

Haddam Killingworth News

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

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June 10, 2021

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Free weekly



Photos by Olivia Drake, HVFC.

Haddam Memorial Day Parade and Speeches

Editorial Staff

(May 31, 2021) — In case you missed it, here are some pictures, as well as the speeches, so that you may reflect on the meaning of Memorial Day, a tribute to our fallen heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms. In our town's parade, we don't have floats, and people don't throw candy. We have veterans, scouting groups, Fife & Drum Corp, both Haddam and Killingworth Volunteer Fire Departments, and a few sports teams, and it is a solemn affair, befitting the day. At the conclusion of the parade, on the Higganum Green, Art Wiknik, who served in Vietnam, gave the Memorial Day address, which can be found here:

"Military service can be a life changer. No matter whether a person serves in peacetime or in wartime. No one goes into the military and returns to civilian life without being affected or changed in some way. In 1968, when I was drafted into the Army, I thought my life was over. I did not want to go because I was having too much fun being single and free. But I

went because I knew it was my duty. Not long after that, I was sent to Vietnam and served as an infantry squad leader for an entire year.

"During that time, I had the honor of working alongside some great men who were far braver than me. I also had the unfortunate experience of watching some of them die when my unit took part in a ten-day battle known as Hamburger Hill. That battle claimed 65 American lives and over 300 wounded. The enemy lost nearly 600 killed. Although it was a lopsided victory for us, I have never forgotten the death and destruction I had witnessed.

"After returning home, I joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars. At the time, my uncle, Henry Wiknik, was the post commander. After one of our meetings, I asked Henry what he remembered most about his military service. This is what he told me:

"When World War II broke out, Henry joined the U.S. Navy and served as a Boatswain Mate aboard a troop ship that took part in the D-Day invasion of

Continued on page HK2

Boys Lacrosse Defeats Valley for Shoreline Conference Championship

By Mike Kelly.

In a dramatic and championship caliber game, the No. 1 seeded Haddam Killingworth High School Boys Varsity Lacrosse team defeated No. 2 seeded Valley Regional 11-9, capturing the school's first ever boys lacrosse Shoreline Conference Championship. HK finished the season a gaudy 13-5, 13-1 in conference.



Despite the Cougars being in control and leading for the entirety of the contest, HK fans would not and could not exhale until the final whistle — given the recent history of the rivalry. For those privileged enough to have witnessed the two regular season contests between these teams, the drama of this latest and final tilt came as no surprise. HK and Valley split during the regular season in two highly competitive and narrowly decided bouts. While the Cougars seemed in control for most of those games as well, each ended in dramatic fashion. One resulting in HK's only conference loss on the season. In the first game, HK rallied from a two-goal deficit in the fourth quarter to win. In the second, HK netted a miraculous last-second goal to force a sudden-death overtime, before falling to Valley in the extra period. As we said then, if these teams were to meet in the postseason it would be one for the ages. They did... and indeed it was.

Yes, the action on the offensive side of the field was filled with exciting and skillful play from the Champion

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In This Issue: Barbara Fernandez Named Chair, HK3 • DEEP Forester Retires, HK6 • HHS Scholarship Recipient, HK7

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Haddam Memorial Day

continued from page HK1

That battle claimed 65 American lives and over 300 wounded. The enemy lost nearly 600 killed. Although it was a lopsided victory for us, I have never forgotten the death and destruction I had witnessed.

“After returning home, I joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars. At the time, my uncle, Henry Wiknik, was the post commander. After one of our meetings, I asked Henry what he remembered most about his military service. This is what he told me:

“When World War II broke out, Henry joined the U.S. Navy and served as a Boatswain Mate aboard a troop ship that took part in the D-Day invasion of June 6, 1944. The D-Day military operation was the largest seaborne invasion in history, consisting of over 5,500 different types of watercrafts.

“During preparations for the invasion, my uncle and his shipmates made friends with some of the infantry soldiers who would eventually go ashore to attack the enemy positions. They talked about their hometowns, their girlfriends, their families and what they planned to do after the war. It was the typical banter that soldiers engage in when they are far from



home.

