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January 2, 2020

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Free weekly

Football Coach Baklik steps down after six years at helm

By Barth Keck, Assistant Coach, HKHS Football

Haddam-Killingworth head football coach Mike Baklik is stepping down after six years at the helm.

“It’s been a wonderful run,” said Baklik, who was named Pequot Conference Coach of the Year in 2017. “I’ve been blessed with strong support from the school, a first-rate staff, and just some great kids. I’m going to miss it.”

Baklik said his decision is based on the need to spend more time with his family, noting he and his wife Courtney are expecting their second child this spring.

“I won’t be totally absent from the team,” said the coach, who is a physical education and



Photo by Chad Giuliani.

health teacher at the school. “I will help out behind the scenes in any way I can. I just can’t devote the time required to be a head coach.”

Baklik is only the second head football coach in school history, taking over in 2014 for HK icon Dennis O’Rourke, who started the program in 1977. Baklik, an HK alum, played football for O’Rourke and worked as an assistant on his staff for six years before O’Rourke retired. Baklik played his college football at Endicott.

In his six years as head coach, Baklik compiled a 32-32 record and led the team to its second-ever appearance in a state championship final last year where it lost the Class S game to Bloomfield. HK’s 11-2 record in 2018 was the best in program history.

Among other notable program achievements

Continued on page H3

Basketball opens with victories over Portland and Westbrook

By Ann Deibert, Asst. Coach, HKHS Girls Basketball

The Haddam Killingworth High School Girls Basketball program opened their 2019-2020 season on the road with two wins against Portland (Dec. 18, 2019) and Westbrook (Dec. 20, 2019).

Senior captains, Anna Biondi and Belle Carini, totaled 47 of the 89 team points in the two contests. Anna Biondi is averaging 13.5 ppg and 5 steals per game, and 2 assists per game. Belle Carini is averaging 10 ppg and 5 rebounds per game.

Freshman forward, Kaleigh Bodak, had two double-double evenings. Against Portland, she scored 11 points



Photo by Samantha Carini.

and grabbed 11 rebounds. Against Westbrook, she scored 10 points and grabbed 13 boards to finish a great Shoreline Conference debut week.

HK will look to Tessa Wills (Jr), Leah Sosnowski (Soph), and Ella McGlynn (Jr) for major minutes throughout the season.

Sophomore guard, Carly Retterg, added 11 points for the Cougars against Portland and another four points against Westbrook.

Coach Scott Medeiros returns for his sixth season at the helm of the Cougar Basketball program, and HKGBB is 2-0 going into the holiday break.

Their first home games will be Thursday, January 2, 2020 against Morgan and Saturday, January 4, 2020 against East Hampton.

Against Portland (12/18):

Anna Biondi 4 1 2 13, Belle Carini 4 0 3 11, Kaleigh Bodak 3 0 5 11, Carly Rettberg 1 1 3 8, Tessa Wills 0 1 0 3, Leah Sosnowski 1 0 0 2, Peyton Yazmer 1 0 0 2, Audra Yazmer 0 0 0

Final Score: HK 50 / Portland 29

Against Westbrook (12/20):

Anna Biondi 4 2 0 14, Kaleigh Bodak 3 0 4 10, Belle Carini 4 0 1 9, Leah Sosnowski 3 0 0 6, Tessa Wills 2 0 0 4, Carly Rettberg 0 1 1 4, Peyton Yazmer 1 0 0 2, Haley Phelps 0 0 0, Kelsey Lonergan 0 0 0, Jordan O’Linn 0 0 0, Julia Favalora 0 0 0, Audra Yazmer 0 0 0

Final Score: HK 49 / Westbrook 25

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Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation donates to Volunteers in Psychotherapy

By Howie Field, NBFMF

This year, the Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation, Inc. doubled its annual donation to a very special nonprofit organization, Volunteers In Psychotherapy. An alternative to insurance-covered psychotherapy and public clinics, VIP preserves people's privacy to the maximum extent Connecticut law allows. Clients "pay for" their therapy by doing independent volunteer work for a charity, nonprofit or government program. Importantly, VIP allows clients to stay in psychotherapy through VIP for as long as they find it helpful. We are fortunate to celebrate VIP's 20th year anniversary, as we also remember and honor Nathan on his 21st birthday.

