

# Haddam Killingworth News

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

Copyright ©2021 Haddam Civic League LLC

September 9, 2021

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

Free weekly

## HK Masters Swim Club compete in the 10th Annual Lake George Open Water Swim

By Stacey Grimaldi

Imagine jumping into the clear, deep waters of New York's Lake George, beginning to swim, and not stopping for 1.5 to 2 hours. That's what members of the Haddam-Killingworth Masters swim club accomplished on Saturday, August 21, 2021 at the 10th Annual Lake George Open Water Swim. The event took place at Hague Town Beach, located on the west side of Lake George about halfway up from the southern tip of the 32-mile lake.

Without the benefit of lane lines, ladders, or pool gutters to hang onto, swimmers had a choice of three distances: a 2.5K loop, 5K loop, or 10K loop. Ann Faust of Haddam, Jim Grimaldi and Anthony Mirabelli of Higganum, Yvonne Lee and Bill Manka of Middletown, and Suzanne Anziano of Killingworth all competed in the 5K.

Anziano, in her very first 5K open water swim, wowed with a first-place finish in the 50-54 age group with a time of 1:38:31, and 38th overall finisher out of a field of 112 swimmers. "I was a bit

intimidated by the distance," she said afterward. "I just tried to focus on reaching the next buoy marker. I'm proud of my completion time."

Killingworth resident Michael Lanoue, the newest member of the HK Masters club, swam the 2.5K in the wetsuit category and was thrilled with his first Lake George Open Water Swim experience. "I'm the slowest swimmer in the pool, pond, or lake," he quipped, "but I have always received great support from my teammates and I always finish. Next year's goal for me at LGOWS is to lose the wetsuit!"

With or without aid from a wetsuit, in the Adirondack mountains or in the H-K pool, the athletes of HK-Masters demonstrate athletic perseverance, dedication to physical fitness, and team spirit. H-K Masters swimming is a program of the Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department. For more information about the club, contact Jim Grimaldi at 860-345-7540.



The 5K swimmers, L to R, Yvonne Lee, Tony Mirabelli, Bill Manka, Ann Faust, Sue Anziano, Jim Grimaldi

## KVFC uses ATVs to rescue injured hiker in deep woods

By Assistant Chief Bauer, KVFC

At approximately 5:00 p.m. on Sunday August 29, 2021 the Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company, Killingworth Ambulance Association and a Middlesex Health Paramedic were dispatched to a residence off of Route 81 near Pond Meadow Rd. for the report of an injured person approximately 1 mile into the woods, behind a residence.

Based on this initial report, the Clinton Volunteer Fire Department and Haddam Volunteer Fire Company were requested to respond with their all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) to assist with the removal of the patient from the woods. Using the patient's cell phone to obtain coordinates, KVFC personnel entered the woods with a family member on an ATV to perform an initial assessment of the patient. Based on the coordinates and a review of the local map Valley Shore Emergency Communications recommended an alternate access via a residence on North Parker Hill Rd which turned out to be a much better access point.

The incoming ATVs met up with KVFC and KAA personnel at the alternate address where they entered the woods and met up with the KVFC

*Continued on page HK7*



Photo by Assistant Chief Bauer, KVFC.

**In This Issue:** Candidates, HK2-3 & HK7 • Calendar, HK4 • Letters to the Editor, HK5

**PONDSIDE  
KITCHENS**

AND HEARTH

202 MAIN STREET

DEEP RIVER CT

860.526.9567

[www.PondsideKitchens.com](http://www.PondsideKitchens.com)

**YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR  
CABINETS, COUNTERTOPS  
FIREPLACES & STOVES**

**Custom Cabinetry at Affordable Prices!**



**FREE MEASURE, FREE ESTIMATES.**

We reached out to both the Killingworth Republican Town Committee and the Killingworth 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: Killingworth Fire Commissioner

Tell us a little about yourself.

**Don Offner** (Republican): I am currently the Fire Commissioner having been in that role from 2019-present. I am married and have 4 children and 1 grandchild. We have lived in Killingworth for 18 years. I am a retired New York City Firefighter with 23 years of service. I have been a volunteer in the community as well as a member of St. Lawrence Church.

**Jennifer Lynn Liptak** (Democrat): I have been a resident of Killingworth since 2011. I am a US Navy Veteran having served as a Hospital Corpsman on active duty for six years. I have 2 daughters, one attending American University in Washington, DC – studying Communications and Cinema Studies and the other attending Lesley University in Cambridge, MA for her Masters in Early Childhood Education. I am originally from a small town in PA, but moved to CT in 2000 for a job and never left!



Don Offner



Jennifer Lynn Liptak

Why are you running for the position?

**Jennifer Lynn Liptak:** I am running for reelection as Fire Commissioner because I love working to make things better for our Community and the members of the KVFC. I do not have a fire service background, which has provided great balance to the Board of Fire Commissioners. I

tend to bring a different perspective to the Board that helps when presenting issues and projects to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance.

**Don Offner:** I am committed to ensuring the safety of all Killingworth residents. I would like to continue to serve as Commissioner to ensure the Killingworth Volunteer Fire Department is adequately funded.

What do you see as the important issues facing Killingworth and how would you address them in your role?

**Don Offner:** As current Commissioner I am dedicated to making sure that the budgets are adequate. I also want to continue to ensure that the Fire Department is properly equipped.

