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Haddam Killingworth News

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

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November 19, 2020

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

Free weekly

TO THE EDITOR: Election Day Thank You

I received the following in an email from a town resident:

'I wanted to compliment you for doing an outstanding job during Election Day making in-person voters feel safe. I was very pleased to see the amount of safety protocols in place, practiced by staff + voters. I know in speaking w/work colleagues, they expressed concerns that they did not have as many safety measures as Haddam had.'

To be clear, the credit rightly goes to our Registrars of Voters and assistant, Ray Skarsten, Saralyn D'Am-

ato and Diana Cotrell, all of the volunteers who staffed the polling locations or helped in other ways, Scott Brookes and Ann Riebold in the Town Clerk's office and our resident troopers TFC DeAngelo and Trooper Stanger. They all did an outstanding job to ensure that everything went smoothly on Tuesday.

A record number of absentee ballots, 1573, were counted. (That's four times as many as are normally received for a presidential election.) Turnout at the polls was also heavy. All told, 86% of our registered voters cast ballots in this election. Outstanding!

I'd like to thank everyone, including voters, fwwor stepping up and ensuring that we were able to complete our most important civic duty.

> Robert McGarry First Selectman, Haddam

Killingworth Stuff-A-Cruiser: November 28

By Laura Shipman, Haddam-Killingworth Youth & Family Services

Our Killingworth Resident State Trooper will have their cruiser available at the Killingworth Town Hall along with members from our local Girl Scout Troop from 10:00a.m.-2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November

28, 2020. Please join HK Youth & Family Services, Inc. to stuff a cruiser with a donation of a new gift, gift certificates or toys for families in need. Please remember our teens during this holiday season as well as young children. If you need ideas, please call HKYFS at 860-345-7498 or email office@hkyfs.org



Liberty Bank & Haddam Lions teaming up to raise money for Haddam Food Bank

By Steve Denison, Liberty Bank

The Haddam and Higganum Liberty Bank branches are partnering with the Haddam Lions Club to raise money for the Haddam Food Bank.

Liberty Bank and the Haddam Lions will be conducting a "see the Turkey" in front of the Higganum Liberty Bank office on Saturday, Nov. 21, 2020.

The Lions will be asking for donations for the Haddam Food Bank and every dollar raised will be matched 25% by the Liberty Bank Foundation.

This is a great opportunity for people to stop by, have some fun, and help raise some money for those in need in our town. 125% of the funds raised go directly to the Haddam food bank!

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RSD #17 BOE October meetings summary

By Editorial Staff

According to an email sent out on Nov. 10, by Holly Hageman, Superintendent of Schools for Regional School District #17, "The last couple of days have been rather busy relative to a small number of positive cases for individuals in our schools."

Killingworth Elementary School, Haddam-Killingworth Intermediate School and Haddam-Killingworth Middle School were all impacted. Contact

tracing was completed and individuals who needed to quarantine for 14 days were contacted.

At KES, 6 staff members, first grade students, plus three additional students in other grades were told to quarantine after one positive case at KES.

At HKIS & HKMS one positive case affected both schools. Close contacts included two cohorts of students at HKIS and 10 cohorts of students at HKMS, plus 12 staff members between the two schools.

"It is critically important to our effort to keep

schools operating in-person that all students and staff do whatever is possible to reduce social exposure, self-monitor for symptoms (including taking temperature at home before coming to school), and to stay home if symptomatic," said Superintendent Hageman in the communication to family members. "I applaud our staff for continuing to serve students to the best of our capacity despite the circumstances, and I thank parents for their adaptability, recognizing how complicated this is."

EDUCATION / COMMUNITY

Region #17 Board of Education seeking community input

By Holly Hageman, RSD #17 Superintendent of Schools

Over the past year, the Region 17 Board of Education has been working to launch a long-range planning process for the district that will result in a focused and aligned community vision of student success beyond school. The first step in that process is to build a consensus regarding the critical skills and dispositions we believe are most essential to future student

accomplishment and to then use them to guide our planning and decision making.

