please advise us of any allergies. Each day the children will do a variety of experiments. Safety glasses will be provided. Children will bring home samples in a Ziploc bag. Please notify class of any allergies. Please bring a snack. This program is for boys and girls ages 5 – 10 and meets Tuesdays at Killingworth Elementary School, September 24 – October 22 and at Burr Elementary School on Thursdays September 26 – October 24 from 3:30 – 5:00 pm (10/24) program will meet 1:05 – 2:30 p.m.). The fee is \$103 each session (non-residents add \$10).

ARCHERY

This beginner program will include the proper form, vocabulary, and techniques of utilizing and performing Archery. Also included is some historical information toward archery and the different styles of archery throughout various cultures. Learn background information towards creating and shaping your own bows. Individual Equipment will be provided. Session 1 will run September 11 – October 16 (No 10/9) at HK High School Auxiliary Gym/Outside. A second session will be offered October 30 – December 4 (No 11/27). The fee is \$65 each session (non-residents add \$10) and meets from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

WRESTLING & BRAZILIAN JIU JITSU

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Wrestling and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu this fall. This program is for boys and girls in grades 5 and up. Wrestling will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:15 – 7:15 pm at the HK Middle School (Small Court) from

September 3 – November 26 (No 10/31 or 11/5) * Class will meet Wed. 11/6. The fee is \$180 each or \$240 for both (non-residents add \$10). You may try out the first class before registering. Please contact Josselyn at Josselyn@hkcre.com

Wrestling – Learn the skills and develop the mental and physical toughness you need to excel your wrestling game. All practices will have a component of learning and drilling techniques to become a smarter and more technical wrestler. Athletes will finish with live wrestling and high-paced drills to get the mind and body tough for upcoming matches. This is a great opportunity for local wrestlers to meet and practice under high school coaches. Also a great opportunity for new wrestlers to try it out without committing to an entire season.

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu- This class is a grappling-based martial art that is fun in sport but also very useful in the act of self defense. Participants will work hands-on with fellow members to learn a variety of techniques from submission holds to take downs. Every class will have a component of learning and drilling techniques, as well as live training where members can practice freely. Jiu Jitsu is physically challenging but is also accommodating to all fitness levels and is great for the mind and body. Whether you are new to Jiu Jitsu or have trained for years, have no sport experience or are in the best shape of your life, this program is for you.

CROSSROADS DRIVING SCHOOL

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation is offering a Driver's Ed program this fall. Participants must be 16 years old before the start of class.

Option 1 is a Full Program that includes 30 hours of classroom as well as the safe driving and alcohol program along with 8 hours of behind-the-wheel. The fee is \$565 (non-residents add \$10).

Option 2 is a Classroom Only Option, where participants can take the 30 hours of class, but no driving. Includes the Safe Driving portion. The fee is \$290 (non-residents add \$10).

Option 3 is the Safe Driving and Drug and Alcohol Program, which is the 8 hour course that fulfills the requirement of the State of CT for license applicants who took a Home Training Program. This course is required for all drivers, including those who are over the age of 18. The fee for this course is \$150.

Classes will be held at the HK Old MS Room A-119. The classroom dates will be held on Tuesday and Thursday from September 10 – October 29 (No 10/14) from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. or Mondays and Wednesdays from September 11 – November 13 (No 10/9, 10/14, 10/16, 10/23, 11/11) from 2:45 – 4:45 p.m. plus the Parent/Student Orientation on

Continued on next page



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Goodnight Moon: finding quiet in a noisy world

By Meghan Peterson, PhD

Cutting through the noise of our thoughts — our thoughts about other people's thoughts, our thoughts about there being too many thoughts or too few thoughts — can be exhausting at the end of a long day, week or month.

Cutting through the noise of 21st century life, particularly for the social media/online/technology-driven millennial, can seem impossible at times. The quack of a text message alert, the *shhhhooop!* of a new e-mail, the ding of a Words with Friends game, the chime of a Facebook notification — this constant buzzing brings home the chaotic, hectic, frantic mess of our making and in our own exhausted image.

