

# Haddam Killingworth News

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

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January 7, 2021

For breaking news go to [HK-Now.com](http://HK-Now.com) every day

Free weekly



Photo by Terry Twigg.

## Time and Trees

By Terry Twigg, Haddam Garden Club

It's the new year again, when we're moved to reflect on the passing of time, on endings and beginnings. I came face to face with temporality a few weeks ago in my yard, when an enormous, very sick oak tree had to come down. I counted the rings as best I could; there were over a hundred. A hundred years ago, automobiles and telephones were still primitive luxuries, most Americans were farmers, and women had just gotten the vote. How many stories were encompassed in that tree's lifetime! The rings varied in width, telling another story: of summers of ample rainfall and summers of drought, like the one just past. The one that delivered the last fatal blow to a tree already weakened by pests and disease. A tree that stood for over a century, now nothing but a pile of firewood.

All over our state the same story is repeated, as our beautiful native trees

fall victim to drought, disease, and insects. The loss is the equivalent of 500,000 acres of dead trees. All lost trees are to be mourned, but none so much as the white oak, which supports more native insects and moths (and the birds who feed them to their young) than any other tree we grow—450-500 species, at last count. Plant swamp maples and sugar maples; plant ash trees, so hard hit by the emerald ash borer; plant pin oaks and red oaks, but above all, plant white oaks. I once watched a lecture on trees, in which the speaker proudly showed off an oak he'd grown from an acorn fifteen years earlier. Oaks have a reputation for being slow-growing, but this one was already over twenty feet tall.

As the old saying goes, the best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago. The second best time is today. I'll replace my lost oak, but not in the same space. My new neighbor's power lines

*Continued on Page HK2*

## Killingworth Girl Scout Byrne earns Gold Award

By Kathy Brown

Jasmine Byrne, also known as Jazzy, is a Killingworth resident and senior at Haddam Killingworth High School. She has recently completed the last step in earning the Gold Award, the most prestigious award that a Girl Scout can earn.

According to the Girl Scout website, "Gold Award Girl Scouts are challenged to make a sustainable change in their communities and around the world. These young women are inspiring leaders whose Gold Award projects are impacting the worlds of STEM, education, agriculture, medicine, and more all over the globe." Only 5.4% of eligible Girl Scouts earn their Gold Award.

The Girl Scout must dedicate a minimum of 80 hours of leadership while planning and carrying out the project, which must benefit the community, be educational, and have a long lasting impact. They must identify an issue, investigate, build a team, create a plan, submit project proposal and give presentation, do the project, inspire others, and submit final report and give a presentation.

"The way that Jazz gathered her 'team' together really shows how connected she's always been to her community and the special place she believes books have in a child's life," said Gayle Byrne, Jazz's grandmother. "She couldn't have picked a better mentor than Marissa, the Children's Librarian at Brainerd Library. She was such a valuable resource, directing and encouraging Jazz throughout the four year process. Working on her literacy project with Miss Heidi and the Killingworth Kids Center was especially



Photos courtesy of Jasmine Byrne.

sweet because Jasmine was one of the first to enroll there when the Center first opened. To work with Kelly at HK Cougar Cubs right there on the HKHS campus with children of some of her own teachers is especially gratifying and brings Jasmine and her belief in books full circle."

Jasmine's Gold Award project focused on early literacy in our community. She installed little lending libraries decorated in old book covers at the Killingworth Kids Center and the Cougar Cubs Center. She also created a brochure outlining the importance of early literacy; this can be accessed online as well as printed for distribution. "I hope that this project has a long lasting impact on the community and encourages early reading in generations to come," said Jasmine.

