Haddam News

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AN INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER COVERING HADDAM, HIGGANUM AND HADDAM NECK

March 21, 2019

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HKMS Robotics Teams Win Awards at State Competition



n Saturday, March 9, 2019, the Haddam Killingworth Middle School Robotics Club, under the leadership of teacher Carolyn LaRosa, competed in the VEX IQ statewide competition. Seven teams from HKMS competed in a field of 54 teams which took place in Plainville. A special con-

gratulations to Aidan Spong, David Sargent, Eli Carone, and Alex Battistoni who won the Create Award and received third place in the Teamwork Challenge.

For more information about the competition, see https://www.roboticseducation.org/competition-teams/vex-iq-challenge/.

Controversy persists over HES

By Austin Mirmina

As a third-grader at Haddam Elementary School, Melissa Garibay remembers hanging out under a massive oak tree near the playground.

"The symbol of the school used to be the oak tree," Garibay said. "I actually still have tee shirts with [the tree] on it."

Although the oak tree was removed, HES still stood as a staple of the community. But that will soon change after a decision by the Regional School District 17 Board of Education to close HES at the to save the school. Packtor insisted the goal is not to undo any of the board's previous work, but instead to cooperate with the board to make collective, informed decisions.

"We want to make sure the decisions we are making are sustainable for the entire community," Packtor said.

At the most recent BOE meeting on March 11, 2019 the Board agreed to vote on a motion to donate the HES building to the town of Haddam. Before the Board can vote on the motion, a referendum must first be completed gauging the town's interest in accepting the property. Haddam Selectwoman Melissa Schlag said currently no decisions have been made yet about the referendum, adding that the BOE and town attorneys need to work out details before proceeding. "This is a process we can't rush," Schlag said. "There's no reason to move at lightning speed. Residents deserve to be able to ask questions, weigh in on the issues, give us their ideas, and get answers." BOE Chairperson Joanne Nesti reiterated that donating HES would mean keeping the school closed but allowing the town to decide the future use of the building. The Board also began the process to donate the 100+ acre Swan Hill property located behind HES, a move that Nesti called "an easy decision."

Education board votes to initiate transfer of HES property to Haddam

Submitted by Edward Munster

At a Special RSD #17 BOE meeting on March 11, 2019 to which BOS, BOF and P&Z from both towns were invited, the BOE took dramatic unanimous votes affecting the HES property.

The first motion by Killingworth BOE member Kathy Zandi and seconded by Killingworth member Joel D'Angelo was to donate the Swan Hill property of approximately 170+ acres to the Town of Haddam to be held in perpetuity for conservation purposes. This property has hiking trails with scenic views and has been used nature educational purposes for at least 50 years. The voters of the town will be asked to vote on a referendum item to accept the property which could then be turned over to the care of the Haddam Land Trust. The details of the exact boundaries and the access to the property as well as the legal aspects of the transfer will be worked out by the attorneys from the BOE and The Town of Haddam. The motion passed unanimously.

The second resolution made and seconded by the same two BOE members was to offer the remaining 10 acres of property together with the HES school to the Town of Haddam for a nominal price. The details of the offer would need to be discussed and agreed by the attorneys for the BOE and the Town of Haddam. This motion also passed unanimously.

First Selectman Lizz Milardo pointed out that in both cases the acceptance of these properties would have to be brought to a vote of Haddam citizens at a referendum. Milardo said that rather than have these items voted on in a separate referendum which would cost the town extra money her goal was to have these questions on the ballot on the same day as the Regional District Budget Referendum on May 7, 2019.