The communicative mechanisms without which millennials may not know what to think, say or do, are becoming more burdensome and gruelingly energy-sucking than they are worth. For many millennials, checking the phone once more before heading to sleep is just as common as brushing teeth or drinking that last sip of water.

Now, in due diligence to my millennial generation, I should issue a disclaimer that I greatly appreciate the ease of communication and information at my fingertips. But singing the praises

of technology has its limitations, too. Back to the topic at hand.

This is why bedtime rituals of a toddler raised by millennial parents can be distinct and refreshing — even downright disquieting.

"Night night" time is something to behold. There is the typical sequence of second or third dinner for the little human, followed by the evening tour of the night sky (cloudy nights are difficult, as inquiries about why the moon is not visible usually ensue), then capped off with a parade of books. Each evening, honorary members of this parade are "Little Owl's Night" and "Goodnight Moon." Always. Without fail.

Margaret Wise Brown's "Goodnight Moon" is pure genius. She (along with Clement Hurd as illustrator) capture what it means to be a child and boil this down to its essence: imagination, unbounded love, tenderness, sweetness. The classic work chronicles how wonderfully drawn-out, methodical, deliberate, and mindful the process of saying goodnight can be. For a toddler, saying goodnight is more than a phrase. It is a practice of heart and soul. It is something that social media, technology, and data can never condense. The baby bunny featured in "Goodnight Moon" says "good-

night" to every object, every creature, every star.

I think perhaps the most moving part of the book is toward the end, when Brown writes:

*"Goodnight nobody...
Goodnight stars
Goodnight air
Good night noises everywhere"*

Here, I read an emphasis on finding value in solitude (Goodnight nobody). It is healthy to embrace quiet and stillness in this mad-dash, anxiety-filled society. I read an emphasis on appreciating the natural world (Goodnight stars Goodnight air). Above all, I read in these words a call to value the goodness that only evening quiet can bring. Intuitively, children remind us that saying Goodnight has the unique power to bring nourishing resolution and calm to a tired spirit.

So, Goodnight moon. Goodnight summer. May we begin the upcoming autumn season with renewed energy, clarity, focus, and imagination — in which cows jump over moons, big and little bunnies alike look out into the open air instead of staring down at phone screens, and millennials say goodnight to those devices and the noise they bring.

The moon is brighter anyway and chances are, more beautiful and quieter, too.

EVERSOURCE

Eversource conducts aerial inspections

By Frank Poirot, Eversource

Eversource will be conducting aerial inspections of high-voltage electrical equipment on rights of way throughout Connecticut this month, including Haddam. This semiannual inspection is an important part of the company's

ongoing commitment to providing reliable electric service. The work involves the use of a helicopter equipped with heat-sensing, infrared scanning technology which can detect potential equipment issues before they occur. The helicopter assigned to this project is blue and silver, with tail number N1431W, and will be surveying the lines from Tuesday, August 13 through August 31, 2019, weather permitting between 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

PETS



Bob

By Judith Levin

Bob is looking for his forever home. When he arrived at Norwich Animal Control, he was nothing but skin and bones. He has put on the weight he needs and is ready for his forever home!

Bob is an intact male (a voucher toward neutering comes with his adoption fee!)

and about three years old. So he's at that perfect just-over-the-crazy-puppy stage.

Bob would be great in a home that has dog-savvy children. We recommend a meet and greet with any potential canine siblings.

If you are interested in Bob, please fill out our online application located at the top of our Facebook page or call Norwich Animal Control at 860-887-5747.

HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Fall programs and activities

Continued from previous page

September 9 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. held in the High School Seminar Room. There will be a Safe Driving Program on September 10, 12, 17 or September 11, 16, 18 from 2:45 – 4:45 p.m. or 6:00– 8:00 p.m. (Plus parent/student orientation on September 10 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.). The Parent/Student Orientation is

mandatory for both student and parent to attend on September 9 in the HK HS Seminar Room.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Killingworth and Burr Elementary Schools have a state- licensed After School Program sponsored by the HK Recreation Department for children in grades K – 6. The program operates daily including

half-days of school until 6:00 p.m. Types of activities include: crafts, organized games, homework assistance, a monthly dance and games party, computer use and an Annual Picnic in June. You may register your child full-time or part-time. We offer a sibling discount and Rec. Scholarships are available for families in need. For more information, please visit our website – www.hkrec.com, call 860-345-8334 or email Jen Mislick, Director of Child Care – jen@hkrec.com.

