

Haddam Killingworth News

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

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December 17, 2020

For breaking news go to HK-Now.com every day

Free weekly

Between the Lions: Lions Clubs in our HK communities

By Sharon Challenger

Did you know that there are over 48,000 Lions Clubs with 1.4 million members around the world? The clubs form a network of people worldwide who work to serve those in need in their communities.

It might surprise you to learn that in 1925: Helen Keller was honored as the "First Lady of Lionism." Keller challenged Lions to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness" at the international convention in Cedar Point, Ohio. (<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/>

hellen-keller) The Lions Clubs International accepted her challenge and have continued to support her wishes to this day.

Service is their guide star, (archaic 1 : a star that leads or guides especially north star. 2 : one that serves as an inspiration, model, or guide.) Service to others has a two-fold benefit. It provides members with opportunities to improve the lives of others, and it changes the way they look at the world. By serving others less fortunate than ourselves, we get a different perspective on life. We begin to feel more positive about our own life's circumstances.



Image from Haddam Lions.

When we think of the Lions Clubs, the topic of Vision comes to mind, yet the Lions work on others causes as well. I was surprised to learn that they have five Global Causes they focus on: Vision, Diabetes, Environment, Hunger, and Childhood Cancer. Each Lions Club can choose what their focus of service will be.

Locally we have The Haddam Lions and The Killingworth Lions. The Haddam Lions have been serving for more than 70 years, and the Killingworth Lions had their 50th anniversary in November 2020. That's a combined 120 years of service to our communities!

What are they working on? Many things, in spite of the difficulties and restrictions the pandemic has put upon us. They will not be deterred!

Haddam Lions

Mike LaFleur, President
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HaddamLionsClub>
Website www.haddamlionsclub.com

Recent & current fundraising events:

November 2020 The Haddam and Higganum Liberty Bank branches partnered with the Haddam Lions Club to raise money for the Haddam Food Bank. Every dollar raised was matched 25% by the Liberty Bank Foundation. They raised \$2,334 which went entirely to the Food and Fuel bank of Haddam.

The Haddam Lions are selling lawn signs to help promote "PEACE ON EARTH" this holiday season. The cost is a \$20 dollar donation, and they will place it for you in your yard or drop it off to you, whichever you prefer. If you are interested in ordering a sign please Email the Lions at haddamlionsclub@gmail.com.

The Haddam Lions will, for a suggested donation of \$10, help with the disposal of your Christmas tree.

The Lions are in the planning stage to have a donation drop off site (possibly HES if they can get permission) where people may donate

Continued on Page HK6

Killingworth Stuff a Cruiser Event a Success



By Editorial Staff

Killingworth troopers held their Stuff a Cruiser event on Saturday, Nov. 28, to collect toys for families in need.

In This Issue: Calendar, Page HK2 • Route 9 Renumbering, Page HK5 • Local author's debut novel, Page HK8

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HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH TOWN & COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Thursday, December 17

Blood Drive – St. Peter Church, 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
St Peter Church is sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive in the church hall. The need is constant. Please donate! To schedule an appointment, use <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results...> or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

Santa's Mailbox through Dec. 18.

Santa will be setting up two mailboxes in town. One will be at Nutmeg Pharmacy in Higganum and the second will be at the Haddam Post Office. Your child may write a letter to Santa and include a self-addressed stamped envelope and Santa will write a letter back! Hosted by The Haddam Junior Women's Club.

Teen Write Club – Zoom Killingworth Library, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Join the Killingworth Library over Zoom as we work to create our own publication. Whether you have writing or artwork to share, or want to hone your skills as an editor, there is a place for you on our writing team!

Mystery Book Club – Zoom Killingworth Library, 6:30 p.m.

Join us as we discuss *The Bitterroots* by C. J. Box. Former sheriff's investigator Cassie Dewell is trying to start her life over as in private practice. This group will be meeting via Zoom. If you are interested in joining the group, please email the library at mail@killingworthlibrary.org. Extra copies will be available at the library.

