

# Haddam Killingworth News

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

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September 23, 2021

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Free weekly

## Doors Open Again at Brainerd Memorial Library in Haddam

By Kent Jarrell

Brainerd Memorial Library is now open again to serve the Haddam community. This brings the end of a long-planned renovation project.



Left to Right: Kate Anderson, Haddam Second Selectman; Robert McGarry, First Selectman; Raul de Brigard, former Library Board President; Tom Piezzo, Library Director; State Representative Christine Palm; and Marijean Conrad, Library Board President. Photo by Donna Brinkerhoff.

The Covid-19 Pandemic delayed some of the work but a new parking lot with 17 additional spaces is now finished. There is a new entry plaza and public entrance to a lower-level lobby. New rest rooms are now installed, and a new bathroom is available for children.

"I'm thrilled to have the library back open," said Robert McGarry, First Selectman of Haddam, who attended a ribbon cutting. "I'm impressed with what was done with what the pandemic threw at you."

State Representative Christine Palm praised the library for keeping services available during the renovation and the pandemic. "Libraries are more

and more important for communities. They are a shelter in the rain."

Haddam's Poet Laureate, Lorraine Riess, read her poem Welcome Back, which was written to celebrate the re-opening.

*The books have been waiting.  
But it's dangerous in there. Beware.  
If we dare return, we take a chance  
of becoming a different person  
than who we were before.*

*We might lose ourselves between the covers  
that uncover civilization itself,  
the knowledge, intrigue, poetry,  
the scent of it all laid bare.*

*Like a bakery with its racks full, a sugared perfume  
encircles us with our own curiosity.  
So many choices to sate our interest:  
those bran muffins that are all about business,  
doughnuts of tales, the rich confections of fiction.*

*So we narrow it down and decide:  
this one for our daughter, these for breakfast,  
and yielding to temptation,  
pick two tarts for dessert.*

*And we walk out happy, in our arms  
a box full of sweets and savories.  
Their layered fragrance warms us  
with anticipation as we head home  
hungry to be lost in a delectable story.*

For several months, the library building remained closed to patrons, who had to pick up materials left for them in an outside lobby by staff. Patrons once again have the chance to personally pick out their reading materials and use the educational and research resources.

"We are committed to following best practices to protect our visitors and our staff," said Tom Piezzo, Library Director. "We are requesting that everyone wear face masks that cover both the mouth and nose at all times in the library. We'll be glad to provide visitors with masks if they need them. And we hope everyone remembers to distance themselves

Continued on page HK6

## KVFC Rescues hiker at Chatfield Hollow

By Donnie Venuti, KVFC Chief

(September 14, 2021) Yesterday KVFC members responded to Chatfield Hollow for an injured hiker about a half mile into the woods. The hiker was quickly located and stabilized. Due to rough terrain members utilized a stokes basket and harnesses to safely remove and carry the patient out of the woods.

Photos by Donnie Venuti, KVFC Chief.



KAA on scene at Chatfield Hollow rescue.



Injured hiker rescued at Chatfield Hollow by KVFC.

In This Issue: Candidates, HK2-3 • Calendar, HK7 • Pumpkin Run, HK9

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## 2021 MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES

We reached out to both the Haddam Republican Town Committee and the Haddam Democrat Town Committee and asked candidates to respond to a set of questions; if a candidate did not respond, their name is listed, so that you know who is running for each office.

# 2021 Candidates: Haddam Town Clerk

Updates from all candidates are welcome and will be published as Letters to the Editor. The questions posed to the candidates were:

- Tell us a little about yourself.
- Why are you running for the position?
- What do you see as the important issues facing Haddam and how would you address them in your role?
- What are the key things you love about this town and its people?
- Additional thoughts to leave voters with?

**Bob Siegrist (R):** My name is Bob Siegrist, and I was raised in Haddam. I graduated from Haddam-Killingworth in 2001 and received a Bachelor of Science from Quinnipiac University. My whole life, I have supported small businesses and I have worked for local landscaping and restaurants. Small businesses are the backbone of our community, and I will always support them.

As your former State Representative for Haddam from 2017-2019, it was the honor of my life to be your voice in Hartford. I was humbled to serve Haddam, Chester, Deep River and Essex on the Veterans Affairs, Public Safety and Security as well as Insurance and Real Estate Committees. Working with Connecticut Water, DEEP, the Department of Public Health, former State Senator Art Linares and the Board of Selectman, together we secured clean water for the Tylerville section of Haddam. This was not only an environmental issue, but also a public safety and economic issue for our town. Haddam, we got it done.



Bob Siegrist (R).

The office of Town Clerk of Haddam should be, and should remain, non-political. I want to pledge to my fellow Haddam residents that if elected, I will be committed to keeping it that way. I want to thank Scott Brookes for his years of service to Haddam.

It was an honor to be your voice in Hartford. With your support on November 2nd, I would be humbled to serve you as your Town Clerk of Haddam.

