

Haddam Killingworth News

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

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September 5, 2019

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

Free weekly

Introducing Haddam Killingworth News to Killingworth Residents

Welcome! In today's mail you received the first edition of Haddam Killingworth News. For nearly three years, Haddam News has been mailed to every household and business in Haddam and East Haddam. We are now taking the giant leap to expand our reach to include everyone in Killingworth. The paper will now be known as Haddam Killingworth News.

This expansion of our paper is taken with much thought. We will need advertisers in Killingworth to help support the weekly expenses of printing and mailing the paper to Killingworth. Equally important, we need writ-

ers/contributors in Killingworth to send articles to our editors so that we can meet our goal to provide information to everyone in both towns. If you have an event or would like to submit an article, please send information to editors@haddamnews.org.

Advertisers from the Killingworth area will get the benefit of having their advertising read not just by the 6,500 residents of Killingworth but an additional 17,600 residents in Haddam and East Haddam. We hope you enjoy our newspaper which will now serve the two communities of Haddam and Killingworth.

Our lives, our communities: What month is it?

By Katy Kennedy, Clinical Director,
Haddam Killingworth Youth &
Family Services

To bring awareness, recognize, and reflect, we now have months that are designated as "Something Month." National Arthritis Month, Celiac Disease Awareness Month, Epilepsy Awareness Month and many more. Among other things, September is also National Recovery Month. This is intended by many organizations to increase awareness and understanding of those who have either dealt first hand with mental and/or substance use challenges,

Continued on page H8

Haddam River Day 2019 is this Saturday!



Photo courtesy of Edmund Lowe/Getty Images.

By Editorial Staff

Haddam River Day 2019 is Saturday, Sept. 7, beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Haddam Meadows State Park. Fireworks

are slated to go off at 8:30 p.m. There will be food vendors, so you can purchase food or feel free to pack a picnic! This is a family-friendly event! Rain date is Sept. 8.

Killingworth GOP to hold Sept. 10 primary

There will be a Republican primary held in Killingworth at Killingworth Elementary School on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2019. The polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

For First Selectman, vote for Francesco Lulaj or Robert P. Sassi.

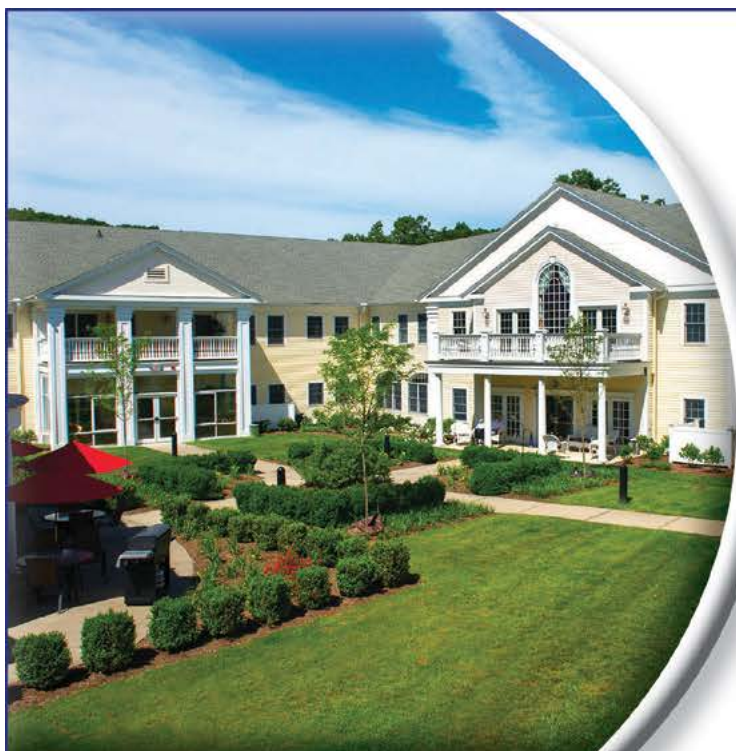
For Selectman, vote for two of the following candidates:

Eileen Blewett
Nancy Gorski
John A. Samperi

For Board of Finance, vote for three of the following candidates:

Leo Bombalicki Jr.
Andrew O'Neill
John F. Psenicnik
Marcella O. Sassi

In This Issue: Board of Selectmen candidates, H4-H5 • Catching up with First Selectwomen, H5-H6 • Calendar, H8



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Bear sightings, then and now

Editor's Note: Phil Devlin found this 1766 article cited in an 1896 edition of the Connecticut Quarterly Magazine. Given all of the bear sightings all over Connecticut recently (including the one shown at right in Haddam Neck), the article below seemed most timely!

Bear in Hartford

(from the New London Gazette October 10, 1766, Number 152)

“There are the greatest number of bears come down among the town that ever was known. They destroy great quantities of Indian corn and make havoc among sheep and swine. Last

Tuesday morning a large he bear was discovered in an enclosure opposite the Treasurer's and being pursued, he took to the main street, which he kept till he got to the lane that turns eastward by the south meeting house, (notwithstanding his being pelted from every side of the street, with stones, clubs, etc.) and was followed into the south meadow where he was shot. The number of people that were out of doors to see so uncommon an animal in the town made it dangerous to fire at him in the street. In the evening he was roasted whole, and a large company supped on him.”



Photo by Delores Yara.

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Yale New Haven Health's Shoreline Medical Center in Guilford now makes it even easier to be healthy and stay healthy. Offering an extensive range of outpatient surgical services, including ear, nose and throat, ophthalmology, plastic and reconstructive procedures. You'll be cared for by skilled surgical teams from Yale New Haven Health. All at a facility that's been reimagined to offer you more comfort and convenience close to home.

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Health

Mosquitoes in Haddam, Killingworth test positive for EEE

By Paul Hutcheon,
Director of Health, Town of Killingworth

Editor's Note: Mosquitos in Haddam also tested positive for EEE, so all of the precautions mentioned for Killingworth are also applicable for Haddam.

Mosquitoes trapped in Killingworth have tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). Some of the mosquitoes tested were species that are known to bite humans.

EEE is a rare but serious disease caused by a virus that is transmitted by mosquitoes. Historically, the virus has been found in trapped mosquitoes in Connecticut, but only one person has contracted EEE. The mortality rate is high, however, and that case resulted in death in 2013.

All residents of Killingworth and Haddam are advised to avoid outdoor activities from one hour before to one hour after dawn and dusk.

Additional precautions to avoid mosquito bites include:

Be sure door and window screens are tight fitting and in good repair.

While outdoors, wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts. Clothing material should be tightly woven.

Use mosquito netting if sleeping outdoors.

Consider using mosquito repellent when it is necessary

to be outdoors and always use them according to label instructions. The most effective repellents contain DEET or Picaridin. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is also effective for brief periods of exposure.