“When Henry’s ship set sail across the English Channel, everyone on deck watched in awe as allied forces unleashed a ferocious naval and aerial bombardment on the Normandy coastline. The bombing was intended to soften enemy fortifications so the infantry could get ashore with minimal casualties. When the bombing stopped, Henry assisted in the off-loading of infantry troops into small landing crafts known as Higgins boats.

“After all the infantry troops were off-loaded, my uncle and his buddies took turns watching the ground action through binoculars and spotting telescopes. Their view was partially obscured due to the distance and the smoke on the beach. However, two things began to stand out. The first were the hundreds of



dark lumps laying on the beach and floating in the water. The other was the rose color of the ocean waves as they hit the shore. Initially, they thought the beach had colorful sand, but they soon realized that the dark lumps were dead and wounded soldiers and that their loss of blood had turned the water into a foamy pink. It was soon apparent that the heavy bombardment had not significantly softened the enemy positions.

“My uncle and his shipmates were horrified and speechless at what they were witnessing. Only an hour earlier, they were joking with the soldiers and wishing them good luck, not realizing they were helping to send them off to their deaths. The ship’s Captain, also realizing the demoralizing spectacle, ordered everyone to go below deck so the crew could no longer see what was happening on the beach. As the crew slowly returned to their quarters, several of them quietly sobbed over what they had taken part in and at what was happening on the shore. It was an awful picture forever seared into their memory.

“As you can see, military service can be a life-changer, especially in wartime because some events can never be forgotten. So, when you leave here today, there are two things that I want you to remember.

“The first is that no one hates war more than those who witnessed it firsthand. That is why wartime soldiers share a unique bond and perspective that is summed up in a quote made famous during the Vietnam War. It goes like this: ‘You have never lived until you almost died. For those who fought for it, life has a flavor that the protected will never know.’

“The other thing I want you to remember is that most veterans do not consider themselves to be heroes for just doing our jobs. To me, there are only two kinds of military heroes – those who lost their life in service of our country and the families who must live with that loss. Those are my heroes.”

An eighth-grade student, Michael Perry, from Haddam Killingworth Middle School read his essay, “A Tribute to Our Heroes,” that won the annual Memorial Day essay contest at the school.

Continued on page HK7

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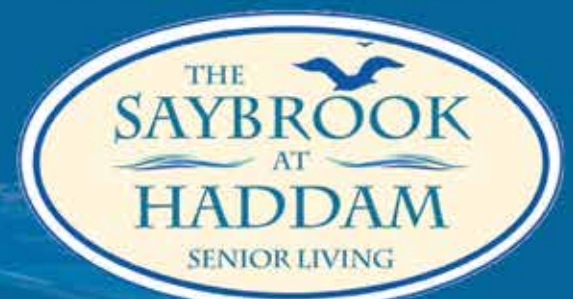
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Barbara Fernandez Named Chair of Latino Endowment Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

By The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

Barbara Fernandez of Haddam has been named chair of the steering committee for the Latino Endowment Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, the community foundation serving the 29-town Greater Hartford region. She will be joined by Delpha DiGiacomo of Glastonbury who will be serving as the fund's vice-chair. Fernandez will succeed the Fund's outgoing co-chairs Jorge Casanovas and Moraima Gutierrez.

Fernandez currently serves as Special Assistant to the University of Connecticut's Vice-President for Research, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship. She is working to develop and implement a technology-based economic development strategy that will increase research funding, accelerate the translation of innovation to commercialization, and create the next generation of technology and technology driven companies at UCONN. She previously served as Director of Business Development for the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development and was executive director of Guakia, Inc., a bi-lingual arts and cultural organization in Connecticut.

"As a proud charter member of the Latino Endowment Fund, I am honored to serve as the Fund's chair during this exciting period of transition for the Fund and our region," Fernandez said. "I look forward to building on the work of my predecessors and will look to increase our membership and raise funds to support the issues directly affecting the Latino

community."