**Dawn Tarbetsky (D):** Dawn represents three



Dawn Tarbetsky (D).

key pillars: experience, knowledge and continual volunteerism in the community.

Dawn has lived in Haddam for 38 years with her husband Paul and daughter Ana, who attended Reg. District #17 school system K-12. What Dawn really loves about Haddam is the excellent school

system, the charm of a small rural New England town and the access and beauty the Connecticut River offers. Having a personalized relationship with local businesses and continuing to develop and grow our village centers is something that makes the town unique and inviting.

**Experience:** Dawn has gained invaluable experience as a current Assistant Town Clerk in the town of Westbrook, a position she has held for 8 years. For the past 37 years, Dawn has also been a Title Searcher in CT, which gives her the advantage to observe the various functions of other town halls.

**Knowledge:** Dawn is a Notary Public, recent Justice of The Peace and has completed all classes necessary for Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) Certification. She has worked as a Residential Real Estate Appraiser for 15 years. This broadens her knowledge of understanding additional functions in the town hall.

**Community Service/Volunteerism:** Dawn has always been passionate about volunteering her time. This is demonstrated in a wide variety of roles over the past 30 years. Some examples include Democratic Town Committee, Co-Chairperson Haddam River Days, HES Parent Teacher Association, Alzheimer's Association, and Roosevelt Forest Ultra Races.

Through her experience as Assistant Town Clerk, Title Searching knowledge and her awareness of the importance of preserving land records in the Town Clerk Office, Dawn will be a valuable contribution who will serve the public as Haddam's Town Clerk.

Haddam Historical Society  
Thankful Arnold House Museum

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\* [www.biddingowl.com/HaddamHistoricalSociety](http://www.biddingowl.com/HaddamHistoricalSociety)

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- What do you see as the important issues facing Haddam and how would you address them in your role?
- What are the key things you love about this town and its people?
- Additional thoughts to leave voters with?

Dawn Mooney (D; cross endorsed by R): I have served as Killingworth's Town Clerk/Registrar of Vital Statistics for six years, and served as Assistant Town Clerk/Assistant Registrar of Vital Statistics for the seven years before that. Both my experience and qualifications make me ideally suited to serve in this position. Not only do I hold a Bachelor's Degree from Connecticut College, but additionally I have earned and maintain Connecticut Town Clerk Certification, Master Connecticut Town Clerk Certification and Connecticut Municipal Officer Certification. A member of the Connecticut Town Clerks Association since 2008, I was elected its Secretary and served on its Executive Board from 2017 to 2021. I am also a member of the New England Association of City and Town Clerks and the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities. In addition, I have held the position of Killingworth Deputy Town Treasurer since 2009, previously served on the town's Health and Safety Committee and am a long-time associate member of the Killingworth Historical Society.

I have worked tirelessly to maintain, preserve and provide access to Killingworth's records and safeguard our election processes while adhering to the highest standards of professionalism and confidentiality. I



Dawn Mooney (D; cross endorsed by R)

am running for re-election as Town Clerk to continue the tradition of accuracy, efficiency and good will for which our Town Clerk's Office is known.

One critical issue currently facing every town is ensuring the accuracy and security of our elections. As Town Clerk, I am responsible for safeguarding the entire absentee ballot process, from receiving the voter's absentee ballot application to delivering voted absentee ballots to the polls on Election Day. It is my responsibility to ensure that every Killingworth voter has the opportunity to cast their vote and have it counted on Election Day, even if they are unable to safely vote in person at the polls. I am proud to say that during the 2020 Presidential Election, the Killingworth Town Clerk's Office successfully issued, processed, protected and delivered to the polls an unprecedented 1700+ absentee ballots (representing a 400% increase over our previous number for a presidential election).

As a Killingworth resident, homeowner and taxpayer for over 29 years, I have always loved the strong sense of community and small-town appeal that Killingworth offers. But, the

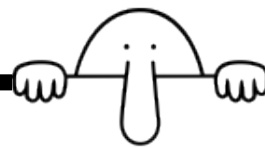
single thing I am most grateful for is Killingworth's residents! Just pay a visit to Parmelee Farm and you will experience first-hand the serenity of nature that a group of hard working and dedicated Killingworth residents has restored. Or attend a sporting event at Irene Sheldon Park or Eric W. Auer KRP to see the beautiful facilities created by the vision of another group of residents. And of course, the dedicated members of the ambulance and fire companies that serve our community are never to be overlooked. Killingworth's residents are the town's greatest blessing.

I understand the importance of fiscal responsibility and meticulous record keeping, while providing outstanding service, and will always greet visitors to town hall with a smile and provide compassionate, attentive and timely service to all. Please vote for me on November 2 to continue the tradition of accuracy, efficiency and good will in the town clerk's office. It has been my honor to serve as Killingworth's Town Clerk.