When using DEET, use the lowest concentration effective for the time spent outdoors (for example, 6% lasts approximately 2 hours and 20% for 4 hours) and wash treated skin when returning indoors. Do not apply under clothing, to wounds or irritated skin, the hands of children, or to infants less than 2 months.

Measures to reduce mosquitoes around the home include:

Dispose of water-holding containers, such as ceramic pots, used tires, and tire swings, and clogged gutters.

Drill holes in the bottom of containers such as those used for recycling.

Change water in bird baths on a weekly basis.

Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, and cover pools when not in use.

Use landscaping to eliminate areas where water can collect on your property.

Additional resources for information on EEE and mosquito management can be found at <http://www.ct.gov/mosquito/site/default.asp>.

Due to the occurrence of Eastern Equine Encephalitis in this area the public is advised to take these personal precautions:

Minimize time spent outdoors when mosquitoes are most active, especially at dawn and dusk.

Be sure door and window screens are tight fitting and in good repair.

Wear shoes, socks, long pants and long-sleeved shirts when outdoors when mosquitoes are active. Clothing should be light colored and made of tightly woven materials that keep mosquitoes away from the skin.

Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors or in an unscreened structure and to protect small babies when outdoors.

Consider the use of mosquito repellent, according to directions, when it is necessary to be outdoors.

After returning indoors, wash any treated skin with soap and water.

Don't let stagnant water collect around your home. Dump out old tires, wheelbarrows, and wading pools.

Remind or help neighbors to eliminate breeding sites on their properties.

For further information on mosquito-borne illnesses, including West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis, visit the Connecticut Mosquito Management Program's website: <http://www.portal.ct.gov/mosquito>

For more information in Killingworth, please contact the Killingworth Health Department at (860) 663-1765 x223.

HISTORY

Haddam's first voting women

By Elizabeth Malloy, Executive Director,
Haddam Historical Society

The 19th Amendment to the Constitution guarantees all women who are US citizens the right to vote.

As we are about to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment we recognize the first women in Haddam to register to vote on September 20, 1919:

Almira L. Dickinson

Cynthia O. Dickinson

Bell D. Russell

Ethel U. Williams

Ella L. Hayden

Miss Phila Parmelee

Jennie C. Dickinson

Hattie H. Clark

Clara L. Spencer

Ida Y Carlson

Mabel D. Porter

The following fall 168 additional women registered to VOTE!

Call for Haddam & Killingworth Candidates to submit Letters to the Editor

Open call for any/all candidates to submit Letters to the Editor to inform residents about their policy proposals and goals. They will be published throughout the coming weeks. Please submit letters (in accordance with our Letter to the Editor policy) to editors@haddamnews.org.



Largest Papyrus Card/Gift Store in Middlesex County

Shingles

Almost 1 out of 3 people in the United States will develop shingles in their lifetime, and most will only get it once; however, it is possible to get it a second or third time. The chance of getting shingles increases with age, ranging from 5 in 1000 adults aged 50 to 59 and increasing to 11 in 1000 adults aged 80 years and older.

Herpes Zoster infection (Shingles) is a painful cutaneous (skin) rash that is caused by a reaction of latent varicella virus (VZV). The risk of getting herpes zoster increases with increased age. One of the more significant complications with Shingles is Post-Herpetic Neuralgia (PHN), which is a persistent pain that lasts for up to 90 days after the shingles rash has resolved. Approximately 10-15% of people in which the herpes zoster infection is reactivated will experience Post Herpetic Neuralgia, and that risk increases with age.

The purpose of the shingles vaccine:

- 1) Prevent the reactivating of the latent VZV,
- 2) Decrease the time course of the shingles attack,
- 3) Prevention of Post-Herpetic nerve pain
- 4) Decreased severity of Post-Herpetic nerve pain,
- 5) Decrease the timeline of Post-Herpetic nerve pain.

As always, consult your physician with the first signs of unexplained skin rash, especially if it develops around the trunk area, which is most common, but the rash can erupt elsewhere on the body. Discuss with your doctor preventive the Shingrix injection series.

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Getting to know the Board of Selectmen Candidates

Editor's Note: We reached out to both the Haddam Republican Town Committee and the Haddam Democratic Town Committee and asked candidates to respond to a set of questions (provided below). If a candidate did not respond, their name is listed, so that you know who is running for each office. In subsequent weeks, we will feature candidates running for the various Boards & Commissions in Haddam and Killingworth.

Questions for the candidates:

1. Tell us a little about yourself.
2. Why are you running for the position?
3. What do you see as the important issues facing Haddam and how would you address them in your role?
4. What are the key things you love about this town and its people?
5. Additional thoughts to leave voters with?

Brenda Buzzi (Democrat) First Selectman

As a fourth-generation Haddam resident, I truly love this town. I graduated from Haddam-Killingworth High School in 1984. I raised my two daughters here, Rebecca, class of 2012 and Rachel, class of 2013. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. I enjoy gardening, painting, kayaking, puzzles, games, and reading. With all of my experiences, I have what it takes to be your next first selectmen.

I bring strong leadership skills to Haddam as a long-time business owner and manager. I founded and managed a preschool program in town. I have generated and worked with budgets, accounts payables and receivables, taxes and payroll—all while complying with the many local, state, and federal laws. I also maintained effective communication with parents, staff, and the community. I worked closely with state agencies to offer help to families when needed, acted as liaison with the Department of Children and Families, school staff, and other



Brenda Buzzi.

professionals. I worked for Regional District 17 as a Special Education Para-educator and now I work for Middletown Public Schools.

Volunteering is also very important to me. Currently I serve as Haddam's voice on the Board of Education. During my tenure on the board, I helped with contract writing, led union negotiations, worked with a \$42,000,000 budget, helped save the district money, reviewed audit reports, researched businesses for the superintendent search, participated in expulsion hearings, and tried to bridge the gap in communication between the Board and the community.

I currently serve on the Bereavement Team at Middlesex Hospice, the Haddam Elderly Housing Committee as vice president, and is am a Justice of the Peace. Previous volunteering includes Assistant Director on fifteen musicals with Artful Living and HKMS, Sunday School teacher, Chairman of the Church Council at Higganum Methodist Church, Chairman of the Pastor-Staff Relation Committee, Girl Scout leader, PTO President, school/parent volunteer, and Mason Youth Corrections Facility Chaplin Intern.

I am running for first selectman because I want a transparent government in Haddam—one that will listen to all residents. I know we don't always agree, but we all want similar things. I believe working together is imperative for our small town and I want to unite Haddam for the good of our community.

One of my goals is to nurture existing businesses while welcoming new ones to rev Haddam's economic engine and add to the tax base. With the Connecticut River and hiking in our backyard, I believe Haddam is ripe for eco-tourism. I will work with area towns to expand tourism and visitors coming to enjoy our gem of an area. Through diligent budgeting and efficiencies, I will work to reduce expenses while maintaining critical services.

Some key issues facing Haddam currently are Haddam Elementary School (HES), finding a location for the town garage, roads and infrastructure, the budget, and of course, taxes...the list goes on.