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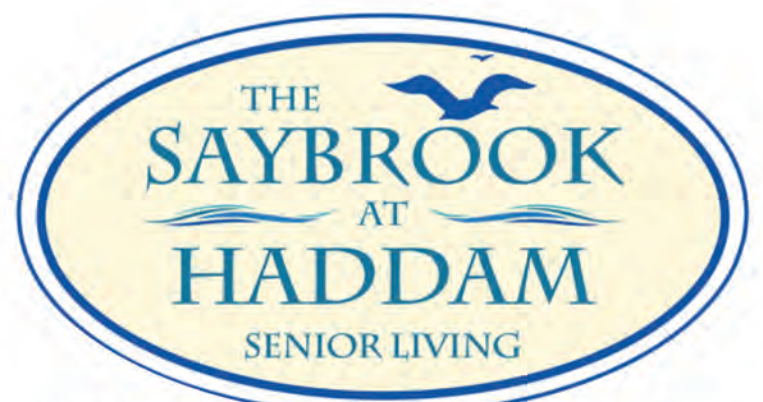
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# Killingworth resident and Girl Scout earns prestigious Gold Award

Continued from page HK1

"[Jasmine's] passion for literacy was evident from the beginning stages of her project planning," said Marissa Lehmacher, Children's Librarian at Haddam's Brainerd Memorial Library. "I could tell she really wanted to create something that would have a positive and lasting effect on the community. It takes a lot of effort to make a project like this come to life and Jasmine worked hard to make it happen."

Jasmine has been a member of Troop 62245 since Kindergarten. "The support of my troop — both leaders and fellow scouts — was integral to preparing me to earn this award which is a culmination of my involvement in scouting for the past 13 years," said Jasmine.

"I am extremely proud of Jazzy and have never doubted that her leadership and dedication would result in her earning this award," said Danielle O'Linn, Jasmine's Girl Scout leader. "Since Daisy Scouts, I have enjoyed witnessing firsthand Jazzy live the Girl Scout Promise and Law, not only in scouting activities, but in her daily life."

"Jasmine was a pleasure to work with," said Marissa. "This is a wonderful accomplishment and she should be very proud of herself."

"We absolutely couldn't be prouder, but then again, no one who knows Jazz is surprised at her reaching this goal of Gold," said Gayle Byrne. "She's that kind of 'I'm gonna do it; I'm gonna get there' kind of kid!"

Outside of Scouts, Jasmine manages the HKHS



Girls Basketball team, and is a member and co-captain of the HKHS Girls Tennis team. She is also an officer of the Spanish Honor Society, and a member of the National Honor Society. After high school, she

plans to attend the University of New Haven, majoring in Forensic Science.

Congratulations, Jazz!

## Time and Trees

Continued from page HK1

stretch across the space its branches used to occupy, so replanting such a tall-growing tree wouldn't make sense. Instead, I'll plant smaller trees near the street. Eversource has a list of suggested small trees that won't interfere with power lines, but I encourage you to ignore their list, because few if any of the trees listed are native. That's a lost opportu-

nity, because we have lots of handsome native small trees to choose from: dogwood (be sure to buy the native cornus florida, not the foreign cornus kousa); hawthorn; shadbush (serviceberry); and native witch hazel. Try native crabapples, wild plum, and the shorter varieties of birch, with their peeling bark that adds so much interest to the winter landscape.

The act of planting a tree is optimism made man-

ifest. It's our gift to the future. The trees we plant this year will shelter the grandchildren of people not yet born. What better reminder of how our human lives are inextricably tied to, and dependent on, the millions of other species existing on our small blue planet? For this new year, resolve to plant at least one tree, and resolve, further, to do what is necessary to allow it, and us, to thrive.



The Haddam Killingworth News wishes you and your family a happy and prosperous 2021!

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# Oddfellows 2021 Winter Programs for Kids start January 9

By Dic Wheeler, Oddfellows

Registration is now open for winter classes and performance opportunities for ages 6 – 20 at Oddfellows Playhouse in Middletown. Most activities will be held virtually on Zoom, with a few exceptions. For details, and more information, go to [www.oddfellows.org](http://www.oddfellows.org), call (860) 347-6143, or email [info@oddfellows.org](mailto:info@oddfellows.org)

## Teen Programs:

Young people ages 14 – 20 may join two Teen Rep Company programs this winter: “Writing Plays”, with Kristen Palmer, and “The Actor’s Tool Kit”, with Marcella Trowbridge.

