

# Haddam Killingworth News

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

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December 9, 2021

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

Free weekly

## HVFC Responds: Motor vehicle accidents on Hayden Hill & Beaver Meadow Rd.

By Olivia Drake, HVFC

A section of Hayden Hill Road in Haddam is closed (Nov. 29) following a motor vehicle accident vs. utility pole incident.

At 11:10 a.m., Haddam Volunteer Fire Company was dispatched to the area of 90 Hayden Hill Road where a driver, heading north on Hayden Hill Road, struck a utility pole, which caused it to snap in half and fall cross the road. Due to the transformer's mineral oil spill, DEEP was also called to the scene. The driver was transported via Haddam Ambulance Service to Hartford Hospital with injuries. The scene was handed over to Eversource for cleanup.

In addition, at 7:00 a.m. on Nov. 27, crews were dispatched to the south end of Beaver Meadow Road where a vehicle was found rolled over in a



Beaver Meadow Rd. accident.

swampy area. Firefighters broke through the back window and found no occupant in the vehicle. Connecticut State Police are investigating.

These incidents mark the 10th and 11th motor vehicle accidents that HVFC has responded to during the month of November.



Hayden Hill Rd. accident. Photos by Olivia Drake, HVFC.

## KVFC's 2nd Annual Santa Cruise!

By Lt. Ben Chase, KVFC

(Dec. 1, 2021) Santa returns to Killingworth, riding in a fire truck, spreading more holiday cheer this Christmas! You will be able to spot him on Saturday, December 18th and Sunday, December 19th. Santa will leave Station 1 firehouse on Route 81 at 12:00 p.m. on both days. On December 18th Santa will cruise streets north of Route 80 and on December 19th he'll cruise streets south of Route 80.

Watch for updates on our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/KillingworthVFC](http://www.facebook.com/KillingworthVFC)) as we get closer to Santa's arrival!!



**In This Issue:** Haddam, Killingworth Library events, HK2-3, • Christmas worship services, HK6 • Winter preparedness, HK8

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# Claus for a Cause

By Kathy Brown

Sarah Colonghi of Haddam found a fun way to collect food for the Haddam Food Bank. Santa and Mrs. Claus will drive around town in a big red truck on December 12, 2021 to collect food, giving candy canes to children at each location as they pick up the food donations.

Sarah said that her friend who owns Charlie Brown Christmas Tree Farm in East Hampton was without a Santa due to illness, so she and Matt Pytlik volunteered to help. "We volunteered and now it's sort of taken on a life of its own!" explained Sarah. "We had the idea to create the food drive as a way to help the community. We figured we have access to the suits, might as well put them to good use."

They said they hope to make it an annual event, and "hope it grows and grows." They will also be at the tree lighting in Higganum Center on Friday, December 3.

The schedule on December 12, 2021 is:

- 10:00 a.m. Charles Mary Drive
- 10:30 a.m. Burr Del Drive & Jackson Road
- 11:00 a.m. Morris Road
- 11:30 a.m. High Street
- 12:00 p.m. Maple Avenue W.
- 1:15 p.m. Old Cart Road
- 1:45 p.m. Wood Cart Road

They're hoping that each neighborhood will congregate in one area and wait. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be spending about 15-20 minutes per stop and "will have candy canes for all the good little girls and boys!"

The Haddam Food Bank holiday wish list includes canned soups, tunafish, tomato sauce, canned fruits and vegetables, complete canned meals, as well as other non-perishable food items.

They ask that the food items are in bags or boxes so they can travel more easily with Santa and Mrs. Claus throughout their journey through town.



## KW LIBRARY

### Tree of Life Craft for tweens and teens

By Tammy Eustis

Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. vaccinated tweens and teens are invited to create their own wire-wrapped and beaded Tree of Life ornament... plus an extra as a gift for a loved one.

The library will provide the bracelets, wire, beads, and crafting tools. You bring your artistic skills and imaginations!

Space is limited to six attendees, so please register in advance through the Calendar on the Killingworth Library's website - [killingworthlibrary.org](http://killingworthlibrary.org) - or call the library at 860-663-2000.