HES: I wish it was still open as a school, but that is not the reality. I was able to walk through the empty building recently. To my surprise, I was not as sad as I thought I would have been. The building still has lots of life left in it! We really need to work together and figure out exactly what that life should be for the future. I have heard from many of you and there are so many amazing possibilities.

As far as the town garage, we need to work with our town planner as well as the planning and zoning commission and residents to figure this out. We need to see what the most cost effective opportunity is for us. Your input at the meetings in October will be imperative.

Two of the key things I love about this town are its tranquil beauty and the people. Having lived here most of my life, I know many of you, amazing people, who help each other every day. The memories I have watching the Memorial Day parade will stay with me forever. I hope to ensure these memories live on for future residents.

My door will always be open. As your public servant, I will listen patiently to all points of view and



Bob McGarry.

be inclusive with committees and boards. I believe in working with all generations, from the youngest to our most valued senior residents, for the betterment of our community. I believe in bringing people together for the good of the whole. Together we can bridge the divide to make our town economically vibrant while keeping our small town charm. United we are stronger.

As a driven leader and former business owner, I have what it takes to be your next first selectman. I am dedicated to Haddam, to you, and to all residents—I am your voice. I am honored and enthusiastic to serve Haddam. With your vote, I will create an honest, friendly, approachable, and knowledgeable government for Haddam. With sleeves rolled up, I, Brenda Buzzi, will put people before politics—I am the right choice for Haddam.

Bob McGarry (Republican) First Selectman

Bob McGarry has served his country in numerous leadership roles in the U.S. Coast Guard, including Commanding Officer, Chief Staff Officer, Operations Officer, and Director of Training and Consulting. Now retired, Bob wants to serve his beloved town of Haddam as First Selectman.

As a graduate of the Coast Guard Academy, with a degree in Civil Engineering, Bob served on active duty for 20 years, retiring as a Commander in 1996. Bob and his wife Vivienne and their two children, Travis and Amanda, moved back to Haddam, and settled in Haddam Neck. Since returning, Bob has held positions as a Director of Northeast Utilities, a consultant with various government agencies and private companies, and as a Senior Manager with a State agency. He currently is an Associate Professor at Post University.

Bob is heavily involved in the community. He has been the Chief of the Haddam Neck Fire Department since 2002, is on the Board of Directors for the Haddam Neck Fair, and volunteers with the East Hampton Ambulance Association. In 2016, Bob was elected to the Board of Finance where he serves to this day. Bob is aware of the challenges faced by small businesses. He and Vivienne own Cold Goats Farm, raising sheep and Angora goats.

It is evident that Bob is a natural born leader with a commitment to serve his home country and community.

Kate Anderson (Unaffiliated/Endorsed by Republicans) Selectman

Kate Anderson is a proud lifelong resident of Haddam. She graduated from HK in 2007 and worked for Haddam Park & Recreation at the after-school program and summer camp continuously throughout high school and college. Kate is excited to continue her service to the community by running for Selectman.

Kate is active in four Haddam committees. She is Chairman of the Economic Development Commission, Secretary of the Infrastructure Committee and Charter Revision Commission, and a member of the

Continued on next page

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Kate Anderson.



Sean Moriarty.



Joe Rizzo.

Getting to know the Board of Selectmen Candidates

Continued from previous page

Plan of Conservation & Development Implementation Committee.

Kate holds a BS in Marketing and has over seven years experience working as a Marketing and Proposal Specialist in the architecture/engineering/construction industry. Her work has included coordinating team responses for professional services on over 300 proposals for municipalities and private companies. Kate looks forward to fostering a collaborative team approach for town management.

Sean Moriarty (Democrat) Selectman

I am a long-time resident of Higganum who has raised two children through the HK school system with my wife, Tanja.

Over the years, I've served Haddam in various roles as a member of the board of finance and the infrastructure committee. I've coached youth basketball and soccer teams. I march as Desert Storm Veteran in the local Memorial Day parade honoring those who have given their lives so we can live freely in this country and town.

Now that I am retired after 31 years as a municipal police officer, I am able to bring invaluable career experience to the Town of Haddam. As a Lieutenant and Captain, I've worked collaboratively with several municipal and private agencies including public works, the Fire Department, the Ambulance Service, Health Department, Parks and Rec, along with Middlesex Community College and Wesleyan University.

I managed the Patrol Division comprised of 80 sworn and civilian personnel, patrol supervisors and officers, the traffic unit, Animal control, Marine unit, and S.W.A.T.

I am eager to bring my managerial and budgetary skills, as well as respect for all people, to the Town of Haddam.

I care about what comes next in Haddam. I feel Haddam is at a turning point with the potential to grow economically and want to help usher in a new era of prosperity. I seek your vote for selectman and pledge to work carefully, openly, and respectfully with the board of selectmen to guide Haddam as we go forward. I helped develop and administer the police department's \$13,000,000 budget. I know how to trim fat from a municipal budget by utilizing a zero-based budget process and will encourage this strategy at budget time.

Stabilizing Haddam's tax base and easing the burden of property owners should be the focus of the next administration. This can be achieved by truly exploring the potential of the Scovil property. This building has the potential to house maker spaces, small shops, restaurants, galleries, or any number of businesses. For an idea of what we can happen here, look at the old Remington Rand building in the north end of Middletown.

We need to stop studying and finally agree on a wastewater solution in Higganum Center as pro-

posed by our town planner. This issue has been kicked down the road for far too long. There have been several empty businesses in town for years. The board of selectmen should spearhead initiatives to incentivize businesses to come to the area, such as streamlining the permitting process, especially with the water project coming to completion.

One of my absolute favorite things in Haddam is the Memorial Day Parade. As a Veteran it makes me proud that my town has not forgotten the brave women and men who have served their country and gave all to it. The camaraderie and reverence that the people display at the parade exemplifies what it means to live in a small town.

Our school system is top notch. The teachers show their dedication every day. Our parents are truly involved in their children's education, which is something you do not see in all towns.

It has been my experience over the 31 years that I have been a resident, the people of the town really pull together in tough times. Whether it is an illness, tragic fire, or loss, we seem to put aside our differences and reach out to help lift each other up.

I care deeply about Haddam and I truly believe this is a great town to live in. I have spent my adult life as a public servant in the Army, police department, and now keeping children safe in the East Lyme School System. I have worked collaboratively with all people and will continue to do so as your selectman. In these days of divisive rhetoric I will work honestly and openly to unite Haddam.

Joe Rizzo (Democrat) Selectman

I live in Higganum with my wife Katy, two sons, and our dog Sami. I am a high school educator and biologist. My passion for the natural world spills over into all areas of my life, whether I am in the classroom, speaking at a community event, or a scout meeting presenting to kids with reptiles draped over my arms. I adore the innate natural beauty of Haddam, which first struck me back in college when I was studying ecology on the Connecticut River. A few days ago, I was speaking to a resident, something he said struck me, "It's like we live in a postcard..." and I couldn't describe our town more perfectly. I embraced that statement, thinking back to when my family and I happily moved to our home in Higganum.

