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

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March 26, 2020

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

Free weekly

Due to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation in our nation, state, and town, we have made the difficult decision to suspend temporarily the publication of our print edition. As always, we will continue to provide daily (even hourly) updates on our news website: www.haddam-killingworthnow.com, so be sure to check there for the latest information. Keep calm, stay well, and we will get through this together.

- From all of us here at Haddam Killingworth News

# **Shoreline** food resources

By Jessica Condil, Haddam Social Services & Senior Center Director

Haddam Social Services is still open by appointment only and we are still providing grab and go lunches from the Haddam Senior Center. Here are other resources for food during COVID-19:

#### **Town Social Services Departments**

Chester Food Pantry (pre-bagged food available for residents): Chester Town Hall, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - noon. Call ahead 860-526-0013 x213

Deep River Food Pantry (pre-bagged food available for residents): 56 High Street, Tuesday 9:00 a.m.-noon, Thursday 1:00-4:00 p.m. Call ahead 860-526-6033

Essex Social Services (Grocery giftcards available for residents): 29 West Ave, Essex. By appointment only. Call ahead 860-767-4340 x201

#### The Shoreline Soup **Kitchens & Pantries**

SSKP Food pantries will remain open. Pre-bagged food available.

St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church, 222 McVeagh Road, Westbrook, Tuesdays 1:00-2:45 p.m.

First Church of Christ in Saybrook, 366 Main Street, Old Saybrook, Tuesdays 3:00-5:00 p.m.

First Church of Christ, Congregational, 55 Church Road, Clinton, Wednesdays 5:45-7:45 p.m.

St. John's Episcopal Church, 400 Main Street, Niantic, Thursdays, 5:00-6:00

First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, 2 Ferry Road, Old Lyme, Saturdays 9:00-11:00 a.m.

#### **Grab & Go Lunches** at Local Schools (bagged lunch & breakfast for the next day)

RSD 17 (Haddam Killingworth), Continued on page H4



### Killingworth resident inducted into Martial Arts Hall of Fame

By Stephen Watson

The world headquarters of Oriental Martial Arts College in Reynoldsburg, Ohio once again played host to the Bruce Lee & Arnold Legend of Martial Arts Hall of Honor ceremony this past Friday evening as the 44th Battle of Columbus Martial Arts World Games got underway at the Ohio State Fairgrounds in nearby Columbus, Ohio.

Stephen Watson, of Killingworth's Someday Farm was inducted into the Hall of Honor as a "Bruce Lee Legend." Sifu Watson (Sifu is the title given to an instructor of Chinese Martial Arts) is an International, 18-time US, and now World Champion in Taiji Push Hands. Push Hands is the lesser-known aspect of Tai Chi study which invites two people to offer a challenge to one another's balance, thus testing their abilities to hew to the Tai Chi model of perfect balance...balance of mind, of heart, of body, of spirit. Stephen, in his acceptance speech, said, "Having had my teacher die just over a year ago, I've spent a year considering what was lost in the martial arts. Tonight, among such talent and open hearts, I am reminded of all that has not been lost in the martial arts. Thank you, most humbly."

Stephen travels the world offering workshops on various Chinese martial arts. Stephen Watson is the only person to compete in, referee at, and teach at martial arts tournaments for every umbrella organization at their national level. Stephen Watson is a regular poetry contributor to Internal Arts Online magazine and is known the world over for his engaging personality, kind-hearted approach to teaching and, of course, his world-class skill. His latest endeavor is to teach through poetry and fine art and his current show can be seen for the remainder of March at Clinton Art Gallery.

About Someday Farm: The studio is a center for nonviolence and classical studies of meditation, healing and martial endeavors based upon love, oneness, service, and release. Operating from a small studio on a working horse farm, students find private and small group study opportunities in such modalities as Meditation, Tai Chi, Aikido, Self Defense, and Breathing.

## Haddam announces COVID-19 containment measures

By Robert McGarry, Haddam First Selectman

On March 16, 2020 I issued an emergency declaration for Haddam. COVID-19 is real, it deserves your attention but there is no need for overreaction or panic. We will get through this. As the situation evolves rapidly, I'm making every effort to keep you aware of our actions to keep Haddam safe. There will undoubtedly be more changes to events and town government, please stay informed by signing up for news and alerts under the quick links on our website www.haddam.org.

As of Tuesday, March 17, town offices will be open by appointment only during normal hours. Call 860-345-8531 for an appointment. Click here for a list of extensions. \*\*PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE\*\*

Rental of town buildings is suspended until the states of emergency are lifted. If you have scheduled a rental between now and April 30th, we'll contact you to arrange return of your deposit.