DiGiacomo currently serves as Travelers' Assistant Vice President of Strategy and Operations, where she is part of a leadership team that oversees the organization's 290-person Investigative Services division. She has led Diversity & Inclusion initiatives and has served as the Travelers National Chair of the Hispanic Latino Network, supporting diversity-focused recruitment and retention strategies that have been implemented nationwide. Recently, DiGiacomo launched Delpha D, LLC, a cohort of her blog, Leadership and Lifestyle. Through Delpha D, LLC., she actively coaches professionals looking to elevate their career to the next level, while focusing on a balanced lifestyle.

"As a member of the Latino Endowment Fund, it is an honor to deepen the relationship with the organization," DiGiacomo said. "The focus on a thriving, successful Hispanic community in Hartford is at the heart of the organization. I am proud to be part of this Giving Circle and to help shape the future in



Photo by Marisa Pellerin Photography

support of our community."

The Latino Endowment Fund was founded in 2003 by Latino leaders in Greater Hartford to increase philanthropy in their community and to strengthen nonprofits working to improve the quality of life for Latino residents. Members examine issues affecting the Latino community and recommend grants from the fund to address those issues.

In October 2020, the Hartford Foundation announced the creation of two five-year, \$250,000 flex-funds to support the Foundation's key stakeholders of color through its Latino Endowment Fund and Black Giving Circle Fund. These additional resources will empower the two giving circles to increase their grantmaking capacity by

up to \$50,000 per year for the next five years and/or contribute up to \$50 thousand per year to their endowment to increase their perpetual grantmaking capacity.

Interested in writing for Haddam Killingworth News? Contact HK-NowEditors@outlook.com.

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Killingworth: Memorial Day 2021

By Cathy Iino, First Selectwoman, Killingworth.

A video in honor of the memories of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in our nation's military service will be broadcast at 8:00 am tomorrow morning, May 31, on Channel 18, the Haddam-Killingworth High School television station. You can also watch it on the RSD17 website.

Many thanks to HKHS students Logan DiCicco, Shelby Welsch, and tech ed teacher Kasha Topa-Finberg for creating the video. Thanks also to HK Middle School literacy coach Paige Callahan and the language arts staff for conducting the annual seventh grade Memorial Day poetry competition, and to all

five finalists, whose outstanding poems show how deeply they thought about the sacrifices that have made our freedoms possible.

The finalists were:

Dina Kilroy, First Place, "War Wounds"

Catherine Nguyen, First Place, "Folded and Smothered in Blood"

Addison Harkin, Third Place, "Memorial Day"

Tetsu Imai, "I, the Gravestone"

Mikayla Ruggiero, "For Justice and for Freedom"

Ms. Nguyen and Ms. Kilroy read their poems in the video.

The Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company, in the spirit of mutual aid that keeps us strong, will be participating in the Haddam Memorial Day parade this year. The press of calls prevented them from taking part in the video recording, but we know they were there in spirit, and we are eternally grateful for the priority they give to their service as first

responders.

I would also like to thank Howard Land Clearing and Tree Removal for generously donating their service to place the flags along Route 81. And thanks to Suzanne Langer for the glorious new American flag in front of Town Hall.

Killingworth stands together in remembering the Americans who gave their all for their country and its enduring ideals.

Photo by Olivia Drake



TOWN & COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Please visit www.haddam.org, www.townofkillingworth.com or hk-now.com for the most current information, including cancellations, location changes, time changes. See hk-now.com for more information on calendar items.

Thursday, June 10

Haddam Park & Rec. Meeting 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

The Killingworth Historic Review

Committee will hold a public hearing on Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., online by GoToMeeting, to review an application for demolition of a house at 270 Green Hill Road.

Friday, June 11

Higganum Farmers Market 3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Frontline Worker Appreciation Day Entertainment – Gale Gardiner

Saturday, June 12

HN Covenant Church BBQ Chicken Dinner

Haddam Neck Covenant Church is hosting a BBQ Chicken Dinner Drive-Thru Takeout Event on June 12 by reservation only. Some outdoor seating is available by reservation. This is the famous BBQ chicken the Church has sold at the Haddam Neck Fair for over 40 years. The dinner includes a BBQ thigh/leg chicken quarter, baked beans, coleslaw and corn bread for \$10.00 (cash only please).