Selectman Melissa Schlag commented that she thought it important to hold off on the vote by referendum on these items for six months to give Haddam citizens time to be educated on the issues involved. BOE members were concerned that this happen more quickly because they have an offer from a developer to purchase the property and if Haddam voters should vote down the opportunity to purchase the HES property that the BOE did not want to lose the opportunity to sell the property to the developer. As background for understanding the rationale for this action there was discussion of a Resolution made by the Board of Education in September 1972 that the towns of Killingworth and Haddam be given first refusal by the Regional School District #17 BOE, on any property previously transferred to the district by the respective Towns, which is to be disposed of by the District. In effect this 1972 Resolution was speaking of the Haddam Elementary School property and the Killingworth Elementary School property which were transferred by the two towns to RSD #17 in that year.

end of the 2018-2019 school year. Now hundreds of Haddam-Killingworth residents like Garibay have come out in support of HES in an attempt to get the board to reverse its decision. Yet many other residents support the closing, creating division – and controversy – within the community.

The BOE voted back in March of 2018 to restructure the district, including closing HES at the end of the current academic year, changing KES and BES to schools housing grades K-3, and creating an Intermediate School at the Haddam Killingworth Middle School, citing recent population studies that showed a continued trend of declining enrollment. Some residents disagreed with the decision nonetheless and have since attended monthly BOE meetings in large numbers to voice their support.

Katie Packtor is a member of "Friends of HES", a group of Haddam residents spearheading the effort

Nesti voted against a motion back in February that would have paused the closure of HES for one *Continued on page H2*

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OBITUARIES

Bernard Matthew "Bernie" Harrison

According to Legacy.com and The New Haven Register, Bernard Matthew "Bernie" Harrison, age 89, passed away on Wednesday, February 27, 2019.

Richard MacLennan

According to the Hartford Courant and Legacy. com, Richard MacLennan passed away unexpectedly on January 27, 2019. He was born in 1944, and was active in Haddam. He was a past president of the Haddam Historical Society and was instrumental is setting up the CT Spring Antiques Show which has evolved into a great success.

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Controversy persists over HES

Continued from page H1

year, saying her decision stemmed from population data showing declining student enrollment.

Low student enrollment has become a statewide trend, forcing BOE members to restructure their respective districts by closing schools. Durham Elementary School closed in July 2014, and last November the Hamden BOE approved a controversial plan to close two elementary schools.

Enrollment statistics published in the preliminary 2019-2020 RSD 17 budget show a drop from 2,549 students in 2008 to 2,029 students in 2018 – a decline of about 20%.

"We understand people don't like hearing those numbers," Nesti said. "But they're very real."

Supporters of closing HES have consistently referred to this downward trend in their argument for restructuring. Haddam resident Aydin Caginalp said the BOE made a logical decision given the enrollment data.

"It is untenable to maintain five buildings, which were built for 2,500 students when the enrollment numbers have dwindled to approximately 2,000 students," Caginalp said. "It's obvious that one of these buildings is unnecessary to better serve the community on an economical basis."

The BOE has mostly been firm with its decision to close HES. But discussions at meetings have gained intensity over the last month, with some members – like Gerry Matthews – reconsidering their stance on closing the school so soon.

"I would prefer to see unity and a peaceful atmosphere ... even if it's not 100% rational," Matthews said. "I felt compelled to throw an olive branch to the crowd to let them know that someone cares."

Matthews' about-face has given hope to residents and town leaders who believe that closing HES would wreck Higganum center, which is a section of Haddam.

"Losing HES could create a huge social and economic hole in the middle of Higganum," Schlag said. "It could adversely affect businesses and the social fabric a community school brings to the center of a small town."

Ming Chou, who owns the Higganum Village Market less than a half-mile from HES, has said he will shut up shop if HES closes, adding to the list of businesses that have since departed. But Schlag believes the town and its people will rebound.

"Higganum is tough," Schlag said. "It will weather this storm as it has others."

As Haddam-Killingworth gains further clarity about the school's status in the coming months, some residents are taking an optimistic approach. Maurice Adams, who supports closing a school, echoed the thoughts of "Friends of HES" member Katie Packtor, saying the school has the power to unify no matter the outcome.

"If [Haddam residents] stay together, and work together, we have a much better chance of finding and/or creating an exciting and productive use for the HES facilities," Adams said.

