

Haddam Killingworth News

AN INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER COVERING HADDAM, HIGGANUM, HADDAM NECK AND KILLINGWORTH

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March 19, 2020

For breaking news go to Haddam-KillingworthNow.com every day

Free weekly



HVFC participates in Read Across America Day

By Olivia Drake, HVFC Public Information Officer

In celebration of Read Across America Day, or Dr. Seuss Day, Haddam Firefighter Mike Miller visited Haddam-Killingworth Middle School to participate in the school's Mystery Reader Program.

On March 3, Firefighter Miller read "Oh the Places You'll Go" (1990) by Dr. Seuss to a seventh-grade pre-algebra class and led a discussion with the students afterward. The school hopes to make this an annual event.

RSD #17 shuts down indefinitely as precaution

This notice was sent to parents of students in Regional School District #17 by Dr. H Hageman, the Superintendent of Schools.

Friday, March 13, 2020

Dear RSD17 Community,

I am writing to inform you that all RSD17 Schools will be closed until further notice for an indefinite period beginning tomorrow, Saturday, March 14th. There will be no afterschool activities or late buses today. All students will go home at dismissal time. The exception for this, today, is that HK Park & Rec aftercare at BES and KES will remain in place this afternoon. All school buildings will be closed for community use until further notice as of 6:00 p.m. today.

Upon the advice of our local health departments and in coordination with town leaders and emergency medical response providers, school superintendents in southeastern Connecticut

have come together to make a regional decision to put the health of our communities (both our school community and the community at large) at the center of our decision to close schools. We have been advised that the implementation of social distancing measures is a critical intervention to reduce the spread communicable disease outbreaks. Although we are not aware of confirmed cases of COVID-19 at this time in the Haddam-Killingworth community, we felt compelled to make this decision to prevent the spread of illness among our students, staff, and our communities.

You should be prepared for this school closure to be for a minimum of two weeks, but it could be for longer, up to four weeks or more. The school days lost due to this closure will most likely need to be made up through June 30th (not beyond June 30th). The last of day of school in RSD17

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Get ready for maple syrup time in Haddam and Killingworth!

By Kathy Brown

Have you seen the buckets on the maple trees as you traverse Haddam and Killingworth roads? It's maple syrup time in New England. Who doesn't love a little maple syrup on their pancakes or waffles all year round? When my children were small, they both had many food intolerances. One couldn't have cane sugar, and one couldn't have beet sugar. What were we left with? Maple sugar. And it was delicious. We used maple cream in cookies or spread on toast, maple sugar crystals in baking, and maple syrup in our baked beans and other recipes. This time of year was great because there were maple festivals that had maple syrup on snow (which is lacking this year), maple cotton candy, and other once a year treats. My kids loved going to sugar shacks in the area to watch the syrup being made.

Maple syrup begins as sap in a maple tree. It runs in the early spring when temperatures rise into the 40s during the day, but cool off into the 20s at night, which usually happens at the end of February. The climate in New England is perfect for maple syrup, but the season only lasts about a month. Trees are tapped, which is usually done by a drill, which makes a small hole. Then



Left: Cleve's Giants Sugar Shack. Photo by Chelsea Cleveland. Right: Parmelee Farm Sugar Shack. Photo from their Facebook page.



a spile is inserted into the hole, and the sap drips out when the conditions are perfect. Some people

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Pondside

Get ready for maple syrup time in Haddam and Killingworth!

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collect their sap in a bucket, others collect theirs in special tubes that flow to a holding tank. You need 35-50 gallons of sap to make ONE gallon of maple syrup. Then you need to take all of that sap that you've collected, and bring it to the sugar house, where it's poured into an evaporator, where the water is boiled off, and the sap is concentrated into maple syrup. As the water is boiled off and the sugar becomes more concentrated, it moves to the front of the evaporator, where it is drawn off and filtered. Once filtered, it is put into bottles or other containers.

All of the syrup is equally sweet, however the "grades" of syrup denote color and taste, and the grading was changed in 2015. We now have:

Grade A – Golden Color and Delicate Taste (the lightest of grades, and recommended for drizzling over waffles, pancakes, or ice cream)

Grade A – Amber Color and Rich Flavor (a little more flavorful, and works well for cooking and baking)

Grade A – Dark Color and Robust Flavor (stronger in flavor and works well for recipes that require a heavy maple flavor)

Grade A – Very Dark and Strong Flavor (best used as a substitute for molasses)



Tubes (left) collect maple sap, which is then concentrated in an evaporator (right). Photos by Chelsea Cleveland.



Maple Cream is made by heating the syrup to 235F, then put into an ice bath to rapidly drop the temperature to 65F, according to Chelsea Cleveland. Then you just mix and mix until you get cream. "You can use it for a spread on toast, apple dip, bake with, make frosting with. It's delicious!" said Chelsea Cleveland.

There are even health benefits to using maple syrup:

Its glycemic index is 54, lower than table sugar or honey.

Maple syrup contains 22% of the daily allowance for Manganese

Maple syrup contains 24 antioxidants that help protect against many health conditions.

Maple Weekend in CT is March 21-22, 2020 according to the ctvisit.com website. It says to visit sugar shacks all over the state.

Local farms:

Parmelee Farm Sugar Shack (Killingworth) – They are open on weekends for syrup sales and tours from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. And weekdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for boiling and collecting. They are taking part in

Maple Weekend.

Higganum Cover Sugarbush (Haddam) – Dale and his son Jeremy DeCarli make their syrup in their sugar shack. Most weekends during the season, they are in the shack boiling on weekends, and people are welcome. Their syrup can be found at Fork in the Road and Red Barn Feed Store. They can be reached at higganumcovesugarbush@gmail.com.

Cleve's Giants Sugar Shack (Higganum) – They began making syrup about three years ago for themselves and a few friends, but as time passed, and word of mouth more and more people are wanting to try their syrup. They are not participating officially this year in Maple Weekend, however, they do welcome visitors at their sugar shack any time. To purchase their maple syrup or maple cream, you can contact the Clevelands at clevesgiants@gmail.com.

Sunnycrest Farm (Killingworth) – They have been making maple syrup since about 1996, with a few years break. This year they are not selling to the public due to low production. But next year they should have up to 200 taps.

If you produce maple syrup in Haddam or Killingworth, drop us a line at editors@haddamnews.org so that we can include you on the list!



ROYAL TEA

SUNDAY, APRIL 19TH

Dress in your best High Tea attire for an elegant day on our cruise liner, the Mystique. Take in the beautiful summer scenery on this trip along the Connecticut River as you enjoy this intimate excursion. Delight in an assortment of teas, finger sandwiches, scones, and more, accompanied by the sounds of the Golden Scroll Soloists.



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Summary of February BOE Meetings

By Jen Favallora, RSD17 Board of Education

School Educational Activities:

Cougar Pride- Eighth grader Jonah Keithan-Resnick was recognized as the first RSD17 student to win the Patriot's Pen Competition in Connecticut. As the Connecticut representative, Jonah's essay "What Makes America Great" will compete against students from each state for the national prize. Recognition was also given to the Haddam-Killingworth High School Girls Cross Country Team for winning the Class SS State Championship. The Board congratulated teammates Meara Bodak, Julia Callis, Lauren D'Amico, Ava DiMatteo, Isabel Berardino, Ali Twachtman and Brianna Minervino for their achievement.