Haddam P&Z Meeting (remote access only), 7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 18

Tween Comic Book Club – Zoom Killingworth Library 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Swing into the world of comics with our Tween Comic Book Club! Get ready to read and discuss *The Avengers Epic Collection: Under Siege*.

This program is open to students in grades 5 through 8, and we ask that you be a registered patron with the Killingworth Library (Haddam residents are welcome!).

Saturday, December 19

Killingworth Lions – Holiday Food Drive, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

The Killingworth Lions Club will continue with their Holiday Food Drive at Recycle Way/ town compactor on Saturdays, Dec. 5th, 12th, and 19th from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Donations of non-perishable food, food gift cards and cash are needed. Items collected will be turned over to the Helping Hands Food Pantry and the HK Backpack Program for distribution in the community. Thank you in advance for your generosity and remembering your neighbors who are in need during the holidays.

Super Saturday Storytime – Killingworth Library YouTube, 10:30-11:00 a.m.

While the library remains closed, we will now be holding our Saturday Storytimes on our new YouTube channel!

Santa Fire Truck Drive BY – KVFCo, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company event. Keep an eye out for Santa spreading some holiday cheer while he rides around town in a fire truck! He'll be cruising streets south of Route 80.

Keep a look out!

Monday, December 21

CT RiverCOG Zoom Meeting 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Topic: Regional Workshop: Future Land Use Map part 1

To access: <https://rivercog.org/events-calendar/>
For More information contact: RiverCOG, 145 Denison Road, Essex, CT 06426 860 581-8554 info@rivercog.org

Haddam Joint BOF/BOS Meeting (remote access only) 6:30 p.m.

Killingworth Charter Revision Comm. Mtg. (remote access only) 7:00 p.m.

Friday, December 25

Merry Christmas!

OBITUARY

George S. Mavredakis, Owner of Brookside Restaurant

According to CurrentObituary.com, George S. Mavredakis, age 74, of Springfield, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020. According to the obituary, he was the current owner and operator of the Brookside Bar & Grill in Higganum, Conn.

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Gillian R. Kelly, DMD, MSD
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Smiles FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS

KWO 2020 Holiday Children's Wish Drive

By Genie Dethloff, KWO

Each year around the holidays, the Killingworth Women's Organization works hard to make sure that every Killingworth child has a happy holiday – starting with the Letters to Santa program and ending with the Holiday Children's Wish Drive.

To meet the wishes of the children, donations of gifts will be collected from the community and distributed to families. This free, confidential program is available to all families who need it, particularly

this year when so many are so hard hit due to the coronavirus.

To Request Gifts:

Provide the Child's First Name, Gender, Age & Birthday (month and day), Favorite Color, Favorite Snack, Clothing Size, Shoe Size, and Interests (i.e. soccer, video games, hiking, etc.), for each child in your household and email to info@kwoct.org or call 203-984-3518.

To Provide Gifts:

To access the wish list signup, email info@kwoct.org or call 203-984-3518.

Anyone who wishes to donate to The Children's Wish Drive can donate online at www.kwoct.org/donation or send a check to KWO, PO Box 952, Killingworth, CT 06419 (please indicate Wish Drive on the check). Starting In 2021, KWO will be expanding the wish program beyond a holiday gift drive to year-round wishes for children in need.

EDUCATION / COMMUNITY

2020 HKHS Holiday Show to benefit Field Memorial Foundation

By Kasha Topa-Finberg, HKHS

Haddam-Killingworth High School's television production studio will broadcast its 32nd annual telethon, benefiting the Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation on Dec. 23. The mission of this organization is to prevent suicide through public awareness and education, to reduce the stigma of mental illness, and to provide hope and support. This special event will occur live on Wednesday, Dec. 23, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Encore presentations will air daily from Dec. 23 to Jan. 4, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

In addition to advocating for mental health awareness, the Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation has participated in various education and prevention activities in the community. Through



Photos provided by HKHS.

rsd17.org and RSD 17's webpage on Dec. 23, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00

a.m. You can call in your pledge to (860) 554-5490 during the broadcast; operators will be standing by to take your phone calls.