To involve as many constituents as possible in this process, we would like to invite you to contribute your thoughts to a community conversation on this topic. Using a platform called Thoughtexchange, you will have the opportunity to share your thoughts, then read those of other participants, and then to assign "stars" (from a low of 1 to a high of 5) to show how

important each idea is to you. Finally, you will also have a chance to discover the top-rated thoughts in the conversation and visit the site often and add more comments throughout the process. A representative team that the Board has convened will use the results of this Thoughtexchange to inform and refine how the district's foundational documents define its working model of student success.

Notes about this process:

It could take you as little as 5-10 minutes to participate

You can complete questions at your own pace and come back to review your answers at any time.

If you know someone else who would like to participate, you can forward this invitation.

Please visit: https://my.thoughtexchange.com/508799444 to participate.

We hope that you will contribute to this interactive experience to help us ensure that we are reflecting the values and aspirations of our entire community while providing outstanding learning opportunities for our students. Thank you for taking the time to share what is important to you. This platform will remain open until Dec. 3, 2020.







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SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

"The People Pleasers"

Positive COVID cases impact KES, HKIS, HKMS; quarantines rise

By Jennifer Favalora, RSD #17 BOE

2020-2021 School Year:

The Superintendent provided the following school summary for October: Our first full month of inschool learning for our K-8 students was successful. There were some challenges with transportation, which is common, and adjustments are being made to accommodate for fluctuations in driver shortages. In the high school, which remains in the hybrid model, the administration has been assessing how the students have been doing academically, socially and emotionally. Teachers and guidance counselors have held small group check ins and students and parents have been surveyed. As a result, some students were given the opportunity to come back to school full time or switch the days they attended in order to better support their academic or social-emotional needs at this time. The administration and staff at all of our schools will continue to keep an eye on students' needs throughout this unique school year.

Policy:

The Policy Subcommittee Chair, Joanne Nesti, led the Board in reviewing the 9000 Series of the Board Bylaws – the role of the Board of Education and its members. The Subcommittee recommended, and the Board voted, to accept several changes including 1) limit the term of the Chairperson to two consecutive terms (past practice is that the chairmanship trans-

fers between the towns of Killingworth and Haddam every two years; however there is no written policy that requires the Board to do so) and 2) allow three members of the Board to dictate to the Chairman and Superintendent to add an item to the Agenda on any given meeting agenda.

Facilities:

The Facilities Subcommittee Chair, Peter Sonski reported that the replacement of the underground oil tank at Burr was completed and the KES oil tank is close to completion. The Field House project at HKHS is progressing as expected. The Public Building Committee recommended, and the Board approved, adding two expenses to the original scope of the project. The first was to hire a contractor to remove and replace the window caulk surrounding the Field House windows for \$33,500, and the second was to install a new system for hanging the athletic banners inside the gymnasium for \$20,900. Finally, the Facilities Committee will begin to take steps towards a more formal and extended capital plan for the buildings in our district.

Vision of the Graduate:

The Board of Education is developing a long-term strategic plan for the district. At the center of the strategic plan is the "Vision of the Graduate"- which is what the HK community believes are the essential skills and dispositions that our students need to

acquire by the time they graduate high school. The School District invites every member of Haddam and Killingworth, whether parent, student, staff or community member, to provide input on the "Vision of the Graduate". Please take the time to participate in an online survey to consider the question: "What are the most essential skills and dispositions every Region 17 student needs to be successful in a highly dynamic and challenging world?" We invite everyone to contribute to the community conversation through a link posted on the homepage of the RSD17 website titled "Vision of the Graduate Thought Exchange."