As of Wednesday, March 18, the Senior Center will be closed. Box lunches will be available for those who need them. Call 860-345-4621 or 860-345-2480 for more details.

RSD17 Schools are closed until further notice. Updates, including a food service plan for any student under the age of 18, can be found on the District website, http://www.rsd17.org

Governor Lamont announced further restrictions that apply to restaurants, bars, gyms and other businesses which go into effect at 8:00 tonight. Go to https://portal. ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/ News/Press-Releases/2020/03-2020/ Northeast-Governors-From-Connecticut-New-York-New-Jersey-Announce-Collective-Measures for more

As a community, we need to come together and help each other. We've done that before and I know we can do

Follow practices which limit the Continued on page H4

# Social distancing: What it is, why we should do it

By Kathy Brown

As the mother of an immunocompromised adolescent, and the daughter of an 82 year old man with COPD, I am taking this seriously. This is why you should take it seriously as well.

According to a Newsweek article published this morning, "More than 152,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 5,393 deaths have been reported, according to the World Health Organization as of Sunday morning, as the new coronavirus pandemic spreads around the world."

Social distancing is a form of virus control where people stay apart. Schools are closed until at least March 31, restaurants, bars, and gyms are now shut down in Connecticut as well. The government is taking it seriously. This is not the time for playdates and sleepovers, nor is it a time where you should have all of your friends over for a party or to meet a group of ten to go for a walk. It isn't going to stop you from going outside and getting some fresh air; in fact, fresh air is great. But social distancing is necessary if we don't want to end up like China or Italy. Here are the most current stats of the disease: https://gisand-data.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index. html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6

© Provided by Quartz Death rate for every 100,000 people in Philadelphia and St. Louis between Sep 14, 1918 and Dec 28, 1918.

In 1918, a little more than 100 years ago, we had an outbreak of the "Spanish Flu." Some cities made changes, and some did not. Here is a chance for us to learn from our own history. St. Louis canceled their parade, and Philadelphia did not. Philadelphia had 200,000 people attend their Liberty Loan parade; by the end of that week, 4,500 people were dead. By comparison in St. Louis, within two days of its first cases, St. Louis closed schools, playgrounds, libraries, churches, and more, and they had fewer than half of the deaths per capita as Philadelphia.

Social distancing is meant to break the cycle of infection. For someone who has been exposed to the virus, or someone that has traveled to one of the pandemic areas, for instance, there is isolation or quarantine. For the rest of us, we should be keeping away from other people as much as we can. That means we should think twice (or more) about going out in public; only go if it is necessary. And if you do go, stay a safe distance from other people (CDC recommends at least six feet). If you're stocking up, stock up on non-perishables: pasta, rice, dried beans, flour, sugar, canned meats and vegetables so you can

stay in longer than two weeks if necessary. If you're in an older age bracket or are immunocompromised, maybe someone else can run that necessary errand for you. If you do need to go, wash your hands before and after, and don't touch your face. I've been wiping down my steering wheel after each drive as well. Remember that if your child goes on a playdate, your child is exposed to everyone in that house, PLUS everyone that those people have had contact with in the last two weeks. If you meet your friends for coffee, you're exposed to them, plus everyone they've had contact with in the last two weeks, and everyone they've had contact with in the previous two weeks.

The government's goal of social distancing is to flatten the curve of transmission so that if and when people get sick, our healthcare system will be able to handle it. Below is a graph showing what social distancing can accomplish.

CDC recommendations for the general population:

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick

Put distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. This is

Continued on next page



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# Haddam Killingworth News

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### Social distancing: What it is and why we should do it

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especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.

Throw used tissues in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.

If surfaces are dirty, clean them: Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

As of March 15, the CDC has issued a recommendation that "for the next eight weeks, organizers cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States." They also have a page where you can see the latest updates for COVID-19.

The CDC recommends this for high-risk individuals because of age or pre-existing conditions:

Stock up on supplies.

Take everyday precautions to keep space between yourself and others.

When you go out in public, keep away from others who are sick, limit close contact and wash your hands often.

Avoid crowds as much as possible.

Avoid cruise travel and non-essential air travel.

During a COVID-19 outbreak in your community,

stay home as much as possible to further reduce your risk of being exposed.

Check on those high risk individuals by phone or email to ensure that they stay healthy, and see if they need anything if you need to go out on an errand.

Keep small businesses in mind during this time. My husband and I had an appointment with a lawyer for this evening; we chose to do our business by phone and email instead of an in-office visit. Order takeout from a restaurant since we can no longer eat at them, so that they don't need to close their doors forever. Order a gym membership for when this is over to keep the gyms in business. Purchase a gift certificate for later.

