



# Haddam Killingworth News

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

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November 25, 2021

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

Free weekly

## 10th Annual Yuletide Quilt show December 4

By Nancy Soneson

The First Congregational Church of Haddam, located at 905 Saybrook Road, Haddam, will be holding its 10th Annual Yuletide Quilt Show on Saturday, December 4, 2021 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Over 100 quilts and quilted items will be on display in the church's sanctuary, many of which will be for sale. Quilters and quilt owners from around the state will be displaying their quilted works of art. If you have a quilted piece you would like to display at the show, please contact the church at 860-345-2742 for an application. An Exhibitor Application can also be downloaded from the church's website, [www.haddamchurch.org](http://www.haddamchurch.org). We love seeing new quilts each year!

All afternoon the church's fellowship hall will be a whirlwind of activity. In addition to quilts on display, there will be holiday items for sale, basket raffles, a homemade quilt raffle, a "crafty" tag sale, and a scrumptious lunch will be served at our Haddam Café.

If you're feeling lucky, why not enter one of our raffles? With over twenty-five themed baskets, the basket raffle has become very popular. Themes include "Chocolate Lovers", "Game Night", "Baking



Photos courtesy of FCCH.

with Kids", "Wine & More", "Coffee & Tea Lovers", "Gardener's Delight", "Rainy Day Activities", and many, many more. The winners will be drawn at 3:00 p.m.

### 2013 Quilt Show

This year's quilt raffle features "Three Jolly Snowmen," a 46" x 62" handmade quilt, and a crocheted blanket entitled "Olde Church Window." Raffle tickets are available through the church, at community events, and at the show. The winners will be chosen on Saturday afternoon.

The Haddam Café will sell homemade soup, artisan bread, and pie at lunchtime. Lunch will be offered as take-out and if COVID restrictions allow, it will also be served as a sit-down meal. Check the church's website for updated restrictions as the event date gets closer.

Admission to view the quilts is \$7, children under 12 are free. The activities in the fellowship hall do not require an admission fee and you may visit as many times as you choose.

Please visit our website, [www.haddamchurch.org](http://www.haddamchurch.org) to view photos of our previous quilt shows or to printout a Quilt Exhibitor's Application.

Proceeds from the show support the church's Outreach Ministries.

## Killingworth's Christina Cole publishes new book: Abandoned Connecticut



By Kathy Brown

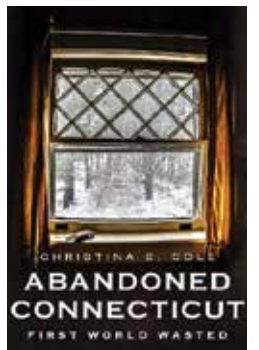
A publisher from Fonthill Media that deals in history, architecture, and war happened upon Christina Cole's Instagram account, and liked what they saw. "The editor asked if I would like to try [a book] and it just went from there," explained Christina, who has lived in Killingworth since 2017. Arcadia Publishing is the US branch of Fonthill Media, which has published Christina's books.

Christina is an avid photographer. She was surprised, though, when they asked her to write. "However, I had intentions in college of writing, and I had taken a couple of classes, so I jumped on the chance," said Christina. Not only has she written one book, but three!

"Architecture is stunning," said Christina. "Old

architecture and the little details are mesmerizing. People really cared about aesthetics in the old days."

Her first book, "Abandoned North Carolina; Mouth of the Holler" was released on Sept. 27, 2021, and "Abandoned Connecticut; First World Wasted" was released on Oct. 25, 2021. "They usually do not like to release them so close together as it is harder to promote," said Christina, "but they did it anyway being after COVID and just getting back to work for them, the publisher



Photos provided by Christina Cole.

Continued on page HK4

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# HVFC Salutes our Veteran Military Servicemen

By Olivia Drake, HVFC

Haddam Volunteer Fire Company salutes our veteran military servicemen on this Veterans Day!

Nine members of the fire company are military veterans including Firefighter Bob Kadrle, Firefighter and Fire Police Malcolm Meyer, Firefighter Joshua Meyer, Firefighter Mike Sapia, Firefighter Rick Annino, Firefighter Ron Annino, Firefighter Nate Meyer, Firefighter Scott Kuchyt, and Firefighter Dani Rodríguez. In addition, Firefighter Zachary Ouellette is currently a recruit with the U.S. Marines.

