

Haddam youth win big at Northeast Poultry Congress

By Kathy Brown

On Saturday, Jan. 19, at the Northeast Poultry Congress held on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Mass., Amy Wiknik, age 14, and Jake Cook, age 12, both from Haddam, and students at Haddam Killingworth Middle School, won a few prizes. Amy won Champion English Breed - Buff Orpington Cock Bird Reserve English (with an Australorp cock bird), Champion Asiatic (with a Black Langshan cock bird), and Champion A.O.S.B. (any other standard breed) with a Sumatra cock bird. Jack won Reserve Champion A.O.C.C.L. (any other comb clean leg) with a bantam breed.



Cook and Wiknik all smiles after achieving great success at the 2019 Northeast Poultry Congress.

Jake also participated in the poultry shows at the Haddam Neck Fair, Durham Fair, and Portland Fair, and had birds that won ribbons and awards at all of them. Amy showed at the 4H Fair, Chester Fair, Haddam Neck Fair, Guilford Fair, Durham Fair, Portland Fair, and the Connecticut Poultry Breeders Show in June in Connecticut, as well as the New England Bantam Club spring and fall show in Walpole, Mass, and Little Rhody Poultry Fanciers Spring Show in Rhode Island.



Wiknik with her awards.

"After visiting the Congress to support Amy the past few years, her and her mom finally convinced me to show my birds I've been raising," said Jake.

"Much to my surprise, my bantam Buckeye rooster got onto the Juniors champion row. Overall, I had a great experience and can't wait for next year's Poultry Congress."

"Jake works hard conditioning his birds so that they meet the 'show quality' standards," explained Jake's mother, Marie Cook. "His father, Dave, and I are very proud of his hard work and dedication that he continues to have with his chickens and are very happy to see him be rewarded for his efforts."

There were 2654 poultry in the Northeast Poultry Congress, of which 389 were in the Junior Show.

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First Selectwoman Lizz Milardo and Governor Ned Lamont. Photo courtesy of John Nork.

Haddam gets a visit from the Governor

Governor Lamont visited Haddam on Jan. 30. He was in New London and asked to visit Haddam as part of his plan to visit the First Selectmen or Mayors in all 169 Connecticut Towns. Governor Lamont and First Selectman Lizz Milardo discussed several topics, including Tylerville, Higganum, Scovil Hoe, State Parks, Tourism, and Teacher Pensions. They discussed several issues affecting small towns, such as taxes and the push for more school regionalization.

The Governor concluded by noting that Lizz "has a great vision for the future of the Town of Haddam."



Troop #44 Spring 2018 Court of Honor. Photo by Kathy Brown.

Haddam Troop 44 welcomes girls to Scouting, BSA

By Kathy Brown

It's official. On February 1, 2019, Haddam Troop #44 will have a linked, or "sister" Troop #44G. The requirement for a troop is five participants; so far there is a Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, and one girl from Haddam. Because of the nature of the rollout, Haddam Troop 44G will accept girls from neighboring towns Durham/Middlefield, Chester/Deep River, Killingworth, and East Haddam. If any girl/young woman is interested from Haddam or any of those towns, they are encouraged to attend a recruiting event on Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the First Congregational Church of Haddam (905 Saybrook Road). This is the regular meeting time for Haddam Scout Troop #44, which

has been active in town for more than 50 years.

Camp Gus, a 25-acre parcel in town, is where the Scout troop camps once a month during the school year. The troop meets weekly during the school year, holds can & bottle drives three times a year, goes on a 3- or 4-day spring trip to various historical/educational locations, holds a turkey shoot twice a year, teaching youth gun safety as well as sportsmanship, has a one-week summer camping trip at Camp Mattatuck in Plymouth, CT, and participates in various community service activities throughout the year. Presently, the boys' troop has 28 active Scouts.

Boy Scouts of America is one of the largest youth organizations in the United States

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Needleman submits bill for utilities accountability

By Norm Needleman, State Senator, 33rd District

This week, I announced that I've submitted a bill designed to hold utility companies responsible for the services they need to provide their customers, re-

quiring them to improve responses to power outages and increase vital staffing.