Unless the BOE suddenly decides to change its opinion, HES is scheduled to close for good at the end of the school year. It creates an unfortunate situation for the adults and children who share fond memories of a town landmark.

"It's part of our town, part of our history," Garibay said. "Getting rid of it would be a very sad day."

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March 21, 2019

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Haddam's community sustainability event

Submitted by Ed Munster

On Wednesday, March 6, 2019 there were about 50 people at the Haddam Firehouse to hear Jessica Le-Clair who is the program manager for the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern CT State University. The meeting was organized by Robin Munster and Kristin Battistoni who are members of Haddam's Sustainability Committee appointed by First Selectman Lizz Milardo. In attendance were Milardo who opened the meeting, and members of almost every town board and commission including the Board of Finance, Board of Education, P&Z, ZBA, Inland Wetlands Commission, Economic Development Commission, Girl Scouts, Committee on Aging, and the Haddam Land Trust. It was impressive to see that so many town officials and citizens turned out to learn about this program.

Sustainable CT is a voluntary certification program which is set up to recognize the efforts of communities which do the right things for the en-

vironment. The most visible project of Haddam's Sustainability Committee has been the collection of certain kinds of plastic bags which has removed almost a ton of this plastic from our waste stream and resulted in the town earning a bench made from recycled materials which is now in the business district of Higganum Center.

A surprise presenter at the meeting was 10 year Amelia Riggs, a student at HK Middle School, who prepared a display intended to encourage residents to bring their own bags to stores instead of using the infamous plastic bags used to bag groceries and purchases from almost every store in the country.

There were many ideas on how to take action and make an impact:

- adapt permitting process to promote sustainable development
- develop agricultural friendly practices
- inventory and assess historic resources
- promote effective parking management

- reduce energy use across all municipal buildings
- install efficient street lights
- provide effective community communications
- recycle additional materials and compost organics
- develop a food waste reduction campaign
- design and implement a housing needs assessment
- support redevelopment of brownfield sites ٠
- inventory and promote local retail options
- develop an open space plan
- facilitate invasive species education and management
- map tourism and cultural assets •

A video from the meeting will be available on demand at VSCTV Channel 19 and by a link on the town website. For additional information, visit www. sustainablect.org

TOWN & COMMUNITY CALENDAR

March 22

HKYFS Indoor Olympics & Movie Night, 5:30 - 8:30 pm. Food & beverages provided. Indoor Olympic games, board games, and a movie. HKMS Cafeteria. Cost \$20/person.

March 23

Antique Show, 10 am – 5 pm. Hartford Armory. The 46th Annual CT Spring Show bringing Arts & Objects Through the Ages. This show is a benefit for the Thankful Arnold House and Haddam Historical

Society.

Mental Health & Wellness Expo, 2-4 pm. The Changing Minds Advocacy Group of Killingworth, Connecticut and the Henry Carter Hull Memorial Library are co-sponsoring the 2nd annual Mental Health and Wellness Expo at the Henry Carter Hull Library, Clinton. Admission is free as are refreshments and there is ample parking.

March 24

Antique Show, 11 am – 4 pm. Hartford Armory.

The 46th Annual CT Spring Show bringing Arts & Objects Through the Ages. This show is a benefit for the Thankful Arnold House and Haddam Historical Society.

March 27

Killingworth Ambulance Association Annual Meeting, 7:30 – 8:30 pm. The meeting, at 335 Route 81, Killingworth, will include the naming of the board of directors.

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PHARMACY

Haddam Conservation Commission, 7 - 9 pm.



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acial spasms are rare, and more likely occur with people in their 50's or 60's, along with periods of stress and fatigue. Early Symptoms include: Weakness of facial muscles,

poor eyelid closure, aching of ear, alteration of taste, tingling of

cheek and mouth, eye pain, and blurred vision. Remember that it takes more than one of these symptoms to cause concern, but if you notice a few, see your doctor immediately!

