

Haddam Killingworth News

AN INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER COVERING HADDAM, HIGGANUM, HADDAM NECK AND KILLINGWORTH Copyright ©2021 Haddam Civic League LLC

August 26, 2021

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

Free weekly

Beautifully Born Doula Services

By Kathy Brown.

Merriam Webster dictionary defines a doula as “a person trained to provide advice, information, emotional support, and physical comfort to a mother before, during, and just after childbirth.”

Jessica James of Haddam became “passionate about pregnancy and childbirth after having my own four children,” she told us. “Each pregnancy and birth was so unique, but my fourth was an incredibly positive experience because I was able to birth naturally, with the support of my wonderful husband. This experience, along with attending the labor of a close friend who was using a doula, awakened in me a desire to see more women with a birth experience.”

In March 2021, Jessica James established Beautifully Born Doula Services, after completing training through International Doula Institute, to become a Certified Birth Doula. She is also working toward becoming a Childbirth Educator so that she can teach Childbirth Education classes at a local hospital. There are over 80 organizations that certify doulas in the United States.

Before spending 10 years at home with her kids, Jessica was an elementary teacher and a chiropractic assistant. “I feel as though both of those jobs prepared me well for my role as a doula,” said Jessica. She and her husband, Joshua, have four kids ranging in age from 3-10 years old. She has been homeschooling them for five years.

“Doulas utilize physical comfort measures and offer emotional/mental support and encouragement,” explained Jessica. “The role



Jessica James

of a birth doula is also to provide evidence-based information to expectant parents during pregnancy, in order to help them feel educated and prepared to make decisions during labor and delivery, which can typically be a very overwhelming process.”

The doula doesn’t just help the expectant mother. “Besides being an advocate for the mom-to-be, a doula can also be a huge benefit for fathers, who may feel a little unsure of how to help during the process,” said Jessica. “Having a birth doula has many proven benefits for mom and baby, as it lessens the chances of having a C-section or other interventions, shortens the time of labor,



Jessica with infant

and decreases the likelihood of needing an epidural or other pain medications. In addition, women who hire a doula are more likely to have positive lasting memories associated with birth. Also, when babies are born having a doula present, they are more likely to have a better APGAR score within the

first few minutes of birth.”

According to centerforhealthjournalism.org, “the benefits are greatest for low-income women, women of color, and those who face cultural or language barriers — in short, women at highest risk of complications during pregnancy and childbirth.”

In 2016, the Health Care Payment Learning & Action Network, which was convened by the US Dept. of Health & Human Services to determine ways to improve the value delivered by the health care system, recommended that insurers include

Continued on page HK3

Family grateful for community support after farm stand robbery

By Clark Judge.

Mary and Charlie Rickert run a family-owned and operated farm stand that’s easy to find in Killingworth. Just drive north on Route 81, pass the Congregational Church and look to your right. There you’ll see a wooden red cart just off the road, with a sign that reads “Leightsinger Farm.”

You can’t miss it. Except now you can.

The sign is gone. The “Open” flag that flew above it has been removed. And the bins are empty. There are no vegetables. There is no corn. And there is no Mary or Charlie Rickert.

In short, the stand is closed.

The Rickerts on Thursday were victimized by their fourth robbery since Memorial Day weekend, with thieves ripping a secured cash box from their stand and stealing upwards of \$250 in cash. Charlie Rickert made the discovery early that evening and reported the incident to police.

The impact was immediate. The Rickerts closed the stand permanently, notifying the public in an emotional Facebook post.

“It was extremely devastating,” said a distraught Mary Rickert.

Almost immediately, there was a response – with dozens of local residents taking to the internet to express their outrage, sympathy and support. As of Saturday evening, there were nearly 250 “likes” of the Facebook post and 106 comments, with more than a handful of concerned individuals offering to make donations.

Continued on page HK8



In This Issue: Top Dogs, HK2 • Letters to the Editor, HK4 • Haddam Neck Fair, HK7

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Killingworth announces 2021 Top Dogs

By Dawn Mooney, Killingworth Town Clerk.

The Killingworth Town Clerk's Office is pleased to announce that William (better known to his friends as Willie), a 3½ year old "Schnoodle" was selected as Killingworth's TOP DOG! Cute-as-can-be Willie was adopted from a dog shelter in Nashua, New Hampshire in 2018 by his guardian angel Mia



#1 Willie

Adopted as a puppy from Circle of Hope K9 Rescue, Dewey takes full advantage of Killingworth residency by going for leisurely swims in his pool and welcoming every visitor at his door with a smile and a toy. This amazing pup even holds his owner's hands while watching TV. Dewey makes Killingworth proud!