On the bright side, there are ways this is pulling the community together. Blue Fire Stage Company is hosting a Virtual Showcase for students to share their talent. Regional School District #17 is providing meals for children during the school shutdown (see this article for more information).

Are you looking for something to do for you or your children? Here are some ideas:

These museums are offering virtual tours: https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours

RSD 17 educators have been preparing for this and offer at home learning opportunities on their website. For example, even for Kindergarten, they offer links to online reading sources such as Lexia and PebbleGo. For grade 4, there is math and ELA packets, as well as links to online reading sources, a science resource, and a writing assignment. For grade 8, they have Reading and Math packets as well as online learning at the Holocaust Museum. For high school, the teachers have updated their online classrooms with assignments and resources. There are resources for every grade.

Scholastic is offering free online courses while schools are shut down: https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html

Celebrities reading stories online: https://www.storylineonline.net/

Take a family walk (bring a garbage bag and clean up the roadsides too)

Play games – there are many games to play with a simple deck of cards if you don't have any board games. Teach your child to play Solitaire (I learned when I was 6 years old, and I passed many a day playing). Tweens and teens can learn Trash, Spades, Hearts, Setback, Euchre, and more.

Build a puzzle

Color

Find a pen pal. You know that friend they made at camp, a cousin that they don't see very often, a grand-parent, an aunt or uncle? Have them write a letter, or if they're too young to write, draw a picture.

Play outside. Teach your child how to rake leaves if you didn't do it in the fall. Plant some seeds.

Have the kids help with meals. Measuring items teaches math, as well as reading carefully.

Meigs Point Nature Center is doing live nature programs on their Facebook page.

Watch Broadway shows from the comfort of your couch with this link: https://www.playbill.com/article/15-broadway-plays-and-musicals-you-can-watch-on-stage-from-home.

Our communities will get through this because we support each other, and if at the end of this, a minimal number of people get sick, remember, that was the point.



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### When Should I Hire an Attorney for a Divorce Versus Represent Myself?

#### By Attorney Makana A. Ellis

Divorces can be very complicated. Particularly when you own property, have children, and/or planning to retire soon. I am sure you know the old adage, "You don't know what you don't know." Even when you think you know, it will be worthwhile to consult with an attorney so you are not stuck making up for the amount of money or headaches you could have saved or earned if you had obtained legal advice. Even if you don't believe you can afford one, you may have options including contribution by a higher earning spouse to your own legal fees.

Some of the most frequently asked questions are:

- 1. How long will this process take?
- 2. Am I entitled to receive alimony?
- 3. How much will I pay in child support?
- 4. Can I keep the marital home?
- 5. How does this affect my retirement benefits?

If you have questions regarding matters that can have tremendous effects on your children, your income, your property, and/or your retirement benefits, please call **Dzialo, Pickett & Allen, P.C.** for a consultation. Together, we can review your options and help you make decisions that will put you in the best position you can be while you are going through a divorce, and for your future

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#### **Common Nutritional Deficiencies**

If we do not consume or absorb a necessary amount of certain nutrients, then significant conditions can develop. Nutritional deficiencies can lead to poor bone growth, skin, nerve, and digestive conditions. Even in the United States, there are population groups that experience severe nutritional deficiencies while world-wide malnutrition has created a significant disease burden.

**Vitamin D deficiency**, also known as rickets, occurs mostly among elderly, institutionalized or hospitalized persons. There are rare forms of nutritional rickets that are due to a defect in Vitamin D metabolism. But, Vitamin D deficiency is not restricted to elderly, as poor dietary intake and lack of sun exposure affects the young as well. Foods high in Vitamin D are oily fish, fortified milk, and dairy products. The amount of Vitamin D produced by the skin when exposed to sunlight can last twice as long in the body versus ingested Vitamin D.

**Iodine deficiency**- Iodine replacement is indicated for all patients with iodine deficiency. Normal dietary intake of iodine is 100-150ug/day but pregnant and lactating women require 250ug/day. The first sign of iodine deficiency is thyroid enlargement. Patients with severe iodine deficiency have dry skin, bulging eyes, and inflexible muscles.

**Vitamin B-12 deficiency**- is usually diagnosed when a patient exhibits symptoms of sore tongue, weakness, and tingling in their extremities. Vitamin B12 deficiency can lead to a severe condition of brain swelling, severe anemia, or congestive heart failure.

Identification of nutritional deficiencies require a doctor's diagnosis, but a good way to avoid such problems is to eat a healthy diet avoiding sugars, salt and excessive fats.

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# **Online Services during COVID-19**

By Kent Jarrell

While the Brainerd Memorial Library remains closed to the public because of the COVID-19 pandemic, several services remain online at the website https://www.brainerdlibrary.lioninc.org/.