Over the past 20 years, VIP has provided over 7,700 free therapy sessions with licensed clinicians in exchange for 31,000 hours of community volunteer work. With a 40% increase in requested services over the past year, the Foundation's donation will help



Left to right: Christiana Field, Dr. Richard Shulman. Photo by Marie Field.

ensure that those seeking free and private therapy can have access to the help they need. For more information, please contact Dr. Richard Shulman, Director and licensed psychologist at VIP at 860-233-5115, or visit the VIP website at www.CTVIP.org.

For more information on the Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation, Inc., please visit our website at www.nathanielfield.org, our Facebook page, or email us at NBFMF@comcast.net. Our mission is to prevent suicide through public awareness and education, to reduce the stigma of mental illness, and to provide hope and support.

Killingworth Library features new hours for a new year

By Laurie Prichard, Director, Killingworth Library

We are listening to what you told us about your community library.

While the results of our community survey are still being tabulated as this is being written, one message is coming across loud and clear – the Killingworth Library needs to adjust its hours to better serve the needs of the community. We know many patrons would like to visit the library on their way home from work. The new schedule means that the library will be open until at least 6 PM every weekday, and will continue to have its extended evening hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Staff and volunteers have worked together to devise a schedule that allows us to open one hour earlier on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, as well as closing later on those days. This scheduling change will be made at no additional staff expense – all paid staff have adjusted their hours to make this happen.

Effective January 2, 2020, the library's hours are as follows:

Monday:	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Tuesday:	10:00 am – 8:00 pm
Wednesday:	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Thursday:	10:00 am – 8:00 pm
Friday:	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday:	9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Sunday:	Closed

CONTINUED FROM H1

Football coach

Continued from page H1

during the 2018 season was the team's Sassacus Division championship in the Pequot Conference and a school record 4,061 team rushing yards.

Baklik coached some of the most prolific performers in HK football history, including Dalton Modehn, who rushed for a school-record 2,891 yards in his career, including this year's 404-yard effort against Coventry/Windham RVT/Bolton/Lyman Memorial in which he scored seven touchdowns.

In addition, Alex Segaline broke school records for single-game passing (329 yards in 2015), single-season passing (1,844 yards in 2015), and career passing (3,135 yards, 2014-16).

Under Baklik's leadership, five Cougar football players have been named to the all-state team.

"I could not have asked for a better situation when I took the job," said Baklik. "The support from both the school and the community – in particular from our Touchdown Club – has been nothing short of outstanding."

Fall Weekly Specials

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Meigs Point Nature Center – Upcoming Events for January 2020

By Janet Colandrea, MPNC Volunteer

Seals in Connecticut with Mystic Aquarium at Meigs Point Nature Center – Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Join us for this informational talk about the variety of seals in Connecticut, both wintering seals and our increasing year round population. Learn where you might view them, and what you should do if you come across them on the beach. Snow date is Sunday, January 12, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. This is family friendly, registration is required, please send your name and number of requested tickets (max 4) with your name and cell number to programs@meigspointnaturecenter.org. Visit www.meigspointnaturecenter.org for more information.

Bobcats in Connecticut at Meigs Point Nature Center – Saturday, January 18, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Richard L Taylor, Jr, Master Wildlife Conservationist, will present a program on Bobcats that includes a description, location of sightings, habitat, breeding, diet, tracks, furbearers, the Bobcat Research Project, living with Bobcats and challenges. This is family friendly, registration is required, please send your



Meigs Point Nature Center.

name and number of requested tickets (max 4) with your name and cell number to programs@meigspointnaturecenter.org. Visit www.meigspointnaturecenter.org for more information.