## OBITUARIES

**Stephen Cobb (Col.)** of Higganum passed away on Thursday, Sept. 9, 2021.

**Gerald B. "Jerry" Hawkes**, 85, passed away Sept. 12, 2021, surrounded by his loving family.



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# September 13, 2021 Board of Selectmen Meeting

By Meghan Peterson

On Monday, Sept. 13, 2021, the Haddam Board of Selectmen (BOS) held a regular meeting at the old Town Hall building (21 Field Park Drive). First Selectman Bob McGarry called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Selectmen Kate Anderson and Sean Moriarty, along with Assistant to the First Selectman, JoAnn Ricciardelli, were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, the meeting's agenda was approved, and meeting minutes were approved for the Board's Aug. 9 and Aug. 18 meetings (with a motion to amend the Aug. 9 meeting minutes indicating that Selectman Moriarty was not present at that one).

First Selectman McGarry opened the floor for the first public comment period. Mr. Maurice Adams provided suggestions as to how to move projects forward in Haddam. Specifically, he noted that the Town has a "stated \$2.5M for the purchase price" of the Rossi property and could award \$100K to the top 25 best project idea bidders for things like how to utilize the Rossi property or how to implement green energy initiatives in partnership with entities such as Connecticut Yankee. Moreover, Adams recommended that these bidders be Haddam residents and they could present project ideas before an impartial panel, such as the Board of Selectmen. Adams offered that such an endeavor could bring the community together. There was no other public comment at this time.

Next, First Selectman McGarry relayed updates on several fronts. On the Rossi property and Scovil Hoe topics, he stated that there was nothing changed at this time. With regards to the Bridge Road project, McGarry explained that the CT

Department of Transportation (DOT) informed him that inspections on the Swing Bridge would occur this week and the following. To that end, McGarry said to anticipate potential delays. In terms of road work progress, chip sealing is concluding and spring road work plans are in process. The Town received a public health grant for design of a community septic system. Jacobson and Associates will be the design firm, and they are also the Town's engineering firm. As a result, Jacobson has "background knowledge," for the project, according to McGarry. The objective is to have a plan ready by end of the year. Brookes Court apartments (in the Tylerville section of town) formally applied for a building permit. Groundbreaking is expected to begin early next month. A tree trimming schedule has been discussed with Associate Director of Public Works, Chris Corsa, as well as with Eversource. On the coronavirus topic, McGarry noted that according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there is a downturn in national new cases, with the Delta variant appearing to phase out. McGarry noted that for Haddam, the caseload is rising. In July, there were 5 reported cases. In August, there were 17. At the time of this writing, there have been 8 reported, with two additional not yet being reported in the case count, according to McGarry. These latter two are breakthrough cases (cases from individuals who obtained the shot). Selectwoman Anderson inquired about the breakthrough cases among reported cases in town.

McGarry added that the age range for cases is 7-70 in Haddam. Booster shots are expected later this autumn, with Greg McKenna of Nutmeg Pharmacy preparing potentially to utilize HES as a site for conducting them. Flu shots are recommended this season as well, "just like last year," McGarry explained. Contract negotiations are in process with the Public Works. McGarry also sat on an interview panel on Sept. 2 to hire a Resident Trooper to fill a Trooper vacancy in town. There are 5 Troopers applying. McGarry highlighted that he issued a proclamation to honor and celebrate Neal Blodgett's 100th birthday (ran this story in our September 2 and September 9 editions). The Haddam Neck Fair was "extremely well attended...people happy to get out and about," McGarry said. The Brainerd Memorial Library had its ribbon cutting for phase 1 renovation completion last week and is now open to the public. The Higganum United Methodist Church celebrated its 160th anniversary. A proclamation/recognition celebration for Elizabeth Hart Malloy was held on Sept. 12 to honor her 20-years service as Executive Director of the Haddam Historical Society.

Discussion next turned to the autumn Farmer's Market at the former HES building/property. It resumes Sept. 17 and runs for 5 weeks. Anderson said that the time, 3:30-6:30 p.m. may be adjusted depending on how dark it gets. According to

*Continued on page HK5*

## CT DEEP

### Fall 2021 Invasive plant cleanups and trash pickups

By Cheryl Czuba

Come save some trees and/or pick up litter at one of our favorite state parks. Our fall invasive plant cleanups will be held on Saturday, September 25, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (rain-date October 2) and Saturday, October 16 (rain-date October 23) at Haddam Meadows State Park. The September event will be held in conjunction with the CT River Conservancy's (CRC) Source to Sea annual cleanup.

As required by the CT DEEP and CRC, those attending must register ahead of time. Attendees shall remain six feet apart, including family members, caretakers and household members. Masks shall be worn within six feet of those not in the same household.