**Jennifer Lynn Liptak:** Unfortunately, the most important issue facing our town right now, in my

Continued on page HK3



**Riebold Sanitation, LLC**  
 Septic Tank Pumping • Real Estate Inspections  
 Septic Repair and Installation • Neighborhood Discounts on Pumping  
*Family owned and operated for 3 generations  
 from Fred to Richie to Eric since 1947*  
 Higganum, CT 860-345-2708  
[rieboldsanitation@yahoo.com](mailto:rieboldsanitation@yahoo.com)    [rieboldsanitationllc.com](http://rieboldsanitationllc.com)

## River Valley Provisions

95 Bridge Street, Haddam, CT  
860-554-5599

Fresh Seafood | Live Lobsters  
 Fish Fry Fridays | Specialty Meats  
 Fantastic Cheeses  
 Chef Prepared Foods Daily

**10% OFF**  
 with a purchase of  
**\$50 or more**  
 with this coupon

Gift Certificates Available





## RiverQuest

*Come Join us Aboard*

### Relaxing Public and Private Cruises

Daytime, Sunset, Birding, Private Company or Family Outings and more....  
 Departure from Eagle Landing State Park off Rt 82, Haddam  
 Across the Connecticut River from the Goodspeed Opera House  
 Information and Booking: [ctriverquest.com](http://ctriverquest.com) • 860-662-0577

Inventories on wood, gas & pellet stoves, inserts & fireplaces are **LOW!** There is a shortage of raw materials to manufacture these supplemental heating products. If you are considering purchasing supplemental heat sources to reduce your oil and electric prices, start the process now!

A 50% deposit now will lock in prices and secure product/installation for you.





**FIREWORKS**  
 HEARTH & HOME

112 BRIDGE RD  
 HADDAM, CT 06438  
 860 345-4221

Wood, Gas, Pellet, Inserts, Stoves & Fireplaces  
 Sales, Service, Chimney Cleanings, Masonry Work & MORE!



Gillian R. Kelly, DMD, MSD  
 Michael T. Kelly, DMD, MS

**THINKING ABOUT BRACES OR INVISALIGN?**

Now you can find out what your options are, directly from your phone with our **VIRTUAL CONSULT!**



## SUPPORT YOUR local HADDAM ORTHODONTISTS

<b>MIDDLETOWN OFFICE</b> 561 Saybrook Road Middletown, CT 06457 <b>860.346.9259</b>	<b>CROMWELL OFFICE</b> 26 Shunpike Road Cromwell, CT 06416 <b>860.635.2675</b>
--	---

[WWW.KELLYFAMILYORTHO.COM](http://WWW.KELLYFAMILYORTHO.COM)  
 office@kellyfamilyortho.com

*Smiles* FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS

Continued from page HK2

opinion, is COVID-19 and this isn't something that I can address directly through my role as a Fire Commissioner. I can, however, work with the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and the Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company to ensure that the KVFC has what's necessary to continue the superior protection of our town in the safest and most efficient way.

*What are the key things you love about this town and its people?*

**Jennifer Lynn Liptak:** I love that no matter where you go in town you see someone you know. Nearly everyone says hello, neighbors look out for each other and help if you need it – even if they are not asked.

**Don Offner:** Killingworth is a great town to raise a family. Many of the people who live here volunteer their time to the many organizations in town.

*Additional thoughts to leave voters with?*

**Don Offner:** I would be most appreciative for the opportunity to continue my position as Fire Commissioner. It is my sincere pleasure to work side by side with the members of Killingworth Volunteer Fire Department.

**Jennifer Lynn Liptak:** I would really appreciate your vote and will commit to performing my role as a Fire Commissioner with the Town's interest first – not political, not personal, but for the greater good and safety of Killingworth.

## Middlesex Eye presents: EYES are precious Eye Have A Secret That Will Open Your Eyes

By Paula Eshoo, Admin/Marketing, Middlesex Eye Physicians

*Editor's Note: This is part 1 of an 8-part series submitted by Middlesex Eye*

Eye see that we have piqued your curiosity...

Middlesex Eye Physicians, strives help our patients see their best and to inform our patients about their eye health. We will be sharing our vision, for your vision, in a series of articles on topics that benefit all.

Did you know that there are simple things that we all should be doing to take care of our eyes?

First, be as healthy as you can be. Eat lots of fruits and vegetables especially foods rich in Omega 3 and Lutein. Seafood such as salmon and sardines, along with dark leafy greens, egg yolks, and walnuts are all healthy choices. Supplementing your nutrition with a good quality Omega 3 supplement or Flaxseed Oil is advisable if you do not enjoy eating these foods. (PS You now have an excuse to eat caviar...Omega 3 boost!)

Secondly, get in the habit of exercising both your body and your eyes. Follow the 20-20-20 "rule" while at work. Every 20 minutes, look 20 feet in front of you for 20 seconds or so to give your eyes a rest from the computer or small print.

Practice good sleep habits. Studies have shown that the eye needs at least five hours of sleep per night to properly replenish and work to their full potential.

Always wear sunglasses and enjoy that Vitamin D. Sunglasses can prevent damage to your eye and wrinkles from squinting. For those involved in sports or a hazardous job, wearing sports eye-wear or safety goggles is advised.

While indoors, avoid dry, smoky places, as well as fans blowing directly toward your face. Smoking can be detrimental to your eyes: over time damage from the chemicals in cigarettes/vapes include: increasing the risk of age-related macular degeneration by three times; as well as exposing your eyes to the risks of glaucoma, vision loss, dry-eye syndrome and diabetic retinopathy.