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Gout

Gout is one of the oldest diseases known to man, and thought of as a Rich Man's disease, suggesting some demographic and dietary predilections to the disease. Gout if untreated can cause serious joint, and kidney disease. The incidence of gout is increasing steadily and is now the most common inflammatory joint disease seen in adults.

Identification and treatment of gout is important because preventing the formation of urate acid crystals in the kidneys will reduce kidney stones, kidney pain, and disease progression.

There are medications that can increase Uric Acid levels in the blood, and thus trigger gout attack and these include Hydrochlorothiazide, Aspirin, Niacin, Cyclosporine and Levodopa. Black Americans and Maori and Polynesian woman have a greater likelihood of developing gout, due to the decreased length of their kidney tubules. As a general rule, males have a greater likelihood of developing gout.

Interestingly, Gouty attacks are not just related to blood uric acid levels, so increased uric acid levels do not prove diagnosis of gout, and gout can occur with normal uric acid levels, and that is why dietary modifications are insufficient to lower uric acid levels, but diet is important to lessen the trigger of acute gout attack.

Please always consult with your doctor to diagnose the gout condition, and guide you in the proper treatment.

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Premises Liability
Slip and Fall and Trip and Fall Cases
By Attorney AnnMarie Cienava Rocco

Premises liability cases are notoriously difficult. That doesn't mean they should not be pursued if the injuries are serious, and liability can be proved. "Slip and fall" cases or "trip and fall" cases can result in a spectrum of serious injuries from broken bones, to ligament injuries, to spinal cord injuries, to brain injuries.

The test in a premises liability case is whether the property is reasonably safe for its intended use. The injured party must prove the existence of a dangerous condition; that the owner knew or should have known of its existence; and, that the dangerous condition existed for such a period of time that the owner should have discovered it in time to remedy it.

There are defenses in premises liability cases like the "ongoing storm doctrine" whose applicability is dependent on the facts of the case. Furthermore, persons who are invited to the premises, known as "social invitees" and "business invitees" are afforded a higher degree of protection than trespassers.

If you are seriously injured due to a property owner's failure to reasonably maintain his or her property, you may have questions regarding your right to recover for your injuries and damages.

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Winter 2020 programs and activities, part 3

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

For more information on any of these programs, 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, January 7 – May 19 (No 2/13, 2/20) from 7:00 – 8:15 p.m. at the HKHS cafeteria. 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 \$216 for a 36 coupon book, \$126 for an 18 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.

Indoor Pickleball

Indoor Pickleball is back by popular demand. Indoor Pickleball is a racquet sport that combines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis. The game (most similar to tennis) has 4 players on a court 1/3 the size of a tennis court. Solid paddles made of composite materials that are used to hit a perforated polymer ball, similar to a whiffle ball, over a net. Have fun playing while exercising your mind & body. Equipment provided or bring your own paddle. Session 1 will meet on Wednesdays January 8 – February 19 and Session 2 will meet March 18 – May 6 from 6:15 – 8:15 p.m. at the Killingworth

Elementary School All Purpose Room. There will also be a session on Tuesdays for (18+) January 7 – February 18 from 6:30 -8:30 p.m. at the HK High School Auxiliary gym. The fee is \$35 and non-residents can register for an additional \$5.

“COME PLAY IN THE MUD” Pottery

In this adult level introduction to pottery class, learn simple hand building techniques, allowing you to express yourself by making a wide variety of pottery forms. The first 4 classes will focus on construction techniques and creation of forms. On week 5, you will be glazing your work, and week 6 will bring us a critique of your finished projects and celebration.

The program will meet on Tuesdays, January 7 – February 11 from 5:30 – 8:30 at the Haddam-Killingworth High School Room B-114. There will be a second session March 3 – April 14 (No 4/7). The fee is \$165 each session (non-residents add \$10).