Treatment includes: Oral Steroids are the first line of treatment in a patient greater than 16 years of age, if a doctor is seen within 72 hours of onset of symptoms. Anti-virals may be added based on the doctor's determination. You can also use topical eye drops or ointment during the day and evening to prevent corneal dryness.

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HKHS Basketball makes it to state tournament

The Haddam Killingworth High School basketball teams finished out their season recently. The Junior Varsity team "had a great year and finished with a record of 16-3," said Jim Abbott, Coach. "The Varsity team showed much improvement this year going from 2 wins last year to 8 wins this year. The highlight was making the state tournament and playing arch rival Morgan in the first round," said Mr. Abbott. "The game was a classic, although HK came up two points short and lost 56-54.

The following are the results of the season:

12/13/18 v. Portland L 48-65 12/27/18 v. Civic Leadership W 75-55 12/29/18 v. Ellis Tech W 70-32 1/2/19 v. Old Lyme L 47-67 1/4/19 v. Hale Ray W 60-47 1/7/19 v. Coginchaug W 59-57 1/10/19 v. Valley Regional L 31-54 1/14/19 v. Old Saybrook L 59-69 1/22/19 v. Cromwell L 55-76 1/23/19 v. Wheeler W 53-38 1/25/19 v. Morgan L 52-54 1/29/19 v. Morgan L 45-64 2/1/19 v. Valley Regional L 45-74 2/4/19 v. Ellis Tech W 66-32 2/5/19 v. Coginchaug L 45-48 2/8/19 v. North Branford W 72-59 2/13/19 v. Cromwell L 48-77 2/15/19 v. Westbrook L 48-50

2/21/19 v. East Hampton L 53-62

"We will miss our five seniors," said Mr. Abbott. "Captain and career 1000 point scorer, Matt Wills, and Andrew Kuehn, Zach Kaufman, Tobey Callender, and Darren Hiller." Matt Wills was selected second-team all-conference.

Varsity and JV teams included the following players: Colin O'Brien, Evan Fleig, Samuel Erskine, Trey Callender, Alec Erskine, Jimmy McGoey, Tony Giambanis, John Bruder, Ryan Luther, Sam Luther, Chase O'Linn, Adam Alonzo, Declan Christopher, Issac Barrera, Matteo Piacerti, Andrew Conti, Andrew Fleig, Kevin Cavrell, Gabe Barile, Julian Houde, Corey Phipps, Alex Sheehan, Jayden Zaitoun, Stephen Schultz.

Football team competes in weightlifting competition

By Coach Jared Hickey

This past weekend Haddam Killingworth High School's football team participated in the annual Pequot Football League Weight Lifting Competition at North Branford High School. The team was one of seven to participate in this year's competition, including Sassacuss division opponents: Valley Coop, North Branford, and Coginchaug Co-op. It also included three teams from the Uncas division: Rockville, Granby, and Gilbert Co-op. The overall standings were based on the overall weight lifted by each team. H-K finished fourth with only 17 players with scoring lifts totaling 7,920 pounds. The top three from the competition rounded out North Branford (15 players – 8,720 pounds), Rockville (27 players – 9,765 pounds), and Valley at the top (32 players – 10,510 pounds). There were a few Cougar standouts that placed in their individual weight classes.

In the 150 lb. and under class, Dalton Modehn tied for 1st place on the Bench Press (235 lbs.), 2nd place in the Power Clean (195 lbs.), and came in 3rd place on Squat (305 lbs.). He came in 3rd place for the combination of all three lifts in his weight class with 735 lbs.

In the 176-200 lb. weight class, Colin Mack came

in 1st place on Power Clean (215 lbs.) and 2nd place on Squat (340 lbs.).

There were Cougars who earned new personal records as well. Tom Perry (Squat, Power Clean), Brett Nielsen (Squat), Chris Moore (Power Clean), Gavin Barile (Bench Press), Jimmy Bobbi (Power Clean), Tobias Ketchedjian (Squat, Bench Press, Power Clean), Jared Frith (Bench Press, Power Clean), Kevin Cavrell (Power Clean), Tristan Hesselberg (Power Clean), and Ryan Luther (Bench Press) all set new personal records. The Cougars look to take momentum from this past season into next year and make another run for a championship.