Only touch your eyes with clean hands and avoid rubbing your eyes. If you are a contact lens wearer, best practice includes not overwearing your lenses, cleaning lenses regularly (unless daily disposable) and never sleeping in contacts. Avoid waterproof eye makeup and always clean off your make-up with non-oil make-up remover before going to bed.

Use Artificial tears as needed throughout the day. Artificial tears do not hurt your eyes and some formulas are preservative free.

Productive nighttime routines can provide mini spa treatments and can include cleansing your eyelid and lash areas, using heated eye masks such as the Bruder eye mask and inserting some gel tears just before going to sleep.

If you know your family health AND eye health history, you can make informed decisions about your eye care. Consult with your eyecare professional today.

Feel free to contact HK-NowEditors@outlook.com if you have a request for an eye health topic for an article.



**PETER H. CHARBONNIER, ESQ., LLC**  
97 MAIN ST. • CHESTER, CT 06412  
PETER@LAWFORLOCALS.COM  
860-526-1780  
WWW.LAWFORLOCALS.COM

*Celebrating 20 Years in Chester!*

I look forward to addressing your concerns in the following areas of law ...

**REAL ESTATE:**  
Refinance • Purchase • Sale • Reverse Mortgage

**SMALL BUSINESS:**  
Formation • Consulting • Purchase • Sale • Corporation • LLC

**WILLS & PROBATE:**  
Probate Administration • Living Wills • Estate Planning

◆ PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1992 ◆

**BARTON'S LANDSCAPING**  
Since 1989

Lawn Mowing & Maintenance  
Patios & Walkways  
Hydroseeding • Tree Work  
Mulching & Plantings  
Excavating

**Brian Barton**  
189 Turkey Hill Road, Haddam, CT 06438  
860-345-4052

**Is your organization holding an event?  
Let us help spread the word!**

Write to us at:  
HK-NowEditors@Outlook.com



**WIESE Enterprises, Inc.**

**Firewood Cut, Split, Delivered**

18 Leon Burr Road, Higganum, CT  
Jack and Lisa • 860-345-2529

**LINDA'S TEAM**  
We Sell Houses. You Make Them Home.  
**LINDA B. O'HARA**  
WILLIAM RAVEIS  
REAL ESTATE • MORTGAGE • INSURANCE

[www.LindasTeam.com](http://www.LindasTeam.com)

860.209.7044 • Linda.OHara@raveis.com  
860.388.3936 • 33 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT  
860.345.6700 • 577 Saybrook Road, Middletown, CT  
860.209.7044 • 558 N Roast Meat Hill Rd., Killingworth, CT  
239.331.4008 • 850 5th Ave. South Suite C, Naples, FL



**MUM FARM OPEN!**

We grew a huge selection of beautiful mums in an array of fall colors.

**8 INCH POTS ARE 4 FOR \$24.00**

**HALFINGER FARMS**  
489 Candlewood Hill Rd.  
Higganum/860-345-4609  
OPEN DAILY IN SEPT.  
**HALFINGER FARMS GREENHOUSES**

*Shop Local* *in Tylerville*



**River's Edge Home Center**  
Gianna & Lou Milardo

100 Bridge Road, Haddam, CT 06438  
860-345-8453 • info@RiversEdgeHomeCenter.com  
RiversEdgeHomeCenter.com

**WE CARRY THE QUALITY BRANDS YOU WANT!**  
Cabinets • Vanities • Countertops  
Carpet • Hardwood • Tile • Vinyl  
*All things remodeling!*

**Follow us on Facebook & Instagram**

## 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 9

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

**Haddam Park & Rec. Meeting** 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

### Friday, September 10

**Higginum Farmers Market** 3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

### Saturday, September 11

**Artisan Market – Parmelee Farm** 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Shuttles will be available from middle school and parking lot in front of the farmhouse. Hope to see you at the farm! [parmeleefarmmarket.org](http://parmeleefarmmarket.org)

### Sunday, September 12

**Haddam Historical Society Celebration at the Thankful Arnold House** 4:00 p.m.

### Monday, September 13

**Haddam BOS Meeting** 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

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

**Killingworth Park & Rec. Meeting** 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Sheldon Park.

**Killingworth SPECIAL MEETING-Board of Assessment Appeals** 6:00 p.m. Town Hall – masks required.

### Tuesday, September 14

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

**Killingworth Inland Wetlands Meeting** 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Town Office Bldg.

**Killingworth Health & Safety Comm. Meeting** 2:30 p.m. Town Office Bldg.

### Thursday, September 16

**Haddam P&Z Meeting** 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### Haddam Historical Society celebration - Sept. 12, 2021

By Terry Smith

There will be a celebration of the Haddam Historical Society at the Thankful Arnold House on Sunday, September 12, 2021 starting at 4:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Parking will be along Field Park Road and the Haddam Town office parking lot. Everyone is welcome.

## KVFC

### KVFC uses ATVs to rescue injured hiker in deep woods

Continued from page HK1

crew rendering aid to the patient. The patient was stabilized in a rescue basket, loaded into one of the ATVs and removed from the woods to the Killingworth Ambulance where the patient was transferred to and transported.

The KVFC would like to thank our mutual aid partners for the tremendous teamwork as well as the excellent support from Valley Shore and as always, the Killingworth Ambulance and Middlesex Health. This incident was a good reminder to always carry your cell phone when hiking or working in the woods as it provides us with a precise location that allows us to locate you more quickly in an emergency.