Community Mentoring Program- Principals at the Elementary Schools approved a partnership with HK Youth and Family Services for a new School-Based Mentoring Program. The program would run during the school day and details will follow on how community members can apply to become a mentor.

Effective School Solutions- In a Special Meeting, the Board addressed the increase in Special Education Outplacements, the related costs, reasons, and outlook for RSD17. This elevation in Emotional and Behavioral Disorders is consistent in school districts across the state. In response to the marked increase, Effective School Solutions (ESS) was proposed by

Administration as an effective and less expensive alternative that provides clinical services inside our schools instead of sending identified students to expensive specialized schools outside of our District. The Board gave consent to contracting with ESS beginning in March to implement at our High School and Middle School.

Math Program- The Superintendent introduced, and the Board discussed, the merits of a new math text and computer program with assessments, problem solving and testing for Kindergarten through 8th grade. The Board will consider and vote on its adoption at the next regular meeting of the Board.

Capital Improvements:

KES Roof - The Board approved immediate replacement on a section of the roof at KES, directly over the kitchen, after a failure caused damage inside the building. Construction was completed over Presidents' Day weekend and will be paid entirely through the Capital Improvement Fund.

HKHS Field House Project: The Board reviewed and approved final recommendations from the Public Building Committee on renovations to the Field House. Remediation and replacement of the Field House floor will commence in late April. Additionally the gym will be updated with new backboards, gym dividers, a center lift practice cage, paint and window tinting. Improvements will also be made

to existing lighting, speakers, emergency evacuation systems and the bleachers. The approved project will cost just over \$1 million. State reimbursements are expected and the remainder will be paid through the Capital Fund. Administration has plans in place for activities that will be displaced due to the construction, such as the Project Graduation Celebration which will be moved to HKI/MS.

Other Business:

Budget Freeze- Due to more than expected outplacements, the Special Education Tuition line is significantly over budget. As a result, the Superintendent has frozen all but critical expenditures in an effort to offset the costs. The BoE Finance Committee and the Superintendent continue to monitor the situation and are cautiously optimistic that we will come in just under budget for the year.

Board Resignation- Haddam Board of Education Member Gerry Mathews submitted his resignation and a grateful Board thanked him for his service. The Town of Haddam will hold a town meeting to replace Gerry's position for the remainder of the term.

On our RSD17.org website: Budget Season has begun. The Superintendent's Proposed Budget can be found under "Budget Information" and videos of meetings can be viewed under "HKTV".

COVID-19

Killingworth & Haddam Libraries respond to COVID-19

Brainerd Memorial Library closing due to COVID-19

By Kent Jarrell

The Brainerd Memorial Library is closing effective 2:00 p.m. Friday March 13, and will remain closed until further notice because of the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Patrons should not return items because all book drops will be locked. No fines will be levied for this period.

Please check the Library website at <https://www.brainerdlibrary.lioninc.org/> for updates and to access the Library's free digital offerings.



Killingworth Library closing due to COVID-19

Submitted by Genie Dethloff

The Killingworth library will be closed as of Monday, March 16 as a preventative measure to COVID-19. We have not yet determined when we will reopen, in the meantime: All items checked out will not be due back until the library reopens; all fines are suspended while the library remains closed. While the library is temporarily closed, patrons should keep all of their library materials at home. The library book drop will also be closed. Please do not try to force items into our book drop, or leave by the doorway, etc. Donations of books to the library are also suspended, effective immediately. Please do not leave donated items outside of the library doors, they will be discarded. Our many electronic items

(e-books, e-audio books, movies, etc.) will continue to remain available, and we encourage our patrons to make use of them. Parents – please remember that Scholastic Bookflix Online is available for children ages 1 – 8. Library staff will continue to update the website and share information via our Facebook page. While a re-opening date has not been determined, we are monitoring developments carefully and look forward to letting you know when the library will re-open.

Containment measures that are in place BEFORE the virus emerges in a community are most effective. We feel it is important to be proactive in taking any preventive actions that we can to protect the health of our patrons and our community. We urge all members of the community to follow the CDC guidelines found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. Thank you for your understanding.



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Haddam Transfer Station responds to COVID-19

By Christopher R. Corsa, Assistant Director of Haddam Public Works & Tree Warden

Considering the onset of the COVID 19 Virus and the need to limit close contact in general, we will be instituting the following changes at the Transfer Station.

The Swap Shack will be closed until further notice. This area requires constant attention and upkeep by attendants and tends to promote extended visits by residents.

We will be suspending the collection of plastic bags, as this also requires more physical contact and

attention from attendants and residents.

These programs will be reinstated at a later date, when the risk of exposure has diminished.

We ask that residents respect the need to maintain a 6' distance from each other and attendants while at the Transfer Station.

HADDAM COMMUNITY

Haddam's Annual Town Wide Tag Sale: May 2

The Haddam Town-Wide Tag Sale will take place at Haddam Elementary School and around town on Saturday, May 2, 2020 (rain date Sunday, May 3) beginning at 8:00 a.m. The Haddam Junior Women's Club fundraising efforts from this event and others allows them to give a scholarship to a college-bound Haddam senior, and to donate to many worthy non-profit service organizations in town.

This year, there will be vendors in the Haddam Elementary School parking lot, along with a por-

table toilet. The map, which contains participating locations around town will be available at HES, next to a donation jar (in case you want to donate to the HJWC). This year's map will contain a coupon for Deb's Restaurant. While you are out and about around town, stop by for a snack or lunch from one of the participating organizations. Many organizations around town are participating, including:

- Haddam Historical Society
- Haddam Garden Club (plant sale at HES)

- Haddam Junior Women's Club
- Haddam Lion's Club
- St. Peter's Church
- Teri's Package Store

To get on the map, the fee is \$25. There are still a few spaces available at HES. Spaces there are 1 for \$25, 2 for \$45 or 3 for \$60.

If you are interested in getting your house/organization on the map, this year you can pay the fee via Venmo @HaddamJuniorWomensClub. For more information or to get your tag sale on the map, please contact Karen at 860-301-4447 or karenrevis@comcast.net.

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RSD #17 responds to COVID-19

Continued from page H1

was projected to be June 15th, and it is now projected to be June 30th.

We will continue to send communications to you as we receive updates from state leaders and public health officials. I will provide a minimum of a weekly update to help you plan accord-

ingly. Please continue to monitor your email to ensure receipt of the most current information. I will continue to post my updates on the district webpage.

During this school closing, we are well situated to provide supplemental learning opportunities for our students. Please see the resources and

information that have been posted on the RSD17 website landing page through the At Home Learning Connections link. I am grateful to our teachers and administrators for their outstanding work in pulling these high-quality resources together for our students and families. We are loaning school laptops to all families who need them and we are providing paper work packets to any students who do not have home internet service.



For families who participate in the HK Backpack program, please contact Amber Stam for arrangements. For any families that are in need of meals, please communicate with RSD17 Food Services Director, Sharon Shettleworth sshettleworth@rsd17.org who will coordinate meal pick up at the BES loading dock.

Please also see our website for helpful resources about how to talk with children about COVID-19 as well as other information. We realize that this is an unprecedented situation and is unsettling for children (and adults).

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or your school principal or Dr. Kris Lindsay, Director of Student Services if your family has needs we can assist with.