Every year, the students and staff of Haddam-Killingworth High School

your generous support, the Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation can spread its motto – "You're Worth It!"



The telethon can be viewed live on Comcast Channel 18 and Frontier Channel 6090 and at holidayshow.org.

provide a heartfelt opportunity to raise money and awareness to positively benefit and promote a nonprofit organization in the Valley Shore community.

Please help us make this 32nd Holiday Show very special by supporting HKTv and the Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation. For more information, please contact Ms. Kasha Topa-Finberg at hktv@rsd17.org

Correction

Correct phone number for Wonder Paws featured in the December 10 edition is 860-554-5237.

Largest Papyrus Card/Gift Store in Middlesex County

Covid-19 Vaccine

Hi, Greg McKenna here from the Nutmeg Pharmacy Group.

As we wait for the FDA to make their decision on the Covid-19 vaccines and when they will start rolling out, I wanted to reach out to all of you, our valued customers.

Thank you to those of you who have taken the opportunity to register with your local Nutmeg Pharmacy for Covid-19 vaccination for when it becomes available to the general public.

As your local healthcare provider, we're asking for your help. The Covid-19 vaccine is essential if we are to beat the virus. This is a community effort, and we know how great a community all of you are out there.

Please reach out to your family and friends and let them know they can register in advance with their local Nutmeg Pharmacy to receive the Covid-19 vaccine.

We know not everyone uses social media but are likely to have access to the Internet and who better to get that message from, than a trusted friend or neighbor.

Visit our website at nutmegpharmacy.com and click on the COVID-19 Vaccine tab in the menu and select the Nutmeg Pharmacy nearest to you.

Nutmeg Pharmacies are working hard everyday to make sure you stay healthy.

And we're proud to be part of your community.

Thank you,
Greg

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Route 9 Exit renumbering begins

By Editorial Staff

Back in November 2019, we published an article about the Connecticut Department of Transportation's plan to renumber the exits on Route 9 and other routes in Connecticut.

On Dec. 1, 2020, the DOT put out a press release announcing that the sign

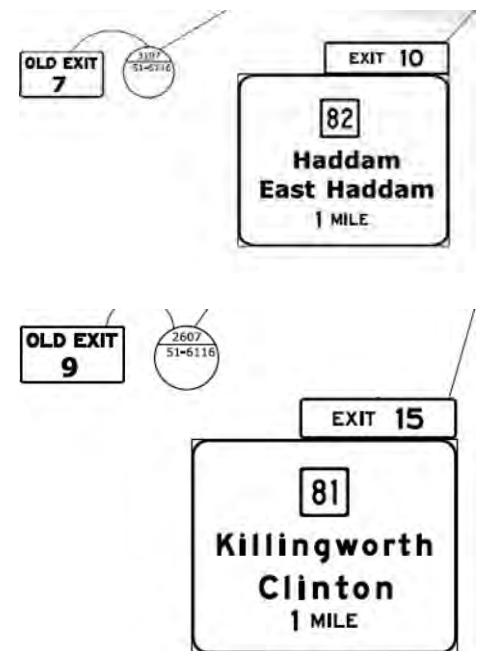
replacement project on Routes 9, 17, and 82 would begin on December 7, 2020. According to malmeroads.net, "The contract for the remaining signs on CT 9 was advertised on August 12, 2020. This contract will include exit renumbering along the entire length of CT 9 (along with new signs on parts of CT 17 and a new number for the CT

17 exit at CT 9, and CT 82). The contract was let in November with work starting on December 7, the majority of the work to begin in 2021."

In the DOT's Dec. 1 press release, it says, "The work involves the replacement of signs and sign supports along Route 9, from I-95 in Old Saybrook to I-84 in Farmington; Route 17, from the South Main Street intersection to Route 9 in Middletown; Route 82, from Route 9 to the Route 154 intersection in Chester and Haddam; and the associated on-ramps and off-ramps. The new signs and sign supports will be installed in accordance with the latest federal and state standards and guidelines. The types of signs that will be replaced include, but are not limited to, large overhead and side mounted Guide signs and smaller signs such as Mile Markers, Exit Gore signs, Speed Limit signs, Merge signs, and Route Confirmation signs."