## OBITUARIES

**Lucy Ann Saglio, 86**, (former teacher and speech pathologist at RSD #17) passed away on August 26th after a long illness.

## Jack's COUNTRY RESTAURANT

**Proudly Serving Quality Breakfast Since 2011**

Open: Monday - Friday 6am until noon

Saturday & Sunday 7am until noon

Visit us on Facebook, Instagram and at [www.jackscountryrestaurant.com](http://www.jackscountryrestaurant.com)

**860-345-4446**

## KAREN PERRY AT LAW, LLC

Wills, Trusts, Real Estate and Land Use

860-306-5486

[KAREN.PERRY.AT.LAW.COM](http://KAREN.PERRY.AT.LAW.COM)

255 ROUTE 80

KILLINGWORTH, CT 06419



Largest Papyrus Card/Gift Store in Middlesex County

### Covid Vaccine Booster Shots

The FDA has just approved the Pfizer vaccine to be licensed under the name Comirnaty, and this is the first m-RNA vaccine to be licensed. Moderna is still compiling the necessary data for FDA approval. We know the key factor behind the government support for booster shots has been the spread of the Delta variant, which has been responsible for the latest surge in positivity rates across the nation.

Booster shots are not unusual for vaccines because vaccines lose their protective power over time. We get an annual flu shot, the tetanus and diphtheria shot is given every ten years. The extra Covid-19 vaccine will mobilize more antibodies against the variant strains that will develop. It is wonderful that the m-RNA technology can modify the vaccine to protect us.

Early data from Israel which has already given the booster shot to a majority of their population over 60 years old has been very positive.

The ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices) is expected to make their recommendations to the President at their September meeting. Once those decisions are made, we at Nutmeg Pharmacy are ready to mobilize clinics in Haddam and East Haddam.

Nutmeg Pharmacy has established a toll-free appointment line at 1-877-678-4455 that will be operational on September 27 and that will be staffed Monday-Friday 9-5pm to schedule appointments in our communities. There is a registration form on our web-site, [www.nutmegpharmacy.com](http://www.nutmegpharmacy.com) for proposed clinic dates for each store so that you can register yourself.

Please be assured that we at Nutmeg Pharmacies take our role as a provider very seriously and we are committed to having you receive your Covid vaccine, as well as the Flu vaccines. For Flu vaccines you can walk in, we are ready for you, no waiting.

#### Hours of Operation

Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-8:00 PM

Saturday 8:30 AM-4:00 PM

Sunday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Telephone: 860-345-3607

Fax: 860-345-3611

Web: [www.nutmegpharmacy.com](http://www.nutmegpharmacy.com)

## Light It Up Electrical Services, LLC

Residential/Commercial

Call Today For A Free Estimate!

Theresa Ruvolo

Higginum, CT

860-849-0043

[info@lightituptoday.com](mailto:info@lightituptoday.com)

Fully Insured

E1-0202594

## Haddam Killingworth News

PO Box 15, Higginum, CT 06441

### Staff and Contact List

Anthony Giamei,  
Managing Editor

Kathy Brown,  
Senior Editor

Sharon Challenger,  
Composition Editor

### Reporters:

Deb Thomas, Austin Mirmina,  
Sally Haase, and Phil Devlin

Ed Munster, Advertising Manager

### Interested in writing for us?

Write to us at

[HK-NowEditors@Outlook.com](mailto:HK-NowEditors@Outlook.com)

Businesses interested in advertising in Haddam Killingworth News should call Ed at 860-345-2225, or e-mail [e.munster@comcast.net](mailto:e.munster@comcast.net).

Businesses interested in advertising in East Haddam News should call Michelle at 860-615-9955 or e-mail [sales@easthaddamnews.org](mailto:sales@easthaddamnews.org).

Send all requests, content and comments to: [HK-NowEditors@outlook.com](mailto:HK-NowEditors@outlook.com)

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

Member of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce

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

## An urgent need for commonly accepted facts

What I hope comes through as the central message in writing this, is that, as a Democratic Republic forged on the premise that two of the most salient pieces central to a successful democracy are the laws that bind us together and an educated citizenry, that it is vitally important that when there is unequivocal evidence which proves something to be a fact, that those facts are then accepted by all. Jefferson said, "In a Republic, whose citizens are led by reason and persuasion, and not by force, the art of reasoning becomes of the first importance." To be sure, forming opinions and reasoning out ideas is not only vital to a democracy, but these very acts can and will vary person by person based on many factors.

This is the messy part of living in a democratic society where free speech and thought is encouraged, and it makes maintaining an educated citizenry a challenge. However, one of the components to having an educated citizenry in a republic, besides forming opinions and reasoning things out, is having commonly accepted and shared facts around which to make those reasons and draw those conclusions. Thomas Huxley noted that, "irrationally held truths may be more harmful than reasoned errors." In reading the H-K News, it has become blatantly evident that many of the people writing in are basing their reasoning and opinions on "irrationally held truths", or more bluntly put, blatant falsehoods.