"While our building is shut down, our website is full of information, entertainment, and the ability to get eBooks, music, and magazines," said Library Director Tom Piezzo. "We will keep the site updated as an easy one click portal to online resources that are important and interesting to the Haddam community."

Information includes the latest announcements from the Centers for Disease Control and the National Library of Medicine. Downloadable media, including over 17,000 eBooks from the digital catalog of LION, the regional library consortium, and the Connecticut State Library's digital holdings can

be easily accessed. Your library card also lets you access our subscription to JobNow. This powerful resource offers resume and cover letter assistance, access to a live job coach, skill-building courses, and even homework help.

The Middle School Essay Contest is still open for Grades 6-8 with prizes for the best 200 to 300-word essay on "What happiness means to you." Deadline is March 31st. Prizes will be awarded for the top three essays.

"We don't know yet when we will be able to safely reopen our building or circulate materials, but in the meantime check us out online," said Piezzo.

### **HADDAM COMMUNITY**

## COVID-19 update regarding 2020 Haddam Revaluation

The Assessors Office received the following letter from eQuality regarding the 2020 Revaluation.

*To the Office of the Assessor:* 

In an effort to protect our Data Collectors and your community from getting and spreading the respiratory illness, coronavirus disease, we are implementing this temporary policy. We will not be entering homes. We find that households where someone is home and willing to let us enter, generally are seniors or households with small children. Our employees will practice everyday prevention measures like frequent hand washing, staying home when sick, and covering coughs and sneezes. If they show any signs of not feeling well, they will be removed from the field.

We believe that the impact of this change will be minimal as the public is also reluctant to let people into their homes for this very reason.

Our procedures will be as follows:

The Collectors will approach the home and ring the

If someone is home, they will verify the information at the door.

The signature will be taken using the homeowners pen, or if not available, the collectors will have sanitizing wipes to use one the pen before and after the pen is shared.

The Collector will continue with the Photos and outside measurement of the home.

As with our normal call back process, home owners

will receive a data mailer to provide updated interior information and will also have the opportunity to request an interior inspection. Rather than doing the callbacks as each section is closed, the callback and inspection timeline will be moved to when the CDC announces that the threat level is decreased. At this time, it appears that this will be when the weather gets warmer.

In addition, for Commercial Properties, properties such as Elderly Care facilities and other high-risk public spaces will not be entered until further notices.

Communication to the public of this temporary change can be address on your Towns Website, and if requested, we can update the introductory post card.

### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE H1**

### **Containment**

Continued from page H1

spread of the virus. Personal hygiene and social distancing are of utmost importance. They keep all of us safe.

Check on your neighbors, particularly the elderly. If you're going to the store offer to get things for them.

Stay informed – call 211, go to www. ct.gov/coronavirus or www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html. Be vigilant and stay healthy.

### **Shoreline food resources**

Continued from page H1

Burr Elementary School, 792 Killingworth Road, Higganum, Monday – Friday, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

RSD 4 (Chester/Deep River/Essex), Chester Elementary School, 23 Ridge Road, Chester, Monday – Friday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

RSD 4 (Chester/Deep River/Essex), Deep River Elementary School, 12 River Street, Deep River, Monday – Friday, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

RSD 4 (Chester/Deep River/Essex), Essex Elementary School, 83-87 State Highway 602, Centerbrook, Monday – Friday, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Old Saybrook, Kathleen E.

Goodwin Elementary School, 80 Old Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook, Monday – Friday, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Old Saybrook, Old Saybrook High School, 1111 Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook, Monday – Friday, 9:00 – 10:00

Westbrook, Daisy Ingraham Elementary School 105 Goodspeed Drive, Westbrook, Monday – Friday, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Clinton, Abraham Pierson Elementary School 75 E. Main Street, Clinton, Monday – Friday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Clinton, Morgan High School, 1 Killingworth Turnpike, Clinton, Monday – Friday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



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## Haddam update

By Bob McGarry, Haddam First Selectman

Here are the latest town and local updates on the COVID-19 outbreak. First, a ray of hope. For the first time since the outbreak was identified in Wuhan in December 2019, China reported no new domestic cases.

We have our first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Haddam. The patient is a 70+ year old man who has been in self-isolation and had very little contact with others. He is in the recovery phase and his symptoms are improving. We will continue to get more cases as the infection spreads and testing becomes more available. I won't be giving or probably even getting updates on all of them.

The Town Office Building continues to remain open by appointments only, except for the Land Use Office. We are operating with reduced staffing. Call 860-345-8531 and dial the department extension to get an appointment.