Sincerely,
Holly Hageman
Superintendent

This means that everything including the pool, field house are closed to the public. All activities that were to be held at any of the schools are cancelled/postponed until further notice, including HK Recreation Dept. activities and programs.

Largest Papyrus Card/Gift Store in Middlesex County

Red Yeast Rice- A Homeopathic Answer to Your Elevated Cholesterol

Red yeast rice, also known as Went Yeast, has been used for centuries in China, as a food and a medicine. It is made by fermenting a type of yeast called *Monascus Purpureus* over red rice. Chinese medicine has used red yeast rice to lower cholesterol, improve digestion, and blood circulation.

The chemicals in Red Yeast Rice are similar to the prescription statin medications, used to lower the LDL (bad) cholesterol and help to reduce the risk of heart disease. Red Yeast Rice also contains unsaturated fatty acids, isoflavones, and photosterols all of which can contribute to lower cholesterol. High cholesterol levels raise the risk of heart disease, so controlling your LDL cholesterol levels are important. Red Yeast Rice contains substances known as monaclinins, but manufacturers were asked by the FDA to take these out of their products, because monaclinin K is structurally similar to lovastatin, so the FDA considered them to be drugs. Researchers point out that the amount of monaclinin K in red yeast rice is less than the amount in prescription lovastatin, so it is thought that the other substances in Red Yeast Rice are assisting in lowering cholesterol. When choosing a Red Yeast Rice product, you will not know if the product contains monaclinin, because it is not a listed ingredient.

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

Heart Healthy Coupon
Clip this coupon, and bring to Higganum Pharmacy, to get 10% off any Red Yeast Rice product.
 Coupon not to be combined with any other coupon.
 Coupon good until April 4, 2020.

Hours of Operation		
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18 HKMS students participated in 2020 National History Day

By Dolores Bates, Principal, HKMS

Haddam-Killingworth Middle School had 18 students participate in the regional competition for National History Day on Saturday, March 7. National History Day engages students and teachers in historical research and skills development. Every year National History Day® frames students' research within a historical theme. The theme is chosen for the broad application to world, national, or state history and its relevance to ancient history or to the more recent past.

The 2019-2020 theme is Breaking Barriers in History. Students are able to present their research as a written paper, exhibit, website, documentary or performance and are interviewed at



The students are pictured here with their teacher, Kate O'Mara.

the competition by three judges about their research process. The top 3 finishers in each category advance to the state-level competition for a chance to

go to the national competition.

The following HKMS students will be heading to the state-level competition in April:

Ava Harriman and Liza Murphy earned 3rd place for their exhibit on Stem Cell Research

Jameson Sheehan earned 2nd place for his paper on the Fall of the Soviet Union

David Sargent earned 2nd place for his documentary on the history of music

Juliana Girgenti and Julia Mitchell earned 2nd place for their website on Chernobyl

Morgan Cook took 1st place for her website on Clara Barton

COMMUNITY

9-Town Transit responds to Coronavirus

By Joseph Comerford

9-Town Transit (9TT) wants to update our customers on our preparation for the impacts of COVID-19 and the coronavirus. We have been working with CTDOT and the health department to determine an appropriate action plan to ensure the health and safety of our employees and customers.

Cleaning

For your safety, we have increased the frequency of the cleaning of buses to include daily disinfecting of touch-points inside the vehicles with an anti-viral cleaner.

Service Reduction or Suspension

We know you depend on us to get to work, shopping, medical appointments and much more. As such, we will make every effort to continue regular schedules, provided it is safe to do so. If we determine the need to reduce or suspend service, we will notify you as soon as we can. This decision would be made in conference with CTDOT and the state emergency management agency. For updates on service reductions or suspensions, please join our email list on our website, visit 9towntransit.com and follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

How You Can Help

Please also wash your hands throughout the day, including before and after riding the bus. Remember you must wash your hands for 20 seconds to fully disinfect your hands. At all times, avoid touching your face.

If you feel ill or suspect you have been exposed to the Coronavirus, please avoid all public transit. Our employees

and other customers will appreciate it. There will be no points assessed for late cancellations on ADA and Dial-A-Ride during this period.

Questions

If you have any questions, we're here to help! Give us a call at 860-510-0429, email us at info@estuarytransit.org or contact us on Facebook.

HADDAM COMMUNITY

Invasive plant cleanups: April 11, May 9

The first Spring Invasive Plant Cleanup will be Saturday, April 11, 2020, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon (rain date April 18) at Haddam Meadows State Park. Meet at a new location, along the path to the fish dam.

Adult and youth, under 16 years of age accompanied by an adult should dress for the weather, bring garden loppers or a saw, sunscreen and first

aid supplies. Snacks will be provided. Do not bring pets. Volunteers are needed with dump trucks and Haddam transfer station stickers.

Saturday, May 9, 2020 – Second Spring Invasive Plant Cleanup 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon (raindate May 16).

To register for the invasive plant cleanups email Cherry Czuba at cherylczuba@comcast.net.

Draw near to God
AND GOD WILL DRAW NEAR TO YOU

"When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence [disease epidemics] among My people, ¹⁴ if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:13-15).

Draw near to God

"You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures... ⁶ But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: 'God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.' ⁷ Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God and He will draw near to you" (James 4:3-8). "Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the Lord, and He will have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:7). "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the Lord, 'Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18). "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out..." (Acts 3:19). "Seek the Lord while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near" (Isaiah 55:6).

Pray Like This

"Dear God, I believe Jesus died on the cross to pay for my sins, and that He arose alive again on the third day. I repent of my sins and ask Your forgiveness. I accept Jesus as my Savior and Lord, and I believe my sins are forgiven. Thank You God in Jesus' name. Amen."

Ambassadors for Christ
P. O. Box 937, Madison, CT 06443
email: EnterTheStraitGate@yahoo.com



Extended Hours Passport Event

Presented by the Higganum Post Office

Bring the following documents to apply for a U.S. Passport Book and/or Card:

- **Application**—Complete the DS-11 (U.S. Passport Application) form if you are a 1st time applicant, have lost your valid passport, were under the age of 16 when your previous passport was issued, or your most recent passport was issued more than 15 years ago
- **Citizenship Evidence**—Certified birth certificate (*raised seal-- long form*), Naturalization Certificate or Previous Passport
- **Photocopy of Citizenship Evidence**
- **Identification**—Driver's License or State ID (if your ID is from out of state, please bring a second form of ID—work ID, student ID, insurance card)
- **Photocopy of Identification**—Front and back of IDs
- **Passport Photo**—Photo services available at event \$15.00

RENEWALS ONLY: Complete the DS-82 (U.S. Passport Renewal Application) form if your passport was issued less than 15 years ago and it is in your possession (any name change must be accompanied by a certified name change document)

Total fee is dependent upon product(s), service type and delivery request
Please see travel.state.gov for fees

Event location:
Higganum Post Office
26 Killingworth Rd
Higganum, CT 06441

Dates/Hours:
March 21st, 2020
9:00am-2:00pm

Passport applications can be downloaded from the web
travel.state.gov





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Spring programs and activities: Part 1

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

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

PEE WEE SOCCER

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Indoor Soccer for boys and girls ages 3 – 4. The program is being held on Wednesdays, 3:45 – 4:45 p.m. at Burr Elementary School Gym from April 29 – May 27, 2020. The fee is \$70 each session. Non-residents may register for an additional \$10. Pre-schoolers will learn the basic fundamentals of soccer with some fun drills, skills, and small-sided games. Please wear sneakers and shinguards. Conducted by UK International Soccer Camps.