#2 Dewey

The Town Clerk's Office is overjoyed that all three winners of this year's contest are rescue pups whose lives were saved by the love and kindness of our residents!

Photos courtesy of Killingworth Town Hall.



#3 Roo

(pictured) and later moved from NH to Killingworth.

A playful pup, Willie entertains his owners by spinning for treats, playing tug-of-war with a passion and romping with his toys. As a matter of fact, he has never met a toy he didn't love! And we LOVE that Willie is now wearing Killingworth's #1 tag.

Dewey, a mix of yellow lab and possibly polar bear owned by the Burley family, was chosen as Killingworth's #2 Top Dog. Dewey bounced into Town Hall to collect his prize and the staff fell in love with his carefree and friendly disposition.

Killingworth's #3 Top Dog is an adorable terrier mix named Roo. This barely 5-pound pup is packed with so much charisma and personality that it's hard to believe she was once homeless.

Roo was rescued by Anne Jordan, owner of Connecticut Dachshund Rescue here in Killingworth, as a tiny puppy and is now the rescue's goodwill ambassador. Anne originally planned to foster Roo until a suitable permanent home was found, but she soon realized that tiny Roo had already found her forever home. The rest is history!

PETS

Calico cat found in Haddam: Is it yours?

By Kathy Brown.

Becky found a cat under her car on Tuesday night, August 17 on Saybrook Road near Camp Bethel. It had crawled into the engine to hide. "Doesn't seem injured," said Becky. "Healthy in general; just scared and hot." The cat doesn't have a tag. She is taking care of it until the owner comes forward.

The cat is very good with people and looks cared for.

If this is your cat, please reach out to Becky at rebeccapieper2012@gmail.com or 203 927-0129.



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Beautifully Born Doula Services

Continued from page HK1

doula services in maternity coverage. The March of Dimes has also called for increased access to doula care.

Though at this time Jessica is the only doula in her business, she does have a back-up doula if an unexpected situation comes up. She meets with the client at her house or theirs, and when they go into labor, she joins them at their home, the hospital, or a place of their choosing for the birth.

"Childbirth is one of the most significant events in a woman's life, and unfortunately, many women have traumatic experiences surrounding birth," said Jessica. "I'm hoping to use my skills and passion

about pregnancy and childbirth, to help normalize birth as the physiologic process that it is and reduce the fear behind birth to help women have a more positive birth experience."

During this study, it was found that new mothers expected their nurse to spend over half of their time offering support, but only 6-10% of the nurse's time was actually engaged in labor support activities. This study showed that "The evidence suggests that it is likely more than the emotional, physical, and informational support doulas give to women during the birthing process that accounts for the reduced need for clinical procedures during labor and birth, fewer birth complications, and more satisfying experiences during labor, birth, and postpartum. The

doula empowers decisions that are made in the best interest of both the mother and her child."

"Being a teacher greatly influenced my ability to relate to people of all ages with compassion and patience," said Jessica. "Teaching also produced in me the ability to relay information in a clear and understandable way." She went on to say that in addition to her degree in education, she also worked as a chiropractic assistant for many years, and took Anatomy and Physiology courses. "I believe all of these skills will greatly enhance my work as a doula."

"I became a birth doula with the hope that I can use my education, passion, and personal experience to support other laboring moms," said Jessica. *Photos provided by Jessica James.*

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, August 26

Haddam ZBA Meeting 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Friday, August 27

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

Saturday, August 28

Brainerd Memorial Library Meandering in the Meadows: 9:30 a.m.

Do you like to talk about books? Walk and hike? BML announces a new book club! Meandering in the Meadows. We meet at 9:30am on the 4th Saturday of each month at the silo at Haddam Meadows State Park. Join us to walk the loop and enjoy the outdoors, with stops along the way to discuss the month's book selection. It is not necessary to have read the book. Copies available at the library. Call 860-345-2204 or email library@brainerdlibrary.org to reserve a book. You can email Laurie at lgardner@brainerdlibrary.org for more information.

The threat of inclement weather will postpone. Announcements will be made via our Facebook, Instagram, library web page, and by direct email message to participants.