I find it disturbing to the core that many who have written in recently to address the B.O.E. elections, have unequivocally left out, distorted, or reimagined facts on which their reasons and opinions rest. For example, writers recently referred to the Jan. 6th insurrection in their pieces on the B.O.E. candidates. In doing so, some said it was an assembly of people's 1st amendment rights - (factually true) . . . until the illegal entry and violent storming of the capital. One recent writer said, "there is no evidence the rioters were armed . . . the only casualty was unarmed Air Force veteran Ashli Babbitt." You may form whatever opinions and reason out whatever thoughts you may desire about the events of Jan. 6., but those SHOULD and MUST be made on a commonly shared set of facts. There is overwhelming evidence, both testimonial and via media footage, that the rioters (not all of them), were armed. Bear spray, flagpoles used as weapons, and even gear seized from police all served as some of the weapons used. There is compellingly clear audio and video evidence that the assembly of people's 1st amendment rights turned into a violent insurrection, not just on our capital building, but on the very core of our democracy. For the full letter, please see HK-now.com

Justin Esposito  
Killingworth  
Aug. 23, 2021

## Mark Lundgren running for Alternate on Haddam BOF

Dear Editor,  
My name is Mark Lundgren and am currently serving as an Alternate on the Board of Finance.

I would like to continue and am asking for your vote in November.

I have been involved in Haddam's government on and off for over forty years. I have held the following offices: Chairman of the Board of Tax Review, First Selectman, Treasurer, Board of Selectman, Full member of the Board of Finance and currently Alternate to the Board of Finance. Being a volunteer for Haddam Elderly Housing since day one has been a blessing for me and I continue as its Secretary.

I know first-hand that watching how every tax dollar is spent is very important. I promise the voters and all taxpayers that I will continue to be your Fiscally Conservative Voice on the Board of Finance.

Sincerely,  
Mark Lundgren  
Higganum  
Aug. 27, 2021

**Bitgood's CROMWELL**  
COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES  
**AUTOMOTIVE**

Middlesex Chamber  
Business of the Year

263 Main St Cromwell, CT 06416

**Emissions Testing**  
...Diesels TOO!

**Auto Repairs**  
**Auto Sales**  
Tires • Alignments  
Monthly Specials

**New & Used Snow Plows**  
Sales & Service

BBB AAA GOODYEAR ASE

**WWW.CROMWELLAUTOMOTIVE.COM**

860-662-0657  
116 Christian Hill Rd  
Higganum, CT 06441

Always Fresh Eggs, Steaks,  
Burgers, Sausage, &  
MORE!

**Sycamore Farm Meats**

- 5th generation Family farm offering custom cutting!
- Self-Serve Available • Pre-Orders Available

Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SycamoreFarm116>

**COVER UP Complete Asphalt Maintenance, LLC**

860-345-4686 Haddam

Parking Lots • Driveways • Roads & Private Roads  
Seal Coating • Hot Rubberize Crack Repairs  
Asphalt Repairs • Line Striping

LICENSED & INSURED

David Scovel  
Higganum  
Free Estimates  
Insured

**Hate Dirty Windows?**  
*We Love 'em!*

Window Cleaning  
Power Washing  
Roof Cleaning  
Solar Panel Cleaning

860.301.2807  
david@ICanDoWindows.com  
I Can Do Services, LLC

► We Will Beat Any Written Estimate! ◀

**ROOFING & SIDING Masters LLC**

- Roofing • Siding • Windows •
- Chimney Repairs • Remodeling •
- Additions & New Construction •

Serving CT homeowners for over 25 years!

860 969-1617 **10% OFF**

LICENSED & INSURED  
FREE ESTIMATES  
www.CTRoofMasters.com



Dzialo, Pickett & Allen, P.C.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

SERVING THE CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY  
& SHORELINE SINCE 1964

### One Thing May Indeed Lead To Another With Delayed Medical Treatment By Attorney Alexander J. Sarris

The goal of the workers' compensation system in Connecticut is to safely return injured workers back to their jobs in a timely fashion. Having practiced in this area of law for more than a decade, I can assure you that this system is not always quick and efficient. Oftentimes, even the simplest of claims will be delayed due to a pending authorization or paperwork that has yet to be completed or has not yet been returned to the proper party.

Delays within the workers' compensation system – particularly regarding medical treatment – can have a hidden, serious risk to an injured worker. Let's say an employee slips on the job and falls onto her right knee which later requires surgery as a result of the work accident. If she was unable to receive the proper treatment (an orthopedic evaluation, diagnostic imaging and/or therapy and rehabilitation) in a timely manner, the chances are greatly increased that further medical complications will arise. What may have been a very simple surgery at the outset has now turned into a more complex one due to the additional damage done to the same knee and surrounding areas in light of the extended delays.

Even worse, the injured worker in our example may now develop left knee pain after continuously limping around and favoring the left knee to compensate for a weakened right knee that has not received proper medical treatment. Ultimately, what may have been an otherwise simple claim has now evolved into a convoluted mess with a frustrated worker in pain and an employer now convinced that the worker is uninterested in returning to work. Being able to navigate the tricky path of timely medical treatment is in the best interest of all.

If you have any questions regarding a workplace injury and difficulty receiving any treatment, 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.

WITH OFFICES CONVENIENTLY  
LOCATED IN MIDDLETOWN & OLD SAYBROOK

CALL US TODAY FOR A CONSULTATION:

**860-316-2741**  
**www.dpapc.com**

# 100 years old and still going strong – part 2

By Mark Soneson

*Editor's Note: This is part 2 of a 2-part story about Higganum resident Neal Blodgett. For Part 1 see the September 2, 2021, edition of Haddam-Killingworth News.*

In early 1945, Neal was cruising up the Merritt Parkway in a convertible Cadillac when the driver asked him if he wanted to stop for a drink. Neal was a "teetotaler", but he figured he couldn't say no to the man who was nice enough to pick him up as he hitchhiked home from New York City. Typical of Neal, he couldn't remember the date or even the month of his discharge- "it was still winter"- but he did remember the car the man was driving.