The Trumpet at the Watchman's Wall

I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that they repent and live

"...The Lord came to me, saying, ² "Son of man, speak to the children of your people, and say to them: 'When I bring the sword upon a land, and the people of the land take a man from their territory and make him their watchman, ³ when he sees the sword coming upon the land, if he blows the trumpet and warns the people, ⁴ then whoever hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, if the sword comes and takes him away, his blood shall be on his own head. ⁵ He heard the sound of the trumpet, but did not take warning; his blood shall be upon himself. But he who takes warning will save his life.

"...Warn them for Me. ⁸ When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you shall surely die!' and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity..." ¹¹ Say to them: 'As I live,' says the Lord God, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die...?' ⁴ Again, when I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' if he turns from his sin and does justice and righteousness, ¹⁵ if the wicked...gives back what he

has stolen...without committing iniquity, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ¹⁶ None of his sins which he has committed shall be remembered against him..." ¹⁷

²⁸ "For I will make the land most desolate, her arrogant strength shall cease..." ²⁹ Then they shall know that I am the Lord, when I have made the land most desolate because of all their abominations which they have committed" (Ezekiel 33).

"Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men..." ¹⁴ For the love of Christ compels us..." ²⁰ "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God" (2 Corinthians 5:11-20).

Jesus died for you to pay for your sins. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31). "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out..." (Acts 3:19).

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50 years ago – The summer of '69: moon rocks and rock & roll

Continued from front page

And all humanity in the name

Of a new life
and through this, making new
Time slowly, the moon comes.

As we grow and age—we have cornerstone moments; that first day of school, that first kiss, that first car, and that first time away from home— which bring us to forever remember where we were. 1969 was quite a year; the summer in particular. We could all probably collectively list similar things from the summer of '69; especially the moon landing, and the music festival known as Woodstock.

It was a big year and fitting to look back at some highlights (no order or emphasis on importance here) leading up to both the July Moon Mission and the events in August on Yasgur's Dairy Farm, in Bethel, NY.

January, 1969. To begin the year, Russian and Chinese troops clashed along the Ussuri River in Northeast China. United Soviet Socialist Republic's space program sent the probe Venera 5 (along with other Venera probes that year), launched from an orbiting Sputnik on a mission to send back information about Venus. Its probe sent data every 45 seconds for 53 minutes before it was crushed and burned approximately 15 miles over Venus (at that time the barometric pressure was 26.1 bar and temperature was 608 degrees Fahrenheit on the surface of the planet). Richard Nixon was sworn in as our country's thirty-seventh President of the United States. Creedence Clearwater Revival releases their second album titled "Bayou Country," containing their seminal 1969 hits Born on the Bayou, Proud Mary and Good Golly Miss Molly. Quarterback Joe Namath wins Most Valuable Player award at the Super Bowl III in Miami (Jets beat Baltimore Colts, 16 - 7). U.S. - Vietnamese Peace Talks begin in Paris. It's goodbye to The Beatles as they give their last performance on Apple Corps London Headquarters.

Early in February, a one ton plus meteorite falls in Chihuahua, Mexico, and the Boeing 747 Jumbo Jet has its first flight. On February 13, the Front de libération du Québec (FLQ) bomb the Montreal Stock Exchange hurting twenty-seven people in the blast.