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H4 March 21, 2019

SCHOOL SPORTS

Boys swim team places 3rd at Class S Championship

Submitted by Kristin Mazziotti

The Haddam Killingworth High School Boys' Swim Team placed 3rd out of 30 teams with just 7 swimmers at the Class S State Championship at Wesleyan University on March 11, 2019. The HK 200 Medley Relay of Kyle Mazziotti, Malone Revis, Eli Houlton and Christo Garrelts were State Champions and broke the Class S State Record. Zach Houlton was a State Champion in the 500 freestyle. Eli Houlton, Kyle Mazziotti, Zach Houlton, Christo Garrelts and Malone Revis earned All State awards and will advance to the State Open at Yale University on Thursday, March 14, 2019.

HK HIGHLIGHTS:

200 Medley Relay

1st Kyle Mazziotti (SO), Malone Revis (SO), Eli Houlton (JR), Christo Garrelts (SO) 1:38.26 *Broke the Class S State Record *Broke the HK Record *ALLSTATE



200 Freestyle 2nd Eli Houlton 144.38 *Broke the HK Record from 2019 *ALLSTATE 3rd Zach Houlton (JR) 1:44.39 *ALL-STATE 200 Individual Medley
5th Malone Revis (SO) 2:02.30
50 Freestyle
6th Christo Garrelts (SO) 22.71
100 Butterfly

4th Eli Houlton (JR) 53.69 23rd Jimmy Clemente (JR) 1:00.75

100 Freestyle

3rd Kyle Mazziotti (SO) 47.69 *ALL-STATE 5th Christo Garrelts (SO) 49.85

500 Freestyle

1st Zach Houlton (JR) 4:42.50 *ALL-STATE

200 Freestyle Relay

9th Malone Revis (SO), Colby Kish (FR), Jimmy Clemente (JR), Zach Houlton (JR) 1:37.63

100 Backstroke 2nd Kyle Mazziotti (SO) 53.41 *ALL-STATE

100 Breaststroke 8th Malone Revis (SO) 1:02.58

400 Freestyle Relay 2nd Kyle Mazziotti (SO), Christo Garrelts (SO), Zach Houlton (JR), Eli Houlton (JR), 3:13.75 *Broke the HK Record *ALLSTATE

COMMUNITY HEALTH CORNER

Learn About the Aging Brain From Dr. Hyacinth

DATE: March 27, 2019 TIME: 6:00 p.m. LOCATION: Middlesex Community College Chapman Hall 100 Training Hill Road Middletown, CT 06457

Join the Middlesex Health Women's Wellness Fund on March 27 for "The Aging Brain: Caring For Your Loved One and Yourself," a discussion with Dr. Marilise Hyacinth.

Dr. Hyacinth is a Middlesex Health psychiatrist who specializes in Alzheimer's disease and dementia.



This event will help women learn to better cope with the challenges that come with caring for a loved one who is experiencing memory loss. It will also help them deal with their own memory loss.

This event is free, includes a buffet dinner and is open to all women in the community. An RSVP

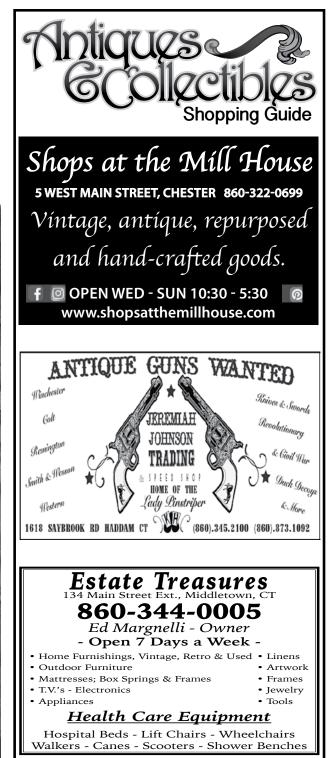


Mon-Sat 8:30 am- 9 pm

Sun 10am - 6pm

is required. To RSVP, email womenswellnessfund@ gmail.com or call 860-358-8856.