The Land Use Office is closed. The staff is working remotely, checking email and voice mail. See https://www.haddam.org/sites/haddamct/files/ uploads/land\_use\_residental\_commercial\_buliding permits 0.pdf for information on permits, inspections and contacting staff members.

The 2020 revaluation of property has begun. The inspector will visit your house. He will not ask to come in. He is as concerned about COVID-19 as you are and is taking proper cautions to protect you and himself. More information is at March 19th COVID Update RE: 2020 Revaluation

The Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance meetings scheduled for March 23rd are cancelled. We're investigating online options for holding public meetings.

The Town Meeting scheduled for March 24th

to fill a vacated Board of Education seat is postponed. It will be rescheduled when it can be safely held.

The March 28th Hazardous Waste Collection in Clinton is cancelled.

The RSD 17 Budget referendum scheduled for May 5 is postponed and will be rescheduled..

Hearings and the town meeting on the town budget will be delayed until it is safe to do so. The town is investigating available online options to hold a public meeting for a Board of Finance meeting scheduled on March 30.

For more information see the following websites or call 211: · Center for Disease Control, https:// www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html · Connecticut, ct.gov/coronavirus · Connecticut River Area Health District, http://www.crahd.org/

Please help your neighbors, especially the elderly. Support our local businesses, they need us now more than ever.

# COVID-19 case in **Killingworth**

By Cathy Iino, Killingworth First Selectman

The State Department of Public Health has reported that there is a positive case of COVID-19 in Killingworth, a resident over age 60 who has had extremely limited contact with other residents of the town. The resident is self-isolating.

All of us should now assume that there are people infected with the disease in Killingworth, and should follow the guidelines to avoid contracting or spreading the disease:

Stay home if you are sick.

Stay away from crowds

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds

Certified Public Accountants

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Avoid touching your face

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs and phones daily

Maintain social distancing of at least

For the most up-to-date information, visit the COVID-19 section of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, https://www. cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/ index.html.

If you are sick, that site has guidance on what to do and how to protect those close to you.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19, call your primary care physician or a walk-in clinic before going to their office.

We will continue to provide updates on measures Killingworth is taking to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Town Hall is closed until further notice, but we will be checking for messages regularly and will address urgent matters.

### Killingworth copes

By Cathy Iino, Killingworth First Selectman

Hello, Killingworth—

As the coronavirus forces us all to maintain our physical distance, I want to try to maintain our community connections by sending out daily messages during this critical time.

A second Killingworth resident has tested positive for COVID-19. The family is isolating itself.

Going forward, we will not be announcing new cases. We can assume that there are more people infected with the disease in Killingworth and surrounding towns.

Everyone should follow the guidelines to avoid contracting or spreading the disease:

Stay home if you are sick.

Stay away from crowds

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds

Avoid touching your face

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs and phones daily

Maintain social distancing of at least six

For the most up-to-date information, visit the COVID-19 section of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, https://www.cdc.gov/ coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html.

If you are sick, that site has guidance on what to do and how to protect those close to you. The Health Department asks that you call or email those with whom you have recently been in contact and inform them that they have been exposed.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19, call your primary care physician or a walk-in clinic before going to their office.

Town Hall is closed until further notice, but we will be checking for messages regularly and will address urgent matters.

Stay safe, stay home.

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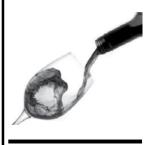
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### RSD #17 provides meals for children during school shutdown

By Holly Hageman, Superintendent, Regional School District #17

This service is for ANY student under the age of 18. Bagged breakfast and lunch will be provided for pick up Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:30-11:30 a.m., starting on Monday, March 16, 2020 at Burr Elementary School.

Parents or guardians should drive behind the school where the Food Service Department will have a station set up as cars drive up and food will be brought to the car.

To assist us in planning for meal preparation, parents or guardians are asked to email Food Services

Director, Sharon Shettleworth (sshettleworth@rsd17. org) to let her know for each week how many days of the week your family needs meals. Families can also leave a voice mail directed to Ms. Shettleworth at 860-345-4534.

Meals will be available in case families do not email or call.

### RSD #17 offers at-home learning opportunities for every grade

Are you looking for something to do for your children? Hoping that your kids don't fall further behind while schools are closed due to COVID-19? RSD 17 educators have been preparing

for this and offer at home learning opportunities on their website: rsd17.org.

For example, even for Kindergarten, they offer links to online reading sources such as Lexia and PebbleGo.

For grade 4, there is math and ELA packets, as well as links to online reading sources, a science resource, and a writing assignment. For grade 8, they have Reading and Math packets as well as online learning at the Holocaust Museum. For high school, the teachers have updated their online classrooms with assignments and resources. There are resources for every grade.