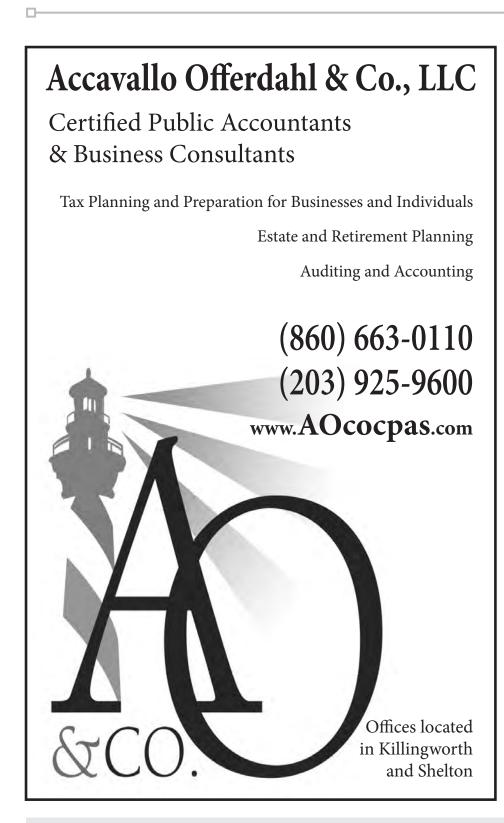
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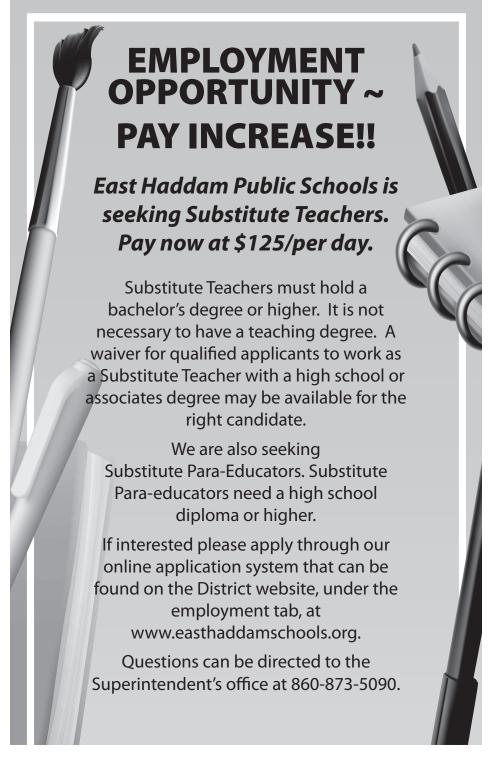
On The RSD17.org website: the 2021 Board of Education Meeting Schedule, including important budget dates, has been posted under District -> Board of Education -> BOE Minutes and Schedules.

BLURB

Call for stories

Haddam Killingworth News seeks to run an article on residents' voting experiences in these recent Elections. Whether you voted by mail or in person, we want to hear from you! Share your story by emailing us at HK-noweditors@outlook.com. Please specify in your email whether you are from Haddam or Killingworth.





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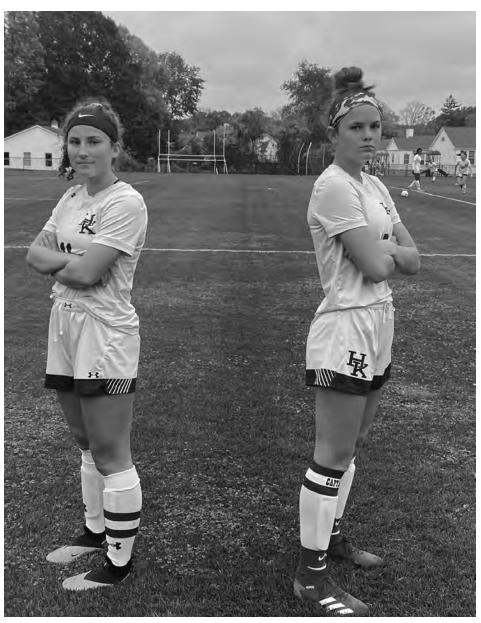
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HKHS Team Captains KK Parri & Morgan Madore. Photo by Mike Shea.

HKHS ends shortened regular season back in the win column

By Mike Shea, Coach

The Haddam-Killingworth High School Varsity girls soccer team beat East Hampton Saturday, Nov. 7, by a score of 4-3.

Kedarjah Lewis scored two goals and had two assists, while Morgan Madore also had a goal and an assist. Freshman Rory Parri also scored. The Cougars dominated time of possession. Sophia Torello made six saves in goal for HKHS.

The shortened regular season came to a close, with Haddam-Killingworth finishing with a record of 6-2-1.

HK headed into the Shoreline Conference playoffs the following week (see story on this page).



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HKHS 6, Cromwell 1 in Shoreline Quarterfinals

By Mike Shea, Coach

Haddam-Killingworth High School Varsity girls soccer beat Cromwell by a score of 6-1 in the Shoreline Conference Quarterfinals On Nov. 10.