Creative Writing

Learn the craft of writing books for children. Editors are looking to bring to their publishing house the next new talent. Write the stories that interest them by writing about what interests YOU. Learn how to find those editors, what to send them, and how to present your work. It's a misconception that you need to be an artist to write children's books – if you are not, the publisher hires one for your story. Topics include: Formats, brainstorming, writing and illustration do's & don'ts, what publishers look for, finding publishers, submitting work, contracts, working with editors, agents, and more. The program will meet Tuesdays, January 14 – February 18 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Haddam-Killingworth High School Lower Media.

The fee is \$200. Non-residents please add \$10.

Aqua Aerobics

Aqua Aerobics at the HKHS Pool 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 including kickboxing, water walking, strength training, & more. Noodles, kickboards, and hand buoys are used for a total body workout.

A Mini-Class will be held January 13, 15 and 22 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. All three classes will be \$21, \$16 for two or \$10 drop in. Session I will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from February 10 – March 23 (No 2/17). There will be a second session from April 13 – May 20. The fee is \$72/\$60 with a new pool membership and Sr. Citizens each session. Register once a week for \$42/\$36. Drop-in for \$10 each class.

After School Child Care Programs

The HK Recreation Department's State Licensed After School Programs are available on a full-time or part-time basis, including minimum days of school at Burr and Killingworth Elementary Schools. We are very accommodating and we even have sibling discounts. Recreation Scholarships are available for those who qualify.

The benefits your child may experience by joining the After School program are:

- Exercise
- Homework Club
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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

TO THE EDITOR

Thank you to those who donated at St. Peter's Red Cross blood drive

Thank you to all who donated during the Red Cross blood drive at St. Peter Church Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2019. Despite freezing rain throughout the day, donors persevered and 32 productive units of blood were collected, exceeding the Red Cross goal of 28 units. The Red Cross reports that each unit can help

up to three persons, which means that as many as 96 people may benefit.

The response is a testament to the generosity and kind-heartedness of Haddam and Killingworth residents. Even with the busy schedule of the holiday season and the foul weather conditions, people

donated, which is a great example of support for the welfare of others.

The next blood drive at St Peter's is scheduled for April 7, 2020. Merry Christmas and thank you again!

Peter Sonski
Blood drive coordinator



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A short history of the First Congregational Church of Haddam

By Alessio Gallarotti

The First Congregational Church of Haddam, now at 905 Saybrook Road in Haddam, was officially founded, or congregated, during the year 1700. According to a quote from Reverend Fiske, the second pastor in the pastorate, fourteen men officially congregated on November 14, 1700 before the first pastor Jeremiah Hobart. Many claimed over the years that the church should have been dated to 1696 when official baptism records were found which cited the church at Haddam, though since no official pastor was at the time, the date remains 1700.

The People of Haddam are said to have come down from Hartford around 1662. The first meeting place for the congregation is said to have been built little more than a decade later near "Little Meadow." After the incorporation of Haddam in 1668, there were two potential pastors before Hobart eventually received the title. The first, Jonathon Willoughby, son of the Deputy Governor of Massachusetts was well received by the people, who also began to build him a home. Though he poorly handled his finances and left shortly after. The other, Nicholas Noyes, was better received.

A Harvard graduate in 1667, he two years after moved to Haddam and was that year offered the official title of pastor of the church which he refused. He preached, albeit without official title, in Haddam for 13 years when he declined another offer from the town of Haddama relocated to Salem, Massachusetts (where he would unfortunately become one of the most infamous persecutors of witches during the Salem Witch Trials). Another, Mr, John James, was asked to fill the void left by Noyes. He stayed one year and left in 1691. It was at this



A 1902 illustration of the First Congregational Church by Margaret Hardon Wright.

point the church began to coalesce and 9 years later Jeremiah Hobart was officially named the first pastor of the Church of Haddam.