Thank you for your service to our country and to the Haddam community!

Photo by Olivia Drake, HVFC.



## KW WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

### Killingworth Library collecting Letters to Santa

By Tammy Eustis

sponsored in cooperation with the Killingworth Women's Organization.

The North Pole Mailbox returns to the Killingworth Library on Monday, November 29, 2021!

Children can drop off their letters to Santa through Friday, December 17, 2021. Letter templates will be available for those who aren't sure what to write.

Most important: if you would like a response, please be sure to include your full name and address!

The North Pole Mailbox is



Photo courtesy of KWO.

## HADDAM VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

### HVFC to host 2021 Children's Christmas party December 11

By Olivia Drake, HVFC

Tis the season for Haddam Volunteer Fire Company's annual Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, December 11, 2021!

All children 10 and under will receive a gift from Santa, a photo with Santa, cookies and refreshments.

All residents in the Higganum/

Haddam area are welcome!

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Santa arrives by fire truck at 6:00 p.m.

While the kids are meeting Santa, parents and families may purchase tickets for the HVFC Auxiliary's basket raffle!

Fire Station #1 is located at 439 Saybrook Road, Higganum.



2017 Christmas party. Photos provided by Olivia Drake, HVFC.

## HADDAM JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB

### 2021 Santa's Mailbox coming soon in Haddam

By Karen Revis

Santa's Mailboxes will be at the Nutmeg Pharmacy (Killingworth Road, Higganum) and the Haddam Post Office (Route 154, Haddam) on November 24, 2021. The mailboxes will stay up until December 18, 2021. Your child may write a letter to Santa and if you include a self-addressed stamped envelope, HJWC members will make sure that Santa writes a letter back to your child!

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



## GI VING TUESDAY

NOVEMBER 30, 2021  
WWW.HKYFS.ORG

With Thanksgiving coming up, it's important to take stock of what really matters in our lives. We are so thankful and grateful for our HK community during this holiday season and every day. We hope you will keep Haddam-Killingworth Youth and Family Services in mind as Giving Tuesday on Nov. 30 approaches! Your generosity will go on to support so many throughout our community.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jane Baird, Carol Dupuis, Kerry Emerson, Helen Luk, Jen Favolora, Shawna Goldfarb, Louise Hayash  
Haddam-Killingworth Youth & Family Services Board of Directors

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# Annual Magic of Middletown presented by Holiday on Main Street

By Sierra Lopez

(Middletown, CT.) Central Business Bureau Chairwoman Pamela Steele and Event Chairman Al Santostefano of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce invites the community to experience the Annual Magic of Middletown presented by Holiday on Main Street!

It's the most wonderful time of the year and the Middlesex Chamber and City of Middletown are bringing back the Magic to Middletown again this year! This magical series of events will be held on the weekends from Thanksgiving to Christmas! These safe, interactive, and socially distant events are sure to get the community excited and downtown to feel the holiday spirit.

The Magic of Middletown will begin with a tree lighting on Friday, November 26 on the South

Green and will be followed by socially distant events on the following Saturday's: November 27, December 4, and December 11. These events will feature popcorn and pretzels, holiday music, a pop-up vendor fair, Small Business Saturday, Reindeer Games and a Tis the Season to Find a Gnome scavenger hunt at different locations throughout downtown. The Chamber will also have a Dashing through Downtown Holiday Parade on Saturday, December 18 which will feature a decorated car parade that will travel around downtown Middletown to showcase our beautiful Main Street and the surrounding areas!

This year's sponsors include: Presenting Sponsor: The City of Middletown and Pratt & Whitney; Jingle Bell Sponsor: Downtown Business District; Snowflake Sponsor: Community Health Center & Orthopedic Associates of Middletown; Holly

Sponsor: Bank of America, Dunkin', Malloves Jewelers, Middlesex Eye Physicians, Seasons Federal Credit Union, and Xavier High School; Jingles the Gnome Sponsor: Apple Rehab Middletown, Cavanaugh & Company, LLC, Community Foundation of Middlesex, Fox Pest Control, Jersey Mikes Subs, Rotary Club of Middletown, Russell Library, Saint John Paul II Regional School, and St. Vincent de Paul Middletown; Reindeer Sponsor: Heritage Commons Retirement Community, Middlesex Music Academy, Middlesex YMCA, and Wesleyan R.J. Julia Bookstore.