Maggie Singer made a big splash scoring two goals and adding an assist. Hadley Commerford also had two goals for the Cougars. During the first half, HK was given the opportunity for a penalty kick. All eyes were upon Caroline Conte as she stepped to ball and struck the ball into the back of the net. Additionally, Julia Favalora scored

for the Cougars. And the assist on a couple of the goals came from Morgan Madore. She also took seven corner kicks. Kaitlyn Parri also assisted on one of Hadley Commerford's goals.

In goal for HK was Brianna Nugent, who made five saves. In front of Brianna, the LLC continued to offer the maximum protection. The LLC is the defensive line of Leah Chester, Leah Sosnowski and Caroline Conte.

HKHS moves onto the Semifinals on Friday, Nov. 13, playing the winner of Hale Ray – East Hampton game.

Haddam Killingworth News

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<u>Tips for Handling Neighbor Disputes</u> By Attorney Sylvia K. Rutkowska

With any luck, you'll never have any form of dispute with your neighbor and your home will be your *peaceful* castle. However, those who have dealt with them know that neighbor disputes can guickly snowball and leave you feeling uneasy and helpless.

Regardless of whether the dispute involves an isolated fallen tree, an encroaching fence or a persistent trespass on your property:

- 1. Stay calm: Take a step back, a deep breath and only take action from a cool mind. Two wrongs won't make a right.
- 2. Communicate: A polite, direct and preferably in-person talk can go a long way.
- 3. Document: Maintain notes of relevant events/conversations, memorialized conversations, and take photographs to document the circumstances.
- 4. Obtain and review relevant documents: review deeds and any applicable maps of your property. Consider getting a survey to document and illustrate issues of concern and/or have a surveyor mark/stake out relevant property lines. Is not uncommon for property owners to now know exactly where property lines.
- 5. Remember you have to live next to them: Unlike with other types of disputes, the combination of the significant investment in your home and the proximity of your neighbor call for measured responses that you can live with for the duration.

Neighbor disputes can be complicated and exhausting. The attorneys at Dzialo, Pickett & Allen, P.C. are available for consultation regarding your rights and options to protect your interests.

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Haddam Junior Women's Club hosts upcoming events

Information shared by Krystal Pietruszka

The Haddam Junior Women's Club invites you to check out our upcoming holiday events! The HJWC raises money to support the community with scholarships for local high school seniors, donations to the Haddam Food Bank, Haddam Fuel Bank, HK Backpack Program, the schools, and many other community organizations.

These are the events we have coming up and would love your support! Let us know if you have any questions.

Oh...and we're always looking for new members!

Nov. 21: 10am-1pm: Stuff A Turkey

Help us stuff our turkey boxes with funds to support the Haddam Food Bank and the HK backpack program! Let's make sure no one goes hungry over the holidays in our town! We will accept loose change

from the couch and big bills from your wallet. Every little bit helps.

We are accepting non-perishable food items for both our local resources as well.

For contactless donating, we can accept donations through this PayPalGiving account: paypal. com/us/fundraiser/charity/1444201

Hope to see you there; drive up donating available!

Nov. 25: 8am-sellout: Thanksgiving Pie Sale

The Haddam Junior Women's Club will be hosting its annual Thanksgiving Pie Sale on Wednesday, November 25th. The booth will open at 8:00 a.m. at the Village Plaza in downtown Higganum, (in front of Jack's Country Restaurant and Liberty Bank) and will stay open until our last pie is sold. (In previous years this was less than 30 minutes!)

Pies are only \$12 each; there will be approximately 40 pies available. Pies for sale will include Pumpkin, Apple, Pecan, Blueberry, Cherry, Raspberry, Tollhouse Cookie, Chocolate Peanut Butter, Apple & Pear and many others!

Nov. 25-Dec 18: Santa's Mailbox

ART / COMMUNITY

Artist Sunday: November 29

By Linda Cave

Artist Sunday is an event which will be taking place all across the United States. The event began in Seattle, Washington and quickly caught on. Artist Sunday is a nation-wide movement dedicated to supporting artists and recognizing the impact they have in enriching our lives.