Since moving to town, my concerns over village center properties that stand unfilled has grown. I believe we can embrace and promote the potential of spaces like Higganum Cove, the HES building, and Swan Hill. Those resources can help us fill the empty buildings. Along with my passion for our town's natural beauty, I bring a dedication to increasing our village center's vitality to the office of selectman. I see a need for a facility dedicated to school-aged children and adults alike where they may engage in sports, games, classes, and extracurricular activities. If the townspeople share that vision, the newly acquired HES building, paired with Swan Hill, could

provide that center for activity and connectivity. This is just one idea among many to bring vitality and businesses to one of our centers.

I am passionate about our community, the rich history, natural beauty, and the wonderful people that make up our town. Preserving our small town feel while utilizing these attributes as a way to increase the vitality of our village centers will be one of my primary goals as selectman. I strongly feel that the closure of HES was a poor decision both educationally and economically speaking. I am now shifting my dedication from that fight to ensure that the HES property is utilized in a way that aligns with the development of our village center and benefits taxpayers. I will also ensure the concerns of Haddam residents are communicated clearly and effectively to the board of education in the future. I believe that we still boast a top-notch educational system and that advantage will continue to attract young families to our town. While working to help secure the HES building and surrounding property for our town, the need for boards to work together, listen to the people, and find common ground became abundantly clear to me. I am not a politician; in fact, I am unaffiliated. Before this run, I have never been associated with a political party because in my opinion, political party affiliation really doesn't matter. I am tired of watching stalemate meetings where nothing gets done and I believe the office of selectman needs some common sense thinking. I have a strong inclination to reach across the aisle, because it is up to everyone—political party aside—to cooperate and achieve our common and shared goals.

I see the economic development of Higganum center and the continued careful development of Tylerville as key aspects to the health of Haddam. I believe that we have many resources already available that are being underutilized and under-advertised to folks outside of town. We can bring people to our centers with minimal improvements and some enthusiastic advocating. As your selectman, I will encourage ecotourism activities to areas like the Higganum Cove, the waterfall on Depot Hill Road, the Higganum Reservoir, HES, and the 145 acres of gorgeous Swan Hill trails. In addition to all of this, we have miles and miles of trails in Cockaponset State Forest, Eagle Landing in Tylerville, and the beauty of Haddam Meadows State Park, which is so big it looks vast and open in spite of being one of the most popular boat launches on the Connecticut River. Promoting these areas will bring active, outdoor oriented people directly to our town center and to our businesses, piquing their interest in our town as a destination and a place to settle their families.

I will be steadfast in promoting all of these resources and more while managing smart development. We have potential and the ability to ensure the bright future of our town and make it an even more beautiful postcard for generations to come.

I am happy to hear your ideas or questions. Please do not hesitate to contact me at selectjoe2019@gmail.com.

Catching up with Killingworth First Selectwoman Cathy Iino

By Meghan Peterson, Ph.D.

MP: Tell us a little bit about yourself. How did you come to live in Killingworth? What drew you here?

CI: I moved from New Haven to Killingworth in 1996, attracted by the beauty of the town, the quality of the schools, and the antique house that we bought.

MP: What moved you to run for office in Killingworth? What are some of the key things you love doing as part of your job?

CI: Before I lived in Killingworth, I had lived in a number of large cities: I grew up in New York City; I went to college in Chicago; after college I lived in New Haven and Washington, D.C. When you live in a big city and you see something wrong, you think, "Somebody should do something about that." After living in Killingworth for a little while, it dawned on me that there was no "somebody"—that if I wanted something to happen, I had to make it happen. And I looked around and saw all the wonderful volunteers in Killingworth who do make good things happen every day here. So that moved me to get involved.



Cathy Iino. Photo courtesy of Amy Etra.

If you had told me fifteen years ago that I would run for political office, I would have laughed. It wasn't something I set out to do, and frankly, I still don't love the running-for-office part. But the job is immensely satisfying, because I can actually make things happen, whether it's a new stretch of curbing or a senior lunch program. I certainly don't do this on my own; I like to say that I am the drum major of an exceptional band of volunteers. My job is to make sure that they have the instruments they need to make beautiful music and that they are all marching in the same direction. I love it when I can link up organizations and individuals who share interests or

capabilities. Our volunteers are generous and talented; more than appreciation, they want to be effective, and I try to give them the support they need to be effective.

One unexpected aspect of the job that I enjoy is working with other towns in the region and the state to find ways to improve services and protect our interests. This function is largely invisible to our townspeople, but it is vital to the health of our municipalities. We are one of 17 towns in the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments, one of 8 COGs in the state, and I served as chair of RiverCOG, as we call ourselves, for its first three years. I sit on the board of directors of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities and the Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Association, CCM's mutual insurance arm. I chair a working group on regional school districts for the Connecticut Council of Small Towns. I attend meetings of the Middlesex County Revitalization Commission, which advises and makes loans and grants to small businesses in our area. Especially as the state looks for more regionalization of services, it's crucial that we speak out about the ways in which that approach makes sense, and the ways it doesn't.

MP: What are your hobbies/interests? What ac-

tivities do you like to enjoy in Killingworth? How about in neighboring Haddam?

CI: My most active hobby is cooking and baking. I've got a sourdough starter that's over 30 years old, and I bake at least one loaf of bread a week. Because I love to cook but I often attend evening meetings, my husband and I eat really late. The Killingworth Farmers Market on Wednesdays is a great source of ingredients and inspiration. I would not have thought to make the phenomenally good lettuce soup I cooked up earlier this summer if it hadn't been for the beautiful, large head of lettuce in my bag.

Of course, for virtually everyone in Killingworth, walking outdoors is a regular hobby. It's just so beautiful, and we have such great trails at Chatfield Hollow, Cockaponset forest, Parmelee Farm, and Auer Park. We even put in a paved, accessible trail at Sheldon Park for people who might have trouble negotiating more rustic pathways. I can walk down the road from my house to Chatfield Hollow State Park, and every time I do, I think about how amazing it is to live in a place like this.

MP: Any other thoughts/ideas you'd like to share with readership in Killingworth and Haddam? (perhaps you could comment on the communities of Killingworth and Haddam ... what is unique about these communities, what you like about the people, etc. — it could be anything!)

CI: Here's the most remarkable thing about the Killingworth community: we are not about status. We don't care about the size of your salary, your house, or your car (although we might be impressed by the size of your pick-up ;-). On our town committees, our civic organizations, our emergency response companies, our churches, and our sports leagues, executives of major corporations, small contractors, custodians, and college professors work side by side. People care more about your service to the community than about your job title. I think that sets Killingworth apart from a lot of other places.