For more information on "Magic of Middletown" please visit [www.holidayonmain.com](http://www.holidayonmain.com) or contact Haley Stafford at [haley@middlesexchamber.com](mailto:haley@middlesexchamber.com).

## ENTERTAINMENT

### Killingworth's Christina Cole publishes new book: Abandoned Connecticut

Continued from page HK1

probably had a lot of catching up to do." She already has a third book completed, "Weird, Wild and Wonderful Connecticut" that is waiting for a release date. She is working on a fourth book now, "Historic Farms and Barns of Connecticut."

She moved to Killingworth in 2017 from New Haven, where she had moved to "randomly" from Alaska. "We had thought [New Haven] would be great by Yale, art, music and culture. It wasn't an issue until I had to be there all the time as I got cancer shortly after," explained Christina. "It was convenient because it was close to Yale, but it was a nightmare because people blew up the landlord/preacher's car in our backyard, and stabbed and killed someone on our front steps." Her boss offered her place in Killingworth to help get Christina out of New Haven. "We loved it in Killingworth so much, we decided to stay. It's very similar to where we grew up in North Carolina, but I like to say with better weather!"

Christina started researching abandoned

buildings while in college, back in the 1990s because of a photography assignment. "The instructor wanted us to find an abandoned building and shoot the contrasting light interestingly," said Christina. "However, it really blossomed as a hobby when I watched so many interesting buildings and history be torn down and then replaced with these pop-up houses with little architectural skill, strip malls that were all clones of each other, and warehouse churches. I could study old buildings forever."

When asked about how she goes about researching buildings, Christina explained that she

tries to talk to the people who own the buildings. If that isn't possible, she'll try local groups, libraries, the internet, newspapers, register of deeds, tax offices, GIS data, architectural magazines, "and anything that might be found on the grounds."

"Abandoned Connecticut; First World Wasted" can be found at the publisher's website, as well as online through Amazon and Barnes and Noble, and locally at Barnes and Noble, R. J. Julia Booksellers, Hickory Stick, The Mark Twain Store, and Breakwater Books.

## KILLINGWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### 2021 Christmas Fair to be held December 4

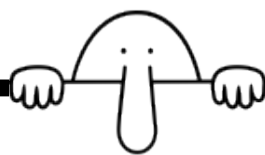
By Claudette Lagasse

At long last the Killingworth Historical Society is excited to announce our Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday, December 4, 2021 from 8:30 a.m. to

3:00 p.m.

The Parmelee Farmhouse will once again be transformed into a winter wonderland of gifts and treasures. Our artisans and crafters have been busy creating unique one of a kind gifts. Centerpieces, fresh greens, and cemetery baskets will also be available. The Farmhouse Kitchen will be filled with homemade gourmet cookies, breads, cakes, jams and jellies. Volunteers will assist in transporting purchases to your vehicle.

We ask that you wear a mask inside as you peruse our Farmhouse. Please join us for shopping fun.



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# Musings from a Millennial: Remediating rudeness, boogers and being thankful

By Meghan Peterson

As we greet our country's national holiday of gratitude, Thanksgiving, I chronicle another chapter in the continuing saga of my children's developmental milestones. I am grateful for these milestones. These milestones – and my sons who enact them – are a constant source of humor. For this, I am thankful.

In the context I am about to describe, development is not lofty. It is not that my sons are reciting their alphabet or informing me the difference between a hexagon and octagon (although, older Boy is doing these things). It is not that my sons are walking and running or kicking the soccer ball (although, older Boy is doing these things and younger Boy is toddle-walking). No. The development I reference here is entitled, "the case of the nose-picking."

The phase of booger-obsession has arrived, ladies and gentlemen. I am clearing breakfast dishes. I turn around to see older Boy with his finger shoved ¾ of the way to his brain. He grins as he does so. I then look to see little Boy emulating his brother in similar fashion. While attempting to disguise my belly laugh as a cough, I chastise my boys for engaging in such behavior. I explain to them that both the practice and optics of booger-selection are rude.