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Connecticut River Artisans is pleased to announce that we have joined this initiative. Artist Sunday encourages consumers to shop with artists and purchase something unique and hand crafted this holiday season. This event is ideally placed between Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday.

We are delighted to join all the artists across the country who are participating in this event. Please join us on Sunday, Nov. 29, from 1:00 till 4:00 p.m. at our shop which is located at 55 Main Street in the beautiful town of Essex, Conn.

Meet our artists and enjoy refreshments. If you have every wondered about the processes that go in to creating our beautiful work, now is the time to learn. Our artists are waiting to talk with you.



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CHRISTMAS 2020

Santa's Mailbox is coming to Haddam!

Information shared by Karen Johnson Revis

From Nov. 25 – Dec. 18, Santa will be setting up 2 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!

The Haddam Junior Women's Club raises money to support the community with scholarships for local high school seniors, donations to the Haddam Food Bank, Haddam Fuel Bank, the schools, and other community organizations. And we're always looking for new members!

Santa's Mailbox is coming to Killingworth!

By Genie Dethloff, Chair of Publicity, Killingworth Women's Organization

Santa's mailbox will be at the Killingworth Library. There will be a mailbox inside the library and another one outside on the table by the front door during their operating hours. Letters can also be "Mailed" when the library is closed by dropping them in the book return. "Mailed" letters should be sent between Nov. 27- Dec. 16 and addressed to Santa. Blank letters to Santa will be available inside and outside the library, and online on the kwoct.org/ what-we-do page.

Please include the child's full name and full address so that Santa and his elves can send a response letter with the help of the Killingworth Women's Organization. After December 16th, Santa cannot guarantee a reply since it is such a busy time at the North Pole.

For more info email morganlnairn@gmail.com. Happy Holidays!



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KILLINGWORTH COMMUNITY

l to r: Max Cozean, Willie Wilson, James O'Toole, and Matt Jennings. Photo by Pearl Elliott.

HKHS Cross Country & 1BigCircle: fun, fitness, & camaraderie

By Val Williams

With blue skies and the sun beaming down, the 1Big Circle athletes and members from the Haddam Killingworth High School Cross Country team gathered at the Ethel Peter's track in Clinton. Everyone was excited and ready for some fun, fitness, and camaraderie.

1Big Circle is a social club that offers friendship building activities for young adults who struggle with social engagement due to their disabilities.

The HKHS Cross Country team

led the 1Big Circle athletes in stretches, sprints, distance walks, and the long jump. The event culminated with a competitive relay race around the track. The HKHS organizer of the event, Brianna Minervino described the event by saying, "We all got along so well and it made me happy to see everyone having so much fun!"

If anyone would like more information regarding participation or volunteering in 1Big Circle please contact Pearl Elliott at: contact.1bigcircle@ gmail.com

Killingworth Copes: update from November 11

By Cathy Iino, First Selectman, Killingworth

Hello, Killingworth-

In the face of a surging pandemic, this year's celebration of Veterans Day has been more quiet and private than usual. That gave me a chance to think about the history of the holiday. It grew out of Armistice Day, which commemorated the end of World War I on the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of 1918. A year later, President Wilson proclaimed a day to honor the heroism of those who fought the war, and in 1938, the U.S. Congress created the permanent holiday as "a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace." In 1954, President Eisenhower signed a law changing the name to Veterans Day, to honor American veterans of all wars.

Peace and military heroism. Sometimes we think those are opposing values. But it turns out that those who created the holiday saw the quest for peace as a way of recognizing the enormous sacrifices made by those who fight our wars. As we honor American veterans, let us work toward the day when such sacrifices are no longer required, and let us take care of our veterans at home as they defended us overseas.

The number of Killingworth COVID cases has been rising steadily for a couple of weeks and now stands at 43. It took us six months to get to 22 cases and only seven weeks to double that number. Statewide recent increases are even more dramatic: there have been 33 cases per 100,000 population

over the last seven days; almost 600 COVID patients are currently hospitalized; and the cumulative death toll stands at 4,716.

Understanding of the coronavirus and how it spreads continues to develop. The latest research shows that masks protect not only others—as had been thought—but the wearer as well. Wearing a tightly woven, multi-layer mask can reduce your exposure to fine virus particles significantly.