## HADDAM BRAINERD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

### Festive outdoor storytime with Santa Dec. 18

By Marissa Lehmacher, Children's Librarian

Join us at the Brainerd Memorial Library for a festive outdoor storytime and sing-a-long with Santa and Mrs. Claus at 11:00 a.m. on December 18, 2021. Have your pictures taken, enjoy refreshments, and do some holiday crafts. A special visitor will be coming all the way from the hills of

Italy. His name is Dominick and he says "hee-haw"! Can you guess who he is?

Brainerd Memorial Library is located at 920 Saybrook Road, Haddam.

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# December 2021 – Pearl Harbor program and Storytime

By Tammy Eustis, Assistant Director, Killingworth Library

## Pearl Harbor: the Stories Behind the Story with Phil Devlin

Phil Devlin presents another fascinating program on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom.

This popular presentation not only deals with the numerous, interesting Connecticut connections to the infamous sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, but also deals with the often overlooked historical antecedents of the attack—a battle in the Russo-Japanese War as well as a surprise attack in Italy during World War II—which render the attack in Hawaii not as big of a surprise as it has been portrayed. The huge role that the Japanese obsession

with oil played in the attack is also discussed.

This program will be held via Zoom. Registrants will receive an email the day of the program, with instructions on how to access the presentation online. Please sign up in advance on the Calendar page on the library's website – killingworthlibrary.org – or call the library at 860-663-2000.

## Saturday Storytimes Continue at Killingworth Library

Cold winter weather is fast approaching, and we know both parents and children are eager to keep in touch with the new friends they've made at our outdoor sessions, so in November our Saturday Storytimes will transform into live group readalongs via Zoom! Participants check out the featured book and Take-and-Make Craft from the library, then tune

in at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday for a read-along, crafting fun, and a chance to say "Hi" to their friends! Books and supplies are limited, so please register in advance on the Calendar page on the library's website – killingworthlibrary.org – or call the library at 860-663-2000. Our December sessions:

- 12/04/21 – Lunch by Denise Fleming
- 12/11/21 – Bear Snores On by Karma Wilson
- 12/18/21 – Fox in Socks by Dr. Seuss (includes a Grinch holiday craft)

## Killingworth Library December Holiday Schedule

The library will be closed on Friday, December 24th and Saturday, December 25th for the Christmas holiday. We will also be closed Friday, December 31st and Saturday, January 1st for the New Year. Wishing everyone a safe and restful end of the year!

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

### Thursday, December 9

- 3rd Annual Holiday Pop-up Market 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Higganum Cove Meeting 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- HKHS Winter Choral Concert 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Killingworth Conservation Comm. Meeting 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

### Friday, December 10

- 3rd Annual Pop-up Market 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Shop local and support CT crafters, artists, and other small businesses! We have even more vendors than we had in 2019! Tree lighting on green and Santa at HPUM.

### Saturday, December 11

- 3rd Annual Pop-up Market 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Breakfast with Santa 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Killingworth Nursery School.

- Higganum Congregational Church Cookie Walk @ 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- HVFC Children's Christmas Party at the Firehouse 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

- Killingworth Library Saturday Storytimes live group readalongs via Zoom! 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

### Sunday, December 12

- 3rd Annual Holiday Pop-up Market! 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- St. Lawrence Church Christmas Concert 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### Monday, December 13

- Haddam BOS Meeting 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Killingworth BOS Meeting 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (remote access)
- Killingworth Park & Rec. Meeting 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (remote access)

### Tuesday, December 14

- Tech Tuesday Killingworth Library 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Killingworth Health & Safety Comm. Meeting 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (remote access)
- Killingworth BOF Meeting 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (remote access)
- Killingworth Inland Wetlands Meeting 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, December 15

- Killingworth Alternative Housing Comm. Meeting 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (remote access)
- KW Library's Book Club Combo Meetup 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

### Thursday, December 16

- HKHS Winter Band Concert 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Haddam P&Z Meeting 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