### FAITH / COMMUNITY

### Changes to Church/Synagogue Services due to COVID-19

Due to the Governor canceling groups of 250 or more, and the CDC's recommendations to cancel groups/meetings of 50 or more, many local churches/temples have changed the way their providing for their parishioners. We will update as necessary. Always check www.haddam-killingworthnow.com for the most current information.

Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek has cancelled the Passover seder scheduled for April 9, 2020. We will be live streaming services every Friday evening at 7:30 p.m.

St. James Church, Higganum and Emmanuel Church, Killingworth have suspended all services until further notice. Emmanuel Church will try live streaming here: https://www.facebook.com/ groups/237145316318688/

Haddam Neck Congregational Church is still open for services at this time.

Killingworth Congregational Church has decided to close their Sanctuary until further notice. There WILL be Sunday Worship services via conference call at 10:00 a.m. Conference call information: Dial-in number (712) 832-8330. Dial the number and follow the prompts. Access code: 8926782 followed by the # key. As a reminder, the Lenten Dinners are cancelled and 7:00 p.m. Devotional Service will be by conference call. The same numbers and procedures listed above will be used. In your absence, giving is easy! Please visit the church website to make your online offering or pledge.

Haddam Neck Covenant Church has so far cancelled church services for March 22 and March 29, 2020.

Higganum United Methodist Church: We have decided to close our church at this time. There will be no gathering for worship service from this Sunday, March 15, 2020 all committee meetings, and events including the outside groups that are using our facility. We will reopen our church as soon as the situation becomes better and safer.

Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church is suspending in person services for at least March 22, 2020

First Congregational Church of Haddam and Higganum Congregational Church will move to an online worship format as of this coming Sunday, March 22, 2020 and until further notice. Please contact the church office at fcchaddam@gmail.com to be included in updates or to participate if you are not already on our email mailing list.

St. Peter/St. Lawrence Catholic Church: Beginning effective immediately, Bishop Michael R. Cote has mandated that all public celebrations of Mass be temporarily suspended in all churches of the Diocese of Norwich and continuing until further notice. The official notification from the diocese can be viewed here: Diocese of Norwich Father Joe and Father Marty will continue to celebrate a daily Mass with no congregation, remembering in prayer all who are affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Further information regarding other sacramental and liturgical celebrations, Holy Week and Easter, and all celebrations beyond that date will be forthcoming. Parishioners can visit NorwichDiocese.org for updates as they become available.

Editor's Note: We ask that churches/synagogues let us know if there are any changes. Thank you.

### LEGAL NOTICES

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

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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# **Notes from March 9 meeting**

By Ed Munster

Editor's Note: When official minutes become available, they can be found at www.haddam.org. In addition, video of the meeting can be found at Valley Shore Television and at their website, www.vsctv.com

This regular meeting of Haddam's Board of Selectmen, held in the Town Hall, was called to order by First Selectman Bob McGarry at 6:31 p.m. Also in attendance were Selectmen Sean Moriarty and Kate Anderson and Administrative Assistant Joanne Ricciandelli

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the agenda was approved with the addition of an appointment to the EDC under old business. Selectman Kate Anderson requested that the minutes of Feb. 10, 2020 be clarified to state that if the school budget stays flat there will be an increase of approximately \$1 million to Haddam because of the shift in the proportion of students in Haddam compared to Killingworth. With that clarification those minutes were approved. Next the minutes of the special meeting of Feb. 13, 2020 were approved.

#### **Public Comment**

Jeff Dallas of Haddam Neck expressed concern about paving issues on Clarkhurst and Hurd Park Roads. First Selectman Bob McGarry thanked him and said he would pass the information to Chris Corsa, Assistant Director of Public Works.

Next to speak was Melissa Schlag who questioned the amount of \$20,000 in the town charter that can be transferred between line items without going to a town meeting. In a letter to her, FS McGarry said that the Town Attorney had stated that this was legal. Schlag commented that being legal does not make it right. She thought the amount should be lowered.

Ed Schwing requested information on which roads would be worked on during the coming months to which McGarry mentioned a number of roads which were scheduled but cautioned that his list was from memory and that the full list is in the office.

#### **FS Monthly Update**

First Selectman McGarry moved to his monthly update. Regarding Higganum center he mentioned that the EDC recently met with the Main Street Program

which promotes the main streets of towns which have been hurt by malls over the years. Anderson added that the presentation given by Main Street is available on the town website. McGarry pointed out that EDC continues to encourage merchants to join and participate in the Merchants Association so that they can give input into the development of Higganum Center. Discussions continue between the town and the Board of Directors of a school which is interested in leasing Haddam Elementary School. The State of CT has a plan of Development and Conservation for the various regions of the State and the FS has asked the State to include HES and the Higganum Green in the Village Funding Priority Area for Haddam. Regarding the community septic proposal the town's engineering firm and the Department of Public Health have been conferring about the process which is moving along. McGarry stated that when we get a community septic system there will need to be a Water Pollution Control Authority established. A draft ordinance to establish the WPCA has been sent to the town attornev for his review and comment.