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LEGALS

PLANNING & 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 September 19th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following item (s):

1. A special permit application for an 576 square foot detached accessory apartment. Located at 7 Larkspur Lane, Higganum CT, map 42 lot 15-39. Applicant/Agent – Ryan Summerall.

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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Catching up with Haddam First Selectwoman Lizz Milardo

By Meghan Peterson, Ph.D.

We recently caught up with Haddam First Selectwoman Lizz Milardo to discuss various updates and provide information for residents.

MP: The bond ordinance, the legal mechanism to fund specific capital projects for Fiscal Year 2019-20 was recently authorized at a Town vote earlier this month (Aug. 6). Aspects of the capital projects would you like to discuss?

LM: The bonding will allow the town to “catch up” on many projects and items by allowing us to finance them at a very low rate. The capital planning for the town is a very thorough process - from the Capital Planning Committee to the Board of Selectman and then to the Board of Finance, with each department having an opportunity to support its request. Over the years, the cost of many items (infrastructure, equipment) that we need, in addition to delaying things a year or two due to other priorities has occurred, resulting in a large amount of capital costs presenting themselves over the next two to three budget cycles.

Bonding for these projects at an all-time low interest rate makes the most economical sense for the town. The town of Haddam has very little debt. For many years, the pay-as-you-go system was used. In the context of the conditions of our roads and infrastructure, however, bonding for roads as well as for

infrastructure improvement and/or implementation in our Tylerville and Higganum centers, bonding is the most cost effective method for Haddam to use. In addition, the town was upgraded two years ago to a AAA bond rating. This is impressive, especially with the State of CT being downgraded on its bond rating.

Please pay attention to budgetary matters as you consider candidates in the next election. There may be some who do not fully understand finances and the long-term picture for our community. I am concerned that as a result, some may be very short-sighted on how the use of money at a low interest rate does two important things: 1) saves us money overall; 2) keeps property taxes affordable for residents.

MP: Connecticut Water appears to be moving right along in terms of construction of the Tyler-ville water main. What is the most current status on this project?

LM: I am just so excited about all of the progress we are making on this front. Coastline Construction, Weston and Sampson and CT Water have been partnering with the town to proactively work on this. At this time, the main line is being tested for water flow and quality on Saybrook Road. Once this is completed and maintained, the next step will be hooking up each property.

MP: Roads, roads, roads. Most current informa-

tion on this front?

LM: Paving in Haddam Neck should be completed at any time. In addition to the drainage work on Christian Hill Road, this will finalize the roads approved under the last bond issue. I have reviewed the VHB report with Chris Corsa and our town engineering consultant, Jeff Jacobson. We are finalizing the next set of roads to be worked on. This will be approved by the Board of Selectmen and scheduled for work Spring 2020.

MP: Town projects and community events your office is looking forward to this Fall?

LM: I would like to see the synergy in Higganum Center continue. Town Planner Bill Warner has brought a depth of knowledge to this process and has allowed us to move forward in many areas. We have met with both state and local health agencies as well as DEEP to review the options of community septic. This will have an impact of most of the decisions that will be allowed to be made in the center. Planning and Zoning is reviewing options for the town garage, and we have the closing later this month on Haddam Elementary. I am happy to see this moving forward.

Meanwhile, everyone have a wonderful autumn and enjoy the River Day on Saturday!

KILLINGWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Book signing this Saturday

By Cynthia Rich

The Killingworth Historical Society is holding a book signing of Dr. Thomas Lentz's newest book, *The Early Grave-stones of a Colonial Town: Killingworth, Connecticut*. Dr. Lentz is the

Town Historian and the author of several books about Killingworth history.

It will be held at the Parmelee Farmhouse on Saturday, Sept. 7, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The book signing will coincide with an Open House of The Killingworth Historical

Society's exhibits and displays at The Parmelee Farmhouse.

This book documents and photographically records over 450 gravestones in Killingworth, Clinton, and Durham, Connecticut. A major purpose of the book is to preserve images of the remaining early gravestones in this part of Connecticut, many of which are deteriorating. Styles, sym-

bolism, and iconography are discussed, as well as causes of death and burial practices.

The book can be purchased from the Killingworth Historical Society at its open houses at the Parmelee Farm (Sept. 8, 2019, 3:00-5:00 p.m.), at the Killingworth Town Hall, at RJ Julia Booksellers, and Amazon.com.

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WHEN CHRIST RETURNS
“He is coming to judge the earth...with righteousness” (Psalm 96:13).

“When they had come together [after Christ was raised from the dead], they asked Him, saying, ‘Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?’ 7 And He said to them, ‘It is not for you to know...’ 8 But you shall ...be witnesses to Me...to the end of the earth.’ 9 Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight... as He went up, behold, two men [two angels] stood by them in white apparel, 11 who also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.’” (Acts 1:6-11).

“Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen. 8 ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,’ says the Lord, ‘who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty’” (Revelation 1:7-8). “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved...” (Acts 16:31).

“Scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, 4 and saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming?’ For...all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.’ 5 For this they willfully forget...the heavens and the earth...are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and utter destruction of ungodly men... 9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

“He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He [Christ] who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead” (Acts 10:42). “He who believes in the Son has everlasting life...” (John 3:36). “Repent therefore and be converted that your sins may be blotted out...” (Acts 3:19).

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TOWN & COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Please visit www.haddam.org or www.haddam-killingworthnow.com for the most current information, including cancellations, location changes, time changes.

Thursday, September 5

Haddam Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive, Haddam

Parmelee Farm Committee, 7:00 p.m.

Pond Room, Parmelee Farm, Killingworth

Saturday, September 7

Haddam Can & Bottle Drive, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Haddam Scout BSA Troop #44 will be collecting returnable cans and bottles. The money raised supports the troop activities such as trips, campouts, and outings. Scout Troop #44 is open to all boys from fifth grade to age 18; Scout Troop #44G is open to all girls from fifth grade to age 18 (this is a regional troop, welcoming girls from East Haddam, Haddam,

Killingworth, and surrounding towns). For more information about joining either troop, please contact scoutmaster Mark Pach at markcp571@gmail.com or scoutmaster Kathy Brown at kjbbrown92@aol.com.

Killingworth Historical Society Book Signing, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Parmelee Farm

Haddam River Day 2019 – 5:30 p.m., festivities begin; 8:30 p.m. fireworks show begins

Haddam Meadows State Park, Haddam

Monday, September 9

Killingworth Registrar of Voters Office Hours, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Killingworth Special Meeting Board of Assessment Appeals, 6:00 p.m.

Haddam Board of Selectmen's Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Haddam Old Town Hall Building

Killingworth Board of Selectmen's Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Killingworth Town Office Building

Killingworth Parks & Recreation Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Killingworth Town Office Building

Tuesday, September 10

Killingworth Republican Primary, 6:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Killingworth Board of Finance Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Town Office Building

Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Town Office Building

Wednesday, September 11

Election Ballot Lottery, 9:30 a.m.