SCIENCE OUTREACH

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department has the Children's Museum of SE CT coming to HK. These programs are a mix of science demonstration and hands-on activities for boys and girls ages 3-5 and boys and girls in grades K-4. The fee is \$22 each session.

Don't Burst My Bubble- What is a bubble? Have you ever seen a square bubble? Create a bubble wall and hold hands through it! Different activities are offered including putting a child in a bubble, bubble printing and making bubble snakes. You won't believe how many things you can do with bubbles!. This workshop will be held on Wednesday, April 29 at the HK Central Office room A-117 from 1:15 – 2:00 p.m. for preschoolers. There will also be a workshop for Boys and Girls in grades K-4, Wednesday, April 29 at Burr Elementary School and on Thursday, April 30 at Killingworth Elementary School from 3:30-4:15 p.m.

YOUNG CHEFS of HK

The HK Recreation Department is offering some fun cooking classes this winter. Young Chefs is for boys and girls in grades 1 – 5. It meets from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the HK HS B-112. The fee is \$28 each class (non-residents add \$10). It is a unique culinary experience which will offer cooking classes to children in a safe environment that will encourage discovery and creativity. Each visit will be a new experience with fresh monthly themes and exciting new programs. Students sharpen their skills by employing the mantra, "Mise en Place" which, in the cooking world, translates into "Everything in its place." Young chefs will learn basics in kitchen safety, proper food

handling, food preparation, cooking and baking techniques, presentation, and so much more! At the end of each workshop the young chef will leave with a packet of info on how to recreate what we made in class and tasty treats for their family to try. Workshops include:

April 1–blueberry muffins.
May 6– granola bars and tasty smoothies.

ENGINEERING WORKSHOPS

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department welcomes Engineering Imagination. These programs are a mix of Engineering and hands-on activities for students in grades K – 3. The fee is \$22 (non-residents add \$10). The topics include:

Motorized Vehicles! – Young engineers will use LEGO® TECHNIC® to create and customize their own motorized vehicle! The class will discuss different methods of transportation and vehicles such as planes, trains, and automobiles, but will focus on building wheeled & tracked vehicles such as race cars, monster trucks, excavators and bulldozers. Students are sure to have fun while exploring and applying engineering concepts and terms! This workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 28 at Killingworth Elementary School from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Rocket Science! Blast off in this thrilling class full of young "aerospace engineers". Students in this class will use a wide variety of mediums including, but not limited to, cardboard, newspaper, string, tape and PVC tubing. Using the different materials, young engineers will plan, design and build model rockets while exploring different methods of propulsion and thrust! This workshop will be held on Tuesday, May 26 at Killingworth Elementary School and Friday, May 29 at Burr Elementary School from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

CREATIVE ART

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Creative Art classes. Children in grades K – 4 will explore a world of creativity through a variety of different projects from wood crafts to paper art and make fun projects. Each session will also have a day of cookie decorating! Class will meet on Tuesdays from 3:30 – 4:45 p.m. at Killingworth Elementary School from April 28 – May 19. The class will meet on Thursdays at Burr Elementary from April 2 – April 30 (No 4/9) and May 14 – June 4. The fee is \$50 per each four-week session (non-residents add \$10). Kids should bring a smock or shirt that can get messy.

HORSEBACK RIDING

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Horseback Riding Lessons this Spring for ages 6 – 13. Classes run for 4 weeks. The fee is \$175 (non-residents add \$10). Session 1 lessons will meet on Tuesdays, April 28 – May 19. Session 2 lessons will meet on Wednesdays, April 29 – May 20. Both sessions will be held at Sycamore Farm and will meet from 5:45-6:45 p.m. or 7:00 -8:00 p.m. There is a max of 4 participants per time slot.

This class will cover grooming, saddling, riding, safety skills, as well as fun games. Lessons are geared for the

novice rider. All equipment will be provided including Western and English saddle and helmet. More advanced students are welcome. Facility is lighted. Participants should wear pants. A heeled shoe (boots) is preferred. Classes are held at Sycamore Farm, 118 Christian Hill Rd., Higganum.

CHRIS CORKUM'S BASEBALL CLINIC

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering a Baseball Clinic for boys and girls ages 7 – 12 years old on Monday and Tuesday, April 6 and 7 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the HK Central Office Gym/Softball Field. The fee is \$70 (non-residents add \$10). The Camp is run by Chris Corkum's Baseball Inc. Participants will have the opportunity to start the season learning proper fundamentals. Program will consist of a series of drills and instructional games which will educate, train, and bring out the best in all ability levels. Throwing, hitting, and team play are the major areas of concentration.

ARCHERY

This beginner program will include the proper form, vocabulary, and techniques of utilizing and performing Archery. Also included is some historical information toward archery and the different styles of archery throughout various cultures. Learn background information towards creating and shaping your own bows. Individual Equipment will be provided. Session will be offered April 29 – May 27, 2020. The fee is \$65 each session (non-residents add \$10) and meets from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

WIZARD'S SCHOOL OF MAGIC

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering a Magic Workshop for boys and girls ages 5 – 12 on Friday, April 17 at the Killingworth Elementary School from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. The fee is \$22 each. Non-Residents please add \$5. Children will have fun learning basic introductory magic while building self-confidence and dexterity. Five different tricks will be taught in each session. Each child will receive a magic kit which includes 5 tricks, an instruction sheet describing each trick, and a magic wand. Kids will also be entertained by Tom O'Brien's own act. Tom is a master at his craft and is a wonderful and entertaining teacher as well. New tricks this session!

JUNIOR ENGINEERING

If you like building things and figuring out how they work, then this program is for you! Join us as we explore, investigate, & solve problems while we learn about the building blocks of engineering-simple machines. Students will build models that demonstrate mechanical and physical engineering. Projects may include mini mechanical concept models, a moving dragon, scale, clown, fan, and merry-go-round. No Lego's will be taken home. Please bring a snack. The program meets from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. The fee is \$103 each session (non-residents add \$10).

Session 1: Tuesdays, May 5 – June 2 at Killingworth Elementary School Room 29

Continued on next page

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Alyssa Lape of Higganum to run in 2020 NYC Marathon

By Kathy Brown

Alyssa Lape, US Navy veteran and Higganum resident, is training to run in the New York City Marathon on Nov. 1, 2020. She has been running for 20 years, and has run in numerous 5K's and Half Marathons, as well as the Baltimore Marathon. For this race, she has been training since October 2019. Not just running, but also yoga, strength training, indoor cycling, and she recently added Pilates to her exercise regimen.

She and her husband, Lynn, moved to Higganum almost two years ago to be closer to her husband's family (they live in Killingworth). For the past five years, she has run her own "custom sewing business" while being a full time caretaker to her three children. Prior to that, she worked in the government IT business.

Alyssa is part of the St. Jude NYC Marathon team, which is comprised of 100 people. Her team is called "Bella Knots." She explained, "Bella' comes from Italy, where I was once stationed in the military, and 'knots'



comes from my time tying knots in the US Navy and tying knots today while sewing, embroidering, crocheting, and knitting."