Selectman Anderson reported on a new event sponsored by EDC called 'Mucket Madness' which she said is the brainchild of Mark Lundgren and will take place on August 15 and include a triathlon, a tractor parade, food trucks and possibly moving the September fireworks to that night. Regarding the Tylerville water project connections to individual properties is continuing.

As a result of the recent resignation of BOE member Gerry Mathews there will be a special town meeting on March 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Firehouse in Higganum to elect a new member to the RSD #17 Board of Education.

The town's budgeting process is on-going and the Board of Finance is meeting weekly on Monday nights to review different parts of the budget. First Selectman McGarry pointed out that the town budget is up almost \$500,000, about \$220,000 of which is due to HES, \$50,000 is for tree cutting and \$130,000 is for anticipated increases in health costs. At the recent joint meeting of the BOE with the BOS and the BOF it was learned that the education budget is being increased. That increase adds about \$200,000 to the \$1 million related to the change in proportion of students between Haddam and Killingworth so the total expected increase in the cost of education for Hadd-

am will be about \$1,200,000.

The nine town transit district is joining with the Middletown transit district and we are being asked to become members of this new transit district. There is no expected increase in cost for this as we are already paying for the service even though we are not presently on the existing board.

First Selectman McGarry reported that a few weeks ago there was a public hearing on the Tyler-ville sidewalk proposal. About 40 people were in attendance. Only one person spoke against it. The merchants were in favor. The presentation and other information from that meeting is available on the Land Use section of the town website. Finally McGarry mentioned that the town website has information about the COVID-19 corona virus from the health district. The town and school officials are in contact about the issue and townspeople are asked to take the recommended cautions but there is no need to panic.

Brenda Buzzi, liaison from the BOE gave a report on the February BOE meeting. The administration is considering a contract with Effective School Solutions which would provide in-house services for certain students with disabilities so that some of these students could be handled in-house rather than sending them out of the district to more expensive programs. The BOE gave approval to this proposal. School administration proposed a new math text book series for K through 8th grade which the BOE will vote on at their next meeting. She reported also on a number of capital renovation projects in the district.

Tax refunds in the amount of \$12,626.77 were approved. John Pember was appointed to the Economic Development Commission. Recommendations to be made by the BOS to the Charter Revision Commission were discussed.

#### **Final Public Comments**

In the public comments section at the end of the meeting, former Selectman Melissa Schlag had a couple questions and commented that this is the first meeting she has attended since the new BOS has taken office and that she is "very proud of the way you all are acting right now. Coming from four years of pretty caustic meetings...I really appreciate the working together. I think that's important for Haddam."

The meeting was adjourned.

### **COMMUNITY**

### **Upcoming Red Cross Blood Drives: Spring 2020**

Each day, the Red Cross must collect 14,000 blood donations for patients in need. Give now. Your donation is critical. Please sign up online for an appointment to give blood. Log onto www.redcrossblood.org or use

the blood donor app to set an appointment. The following blood drives are scheduled:

Tuesday, April 7, 2020 — St. Peter's Catholic Church, 30 St. Peter's Lane, Higganum, 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 16, 2020 — Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church, 220 Turkey Hill Road, Haddam, 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.

### There is No Fear in Love

### **PERFECT LOVE CASTS OUT FEAR**

"For God so loved the world that He gave [Jesus] His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved..." (Acts 16:31).

Are You a Child of God? Jesus said, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God" (John 8:41-42). "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God...<sup>7</sup> casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:5-6).

"We have seen and testify that [God] the Father has sent the Son [Jesus] as Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in

him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup> And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. <sup>17</sup> Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment... <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. <sup>19</sup> We love Him because He first loved us" (1 John 4:14-19).

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



### Haddam Garden Club March blog

By Terry Twigg

Editor's Note: See haddam-killingworthnow.com for the full article in which links to references and charts on this topic can be found.

#### If Not Now, When?

As a beginner gardener, I took my inspiration from coffee-table books and my guidance from nursery catalogs. Not knowing any better, I followed common practices, from applying pesticides to choosing non-native plants. My rookie mistakes left a legacy of problems for the gardeners who came after me.