Notice to Haddam Candidates and Voters:

For the upcoming November 5, 2019 Municipal Election, a lottery to determine order on Election Ballot of names of candidates for multiple-opening
Continued on page H10

CONTINUED FROM PAGE H8

Our Lives, Our Communities: What Month Is It?

Continued from front page

or who have been affected by these things because a loved one has been faced with these challenges.

A celebrity was being interviewed on a radio show, when the show host seemed perplexed and said "Oh, I'm sorry, I didn't know you were in recovery?" And the person responded, "I'm in recovery from my childhood- aren't we all recovering from something?"

This got me thinking. About the woman I met with last week, grieving the passing of a dog that has been her faithful companion for 14 years. About the man who has been forced into retirement by the company he started, dealing with his feelings of betrayal, loss, rejection, and anger. About the teenager, switching schools, and her upset at losing life-long friends, while trying to overcome the anxiety she feels about starting in a new school.

In my practice, it is most common for clients to minimize their challenges. These are typical sayings I hear; "Well, I know I shouldn't complain..." "I do understand that other people have it way worse," "My issues are nothing compared to my sisters." A commonality is that we often do not honor our own challenges. We can readily feel sorry and want to

help others, however, what can be lacking is giving the same response to oneself.

A cliché saying is "You know how you can do 10 great things during the day, and one not so great? And what is that thing that is keeping me awake at night? That one not so great thing..." We tend to be unreasonably harder on ourselves, more negative towards ourselves, and less optimistic about ourselves than we feel about other people. Why is this?

I don't have a cookie cutter answer for this one. The reasons that we can hold feelings of shame, regret, negativity, and self-blame towards our own self is unique to each individual and their growing up experiences as well as personality traits, and the life experiences. These three things— our family of origin, our experiences throughout life, and our personality come together to shape how we see the world— and how we see ourselves. The good news is, we can work with this framework, and even work with it to change it towards the positive.

When someone says something unkind about themselves, I will usually ask, "Would you say that about a friend?" I generally get a shocked look and an emphatic "NO! Of course not!" And then often some minutes of self-reflecting.

Awareness Months, are good to do exactly that;

become aware. To honor the pain and hardships we may still be recovering from. Some thoughts related to your journey in recovery:

How do you treat yourself?

What activities do you do that strictly benefit you and only you? What is your self-care? Or do you even practice that?

When was the last time you enjoyed an ideal day (perhaps we first need to come to know what an ideal day might be like!)?

Can you name the positive traits in yourself that others see and that you believe you have?

What do you deserve in this life, and how might you go about to achieve it?

Recovery Month for September can mean something to everyone— and there is no scale, no this recovery is "bigger" than that recovery. Recovery means honoring the struggle, the complicated feelings, the hurt feelings we all have at one time or another. The practice is to be as kind and forgiving to ourselves as we are to others as we work our recovery. And as we come to learn and practice this kindness to ourselves, we will find that the compassion we give to others is readily available- and needed, to give to ourselves.

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Interim Superintendent welcomes the 2019-20 School Year

By Kathy Brown

Do you have your school supplies yet? How about that perfect back to school outfit? It's that time of year again, when parents are making sure that everything is in order for Johnny and Jane to go back to school, teachers are setting up their classrooms, and Interim Superintendent Holly Hageman is getting ready for the new school year.

Everyone knows that this is a year of big changes. Former Haddam Elementary School students will either be attending Burr Elementary School, or if they're in fourth grade, they will be attending the newly formed Haddam Killingworth Intermediate School on the campus shared with Haddam Killingworth Middle School. There are other changes as well.

A new HKMS Principal has been named: Dolores Bates (for more information, see this article). At the high school, former Assistant Principal Sheila Ward will be back in the classroom, and a new Assistant Principal has been named: Adam Apicella. Aside from administration, there have been 17 teachers hired across the district, as well as a new nurse at the high school, according to Dr. Hageman.

At Burr Elementary School, they have been busy preparing for the newly merged community of teachers and students to return. There will be a Welcome Back Celebration on August 27, 2019 for students and families. A new courtyard was created at Burr, so that the HES bell could be moved, and the tradition of Ringing In and Out could be continued.

At Killingworth Elementary School, they moved the second grade classrooms up to the main level, to create a K/1 wing and a 2/3 wing. They also finalized their new motto: "Kindness, Effort, Safety - This is the KES Way!"

At the Haddam Killingworth Intermediate School, the playground has been installed, which includes two gaga courts, a 10-foot climbing globe, a whirling tower, two tetherballs, 10 swings, and a "Summit Climber." The HKIS spaces are decorated with the projects that the students made when they visited in the spring. On the first day of school, an assembly will be held, where students will receive t-shirts from the PTO; a photo will be taken of students



and staff to commemorate the day.

At the Haddam Killingworth Middle School, a committee of teachers came together throughout the summer to revive the components of the middle school necessary for growing a positive culture; for instance, building positive relationships and emphasizing student successes. "We are excited about making sure every student feels valued, seen, and supported throughout the coming year," said Dr. Hageman.

At the high school, renovations are finishing up: "The auditorium looks fantastic and the HKHS B-wing got a much needed refresh this summer, with the main hallway being repainted. In addition, the auto shop was emptied, power washed and then the floor refinished with an anti-slip surface paint," explained Dr. Hageman. Also, new furniture to support the blended learning initiative (a blend of classroom learning, online learning, and learning through collaboration with experts and others) arrived and was put in three locations to be used for independent work by students, or for collaboration space.



Lest we think all teachers take the summer off, 50 teachers worked on curriculum this summer in reading, writing, math, science, social studies, health, and French. And many, if not all, teachers were in their classrooms over the summer to get things ready for the new school year.

"I am extremely excited to see students arrive to their schools on Wednesday and look forward to visiting all schools next week and often thereafter," said Dr. Hageman. "Our schools are in great shape thanks to the efforts of all staff. I am grateful to serve in such a wonderful community so committed to its schools."

Killingworth Community & People: next week's edition

In next week's issue, we will feature an interview with Francesco Lulaj, owner of La Foresta in Killingworth. Stay tuned!

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1959: US Navy Chopper lands on Haddam lawn!

By Stew Gillmor

Could this be true? IT IS! Not only that, the Navy Bell 47 helicopter flew from the US Icebreaker GLACIER and set down on the Sibley family lawn on Walkley Hill Road in front of a Middletown Press reporter and neighbors and friends. No, it didn't happen yesterday but at noon on Halloween, October 31st 1959, and the helicopter arrived to pick up gyro-stabilized binoculars manufactured by Kenyon Laboratories, then located at the Chester Airport.

The Haddam News, May 23, 2019 issue, presented the life and Navy career of famed Higganum native Philip W. "Bud" Porter, Jr. His long and distinguished Navy service began in 1942 and continued through action in the Mediterranean, the Atlantic, and Pacific and later in the Philippines and Vietnam. Bud retired from the US Navy in 1973, and then continued with the US State Department in Taiwan until his final retirement from Government service in 1987.