March is busy. In March, Mickey Mantle told us he was retiring. NHL New York Rangers player Phil Esposito breaks Stan Mikita's record (96) for scoring most points in a season. The supersonic jet Concorde observes its first test flight. Apollo 9 is launched in March and circles the Earth 151 times, or 10 days. A record high price of Gold at \$47.00 per ounce is

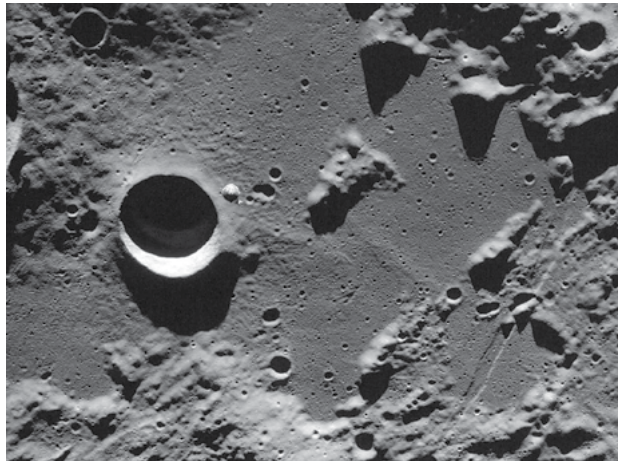


Photo courtesy of NASA.

recorded. At the home of George and Patti Harrison in England, 120 marijuana joints were found. A made for TV movie; "Marcus Welby MD" hits the airwaves. Kurt Vonnegut's "Slaughterhouse-Five" is published. John Lennon and Yoko Ono have their first "Bed-In" for Peace, in Amsterdam. By March's end, with a spectacular 88 week reign Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band Beatles album fell off the charts.

In April of 1969, Melvin Laird, U.S. Secretary of Defense, announces a policy of reducing American involvement named, "Vietnamization." Yet, many U.S. cities see enormous anti-Vietnam War demonstrations. Clashes between Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association and Royal Ulster Constabulary result in massive riots in Derry, Ireland. In the 73rd Boston Marathon, Yoshiaki Unetani of Japan wins in 2:13:49, while unofficially sanctioned 1st woman, American Sara Mae Berman comes in at 3:22:46. The first human eye transplant ever is performed in April, Sirhan Sirhan sentenced to death for killing Bobby Kennedy, and American B-52's drop 3,000-ton bombs at Cambodian boundary.

May brings the North Vietnamese into Laos. U.S. Troops defeat (only for a short time) entrenched Viet Cong soldiers on Ap Bia Mountain, in a horrid 10 day battle. The battle site would come to be known as Hamburger Hill. The enormous British ship, the Queen Elizabeth II leaves Southampton on maiden voyage to NY. Norman Mailer wins the Pulitzer Prize for Literature for his work, "Armies of the Night." In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, there are race riots; later to be known as the "May 13 Incident." Both abortion and contraception legalized in Canada and the last Chevrolet Corvair rolls off Detroit's assembly line for good. Funnymen, Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones and Michael Palin form Monty Python. Montreal Canadiens win the Stanley Cup against St. Louis Blues,

2 - 1. In Basketball, Boston Celtics ace LA Lakers, 4 - 3 in the 23rd NBA Championship.

June of 1969 marks the end of Tobacco advertising in Canadian radio and TV. The last episode of Star Trek is shown on NBC. "The Ballad of John & Yoko" is released by The Beatles. A race riot breaks out in Hartford, Connecticut. Bob Dylan and Johnny Cash combine talents in a Grand Old Opry Television special, Tommy James and the Shondells release "Crystal Blue Persuasion," while the Smothers Brothers comedy Hour completes their last television show on CBS. Yankee player Mickey Mantle retires in front of 60,000 fans at Yankee Stadium. Two-hundred thousand people attend Newport '69, at that time - the largest music concert. Aretha Franklin is arrested in Detroit for disturbing the peace, in and Zager & Evans release "In the Year 2525." In Greenwich Village, New York City, police raid the gay bar Stonewall Inn, and then in three days, 400 to 1,000 patrons riot against police, marking the beginning of the modern LGBT rights movement.

In July, Rolling Stones release "Honky Tonk Woman," Derry, Belfast, and Dungiven see the height of its marching season with widespread rioting forcing some families to leave their homes. Russia launches its unmanned Luna 15 Moon rocket. US troop withdrawal begins in Vietnam and IBM CICS (Customer Information Control System) is made generally available for the 360 mainframe computer, and we go to the moon.