They stopped at a roadside tavern. The man ordered a shot for each of them, "maybe scotch", as Neal recalled. His companion tossed his back, so Neal followed his lead. "I almost fell down after I drank it". They chased it with a small glass of water and continued on their way.

Neal's family wasn't aware he was coming home that day. When he got to Marjorie's house, he let himself in through the front door and yelled "I'm home!" When asked about Marjorie's reaction to seeing him for the first time in over two years, Neal just smiled and said, "It was nice".

His first post-war job was with the New England Mutual Insurance Company. After attending their training school in Boston for new agents, he sold life insurance policies. Neal said he was well-suited to the job and led the company in sales his first year. After that, he worked for U.S. Life.

Neal and Marjorie wasted no time in starting a family. Their son Neal arriving in March of 1946. Billy followed in 1952. Beverly completed the brood in 1954.

House flippers before it became a term, Neal and

Marjorie owned 10 homes over the course of their lives. They bought old houses, restored them, and moved on to the next.

The first two were in Portland, the remaining eight in Haddam. Two were on Saybrook Rd, one was on Candlewood Hill Rd, one on Walkley Hill Rd and one was "the old inn across the river from the dump (the transfer station)". Beverly tried to help fill out the list at Neal's birthday party, but even she was unable to complete it. There were too many to recall.

When asked what attracted him to Haddam, Neal told me when he was a boy, his uncle Al, who was like a second father to him, had a chicken farm on Gulf Quarry Rd. His uncle delivered eggs to Hartford and East Harford. On Fridays, when he had finished his route, he picked up Neal and took him back with him to the farm.

Neal explored the area by himself and "knew every inch of it". He forged his own trails. He tried to fish by hand in little brook, because he "read in his Indian books that was how you catch them" though he never actually did. On one of his hikes, he found the cabin of Emil Schutte, Haddam's infamous murderer who was executed in 1922. It occurred that Neal would have been a source of nightmares for today's helicopter parents.

Neal had his fill of selling insurance and opened his own photography business in Higganum, the Town and Country Studio. He didn't like to take photographs of anyone but babies and children. "There's nothing harder to take a picture of than a two year old. I used to take them with their dogs. Some people bought more pictures of the dogs than their kids" Neal said laughing. "I was very fussy...I strove for peak expressions. I was pretty good, I would say so. You had to be very patient".

When he tired of the photography business, Neal and Marjorie opened a store on Pratt St. in Hartford. They called it "The Den- Gifts for Men". Neal ordered items from all over the world. He had eighteen chess sets at one point, some of alabaster, some hand carved. "We were known for our quality stuff. I had pre-Columbian art, antiques. It was very, very different. I had stuff for the

ladies, too".

The best business advice Neal ever got was from a dealer at an antique show. He was just starting out and was stocking their store with merchandise. He bought a large carving of a horse head from the dealer. He said "I wish I could find more of these." She must have liked him, he continued, because she gave him the address for Siegal's, a wholesale antique dealer on 12th Street in New York City.

"That was just what I needed. She did it. Cause that gave me a place to go to buy, to get enough stuff that was good and that my customers would buy." Her advice made Neal and Marjorie. They were able to open two more stores, and they prospered.

Neal's passion was for the antique end of the business. Like all dealers and collectors, Neal loved the thrill of the hunt. Most of what he found, he sold. Some he kept for himself. Neal showed me what he's collected. He could remember all the details about each piece, where it was from and how he acquired it.

Marjorie's collection was on the window sill and sash above the sink. "Marge liked all small things." A pewter mouse, porcelain birds, a small hornet nest, chestnuts, feathers, a quadruple peanut shell. All displayed right where she left them.

Neal spoke of Marjorie often. "She was a nature gal". She loved to spend time in her gardens. "She was a great mother, she loved to cook, she loved to entertain." She had no shortage of friends.

When Neal drove home in the Packard Caribbean he had just purchased for three times the cost of the average car at the time, Marjorie didn't blink an eye. When he told her that day he was taking the family to Florida in it for a vacation, she took it in stride. "She went along with anything I wanted to do".

When asked what the recipe was for a happy marriage, Neal said for him it was "A very easygoing, wonderful, beautiful wife. Good friends. Good kids. Pets. Busy, busy, busy. Work hard, play hard". At first, it seemed as though he had gone off track and was talking about the recipe for a happy life, not a happy marriage. But upon reflection, Neal had it exactly right. For the fortunate ones among us who have found their own Marjorie, the two are one in the same. Each is the main ingredient in the other's recipe.

Neal retired in 1976 on the advice of Watson House,

*Continued on page HK8*

## Town & Country Nurseries

<p><b>Farm Stand</b> Fresh &amp; Local Produce <b>NOW FEATURING CATO CORNER FARM CHEESES!!</b> NATIVE HONEY, FARM FRESH EGGS LOCAL MAPLE SYRUP &amp; MORE</p>	<p><b>Garden Center</b> Fall Blooming Perennials &amp; Shrubs <b>MUMS, CABBAGE &amp; KALE ARE IN!!</b></p>
<p><b>Gift Shop</b> Fall &amp; Halloween Décor Garden Décor Locally Made Gifts and Goods</p>	<p><b>Florist</b> <b>SHOP ONLINE</b> <b>HADDAMFLORIST.COM</b></p>

Open 7 Days A Week

1036 Saybrook Rd. Haddam (860)345-8581 townandcountryhaddam.com

## HIGGANUM HARDWARE

Looking for old guys and gals who like to fix stuff and share their knowledge with others for pay.  
Part-time jobs at Higganum Hardware  
**opening soon!**  
Contact Taylor at 860 345-3607 Ext 1.