Other research confirms that crowded indoor spaces are the riskiest for spread of the virus. The research also indicates that reducing occupancy of restaurants—some of the riskiest locations—can limit the rate of infection. Governor Lamont recently reduced the maximum occupancy of restaurants back down to 50 percent, in line with this data.

The more we can limit the spread of the coronavirus, the longer we can keep in-person learning in our schools and the sooner our businesses will be able to fully recover. You have probably heard that Pfizer has had some very positive test results for a COVID vaccine. Nevertheless, we need to follow the COVID safety protocols until a vaccine is widely administered. The thought of not spending Thanksgiving with all the family and friends we are accustomed to sharing it with is heartbreaking, but so is the thought of hospitals overwhelmed with cases and rising death tolls.

Stay safe and carry on.

Cathy

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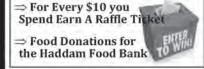
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Haddam-Killingworth Town & Community Calendar

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

See hk-now.com for more information on calendar items.

Thursday, November 19

Teen Write Club. Join the Killingworth Library over Zoom as we work to create our own publication, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

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! We will be creating an online collection of writing and other art from Killingworth Library patrons to be hosted on our library website and shared with the community.

Meetings are every other week on Thursdays. Please register Call Us: 860-663-2000

Mystery Book Club – St. Lawrence Church Killingworth, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Join us as we discuss Hercule Poirot's Christmas: a Hercule Poirot Mystery by Agatha Christie. This title was previously published as Murder for Christmas and A Holiday for Murder.

This group will be meeting at St. Lawrence Church in Killingworth throughout the winter – masks required. If you are interested in joining the group, please email the library at mail@killingworthlibrary.org. Extra copies of the title will be available at the library.

Friday, November 20

Killingworth Library Zoom meeting, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Swing into the world of comics with our Tween

Comic Book Club! 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, November 21

Liberty Bank and the Haddam Lions will be conducting a "see the Turkey" in front of the Higganum Liberty Bank office. The Lions will be asking for donations for the Haddam Food Bank and every dollar raised will be matched 25% by the Liberty Bank Foundation.

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

Weekly family fun for kids of all ages! Drop-in format, no registration necessary. Adult must accompany child.

Stuff a Cruiser 2020

Our Haddam Resident State Trooper will have their cruiser available at the Higganum Green, Route 154 from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 21, 2020. Please join HK Youth & Family Services, Inc. to stuff a cruiser with a donation of a new gift or toy for families in need.

Stuff-a-Turkey: River Valley Provisions - Help us stuff our turkey boxes with funds to support the Haddam Food Bank and the HK backpack program! Let's make sure no one goes hungry over the holidays in our town! We will accept loose change from the couch and big bills from your wallet, every bIt helps.

Sunday, November 22

Thanksgiving Food Drive – GS Troop 60772, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Scouts will be at the Higganum Market collecting food for their 7th annual Thanksgiving Drive.

Food Drive - Deb's Restaurant & Streetfire Ministries, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Monday, November 23

Killingworth BOS Meeting (remote access only),

Killingworth ZBA Meeting (remote access only) 7:00

Wednesday, November 25

The Haddam Junior Women's Club will be hosting their annual Thanksgiving Pie Sale on Wednesday, November 25th. The booth will open at 8 am at the Village Plaza in downtown Higganum, (in front of Jack's Country Restaurant and Liberty Bank) and will stay open until our last pie is sold. (In previous years this was less than 30 minutes!) Pies are only \$12 each; there will be approximately 40 pies available.

Free Covid-19 testing – Middletown, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Moody Elementary, 300 Country Club Road, Middletown, Conn.

Thursday, November 26

Happy Thanksgiving!

Jump-start your holiday business with an ad in the Haddam Killingworth News!



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Eversource files 2021 Winter energy supply costs in Conn.

By Mitch Gross, Eversource

Eversource Energy submitted its proposed winter electricity prices to the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) Thursday. If approved, the residential Generation Service Charge (GSC) would be 8.391 cents per kilowatt-hour, up from the current 7.375 cents per kilowatt-hour. Customers in Connecticut who are signed up for the company's Standard Service generation rate would see the increase on the supply side of their electric bill beginning Jan. 1, 2021. This is a direct pass-through cost to customers for the price of power generation, with no profit to the company.