An Act Concerning Utility Response Times For Restoration of Electric Service and Utility Minimum Staffing Levels

This bill would require companies to restore electric service after power outages on a timely and improved schedule. This comes after, in the last several years, response times for repair work by companies like Eversource have climbed, leaving residents and businesses in the dark, literally, for days. When severe weather strikes, Connecticut taxpayers often have to wait days before their lights come back on and they can resume their daily lives.

When Connecticut taxpayers already pay the third-highest rates for electricity in the country, according to the Energy Information Agency, there's no reason why they should receive poor service in return. This bill is part of an effort to hold Eversource and other energy providers accountable to prevent that poor service from continuing to hinder

Continued on page H8

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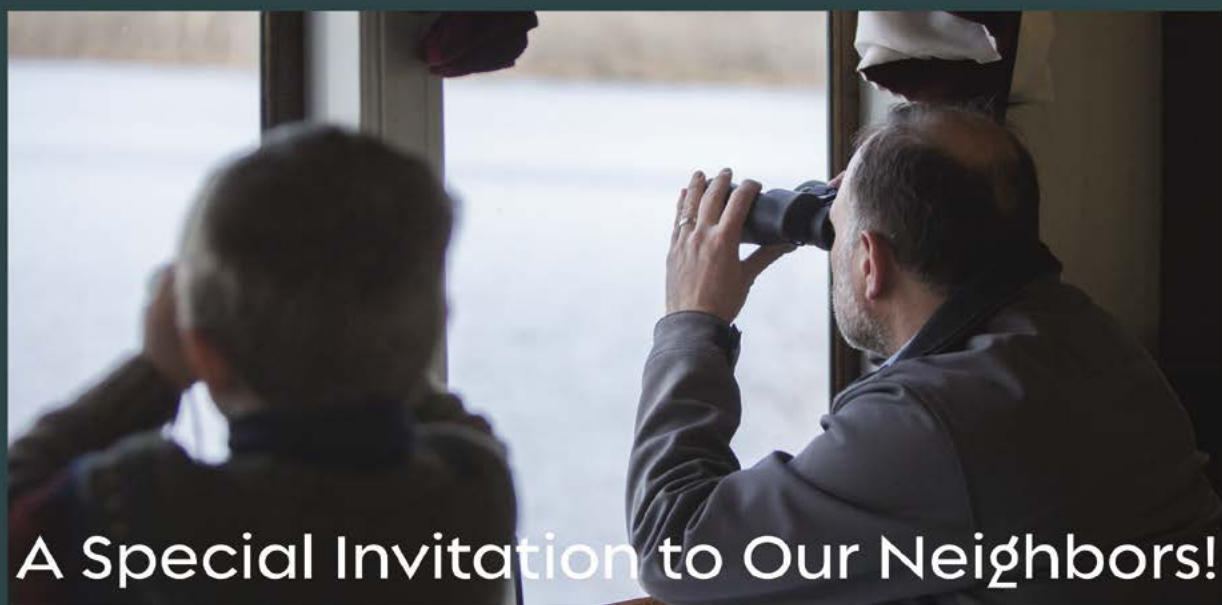
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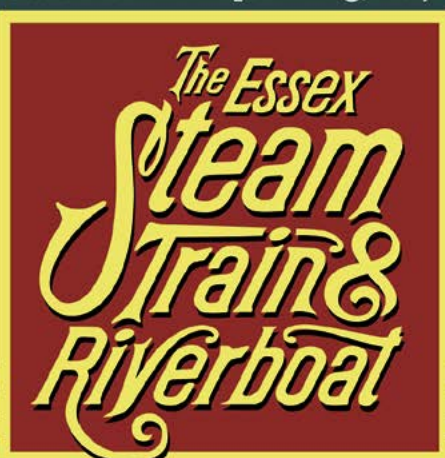
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Response from BOE to BOS on school restructuring

Editors Note: The following text is from a letter sent from Joanne Nesti, Chairman of the Regional School District #17 Board of Education to the Board of Selectmen, Town of Haddam (Lizz Milardo, Larry Maggi, and Melissa Schlag) on Jan. 25, 2019 in response to the January 16, 2019 letter that the Haddam Board of Selectmen sent to the Board of Education. We are also attempting to obtaining copies of the attachments:

Thank you for your letter dated January 16, 2019 regarding the RSD 17 restructuring. The purpose of this letter is to respond to your letter and request for information.