Participants are asked to meet in the open area to the left of the boat launch porta potties. Adults and youth, under 16 years of age accompanied by an adult, are encouraged to participate in removing oriental bittersweet and other invasives and/or picking up litter. Please dress for the weather. Wear waterproof boots, bring garden loppers or saw, insect repellent, sunscreen, water, snacks and first aid supplies. Do not bring pets. Volunteers with dump trucks with Haddam stickers are needed.

The event is being planned by CT DEEP Adopt-a-Park volunteers, Jamie Burgess, Cheryl Czuba, Joanne DelCioppo-Mchugh, Mary Lou Heger, and David Stiles. Please register by emailing Cheryl Czuba at [cherylczuba@comcast.net](mailto:cherylczuba@comcast.net)

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# September 13, 2021 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Continued from page HK4

Anderson, there will be “new vendors” and will be “very fall-themed.” The Haddam River Day is slated for Saturday, Oct. 2, combined with a car cruise evening, community organization tables/booths, and fireworks at the end – all pending approval from the State. She recommended that if any organization wants to set up a booth to please reach out. Selectman Moriarty commented on the “great job” of chip sealing that was done on Jackson Road but noted there is a need for a new street sign. He updated that the State has approved a tree planting in honor of Melissa Schlag (a former First Selectwoman) by Eagle Landing State Park. He is working on a date for when that can occur.

Jennifer Favalora, Regional School District 17 Board of Education (BOE) Secretary, spoke about the opening of HK schools and the plan to open schools safely. There are weekly meetings with state epidemiologists, CT Department of Public Health, (DPH) Department of Education (DOE). Governor Ned Lamont’s current executive order calls for the wearing of masks until Sept. 30, but Favalora said to “stay tuned,” as they try to figure this out, as the “decision is not in our hands at this time.” Different transportation logistics are being looked at, strategic planning is ongoing and is a top priority of the district. The idea is to have 18 focus groups from employees to students, parents to alumni, BOE candidates to civic leaders and community members to draw up a district plan for the next few years. An online survey will be available on the RSD17 website in November as well “to capture everybody’s thoughts about where we should be going.” A 3-year contract with the nurses’ union was approved to include LPNs along with RNs. The cost-share is equal to all other bargaining units, Favalora stated. There is a \$2.75 equity adjustment for the RNs and a \$1.00 equity adjustment for the LPNs during the first year of the contract. HKYFS has a mentoring program at the various schools and is seeking additional mentors – including specifically male mentors. The HKYFS is also seeking to increase diversity on its board of directors. Over the summer,

several maintenance and repair projects were conducted, including the implementation of new stadium bleachers and lighting. Favalora pointed out that all updates, including coronavirus protocols, the superintendent’s presentation on a safe return to school and dashboard of positive coronavirus cases are available on the RSD17 website.

McGarry then moved to tax refunds, of which McGarry said there were many due to adjustments from the Tax Assessor – either from people moving out of state or selling vehicles. The Board approved the refunds as presented. Other final items of business included the reappointment of 7 members to the Economic Development Commission. There is now one vacancy. Anderson said to feel free to reach out to her if interested in serving on the Commission. Meanwhile, Dave Costa was reappointed to the Inland and Wetlands Commission.

The Board authorized McGarry to receive the \$15K CT Housing and Urban Development technical assistance writing grant and develop an affordable housing plan, as required by state law. Town Planner Bill Warner has done these applications before and is confident can do it again, according to McGarry. An elderly tax relief appeal was granted. The brush chipping and wood pile removal by the transfer station was awarded to Northeastern Clearing at \$32K. The original bidder, Running Brook Farm (\$26,500) withdrew its bid due to an emergency. HK Youth and Family Services submitted a letter requesting funds for potential renovations pending an ongoing process of determining and receiving official word on relocation/space. According to HKYFS Board Chair, Jane Baird, the primary concern is that the “agency’s programs remain accessible to families with everything that has been going on.”

Discussion then moved to abandonment of the Old Chester Road. Private property owners would retain legal right of way access.

There was no public comment during the second and final public comment period. The next BOS meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 12.

## LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HADDAM, CT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Notice is hereby given to the legal voters and/or taxpayers of the Town of Haddam that a Special Town Meeting will be held at the Firehouse Community Room, located at 439 Saybrook Road, Haddam CT 06438 on Wednesday, September 29, 2021 at 7:00 pm for the following purpose:

1. To elect a Moderator
2. To consider and vote on adopting an Ordinance creating a Water Pollution Control Authority.

\*\*Copy of the proposed ordinance can be found at the Town Clerk’s Office or at [www.haddam.org](http://www.haddam.org)\*\*

Dated in Haddam, CT this 23rd day of September, 2021  
Board of Selectmen: Robert McGarry, Kate Anderson and Sean Moriarty.

## LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HADDAM, CT INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

The Inlands Wetlands Commission of Haddam, Connecticut has given the following agent approval:

1. A permit to allow for a detached building for hay and storage at 142 Jail Hill Rd  
Applicant: Kyle Hurd / Map 46 Lot 26-4

Said applications are on file in the Land Use Office of the Town of Haddam.