The contract went to Ducci Electrical Contractors Inc. for approximately \$5.6 million. It went on to say that the "the existing signs have exceeded their useful service life and are in need of replacement. The project involves the replacement of only those signs that have exceeded their useful service life, have less than adequate retroreflectivity, have evidence of damage, or are no longer in compliance with Federal and State standards and guidelines."

While replacing those signs, they



will be changed to conform with federal standards, so the exit numbers will change to mileage-based numbering, instead of the existing sequential numbering. For a minimum of two years, there will be an "old exit" number posted adjacent to the new signs, to give drivers time to adjust to the new numbers.

The work on the sign changes could cause traffic delays.

Correction

Correction to phone number for business in front page story featuring "Wonder Paws opens in Haddam" from December 10 edition. The phone number is 860-554-5237.

Exit to:	Existing number:		Proposed number:	
	Northbound	Southbound	Northbound	Southbound
I-95 NB	-	-	1A	
I-95 SB	-	-	1B	
Essex Rd & CT-154	2	2	1	1C
CT-154	3	3	4	4
CT-154	4	4	5	5
CT-80	5	5	7	7
CT-148	6	6	9	9
CT-82	7	7	11	11
Beaver Meadow Rd	8	8	14	14
CT-81	9	9	16	16
CT-154	10	10	19	19
CT-155	11	11	21	21
Bow Ln & Silver St	12	12	22	22
CT-17		13		23
DeKoven Dr		14		24A
Washington St	15	15	24B	24B
CT-17 & CT-66	16	16	24C	24C
CT-99	18		25	
CT-372	19	19	27	27
I-91 NB	20N	20N	29A	29A
I-91 SB	20S	20S	29B	29B
CT-372 & US-5 & CT-15	21	21	31	31
CT-372 & Worthington Ridge Rd	22	22	32	32
Christian Ln		23		33
To CT-71 & CT-372	24		34	
Ellis St	25	25	35A	35
Columbus Blvd	26		35B	
Chestnut St		27		36A
CT-72	28	28	36	36B
E Main St		28A		36C
CT-175 & Ella Grasso Blvd	29	29	38	38
CT-71	30	30	39	39
I-84 EB	31		40B	
I-84 WB	32		40A	

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Children's Higher Education Costs in Divorce and Custody Cases in Connecticut
By Attorney Makana A. Ellis

In Connecticut, a family court judge can enter an order of educational support requiring a parent or guardian to provide support for a child to attend an institution of higher education, including college and vocational school. The educational support order can be for up to a total of four full academic years so a child can obtain an associate's degree, bachelor's degree and/or vocational training. The order is also for a child who has not yet turned 23 years old. The order would also end when the child turns 23 years old.

The order of educational support can occur when a custody or divorce judgment is entered, or before a judgment is finalized in family court. If a divorce or custody case has gone to judgment, a court will not enter an educational support order for a child retroactively. It is important to have the court enter an order of educational support before or during a judgment, so that if and when your child wants to attend college or vocational school in the future, the court can determine college or vocational costs at that later date.

Certain factors that the court will consider to determine who pays what for your child's higher education costs are:

1. Any information about the school the child would attend, including proof of acceptance or enrollment,
2. The parents or guardians' income, assets, and other obligations,
3. The availability of financial aid, including grants, scholarships, and loans for the child,
4. The child's need for support to attend school, including the child's assets and earning capacity, and
5. The child's academic record, preparation, and commitment to higher education.

Make sure you are fully aware of your options for your children's higher education costs during a divorce or custody case. Please contact **Dzialo, Pickett & Allen, P.C.** for a consultation.

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Between the Lions: Lions Clubs in our HK communities

Continued from page HK1

shoes and coats. Possible dates would be after Christmas. All funds raised will go towards the Haddam Fuel Bank.