The Women's Wellness Fund advocates for, educates about and funds priority health projects in the community. For more information, visit http://www. middlesexhealth.org/womenswellnessfund.

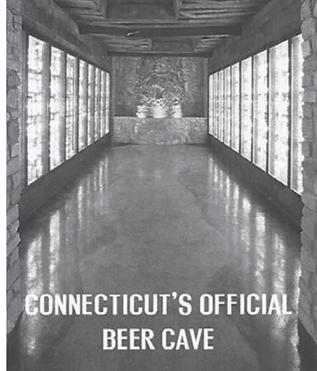


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March 21, 2019 H5

Troopers: 14 apps parents should know about

If your child or teenager has a phone, tablet, or laptop, it is important to know which applications your child is using, as well as how they're using them. Some apps that appear to be benign have messaging features, that pedophiles know how to use to their advantage. Troopers warn parents of these 14 social media applications:.

Hot or Not: Users can post their pictures and get "rated" anonymously by other users on how "hot" they are.

Instagram: Users can post videos/photos to their online album. Adolescents will often run multiple Instagram accounts.

Snapchat: Users can send pictures/videos that can be edited and sent to other users in Snapchat. The sender determines the amount of time that the receiver can view the pictures and videos and then the message "disappears."

Calculator+: Users can store photos and videos in a secret vault hidden behind the calculator face.

Sarahah: Users can link their profile to other social media platforms to send and receive "anonymous" messages.

Kik/Messenger: Alternate messaging apps in addition to the traditional text message app.

Houseparty: Users can video chat with individuals

or in group chats.

Whisper: Users are encouraged to share secrets anonymously with other users.

Grindr/Tinder/Bumble: Grindr, Tinder, and Bumble are location-based dating apps. Although the minimum age to use these apps is 18, police are finding more underage children downloading and using them as "hookup" apps.

Minecraft/Roblox/Fortnite: Minecraft, Roblox, and Fortnight gaming apps are popular among elementary and middle school-aged students. Each app has the ability for the users to message each other within the app.

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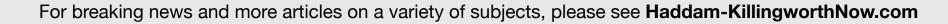
Haddam Shad Museum Open Sundays

The Haddam Shad Museum will be open on Sundays 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. from April 7- June 16, 2019. The museum, the only one of its kind in the United States, displays the history of shad on the Connecticut River since colonial days. We will be glad to open it at other times by appointment for groups interested. The museum is located at 212 Saybrook Road, behind the Higganum Gas Station. Admission is free. Call 860-267-0388.

Deer Lake Trail Run

By Lauren Downing

Deer Lake Trail is a Scout Camp in Killingworth which was destroyed during a storm. A fundraiser is planned to help rebuild the ropes course. The race is Sunday April 28, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. More details are listed on the signup site: https://runsignup.com/Race/CT/Killingworth/ DeerLakeTrailRun.





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A Taste of Haddam & Beyond at BML

Submitted by Tom Piezzo, Director, BML

Be sure to save the date: Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. is "Food for Thought: A Taste of Haddam and Beyond," a night of cuisine and beverage, plus a silent auction the Brainerd Library, located at 920 Saybrook Road, in Haddam). Sample restaurant fare from throughout the river valley in our beautiful historic library. Tickets for this fundraiser are \$35 per person in advance, or \$40 at the door. Visit www.brainerdlibrary. org or stop by the library. Questions? Please call 203-345-2204. And many thanks to our generous donors for making this event possible.

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H6 March 21, 2019

CT ANIMAL HOUSE

Paddy O'Chi Chi

Submitted by Judith Levin, VP, CT Animal House

Went out for a Pint and never got home! Now I am looking for a home. That's my story and I am sticking to it...