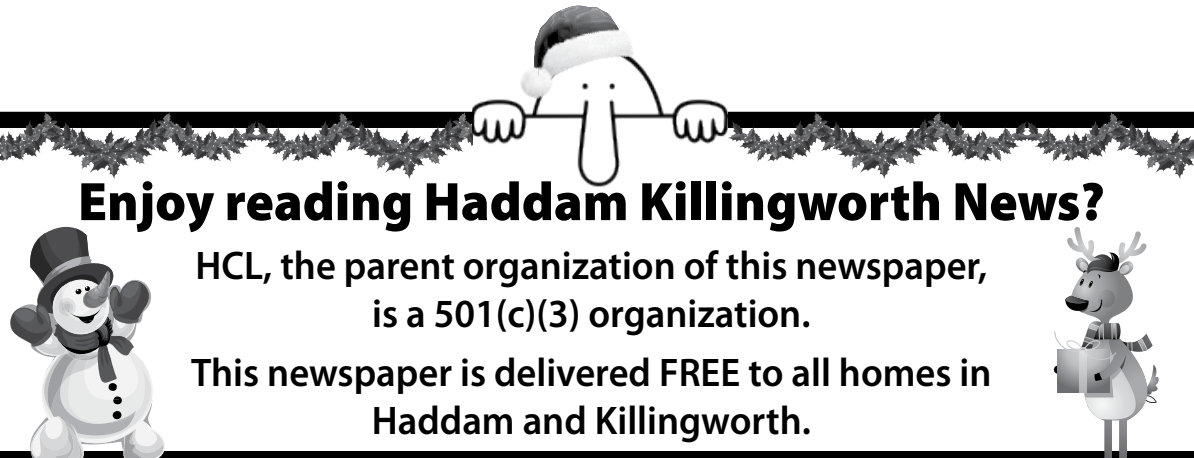
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# December 2021 Ever Green

By Terry Twigg, Haddam Garden Club

A day before Thanksgiving, I collected colorful leaves, berries, and seed pods to set off the chrysanthemums on my table, all in shades of orange, gold, and brown. But just one day after Thanksgiving, I counted car after car with a trussed-up tree on its roof, and then went out to cut branches of white pine, cedar and spruce for my wreath. Just like that, the autumn harvest is left behind as we look forward to the winter holidays.

In just a few days, the Garden Club will deck the halls, streets, doors and gathering places around town. At the Community House, tarps will be spread on the floor and heaped with greens of every variety, plus prized red-berry-bearing branches, cut from members' yards, scavenged from the brush piles at the transfer station, and occasionally purloined from locations

better left unnamed. The town street signs, alone, will require fourteen painstakingly constructed garlands. My lavishly berried pyracantha has been claimed for library decorations, but we'll have to hustle to harvest it ahead of the birds. I remember watching last year, hours before the first big winter storm, as mobs of birds stripped the branches bare in an afternoon. I saw more food fights just yesterday as dozens of birds jostled for the small blue berries on a cedar outside my kitchen window. It was a good year for the cedars, and the branches were heavy with fruit, but I still felt a bit guilty that I had clipped some of the birds' dinner for my decorations.

When did evergreens become synonymous with the holidays? Since forever, apparently. In a world in which planetary movements were poorly understood, people braved the

winter solstice—longest night of the year, in the season of cold and death—with greenery that brightened dark halls and reassured them that, soon, spring would come again. It didn't take much to link the pagan reverence for evergreens to the Christian promise of eternal life.

Early Romans, Celtic Druids, and Scandinavian mythmakers all associated mistletoe, which can bloom in the coldest weather, with love and fertility. The Romans even thought it was an antidote to poison, which is odd, since mistletoe itself is quite toxic. Perhaps not the most appropriate choice for a kissing ball.

While decorating with greens was common across Europe, the Christmas tree is believed to have originated in Germany. According to tradition, it was Martin Luther, inspired by the beauty of stars seen through tree branches, who first put candles on a tree. One would think that what was good enough for the great Protestant reformer would have been good enough for our Puritan ancestors, but they viewed holiday decorations as a frivolous and heathen practice, and forbade anything other than a solemn religious observance of December 25. We owe the eventual acceptance of the custom to two factors: First, waves of German immigrants in the nineteenth century brought their traditions with them; their neighbors noticed and joined in. At the same time, Queen Victoria's German husband, Prince Albert, brought Christmas trees to the royal household, and fashionable people followed suit, in England and America.

By the turn of the century, trees were everywhere, in family homes and public spaces. Once electric lights became available, communities began lighting up trees in public spaces to mark the holidays. In 1948 the tallest

tree ever to grace Rockefeller Center, a hundred-foot-tall Norway spruce, made its way to New York City from right next door, in Killingworth.