The Haddam Lions prepare 24 Christmas food baskets for families in Haddam. In addition, they help stock the Haddam Food Bank throughout the year.

Being good stewards of the community, the Haddam Lions donated \$500 to the 2020 Haddam-Killingworth High School Holiday Telethon, to support the Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation. They want to encourage people in our communities to support this Telethon. The production will air live on Comcast Channel 18 and Frontier Channel 6090 and at this webpage <http://holidayshow.rsd17.org/> on Wednesday December 23rd from 8 AM to 11 AM. Encore presentations will air daily from December 23rd to January 4th at 8 AM and 7 PM. Viewers can call in their pledge to (860) 554-5490 during the broadcast – operators will be standing by to take your phone calls. For every donation of \$25 or more, you will qualify for great gifts from our Fish Bowl Drawings during the live show.

Annual Haddam Lions Events:

Duck Race: They have been conducting a duck race for the past three years with the profits going back to the town. Last year the proceeds went to the Haddam Food and Fuel bank.

Classic Car Show: The Classic car show brings the “Good Ole Days” to the Haddam Meadows with Classic cars. Cars from the 30’s up to the 00’s bring so much joy to enthusiasts that come from near and far.

Killingworth Lions

Nancy Keyes, President
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KillingworthLionsClub>
Website: www.killingworthlions.org/



Photo by Greg Wind.

On June 3, 2020 Ms. Keyes was installed as Killingworth Lions’ first woman President in their fifty-year history. In 1987, Lions Clubs International was the first service club organization to admit women into their membership.

Recent & current fundraising events:

Annual Christmas Food Drive will be on December 12 & 19, 2020, at Recycle Way by Transfer Station in Killingworth.

The Annual Christmas Tree sale will be on Saturday & Sunday December 12 & 13, 2020 at the Killingworth Market parking lot Rt 81 & Rt 80.

KW Lions plan to help the PTO at KES purchase equipment for a new playground. The KW Lions put in the original wooden playground behind

the school 30 years ago, but it has deteriorated and needs replacement.

Annual Pig Roast at Parmelee Farm. The purpose of the event is to introduce community members to the Lions. It provides an opportunity for people to decide whether or not they would like to join the club. Around 22 people attended the outdoor event this year.

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt (2021 might have to be a drive by event depending on the pandemic status.)

Collecting hundreds of eyeglasses to be recycled.

Covid-19 has made it a difficult time for charitable organizations to have any fundraiser events. “You have to be so careful on how you do things,” said Keyes.

The 50-year anniversary of Killingworth Lions was in November 2020. They had hoped to celebrate the event but may reschedule if the virus subsides and the vaccine progresses. As of this moment however, they do not know if a celebration will be possible.

Yet, we can all celebrate by saying, “Thank you, Haddam Lions and Killingworth Lions for the work that you do and continue to do to improve the lives of others.”

If you are interested in learning more about either the Haddam Lions or the Killingworth Lions, please reach out as both Clubs would love to welcome in new members.

“Only a life lived in the service to others is worth living.” Albert Einstein

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The 50-Yard Challenge

By Sharon Challenger

In my mind I can still picture my husband's 85-year old grandfather pulling on his lawn mower cord in Westbrook, Conn. It would take a him several times to get the mower started and I wondered how he had the energy to mow the lawn after that, yet he insisted. It would take him a full three days to get the job done, but he was a proud and determined man and he wanted to do it.

When we are young, we don't often think about the difficulty others may have in their daily lives. We take for granted the skills we have to manage things like mowing, raking, and shoveling snow from our walkways. While it may take time, most have the strength, tools, and energy to do the work. Many however do not. The elderly, the handicapped, those without time, money, or resources to care for their properties can be found in every community. They might be living quietly in that house you drive by every day on your way to work. You know, the yard which looks untidy, the one you think needs some TLC.

There is an expression "for every problem, there is a solution," but you have to "see" the problem in order to find inspiration on how to "fix" it.