I am about a year old male Chihuahua. I have been spayed and up to date with shots. I get along with dogs that like to play. Good with kids, not sure about kitties yet. I am very

playful, love to snuggle,

give kisses,

and just

hang out.



What can I say, I am just a real great guy. Just look at me — I don't know how I can even stand myself sometimes!

If you are interested in meeting me, please fill out an application on www.CTanimalhouse.org or for more information call: 1-860-400-0165.

Connecticut Animal House is a non-profit organization dedicated to ending the euthanasia of adoptable dogs in Connecticut Pounds. We provide funds for medical expenses, special needs, behavioral training and more. It's our mission to improve every Pound dog's chance of adoption.

HADDAM VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

HK Relay for Life needs volunteers

Submitted by Elaine Jackson, HK Relay for Life, Publicity

The Relay For Life of Haddam Killingworth will be held Saturday, June 29, 2019 from 12 noon to 10:00n p.m. at the Haddam Killingworth High School track. Relay for Life is a non-competitive community event and we are looking forward to walking with survivors, caregivers, and many teams of all ages to join in the fight against cancer. We are looking for Relay for Life walkers from all Middlesex County to join the Haddam and Killingworth Community to conquer cancer for future generations.

The event will kick-off with a "soft" opening at 12 noon and the start of walking. Survivors and Caregivers, please join us for the Survivor/Caregiver Ceremony/buffet at 5:00 p.m. At dusk, the always moving Luminaria Ceremony will take place to be

LENTEN WORSHIP

Sundays in Lent (March 10 – April 7)

10:00 a.m. Regular services with Janice Kahre will do a presentation of "Lenten Symbols" right after "Peace"- Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Wednesdays in Lent (March 13 - April 10)

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. "Way of Love" Practice for a Jesus-Centered life facilitated by the Rev. Ellen Kennedy – Simple supper and discussion. Please RSVP by March 6 (860-345-0058 or wecluster@sbcglobal.net) – St. James Episcopal Church

Fridays in Lent (March 8 - April 19)

7:00 p.m. (April 12 – 6:00 p.m.) Living Stations of the Cross by Teens in Action – St. Lawrence Catholic Church followed by the Closing Ceremony at 10:00 p.m. Our monthly Information meetings will be on:

- Thursday, March 28, 2019
- Monday, April 8, 2019
- Thursday, April 25, 2019
- Monday, May 6, 2019
- Thursday, May 23, 2019
- Monday, June 3, 2019
- Thursday, June 20 Bank Night

All meetings will be at 7:00 p.m. at HKHS Room C112, 95 Little City Rd, Higganum.

Feel free to go to www.RelayforLife.org/hkct to get more event information or to register as a survivor, team or participant. Registration is free. Volunteers are always needed and welcomed. For more information email Ed Yantosh, Elaine Jackson at www.rflofhk@gmail.com or, Survivors may contact Elaine at (860)345-7755. So call your friends and family, form a team online, and take the next step to help finish the fight against cancer.

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 1, Higganum, CT 06441



Image: Constraint of the second state Park, Haddam

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The Friends of the Valley Railroad provide FREE rides (first come, first serve) in the Valley Railroad "Hi-Rail" van Saturdays in March. Parties of up to eight persons (age 4 and up) will enjoy a four mile round-trip on scenic trackage along the Connecticut River.

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HADDAM VOLUNTEER FIRE CO.

HK Players Present Wizard of Oz

Submitted by Patrick Boots

Click your heels and join us in the newly renovated Haddam-Killingworth High School Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, May 3, and Saturday, May 4, 2019.

You will enjoy hearing all your favorite songs including "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," "We're Off to See the Wizard," and "If I Only had a Brain." This timeless musical follows Dorothy, her little dog Toto, the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodsman, and the Cowardly Lion as they journey over the rainbow to the merry old land of Oz in search of the great and powerful Wizard - will he grant them their hearts' desires?