“Writing Plays” offers the opportunity to work with a professional playwright to learn and develop the art of writing for the stage. The program will culminate in a “New Plays Festival” on February 20. The class meets virtually Thursdays, 6:30 – 8 pm, January 14 – February 18. Tuition is \$50.

“The Actor’s Tool Kit” provides what every teen actor needs in their back pocket: facility with voice, body, breath, text, emotional literacy... train together and come out with tools of the trade – and a monologue, to boot. This class, taught by ARTFARM Artistic Director and classical actor Marcella Trowbridge, will meet in-person in the Oddfellows theater (with masks, social distancing, and other safety protocols) as long as COVID allows. Mondays, 6:30 – 8 pm, January 11 – February 15. Tuition: \$50.

Circus enthusiasts (ages 12 – 20) may join “Circophony: The Movie”, an 8 week production complete with live and virtual classes, on-line tutorials and opportunities for students to work with designers to make a circus feature presentation. Students are invited to build their own rehearsal schedule and can participate in as many or few classes as they like. Students will create content which will be edited and compiled in a final digital production. Directed by Allison McDermott. Full group virtual sessions Saturdays, 11 – 11:50 am, plus other training and coaching opportunities. Tuition: \$75.

An in-person “Contortion and Flexibility” class with Naja Muller will



Photo courtesy of Oddfellows Playhouse.

be offered in association with “Circophony: The Movie”. The class meets Thursdays, 4:30 – 6 pm, January 14 – March 4 at Oddfellows (masks/social distance/no touch coaching). Tuition for this class is \$120. Limited to 5 students.

## Junior Repertory Company (ages 11 – 14):

Our Junior Rep Company will be creating a “Virtual Mainstage Production” under the direction of Laugh Sanchez and Jacque Brown. The production will consist of original work created by the students over 8 weeks of rehearsals, focusing on finding their own voice through spoken word assignments and generative theater activities. Tuesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 pm & Thursdays, 5 – 6 pm, January 18 – March 20. Virtual performances March 19 & 20. Tuition: \$75.

## Ages 6 – 11:

Everyone is invited to stay healthy this winter through our FREE “Up On Your Feet” Series, hosted by Felicia Goodwine. This 8 week series will

offer different movement and physically based activities every week, from dance to pilates to capoeira, hosted by dancer/ choreographer Felicia with a bunch of guest teaching artists. This is our contribution to the physical and mental health of youngsters during this COVID winter, and everyone ages 6 – 11 is encouraged to join. Tuesdays, 5 – 6 pm, January 19 – March 9. Tuition is free, but registration is required.

“A Fairy Tale Mystery”, directed by Nicki LaPorte, offers kids ages 9 – 11 the chance to write and create an original mystery based on fairy tale characters. The virtual Share Day performance on February 25 will give friends and family the chance to try to solve the crime. Thursdays, 4:30 – 5:30 pm, January 21 – February 25. Tuition: \$50.

“Ms. B’s Cultural Heritage and Enrichment Corner” is a unique opportunity for kids ages 9 – 11 to work with nationally-recognized social work educator and historian Velma Banks on learning about African-American history and the relevance of historical heroes today. Although the focus is on African-American culture, the class is open to children of all backgrounds. Wednesdays, 4:30 – 5:30 pm, January 20 – February 24. Tuition: \$50.

The final classes out of the box this winter will be “Musical Mentoring”, coordinated by Julia Kan and featur-

ing one-on-one virtual music lessons with Wesleyan music students. Kids can choose to study guitar, keyboard, voice, ukulele, violin, and possibly other instruments (depending on availability of mentors). Ages 6 – 8 will meet on Wednesdays, 4:30 – 5:30 pm, February 24 – March 31; ages 9 – 11 will meet Mondays, 4:30 – 5:30 pm, February 22 – March 29. Tuition: \$50.

Financial Aid is available for all programs. It is Oddfellows Playhouse policy that no one will ever be turned away due to inability to pay.