Today, Christmas trees are big business. There are an estimated 15,000 tree farms in the U.S., covering 350,000 acres and employing 100,000 people. From seedling to ceiling-scratcher size averages seven years. Even if you think it's wasteful to cut down a tree for the sake of a few weeks' enjoyment, please don't substitute an artificial tree: environmental groups say the ecological damage from a manufactured plastic tree far exceeds the impact of cutting a farmed tree—although, if at all possible, buy from a local grower to minimize shipping. Your tree can have a second life outdoors, decorated with seed and suet for wildlife, or cut off the branches to use as protection for garden beds. Even better, of course, is to buy a live tree. Keep the house cool and the tree well watered, don't keep it indoors more than a week or so, and have the planting hole pre-dug and ready, in case the ground freezes.

My own tree probably won't be perfectly symmetrical. I'll find one in my woods, growing in an inconvenient spot too close to its brothers, or rooted in ledge, and small enough to cut with my hand saw while lying awkwardly on the ground. It will probably suggest Charlie Brown more than Rockefeller Center, but it will bring the smell of piney woods inside, and make a festive mess when the cats pull it down.

So fill your house with boughs of holly, hang wreathes of pine, spruce, and fir on your front door, and celebrate the certainty that, in only a few weeks, the days will once again start to lengthen toward spring.

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## LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT

### This week on Valley Shore Community Television (VSCTV)

By Chris Morgan, Public Access Coordinator, VSCTV

**Comcast Channel 18** - Valley Shore Educational Network  
12/9 - 6:00 p.m. LIVE HK High School Winter Chorus Concert  
12/11 - 1:00 p.m. LIVE HK vs Bolton/Tolland Girls Basketball

**Comcast Channel 19** - Valley Shore Community Television  
12/9 - 1:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. UMC of Clinton Sunday Service 12/5/21  
12/9 - 5:00 p.m. Old Saybrook Meetings  
12/12 - 4:00 p.m. First Congregational Church in Essex Sun. Service 12/5/21  
12/12 - 5:00 p.m. Emmanuel Baptist Church Sunday Service 12/5/21  
12/12 - 6:00 p.m. Deep River Town Meetings 11/23/21  
12/13 - 4:00 p.m. A Slice of Life: Plum Island  
12/13 - 5:00 p.m. Silver Linings Talk Show  
12/13 - 6:00 p.m. Shore Things: Lasagna Love  
12/13 - 8:00 p.m. Art of Poetry  
12/14 - 4:00 p.m. Clinton Meetings  
12/14 - 6:00 p.m. Arts & Entertainment: Legacy Theater  
12/14 - 7:00 p.m. Pete Mezzetti Show: Carl Fortuna  
12/14 - 8:00 p.m. Shoreline Music Monthly: BEPW  
12/15 - 4:00 p.m. Westbrook Congregational 12/12/21

For the complete schedule, and to view programs on-demand, visit [www.vsctv.com](http://www.vsctv.com). Also watch VSCTV on Comcast, Apple TV, Roku, Fire TV.



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# Christmas 2021 Worship Schedule

Schedules for the following churches have been provided:

- First Congregational Church of Haddam, 905 Saybrook Road, Haddam
- Haddam Neck Congregational Church, 408 Quarry Hill Road, Haddam Neck
- Haddam Neck Covenant Church, 17 Haddam Neck Road, East Hampton
- Higganum Congregational Church, 23 Parsonage Road, Higganum
- St. Peter Roman Catholic Church, 30 St. Peter Lane, Higganum
- St. Lawrence Catholic Church, 7 Hemlock Drive, Killingworth
- Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church, 220 Turkey Hill Road, Haddam

**Saturday, December 11, 2021**

- 3:00 p.m. Community Christmas Party featuring the puppets in Farmer M's red barn. The children will interact with the puppets, participate in activities and sing Christmas carols at the Haddam Neck Covenant Church

**Sunday, December 12, 2021**

- 11:00 a.m. Advent Service at Haddam Neck Congregational Church

Sunday, December 19, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Christmas Song Fest featuring contemporary and traditional Christmas music with choir, drums, guitar and keyboard at Haddam Neck Covenant Church

- 11:00 a.m. Advent Service at Haddam Neck Congregational Church

**Friday, December 24, 2021**

- 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service at Valley Bible Church
- 4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil at St. Peter Church
- 4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil at St. Lawrence Church
- 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at Haddam Neck Congregational Church
- 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Service at Haddam Neck Covenant Church
- 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service at Higganum Congregational Church
- 10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass at St. Lawrence Church

**Saturday, December 25, 2021**

- 12:00 p.m. Midnight Mass at St. Peter Church
- 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass at St. Peter Church
- 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Lawrence Church

If you belong to a church or other place of worship in town and you would like your services included on this list, please email us at [HK-NowEditors@outlook.com](mailto:HK-NowEditors@outlook.com).