It was just a few weeks ago that we celebrated the fifty year anniversary. It is important in the lives of those who were here to witness this via television, and to people of Earth, forever. It gives us reason to pause and look at our humanity set against the stars in the background. On July 20, 2019, many of us paused to remember what we did and for a brief time, became united in thought marking the time we first heard Neil Armstrong's crackly voice came over Houston's mission control speakers on July 20, 1969 to tell us all, "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed." An estimated 500 million people all over the world watched the live news feed. The push to have mankind visit the moon by the end of the decade, from President John F. Kennedy's speech in 1961, had succeeded. In July, three men orbited Earth's closest neighbor in space in the Apollo 11 in the Command Module. They would launch the smaller Lunar Lander, named The Eagle, with pilot Neil Armstrong and co-pilot Buzz (Edwin) Aldrin to the moon, with pinpoint precision in the moon's Sea of Tranquility, a lunar plateau. Once on the moon's surface they would spend almost a full day collecting rock and soil sam-

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50 years ago – The summer of '69: moon rocks and rock & roll

Continued from previous page

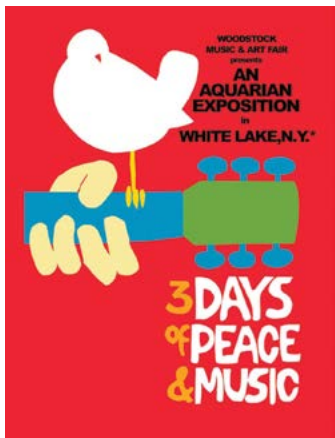
ples and take data for further testing. To relive those once in a lifetime command central words and watch as the lunar lander hits the moon, go to: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U1_nhshK2zU

Where were you when Neil Armstrong stepped on that gray and grainy lunar surface? Did you have an alarm set to remind you of the broadcast on television? Did your family gather with you to watch the landing? This summer NASA has planned activities to celebrate the fifty year anniversary of the moon mission. They have an updated list on their website also containing a new logo.



In July of that summer, the concrete technology and advances in science rocketed our world towards something bigger than ourselves. The moon landing forever changed us. With that one shining moment, we Earthlings—of all diverse corners of the planet Earth, held our collective breath, then cheered audibly at our achievement. In that moment, we were all united. We should engage in this again, to get to another new place where we can compound our greatest strengths. It is time for another moon mission; a giant leap for mankind, to unite us, once more.

August gives us Woodstock. The next big thing to happen in 1969 was a music festival in New York State. The entire year would be juxtaposed against the awe and amazement of scientific accomplishment of the moon landing, and the tangled chaos of war, against a background “An Aquarian Exposition.”



Although she did not appear at the festival, Joni Mitchell later would write the quintessential song that sears the image of that weekend with these words to the song forever:

Woodstock

I came upon a child of God
He was walking along the road
And I asked him, where are you going
And this he told me
I'm going on down to Yasgur's farm
I'm going to join in a rock 'n' roll band
I'm going to camp out on the land
I'm going to try an' get my soul free
We are stardust
We are golden

And we've got to get ourselves
Back to the garden
Then can I walk beside you
I have come here to lose the smog
And I feel to be a cog in something turning
Well maybe it is just the time of year
Or maybe it's the time of man
I don't know who I am
But you know life is for learning
We are stardust
We are golden
And we've got to get ourselves
Back to the garden
By the time we got to Woodstock
We were half a million strong
And everywhere there was song and celebration
And I dreamed I saw the bombers
Riding shotgun in the sky
And they were turning into butterflies
Above our nation

We are stardust
We are golden
Caught in the devil's bargain
And we've got to get ourselves
Back to the garden ...

Coming in Part 2: Yasgur's Farm and the events of the 3 Days of Peace and Music, and the way it shaped a generation.

Websites perused for this article: <https://www.on-thisday.com/events/date/1969/> , and <https://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2019/07/apollo-11-moon-landing-photos-50-years-ago/594448/> , and <https://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/vietnam-war-timeline>, and <https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-adds-events-to-celebration-of-50th-anniversary-of-historic-moon-landing>.