Explanation occurs through a series of rhetorical questions. Would you do this in your Little Tikes car? Would you do this at favorite park with your friends? Would you do this in front of your friends' mommies? Would you do this in front of your favorite librarians? If the answer to these inquiries is "no," then why do it in front of The Mommy? If the answer is likewise "no," then the why is located in this simple maxim: nose-picking is rude. Differently stated, nose-picking would constitute an action "lacking refinement or delicacy," if we apply Merriam-Webster Dictionary's definition (one of multiple meanings rude connotes).

Yet, I do not want to eviscerate completely the intuition in my boys to be quirky and fun. For American founding father John Adams instructs us, "[b]e not intimidated...not suffer yourselves to be wheedled out of your liberties by any pretense of politeness, delicacy, or decency. These, as they are often used, are but three different names for

hypocrisy, chicanery and cowardice." In other words, what I ought to say is this: stop the nose-picking, but do not stop being the freedom-loving, growing boys that you are. Put another way, channel that energy into a different activity, just not nose-picking.

In life's greater scheme, consequences of rudeness pale in comparison to other acts, such as restricting people's liberties in the name of safety and protection – like tyranny and totalitarianism can only offer. There are numerous things in this life that move

beyond rudeness and render it a petty concern in comparison, such as absolutism over one's autonomy to think, speak and move freely in society.

Keeping these thoughts in mind, this mommy hopes to remedy the rudeness of my boys' nose-picking without undermining the fundamental "child" component in childhood. I may fail countless times in so doing, but my hope is that I – and my rascal boys – will be thankful I tried. Boogers and all.

## 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, November 25

#### THANKSGIVING DAY

### Saturday, November 27

**Meandering in the Meadows** – Brainerd Memorial Library 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. This book club meets on the fourth Saturday of each month at 9:30. We will meet at the silo at Haddam Meadows State Park for a unique book discussion group. Register 806 345-2204.

**3rd Annual Holiday Popup Market** – HES 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### Sunday, November 28

**3rd Annual Holiday Popup Market** – HES 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### Monday, November 29

**The Haddam Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary** will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Company #1, 439 Saybrook Road. Christmas gift wrapping

6:30 – 7:00 p.m. Meeting 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

### Thursday, December 2

**3rd Annual Holiday Popup Market** – HES 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Killingworth Library craft for teens & tweens** 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

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

**Parmelee Farm Committee Meeting** 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

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## Haddam Killingworth News

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Send all requests, content and comments to: **HK-NowEditors@outlook.com**

\* paper is affiliated with HK-Now.com and the Haddam Civic League

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Sunday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

# November 2021 - Pride of the forest restored

By Terry Twigg

Have you ever planted a tree to commemorate a milestone in your life? Even those who don't think of themselves as gardeners plant trees to mark the birth of a child, an anniversary, or the loss of someone dear. I think that when we plant a tree and watch it grow through the seasons, we're reminded that we are doing the same. Our connectedness adds luster to the happy moments, and comforts us in darker days.

My neighbor Gerry Matthews recently planted a tree in memory of his much-loved late brother Dennis. Dennis was smart and funny, sturdy and handsome, so not just any tree would do. In his memory, Gerry planted an American chestnut.

Do you know the story of the American chestnut? Not so long ago—before 1900—they were the dominant species of North American forests. Tall, straight, fast-growing and rot-resistant, with white flowers in the spring and branch-bending loads of sweet nuts in the fall, they were the perfect tree, meeting so many needs of humans and wildlife alike. In fact, they were nicknamed the “cradle-to-grave” tree. It's estimated that there were forty billion chestnut trees across North America. But by 1940, with the exception of a

few isolated stands, they were gone.

What happened? Human intervention, of course; unintentional, but no less lethal. People imported Japanese and Chinese chestnuts, which were viewed as more ornamental than our natives. Unknown to importers, a hitch-hiker was introduced: *Cryphonectria parasitica*, commonly known as chestnut blight, a fungus to which the foreign species had natural resistance, but our native trees had none. (The fungus infects oaks, red maples, staghorn sumac, and shagbark hickories too, but they're better able to fight it off.) It girdles the trees, destroying their ability to move nutrients and water above the infection line, killing everything above the roots. The tree may not be dead, and can resprout from the roots, but the new growth will only survive a few years before it, too, is killed.