Inland Wetlands Commission, Haddam CT

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# Health and Wellness Fair – September 28th

By Marie Field

A Health and Wellness Fair co-sponsored by the Polish Falcons of America Nest 519 and the Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation, Inc. is being held on Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2021, from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the PFA Grove building on 144 Prout Hill Road, Middletown, CT. This is a free event, and all are welcome to attend!

A variety of local businesses and organizations will be there to share their services and resources and live demonstrations will be held. The following is a preliminary list of participating agencies:

- Acupuncturist and Chinese Herbal Medicine – Christine Rizzo-Gasstrom;
- Apple Rehab;
- Autumn Sage, LLC, who is involved with sound and gemstone healing will do a demo on removing negative energy cords;
- Body Focus Therapeutic Massage and Ashiatsu;
- Child And Family Agency;
- Community Health Center;
- CrossFit Ironworks Higganum;
- Gilead Community Services, Inc.;
- Guided Healing, LLC which practices reflexology;
- Head Start Services;
- Hunter’s Ambulance Service;
- Manes and Motions Therapeutic Riding Center;
- Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce;
- Middlesex Health Center for Behavioral Health;
- Middletown South Fire District;
- Middletown Police will be bringing their crisis intervention dog;
- Middletown YMCA;
- National Alliance on Mental Illness – Shoreline

Affiliate;

- NFP Insurance will do a demo on types of wellness coverage;
- Nutmeg Pharmacy Higganum will be doing a flu clinic, blood pressure readings, and medication consultations;
- Pawsitive Therapy, LLC will be bringing therapy dogs;
- Russell Library;
- Select Physical Therapy in Higganum;
- SoVita Chiropractic Center; Starr Mill Yoga;
- The Red Barn Holistic Wellness and Art Center – Katie Cavenagh specializes in Reiki and

Meditation among other therapies;

- Third Eye Herbals – Jenavieve Hawks will do a demo on her specialties.
- Finally, Middletown Mayor, Benjamin Florsheim, has agreed to support this event by attending and saying a few words. Please stop by on September 28th!

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

## Middlesex Eye Physicians Presents: EYES are precious! Dry Eye Is On The Rise

By Paula Eshoo, Admin/Marketing, Middlesex Eye Physicians

*Editor’s Note: This is the 2nd of 8 articles being presented by Middlesex Eye Physicians.*

Do you love spending time on your phone or tablet answering emails, texts, streaming videos? The majority of us engage in these activities daily, for multiple hours. This is now the normal way of life.

Statistical data states that over 30 million people internationally suffer from dry-eye disease. Dry eye occurs when your eyes don’t make enough tears, or your tears are not productive. There are many reasons eyes get dry and can include increased screen time, our normal aging process and some auto immune disorders such as Lupus or Thyroid disorders. Dry eye disease is a little sneaky because in some people, there is little in the way of symptoms. Symptoms can however include red, itchy, watery eyes, feeling of grit or sand in your eye and blurred vision.

What can be done? Eye will tell you...

Care for your eyes by not smoking and avoiding areas where others are smoking. Use a personal humidifier at your workstation or at home. Avoid fans or air conditioning blowing on your eyes. Wear sunglasses to protect eyes from sun and wind.

Some things you can do to alleviate symptoms would be to use artificial tears such as Theratears or Refresh. Warm compresses or heat can be used for at least once a day for 10 minutes. The Bruder Eye mask pops in the microwave and is a way to obtain long-lasting heat without water.

Wash your eyes at least once a day with a lid scrub (Ocusoft or Avenova) and use a product such as Sterilid to further keep the lash line clean. Taking a good quality Omega 3 supplement and increasing your water intake will add to the health of your eyes. Lastly, the “20-20-20 Rule” will provide relief; every 20 minutes, look 20 feet ahead, for 20 seconds, to rest your eyes.

Your eyecare provider can help determine the cause behind the symptoms and can tell you what can be done to improve eye health and decrease/eliminate symptoms. Treatments such as medications to increase tear production, punctal plugs, or Lipiflow (an FDA approved treatment), are current options for patients. Between 84-93% of people with dry eye symptoms have Meibomian Gland Dysfunction (MGD) which is treatable with the use of Lipiflow and other treatments.

Don’t cry, your eyes can be treated, and you can feel better. Remember to keep your annual eye appointments and see your eyecare provider if you experience any uncomfortable symptoms or changes in your vision.

## Doors Open Again at Brainerd Memorial Library in Haddam

*Continued from page HK1*

from others when possible and only sit in designated spaces. If conditions warrant it, we may ask groups to disperse. That said, welcome back!”

Restricted hours will continue at least through September, but the library plans to return to full pre-Covid hours in October.