That is exactly what Rodney Smith did. He spot-



Logan mowing lawn of former neighbor Dorothy Luhn. Photo by Doug Merwin.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF DECISION

At the Town of Haddam Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting on December 3, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

1. Approval of Amendment to Section 5.6 of the Zoning Regulations Tattoo and/or body piercing studios (existing business allowed to relocate to other zones allowing personal service establishments) 310 Saybrook Road, Higganum. Map 14A/ Lot 009 Applicant: Rob Lloyd

Town of Haddam Planning and Zoning Commission

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.

ted a man having difficulty caring for his lawn. Rather than drive on by however, Rodney pulled over and took the time to lend a hand.

That gesture became the seed of inspiration for Raising Men Lawn Care Service – Making a Difference One Lawn at A Time.

"Raising Men Lawn Care Service is designed to promote awareness for the youth of the future. It is a platform where the younger members of the community can give back to the community. This includes veterans, the elderly, the disabled and even single mothers. They get the chance to offer services such as mowing lawns, shoveling snow, raking leaves and more, free of charge. The youths who we work with are able to experience a great sense of achievement while also developing their social skills and

lawn care experience." (<https://weareraisingmen.com/who-we-are-our-mission/>)

Children nationwide have been challenged to mow 50 lawns in their community for free. When they sign up for the challenge, they are given a white shirt with the Raising Men logo, sunglasses, and ear protection. Participants receive a different color shirt for every 10th lawn they mow, and when they meet the goal of mowing 50 yards, they are rewarded with a new lawn mower.

When Samantha Merwin learned of the 50-Yard challenge, she told her son, Logan about it.

"For Logan, he's been helping our neighbors, the Reynolds with their lawn for a while, when a friend shared the program on Facebook I showed him and

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Haddam Neck's Amanda Brainerd writes debut novel

By Kathy Brown

Amanda Brainerd's novel, *Age of Consent*, came out on July 14, 2020.

When you read it, you may find it hard to believe that it is her debut novel. It reads like classic literature, honed to perfection.

She is a real estate broker by trade, though she started out as an architect, and writes when she can carve out the time. "I prefer mornings and afternoons to evenings or night when I am wiped out," Amanda explained when interviewed. She switched careers after she had her second of three children because real estate was more flexible. "But real estate, although challenging and requiring multiple skills, is not very creative," she said.

In 2008, Amanda was at a dinner party "with a writer I had grown up with. We were talking about how *laissez-faire* so many parents were in the 1970s and 1980s and how many of our friends (we were in our 40s) still suffered from it," said Amanda. "All of a sudden, I realized, 'I'm going to write that story.' It took me years to write, years to edit, and years to get an agent. But here I am."

Age of Consent follows teens who meet at a private school in Connecticut and their various experiences. "Many of the characters in the book are based on friends from my teenage years," said Amanda, but clarified, "This is a work of fiction, which allowed me to, as you noticed, to not only compile many stories, but to



Photo by TheoJuliet.

weave together traits from several friends into each character." The characters are complex and varied, and very authentic. "Almost all the things in the book really happened, but not necessarily in that order, to those people," Amanda explained. "Even the most shocking ones really happened. That was why I wrote about it." The character of Eve Straus most closely resembles Amanda's experiences, though not everything that happened to Eve happened to Amanda, and vice versa.

One review on GoodReads by Susan Budd says, "Brainerd's *Age of Consent* takes one back to the opulent and indulgent 1980s as seen through the eyes of adventurous teens attempting to swim in the deep end of adult life. This sassy coming of age story quickly ensnares you with complex characters struggling to define their identity."

Another GoodReads review, by Caroline Leavitt, said, "This is just a gorgeous debut about two people, Justine and Eve, both upper strata, blazing a path through the 80s' alcohol and drug soaked era."

I will not give away the ending, but

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The 50-Yard Challenge

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he was really excited about the possibility of getting his own mower! He has done a few lawns, but the person [whose lawn he is mowing] needs to have their own lawn mower. Since he doesn't have one yet, [it] slows him down. He is mowing for free for elderly, disabled, seniors or single moms in our area. In the fall he can do leaf raking and that counts as well. In the winter it's snow shoveling too but typically that won't work due to school timing."