As a result of the concerns expressed by the "Friends of HES" regarding the closure of Haddam

Elementary School, the Board of Education (BOE) has engaged in several formal and informal discussions to hear them fully. Recently, the group presented to the Strategic Capital Planning Committee (SCPC) and the Committee recommended they present to and work with Haddam's town leadership. There was no mention of a BOE "re-vote" regarding restructuring.

Leaders of both Haddam and Killingworth have supported the critical values necessary for educational improvement and the development of children in both communities. We are grateful for that support. The towns have also expected RSD 17 to maintain quality while reducing costs, in order to offset escalating expenses, lost revenue and declining enrollment. As recently as the December 2018 Joint Meeting of the BOE and the Boards of Selectmen and Finance from our two communities, there was meaningful discourse about restructuring, but the budget message from both towns remained the same...keep it flat. The BOE agrees that financial restraint is prudent and necessary to sustain the school system going forward.

The BOE has worked tirelessly to protect educational excellence while cutting costs and restricting improvements/investments. The educational results achieved with small budget increases (less than 1%) mask the real and escalating costs associated with employee salaries and benefits, special education and capital improvements, which annually increase by 2.5% to 5% and make up approximately 85% of the budget. There are limits to this activity before it impacts the students we serve.

After 18 months of examination, the Board of Education made the decision in March 2018 to restructure, which includes the introduction of an Intermediate School and consolidation of our elementary programs to improve the academic experience of and to maximize resources for these important cohorts (K-5), as well as other benefits. The restructuring includes closing HES at the end of the current academic year, which will eliminate only a portion of the District's underutilized classroom space. It will also potentially reduce annual expenditures by approximately \$1,000,000, which can be used to offset the costs mentioned above. It brings us no pleasure to close this school, lay off staff and impact the community.

However difficult, the BOE made this decision in

order to ensure that it will have the resources needed to continue the legacy of excellence in the face of financial constraints at both the state level and in Haddam and Killingworth; that is, the resources to maintain class sizes, transportation and school safety, investments in technology, teacher excellence, and programming.

Please refer to the enclosed report and appendices that were produced by the Board of Education in 2017/2018. While you have expressed an interest in enrollment and cost savings, please note building capacity, which becomes more underutilized if the status quo is maintained. In addition, the Board of Education's deliberations and public information meetings are posted on the District's website for your review. Please refer to the public record of the BOE's vote on the matter on March 6, 2018.

With all due respect, your request to "...pause the process until this information can be verified..." when the information has been available for almost a year, is not adequate reason to delay the implementation that is well underway and impacting many constituencies. Having said that, please contact me if you have new, vital information that would impact the restructuring.

It is the Board's sincere desire that both towns respect and support the restructuring decision and its implementation timeline, born in no small measure of the towns' requests to accomplish the District's goals more efficiently. We hope you will work with us to meet the needs of the community's children and the future potential of HES.

Sincerely,

Joanne Nesti
Chair, RSD 17 Board of Education

Enclosures:

RSD 17 Restructuring Report and Appendices
Updated Capacity Report, BES and KES
Wesleyan Analysis
HES Closure Financial Projections
Enrollment Projection/Class Sizes 2019-2020
Haddam Selectmen Letter, Dated January 16, 2019

CC:

Howard Thiery, Superintendent, RSD 17
RSD 17 Board of Education
Cathy Iino, First Selectman, Killingworth

OBITUARIES

Gene R. Lasswell Swanson Carpenter

According to Legacy.com and the Connecticut Post, Gene R. Lasswell Swanson Carpenter, age 97, formerly of Killingworth, passed away on Monday, Jan. 28.

Philip Louis Mountain

According to Legacy.com and The Day, Philip Louis Mountain, age 86, formerly a teacher at Killingworth Junior High, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 22.