The completed renovations were fully paid for by the library. A second, larger construction project is planned over the next few years that will transform and modernize the interior of the historic building. Funding will come from the library, a pledge from the Town of Haddam, and from a grant from the Connecticut State Library.

Library Hours

Monday: 12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Tues, Thurs, & Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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# BOE Summary of August 2021 meetings

By Jennifer Favalora

2021-2022 School Year: Interim Superintendent, Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote updated the Board on the detailed plan to open schools safely. She explained that she attends weekly webinars with the State Department of Education, Department of Public Health, state epidemiologists, as well as meetings with both local health districts, and shoreline Superintendents to discuss the latest guidance and recommendations related to students and staff attending schools. Currently, the Governor's Executive Order regarding wearing masks is in place until September 30th and if that were to expire, both the Commissioner of Public Health and the Commissioner of Education also have the authority to order School Districts to require masks be worn in schools.

**Strategic Planning Committee:** Among the District's top priorities is the development of a strategic plan. This plan will include a common vision for the District and identify the direction for the future of our schools. In September, HYA associates

will facilitate eighteen focus groups representing District employees, students, parents, alumni, town leadership, BoE candidates, civic leaders, and community members. In November, everyone in our community will be given the opportunity to provide input into the process through a district-wide survey that will be posted to the RSD17.org website.

**Nurses' Union Contract Approval:** The Board of Education voted to approve a new three-year contract with the Nurses Union. The most notable terms of the agreement include adding LPNs into the Union as well as increasing the insurance cost share by 2% to be consistent with the other bargaining units. A \$2.75/hour equity adjustment was given to RNs in the first year followed by 1.5% increases the following two years. LPNs will receive an equity adjustment of \$1.00/hour the first year and a 2% increase the following two years.

**Haddam-Killingworth Youth and Family Services:** The Board received an update on the HKYFS mentoring program happening in the Elementary, Intermediate and Middle Schools. The program

aspires to foster healthy and positive relationships between children and adults while instilling confidence, connections, and optimism. As the program grows, they are looking to add mentors for students. Additionally, HKYFS is looking to increase and diversify the members of their Board of Directors. Anyone interested in participating in either program is encouraged to contact HKYFS directly.

**Facilities Committee:** Over the summer, several maintenance and repairs projects took place including surface paving at the HKHS Bus yard, KES Boiler Pump replacement, as well as the High School Stadium lighting and bleacher repairs.

On our website: All communications concerning pandemic protocols in our schools for the 2021-2022 school year, including the Superintendent's presentation on the safe return to in-person instruction and a dashboard of the District's Covid-19 positive cases, can be found on our RSD17.org website under District -> Covid-19 Resources and Communications.

## 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, September 23

**Love2Sign with Jaye** – Killingworth Library 10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

### Friday, September 24

**Higganum Fall Market: Health and Wellness day** 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. HES

### Saturday, September 25

**Invasive Plant Cleanups** – Haddam Meadows 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (rain-date October 2) Please register by emailing Cherry Czuba at [cherylczuba@comcast.net](mailto:cherylczuba@comcast.net)

### Monday, September 27

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

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

**HVFC Auxiliary Meeting** 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The Haddam Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary will hold its regular monthly meeting at Company #1, 439 Saybrook Road. New members are always welcome.

### Tuesday, September 28

**Tech Tuesday** – Killingworth Library 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

The library is offering half hour private sessions for tech support every Tuesday. Sessions limited to one

person at a time. Register in advance. 860-663-2000

**Health and Wellness Fair** 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

A Health and Wellness Fair co-sponsored by the Polish Falcons of America Nest 519 and the Nathaniel B. Field Memorial Foundation, Inc. is being held at the PFA Grove building on 144 Prout Hill Road, Middletown, CT. This is a free event, and all are welcome to attend!

**President James A. Garfield: a Re-examination** – Killingworth Library 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Join the Killingworth Library for an engaging Zoom program by retired HKHS teacher Philip Devlin! This presentation re-examines the life of the poorly understood 20th American President. Garfield possessed remarkable qualities of character and had an enormous impact on his world. Please register in advance <https://killingworthlibrary.org/> A Zoom link will be sent to registered attendees the day before the program.

### Wednesday, September 29

**Wiggle Wednesday** – Killingworth Library 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Join Carrie Smith from Killingworth's own The Dance Corner, for dance and movement storytime! Suggested ages: walking toddlers through age 5. This program will be held outside, weather permitting. Please register for each session <https://killingworthlibrary.org/>

**Haddam Conservation Comm. Mtg.** 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Haddam SPECIAL TOWN MEETING** 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

### Thursday, September 30

**Love2Sign with Jaye** – Killingworth Library 10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

**Haddam ZBA Meeting** 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

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# Campus Corner

Merit Pages News

## Alexa Pullman graduates from Eastern Connecticut State University

WILLIMANTIC, CT (09/14/2021)– Eighty students from Eastern Connecticut State University received their undergraduate diplomas in summer 2021.