**Teri's Package Store**

8 Killingworth Rd.  
Higganum, CT  
860-345-4038

**HWS Package Store**

1610 Saybrook Rd.,  
Haddam, CT  
(next to Cooking Co.)  
860-345-4070



Owned & Operated by  
**Teri & Chuck Everett**

YORK

TREE SERVICE LLC

860-754-7007

Tree Removal • Stump Grinding • Chipping  
Brush Hogging/Clearing • 75ft Bucket Truck Service  
Emergency Storm Work • Snow Plowing

860-754-7007

FULLY INSURED/LIC #HIC0648142  
Garrick York, owner

## PETE'S CLEANING

- Carpet & Tile Cleaning for Over 50 Years
- Move-in and Move-out Services
- Call for Quote and Prompt Service

IT IS TIME TO CLEAN AND DISINFECT!

Call  
**860-788-7373**

PCS

We reached out to both the Killingworth Republican Town Committee and the Killingworth 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: Killingworth Town Treasurer

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



Donna Dupuis  
(Democrat, cross endorsed  
by Republicans)

I am running for a second term for Killingworth Town Treasurer. I have had the privilege of living in Killingworth for 34 years with my husband, Joe, and our daughter, who currently lives in Windsor. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services.

During a 36-year career with AT&T, I held progressively responsible positions in Customer Service, Marketing, and Computer Programming. Following my time with AT&T, I processed a bi-weekly payroll for more than 200 employees spread over three states for a company based in Middletown. My work required the accurate and timely reporting of hours worked, paid time off, gross earnings, and withholdings. I provided a full reconciliation of expenses to the company's CFO. Today, I routinely

help at the Killingworth town hall as "office floater" covering for vacations in the Selectmen, Assessor, Tax Collector and Land Use offices. I have a strong understanding of the flow of information and revenue between the various areas of town government.

I have been a Volunteer District Coordinator and Instructor for the past eight years with the AARP Driver Safety program, a volunteer usher at Ivoryton Playhouse, and I am an associate member of Killingworth Historical Society's Board of Directors

I enjoy keeping busy and always welcome an opportunity to learn. Over the past two years I have learned a great

deal as Treasurer and there is still more to become familiar with. With two years behind me along with my previous experience, I believe I am well positioned to continue to serve the residents of Killingworth, and I will work hard to provide the service all residents have a right to expect from their elected officials.

As a resident, I remain concerned about the immediate and long-term impact of the pandemic on our quality of life, educational system and the health and welfare of our residents. We continue to navigate

through uncharted waters. I believe that continuing education regarding the virus, responsible personal conduct and consideration for those around us will help to see us through. The town will receive over \$1.8 million from the American Rescue Plan Act over the next two years and as a resident I hope that these funds will be spent wisely.

As treasurer, I will focus on the responsibilities of the position, paying particular attention to the growing cyber security threats. While our town government has state-of-the-art protections in place, the environment and threats are changing daily. I will encourage on-going reviews of our protections and on-going training for our personnel so that we don't become complacent and let our guard down.

We have lived in Killingworth for 34 years. This is a town where people help people, there are incredibly dedicated volunteers keeping our fire department and ambulance services available to all residents, and we have maintained a small-town atmosphere while providing top-notch education for our children. We truly cannot imagine living anywhere else.

### Interested in writing for us?

Write to us at:  
HK-NowEditors@Outlook.com

*We Are Open!*

Local day spa offering massage, waxing, pedicures, lash services and more!

Now accepting new clients.  
Support local businesses today!

*Blissful Beauty*  
DAY SPA  
199 Main St | Deep River, CT 06417  
860.575.1086 | www.blissfulbeautyco.com

**Middletown Rug Cleaning Co.**

Save Gas!  
Aerus-Electrolux  
Vacuums  
Local Sales & Service

Let us help you with  
**YOUR RUGS**  
**15% OFF**  
All Walk-Ins

*Specializing in Orientals*  
We Clean: Wall to Wall  
Upholstery • All Area Rugs

**860-345-RUGS (7847)**  
207 SAYBROOK RD. • HIGGANUM

**KJ Welding LLC**

Mobile Services  
Railings: Residential & Commercial  
Equipment Repair  
Aluminum, Stainless Steel  
Pipe Certified, G9 Licensed

Office/Fax 860-345-8743  
Cell 860-508-0611  
kjwelder@att.net  
HIC #0631508

**Ken Pellegrini**  
116 Filley Rd  
Haddam, CT 06438

**HIGGANUM VETERINARY CLINIC**  
92 Saybrook Road, P.O. Box 598  
Higganum, CT 06441  
Phone: 860.345.3366  
Fax: 860.345.2557  
Office Hours By Appointment

House Calls • Farm Calls  
All Animals from  
Cows to Chickens,  
Reptiles, Cats, Dogs,  
Goats, Pigs, Birds

Follow us on Facebook  
higganumvetclinic.com

**RLD Heating & Cooling, Inc.**

It's time to get comfortable  
We install, sell and service heat pumps, central air, high efficiency furnaces and boilers, on demand tankless water heaters and conventional water heaters. Plus much more!