To register, or for more information, go to [www.oddfellows.org](http://www.oddfellows.org), call (860) 347-6143, or email [info@oddfellows.org](mailto:info@oddfellows.org). Space is limited for all programs, so timely registration is encouraged.

Oddfellows Playhouse programs are made possible thanks to generous support from The Fund for Greater Hartford; State of Connecticut Judicial Branch/Youth Violence Prevention; Connecticut Office of the Arts/DECD; Middletown Commission on the Arts; Stare Family Fund; Middletown Youth Services Bureau; American Savings Foundation; Thomas J. Atkins Fund; New England Arts Resilience Fund; Community Foundation of Middlesex County; CHEFA Cultural Relief Grant; the Hoffman Foundation; Long Foundation; and generous individual donors.

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# HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH TOWN & COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Please visit [www.haddam.org](http://www.haddam.org), [www.townofkillingworth.com](http://www.townofkillingworth.com) or [hk-now.com](http://hk-now.com) for the most current information, including cancellations, location changes, time changes.

## Thursday, January 7

Regional School District 17 will be holding kindergarten registration from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at both elementary schools.

Parmelee Farm Comm. Meeting – Pond Room, Parmelee Farm at 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

## Saturday, January 9

Troop 44/44G BSA Can & Bottle Drive, Higganum Community Center at 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Super Saturday Storytime – Killingworth Library.

While the library remains closed, we will now be holding our Saturday Storytimes on our new YouTube channel! Virtual Storytime will go live at 10:30 a.m. every Saturday! Join us!

The Haddam Lions Club will be hosting a Coat and Shoe Drive at HES from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All new or gently used coats and shoes will be welcome. For more information contact: <http://www.haddamlionsclub.com>

## Sunday, January 10

The Haddam Lions Club will be hosting a Coat and Shoe Drive at HES from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## Monday, January 11

Killingworth Park & Recreation Meeting – Town Office Building at 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, January 12

(Zoom) Book Discussion – Killingworth Library at 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Join us as we discuss *The Overstory* by Richard Powers. Chosen as the 2019 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. This group will be meeting via Zoom. If you are interested in joining the group, please email the library at [mail@killingworthlibrary.org](mailto:mail@killingworthlibrary.org).

Killingworth BOF Meeting – Town Office Building at 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Killingworth Inland Wetlands Meeting – Town Office Building at 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

## Thursday, January 14

Killingworth Conservation Comm. Meeting – Town Office Building at 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

## BUSINESS / COMMUNITY

# Virtual Discussion on Supporting Small Businesses: January 7

By Sierra Lopez,  
*Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce*

Chairman Tom Byrne of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce announced that the Middlesex Chamber will hold a virtual discussion focused on supporting small businesses with Federal, State, and Local leaders.

The virtual discussion on supporting small busi-

nesses will take place via Zoom on Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. The following federal, state, and local leaders will be conducting the discussion along with the Middlesex Chamber.

*Connecticut Lt. Governor, Susan Bysiewicz*

*District Director for the U.S. Small Business Administration's Connecticut District Office, Catherine Marx*

*Connecticut Department of Economic & Community*

*Development Commissioner, David Lehman*

This session will provide and update employers and employees on relief programs for businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; specifically, focusing on supporting small businesses.

This virtual discussion is free to attend but does require advance registration. Please register online by visiting, [www.middlesexchamber.com](http://www.middlesexchamber.com)

## EDUCATION / COMMUNITY

# HKMS: Cougar Celebrations for December 2020

By Debra Cumpstone, HKMS

We recognize students and their achievements and want to share these celebrations with you too. On Wednesday Dec. 23, 2020 Haddam Killingworth Middle School held their Town Meeting where these students were recognized.

Our Cougar Core Value Awards are given to students who exemplify one or more of our Cougar Core Values: Respect, Responsibility, Acceptance, Kindness, and Perseverance. These Core Values were

developed and accepted by Haddam Killingworth Middle School students, parents, faculty, and staff in 2016, and we recognize students each month. We appreciate these students' commitment to upholding our core values and being role models at HKMS.