Haddam Neck Covenant Church is located at 17 Haddam Neck Road in East Hampton, the road to the Haddam Neck Fairgrounds. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Summer Chalk Art Contest – Killingworth Library

Kick-off of the Summer Chalk Art Contest

Artists of all ages are invited to drop in anytime the library is open this summer and help make the library's sidewalk's glow with color! Chalk is provided.

Photos will be taken of all entries and winner(s) will be announced August 27.

Monday, June 14

Killingworth BOS Meeting (remote access only) 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Killingworth Park & Rec. Mtg. (remote

access only) 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 15

RSD #17 BOE Mtg. (remote access) 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Killingworth P&Z Mtg. (remote access only) 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Laughter Yoga 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Free / Donations Appreciated | See Buttonwood.org for Zoom Access <https://www.buttonwood.org/>

Hosted on the 3rd Tuesday of the month by local laughter yoga leader, Mylène Claire Poitras. Laughter Yoga is a world-wide phenomenon that began in India by a medical doctor in 1995.

Wednesday, June 16

Killingworth Comm. on Alternative Housing Mtg. (remote access) 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 17

Leggo My Lego! Killingworth Library 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Come build your own Lego "mini" animal with us and learn some fun facts at our trivia contest! Suggested ages 6 – 12.

Please register online. <https://killingworthlibrary.org/>

Mystery Book Club – Hosted by Killingworth Library 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Join us as we discuss The Darkest Evening by Ann Cleeves.

HADDAM TOWN GOVERNMENT

Dog License Renewals: June 2021

By Scott R. Brookes, CCTC, Town Clerk of Haddam.

Dog License renewal is due in June. Please come in and register your dog so that you have the current tag. Our Animal Control Officer will be contacting you, if you are delinquent.

Fees: A neutered or spayed dog \$8.00 – An unneutered or unspayed dog \$19.00 Kennel License is \$51.00 – Beginning July 1, a penalty fee will be charged for every month a resident is late in registering a dog. Licenses can be mailed once proof of current rabies vaccination and a spaying/neutered certificate are mailed to the Town Clerk at 30 Field Park Drive, Haddam, CT 06438, along with your fee, and a self-addressed stamped envelope. If you no longer have your dog, please let us know so that we may update our records. If you have any questions or concerns regarding licensing your dog(s) please call (860-345-8531 x 211 or 212) or email our office townclerk@haddam.org or townclerkasst@haddam.org.

**We will be holding our annual Dog Contest for the number 1 dog tag in Haddam. It is easy to enter, just license your dog(s) during the month of June and your dog will be in the drawing. We will draw a winner in early July. The winning dog will get license number 1, a gift basket and get their picture in the Haddam Bulletin and on HK-now.com and on the Haddam Facebook page.

13TH ANNUAL JASON LANTIERI MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



To Benefit the Jason Lantieri Memorial Foundation*

Friday August 6, 2021 – 9:30am Shotgun Start

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*The Jason Lantieri Memorial Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization. Your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.



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Pharmacy technician role- In this position, you will learn data entry, prescription processing, and client management. Some of our technicians are involved in vaccinations, and there is opportunity to become skilled in computer information technology, as our locations have robotic prescription filling for the safety and security of our clients. We service both retail and long-term care facilities so your experience will be of a wide applicability. This position allows for growth to a senior certified technician role which has responsibility for management both in personnel and operations.

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Cockaponset State Forest Update - Forester signing off

By Emery Gluck, DEEP Forester, Cockaponset State Forest.

Signing off - It has been an honor and privilege to care for the forests of the citizens of Connecticut for the past 41 years.

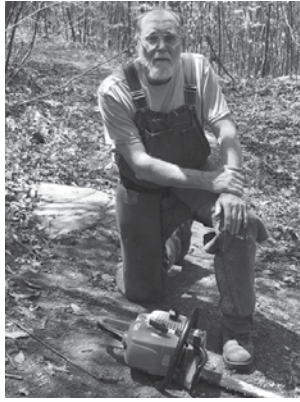
It has been a good run but mainly uphill.

I have enjoyed meeting many of you. Until a new forester is hired as a replacement (hopefully), Salmon River State Forest forester Nate Piche will be monitoring my timber sales though either are active at the moment. Another sale in Haddam off Filley Road has been awarded to the high bidder but to my knowledge the contract has not been signed.