July & August books: *Where the Crawdad Sings* by Delia Owens & *Harry's Trees* by Jon Cohen

Sunday, August 29

Fight Voter Fraud - Brunch Fundraiser 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Fight Voter Fraud is having a Brunch Fundraiser on Sunday August 29th from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Location: 140 Knox Blvd., Middletown, CT. Please

share the link and invite as many friends and family as you can. Fight Voter Fraud has some exciting news concerning what we've found already, what we are working on and when we will be releasing some of information publicly. You will be amazed and outraged at the same time. We need your support to continue our mission of "One vote for one legal voter." //fightvoterfraud.org/news-and-media/

HKYFS: Free Haircuts & School Supply Drive 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Haddam Volunteer Fire Department! No appointment needed, ages K-12
Supplies needed: #2 pencils, rulers, pens, highlighters, post its, notebooks, colored pencils, folders, high school backpacks, flash drives, magic markers, erasers, paper for binders, & pencil boxes.
Contact HKYFS: Office@hkyfs.org 860 345- 7498

Bake Sale - Ignite Youth Group - HKYFS 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Come out and support our Ignite Youth Group. Haddam Volunteer Fire Department, 439 Saybrook Road, Haddam.

Haddam Killingworth Youth & Family Services

Monday, August 30

Killingworth Charter Revision Comm. Meeting 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (remote access)

Tuesday, August 31

Brainerd Memorial Library Summer Reading Drive-Thru Ice Cream 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Brainerd Youth Services wants to thank its Summer Reading participants! Stop by the library to celebrate completing 8 weeks of reading. Bring your reading log to our "drive-thru" window at the top of the steps to receive your ice cream sundae and take-it & make-it craft kit. Look forward to fun toppings and themed ice cream!

Thursday, September 2

Parmelee Farm Comm. Meeting 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Pond Room

Haddam P&Z Meeting 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

FCCH & HCC

2021 Ron Booth Mission Golf Outing

By Lynn Pandiani.

The Ron Booth Mission Golf Outing is a benefit event for the missions of First Congregational Church of Haddam and Higganum Congregational Church. A portion of the proceeds will be donated in memory of Ron Booth to the First Tee - Connecticut. First Tee was created to expose golf to underprivileged youth who might not normally have access to the game. Golfers, donors, sponsors, and dinner guests welcome!

Ron Booth Mission Golf Outing
Sunday, September 19, 2021

8:30 a.m. Registration / 9:30 a.m. Shotgun Start
Lyman Orchards Golf Club, Middlefield, CT
18-holes \$140 / 9-holes \$100

Community Dinner \$35 - family pricing available

Join us for a glorious day of grand golf, good food, and great memories! Lunch! Awards! Prizes! Post Golf Community Dinner overlooking the Connecticut River in Higganum! Register by credit card or by mailing a check payable to Golf Registration, The First Congregational Church of Haddam, PO Box 215, Haddam, CT 06438.

Registration: <https://bit.ly/RonBoothMissionGolf>



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Editor's Note: The views stated here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors of this newspaper. HK-Now welcomes supporting or opposing views on any posted item.

Introducing HKYFS's New Prevention Coordinator Matt McEwen

To the HK Community, I am truly grateful to return to the HK community as the Prevention Coordinator for Youth and Family Services. As a 2010 HKHS graduate, I feel honored to give back to the community that prepared me to face the challenges of today's complex world. Over the past few months, I have enjoyed connecting and reconnecting with so many friends and neighbors in the community. And, as we move into another school year, I look forward to meeting even more of you!

As Prevention Coordinator, I am tasked with coordinating a community coalition that supports specific projects related to youth mental health promotion and the prevention of alcohol, tobacco/vaping, marijuana, prescription drug misuse, and other illicit drug use—especially among our community's youth. The HK Community Coalition, therefore, will work together to implement evidence-based community-level programs aimed at addressing these issues head-on.

The substance abuse epidemic became personal to me in 2018, as it has with countless others across the country, when I received word that my best friend and college roommate succumbed to the disease of addiction and died as the result of an overdose. I have felt the pain of losing a loved one to a preventable disease. Unfortunately, the HK community also struggles with this epidemic.

According to data from a survey administered in 2021, 21% of HK youth in grades 7-12 reported using alcohol once or more in the last 30 days. Furthermore, 18% of our youth reported riding (once or more in the last 12 months) with a driver

who had been drinking. These figures are startling and deserve our attention as these are some of the predictors of additional risky behaviors in the future. Fortunately, the field of prevention provides an answer and a reason to be hopeful.

Today, we have the tools to prevent tragedies like this from occurring. Preventative practices became more sophisticated as the country collectively grappled with the consequences of the drastic rise in substance abuse from coast to coast. However, a significant caveat remains: the success of these efforts depends on the willingness of a community to work together to achieve a common goal. A diverse coalition that represents all sectors of the HK community is absolutely key. It is for this reason that I am reaching out to ask you to volunteer to help your community by serving on the coalition.