The successors to Hobart were as follows. Phineas

Fiske, Aaron Cleveland, Joshua Elderkin, respectively. Phineas Fiske was officially named Pastor on January 26, 1714 and with great enthusiasm from the people. He died at age 46. His only child, a Yale graduate, was the tenth deacon of the church. During the first quarter century, the church of Haddam grew in prosperity with the establishment of a second meeting house quoted to have been near an "old cemetery." This house had twice the seating capacity of the old and with new comfortable seats attracted more people than ever. Mr. Fiske was a pioneer of the early church of Haddam, skilled in medicine as well as theology, he is credited with growing the church rapidly.

Aaron Cleveland was pastor from 1739-1746 when he resigned due to poor finances "caused by the influence of the war upon the currency." He was asked to resume duties eight years later and declined. Joshua Elderkin served only four years due to poor health. At this point, or after these two pastors, the modern church was born with the entry of Pastor May. On June 30, 1756, an official account reading 100 names of members of the church was written. The history of the church from this date onwards sees official and highly detailed records. Mr. Mays appointment therefore marks the ending of the founding of our church of Haddam.

Reference: The Two Hundredth Anniversary of the First Congregational Church of Haddam (1902). The De Vinne Press; Haddam.

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Getting to know your library: a talk with the children's librarian

By Meghan Peterson, Ph.D.

Located at 920 Saybrook Road (Rt. 154) in Haddam, the Brainerd Memorial Library provides a variety of adult, adolescent, family, and children's literary resources, educational programming, and cultural arts events. As such, it serves as a dynamic hub for people to learn, gather and experience community together. We recently contacted Marissa Lehmacher, Head of Youth Services/Children's Librarian at Brainerd Memorial Library here in Haddam, to speak more about the role BML plays in the lives of Haddam (as well as surrounding area) residents and library patrons.

How did you come to call Haddam Brainerd Memorial Library your home?

Lehmacher: I started at the Brainerd Library as the Young Adult Assistant while I was finishing my MLS and transitioning out of the social work field. Shortly after joining the team at Brainerd, I gave birth to my first son which rekindled my love for children's literature. As I spent more time in the Children's Department, I knew this was the ultimate direction my career would take. I was fortunate to become the Co-Coordinator of Youth Services with Patricia Coleman, an experienced retired school librarian. She taught me many critical aspects of the job, including the importance of readers' advisory and how to create a successful story-time program. In October of 2017,

when Pat retired from public library service, I was offered the position of Children's Librarian & Head of Youth Services which I happily accepted. I feel honored to be able to serve the community in this capacity.

What is your background? Please provide a bit of biographical as well as professional information.

Lehmacher: I grew up in Killingworth and attended Providence College where I received bachelor's degrees in Psychology and Women's Studies. After moving back to CT and working in the field of social work for ten years, I decided to make a career change. I wanted something that made me happier, and I had always admired the work of librarians. I loved that libraries have always served as great democratic institutions, providing access for all, protecting intellectual freedom, promoting literacy, and building community engagement. I obtained my MLS in 2014 and look forward to continuing education opportunities in the field.

How do you see your role not only at the library but in the community?

Lehmacher: I primarily see myself as a facilitator. Not only do I connect people to information and ideas, but I also help connect people to people. In designing and implementing children's programs and partnering with local community organizations, I've watched many new relationships develop between com-

munity members. From new parents and grandparents meeting each other during our story and music programs to homeschooling groups getting together in the afternoons to children finding new friends at our Lego Club, it's been a joy to see people come together and enrich each other's lives.

What are some of your favorite aspects of your job?

Lehmacher: No two days are the same in the Children's Department, and I love the energy and opportunity that flows from that. I'm constantly meeting new patrons and introducing them to the materials and services we offer here, many of whom don't realize that all of our programs are free. Watching our young patrons discover a love of reading and connecting them with the right resources is particularly satisfying. It's fun to see them evolve as readers and chat about their favorite series. I love that I'm continually learning alongside our patrons. Lastly, developing our collection and selecting new materials that are of interest and value to our patrons has been a fulfilling part of my position.