## OBITUARIES

**Donald J. Ramsey, Sr., 72**, of Higganum, beloved husband of Dora (Gutierrez) Ramsey, passed away on Monday November 22, 2021.

# Fresco, a Chihuahua

By Judith Levin

Fresca? No Fresco!

That's right. This little Chihuahua is Fresco. She is 1-2 years old, spayed, and up to date with her shots.

This little lady absolutely loves to be held and cuddled. She has no problem traveling with her people. Fresco is a sassy little gal who was a wonderful Mommy to her recent litter of pups. She had 4 adorable babies who have all been adopted. Now this little girl needs to find her forever home just in time for Christmas!

She is completely house broken, loves to be around people, and just be a part of the gang. If you are looking for a new little best friend, here she is! Please email [bnb4dogs@aol.com](mailto:bnb4dogs@aol.com) for an application.



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# Circophony Teen Circus auditions Dec. 15 in Middletown

By Dic Wheeler, Oddfellows Playhouse

(Nov. 30, 2021) — Oddfellows Playhouse and ARTFARM announce auditions for Circophony Teen Circus's mainstage Circus-Theater production, *The Things That Go Creep...*

Auditions will be held on Wednesday, December 15, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., at Oddfellows Playhouse, 128 Washington Street in Middletown. They are open to all young people ages 12 – 20. Prior circus experience is not required, but some background in physical training, dance, movement, sports, parkour or performance can be helpful.

Auditioners are asked to arrive a few minutes early to complete audition paperwork, to dress to move, plan to stay the entire two hours, and to prepare a short performance piece that showcases your skills and personality (one minute maximum). Everyone who auditions and commits to the rehearsal and production schedule will be cast in the show.

Rehearsals will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. starting January 4, 2022. There will be Technical rehearsal & daily rehearsals, Feb 26 – March 2. Performances will be March 3, 4 & 5 at 7:00 p.m.; March 5 at 2:00 p.m. at Oddfellows Playhouse.

*The Things That Go Creep...*, directed by Circophony Director Allison McDermott, is an original circus theater piece inspired by classic



Performance photo by Bill De Kine.

horror films. The Show will include acrobatics, movement, juggling, balancing, stiling, unicycling, comedy and other circus skills. This is a great opportunity to stretch your personal limits in a supportive, non-competitive environment, get serious circus training, and be part of creating a new and imaginative show.

To register for the audition, or for more information, call (860) 347-6143 or email [info@oddfellows.org](mailto:info@oddfellows.org). Tuition for Circophony is \$300. Financial aid is available for anyone who needs it. No one is turned away for inability to pay. Circophony Teen Circus provides rigorous circus training and performance opportunities to young people, and is a collaboration between Oddfellows Playhouse and ARTFARM.

If you are unable to make the audition date, please contact [info@oddfellows.org](mailto:info@oddfellows.org) to set up an alternative audition date!

# A Christmas Carol

Find and circle all of the "A Christmas Carol" words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell a secret message.

P A N C H R I S T M A S P R E S E N T D  
 E S U O H G N I T N U O C S M O A S T N  
 T O L D F E Z Z I W I G I E N Y T I O E  
 E H W E M O T I H C T A R C S R M D M O  
 R A O G B N E P H E W R B S E M N O F T  
 E B N U B E R J V C Y I S E R O C F S E  
 C D S B O G N O A C I N N S L O I O C C  
 I N D M B T B E H C I T F T T C H L H I  
 R W Y U C E S R Z A O E S T E G Y K A T  
 A O R H R N I A T E Z B E U S R D N R N  
 V G G S A S O R P Z R Y M Y A S E O L E  
 A G N U T S U I I S S E A S C E C E R  
 T N A M C C P W T A A L C S R B R K S P  
 U I A E H V I I M P R M N R E L G E D P  
 R S E R I G N T R A M I T L O Y E R I A  
 K S O N T Y S E M I A E L S D O G Y C C  
 E E O D T I B L E H T E D E I S G S K L  
 Y R U I R F O G C S E S B E V R E E E E  
 R D M H N I G H T C A P M A R T H A N R  
 Y H C T U R C O A D N I L E B N E C S K