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital was chosen by Alyssa because "I wanted to do something to give back to help families with children who have life threatening diseases." Her fundraising goal is \$5,000. All donations can be made directly to St. Jude through their official fundraising PAGE. For every \$10 donated from Feb. 24-May 31, you get an entry into a raffle to be held on June 1 to win

gift certificates for local gift cards (ex., brunch for two at Fresh Salt Restaurant at Saybrook Point Resort & Marina, or Madison Health Foods Store).

When Alyssa had her second child, he was in the NICU for ten days. When she had her third child, they went home after two days. Unfortunately, the doctors didn't catch his complications until many doctors and specialists visits later. "He had so many surgeries over the next year, that I lost count of how many times he has been put to sleep. All of those countless visits

and overnight stays were in the children's hospitals at Duke University of North Carolina and Harvard University-Boston Children's Hospital. I will never forget the fear of the unknown each and every time we stepped into those hospitals. Not just for my son, but for all of the other families there also. I'll never forget the look on the staff's faces when a child was lost or the screams from the parents. I cannot imagine their pain." She is very grateful that her story turned out okay. "When my son was 20 months old, he was finally cleared from all of his health issues and has no complications today. To celebrate his victory, I wanted to do something to give back to help families with children who have life threatening diseases. This is why I am choosing to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital."

St. Jude shares treatments and discoveries to help save thousands more children. No child is denied treatment based on race, religion, or a family's ability to pay. Not only do they provide treatment for the child, but they offer free housing for families who need to travel there for treatment.

To learn more, or to follow her progress, check out her Facebook page.

COMMUNITY

RiverCOG Residents: Rain Barrels, Compost Bins offered at discount

By Cathy Iino, Killingworth First Selectman

Help reduce trash by composting at home!

Residents in the towns that are part of RiverCOG are being offered compost bins and rain barrels at a discount because they are ordered in bulk.

Residents are to go to the website and place their order. Orders must be placed by May 14, 2020. The

date to pick up products is on May 17, 2020 at:

Middletown 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Veteran's Memorial Park, Walnut Grove Road

Old Saybrook 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Tractor Supply – 401 Middlesex Turnpike

For more information, call Janice at 860-581-8554 or

Kim at 860-638-4855.

RiverCOG is the council of governments for the 17 lower Connecticut River valley region municipalities: Cromwell, Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Middlefield, Middletown, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland, and Westbrook.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE H6

HK Recreation Department: Spring programs & activities, part 1

Continued from previous page

Session 2: Thursdays, May 7 – June 4 at Burr Elementary School Library

BABYSITTER'S TRAINING COURSE

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering the American Red Cross Babysitting Course. Class will meet Mondays, April 13, 20 and 27 from 5:45 – 7:45 p.m. Both will be held in the HKHS Lower Media Center. The fee is \$75 each session and includes a Red Cross Babysitting Manual and Certificate. Non-residents please add \$10. The course is for students ages 10 – 15, and is designed to prepare them for babysitting.

This American Red Cross Program has been updated to include Basic Child Care, First Aid for breathing and bleeding emergencies, and injury prevention as well as covering other important topics to prepare

young adults for babysitting. Students will not become certified in CPR or 1st Aid, but will gain knowledge. This class is an excellent opportunity to help students build self-confidence as well as job leadership, and decision-making skills.

TODDLER SWIM CLASSES

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Parent & Tot and Pre-School swim classes this spring. Parent and Tot is for toddlers 9 months to 3 years olds (with Parent) from 6:30 – 7:00 p.m. and Pre-school swim is for 3 year olds without the parent from 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. Class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 12 – June 4 at the HK High School Pool. The fee is \$75 or \$60 with new pool membership for residents and \$85 for non-residents. The parent and tot class is an excellent opportunity for parents to acquaint their children with the water and begin development of swimming techniques. A parent

or guardian must accompany the child in the water at all times. The pre-school swim class is the perfect opportunity for your toddler to start swim lesson in a group instructional setting without the parent in the water with them.

SWIM LESSONS (Children and Adult)

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering Swim lessons this Spring for children and adults. Classes are conducted at the HK High School Pool. Lessons meet Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Session 4 & Session 5 are from March 31 – April 30 (No Class 4/7, 4/9) Children's Swim Lessons (ages 4 and up) are from 6:00 – 6:40 p.m. or 6:50 – 7:30 p.m. and Adult Semi-Private Swim Lessons are from 7:50 – 8:30 p.m. The fee is \$75/ \$60 with pool membership / and \$85 for non-residents each session. \$5 Sibling discount.



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Lent / Easter / Passover 2020 worship schedule

Schedules for the following churches/synagogues have been provided:

Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek (CBSRZ), 55 East Kings Highway, Chester
 Congregational Church of Killingworth, 273 Route 81, Killingworth
 Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 50 Emanuel Church Road, Killingworth
 First Congregational Church of Haddam, 905 Saybrook Road, Haddam
 Haddam Neck Congregational Church, 408 Quarry Hill Road, Haddam Neck
 Higganum Congregational Church, 23 Parsonage Road, Higganum
 Higganum United Methodist Church, 248 Saybrook Road, Higganum
 St. James Episcopal Church, 498 Killingworth Road, Higganum
 St. Lawrence Catholic Church, 7 Hemlock Drive, Killingworth
 St. Peter's Catholic Church, St. Peter Lane, Higganum
 Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church, 220 Turkey Hill Road, Haddam

Sundays in Lent (March 1 – April 5)

9:30 a.m. Sunday Services in March will be at First Congregational Church of Haddam; April Services will be at Higganum Congregational Church (March 15: Experience the Refreshment of Water; March 22: And the Healing of Light; March 29: Seek Connection with God's Love; April 5: and Join in the Expectation of Change)

Wednesdays in Lent (March 4 – April 8)

12:00 noon – prayer in the Memorial Garden of Higganum Congregational Church

Thursdays in Lent (March 5 – April 9)

6:00 p.m. Congregational Church of Killingworth will host suppers, followed by services at 7:00 p.m. Suppers are open to everyone at no charge. Lent symbolizes a time of new beginnings, a season of reflection, and preparation for Easter. For more information, please contact the church at 860-663-1789.

Tuesday, March 24

7:00-8:30 p.m. "Ask a Chaplain" at Higganum Congregational Church. Retired Director of Religious Ministries at Yale New Haven Hospital, Rev. Peg Lewis, will share spiritual resources for common issues people face and then respond to participant questions. Light refreshments will be served.