The catastrophic loss of the American chestnut has been called the world's greatest forest ecological disaster (by comparison, it's estimated that Dutch Elm Disease killed 'only' 40 million American elms), and with good reason. The consequences would have been felt most immediately by the birds and small mammals who sheltered in the

trees and ate the nuts, and then by the larger animals who preyed on them, and the smaller animals and insects they no longer kept in check. When sunlight penetrated once-shaded forests, the species that made up the understory changed, to the benefit of some creatures but detriment, even to the point of extinction, of others. All the way up the chains of both plant and animal life, the balance shifted.

Humans didn't escape the impact, either. Chestnut trees were a favorite for log cabins (when you build a house using logs for the foundation, you need rot resistance) and they were just as valuable for general construction and furniture making, but the largest segment of the lumber industry was gone. The nuts, smaller and sweeter than other varieties, were a favorite of wild turkeys, foraging pigs, and people, but those in poorer rural communities could no longer send their animals out into the woods to fatten up, or supplement their incomes by sending chestnuts to be roasted by street vendors for sale to city folk. In some areas, notably in Appalachia, the death of the trees killed entire communities.

Is the chestnut lost for good? The American Chestnut Foundation, together with dedicated scientists, is waging an all-out campaign to repopulate American forests with a tree having all the attributes of the original, but also blight resistant. Traditional strategies include a search for a fungicide that can kill the blight fungus without harming other, more beneficial organisms, and hypovirulence, which intentionally infects trees with a virus capable of killing or weakening the fungus. Hybridizers have crossed and backcrossed four generations of surviving trees, and now have seedlings that are 15/16ths

American chestnut with, it is hoped, the remaining 1/16th containing the coveted Chinese chestnut genetic material that conveys disease resistance.

The fourth, newest, most exciting approach involves transgenics—identifying useful genetic material from another plant and splicing it into the chestnut genome. The first splice, using a wheat gene that generates an enzyme that improves disease tolerance, was very promising, and researchers are continuing to identify helpful genes from other species, including the Chinese chestnut itself. If researchers can establish a reasonable certainty that the alteration doesn't have any unwanted side effects on plants, insects, or the environment in general, trees with meaningful blight resistance may be available in just a few years. Some of us may live long enough to sit in the shade of these handsome, fast-growing trees.

In our human ignorance we have taken so many plants and animals out of their perfectly balanced ecosystems, creating this and so many other environmental catastrophes. The possibility that human intelligence, scientific advances and dogged persistence can revitalize a magnificent American native tree gives us hope that answers to other, seemingly insurmountable environmental problems are not too far behind.

Dennis's tree, a pure, non-hybridized American chestnut, isn't disease resistant, and may succumb to the blight someday. But it just might live long enough to produce flowers which, crossed with pollen from a modified tree, will produce a seedling that will survive and thrive. And his children and grandchildren will admire that tree, and remember him.



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## OUR REGION

### Magic of Middletown's Reindeer Games event

By Sierra Lopez

(Middletown, CT.) Central Business Bureau Chairwoman Pamela Steele and Event Chairman Al Santostefano of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce invite the community to join them for the first ever Magic of Middletown, “Reindeer Games,” officiated by the Middletown Recreation Department!

Gather your family and friends, and have some holiday fun by attending the Magic of Middletown's Reindeer Games event on Saturday, December 4, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on Spear Park located along Main Street, Middletown. These games will be fun for everyone so make sure to bring your winning attitude and team spirit!

On this day, you can also enjoy free popcorn, hot pretzels, pictures with Santa, and free horse and wagon rides down beautiful Main Street from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Don't forget to participate in the “Tis the Season to Find a Gnome” Scavenger Hunt! Make sure to grab a clue sheet from the Middlesex Chamber and help find Jingles the Gnome who has escaped the Chamber in hopes of finding some holiday magic! Then, take a picture of Jingles (or you in front of Jingles) at all locations and email your images to [MagicOfMiddletown@gmail.com](mailto:MagicOfMiddletown@gmail.com). All emails must be received by 3:00 p.m. that day to be entered into the drawing. Upon submission of your email, you will be added to Chamber's weekly drawing for a \$100 downtown business district gift card. Winner will be announced via social media and email.