What are some goals/objectives/vision(s) you have for the library children's department?

Lehmacher: I would love to see the Chil-

dren's Department continue to grow as a vibrant hub for our community. Increasing and diversifying our programming, staying abreast of the latest trends, and continuing to provide a welcoming and fun environment for children and their families are top priorities for me. I look forward to our upcoming renovation where patrons will have easy access to the Department with a new entrance and additional parking. Eventually, we will be re-configuring the interior of the Department to better accommodate our patrons by lowering the shelving units and shifting the layout to maximize space for programming, new materials, studying, crafting, and playing.

Any other thoughts to share with residents, patrons?

Lehmacher: We value input from our patrons regarding how we can continue to improve the Children's Department to meet the needs our community. If you have any suggestions for us, we hope that you will share them so that we can create the best possible experience for you. Don't be shy in our Department! We love laughter, activity, and seeing kids having a great time. Bring your snacks, nurse your babies, make some noise, and make yourself feel at home. This is your library!

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EDUCATION

HKMS: Cougar Celebrations December 2019

By Dolores Bates, HKMS Principal

We recognize students and their achievements at our monthly Town Meetings and want to share these celebrations with you too.

Our Cougar Core Value Awards are given to students who exemplify one or more of our Cougar Core Values: Respect, Responsibility, Acceptance, Kindness, and Perseverance. These Core Values were developed and accepted by HKMS students, parents, faculty, and staff in 2016, and we recognize students each month. We appreciate these students' commitment to upholding our core values and being role models at HKMS.

The following students were recognized on Dec. 20, 2019, for exhibiting Cougar Core Values during the month of December:

Anthony Basile: Perseverance

Julia Battista: Respect, Responsibility, Kindness

Madalynn Catalano: Perseverance

Bethany Chrystal: Perseverance, Respect, Kindness

Dylan Churyk: Responsibility, Respect, Perseverance

Ella Commerford: Responsibility, Perseverance

Ella Connelly: Kindness, Responsibility, Perseverance

Jamison Conte: Kindness, Respect

Morgan Cook: Kindness, Respect, Responsibility

Jack Cozean: Responsibility, Respect

John Paul Dowling: Respect

Jordan Duncanson: Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance

Samuel Evans: Perseverance, Responsibility

Chloe Felder: Respect

Sadie Harlow: Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance

Lauren Heath: Acceptance, Kindness, Perseverance

Ally Iacobellis: Perseverance, Responsibility

Eduardo Karkutt-Kulak: Perseverance, Respect, Kindness

Lucas Lawlor: Respect, Responsibility, Kindness

William Lirot: Responsibility, Respect

Jacob McGoey: Perseverance, Responsibility

Nola Minickene: Responsibility, Acceptance

Grace Mitchell: Responsibility, Respect

Declan Moriarty: Acceptance, Kindness, Perseverance

Victoria Munster: Perseverance, Kindness, Responsibility

Michael Sage: Respect, Responsibility

Catharine Therrien: Responsibility, Perseverance

Joseph Wessinger-Neumann: Respect, Responsibility

LEGAL NOTICES

HADDAM LEGAL NOTICE

Legal Notice is hereby given to the Taxpayers of the Town of Haddam. The second installment for Personal Property, Real Estate and the total Supplemental Motor Vehicle bills on the October 1, 2018 Grand List becomes due and payable on January 1, 2020 with a grace period to February 3, 2020. After the grace period, if still unpaid, the bill becomes delinquent and is subject to interest from the original due date at a rate of 1.5% of such tax each month. A minimum interest charge of two dollars would apply to all delinquent taxes. Payments may be made to the order of TOWN OF HADDAM and sent to TOWN OFFICE BLDG., TAX OFFICE, 30 FIELD PARK DR., HADDAM CT 06438-1196 or use the preprinted envelope supplied with the first installment. If receipt is desired, please include a stamped self-addressed envelope and a phone number and mail to the Tax Office. Payments may also be made in person at the Haddam Tax Office room 202 or on our website Haddam.org. Office hours: Mon. through Wed. 8:30AM to 4PM; Thurs. 8:30AM to 6:00PM; Fri. 8:30AM to Noon. Call 860-345-8531 x 207 with questions.