I have tremendous faith in our community. I know that together we can rise out of this

pandemic and work to create a healthier community. A community that works to tackle the issues our youth face head-on and prepare them to reach their full potential. We can achieve real results if we work together. Our youth and our community are deserving of our effort, but it simply cannot be done without you.

The only requirement to join us is a desire to uplift the HK community. If you are interested in joining in this journey, reach out to me directly via email at mmcewen@hkyfs.org or via telephone at (860) 345-7498 to discuss what is involved with volunteering on the coalition.

I look forward to working with each of you in the near future.

*With gratitude,
Matt McEwen
August 19, 2021*

KAA history article was fascinating

I just read the most delightful article, by Clark Judge, about how the KAA (Killingworth Ambulance Association) came to be. Not only is the story interesting and historic, it lets us have a glimpse into the town's past. It's fascinating! When you learn of all of these individuals who played very significant roles, you can't help but be grateful.

While I am unfortunately not acquainted with virtually any mentioned, I do know Jim Lally, and I don't know a more "stand up guy." Thank you to all who were involved in KAA's development and

continued operation. A donation is on the way. And it was really very lovely to learn more about the local lore of our wonderful little town!

*Maura Hudson
Killingworth
August 14, 2021*

HK-News doing a great service

In a recent series of letters regarding those wishing to serve on the Region 17 board of education, the Haddam-Killingworth News has openly presented letters of people who certainly differ in opinion, sometimes quite strongly. This willingness to do so has allowed its readers to consider the matter from many viewpoints and to form their own opinions. It has done all of us a great service at a time when "Cancel Culture" is gaining ground in which a diversity of ideas is no longer being tolerated.

I am sincerely grateful that the H-K News has not followed this unfortunate trend and I just wanted to take this opportunity to say "Thank you" for a job well done!

*Edward Wood
Killingworth
August 12, 2021*

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TO THE EDITOR

You belong at H-K

To all the families that are considering a move to Haddam or Killingworth, we will be blunt: You belong at H-K. To all the families that already reside here: We are happy you are here, and you belong at H-K.

You belong regardless of your identity, race, religion, sexual orientation, country of origin, interests, gender, or beliefs.

You belong because you are you.

Our goal is to support a school district that honors your individuality and introduces you to the diversity and complexity of the 21st century. By doing this, you will feel prepared to tackle hard problems, invent new solutions and improve our world.

We want to hear your voice, understand your perspective, and level with you in an open and transparent way.

We may not always agree on issues, but we will treat you with the dignity and respect you deserve as a human being.

H-K is at its best when all members of its community feel included and respected. And, we must be purposeful in our school programming to create a welcoming environment. We will focus on ideas to make your lives better, and model good citizenship along the way.

You belong here, and we are excited to watch you grow.

*Hamish MacPhail,
Brenda Buzzi,
Steve Bayley
Higganum
August 16, 2021*

OUR REGION

Needleman Update: Covid-19 and Broadband benefit information

By Norm Needleman, State Senator.

Connecticut Implementing CDC Recommendations on Third COVID-19 Vaccine Dose for Immunocompromised

Over the weekend, the state implemented recommendations released last week by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding administration of third doses of COVID-19 vaccines to individuals who are moderately or severely immunocompromised. The emergency use authorization for the Moderna and Pfizer mRNA vaccines allow for individuals including recipients of organ transplants and others with conditions leaving them potentially susceptible to the virus, specifically the more virulent Delta variant, who have received two vaccine doses to receive a third dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine. This guidance does not apply to the Johnson & Johnson one-dose vaccine, though it is expected more information will be made available.

Individuals meeting criteria for an additional dose can make appointments or attend walk-in clinics at any provider location including pharmacies, federally qualified health centers or doctors' offices. Individuals unsure of whether they meet the criteria should consult with their health care provider.

CDC Recommends Pregnant Women Receive COVID-19 Vaccine Amid Increased Infections, No Evidence Vaccines Impact Fertility

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention this week recommended pregnant women and women planning to get pregnant should receive one of the COVID-19 vaccines amid increasing numbers of infections nationwide, with expectant

women running higher risks of severe illnesses and pregnant complications if they are infected. The CDC added that 2,500 women who received the vaccine in a study showed no increased risks of miscarriage when receiving a COVID-19 vaccine, with analysis showing the women's outcomes were the same as women who did not receive the vaccine. Previously, the CDC encouraged pregnant women consider the vaccine; now, it fully advises them to take it on the strength of the new study.