Claire Anderson: Acceptance, Kindness, Perseverance, Responsibility

Julie Battista: Responsibility

Liam Brown: Perseverance, Respect, Responsibility

Trinity Bystrek: Perseverance

Colin Castagno: Respect, Perseverance

Myra Cortes: Responsibility, Perseverance

Julia Downing: Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance

Chloe Engler: Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance

Brody Ferguson: Respect, Responsibility, Acceptance

Meghan Freeman: Respect, Responsibility

Samuel Greenwood: Kindness, Respect, Responsibility

Juliette Harriman: Kindness, Responsibility, Perseverance

Lauren Heath: Responsibility, Acceptance, Kindness

Safina Hussain: Responsibility, Respect, Perseverance

Tetsuya Imai: Responsibility, Perseverance

Morgan Jenkins: Responsibility, Perseverance

Emma Johnson: Responsibility

Liam Jordan: Perseverance, Responsibility

Robert Krahn: Responsibility, Perseverance

Matthew Lara: Respect, Responsibility

Avery Maxwell: Kindness, Responsibility

Michael Leone: Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance

Daniel McCourt: Respect, Responsibility, Acceptance

Maggie Miller: Respect, Responsibility

Ali Miranda: Perseverance, Respect

Josie Piela: Kindness, Perseverance

Ian Pizzorusso: Responsibility

Cora Rigg: Respect, Kindness, Responsibility

Madelyn Ruocco Perseverance

Jonathan Saraceno Responsibility

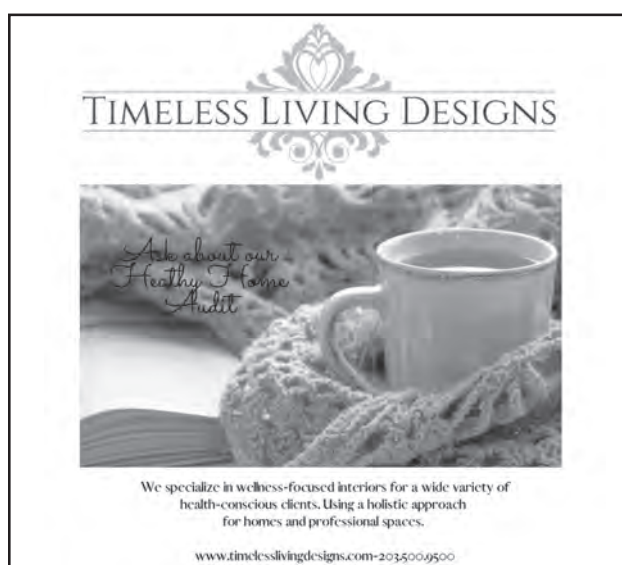
Evelyn Sargent: Kindness, Perseverance

Mathias Schweitzer Respect, Perseverance

Cash Smigel: Respect, Responsibility

Elijah Sorrentino: Responsibility

Ben Sosnowski: Respect, Responsibility



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# Restaurant donates dinners to Seniors, Soup Kitchen

By Laura Lefko

On Dec. 23, 2020 Francesco Lulaj owner of Killingworth's La Foresta Restaurant, along with his family and friends delivered two meals to each home in Killingworth's Beechwood senior community as his gift to the senior citizens in our town. The seniors received a pasta and meatball dinner, and a turkey dinner with stuffing. This is the third time since the pandemic began that Francesco has done this. On each occasion he and his crew delivered over 600 meals.

Doing this for the seniors of the

Beechwood community is a labor of love for Francesco and his way of giving back to Killingworth. He is especially concerned about our seniors during the holiday season and wanted to do something special for them because he felt that many of them would not be able to be with their families to celebrate this year. This is even more important to him at this time as his own parents and family will be separated due to the virus.

An additional 50 meals were donated to the Shoreline Soup Kitchen Christmas Eve Lunch at the Congregational Church in Deep River.



Photos by Laura Lefko.