For more information on the Magic of Middletown's “Reindeer Games” or “Tis the Season to find a Gnome Scavenger Hunt” please visit [www.holidayonmain.com](http://www.holidayonmain.com) or contact Haley Stafford at [haley@middlesexchamber.com](mailto:haley@middlesexchamber.com)

# The Higganum Hotel

By Elizabeth Malloy

(October 27, 2021) Recently Whitney Brookes, Jr., life-long Haddam resident, shared with us some fascinating artifacts related to the Higganum Hotel. These include an early postcard of the building, tin-type photographs of his grandparents, Arthur and Elizabeth M. Brookes, and a receipt from a meat



Arthur Brookes.

supplier for the hotel in February and March, 1877.

The Higganum Hotel has a prominent role in the town's past as a place for an overnight stay, sumptuous meal or strong drink. The building was originally erected in 1868 by George Dickinson as

a private home. In 1875, Robert A. Brookes, an English immigrant who had settled in New York City, relocated to Higganum and enlarged the building as the Higganum House Hotel. A very early advertisement from 1877 notes "the hotel is now open for summer borders and is one of the pleasantest places on the river with prices to suit the times." Robert, who was assisted by his son, Arthur, operated the hotel for almost 20 years until his passing in 1893.

Arthur Brookes continued to run the hotel and during his tenure the hotel was known as the "Ye Old Higganum Inn" or "Higganum Inn" and was a place for parties and banquets which offered steak, lobster and shad dinners. The hotel remained active until a devastating fire in 1937.

In 1915 Brookes forgot to renew the liquor license for the hotel and since it was the only bar in town, Haddam was a dry for a week, a newsworthy event. We have also been told that Tom Thumb was a guest at the hotel.

In 1885 the hotel handyman, Edward Stanton, got into a bar room brawl with a frequent customer, Gilbert Egan, who was known to "indulge freely in fisticuffs and drink." Egan struck the handyman, who left avenging retaliation. Later that night on his way home, Egan was attacked in the back of the head with a heavy object and two witnesses said it was Stanton, who was later arrested and jailed. However much to everyone's surprise, the witnesses later recanted and said they had no idea who attacked Egan and the Stanton was set free. Egan survived and remained in Haddam.

The Higganum Inn is now a private home again, but stands as a tribute to the area's heyday as a busy neighborhood along the historic Middlesex



Higganum Hotel.

Turnpike, once the main thoroughfare between Hartford and the shoreline.



Elizabeth McGhee Brookes. Photographs courtesy of Whitney Brookes, Jr.

## LEGAL

### TOWN OF HADDAM INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Inlands Wetlands Commission of Haddam, Connecticut has given the following approval at the November 15, 2021 meeting.

1. To modify cease and desist to allow removal of equipment and millings materials within 100ft and install silt fence to keep activity out of regulated area. Owner will retain services of a professional engineer to prepare plan displaying proposed work and apply for IW permit to allow activity within 100 foot regulated area with plantings as recommended by soil scientist. Property: 968 Killingworth Rd map: 60 Lot: 26-7 Applicant: Joseph Dattilo

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

Inland Wetlands Commission, Haddam CT



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# Middlesex Eye Presents: Eye Can't See Clearly Now The Clouds Are Here

By Middlesex Eye Physicians, PE

**Editor's note:** This is part 4 of an 8-part series submitted by Middlesex Eye Physicians. There is an obstacle in my way.

As we age, we have many wonderful things to look forward to: grandchildren, retirement, travel, wrinkles, and cloudy vision. This cloudy vision is usually a result of our lens which is in a pocket behind our pupil. Yellowish build-up gathers and thickens here preventing clear vision.

In America, 90% of Americans will develop cataracts by the age of 65. More than 98% of patients who undergo cataract surgery have improved vision. It is one of the most common surgeries. It is very safe and causes very little discomfort. Once your surgeon and you have decided upon surgery, images and measurements of your eyes will be taken and discussion about lens choices will take place.