Call for a **FREE ESTIMATE**  
**(860) 663-3181**  
24-Hour Service

Raymond DesJardins  
Killingworth, CT 06419  
www.rldheatingandcooling.com  
Lic. No. S1-389522

Don't forget to like us on Facebook  
@rldserviceyoucantrust

**Middletown Toyota**  
*Your Toyota Headquarters.*

**TOYOTA 2021 TACOMA-TRD SPORT**

**TOYOTA 2021 VENZA-XLE**

2 years or 25,000 miles free service with any new Toyota  
Bring in this ad for a \$700 discount!

**Middletown TOYOTA**  
"The People Pleasers"  
634 NEWFIELD STREET, MIDDLETOWN • 877-347-7294 • [MiddletownToyota.com](http://MiddletownToyota.com)

We Speak English, Spanish, Italian, Polish, Pakistani & Arabic  
Sales: M-Th 9-8:30, F 9-6, Sat 9-5  
Service: M-Th 7-7, F 7-5, Sat 7-2

Love the Prices, Love the Deals  
I LOVE My Middletown TOYOTA

TOYOTA Let's Go Places

# 100 years old and still going strong – part 2

Continued from page HK6



Neal Blodgett with Ark

his former boss at New England Mutual. The advice was given thirty years earlier, when Neal was 25. "Watty" told Neal he should make it his goal to retire at the age of 55.

This was probably good advice. A contemporaneous actuarial table found on-line (United States Life Tables 1939-1941) estimated that the average 25 year old male could expect to live to the age of 68. But there is nothing average about Neal Blodgett.

Neal loved golf, but was tired of spending \$35 to rent a cart and play a round at the Banner Lodge (that's what he paid for his first car, after all). So he built a golf course in his own back yard and on a couple of acres he "borrowed" from a neighbor. There were 36 "holes" (the same few holes were used in different combinations, the best I could tell as he explained it). He had score cards printed. He even bought his own golf cart. Friends at his birthday party remembered playing golf there and said it was a blast. Neal enjoyed fishing as well, and reading, and of course, his cars, which he replaced every year with whatever new model caught his eye. But eventually, it was woodcarving that became Neal's greatest passion.

Neal is self-taught. He has a workshop set up in a spare room on the first floor of his house. It wasn't long before he was turning out quality carvings that were bringing in good money at craft shows. His favorite was a standing swan with a small, carved, detachable fish clutched in its beak. "I sold a lot of those".

Early on, Neal made an all wood model of Noah's Ark for the Higganum Congregational Church, with fifteen to twenty pairs of animals queued up to embark. Replicas of antique game boards he made adorn a wall in his bedroom.

"At woodcarving, I knocked them dead. I was usually high man at the shows." He continued. "I had people come to see me just to talk. And I liked to talk to them." But what made him feel the best was the respect he got from his peers. "They called me an artist. How I wish, if I had one wish for school, how I wish I had taken Art in school." In closing, Neal pointed out that he still has all his fingers. "Most woodcarvers don't, you know."

Marjorie passed in 2014 at the age of 91. She and Neal were married for 71 years. "My wife was a princess. And you know, I think of her every day. Not just once. Many times. And I love her more in her old age than I do in her young age. I don't know why that is. Can you figure that out?"

I asked Neal what an average day was for him. He goes to bed around 3:00 a.m. each morning, and wakes up anytime from noon to 3:00 p.m. He said he sleeps

a lot, but he sleeps well. When he gets up, Neal has some graham crackers and grapes, and drinks a couple of bottles of water. He has one full meal a day at 6pm, usually meat and potatoes, with apple pie and a glass of milk for dessert.

Neal exercises every day. He enjoys television, but reading brings him the most enjoyment. For the most part, it's fiction for Neal- historical novels and crime stories, with some of the classics mixed in. John McDonald is probably his favorite author. He also enjoys John LeClair, Jack Higgins and Dan Brown. He carries a list in his wallet of who he likes. Neal reads five or six books a week. On Friday nights, it's cards with his friends from the church.

By this point in our interview, it was 10:30pm. Neal

wouldn't be going to sleep for another four or five hours, but I think he felt sorry for me. He wrapped it up. "I had a good life, Mark. I had a damn good life. No regrets."

Before getting up to leave, I told Neal I thought I knew what God's purpose was for him.

He knew it all along I suspect, or had a sense of it anyway. Neal carried out that purpose when he carved a bird. When he invited friends over for golf in his back yard. When he put an antique into the hands of a person who would treasure it. When he captured an image of a smiling baby just at the right moment. Most of all, he carries it out just by being the great guy that everyone who knows him will tell you he is.

"To make people happy" he said.

Photo by Denise Bouchard.



**Come for a Visit.  
Stay for a Lifetime.**

It's never too early, but it might be too late with just a few units available!

Be our guest at one of these 2021 Open House events:

September 16th • September 30th • October 14th  
October 28th • November 18th

11:30am - 2:00pm

Enjoy a complimentary lunch  
RSVP: 860.271.0721

Masonicare   
at Chester Village

## Why go it alone?







**Residents Enjoy:**

- 3 chef-prepared meals daily
- Social activities
- Exercise programs
- 24/7 nursing staff
- Transportation

**Families Enjoy:**

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

CONNECTICUT'S PREMIER SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

1556 Saybrook Road, Haddam  
TheSaybrookAtHaddam.com



Featuring studio, one and two-bedroom units. Please call 860-345-0090 for availability or to schedule your tour.