Susan Gale Purdy

According to Legacy.com and The Hartford Courant, Susan Gale Purdy passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 22.

Doyle D. Malone

According to Legacy.com and The Middletown Press, Doyle D. Malone passed away on Saturday, Jan. 19.

Raymond J. Leone

According to Legacy.com and The Middletown Press, Raymond J Leone of Haddam passed away on Monday, Jan. 14.



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\$100 MILLION
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the secret double life of donated textiles

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The second hand clothing market provides **AFFORDABLE CLOTHING** to those in need and **ENCOURAGES GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP**.

SECOND LIFE ...

- stained t-shirt → wiping cloth
- lone sock → pillow stuffing
- old denim → household insulation
- teddy bear → car seat stuffing
- torn bath towel → wiping cloth

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why recycle textiles?

CLOTHING AND TEXTILE RECYCLING HAS MAJOR IMPACT ON REDUCING GREENHOUSE GASSES

2 million tons of textiles are recycled each year in the U.S.

That is equivalent to removing **1 MILLION CARS** from America's highways

HOW DOES THIS COMPARE TO OTHER RECYCLABLES?

RECYCLED YARD TRIMMINGS	GLASS RECYCLING	PLASTIC RECYCLING	ALUMINUM RECYCLING
170,000 CARS REMOVED	210,000 CARS REMOVED	640,000 CARS REMOVED	1.3 million CARS REMOVED

GO FIGURE **DONATE, RECYCLE, DON'T THROW AWAY!**
According to the EPA, textile recycling has a major impact on reducing greenhouse gasses. **And yet ... clothing is not typically considered a recyclable.** While 2 million tons are recycled each year, there is a long, long way to go!

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Haddam Transfer Station: recycling textiles

By Robin Munster, Economic Development Coordinator, Town of Haddam

We wanted to highlight a program that was started in 2015 at the Haddam Transfer Station. Bay State Textiles has a trailer already at the Transfer Station. They recycle and reuse all sorts of textiles from socks to comforters to stuffed animals. We can recycle everything in the list below! The best part of this program is for every ton we collect, they pay the town \$100! Right now they come and change out the trailer every few months because we aren't filling it. If we use it more, they will change it more frequently. If

you can't make it to the Transfer Station we will have a bin set up at the Haddam Town Office Building.

This will help bring in some money to the town and also reduce what we are sending to land fill and reduce fees. It's a win win! If you have any questions please call the Town Hall.

The following textiles are accepted for recycling (any condition as long as they're clean and dry):

Footwear: shoes, heels, pumps, boots, sandals, work boots, work boots, dress boots, winter boots, sneakers, cleats, slippers, flip flops

Clothing: tops, sweaters, sweatshirts, dresses, tank tops, blazers, pants, jeans, sweatpants, skirts, shorts, slacks, socks, undergarments, t-shirts, slippers, pajamas, coats.

Accessories: hats, pocketbooks, belts, gloves, duffle bags, ties, shoes, scarves, bathrobes

Linens: sheets, blankets, draperies, aprons, dish towels, table linens, comforters, throw rugs, placements

Stuffed Animals

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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.

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Haddam earns Trex Bench through recycling program

By Editorial Staff

On Nov. 13, 2018, we ran an article outlining the plastic recycling program that Haddam signed up for on Nov. 1. If we collected enough bags within 6 months (500 lbs.), the town of Haddam would earn a free Trex bench. On Jan. 15, 2019, we ran an article written by Kristin Battistoni, Haddam Tax Collector, that said a little over 9 weeks after starting the program, we had surpassed the 500 lbs and had collect-

ed over 800 pounds of plastic! And people are still keeping plastic out of our landfills, and dropping it off in donation bins around town (Brainerd Library, Haddam Town Office Building, Town Annex Building, Transfer Station, Higganum Pharmacy, River Valley Provisions, and Haddam Elementary School [for students only]).

According to Kristin Battistoni, the town of Haddam has received notice that Haddam will be

receiving their Trex Bench that they earned through their recycling of plastic! The current total weight is 987.5 lbs. with a few bags waiting to be weighed in.