Emergency Broadband Benefit

If your family, or a family you know, may require support in paying for broadband internet service – which remains an important tool during the pandemic for employment, education and entertainment – the Emergency Broadband Benefit may be able to help. This Federal Communications Commission program provides federal assistance to households struggling to afford internet service or electronic devices. It provides up to \$50/month discounts for broadband services, up to \$75/month discounts for households on qualifying Tribal lands and potential one-time discounts of up to \$100 for laptops, tablets or desktop computers purchased through participating providers.

Eligible households include those with incomes at/below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines; receiving benefits under free or reduced-price school lunch or breakfast programs; receiving Federal Pell Grants; experiencing substantial loss of income due to job loss or furlough since February 29, 2020; or meeting eligibility criteria for providers' existing low-income or COVID-19 programs. In order to apply, families can call 833-511-0311 or visit GetEmergencyBroadband.org.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HADDAM DECISION OF THE WETLANDS ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

ON AUGUST 18, 2021 APPROVED FOR PERMIT:

Activity in the upland review area to construct a 1,160 square foot garage and storage of farm equipment, and related work within the upland review area located on 106 Beaver Meadow Rd. Haddam, CT.

Said application is on file and may be seen in the Land Use Office of the Town Office Building. Appeals may be submitted to this office within 15 days of this notice.

James Puska
Zoning and Wetlands Enforcement Officer
Town of Haddam

DEATHS

Lawrence W. Dennis, 87, of Haddam, beloved husband of the late Venita Lynn Dennis, passed away on July 28, 2021.

John P. Reynolds, 79, of Higganum, loving husband of Mary (Bartoszewicz) Reynolds, passed away on Sunday August 15, 2021.



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From the Desk of Bob McGarry: Haddam Update

By Bob McGarry.

I hope you're enjoying your summer. It's been a while since I last wrote about what's happening in town so it's time for an update. I'll start with projects.

Rossi Property – The environmental analysis of the property continues. Rossi Lumber Co is remediating the areas that were identified in the Phase 2 analysis. They're doing further investigation into the historic fill the property is built on and testing nearby wells for any sign of pollutants that may have come from the property. Our environmental consultants are monitoring their work. We have a developer who is interested in purchasing approximately two acres of the property along Saybrook Road for retail development.

Scovil Hoe – We've applied for a \$1.8 million brownfields grant from the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD). DECD is in favor of our project but before they award the grant we need to have a developer partnering with us to develop the property after it's cleaned. We put out a notice asking interested companies to send us their qualifications and experience with brownfield projects. The responses are due September 1st. I've already had a developer express interest in the Scovil project.

Community Septic – We received a \$128,205 grant from the Department of Public Health to fund the design of the community septic system at HES. Three engineering firms responded to our RFQ. The Board of Selectman met on 8/18 and selected Jacobson and Associates, Inc. to do the design. We'll have a public hearing and town meeting in September to create a Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA). State law requires us to have a WPCA if we have a community septic system.

Bridge Road Sidewalks – CT DOT has approved our design for the sidewalks on Bridge Road. We'll be putting the project out to bid shortly. Expect construction to begin next spring and be completed in the fall.

Swing Bridge Rehabilitation/Tylerville Roundabouts – These are two CT DOT projects

that are currently in the final design phase. The Swing Bridge Rehabilitation construction will start spring of 2022 and take three years to complete. The roundabouts construction will start in the spring of 2023 and continue until the fall of 2024. More information on these projects can be found on our website.

Commercial Projects - There are three commercial projects that will have significant impact on the town. Two of them are multi-family housing in Tylerville. One is on Brookes Court and has been approved for 56 units. They expect to break ground for first of three buildings in September. The second apartment complex is a 40-unit development planned for 105 Bridge Road. The third project is the Hope Garden Wellness Center going into the office building at 7 Island Dock Road. The developer plans to start the \$3.5 million conversion of the building this month.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – We received the first of two annual payments under ARPA. We'll get a total of \$2.4 million. I'm waiting until the Treasury Department finalizes the guidance on how the funds can be spent before we start discussing how

to best use the money. Ultimately, that discussion will include the Board of Finance and quite possibly a town meeting.

McCane Property Purchase – The voters at the July 15th special town meeting approved purchasing the McCane property next to the Higganum Cove for \$21,000. The purchase furthers our efforts to preserve the cove.

Covid-19 – I'll end with what's happening with the pandemic. Fueled by the Delta variant, cases are rising throughout Connecticut, Middlesex County and Haddam. On July 14th there were 30 Covid patients hospitalized in Connecticut, on August 18th there were 348. In town we had a 65-day period with no new cases reported. That ended on July 19th. We've had 17 cases since. Please be careful and get vaccinated if you can. Nutmeg Pharmacy is still offering vaccinations and testing.