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**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](http://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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# Natural Weight Loss

By Cindy MacNeil Sola

What would you say if I told you that anyone can lose weight without medication – frozen meals – eliminating carbohydrates – eliminating protein – or funding a large weight loss program?

We all have tried the above and it worked for a while. Then we fall back into habits and the way we ate before because we get tired of the program. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out the body needs to take in less and burn more calories for weight loss to occur.

The New Year is around the corner and I myself need to lose weight. I went around and around with the above in the past. I know if you're a stress eater/picker – boredom eater, you realize at the end of the day you forgot what you popped into your mouth: the circle continues. Reiki or Meditation will decrease anxiety and depression. When you're relaxed you feel energized, think more clearly, are more organized: you do more – move more – clean the house – yard work – take a walk – eat less, exercise, a few pounds fall off, and this will increase your willpower, you feel it's easier to stay on plan. Now how do we stay in that mode?

Choose a good App. A calorie intake per day you

CAN live with. I had to talk to myself a little about this as it's easy to say if I suck it up and go with a lower intake I will lose faster since I'm in the New Year get-it-done mode. That's is a way to set yourself up for failure! Really think about this because at the end of the day you can't be hungry or you will eventually eat your way through the whole kitchen before realizing the damage that was just done.

We have to understand the importance of the mind-body connection. A lot of people overeat to avoid dealing with boredom, stress and anxiety. We can use specific techniques that help us learn how to have a healthy relationship with food and not to eat for feelings. When we eat, do we eat due to really being hungry or are we eating for emotions? It's essential to acknowledge the two. Reiki or Meditation along with a good calorie App works. I decided to start self-healing, meditation and Reiki to help assist and promote relaxation and have less anxiety to boost energy. I always meditate every morning even if it's for 5 minutes as it sets my day.

The stress and anxiety were much less as this is a stressful time for ALL of us. Using the app I have lost. My goal is to be down 2 sizes by spring. We don't want to set an unreachable goal. I will be using the scale a few times a week as a guide but it's how the clothes feel that really tell you what the body is doing as at times we lose inches and not scale weight. Our weight will go up and down depending on salt intake and water so DON'T always go by the scale. If you have a bad day and the scale shows you're up 3 pounds, it can mentally do you in to change your attitude to "why bother" which will bring you to kick yourself later on. Take the "down-fall" food out of the house; give it to someone that will use it or toss it. You don't want a bag of chips in the house at that weak moment! I myself buy snacks for my husband that he likes and I won't eat. I love fruit and I get lazy, so as soon as the fruit comes out of the grocery bag, I wash and cut it up, easy to grab and enjoy when I'm looking for that snack. Let your-

self have a treat every 10 lbs. that you have lost. Kind of a food game, but we do what we have to and try to meet a goal.

With each pound gone, get a pretty paperclip and hang it on a magnet on the frig so you will see progress. I have also taken two jars and filled one with 20 marbles and as I have lost I have moved the pound gone to the empty jar to show me pounds lost and even if its only 4 I can visually see it. It helped during the holidays! If you are a boredom eater figure out what you would like to do that you have not had time for, genealogy? Jewelry making? Writing? That book that's been in the drawer? Instead of going to the frig, figure out what you can do to replace that boredom time.

I have lost 7 pounds and it may not sound like much but carry around a 5 lb. bag of flour and you will feel it. Its amazing what direction the mind can go in if it acknowledges positive most of the time. Even creating a buddy system with a friend or family member is also huge for success.

I have a client who decided she wanted to try the process. The App and Meditation every day for 4 weeks and success! She has dropped some weight and has so much more energy and the cost to her was zero!

Losing weight slowly is a healthy weight loss that will stay and it will retrain our mind to focus and take time for yourself to decrease stress and anxiety. I'm not saying I won't fall and screw up, we all do. But with the tools, relaxation of mind and body, support of the peeps around us and acknowledging our success even with a 2-3 lb. loss is huge. I'm positive I will meet my goal for spring, be healthier and put on a few things that have been hanging in my other closet!