Bud was behind this Halloween 1959 escapade to the Sibley's lawn in Haddam. Commander Bud Porter had been assigned in July 1959 as Captain of the Glacier, then the free world's largest icebreaker. Bud and the GLACIER and crew of 250 men were very soon to leave their home port of Boston for Antarctica and Bud needed the gyro-stabilized binoculars.

The binoculars were produced by Ted Kenyon, a pilot and inventor. Among other things, Ted developed a standard marine instrument for logging a vessel's speed through water and also was a master of gyroscope design. Kenyon Labs produced binoculars which were gyro-stabilized for viewing and Bud wanted these special binoculars for navigating in turbulent polar ice and waters. Although located in Chester in 1959, Kenyon Labs later moved to the old D&H Scovil plant #3 near the junction of Candlewood Hill and Brainard Hill Roads in Higganum.

Bud Porter was quite a character. Longtime friends from Haddam, the Sibleys, had a spacious lawn. Bud arranged to fly in the helicopter to Haddam, pick up the binoculars and return to the GLACIER, which was immediately going to sea. The chopper set down on the lawn with an onlooking small crowd of residents and friends. Bud jumped



out in full dress uniform and was taken by the arm by Belle Russell, at that time the Middletown Press Haddam reporter. A camera was set to record the scene for the newspaper. Little Jim Sibley and older sister Jane were among the group of welcomers as well as Ted Kenyon and his wife Cecily "Teddy" Kenyon, a former Grumman Test Pilot herself and daring flyer.

Commander Bud Porter was greeted by Mrs. Sibley who had prepared a buffet lunch for all. Following lunch, and a Middletown PRESS photo of Bud and his parents, Bud drove the Kenyon's auto to the Chester airport and met the helicopter, which had left Haddam with Ted Kenyon in the passenger seat. Bud then received the binoculars and the helicopter returned to the GLACIER.

This might well seem to be a tall story, embellished by decades of local gossip, however the story is verified by Jim Sibley and by Ben Koether, the navigator officer on the GLACIER for the entire two years of Bud Porter's command. Even better, Jim Sibley recently located a remembered but misplaced color movie film of the helicopter visit to the Sibley

lawn. Readers can view this event for themselves as a portion of the film is viewable online [HERE](#).

The story of the helicopter itself doesn't end so well. The following Spring the GLACIER, while enroute back to Boston, was called to help in flood relief on the northeast coast of Brazil. The GLACIER normally carried two helicopters, the smaller Bell 47 and a larger Sikorsky. On April 6, 1960, the little Bell copter, heading to the flood disaster with Bud onboard, struck a telegraph cable, plunged into the muddy waters of the Parnaiba River and burst into flames. Bud Porter was burned on his head, face and arms and the copter was lost. Bud recuperated on the return voyage. Bud and the GLACIER were commended by the President of Brazil, by Vice President Nixon, and by Admiral Arleigh Burke, Chief of Naval Operations. Philip W. (Bud) Porter, Jr., passed away in 2011.

Thanks for valuable help and information go to Jim Sibley, Ben Koether, Bud Porter's nephew Attorney Charles E Rounds, Jr. (Bud Porter's nephew), John Nork, and the Middletown, Connecticut Russell Library.

AUTUMN 2019

Haddam Meadows State Park upcoming clean-ups this Fall: 9/28 & 10/19

By Cheryl Czuba

Come join the fun! Our first fall invasive plant clean-up will be held on Saturday, Sept. 28, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon at Haddam Meadows State Park. The event will be held in conjunction with the CT River Conservancy's Source to Sea annual cleanup. The rain date

is Saturday, October 5.

Participants are asked to meet in the picnic area to the left of the boat launch. Adults and youths, under 16 years of age accompanied by an adult, are encouraged to participate in removing oriental bittersweet and other invasives and/or picking up litter. Please dress for the weather, wear waterproof boots, bring garden loppers or saw, insect repellent, sunscreen, water, and first aid supplies. Snacks will be provided. Do not bring pets. Volunteers with dump trucks and Haddam stickers are needed. The event is being planned by CT DEEP Adopt-a-Park volunteers, Cheryl Czuba, Mary

Lou Heger, David Stiles and Jamie Burgess.

The second fall invasive plant cleanup will be held Saturday, Oct. 19, with a rain date of Oct. 26.

To register email Cheryl Czuba at cherylczuba@comcast.net.

Events, writers wanted

If you know of community events or if you would like to write for the newspaper, please contact us at editors@haddamnews.org.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE H8

Town and Community Calendar

Continued from page H8

offices will be held on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at Haddam Town Office Building, Town Clerk's Office, 30 Field Park Drive, Haddam, CT 06438.

Haddam Registrar of Voters Office Hours, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Killingworth Farmer's Market, 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

The Killingworth Farmers Market is a family-friendly, open-air market where local farmers bring fresh,

locally-grown produce and farm-processed foods to sell directly to you. Our market features fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, baked goods, fish, jams and preserves, juices, honey, meat, cheese, yogurt, ice cream, prepared foods, nursery plants, and flowers.

Regional School District #17 Board of Education Public Building Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Haddam Killingworth Middle School

Killingworth Public Health Agency Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Town Office Building

Thursday, September 12

Higganum Farmer's Market, 4:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Haddam's Economic Development Commission is sponsoring the Higganum Farmer's Market, which will be held every second and fourth Thursday from June 27, 2019 until Oct. 10, 2019 on the Higganum Green, from 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Killingworth Conservation Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Town Office Building

Resident Troopers encourage residents to: Lock Your Cars!

Troopers would like to remind residents to lock their cars. Many of the towns that have been experiencing a problem with vehicle break-ins and stolen vehicles are towns in which limited access highways (that is, Route 9, I95, I91, I84, etc.), run through them. The reason being that thieves have easy access to residential areas via the limited access highways. The trend seems to be that these criminals are not necessarily "breaking into" vehicles; but are rather entering unlocked vehicles and helping themselves to people's belongings.

The Haddam Resident Troopers Office and Troopers from State Police Troop F are reminding Haddam residents to be proactive so they do not fall victim to incidents such as the ones we have been seeing in other communities. It is our hope that by heightening awareness and being proactive, we can circumvent these types of incidents here in town.

Always keep your vehicles locked no matter where you live and try to keep them in well-lit areas.

Do not leave firearms in your vehicle.

Set car alarms.

Do not hide keys or key fobs in your vehicle.

Consider installing or activating your vehicle GPS tracking units, i.e., On-Star.

Do not leave your car running unattended even if it is for a few minutes.

Residents are urged to call the Haddam Resident Troopers Office at 860-345-2769 or Troop F at 860-399-2100 if you see anything suspicious, especially during the early morning hours. Call 911 for emergencies.