In a recent talk for our club, Maurice Adams, who spent many years in the energy field and has done considerable research, explained how our common garden, the third rock from the sun, faces the most serious legacy of problems: the wholesale damage we have inflicted on it since the beginning of the Industrial Age. This one rock supports life in abundance because it, unlike the other planets, has a protective atmosphere that maintains a delicate balance between energy coming in from the sun and energy radiating back out. Mercury's thin atmosphere means nights are unimaginably cold; Venus's thick atmosphere traps the sun's heat at temperatures hot enough to melt lead, EVEN AT NIGHT, and Mars, like Mercury, is frozen. As this diagram shows, only our Earth, as Goldilocks would say, is "just right."

Or at least it was. Our just-right atmosphere is defined by the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. It can and does fluctuate somewhat, but for hundreds of thousands of years it held steady within a fairly narrow range. But not any more. The chart below says it all: in the last hundred years—roughly since the Industrial Era got rolling—CO2 concentration has gone up, and up, and up, far faster and higher than could possibly be explained as a natural variation. As CO2 density increases, it becomes more difficult for heat to radiate back out into space, and so the temperature rises. That's the "greenhouse effect." You've felt it if you walked into a greenhouse at a garden center. No big deal? OK, now think about how it felt when you opened the car door after a day at the beach.

#### Where does all that CO<sub>2</sub> come from?

Burning fossil fuels, of course: to run everything from our cars, airplanes, trains and buses to lawn mowers and cruise ships; to heat our houses and offices; and to generate electricity in our power plants.

Land use changes, including deforestation and farming processes that are ever more dependent on mechanization and petroleum-based fertilizers, and are geared toward a Western diet that has moved steadily away from plants to meat (especially beef, production of which can cause CO2 emissions up to 50 times higher than plant-based products).

And all of these are magnified by the demands of an ever-growing population.

For as long as the earth has existed, the oceans have buffered fluctuations in temperature, absorbing excess heat, storing it, redistributing it. Unfortunately, the warmer the oceans become, the less extra heat they are able to absorb. And as they absorb heat they're also absorbing CO2, which is making them too acidic for coral reefs and most fish. Not to mention changing patterns in ocean currents, which affect storm frequency and severity.

#### What can you do about it?

Recently an old friend and I were discussing the plight of our planet and how concerned we were. A bit later the conversation changed course, and she mentioned her hope to become a bicoastal resident when she retired. When I pointed out the CO2 impact of frequent transcontinental flights, she balked. "I'm not going to stop traveling! I don't want to churn butter!" It's an all-too-common reaction: things have to change, as long as I, personally, don't have to change my behavior.

Well, nobody is asking anyone to churn butter. But we're not rookies any more, folks. The science is too solid, the effects too obvious, and the price too high to let us continue to pretend that we don't have to make some changes, even if some of them aren't

Not knowing any better, I followed common practices, from applying pesticides to choosing nonnative plants. My rookie mistakes left a legacy of problems for the gardeners who came after me.

very comfortable. But, hey, some people reacted as if the sky were falling when plastic grocery bags were banned, and we've adjusted to that, more or less, haven't we? You can take steps today to help protect the only planet we've got:

#### Educate yourself.

Speak up. Don't argue with skeptics, but do lay out the facts: CO2 increased 40% in only a hundred years—NOT a natural fluctuation! The evidence is irrefutable.

Make changes in your daily life: Eat more plantbased foods and less meat, and buy local whenever possible. Your waistline and your doctor will thank

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Compost.

**Insulate everywhere.** Turn the heat down and the air conditioning up. While you're at it, plant some deciduous trees on the west side of your house as natural air conditioning. It worked for our ancestors and it will work for you. Native trees, like white oak and sugar maple, are always the best choice, since they're perfectly adapted to our state and support the most native insects.

Drive less. Our nation's growth coincided with the age of the automobile and of the suburb. Suburbs and mass transit aren't well suited to each other, but if there's a bus or train option, give it a try. Group errands into a single trip.

And finally, VOTE as if your planet's life depended on it, because it does. One ill-considered government policy can negate the best efforts of thousands of conscientious households. Put aside red and blue. The only color that matters is green.

#### COVID-19

### 9-Town Transit changes due to COVID-19

By Joe Comerford

Effective immediately, passengers will now board from the rear door with the exception of passengers who are in wheelchairs and others who require the bus to kneel. Rear door boarding will help maintain recommended social distancing by providing space of six feet or greater between customers and bus drivers. As a result, we will not collect cash fares and ask that all pass purchase be done online at www.9towntransit.com. There will be no changes to Dial-A-Ride fares or boarding.

### **Keep Others Safe**

Bus drivers and fellow riders rely on members of the

public to follow public health direction to not travel when sick. Our drivers, and your fellow riders are relying on you to wash your hands frequently, cough or sneeze into your elbow and DO NOT TRAVEL IF YOU FEEL SICK.

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