Alexa Pullman of Higganum graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Communication.

## Local students named to Southern New Hampshire University's 2021 President's List

MANCHESTER, NH (09/13/2021)– It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following

students on being named to the summer 2021 President's List.

Full-time students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must earn 12 credits in fall or spring semester, and online students must earn 12 credits in either EW1 & EW2, EW3 & EW4, or EW5 & EW6.

- Kyle Ham of Higganum
- Dina Guarino of Killingworth
- Bart Wichowski of Higganum
- Nicolas Ortiz of Haddam
- Peter Casanova of Killingworth
- Lina Orlando of Higganum

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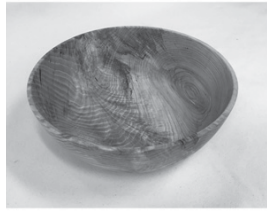
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Sunday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

# Thankful Arnold's Treasure Chest online auction October 1 - 8, 2021

By Elizabeth Malloy



## Charity Online Auction for the Haddam Historical Society and Thankful Arnold House Museum

The Haddam Historical Society and Thankful Arnold House Museum will hold an important online charity auction featuring an array of exceptional goods, unique experience and one-of-a-kind items. Peruse through our "Treasure Chest" of offerings and bid for history!

The auction will take place from October 1 to 8, 2021 at [www.biddingowl.com/HaddamHistoricalSociety](http://www.biddingowl.com/HaddamHistoricalSociety) where items can be viewed, and bids placed.

In person preview of the items will be at Haddam Elementary School, 272 Saybrook Road, Higganum, CT on the following dates:

Tuesday, September 28 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 29 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 30 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The auction will feature local business gift certificates for goods and services, unique experiences, special getaways, antiques, collectibles, useful goods, jewelry, libations, and so much more.

You will find the unique, unexpected and useful!

This important fundraiser will help the organization and museum continue its important activities, programming and collections care.

Please visit [www.haddamhistory.org](http://www.haddamhistory.org) or [www.biddingowl.com/HaddamHistoricalSociety](http://www.biddingowl.com/HaddamHistoricalSociety).

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# Sign up for the HKYFS 2021 Pumpkin Run!

By Kathy Brown

Kick off your Halloween festivities with the annual Haddam-Killingworth Youth & Family Services 5K Pumpkin Run/Walk to be held on Sunday, October 31, 2021! Participants are encouraged to wear their best Halloween costumes to the race.

Enjoy a scenic 5K course through the New England fall foliage of Haddam, CT and stay around for a festive post-race party complete with refreshments, music, awards and more! The course will begin and end at the Haddam Killingworth High School. The Kids Fun Run will take place on the track at HKHS. Each participant will receive a race t-shirt.

This year there is also an option to do a virtual 5K or a virtual Kids Fun Run. The race t-shirt will be mailed to you.

This is the major fundraiser for Youth & Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth, Inc. (HKYFS), which is a private, non-profit Youth Service Bureau committed to providing high-quality human health services to promote the development and well-being of the local community. For nearly 30 years, HKYFS has been in our community offering individual, couple, family and group counseling, prevention initiatives,



2020 Pumpkin Run.

after school, evening and weekend programs, community coalitions, and support groups for members of the community.

So far, HKYFS has acquired several sponsors for the event: New Image Auto, Nutmeg Pharmacy, River Valley Oil, Fireworks Hearth & Home, Hillcrest Agency, the Lee Company, and Dutch Oil Company, but they are always looking for more sponsors. If you are interested in sponsoring the event, or to learn more, email john@jbsports.com.

You can also become a fundraiser with the event, so that you can help raise money for HKYFS. For more information go to their website <https://hkyfs.org/events/>

To register for the race online: [www.jbsports.com/hk-pumpkin-run](http://www.jbsports.com/hk-pumpkin-run).

This year, the 5K will begin at 9:00 a.m. A post-race party will begin at 9:20 a.m. and continue until the Kids Fun Run, which is scheduled to begin at 10:45 a.m.

Youth and Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth is working harder than ever to service the towns of Haddam and Killingworth during these times. The 5K Pumpkin Run/Walk is a positive event at which the community can come together. Please help support HKYFS.

Photos by Kathy Brown.

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# Sept. 12, 2021 was declared “Elizabeth (Lisa) Hart Malloy Day”

By Kathy Brown

The Haddam Board of Selectmen declared Sunday, September 12, 2021 to be Elizabeth (Lisa) Hart Malloy Day. Terry Smith, the president of the Haddam Historical Society, suggested this accolade, and wrote the proclamation.

On Sunday, at 4:00 p.m. there was a public celebration at the Thankful Arnold House. About 60 people attended the celebration. There were opening remarks by Terry Smith. Then Sarah Neal recapped many things that Lisa had done for the HHS and the community. Next, First Selectman, Bob McGarry read the proclamation, which was a surprise to Lisa, establishing September 12 as Elizabeth Malloy Day. After that, the assembled crowd celebrated with food and a toast.