Haddam Tax Collector Kristin Battistoni, CCMC

The Town of Haddam shall endeavor to post its Legal Notices with the Haddam News publication. In the event that the weekly publication cannot meet the Town's statutory requirements, the Middletown Press or Hartford Courant shall be utilized to meet said statutory deadlines. Courtesy copies will be published to Haddam News that may or may not be timely. The Town's website is: www.haddam.org.

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13th Annual Bridal Showcase At the Riverhouse January 12, 2020 from 11:00am - 3:00pm



The Riverhouse at Goodspeed Station is proud to announce our **13th Annual Bridal Showcase on January 12, 2020.**

The show will be open to the public from 11-3PM. Tickets will be available at the door for \$5.00 per guest. All Riverhouse, Society Room of Hartford & Riverhouse Catering couples will receive 2 complimentary tickets to use at our facilities.

Riverhouse Hospitality invites you to join our Photographers, Disc Jockeys, Hair Stylists, Florists, Limousines, Ice Carvers and Jewelers in assisting New England couples in creating the wedding of their dreams! Watch us transform our glorious ballroom into a spectacular display of wedding goods and services.

We look forward to creating a one of a kind bridal extravaganza. Please feel free to call with any questions.

860-345-4100 or email Kelley, krisatti@theriverhouse.com

KILLINGWORTH LIBRARY

Getting to know your library: a talk with the children's librarian

By Meghan Peterson, Ph.D.

Located at 301 Route 81 in Killingworth, the Killingworth Library provides a variety of adult, adolescent, family, and children's literary resources, educational programming, and cultural arts events. As such, it serves as a dynamic hub for people to learn, gather and experience community together. We recently contacted Gayle Byrne,

children's librarian here in Killingworth, to speak more about the role the Killingworth Library plays in the lives of Killingworth (as well as surrounding area) residents and library patrons.

How did you come to call Killingworth Library your home?

Byrne: Years ago as teenagers, my husband John and I would come to Chatfield Hollow to spend the day 'out in the country'. We knew Killingworth was where we wanted to raise a family. That was 40 years, 3 children and two careers ago! Being the Children's Librarian in our hometown library was/is the perfect vantage point for me both professionally and personally.

What is your background? Please

provide a bit of biographical as well as professional information.

Byrne: Trained initially as a High School English teacher a left-hand turn steered me to District #17 teaching Child Development at HK high school for twelve years. Another left-hand turn brought me to the Killingworth Library when it was looking to hire its first Children's Librarian to help create a children's program. That was twenty years ago.

How do you see your role not only at the library but in the community?

Byrne: A Children's Librarian is so much more than just a person who puts a book in someone's hand. My most important 'role' is to connect – of course with the children but also with their families, their schools, local businesses and organizations - with anything really that touches the lives of the children in our community.

What are some of your favorite aspects of your job?

Byrne: Definitely interacting with my young families! Whether it's searching out resources for an issue a child is having at school or helping find just the right book for that child who 'hates reading' (OMG – I cringe every time I hear that!) I feel privileged be-

ing even a small part of their lives for that moment. Swaying and cuddling with a cranky baby in my arms while a young mother commiserates with another parent about sleepless nights is one of the highlights of the job for me!