Again, have a good summer. The Haddam Neck Fair is coming up on Labor Day weekend and River Days later in September (tentatively 9/18). Get out and enjoy some of the festivities we missed last year!

Haddam receives Affordable Housing Plan Technical Assistance Grant

Editorial Staff.

"Congratulations !!! On behalf of Commissioner Seila Mosquera-Bruno, we are pleased to inform you that: Town of Haddam has been awarded the Affordable Housing Plan Technical Assistance Grant in the amount of \$15,000."

On August 18, 2021, Bill Warner, Haddam Town Planner, posted the above information on social media.

Public Act 17-170 and Statute 8-30J established a requirement that all Connecticut municipalities adopt Affordable Housing Plans. The initial deadline is June 1, 2022 to adopt each municipality's initial Plan,

and then they will need to update it every 5 years after that. The State allows the plans to be updated concurrently with the Plans for Conservation and Development.

In 2020, the state announced availability of grant funding on a first-come, first-served basis to support municipalities preparing the Plans. A second round of funding was announced in 2021 with an application deadline of August 31. The funds will become available on October 1.

"We will need to decide how to proceed," said Bill. "I would like to use the funds for more out-of-the-box ideas rather than the same old same old recommendations."



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Send all requests, content and comments to: **HK-NowEditors@outlook.com**
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2021 Haddam Neck Fair Information

By Dianne McHutchison.

The 109th Haddam Neck Fair will be held this year on Labor Day Weekend, opening on Friday, September 3, 2021 and closing on Monday, September 6, 2021. The Fair was cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic.

As one of the major agricultural fairs in Connecticut, the Haddam Neck Fair continues its tradition of remaining an independent, family oriented social and agricultural event.

The Fair opens on Friday September 3 with a Tractor Parade at 5:00 p.m. and an Opening ceremony with CT National Guard at 6:00 p.m.

All weekend there will be Rides, Concessions, Petting Zoo, Food, Displays, Children's Contests, Matt the Balloon Man, Matica Circus, Family Magician, Helicopter Rides by HTX Helicopters and live music at the Bandstand.

The general public is encouraged to enter flowers, vegetables and fruits, canned goods and baked goods, as well as photography, art work, collections, handwork and quilts, and Spinning and Fiber products and 4H Educational Booth exhibits. Entries in these classes will be accepted



only on Thursday, September 2 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

There is a Sheep Show, Goat Show and showing of Cattle and Steers. There is always a variety of poultry and rabbits entries. Visitors can enjoy the traditional horse, pony and oxen pulls as well as tractor and truck pulls.

A new event this year is the Demolition Derby on Sunday, September 5 at 6:00 pm.

The 5K Road Race on Sunday, September 5 at 9:30 a.m. starts on the fair grounds and is on relatively flat country roads with one steep incline.

Favorite events include the Baby Show, kids pedal tractor pull and dog agility competition.

There are contests including the Women's Skillet Throwing, Beard competition, multiple birth contest, special sunflower contest and the Redneck Strongman Contest. On Monday a new event is the cornhole tournament.

There is the excellent variety of fair food, local products for sale from the Haddam Neck General Store, a petting zoo and Educational exhibits.

Parking is free and adjacent to the fairgrounds. The general admission is \$10 and children under 12 are free. Alcoholic beverages and pets may not be brought through the gates. The Haddam Neck Fairgrounds are located off Route 151.

The Haddam Neck Fair will follow all local health regulations. For additional information go to the Fair website at haddamneckfair.com.

Photos courtesy of the Haddam Neck Fair.



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Common Injuries to Watch Out For with Children
Involved in a Collision
By Attorney Sylvia K. Rutkowska

Kids may often be resilient but it's important to monitor them closely and keep an eye out for red flags after a car collision, even after they have been evaluated by a medical professional. This is especially so with younger kids who may not be able to verbalize their symptoms (not uncommon with adults as well). Some common injuries sustained by kids include:

1. Head injuries – Including anything from headaches to lacerations, contusions, and fractures at the base of the skull.
2. Concussion – Loss of consciousness, even for a moment, is often an indication of a concussion; but there are numerous other symptoms including but not limited to difficulty breathing, double vision, slurred speech, dizziness, headaches, increased confusion, or changes to the child's eating, sleeping or play patterns.
3. Thoracic injuries – Including rib fractures and lung injuries. Infants under 12 months old are most prone to these types of injuries, which are often caused by car seat restraints.
4. Fractures – Hand, foot and wrist fractures are common when bracing for an impact. Seat belts can also cause broken pelvises.
5. Neck injuries – An impact can cause a rapid back and forth movement of the neck, especially in rear-end collisions, causing pain and discomfort
6. Psychological injuries – Crashes are often traumatic events and emotional trauma can arise hours or even days after.