I hope you join me to set that spring goal.

*Cindy MacNeil Sola is the owner of Spirit and Balance, LLC, located in Higganum, Conn.*

## Haddam Killingworth News

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\* paper is affiliated with HK-Now.com and the Haddam Civic League

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### PLANNING AND ZONING PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning and Zoning Commission of Haddam, Connecticut will hold a Public Hearing at the Haddam Town Hall, 21 Field Park Dr., Haddam, CT on January 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. to act upon the following item(s):

1. Request to allow a 4 lot subdivision in R2-A zone. 565 Saybrook Rd with access from Walkley Hill Rd, Map 86 lot 2.  
Applicant: Catherine Ragozzino

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](http://www.haddam.org).

### HADDAM LEGAL NOTICE

Legal Notice is hereby given to the Taxpayers of the Town of Haddam. The second installment for Personal Property, Real Estate and the total Supplemental Motor Vehicle bills on the October 1, 2019 Grand List becomes due and payable on January 1, 2021 with a grace period to February 1, 2021. After the grace period, if still unpaid, the bill becomes delinquent and is subject to interest from the original due date at a rate of 1.5% of such tax each month. A minimum interest charge of two dollars would apply to all delinquent taxes. Payments may be made to the order of TOWN OF HADDAM and sent to TOWN OFFICE BLDG., TAX OFFICE, 30 FIELD PARK DR., HADDAM CT 06438-1196 or use the preprinted envelope supplied with the first installment. If receipt is desired, include a stamped self-addressed envelope and a phone number and mail to the Tax Office. Payments may also be made in person at the Haddam Tax Office room 202 or on our website [Haddam.org](http://Haddam.org). Office hours: Mon- Wed. 8:30AM to 4PM; Wednesday by appointment; Thurs. 8:30AM to 6:00PM; Fri. 8:30AM to Noon. Call 860-345-8531 x 207 with questions.

Haddam Tax Collector Kristin Battistoni, CCMC

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HK COMMUNITIES

HKYFS offers Pre-K activity bags for children in HK communities

By Laura Shipman, HKYFS

Haddam Killingworth Youth & Family Services is pleased to announce that the Middlesex United Way has awarded us funding to support early childhood programs and programming. As we look forward to 2021 we have decided to make a winter version of our Early Childhood Activity Bags available to the public. Given the positive response to the Summer Activity Bags offered this past July, we are offering Winter Activity Bags that will be made available to families for pick up the last week of January, 2021.

Our Winter Activity Bags will be filled with open-ended, fun and easy activities for Pre-K children and their families to do over the winter. Bags will include such things as: a recipe

to make snow dough, a math activity, winter animal stamp math, weather game, snowman glyph and other items.

Much like last summer, you need to email office@hkyfs.org or call the office 860.345.7498 to reserve a bag. When your bag is ready for pick up, you will be contacted. The bags will then be placed in a bin outside HKYFS's front door at a time and date that is convenient for you. Our office is located at 91 Little City Road, Higganum. We are the white, two-story house on the left as you enter HK High School driveway.

Bags are limited and will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. A waiting list will be created if spots fill up and we will offer a second round of bags later in the season.



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## Find a Fur Baby: Hagrid

By Judith Levin

Looking for a new friend for the New Year? Meet Hagrid!

He's a perfectly well mannered, 4 year old mixed breed with a past no one can quite wrap their minds around. This guy had spent over a year at a local pound before Furry Friends stepped in for him. He had been passed up time & time again, but his personality shows he never gave up!

Hagrid does great meeting new people & he loves going for walks with all his dog friends in his foster home! He walks beautifully on leash, is housebroken & crate trained.

Hagrid loves rolling around in the grass, going for walks, & car rides! He's also a food junkie & will do tricks for treats. He knows sit & down & is working on paw & stay!

He would likely be willing to share his home with another pup permitting a successful introduction. Due to his size, he would be suited in a home with children 10 & up! At this time, we don't know how Hagrid is with cats, but could test him for the right home!