A Robust Shoutout to Forestry Volunteer soon to be 73 year old Vietnam Vet Yale Forestry School Steve Lowery. For almost 6 years, Steve has provided invaluable service, helping me mark timber sales and property boundaries. Most importantly, he helped me free up young oak saplings from the killing shade of faster growing black birch, beech and maple saplings on 581 acres of recently regeneration harvests.

Oaks are dying out from drought, gypsy moth defoliations, old age and new oaks are not ascending into the upper canopy without this type of work.

So at least on the acres that Steve helped free up oaks, there will oaks producing acorns in at least part of the forest for the wildlife when your great grandchildren are coming of age.



Steve Lowery

May 2nd Prescribed Fire at Nehantic State Forest Sustains Oak Woodlands

Since 1993, we have been burning a 17 acres tract at the entrance of Nehantic State Forest in Lyme to replicate the repeated fires Native Americans reportedly did near their villages and encampments.

They burned to make the forest more habitable for themselves, promote grasses that attracted their game animals, promote berry productions, facilitate acorn and firewood collection, and many more reasons.

The fires favored thick bark (which insulated the killing layer of the tree from the lethal heat) mast producing oaks and chestnut and killed thin bark maple, birch and beech.

The fires was the reason that white oak was the dominant tree in the pre-settlement forest. With little fire to keep it check, red maple is now the dominant tree and oaks continue to decline.

Forester often mimic the effects of fire by implementing harvests that cut small, medium and large trees.

The Nehantic Burn was my last state fire that I was the burn boss on. I am lucky to have had the opportunity to be the burn boss on about 110 state prescribed fires that covered over 1500 acres.

If anyone would like to see small scale forest operations or effects of prescribed burns in my wife's and my woodlot in Lebanon, feel free to contact me emerygluck@yahoo.com.

Aloha, Emery

Emery Gluck, Forester, Cockaponset State Forest Division of Forestry; Bureau of Natural Resources Connecticut DEEP
18 Ranger, Haddam, CT 06438

Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation Awards Scholarships to Five HKHS Seniors

By Marie and Howie Field.



Photo by Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation.

(May 30, 2021) — The Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation, Inc awarded scholarships to five Haddam-Killingworth High School seniors Tuesday May 25, 2021. Congratulations Meara Bodak, Matthew Jennings, Jaden Mack, Nathan Marciniac, and Tessa Wills and best wishes for your next adventure!

These individuals have demonstrated exceptional character in many areas of their lives. Throughout their time at HK, they have shown our community that they are insightful, resilient, and up for any challenge thrown their way. We are confident that they will carry these qualities with them throughout their college experience and future careers.

The mission of the Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation, Inc. is to prevent suicide through public awareness and education, to reduce the stigma of mental illness, and to provide hope and support.

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Haddam Memorial Day Parade

Continued from HK2

We obtained permission from Perry's parents to publish it here:

"Memorial Day reflection may be like the depth of winter; an absence of color. Memorial Day is one to contemplate, imagine, and to understand. When you look deep into your mind to picture summer, that far-away place, you can almost feel the heat and taste the sweat. The vibrant green leaves of the undergrowth are brighter than ever. But of course, it is just a memory.

Memories are always a little greyer, darker, and duller than reality. Memorial Day is a day to envision, and to understand.

"Most of us have never fought in a war; we have never met death face-to-face. The horrific events that took place, we can only imagine. We should not push thoughts from our minds because this is the day that we embrace our common honoring of our heroes. Servicepeople deserve our gratitude, it is the least we can offer. Today, we should look to our futures realizing that we are here because of the events that took place: looking forward to reflect backwards. The storm is still raging somewhere, yet we are safe. Protection is not a wall, or battalion, but rather, individuals; each with their own identity. People who are ordinary like you and me, who might have left for war, leaving their families, their friends, places they have known for their entire lives – for war. Those who return from their service, are burdened with memories filled with death and destruction. So that America could be. These people, with their own



stories and tales need to not only be recognized, but to be understood. Their courage and determination led to self-sacrifice for the greater good and well-being of our country.