Watch out for the Wicked Witch of the West and her winged monkeys as you rediscover this fantastic musical treat for the whole family, starring H-K senior Elizabeth McManus as Dorothy Gale. The cast includes Devin Coon as Hickory/Tin Woodsman, Arjun Badami as Zeke/Cowardly Lion, Morgan Bowles

as Hunk/Scarecrow, Abigail Manley as Aunt Em/Glinda (Good Witch of the North), Cristina Barragan as Ms. Gulch/ Wicked Witch of the West, Connor Chute as Professor Marvel/The Wizard of Oz and Michael Vaughn as Uncle Henry/Emerald City Guard.

In addition, we are pleased to feature Tori Carlson, Adelaide Hawkins, Emily Rankin, Mia Rubino, Ava Lindell, Hannah Laird-Hoover, Samantha Height, Katrin Wilson, Marissa Thiel, Jaden Miller, Maddie Keithan, Valleri Freibauer, Josh Kulak, Megan Haase, and Melissa Manley. Rounding out the cast of more than fifty are third and fourth graders from RSD17 elementary schools as the Citizens of Munchkinland. We also have a fantastic student Crew including seniors Zoe Smith, Curtis Kubacka, Summer Mc-Neil, Grace DiMatteo, Bridget Harry, and Marianne Herbst.

We are excited to welcome a professional four-legged cast member, Nessa (understudy Pippa) to play Toto. She is trained and brought to us by William Berloni Theatrical Animals.

Tickets \$15 Adults (18+) \$12 Children and 65+.

Tickets can be purchased from any H-K Players Cast or Crew member or by calling HKHS at (860) 345-8541.

Classifieds

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March 21, 2019

Haddam News will print free classified ads for individuals and

non-profit organizations. These must be 25 words or less and written in a publish-ready form. Publication is subject to space availability.



HADDAM VOLUNTEER FIRE CO.

Three crashes, no serious injuries

Submitted by Olivia Drake, HVFCo Public Information Officer

Haddam Volunteer Fire Company responded to three motor vehicle accidents on March 11, 2019.

At 7:10 a.m., crews were dispatched to Saybrook Road near the Haddam Transfer Station for a car vs. tree. The driver had self-extricated and was evaluated on scene by Haddam EMS.

At 7:20 a.m., HVFC was called to another accident on Candlewood Hill near the intersection of Jacoby Road.

A driver had lost control of her vehicle, went off the road, struck underbrush and stopped in a field. The driver and her occupant were evaluated by Haddam EMS.

And at 8:50 p.m., crews returned to Candlewood Hill Road near the intersection of Laurel Heights Road and St. Peter's Lane for a car vs. utility pole. The driver had self-extricated and was evaluated on scene by Haddam EMS. The pole and multiple wires were laying down across Candlewood Hill Road, leaving the area unpassable. Crews from HVFC and the Department of Public Works closed the road at Saybrook Road and St. Peter's Lane and rerouted traffic. Once Eversource arrived, the scene was turned over to Connecticut State Police and Eversource.

All patients involved in all three accidents refused additional medical treatment.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Middletown announces pride event

Submitted by Michael Fallon, Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce

The City of Middletown is thrilled to announce the creation of the first Middletown Pride event, to take place on Saturday, June 15, 2019. The City of Middletown, the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce, and Wesleyan University are partnering together to ensure that the inaugural event will be a successful celebration of our diverse community and particularly the lives and contributions of our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning residents.

The parade will commence at 2:00 p.m. in Middletown, Connecticut on

Main Street at St. John's Square and will proceed down Main Street to Union Street. A festival will take place on the South Green immediately following the conclusion of the parade.

We are inviting interested participants from local community groups, businesses, and individuals. Please contact the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce for information on sponsoring the event, joining in the parade, being a merchandise and/or food vendor, or overseeing an informational booth. The Chamber can be reached by phone at (860) 347-6924 or by email at haley@middlesexchamber. com.

Further details will be released closer to the date of the event.

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