“It has been my honor and pleasure to work at the Haddam Historical Society and Thankful Arnold House Museum for the last 20 years,” said Lisa. “Haddam is a fascinating town with lots of history and stories which I hope instill a pride of place for Haddam residents. The Society has wonderful and hardworking board members, volunteers and members all dedicated to preserving our community’s heritage.”

In addition to the proclamation, Lisa received a gift certificate and a special bench created by City Bench, which is located in Higganum. The bench was made from maple trees that were taken down from the Cooke Family Homestead, which is across from the Thankful Arnold House, where Lisa works.

“She is an outstanding, dedicated and skilled director,” said Terry. “I think she is one of the most qualified historical society directors in Connecticut. She is certainly a Haddam treasure!”

Photos by Tim Teran.

\*\*\* PROCLAMATION \*\*\*  
**WHEREAS ELIZABETH H. MALLOY** upon entering her 20th year as the Executive Director of the Haddam Historical Society; and  
**WHEREAS ELIZABETH H. MALLOY** personifies the mission of the Haddam Historical Society

to preserve, collect, interpret and promote the history and heritage of Haddam for present and future generations; and  
**WHEREAS ELIZABETH H. MALLOY** organized, conducted and supported Haddam-based tours of houses, cemeteries, parks, industrial sites, kitchens, churches, jail house; and  
**WHEREAS ELIZABETH H. MALLOY** has created many traveling exhibits of Haddam-based historical events, structures and people; and  
**WHEREAS Elizabeth H. Malloy** has written and submitted monthly articles to Haddam news media regarding facts and history of Haddam events, people and buildings; and  
**WHEREAS Elizabeth H. Malloy** has collected, organized and cataloged hundreds of Haddam artifacts, documents, oral histories; and  
**WHEREAS** she is an expert source for local, state, town government and out-of-state inquiries regarding Haddam history and genealogy; and  
**WHEREAS** she was a prime organizer of Haddam’s 350 anniversary celebration; and  
**WHEREAS Elizabeth H. Malloy** has created, conducted and supported many school-based historical/ educational and summer camp events for Haddam students; and  
**WHEREAS Elizabeth H. Malloy** has served as President of the Connecticut Historic Gardens organization, is a member of the HK Hall of Fame and has been an integral part of conducting the Connecticut Spring Antiques Show;  
**NOW THEREFORE** be it resolved, that I, Robert McGarry, First Selectman of the Town of Haddam, Connecticut do hereby proclaim,  
**Sunday, September 12, 2021, as Elizabeth (Lisa) Hart Malloy Day**  
 In the town of Haddam, and on behalf of the Board of Selectman and residents it is my pleasure to thank Lisa for all of her years of service to our community.  
**In witness whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Haddam, Connecticut to be affixed this 12 Day of September, 2021.  
 Robert McGarry  
 First Selectman



Lisa with her husband David, and their son, Davy.



Lisa holding proclamation while sitting on her new bench!

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**I Work Remotely – Am I Eligible For Workers’ Compensation?**

**By Attorney Alexander J. Sarris**

The global pandemic changed many aspects of our lives – perhaps none more drastic than at work. Before the pandemic struck in March of 2020, some employees worked either entirely remotely (from the comforts of home, a nearby coffee shop, etc.) or adopted a hybrid work schedule with a split in time between appearances at the worksite on some days and working remotely on others. Since the pandemic and its later resurgence, that exception has almost become the rule where it is now commonplace for some if not most of the employees to work remotely on a regular basis.

While working outside of the office certainly has its fair share of perks – casual dress code and no commute time being the most obvious – it also creates complications as well. A common thought is that since an employee is not working at the jobsite anymore there is no longer the protection of the workers’ compensation system if he or she suffers an injury while working elsewhere. That is not necessarily true and oftentimes outright false.

A simple guideline to determine if an injury can be properly classified as a workers’ compensation claim is whether or not the incident occurred “within the scope and course of employment.” This is pretty straightforward at the worksite if say for example an employee carrying lumber to a storage unit trips and sustains an injury due to the fall. This would also be true for an employee working remotely who might have hurt his or her back carrying a large, heavy file box up several flights of stairs at home while completing a work project.

There is an old saying that a lawyer’s favorite answer is “it depends.” The adage is appropriate in the context of workers’ compensation claims for employees working remotely in what appears to be a lasting change in the workplace setting.

If you have any questions regarding a working remotely and workers’ compensation, please call **Dzialo, Pickett & Allen, P.C.** for a consultation. Together, we can review all options and help you to continue to be a productive member of the workplace.

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- Seeing loved ones happy, safe & thriving, in a healthy environment that observes all CDC protocols
- Regular visitations & holiday events

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