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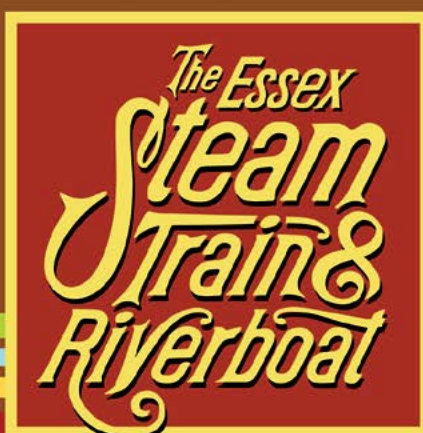
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A Rich History: American Agricultural Fairs

Agricultural fairs, like the Durham Fair, have roots in the ancient world and remain popular today, with 3,200 fairs held annually in the United States.

By Phil Devlin

Agricultural fair season is upon us. Locally, the Haddam Neck Fair begins on August 30, 2019. Like so much else in western culture, our understanding of the phrase “agricultural fair” has its basis in Latin. “Agricola” is the Latin term for farmer, and the most likely source of “fair” is “feria”—Latin for “free day” or “holy day,” which was celebrated as a religious holiday. The blending of agriculture, commerce, and religion in ancient times is consistent with our understanding that religion was at the center of most political, economic and social activities in ancient and medieval times. As time passed, fairs became more secular in nature with education, entertainment, and competition—the central activities of North American fairs—supplanting religion.



The first known agricultural fair in North America took place in Windsor, Nova Scotia in 1765 and continues to this day. The first American fair is thought to have been organized in Pittsfield, MA in 1807 by Franklin Watson. It became known as the Berkshire County Fair and still operates as such today. In 1841, New York organized the first state agricultural fair in Syracuse. Overall, 47 of the 50 states have a state fair. (Only Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts don't have their own state fairs.) Both the Berkshire County Fair and the New York State Agricultural Fair remain two of the more than 3,200 agricultural fairs given

annually in the United States. One of the main components of an American agricultural fair is education. During the 19th century, many colleges and universities began schools of agriculture. Effective means of growing food became the basis of scientific inquiry. Many of the new discoveries of effective farming were on exhibition at the fairs. Additionally, printed publica-

tions and discussions sponsored by farmer's organizations such as the Grange, 4-H, and the Future Farmers of America disseminated the latest information on husbandry and careers in agriculture.

The modern American agricultural fair retains an educational element but is largely about the exhibition and competition of the best domestic products and entertainment. Ribbons, plaques, and trophies are awarded in a wide variety of categories such as livestock, jams and jellies, handicrafts, and baked goods. Awards are also



given for competitive horse and tractor pulls. Musical entertainment is also a big part of the modern American fair experience. The Durham Fair, for example, has had entertainers such as Bill Monroe, Loretta Lynn, Charlie Daniels and the Guess Who. This year's Durham Fair is the 100th Durham Fair and has The Little River Band booked to perform. The Durham Fair is Connecticut's largest agricultural fair. It runs from September 26th to the 29th this year.

The largest agricultural fair in New England—and the 6th largest in the country—is the Eastern States Exposition—AKA “The Big E” in West Springfield, MA. Held on the second Friday after



Labor Day annually since 1917, “The Big E” runs for 17 days. (The only time the show has failed to run was during both world wars when the exhibition space was needed for military supplies.) More than 7,000 members of the 4-H and FFA participate in the fair, which has over 1,100 exhibits on display as well. Tourism promotion for New England is a big part of the exposition.

Though Connecticut is one of only three states that does not have its own state fair, it has no shortage of fairs to attend—46—and is, of course, heavily represented at the “Big E.”

The best site for information on any or all of Connecticut's 46 agricultural fairs is ctagfairs.org. The website includes a comprehensive listing of dates. For those of you who love to attend agricultural fairs, you should monitor the site every spring to see when the association's reduced rate fair passes become available. For \$100 you can purchase a pass to admit two people to all 46 member fairs in Connecticut. They are sent out beginning in July, and the number is limited. Talk about a deal!

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