"That unnamed soldier on that bloody battlefield: exhausted, trudging, step after step, after step, in an unknown direction – out there because of us, for us. We need to see the whole picture of sacrifice. We need to be appreciative. Being grateful is the least we can offer. The debt we all have to our fallen heroes can be repaid; we are who we are because of them. This must never be forgotten. The United States of America, the red, white and blue, celebrates them on Memorial Day in gratitude. More than a parade, and a time to bring the town together, the day is one to bring the country together, to honor our heroes in a way they deserve. Show appreciation, show kindness, realize sacrifice, and simply understand. This is a tribute to our heroes."

Photos by Olivia Drake, HVFC.

Haddam BOS Statistic Correction

The views stated here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors of this newspaper. Received May 27, 2021.

Dear Editors,

Regarding the Covid-19 section of the BOS Meeting notes for 5/10 (in the 5/27 edition of HK News), the statement "...new cases are trending up for state of CT as a whole..." seems inaccurate, and in fact, contrary to number reported by the State.

I have been tracking new cases and deaths per week. As can be seen by the numbers and chart below, representing reported numbers since December of this year, it is hard to understand how they can be interpreted as trending up. I'd be interested in the source data used to generate that statement.

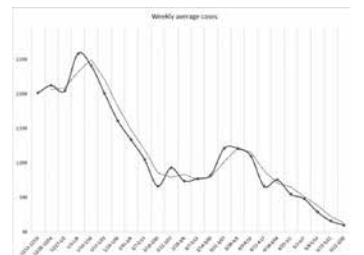
Accurate and consistent information is important to understand which way we are going, and to understand the effectiveness of the vaccine and other mitigation measures.

Sincerely,

Frank Yaskin
Higganum, CT

Editor's Note: Thank you for bringing the error to our attention. It was a mistake of the reporter, not of the BOS.

Death/WEEK	Cases/Week
12/13-12/19	31.3 2,049
12/20-12/26	41.6 2,156
12/27-1/2	38.6 2,060
1/3-1/9	36.6 2,418
1/10-1/16	37.3 2,439
1/17-1/23	34.0 2,042
1/24-1/30	31.0 1,644
1/31-2/6	24.7 1,368
2/7-2/13	22.0 1,066
2/14-2/20	16.9 696
2/21-2/27	13.3 561
2/28-3/6	11.6 772
3/7-3/13	8.9 607
3/14-3/20	9.1 609
3/21-3/27	4.1 1,346
3/28-4/3	5.4 1,243
4/4-4/10	5.7 1,133
4/11-4-17	7.4 694
4/18-4/24	7.6 796
4/25-5/1	7.1 561
5/2-5/7	5.7 514
5/8-5/14	5.1 323
5/15-5/21	5.6 193



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Continued from page HK1

Cougars (more to come). But we would be remiss if we did not first acknowledge the incredible defensive effort put forth by this HK squad. Junior goalie Ethan Wright saved his best effort of the season for last, putting forth a masterful effort in stopping 11 shots, several at critical junctures in the game when momentum was on the line. In addition, as has become the norm for this championship squad, d-poles Matteo Piacenti, Aiden Griswold, Nate Marciniac, and Matt Mohammed swarmed the Valley attack. When loose balls dropped LSM Sam Young and defensive middies Dan Larosa, Charles Maxwell, and Lee Harwood were there to scoop them up.

It should also be noted that for those varsity players who may not have seen time on the field yesterday, for whatever the reason, they share in this

success as well. A championship team is only as good as the caliber and competitiveness of its practices, and everybody on this team contributed throughout the season to the competitiveness of the Cougar practices. Having witnessed several first-hand this season we can attest. As they say hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard. EVERYONE on the HK team worked hard, and they all share in this amazing achievement.

The scoring action began quickly, just 46 second into the contest, when middle Aiden Coleman fed attack Nolan Braren for the quick strike from the right side of the crease, 1-0 HK. Midway through the period Valley equalized with a fast-break goal in transition, tying the game 1-1. Then with 30 seconds left in the first quarter Coleman dodged from the top right of the cage and fired a strike into the upper left corner, 2-1 HK.

Early in the second, during a man-up advantage, middle Cooper Savoy dropped it to Coleman who fired a step-down burner for another score, 3-1 HK.