Friday, April 3

6:00 p.m. Living Stations of the Cross – Teens in Action reenact events of Good Friday, including crucifixion, death, and burial in tomb – in church and on church grounds – St. Lawrence Catholic Church

7:00 p.m. Living Stations of the Cross – Teens in Action Stations will be followed by a pasta dinner fundraiser for the Teens-In-Action Catholic Heart Work Camp trip – St. Peter's Catholic Church

Saturday, April 4

4:00 p.m. Mass & Palm Distribution – St. Lawrence Church

Palm Sunday, April 5

8:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Mass & Palm Distribution – St. Lawrence Catholic Church
 8:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship – Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church
 9:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Service – St. James Episcopal Church
 9:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Service – Higganum United Methodist Church
 9:30 a.m. Intergenerational Service at Higganum Congregational Church with Palms and Communion will transition into a second-hour program, "A Visit to Ancient Jerusalem," a hands-on learning experience of Bible times that will include breakfast, crafts, and music.
 10:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Service – Emmanuel Episcopal Church
 10:00 a.m. Service with palm distribution — Haddam Neck Congregational Church
 10:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship – Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church
 10:00 a.m. Palm Sunday worship. Celebrate with us Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Our children will form a procession with palm branches. After worship, be sure to enjoy a delicious brunch prepared by our Deacons – Congregational Church of Killingworth
 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Mass & Palm Distribution – St. Lawrence Catholic Church

Passover begins: Wednesday, April 8

Holy/Maundy Thursday, April 9

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – St. Lawrence Catholic Church
 6:00 p.m. Seder Dinner/7:30 p.m. Worship. A traditional Jewish Seder dinner will prepare us for the Tenebrae Service of communion, scripture, music, and the extinguishing of candles – Congregation Church in Killingworth
 6:00 p.m. Community Passover Seder (2nd night) – Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek (CBSRZ) RSVP Required. 860-536-8920 for more information
 6:30 p.m. Agape Simple Supper Service – Emmanuel Episcopal Church
 6:30 p.m. Agape Supper – St. James Episcopal Church
 7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper – St. Lawrence Catholic Church
 7:00 p.m. Mass – St. Peter's Catholic Church
 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service – Higganum United Methodist Church
 7:00 p.m. Solemn Service of Communion and Tenebrae — First Congregational Church of Haddam
 8:00 – 10:00 p.m. Adoration – St. Lawrence Catholic Church

Good Friday, April 10

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – St. Lawrence Catholic Church
 3:00 p.m. The Passion & Veneration of the Cross, and Communion – St. Lawrence Catholic Church

3:00 p.m. The Passion & Veneration of the Cross – St. Peter's Catholic Church

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross – St. Lawrence Catholic Church

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service – Emmanuel Episcopal Church

7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service – Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church

Saturday, April 11

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer – St. Lawrence Catholic Church

8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil – St. Lawrence Catholic Church

8:00 p.m. Holy Saturday Mass – St. Peter's Catholic Church

Easter Sunday, April 12

6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service – St. Peter's Catholic Church

6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service at Haddam Meadows (hosted by Higganum Congregational Church/First Congregational Church of Haddam; everyone is welcome, including leashed dogs); breakfast to follow at First Congregational Church of Haddam

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service in the Labyrinth – St. James Episcopal Church (breakfast served between services)

7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service in open field on Quarry Hill Road, Haddam Neck, followed by potluck breakfast at the church parish hall – Haddam Neck Congregational Church

8:30 a.m. Easter Mass – St. Lawrence Catholic Church

8:30 a.m. Service followed by Easter Egg Hunt – St. Peter's Catholic Church

8:30 a.m. Easter Worship – Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church

9:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Service – Higganum United Methodist Church

9:00 a.m. Easter Service – St. James Episcopal Church

9:30 a.m. Easter Service which will feature special music, followed by a traditional Easter Egg Hunt during fellowship time – Higganum Congregational Church

10:00 a.m. Easter Service – Congregational Church of Killingworth

10:00 a.m. Easter Worship – Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church

10:00 a.m. Easter service in church sanctuary – Haddam Neck Congregational Church

10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Service – Emmanuel Episcopal Church

10:30 a.m. Easter Mass – St. Lawrence Catholic Church

11:00 a.m. Easter Service – St. Peter's Catholic Church

If you belong to a church or other place of worship in town and you would like your services included on this list, please email us at editors@haddamnews.org.

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Parmelee Farm's 2020 truncated Maple Syrup Season

By Clark Judge

Blame it on climate change, global warming or just plain bad luck, but a mild winter in Killingworth has claimed its first victim.

No, the house isn't going anywhere. But a cache of machinery to boil, process and bottle maple syrup is. Volunteers at the Farm this week started pulling taps and shutting down the operation, with their final sale this weekend. That's not only earlier than last year when the Sugar House began selling maple syrup; it's two weeks earlier.

In 2019 volunteers collected and processed sap from the Farm's sugar maple trees into late March, with the last batch bottled on March 25. Twelve months later, however, they shut down the second week of the month for a reason all too obvious to Killingworth residents.

"Unusually warm weather for this time of year," said Tim Gannon, chairman of the Parmelee Farm committee.

Rewind the videotape to 2019, and you'll find nearly a foot of snow on March 4. Now fast-forward to this year, and there wasn't a foot of snow the entire winter. In fact, the temperature last Sunday ranged in the mid-50s before soaring into the mid-60s the following afternoon. Worse, at no time this week are temperatures expected to drop below freezing.

While that's good for hikers and dog walkers who frequent the 132-acre Parmelee Farm, it's not for denizens of the Sugar House. The combination of warm days and nights slows the flow of sap and signals the end of maple syrup season, with empty-to-near empty white buckets the evidence. And they are everywhere at Parmelee Farm.

So is Gannon, who oversees the army of volunteers who process the sap and produce the syrup. He conceived the idea of starting a Sugar House over two years ago, then approached Parmelee problem-solver John Byrne ("I present the problem," said Gannon, "and he solves it") about constructing it. When Byrne said the building could be done at minimal cost, the project was launched. Funding was sought through public contributions, grants were secured, construction services were donated and labor was performed by —



Tim Gannon (right) with volunteers Terry Doyle (far left) and Don Milnes take time out from processing the last of this year's maple syrup. Photos by Clark Judge.



Tim Gannon (right) with volunteers Terry Doyle (far left) and Don Milnes take time out from processing the last of this year's maple syrup. Photos by Clark Judge.

who else? — volunteers.

Construction began in early July, 2018. It was completed on Aug. 24, just seven weeks later.

"One of our missions at Parmelee Farm is educa-

tion and agriculture," said Gannon, a former teacher. "(Producing syrup) is something that was done here at one point by farmers, and we just figured it would be natural fit."

He was right. In its first year of operation, the Sugar House's 110 taps yielded 41.8 gallons of syrup, and every bottle was sold. That provoked Gannon to raise the bar in 2020. Two-hundred taps were installed, nearly twice the number of 2019. A vacuum pump was introduced to connect 72 of the taps to the Sugar House through an extensive network of plastic tubes. There were more volunteers, with 20 regulars available to collect, bottle and label the syrup. And there were more trees, tapped at remote locations in Killingworth and transported to Parmelee.

The idea was to double production from 2019, but that didn't happen. While Parmelee produced

Continued on page H12

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Haddam Social Services/Senior Center changes due to COVID-19

By Jessica Condil, Haddam Social Services & Senior Center Director

As of March 13, 2020 we have canceled the regular shopping trip for the next two weeks. We will offer one this coming Tuesday, March 17, of 2020, to give seniors an opportunity to get to Walmart and get any supplies they need. On March 24 and 31, 2020 we will not offer shopping.

We will continue to offer meals on our regular scheduled days (Monday, Wednesday, Friday) but all other activities have been canceled.

We recommend people follow the CDC guidelines and we will continue the senior meals as long as we can safely.

Social Services will remain on its normal schedule. We do ask clients if they are experiencing any cold symptoms to refrain from coming to the office.