What does this mean?

Your cloudy cataract will be replaced by an intraocular lens referred to as an IOL. There are several different types of IOLs. Your surgeon will speak to you about the differences and what they feel is best suited for you and your lifestyle. What is the vision for your life? How do you want your life to look?

Here is a list of lenses with a brief description:

- Here is where lifestyle is essential in decision making. Patients who quilt, sew, crafters, jewelry makers, gun enthusiasts, golfers, etc. may want to seriously consider the advancements in lenses! The out-of-pocket expense is worth it for the improvement in a person's quality of life.

- Toric lens helps those with astigmatism. This is a permanent correction and most often reduces spectacle dependence.

- Vivuity lens corrects vision for distance and intermediate (arm's length) with some functional near vision (may need readers for small print). This

lens is more forgiving, meaning that more people will benefit from this lens despite having some "imperfections" in their eyes.

- Multi-Focal or Panoptic lens provides a full range of vision: distance, intermediate and near. The patient's eye needs to be free of "imperfections" in order to benefit from this lens. One of the downsides to this lens is halos of light might be present, especially at night.

How exciting it is to have choices and create the type of life you desire through cataract lens replacement!

## FAMILY AND PARENTING

### Killingworth Nursery School to host Breakfast with Santa

By Erin DelVecchio

Come have breakfast with Santa at the Killingworth Nursery School on Saturday, Dec. 11, 2021, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Adult breakfast is \$7, and children's breakfast (under 10 years old) is \$5.

Have your picture taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus. There will also be crafts for sale, a raffle, and fun activities for kids.

The Killingworth Nursery School is located at 273 Route 81, Killingworth, behind the Congregational Church. All proceeds benefit the non-profit nursery school.

For more information, please call 860-663-2950 or see their website [killingworthnurseryschool.com](http://killingworthnurseryschool.com)

## ENTERTAINMENT

### HK Intermediate & Middle School Annual Holiday Craft Fair

By HKMS/IS PTO

The 33rd Annual Holiday Craft Fair will be held on Saturday Dec. 4, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Admission is free.

Professional Artists, Makers, Crafters, Food Trucks, Book Fair, and Scavenger Hunts for the kids! Find out more on Facebook and Instagram:

[facebook.com/hkmscraftfair](https://facebook.com/hkmscraftfair)  
[instagram.com/hkms\\_craft\\_fair/](https://instagram.com/hkms_craft_fair/)  
 Location: HK Intermediate-Middle School 451 RT 81 Killingworth

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# HKHS defeated by CREC 8-7

By Barth Keck

The Haddam Killingworth High School Varsity football team was defeated by CREC on Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021. The final score was CREC 8, H-K 7.

Cayden Ortiz scored on a 15-yard run in the third quarter and followed with a two-point conversion to provide the margin of victory for the Colts (2-7) over HK (2-6). Tate Callender scored for the Cougars on a three-yard run in the first quarter.

“It was a disappointing result, obviously,” said HK coach Tyler Wilcox. “We didn’t play our best game and we hurt ourselves with penalties at the worst times. But now we have to get back to work, clean things up, and prepare for two games in a four-day span.”

The Cougars travel to Falcon Field in Meriden to play SMSA on Friday, Nov. 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. HK will finish the season by playing Valley Regional for the Principals’ Cup in Deep River on Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.



Orion Inkel celebrating a Cougar touchdown.

### Game Summary:

#### First Quarter:

HK – Tate Callender 3 run (Cavrell kick)

#### Third Quarter:

CREC – Cayden Ortiz 15 run (Ortiz run)



Cougar team huddle. Photos by Anthony Frasco.

HK (2-6)	7	0	0	0	7
CREC (2-7)	0	0	8	0	8

## FICTION

# Grieving in the Garden

By Kate Brencher

The soft pink crocus and yellow daffodils of spring brightened into the vibrant colors of summer. Your dinner table did not go a day without the lively cluster of blossoms sitting in a glass jar. This was one of your proudest moments, from the seed, to the seedling, the buds, and now the beauty, all while under your care. As the season changed again, the red chrysanthemums seem deeper and the varieties of zinnia uncompromised. The hydrangeas dried themselves in place and muted the vibrancies they once provided. The days are growing shorter. The garden has provided you with so much, a deep warmth felt in your soul as the colors catch your eye outside your window, pockets of joy and the ability to share that joy with the ones around you.