ANGRY  
 APPRENTICE  
 AVARICE  
 BAH  
 BED  
 BELINDA  
 BELLE  
 BOB CRATCHIT  
 CAUSTIC  
 CHAINS  
 CHARLES  
 DICKENS

CHRISTMAS PAST  
 CHRISTMAS  
 PRESENT  
 CHRISTMAS YET  
 TO COME  
 CLERK  
 COUNTING HOUSE  
 CRUTCH  
 CURTAINS  
 DRESSING GOWN  
 EBENEZER  
 SCROOGE

HUMBUG  
 JACOB MARLEY  
 KNOCKER  
 LONDON  
 MARLEY'S  
 GHOST  
 MARTHA  
 MERRY  
 CHRISTMAS  
 MRS CRATCHIT  
 MRS FEZZIWIG  
 NEPHEW

NIGHTCAP  
 OFFICE  
 OLD  
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# Eversource prepares for winter storm season

By Mitch Gross, Eversource

BERLIN, Conn. (November 30, 2021) – With the Atlantic hurricane season officially ending today and the winter storm season just ahead, Eversource is preparing and encouraging customers to do the same. The energy company works year-round maintaining and upgrading electric lines and equipment, so it can better withstand New England’s sometimes fierce and often unpredictable weather. Eversource invests tens of millions of dollars every year to strengthen the delivery system – installing stronger poles and thicker “tree wire,” adding smart switches and smart fuses to the system that help to automatically restore power in certain situations, and installing optical ground wire that enhances communications between the electric system and the company’s operations facilities.

“Typically, light, fluffy snow doesn’t cause significant problems for the electric system. It’s the heavy, wet snow, freezing rain or ice that can weigh down tree limbs and branches bringing them down onto our electric lines, causing power outages,” said Eversource President of Regional Electric Operations Craig Hallstrom. “We can’t prevent storms from happening, but we know our customers depend on

us to restore power as quickly and safely as possible when the power does go out and we take that responsibility seriously. We monitor the weather forecast closely every day and are always prepared to respond to any damage or outages a storm may cause – whenever a storm hits – and we want our customers to be ready too.”

Eversource encourages customers to assemble or replenish a well-stocked storm kit. Some essentials that should be included are:

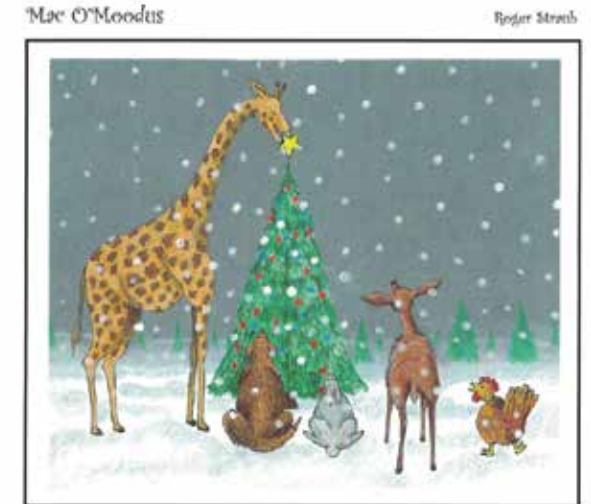
- First aid supplies
- Basic tools
- Portable radio
- Flashlight and batteries
- Prescriptions
- Bottled water, one gallon per person for every day you could be without power
- List of emergency phone numbers
- Nonperishable foods, such as peanut butter and jelly, tuna and other canned goods
- Pet food and supplies

The energy company also recommends fully charging cell phones and electronic devices before a storm hits so if the power does go out, customers can get outage information and updates from

the company website and social media pages – Eversource.com, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

For more information on storm preparation visit Eversource.com.

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