If you are concerned or something seems off, do not hesitate to call your doctor – you know your child best. If you or your child were injured in a car collision, the attorneys at **Dzialo, Pickett & Allen, P.C.** are available for a free consultation regarding your rights.

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Family grateful for community support after farm stand robbery

Continued from page HK1

In fact, one already has.

When Mary went to the stand Friday morning to clean out what was left, she found a business card from Bob and Kathy Tobey of Hollow Tree Farm, with a substantial donation attached. The Rickerts have never met the Tobey's and know little about their farm, one reason Mary was overwhelmed by the gesture. But the other was the hand-printed message on the back of the card.

"Please don't give up," it read. "We are all behind you."

That response has been repeated over and over by others, either through texts, e-mails or Facebook comments, and it has Mary Rickert thinking about reconsidering her decision to shutter the stand forever.

"I was surprised at how many people good people there are," she said. "Instead of focusing on the bad that happened I was overwhelmed by the good people of this town and the surrounding towns."

That attitude is a marked departure from her initial response. When she first was learned of the robbery, she was crushed — breaking down in tears as she told her husband to close the stand permanently. She and daughter Jessica had started it seven years ago, and Jessica made her promise to keep it open before succumbing to cancer four summers ago at 42.

And she had. Until now.

"It's very emotional because of my daughter," said Mary. "The farm was started because of her. So the first thing that came to my mind when this happened was Jessica. It was a flashback to me."

But there was another flashback that was nearly as meaningful. When someone asked Mary how her late grandmother would advise her — the same grandmother after whom Leightsinger Farm is named — she knew the answer. And, suddenly, what seemed like a logical decision became more complicated, demanding time before a resolution was made.

"My grandmother would say, 'Get back on the

horse,' " said Mary. "She used to say that all the time: 'Don't be afraid of that. Get back on the horse.' A lot of people said, 'Please do not shut down the stand.' So I would like some time to think about it and consider my options."

Nevertheless, she already made one decision: She's asking persons interested in making donations to show their support instead by appearing at Leightsinger Farm on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021 between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to buy a combination of hamburger and corn. It will be the

Rickerts' last sale of produce for the year, though they plan to participate in the Nov. 13 Killingworth Farm Tour.

"I want to thank everybody for supporting us," Mary Rickert said, "but I don't want to make this a sympathy thing. I think it's important to have clean food, and it's my way of giving back to the community in my daughter's name."

Photo by Clark Judge.

REAL ESTATE

Real Estate Transactions

Haddam:

Property on Pokorny Rd., R. E. Mayo Est. and J. R. Mayo to K. E. Jones, 7/2, \$362,500

1 Candlewood Hill Rd., P. and J. Huntington to 3 Candlewood Hill LLC, 7/6, \$190,000

132 W. Shore Dr., D. Capello to B. and G. Reynolds, 7/6, \$285,000

874 Killingworth Rd., E. C. and A. E. Marshall to I. and J. C. Ferber, 7/6, \$504,000

159 Turkey Hill Rd., W. Naclachlan Est. and J. A. Keyes to F. and M. T. Grazioso IRT and F. Grazioso, 7/6, \$11,567

26 S. Side Blf, P. A. Maneggia to R. Alsop and D. J. Roberto, 7/7, \$360,000

66 Ranger Rd., R. K. Sturk Jr. and S. M. Piedmont to J. H. and E. L. Kyle, 7/8, \$352,500

171 W. Shore Dr., S. G. and S. T. Gyllensten to A. and B. Majidi, 7/9, \$300,500

986 Killingworth Rd., M. J. and A. W. Zanelli to Northeastern Partners 3, 7/19, \$575,000

449 Candlewood Hill Rd., A. A. and J. M. Hunt to T. J. Nilsson, 7/20, \$300,000

1192 Killingworth Rd., P. A. Burkle to J. Kelsey, 7/20, \$259,000

415 Killingworth Rd. #4, G. N. Grippo to Kingdom Fincl. Prop. LLC, 7/23, \$100,000

415 Killingworth Rd. #5, G. N. Grippo to Kingdom Fincl. Prop. LLC, 7/23, \$100,000

Killingworth:

22 Surrey Ridge Rd., D. C. and D. J. Racenet to J. C. and H. Leblanc, 7/6, \$850,000

347 Route 148, R. and R. Jensen to S. and P. Ackley, 7/14, \$690,000

211 N. Parker Hill Rd., R. R. Croce to Nparkerhill LLC, 7/15, \$535,000

83 Buell Hill Rd., R. and D. Paolucci to M. E. and J. R. Infante, 7/16, \$785,000

19 Beckwith Rdg., Middlesex Dev. Co. LLC to J. and C. L. Fraser, 7/21, \$160,000

74 Chittenden Rd., Rock Anthony B. Est. and S. M. Allison to Q. Lin, 7/23, \$140,888

62 Blueberry Hill Reserve, M. Dabkowski to M. T. Oneill and R. Chastant-Oneill; 7/30; \$625,000

107 Roast Meat Hill Rd., A. C. and A. M. Catarino to O. Grechukhina and S. Popkhadze, 7/30, \$550,000

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Illiano's teams up with Middletown Police to bring food to the North End

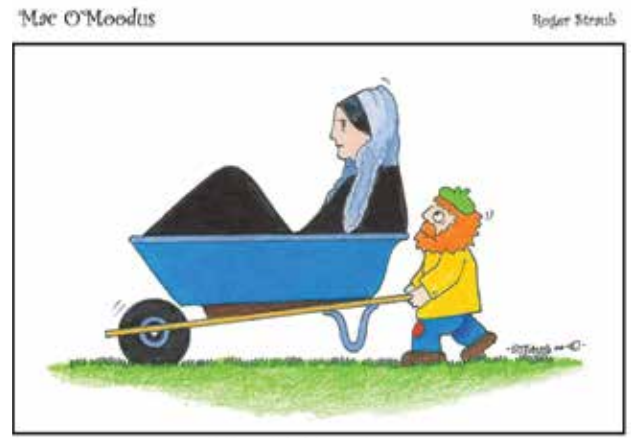
By Kathy Brown.



Vinnie Scileppi, owner of Illiano's restaurant on South Main Street in Middletown and Haddam resident, teamed up with the Middletown Police last night. Vinnie donated the food and Middletown Police officers hand delivered meals to anyone who was interested in the Traverse Square, Green Street, and North End areas on Wednesday evening, August 18, 2021.

"We try to help the community as often as we can," said Vinnie. "With all of the negativity in the world today we thought it would be a great way for the community and police department to work together and shed some positivity."

Photos courtesy of Middletown Police Department.



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Bake Sale: Help support our Ignite Youth Group

By Laura Shipman.

The Ignite Youth Group will be hosting a Bake Sale on Sunday, August 29th from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at The Haddam Volunteer Fire Dept., 439 Saybrook Road, Haddam.

We are looking for volunteers to donate baked goods.

Baked goods may be dropped off at the Haddam Volunteer Fire Dept. beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, August 29th.

Please contact Laura with any questions office@hkyfs.org or 860-345-7498



On the road with Haddam Historical Society: The Ezra Kelsey house

By Elizabeth Malloy.

On August 5, 2021 Marge DeBold, owner of the historic Ezra Kelsey house in Higganum, hosted the 4th great-granddaughter of the building's original builder. Sarah Wyeth of Baltimore, Maryland and friend, Arthur Mahon of Madison, CT drove to Higganum for the afternoon to visit the family ancestral home and learn more about the Kelsey Family and area.

Mrs. Wyeth, who was working on her family genealogy, googled Ezra Kelsey and came across a description of his house which listed the current owners. She wrote to Marge asking if she could stop by for a visit and Marge, the consummate hostess and gracious person she is, said yes. Sarah and Art spent a lovely afternoon touring the house and grounds.

The main block of the Ezra Kelsey House, which was built in 1815, was occupied by the Kelsey Family for four generations until Marge and her husband, Richard DeBold, purchased it in 1964. Ezra Kelsey was a blacksmith who had



The Ezra Kelsey House, Saybrook Road, Higganum



L to R: Sarah Wyeth, Arthur Mahon, Marge Debold

a shop at Higganum Landing where he supplied the shipbuilding industry. The rear ell of the house may be considerably older and is thought to have been moved to its present location from the river's edge. From the 1940s to early 1960s Burnette Kelsey ran a private kindergarten in the house. Highlights of the visit included viewing the Wedgewood plaques set into the fireplace surround and the door jamb at the front entrance with many height markings of the Kelsey Family and friends going back over 100 years.

The town of Haddam, including Higganum and Haddam Neck, has many wonderful historic buildings and homes which have significance not only locally but to people across the country. I have had numerous descendants of former owners stop by my home to share photos and stories. Sarah and Art enjoyed their visit with Marge so much, they plan on returning very soon.

Photos courtesy of Haddam Historical Society.

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