Photo by Kate Brencher.

But, most of all, the garden has furnished optimism, something so hard to comprehend during those dark achromatic, lifeless days of late winter.

Winter will come, you are sure of it. Sometimes you can try to avoid it like a warbler migrating south or delay it by pushing back your mums back in the ground that the frost has heaved up. But... winter will come. You’ve learned to not let it catch you off guard, like the colder than usual September night putting an early frost on the ground. Although, despite adequate preparations, it is not always avoidable.

As the morning becomes more brisk and raw, you surrender and can feel in the aching that a rest is essential. You will walk out and see the contrast of the white jagged edges of frost blanketed over the petal of the last of your garden bed.

Winter is essential, it will allow you the necessary recess to reset, plan, and envision the next growing season. Although, sometimes winter is so arctic and prolonged that it seems unfathomable that spring ever will come. That you will ever be able to enjoy your once tubers that now fill your space with dahlias or let a breeze bring over the fragrance of lilacs while you work the soil. But... spring will come.

Eagerness may get the best of you as you take in the warmth of the sun against your face on a cold day. Your enthusiasm may quickly recoil as you find the ground is still hard and unworkable. You’re not ready, the ground isn’t ready. You’ve become disheartened by the extended hibernation. Soon enough though, the long slender stems of the reliable daffodil will appear through the snow-covered ground and blends of purple and gold-cruised irises will resuscitate your optimism. Spring has come.

## CAMPUS CORNER

# Local Student named to Summer 2021 Palmer College Dean’s List

Merit Pages News



(11/17/2021)– Olivia Parmelee of Haddam, CT has been named to the summer 2021 trimester Dean’s List at Palmer College of Chiropractic’s main campus in Davenport, Iowa.

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## TYLERVILLE

# 5th Annual Tylerville Tree Lighting to be held December 4

By Gianna Milardo

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Please join us on December 4, 2021 between 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. to light up our beautiful tree in Tylerville.

All are welcome to join this free gathering. Come have a bite to eat, enjoy some hot apple cider, take a train ride, and see SANTA!! Please park in the Tony's Package Store Parking Lot.

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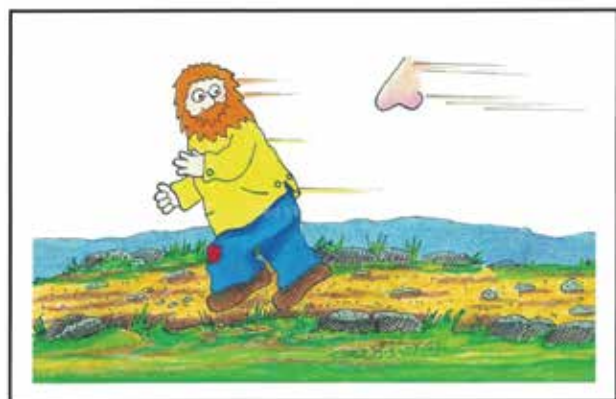


Photo by Tylerville Merchants.

## CARTOON

Mac O'Moodus

By Roger Strach



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## HADDAM VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY AUXILIARY

# Annual Vendor Fair a success! Santa coming on December 11!

By Betty Cernan, HVFC Auxiliary

Members of the HVFC Auxiliary wish to thank everyone who came to our recent Vendor Fair. They raised \$360 for the Haddam Fuel Bank. Vendors also donated items to make gift baskets for the Auxiliary to raise money for the HVFC Children's Christmas Party. The funds will go to the Fire Department to help with the cost of toys given out when Santa comes to town. A reminder to all parents - Bring your children on Saturday, December 11, at Company #1 to see Santa and receive a gift from him.

Auxiliary members want to thank all those who supported the Vendor Fair and who made it such a success. A special thank you to the Vendors who were

very generous to us. Also, thank you to the Auxiliary members who helped and, especially, to our co-chairs Mary Nork and Carolyn Schuler. See you next year!



Photo by Carolyn Schuler, HVFC Auxiliary.

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