"We recognize the effect higher electricity prices can have on our customers, especially during these unprecedented times with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and we want to help them better manage their energy use," said Eversource Senior Vice President and Chief Customer Officer Penni Conner. "Like

our customers, we have no control over fluctuating energy prices, but the myriad of energy-efficiency programs we offer can help people reduce their usage, tighten-up their homes and keep energy bills down year-round. We also offer various payment arrangements for customers who are having difficulty paying their energy bill, including the COVID-19 payment plan which allows them to pay past-due balances for up to 24 months."

The new generation rate will be in effect from January 1 to June 30. The average residential customer using 700 kilowatt hours of electricity each month will see an increase of approximately \$7.11 per month on the supply portion of their bill. Each customer's total bill depends on how much energy they use, their rate category, and weather conditions.

Under the state law that deregulated electricity, energy companies like Eversource bid twice a year for power supplies, award contracts to low bidders, and pass along the costs to customers without marking them up. The Standard Service price changes on January 1 and July 1. All Eversource customers have the option to buy their power from state-approved third-party suppliers or go with the energy company's Standard Service rate. Customers can find out more information about alternate suppliers and rates at http://www.energizect.com/compare-energy-suppliers.

Eversource offers a wide variety of energy efficiency programs that can help customers reduce their power use and save money. Information can be found at Eversource.com

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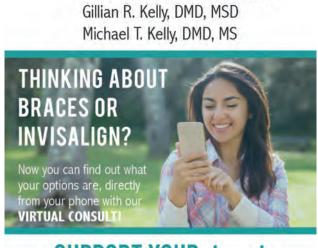




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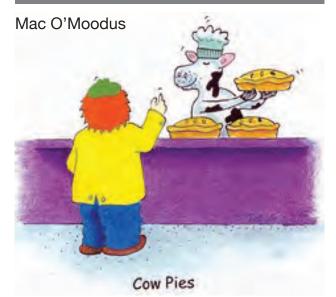
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COMICS



HEALTH / COMMUNITY

It's time to take back control of your prescription!

By Brian Scott-Smith – www.connecticut-east.com

If you're taking prescription medication and if you have Medicare Part(D) Drug coverage, you know how expensive it's become.

If your health policy has either Express-Scripts or Prime Therapeutics as their Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBM's) on it, then you need to read on.

Both companies, according to the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA), are considering a partnership which they say, "Will squash local pharmacies and ultimately limit consumer choices."

Doug Hoey is the CEO of NCPA and says, "These

two companies operating separately already exert tremendous downward pressure on independent pharmacies. By joining forces, they can put many out of business and steer their patients to larger competitors"

The NCPA is so concerned about this, they have written to all the States Attorney General's Offices asking them to scrutinize the possible partnership.

Express-Scripts and Prime Therapeutics are two of the largest PBM's in the country.

With Express-Scripts, owned by Cigna, controlling prescriptions for 75 million patients across the country and Prime Therapeutics, owned by a consortium of Blue Cross Blue Shield companies covering 30 million patients in 18 States.

In April of 2020 they formed a partnership to combine their negotiating power and, according to the NCPA, has already triggered sharp cuts in reimbursements to local pharmacies meaning they are filling prescriptions for patients often at a loss.

And in some circumstances those pharmacies are seeing patients steered away to a larger competitor or into Express-Scripts mail order pharmacy if they don't agree to new contracts.

Express-Scripts has already been sued over anti-competitive practices before and currently the Attorney General of Ohio, David Yost, has filed a suit against Express-Scripts alleging the PBM was able to 'pocket millions' by overcharging the state's Highway Patrol Retirement System, a public pension fund.

Express-Scripts in a statement about the case deny the allegations in the lawsuit saying they will, "vigorously defend itself as the matter proceeds."

By partnering, rather than merging, the two companies can avoid certain regulatory and legal issues while benefitting financially from their respective percentage ownership of the new entity.

The upshot to all of this is we ALL need to be talking more about this and contacting out local legislators and demanding they do something about it too.

WORD SEARCH

Thanksgiving

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