Letters to the Editor

We encourage Letters to the Editor which foster understanding and awareness through discourse. They should be: civil, knowledgeable, factual, and constructive. The letter must include the writer's name, town, and date, and should not exceed 400 words. The editors reserve the final decision on any letters published; frequency of submissions from a single writer or group will be a factor in deciding whether to publish a letter. The editors may also add a short explanation of the writer's position or credentials.

Haddam News, PO Box 15, Higganum, CT 06441



Sleepy Hollow Lantern Tour at farm

By Chris Solimene, Producer, Artful Living

Artful Living presents Sleepy Hollow Lantern Tour Experience the Legend...

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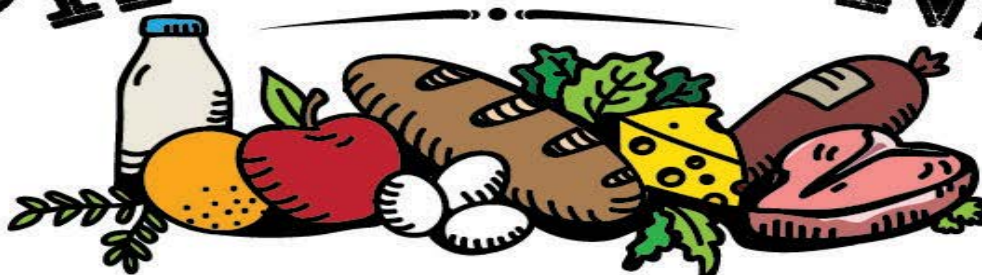
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History of the Congregational Church in Killingworth

By Thomas L. Lentz, Church Historian

Killingworth originally comprised present day Killingworth and the Town of Clinton to the south. The Congregational Church in present Killingworth is the Second Church in the original town. In 1735, the General Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut granted permission for the residents of the northern section of Killingworth to form a Second Ecclesiastical Society so that it would not be so far for them to travel to church. In 1838, the two societies were split into two towns, the Second Society being present Killingworth and the First Society being Clinton. Having been granted their own Ecclesiastical Society, the new Society proceeded to establish their own church and choose a minister. The General Assembly gave permission for the formation of a church on May 12,



Photo by Sally Haase.

1737. William Seward was ordained and settled as pastor on January 18, 1738, the date assigned for the formation of the Killingworth Congregational Church. At its time of organization, the church had 50 members.

A society house for meetings of the society and worship services was built in 1736 on a high flat piece of land about 50 rods north of "the new bridge over the Bare-Swamp brook." The site is south of the Route 80 & 81 traffic circle and east of the hardware store and is owned by the Killing-

worth Land Conservation Trust. The first meetinghouse, as the church building was referred to then, of the Second Ecclesiastical Society was completed in 1743. The meetinghouse was 58 feet long and 38 feet wide. It was located close to the society house, faced south, and had a door on the south side that was the long side of the building. When the second

meetinghouse was built, the first meetinghouse was moved or reconstructed behind the second meetinghouse and used as a society house and later a town hall. The church campus today includes the church building, the parsonage built in 1966, and "The Old Town Hall," an agricultural hall built in 1881 that later became the town hall.

Rev. William Seward (1712-1784) was born in Durham, July 27, 1712, the son of Deacon William Seward who was one of the founders of Durham and had moved there from Guilford. He graduated from Yale College in 1734 and received a second degree in 1737. Rev. Seward was 25 at the time he became Pastor in North Killingworth. During his ministry, the small parish grew and became strong. He received 158 into full communion and 466 owned the covenant. He baptized 1,343 in his parish, and married 307 couples. His ministry in Killingworth lasted 44 years until his death in 1782 at the age of 70. The second pastor of the church was the Rev. Henry Ely who was ordained on September 25, 1782. The house on Route 81 now known as the Ely house was built for him in 1783.

There are several notable persons in the history of the church. Abraham Pierson (1756-1823) was the fifth deacon of the church from 1794 to 1823. He was the great-grandson of the Rev. Abraham Pierson (1646-1707), pastor of the First Church and the first Rector or president of the Collegiate School, later Yale College, and held the first classes in his home in Killingworth. Abraham served the town in many ways including selectman, town clerk, and representative to the General Assembly for 24 sessions. He was also a captain of the militia and served in the Revolutionary War. Asahel Nettleton (1783-1844) was a noted evangelist in the first part of the nineteenth century. Asahel was baptized in the church on April 27, 1783 by the Rev. Henry Ely. After graduating from Yale College, he preached throughout Connecticut, New York, and Massachusetts. He was a leader in the revivals known as the Second Great Awakening. Titus Coan (1801-1882) as a boy worked on his father's farm and received his early education in the Killingworth schools and from the Rev. Asa King. He was a missionary to the Hawaiian Islands from 1834 to 1882. His long course of service has few parallels in the annals of missionary life. He baptized over 14,000 persons and is sometimes called the "Saint Peter of Hawaii." Lydia Hartig of the Connecticut Home Missionary Society became the first woman pastor of the church in 1919. Today, the Acting Pastor is the Rev. Joan Cooper Burnett, the first African American pastor of the church.

In 1816, the Second Ecclesiastical Society decided to build a new meetinghouse. It was voted "to lay a tax of 25 Cents on the Dollar to be made on the List of 1817 to defray the expense of building a meeting house..." The present Congregational Church building was raised in 1817 and completed in 1820. It was dedicated to the service of God on May 31, 1820. The design of the meetinghouse traditionally has been attributed to Ithiel Town, a well-known architect of the period from Connecticut. The plan is typical of the churches of this period with the long axis at right angles to the highway, a vestibule at the front end, and a rectangular audience room with the pulpit at the far end. The building is 62 feet long and 48 feet wide, with a graceful belfry of three major stages in front. The meetinghouse had a bell that was never satisfactory and, in 1873, a new "Genuine Bronze or Bell-mettle Bell" was purchased. It weighed 1197 pounds and cost \$586.07. In 1875, Gen. William S. Pierson and his sister Miss Olivia Pierson made a gift of a fine Holbrook pipe organ to the church. A parish hall was added to the rear of the church building in 1959. Currently, the church has undertaken Preservation 2020, a capital campaign to raise \$350,000 for necessary repairs and restorations to this historic building. With continued care, it will continue to serve as a place of worship and community activities in Killingworth for future generations.

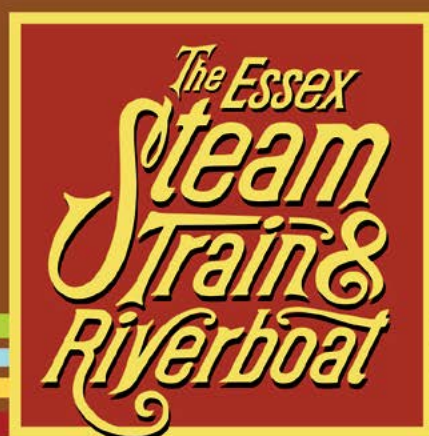
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