Keep collecting plastic and dropping it off in the collection bins. If you can bring a bag of collected plastic from the Haddam Town Hall to a participating Big Y or Kohls it would be a big help to the town. If you can help, please contact Kristin at 860-345-8531 x 207.

HADDAM VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE

2018 year in review

By Rene Karas

Haddam Volunteer Ambulance has had a motto from our beginning; "Friends for Life." This is part of our vision. It means we are going to be there for you when you need us.

2018 was a difficult year for HVAS. As is seen in many areas, recruiting volunteers is more difficult than ever, and volunteerism has been on a steady decline for more than twenty years. We at HVAS are always looking for volunteers and hope to help reverse this trend. As Mr. Rogers said, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping." Can you be that someone?

In 2018, one of our two ambulances had to be taken out of service permanently last January. The repairs required to make this unit safe and roadworthy were too costly given the age and condition of the ambulance. HVAS set out to purchase a new ambulance which was delivered to us at the end of December. During 2018, HVAS also encountered some

maintenance issues with our lone in-service unit. In order to continue to provide uninterrupted emergency medical service to our community, HVAS had to borrow ambulances on many occasions from our mutual aid partners.

Haddam Volunteer Ambulance Service would like to thank the following for their continuing support:

East Haddam Ambulance, who loaned us their backup ambulance three times over a four-week period, we cannot thank you enough for your support and couldn't have continued to provide services without your unit. This loan was especially appreciated as it was during the holiday season.

Chester Hose Company for loaning us an ambulance.

The folks at New Image Automotive, Mike's Auto Service and Northeast Diesel for keeping our units running.

The EMTs from Emergency Resource Management who help us staff our ambulances.

The citizens of the Town of Haddam, who with your tax-deductible donations and tax dollars have helped support us in our mission since our inception.

Although 2018 was a difficult year for HVAS, there were also some bright spots. In early 2018, HVAS held a delayed celebration of its 40th anniversary at the Gelston House. Many original members were present and reminisced about the old days of HVAS.

HVAS is privileged to have one founding member left on its active duty roster. Rudolph "Rudy" Durinick celebrated his 40-year anniversary with HVAS and to this day, has one of the highest levels of duty hours and calls responded to in the organization. In a future article, we want to share with you our vision for the future of ambulance service in the Town of Haddam.

In closing, all of you have helped us, and we thank you. You are our Friends for Life.

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Tension and Cluster Headaches versus Migraines

Headaches are a very common patient complaint with their severity ranging from bothersome to disabling, which occur due to a variety of causes: Genetic Predisposition, Sinusitis, Trauma, Metabolic or Vascular Disease, Intracranial Mass

Types of Headaches:

Episodic Tension Headaches are usually associated with a stressful event(s), and most often are moderate in intensity, and are usually responsive to OTC medicine, such as aspirin, acetaminophen, or ibuprofen. The tension headache involves pressure or tingling in the head, bilateral location, meaning both sides of head, and is mild to moderate, and is not aggravated by physical activity. Tension Headache sufferers are usually teenagers; they affect 3 women to every 2 men. The pain onset is usually more gradual than a migraine, and the headache is not throbbing. But people who have frequent tension headaches will usually experience migraines without the aura.

Cluster Headache- These are known as "Histamine Headaches" and they are primarily neurovascular headache disorder, where the cause of which is not well understood, and as their name suggests, they come in groups. (More on this next week.)

Migraines though are complex disorders characterized by recurrent episodes of headaches, mostly occurring on one side of head, and in some cases is associated with visual and sensory symptoms, collectively known as an Aura, which usually will arrive before the head pain. (More on this in 2 weeks)

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Boomer. Photo courtesy of Judith Levin.

Looking for Forever Home: Boomer

By Judith Levin, Vice President, CT Animal House

This little Cutie is a Miniature Poodle/Bichon Frise Mix. A male, white in color, approximately 9 years old. He is small less than 25 pounds. He is neutered, good with dogs, up to date with shots, good with kids, and he is house trained.

Boomer came from a home with a child and a dog so there is a great chance that he would assimilate to your home and full family. A meet and greet, of course, is the way to know. Please submit an application to meet this little boy.