On the next possession Valley used another fast break to close within one, 3-2 HK advantage.

HK's Savoy then rolled left to right 20 yards in front of the cage for a fantastic lefty overhand shot, giving the Cougars another two-goal advantage, 4-2 HK.

As part of the notable defensive effort we mentioned, at the 8:43 mark in the second quarter HK was forced to play with two men down, and yet they prevented Valley from scoring during that period. Championship caliber defense.

With 4:13 left in the second Savoy found N. Braren cutting down the right side of the crease for the winner, 5-2 HK. Savoy then dodged out front and fired a doorstep bouncer, giving HK the 6-2 advantage with two minutes left in the first half.

In the third quarter Coleman got HK rolling again with a smooth dodge up top, putting his defender on his hip and burying the left-hander, 7-2 HK.

But Valley would not go away quietly. With 6:36 left in the third the Warriors snuck one by Wright to close within four, 7-3. Moments later, in a man up situation, Valley found the back of the net again, 7-4 HK. Cue the hand wringing in the HK bleachers.

With 2:29 left in the third Savoy shook free from his defender with a silky spin above the left post for his

third score of the night, 8-4 HK. Goalie Wright then made two incredible and crucial back-to-back stops around the 1:29 mark of the third to maintain the four goal Cougar advantage. With possession gained the HK coaching staff then wisely called a timeout. End of the third. The Cougar fan base exhales...

Early in the fourth period, after bouncing back from what appeared to be a bad ankle injury in the third period, attack Ryder Wink from X found a cutting Cory Phipps for the one-timer on the doorstep, 9-4 HK. But it wasn't over...

With 10:18 left in the fourth Valley scored on another fast break, narrowing the Cougar lead, 9-5. Fair enough. Then with 8:53 and a man-up advantage, Valley scored again, 9-6. Okay... Minutes later, at the 6:18 mark and in another man-up situation, Valley notches another to close within three, 9-7. At this point the HK fan base started to wonder (as did the players likely) — hadn't we seen this movie before?

It turns out we had not. The HK Cougars decided to close out with a script more to their liking. A Championship script. On the next possession, maintained thanks to yeoman's work from Cal Braren and Sam Young at the X, Cory Phipps found the back of the net with an assist from N. Braren, 10-7 HK. The lead was preserved.

Then with 3:19 left in the game, Aiden Coleman found his teammate Cal Braren on his right side. He could see him in his peripheral vision, of course, but implicitly he knew he was there. Indeed, he was there all along. Like in many games and over many years. Just like he'd been 12 years before, when they started as youngsters in HK youth lacrosse with sticks taller than they were. Yep, Cal Braren was at his side. Aiden slipped him the ball, Cal fired the 15-yard step-down hammer, and it was all over. 11-9 HK. At long last Cal, Aiden and the rest of the HK team would be Champions.

Photos by Liz Griswold.



Haddam Historical Society Announces Scholarship Award Recipient

By Elizabeth Hart Malloy.

The Haddam Historical Society is thrilled to announce that its 2021 Scholarship was presented to Caitlyn Rose Esposito, daughter of Tracy Esposito of Haddam. The \$500 scholarship award was based upon scholastic standing, contribution to school, community activities and interest in history. Caitlyn Rose will attend Utica College in the fall.

Scholarship Chairperson, Susann Costa noted that this is the 9th annual scholarship award and that the society is delighted to be able to help support the continued education of one of our community's deserving students and advocate for the importance of history both locally and globally. Photo Courtesy of Haddam Historical Society.



Caitlyn Rose Esposito (left) with Sue Costa

HVFC Junior Marc Perras Recipient of Auxiliary Scholarship

By Betty Cernan, HVFC Auxiliary.

(May 2021) Members of the Haddam Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary are pleased to announce that the recipient of their \$750 scholarship this year is Marc Perras. Marc will graduate from Haddam-Killingworth High School in June and plans to study Finance or Engineering this fall at Central Connecticut State University. He is the son of Marc and Paula Perras of Haddam. Marc is a member of the HVFC Junior Fire Department, and his mother, Paula, is an active member of the HVFC Auxiliary.

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