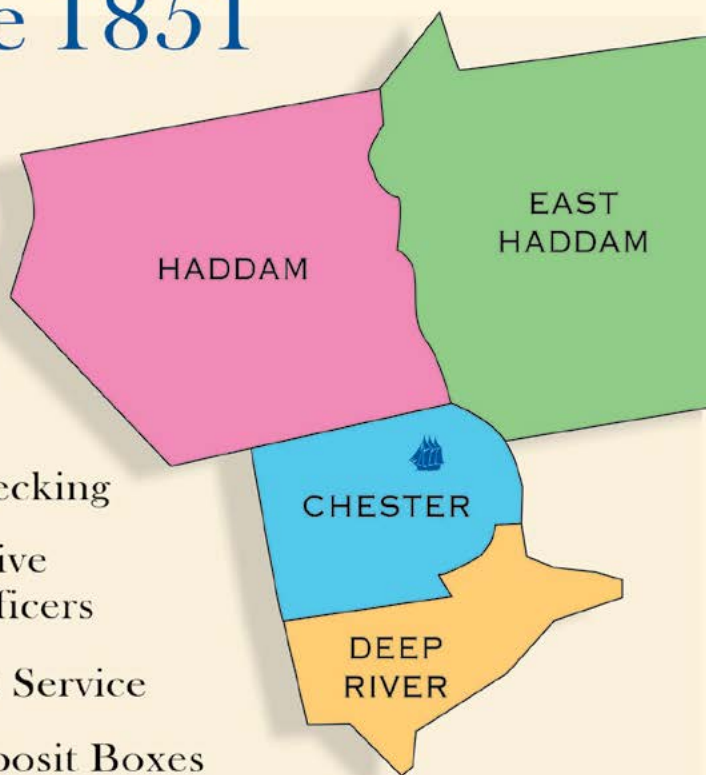
What are some goals/objectives/vision(s) you have for the library children's department?

Byrne: Since day one I have always believed in listening to our patrons - in my case as Children's Librarian, keeping a good eye and ear on the young families in our community. I try to figure out what they want, what they need and I try to give it to them! We can't be successful if we can't get them to come through our doors. I've found that's the best way to keep our Children's Room exciting and current and most of all – used!

Any other thoughts to share with residents, patrons?

Byrne: As the Children's Librarian I'm always looking to reach out and stretch Children's Services into new and innovative areas. The challenge is to keep and adapt what's worked but always be open to explore things that are different. I'd love for people to realize the Killingworth Library is alive and well. And the Children's Room is where it's happening!

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God said, "I Have Set Before You Life and Death" WHICH WILL YOU CHOOSE?

If today were the very last day on earth, if the sky fell on us all, where would you spend eternity?

"Now you shall say to this people, 'Thus says the Lord: "Behold, I set before you the way of life and the way of death" (Jeremiah 21:8). "...I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live" (Deuteronomy 30:19).

"Don't you realize that you become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God, which leads to righteousness" (Romans 6:16). "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23). "For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace, ⁷ for the carnal mind is hostile toward God, for it is not subject to the

law of God, nor indeed can it be, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you." (Romans 8:5-9).

"...Now if any man does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him... ¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit that lives in you. ¹² Therefore, brothers, we are debtors not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if through the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God" (Romans 8:9-14). Christ died for us to save us from our sins! "Repent and believe the gospel" (Mark 1:15).

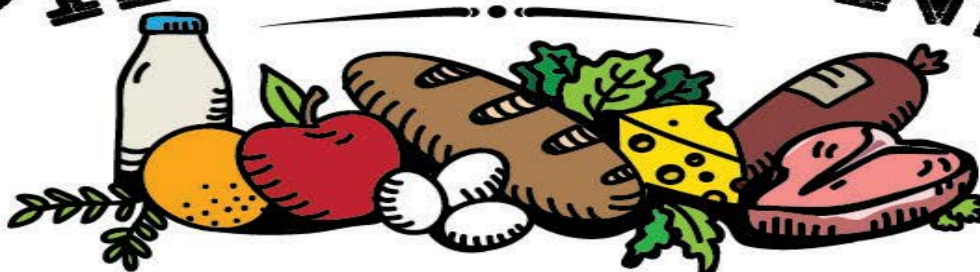


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