To adopt Hagrid please fill out the application at Furry Friends website – <https://www.furryfriendsct.org/adoption-application>



Photos by Judith Levin.

## Find a Fur Baby: Georgie

By Judith Levin

Georgie Boy!

Mister Georgie here loves to watch birds and sun bath.

He is still in search of his forever home! Georgie came from Texas and was completely shut down with absolutely no self-esteem. He has been staying with Brass City's trainer and coming out of his shell wonderfully! He is housebroken, crate trained and learning basic obedience.

He will need a home with other large breed confident dogs and a confident and consistent family that want to experience the ultimate joy of making a difference in this boy's life by helping him continue to grow!

Fenced in yard is preferred. Transition into a new home will be slow and completely assisted by Brass City trainer. More information on Georgie can be found on their website and if interested please fill out our application [www.brasscityrescue.org](http://www.brasscityrescue.org)

## COVID update: 13 KAA EMTs vaccinated within past week

By Clark Judge,  
Killingworth Ambulance Association

After gaining clearance last week to receive COVID-19 vaccinations, at least 13 EMTs with the Killingworth Ambulance Association have been inoculated — with others scheduled to undergo treatment soon.

“Each tech was contacted individually to schedule an appointment,” said Mike Haaga, the KAA's chief of service. “I do not get a list of who received one, so I know only of the techs who shared that information with me.”

One of 29 active EMTs with the KAA, Haaga is among the 13 immunized in Connecticut's Phase 1a program, available to first responders at risk of exposure to COVID-19.

KAA president Dan O'Sullivan is another. He was the association's first EMT to be vaccinated, treated on Dec. 23, at Middlesex Hospital shortly after local first responders and EMTs were given clearance to be immunized.

“It was completely painless,” he said of the injection. “I didn't even feel it when it went in.”

Techs receive vaccines through a number of avenues. Some, like O'Sullivan, received them through Middlesex Hospital, which has a connection with Killingworth Ambulance, while others obtained them through hospitals where they work. Still others receive them through a vaccination clinic in Old Saybrook, arranged by the Connecticut River Area Health District and coordinated for the KAA by Killingworth's Health Director, Amy Scholz.

O'Sullivan said he expects those treated in Phase 1a to receive a second round of injections shortly. The Pfizer vaccine requires three weeks between inoculations, while the Moderna vaccine requires four. The type of vaccine varies depending on where techs receive their inoculations.

While the news is encouraging, the KAA will continue to proceed cautiously. All crews responding to calls, for instance, wear protective face masks and gloves as part of their Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Furthermore, EMTs who treat patients with COVID symptoms — or who are within a residence that had a confirmed COVID case — are required to wear gowns, face shields, gloves and N95 masks instead of surgical face masks.

In addition, Valley Shore dispatch screens all incoming 911 calls to determine if there are symptoms related to COVID-19. If that screen is deemed positive, the KAA forbids EMTs in training from boarding the ambulance and requires on-scene first responders to conduct their own screen before approaching patients.

Radios are used to communicate with persons inside a home to those on the outside.

“This is going to be what continues to happen in terms of procedure,” said O'Sullivan. “Even when we're all vaccinated, we're not going to change the protocol. We're all going to have to take precautionary measures to make sure we're not spreaders of the virus.”

“They (the CDC) think vaccinated people won't spread the virus, but they don't yet have proof. So we're going to have to keep doing what we're doing until the CDC says the vaccination does protect against a spread or the vaccination program is finished.”

## Veterans Memorial Getting Facelift

By Editorial Staff

The Haddam Veterans Memorial on the Higganum Green is getting a facelift. According to Rick Annino of the Haddam Veterans Museum, a dedicated group of veterans and volunteers have removed the four bronze plaques, removed the old mortar, and will re-point the entire monument. Right now it's covered as they heat it to dry it out before they start the repairs on Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021.

After the plaques are re-installed, the monument will be sealed to help prevent deterioration. It was last worked on ten years ago.



Covered memorial under renovation. Photo by Kim Bodak.