HKHS BOYS SWIM

Boys place 2nd in conference championship

By Kristin Mazziotti

The Haddam Killingworth High School Boys Swim Team placed second with 286 points in the Nutmeg Conference Championship on Thursday, March 5. Senior Eli Houlton was named Swimmer of the Meet. The team is now preparing for the Class M State Trials Championship meet which will be held on March 14, 2020 in East Hartford.



HK HIGHLIGHTS:

(First Place Finishes in Bold)

200 Medley Relay

2nd Kyle Mazziotti (HK), Jack Ferguson (HK), Jimmy Clemente (HK), Colby Kish (HK) 1:46.29

200 Freestyle

1st Eli Houlton (HK) 1:47.12

200 IM

4th Egan Rothrock (Valley) 2:14.36

5th Connor Levy (Morgan) 2:19.35

50 Freestyle

6th Jimmy Clemente 24.75

100 Butterfly

4th Jimmy Clemente (HK) 59.51

5th Connor Levy (Morgan) 1:04.59

100 Freestyle

1st Kyle Mazziotti (HK) 49.80

500 Freestyle

1st Eli Houlton (HK) 4:53.40

3rd Jack Ferguson (HK) 5:17.65

200 Freestyle Relay

2nd Colby Kish (HK) Egan Rothrock (Valley), Connor Levy (Morgan), Connor Schipritt (HK) 1:37.97

100 Backstroke

1st Kyle Mazziotti (HK) 55.37

5th Colby Kish (HK) 1:05.27

100 Breaststroke

2nd Jack Ferguson (HK) 1:06.50

4th Egan Rothrock (Valley) 1:08.02

6th Matt Scowronek (Valley) 1:16.99

400 Freestyle Relay

1st Jimmy Clemente (HK), Kyle Mazziotti (HK), Jack Ferguson (HK), Eli Houlton (HK) 3:27.84

HKHS GYMNASTICS



Gagliardi places 10th in State Open; advances to New England Championships

Stats provided by Juliana Gagliardi

On Saturday, March 7, Juliana Gagliardi, captain of the HK/Hale-Ray/Morgan Gymnastics team competed in the Connecticut State Open Championships. The top 40 gymnasts in the state in each event (vault, bars, beam, and floor) compete, as well as the top 20 gymnasts

in the all around. Juliana qualified to compete in the all around.

Juliana placed 5th in Beam (9.0), 11th on Floor (8.8), 13th on vault (8.85), and 23rd on Bars (8.25). In the All-around, she was 10th (34.9). That qualified her to compete at the New England Championships in the All-around on Saturday, March 14.

LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF HADDAM PLANNING AND ZONING PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPROVAL

The Planning and Zoning Commission of Haddam, Connecticut held a Public Hearing at the Haddam Town Hall, 21 Field Park Dr., Haddam, CT on March 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. and approved the following item (s):

1. Approved a special permit to allow for 24/7 Fitness Gym in existing facility with conditions.
66 Killingworth Rd. Map 14 Lot 29-1 Applicant: Polke Grace Associates
2. Approved a special permit to convert multiuse commercial building to accommodate/house a therapeutic and wellness center with conditions.
7 Island Dock Rd. Map 26 Lot 007A Applicant: West Wind LLC

Planning and Zoning Commission, Haddam CT

LEGAL NOTICE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TOWN OF HADDAM

All electors and citizens qualified to vote at Town Meetings of the Town of Haddam, Connecticut are hereby warned and notified that there will be a Special Town Meeting on March 24, 2020 at 6:30 pm at the Firehouse, Community Room, 439 Saybrook Road, Higganum, Connecticut, 06441 for the following purposes:

1. To elect a moderator.
2. To fill the vacancy for a board member of Regional District # 17 - Board of Education.

Dated in Haddam, Connecticut this 19th day of March 2020.

Board of Selectmen: Robert McGarry, Kate Anderson & Sean Moriarty

TOWN OF HADDAM PLANNING AND ZONING PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning and Zoning Commission of Haddam, Connecticut will hold a Public Hearing at the Haddam Town Hall, 21 Field Park Dr., Haddam, CT on April 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. to act upon the following item(s):

1. Request for a special permit for an 800s.f. accessory apartment within a 31x28 garage currently under construction.
6 Soobitski Rd, Map 43 lot 27-1. Applicant: Philip Powell

Said applications are on file in the Land Use Office of the Town of Haddam.

Planning and Zoning Commission, Haddam CT

TOWN OF HADDAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING

The Zoning Board of Appeals Haddam, Connecticut will hold a Public Hearing and Meeting at the Haddam Town Hall, 21 Field Park Dr., Haddam, CT on March 26, 2020 at 7:00 to act upon the following item (s):

Public Hearing and Meeting:

1. A variance to allow a third dwelling unit on a parcel in the R-2 A Zone. Property located at Map 46 Lot 025.
156 Jail Hill Rd, Haddam CT. Applicant: Carla Marino Marek
2. A variance to allow for the creation of a building lot with less than the required 200' of road frontage.
Property located at Map 52 Lot 16. Cedar Lake Rd, Higganum CT. Applicant: Shawn Monroe

Said application is on file in the Land Use Office of the Town of Haddam. Zoning Board of Appeals, Haddam CT

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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Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Higganum

By Sally Haase

As a newbie in town (we came in 1970), whenever I travelled along Candlewood Hill Road, I was always curious about the beautiful estate there and would take a glimpse of it as I rounded the curve at the end of Brainard Hill. It's been years of taking glimpses as we all know that you should really keep your eyes on the road at that point. A few years ago it was opened to the Haddam Historical Society as part of a tour of the mills along Candlewood Hill Brook and then again last fall as one of the properties in their house tour.

The sign at the end of the driveway reads "Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus." While we know that the place was once mill

No.2 of the D. and H. Scovil Company, I wondered about the transition from factory to a Catholic order of Sisters. And so, I sat down with Sr. Doretta D'Albero to learn a little more.

Sr. Doretta is an energetic lady who has a wealth of knowledge about the Scovil properties and a love of history. But first let's begin with asking who the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus are?

In 1861, Clelia Merloni (Clay-lee-a) was born in Italy into an extremely wealthy family and whose father expected his educated and gifted child to follow him into the world of business. Instead, through the religious values and love of God instilled in her by her grandmother and her step mother, she chose a life of devotion to God, the poor and the oppressed. In 1888, Sr. Clelia was "dressed in the religious habit." Soon after, she opened an orphanage for girls, unwed mothers and elderly women. In 1894, she founded an order dedicated to The Sacred Heart of Jesus.

When her father died, she inherited his estate intending to use it for the benefit of the unfortunate. However, a greedy, incompetent administrator squandered the funds. So began a period of humiliation, slander and suspicion.

When all the money was lost by 1899, Bishop Scalabrini helped the Order financially and they helped him by sending Sisters to Brazil and the US to help the Italian immigrants who were seeking a new life abroad. In 1902 six sisters arrived in Boston. But again, a series of misunderstandings drove the order to where? - New Haven, CT in 1906, Hamden, CT in 1948 and eventually Higganum.



Blessed Mother Clelia Merloni.