He takes a little time to warm up but only because he is small and been through a stressful change. His foster says he is just full of love to give and very low maintenance.

Boomer has had a senior medical exam and has received a good bill of health. He has a few aches in his hind legs so he will need arthritis medications. He is up to date on his shots, neutered/spayed, and microchipped.

To be considered for adoption you MUST complete an adoption application for CT Animal House so the nice people who take care of me can start the adoption process. Additionally, a check of personal references and veterinarian will be completed. A phone interview and a video home check is also required. For more info you can call our main number: 860-400-0165.

It's a new year, but watch out for the same old utility scams

By Mitch Gross, Eversource

The New Year is in full swing and so are scams targeting utility customers across the country and right here in Connecticut. Already this year, customers in many towns around the state have been approached by scammers, either on the phone or at their door. To warn customers, Eversource and Better Business Bureau Serving Connecticut are teaming up to ensure that people know the telltale signs of scams, so they can avoid becoming a victim.

"The scammers, often sounding legitimate and quite convincing, threaten to shut off electric service immediately unless instant payment is made," said Eversource Senior Vice President and Chief Customer Officer Penni Conner. "These scammers can be relentless but they're only successful if they catch our customers off-guard and scare them into making a payment. We remind customers, if something doesn't sound right or feel right, trust your gut, and don't pay."

With the increase in scams across the country, BBB offers ScamTracker which is a national tracking system that provides up-to-date information on the latest scams. The tool allows consumers to submit scam reports and see what scams are happening right in their backyard. BBB uses ScamTracker to investigate when increased fraudulent activity is reported in a particular area.

"One similarity in many scams, including utility scams, is a sense of urgency. Scammers often convince consumers that payment must be made

immediately and that is always a red flag," says Better Business Bureau Spokesperson for Connecticut Luke Frey. "The more we educate consumers on the basic red flags of a scam, the least likely they are to become victims."

Tips to help avoid becoming a victim:

Eversource representatives never demand instant payment over the phone, require the use of pre-paid debit cards or request customers meet at a payment center to make the payment.

Never provide personal financial or account information to any unsolicited person on the phone, at the door or online, even if they seem legitimate.

Beware, some sophisticated scammers can manipulate their caller ID to say the caller is with Eversource.

Customers who are scheduled for disconnection due to nonpayment receive a written notice that includes information on how to maintain their service.

Customers can verify they are speaking with an Eversource representative by asking for some basic information about their account like the name on the account, the account address, and the exact past due balance.

Eversource urges anyone who has doubts about the legitimacy of a call, visit or an offer, to contact the company directly at 1-800-286-2000. Eversource.com provides more information on how to protect personal information and avoid being a victim of utility scams.

TOWN AND COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, February 7

Planning & Zoning commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive, Haddam

Monday, February 11

Board of Selectmen Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive, Haddam

Wednesday, February 13

Registrar of Voters Office Hours, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Haddam Volunteer Fire Company Station #1, 439 Saybrook Road, Higganum

*Please visit www.haddam.org or www.haddam-killingworthnow.com for the most current and complete information.

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Swan Hill Hike set for February 10

By Kathryn Packtor

Join us for an informational hike led by local UCONN professor Tom Worthley.

Sunday, February 10, 2019 at noon.

Meet in Haddam Elementary School parking lot.

Check the saveHES Facebook page or email saveHES@yahoo.com for updates.

Session will move indoors (place to be determined) in case of inclement weather.

Terrain is steep and may be icy. Hike is not appropriate for very young children.



Photo by Peter Baird.

POLICE NEWS

Resident Trooper makes arrest for failure to appear

Editors Note: Trooper reports reflect arrests, not convictions. Visit this website to learn the outcomes of criminal and motor vehicle arrests. All Trooper press releases are consistent with State and federal guidelines under the Public Information Act.

January 29, 2019

Michael Latronica, 67, of West Shore Drive, Higganum, was taken into custody on an active East Haven arrest warrant. Latronica was charged with Failure to Appear and was held on a \$1000 bond then transferred to Middlesex Superior Court.