In an attempt to see just how Logan is handling his "50 Yard Challenge" I posed some questions which he promptly answered.

Q: What made you take an interest in doing yard work for people in need of help?

A: It feels good helping people who need it and I like doing yard work.

Q: What is your favorite part of the experience?

A: My favorite part is seeing them smile at the end.

Q: Do you have a plan for the future, i.e. perhaps starting a business when you are of age?

A: Maybe. Right now, my plan is to be a Hot Wheels Designer like Larry Wood and go into automotive design, but I may start a lawn mowing business to make extra money.

Q: How many people have asked for your help?

A: I have had 4 people ask other than my neighbor, but I also mow for my next-door neighbor all the time before this started as well to help them out for free. I started late during the summer so hoping to get more people for spring and summer next year.

Q: What tools are you in need of to help you with your work?

A: I need a lawnmower as I'm currently using whatever the homeowners have which has limited my ability to help people that don't have a lawnmower. So, it's hard because until I reach 50 lawns, I don't get the free lawn mower but it's hard to get to the 50 lawns without it!

Q: How can interested people contact you when they need help?

A: They can contact my email, Lps-landscaping@gmail.com

With 5-yards down, Logan has 45 more to go to get that free lawn mower.

Raking yards and shoveling snow can also count towards his goal.

Spring will be here before we know it, so my hope is that the next time you drive past that house that needs some TLC, you might mention that there is someone here in Haddam who is willing to be of help.

Let's spread the word and help Logan meet his goal!

Haddam Killingworth News

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HVFCo responds to single-car crash on Rt. 81

Report and photos by Olivia Drake, HVFCo Public Information Officer

Haddam Volunteer Fire Company was dispatched to a single-car motor vehicle accident at 1:25 p.m. on Dec. 5. In snowy conditions, a driver lost con-

trol of her vehicle on Route 81 near Soobitski Road, spun, and struck a tree with the rear-end of her vehicle. The driver refused medical treatment.

Firefighters closed the southbound lane of traffic during the incident.

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Brainerd writes debut novel

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let's suffice it to say, that everything is not tied up neatly at the end. Amanda explains her decision this way, "The characters in the book are so young, that it didn't seem right to sew it all up. Despite their journeys in the novel, they all have so much farther to go."

Though Amanda lives in Manhattan, she and her husband have a farm in Haddam Neck, which has been in her husband, Charles' family since the 1670s. He is a direct descendent of David Brainerd. "Our farm dates from the early part of the 1700s, and has remained in the family," said Amanda. "There are several houses, a small early 1700s house, two main 18th century houses, and a late 19th century house we live in."

Amanda found a literary agent after years of searching, Alice Whitwham, who sold it to Viking Press, which is part of Penguin Random House. "The hardest part of this process is finding an agent," explained Amanda. And now that she's written one book, will she write another? "Oh yes," she replied. "At least one, if not many. The one I am working on now is set today and is about two women who look exactly alike."

"I have learned a lot during this process, that so much of it depends, like most of life, in being in the right place at the right time," said Amanda. "For aspiring writers out there, I would just say don't give up. Keep writing, and stay on the path."

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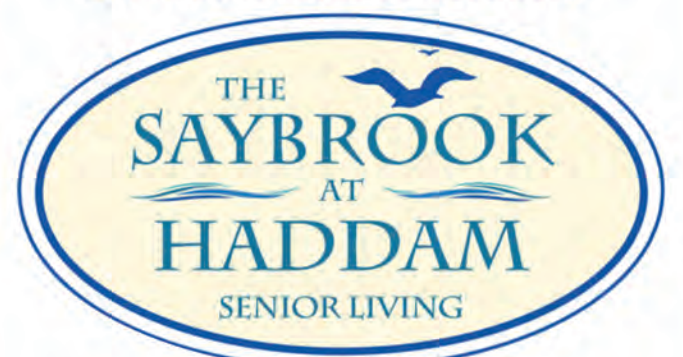
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