In Higganum, the old Scovil Mill #2 sat quietly, no longer manufacturing hoes for southern plantations or ramrods for the Civil War. In the early thirties, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Benham, Broadway actors from New York, purchased the property of 50 acres which included two lakes, a dam and a waterfall surrounded by woodland. They called it Juniper Ridge. The Benhams gutted the interior of the far building and remodeled it for their country resort. Next to it, most of the second factory building was demolished by the Higganum fire department using high pressure water hoses. What was left of it became a garage. The Benhams owned the property for some 30 years, entertaining actors

and show business greats. Both Benhams (she was Christine Mangasarian) were Broadway musical actors during WWI and the twenties but Earl Benham also was a costume designer, a respected tailor to the stars and who wrote WWI ballads such as "Curly Locks" and "When." One can only imagine who their visitors might have been: George M. Cohan, Jerome Kern, Victor Herbert, or Ed Wynn?

In 1964, the Benhams sold the property to Mount Sacred Heart of Hamden, CT for the use of the Sisters of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, for \$78k. It was used by the order as a place of spiritual renewal. And so it still is. Now it is used as a spirituality center for religious organizations such as priests and religious congregations. One group has been coming on the first Sunday of the month for forty years.

The sisters live on the property, tending to the grounds and managing the events. They are associated as parishioners of Higganum's St. Peter's Catholic Church, although Sr. Doretta teaches 7th grade catechism. Their calling, however, is their devotion to the values and ministries of their foundress, Mother Clelia. Sr. Dominic Joseph, for instance, is a pastoral associate at St. Patrick Church in East Hampton whose duties include visiting and bringing Communion to the homebound and convalescent homes. Sr. Jerilyn is a CT Department of Correction Religious Service Chaplain at the Hartford Correctional Center. Sr. Karen is the Faith Formation Director at St. Junipero Serra Church in South Windsor. Sr. Doretta works in her office on the property, occasionally taking time out to run the lawn tractor to

work on the grounds. She has a Master of Science in Liberal Arts with a concentration in Biology from Wesleyan University and is proficient in spoken and written Italian. Her current mission is translating documents related to Mother Clelia and the process of her beatification from Italian to English for all to share. In Sr. Doretta's words, she is "excited to know her more personally" through the documents, letters and testimonies she translating.

In November of 2018, Sr. Doretta traveled to Rome for the Beatification of Mother Clelia. The process of becoming a saint in the Catholic Church is not easy. It starts five years after the death of the person in the diocese in which the candidate was born or died. The bishop will then gather evidence as to the life of holiness and virtue of that candidate. If he is satisfied with his findings he petitions the Congregation of the Causes of Saints to begin its deliberation. If they are in agreement they will pass their recommendation on to the Pope. If the Pope finds that the candidate has led a "heroic life" in holiness prayer, and work, the Pope will bestow the title "Venerable." This means that the candidate is on the list and is waiting for a miracle attributed to their intercession. A miracle then shows that the person has the ability to intercede with God on another's behalf through prayer. The celebration at this point is called Beatification ("to make blessed") and the candidate is given the title "Blessed." It means that the candidate is truly in Heaven with God. The final step to sainthood requires a second miracle.

And, what was the miracle attributed to Mother Clelia? In 1951 a Brazilian doctor was at the edge of death with paralysis from Guillain-Barre syndrome. He had great difficulty breathing and swallowing. His wife was told he would not make it through the night. The wife sought out a Sister to ask for prayers. The Sister recommended prayers to say to Mother Clelia and gave her a relic (a thread from her clothing.) The relic was placed in a spoon of water to be given to the patient. While he had not been able to swallow, he managed to take a sip. Suddenly he was able to drink from a cup and then was given custard to eat. Within weeks, he was walking and never showed signs of the disease again.

Sr. Doretta will tell you that Blessed Mother Clelia was "pure in faith and hope, generous beyond words, and always sacrificing for sinners."

The sisters are good stewards of the Candlewood property, respecting its history when they repair and renovate. If this special place is opened for a public tour again, don't miss the opportunity to visit it. Until then be advised that it is private property. Just take a quick glimpse as you go by.

This article and photos are with the approval of The Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Hamden, CT. The official website for Mother Clelia is: www.madreclelia.org.

HADDAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HHS scholarship applications available

By Elizabeth Malloy, Executive Director, Haddam Historical Society

The Haddam Historical Society is pleased to announce it is again offering a \$500 scholarship to a resident of Haddam, Higganum, or Haddam Neck

and senior student at Haddam-Killingworth High School. The application and instructions forms are available at the Haddam-Killingworth High School Guidance Office.

Scholarship chairman, Susann Costa, notes that the 2020 award will be the 8th consecutive year the Haddam Historical Society has bestowed an award and is delighted to be able to help support the continued education of a deserving student and advocate for the importance of history both locally and globally.

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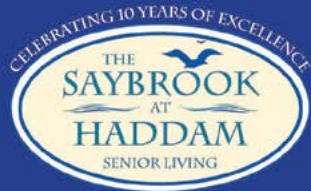
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HADDAM COMMUNITY

Haddam Club 60 Scholarship information

By Carol Ricker

Haddam Club 60 is offering a \$750.00 scholarship to a high school senior who lives in Haddam, Higganum, or Haddam Neck. It is available to students attending Haddam Killingworth High School, Mercy, Xavier, Vinal Regional or home schooled. Applicants should be interested in entering the medical field. Last year's recipient was Sadie Strom who is attending The University of Vermont.

Applications are in the guidance offices of these schools and must be returned April 3, 2020. For more information, please call Bruce or Carol Ricker at 860-345-8450.

HADDAM VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Easter Flower Sale: April 9-10

By Betty Cernan

Members of the Haddam Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary will hold their annual Easter Flower Sale on Thursday, April 9, and Friday, April 10, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The sale takes place outside the Higganum Branch of the Liberty Bank at the Village Plaza, 26 Killingworth Road. Easter lilies, hyacinths, tulips, and other spring plants will be available. This sale supports the Auxiliary Scholarship Fund.

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Maple syrup

Continued from page H9

more syrup than the previous year, it wasn't much more – with 56 gallons bottled before an early spring ended operations.

"Under normal circumstances," Gannon said, "if we had two more weeks – which is what we had last year – and if the weather cooperated from a freeze/thaw standpoint, we would have done it. It's the type of thing where you're at the mercy of the weather."

Nevertheless, he and his volunteers -- some of whom worked all week -- consider the season a success, and it's easy to see why. The vacuum system saved on labor. More persons pitched in to help. Fifteen boys and girls from Haddam-Killingworth Middle School formed a Sugaring Club, working twice a week at the Sugar House. And local groups like the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and a photography club took weekend tours.

More to the point, the demand was as strong as it was a year ago. Eight-and-12 oz. bottles of syrup sold out four consecutive weekends ... including last weekend when the Farm limited customers to two bottles apiece.

"Other than the weather," said Gannon, "we're pleased. We had more volunteers this year than we had last year. More new people signed up. The people who volunteered on a regular basis were here on a regular basis. And people who were willing to collect, as well as let us tap, made a big difference."

That's the good news. The better is that as operations wound down this week, the Farm set aside bottled syrup for the state's first Maple Weekend, scheduled for March 21-22. But officials on Thursday canceled the event because of the coronavirus outbreak, so Gannon and Co. will make the last batch – a collection of 69 12-oz. and 48 8-oz. bottles – available for sale this weekend (10 a.m. – 4 a.m.) But that's it for the winter. The next time you'll see Parmelee Farm syrup marketed will be September at the annual Artisan Market.

"I want to say thanks to all our volunteers who came out this year," Gannon said. "More people know the process now."

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April 12, 2020



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