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Poultry show

Continued from page H1

"[I'm] very proud of my daughter who has shown in this competition since 2012," said Kim Nedza, Amy's mother. "She raised all of her birds from young chicks. The motto of this show was 'from

chicks to champs.' Also I would like to acknowledge our local feed store, Red Barn Feed, for providing Blue Seal feed for these exceptional birds!"

Amy said about her experience at the Poultry Congress, "I feel since I won the show, people might think that backyard farmers have great poultry too! It was a very big accomplishment of my hard work. This show was a great learning experience for me and probably for many more people."

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Needleman submits bill for utilities accountability

Continued from page H1
taxpayers' lives.

The bill also puts minimum staffing levels in place for these companies' line crews. At the same time that their response times have grown, Eversource has slashed repair staff and equipment numbers, working instead with private contractors from outside of their system. This leaves them flat-footed

in the event of an emergency, delaying their response times and further frustrating their customers.

This is coming at the same time that Eversource, according to the Hartford Courant, is requesting a rate increase from the Public Utilities Regulation Authority. Citing the increased costs of system repairs, that rate increase could represent more than \$20 per year added onto already high energy bills. If Eversource hadn't reduced staff and equipment, and

had responded to weather events more effectively, those repairs might not add up to a reported \$150 million.

Businesses, families and residents all lose when they're left in the dark, not only by a power outage but not knowing when their power will come back. This bill will better provide them with the services their customers deserve.

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Haddam welcomes girls to Scouting, BSA

Continued from page H1

with more than 2 million youth and nearly 1 million volunteers. In 1908, Robert Baden-Powell published "Scouting for Boys" in six parts, describing activities and programs which existing youth organizations could follow. According to the history on weareuni-quescouts.wordpress.com, "The reaction was phenomenal and quite unexpected. In a short time, Scout Patrols were created up and down the country [Britain]." In 1909, the first Scout rally was held in London,

and approximately 11,000 scouts attended, including girls who called themselves "girl scouts." Because of this response, Baden-Powell retired from the Army and in 1910 formed the Boy Scout Association, and one year later, formed the Girl Guides, with his sister Agnes Baden-Powell. Juliette Gordon Low, credited with starting the Girl Scouts of America, participated in a Girl Guide troop in London in 1911, and was friends with Baden-Powell. When she returned to the United States in 1912, she established the first Girl Guide Troop in the United States in Savannah, GA. In 1915, that organization became Girl Scouts of America (in the rest of the world, the organization is still referred to as Girl Guides).

Women being involved in Scouts BSA (formerly, Boy Scouts of America) is not all that new. Since 1969, BSA allowed young women into Explorer posts. Sea Scouts, which was organized to promote a youths' boating skills and knowledge of maritime heritage, has been co-ed since 1972. In 1998, the Explorer posts became "Venturing." Since 1998, BSA has officially accepted women as leaders of boy scout troops (though Catherine Pollard led troop #13 in Milford, CT from 1973-1975), though there have been den mothers in the Cub Scouts since the 1930's.

In other parts of the world, scouting has been co-ed for years. For example, Scouts Canada has been

co-ed since 1993. In the UK, Scouts have been co-ed since 2007. Australia scouts have been co-ed since 1971. In this new "family scouting" format for the United States, girls/young women will have the same advancement requirements as the boys/young men, but will have their own separate unit. One of the reasons Scouts BSA chose to keep the genders separate, they said, "was to ensure that both boys and girls can reach leadership positions within the troops, since many boy Scouts will have had a head start." In Haddam, the troops will work side by side for activities, though there will be separate leaders, and separate campsites while camping at the same time.

The foundation of Scouts, BSA is the oath, law and mission below:

The Scout, BSA oath: On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty, to God and my country and to obey the Scout law; to help other people at all times. To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

The Scout, BSA law: A scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

The Scout, BSA Mission: The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

On Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019, if you are between the ages of 11-18, live in Haddam or any of the surrounding towns, looking to learn about leadership and the outdoors, please join us at the First Congregational Church of Haddam from 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. to see what it's all about.

For more information, please contact Kathy Brown at kjbrown92@aol.com.

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