Haddam Killingworth News

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

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January 20, 2022

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Free weekly



The Search for a Cactus at Running Brook Farms

By Marjorie Tietjen

The other day I was on a mission to buy a cactus or succulent for my cousin who is chair bound. I immediately thought of Running Brook Farms, which specializes in these plants, among other useful products. I had bought interesting specimens from there before, so I was confident I would also have luck this time.

When I entered the large sales room adjacent to the greenhouse I was pleasantly surprised to see everything rearranged. Front and center is a really neat rustic Cafe bar. The cafe addition is not quite open all the way yet, but at the end of January it should be up and running. An open house is scheduled for around that time.

Continued on page HK2

It's a Record: KAA's 496 Responses in 2021 "Real Tribute to All EMTs"



By Clark Judge, KAA

The Killingworth Ambulance Association last year responded to 496 emergency calls, and if that seems like a lot it's because it is.

It's a one-year record.

According to figures kept by the KAA, the 496 responses are a 34 percent increase over the 370 of 2020 and a 40 percent jump from the 350 of 2019.

Continued on page HK3

HVFC Responds to a Chimney Fire on January 8

By Olivia Drake, Public Information Officer, HVFC

Haddam Volunteer Fire Company responded to a reported chimney fire at 8:00 a.m. on Grape Vine Road on January 8.

Upon arrival, no flames were showing from the exterior of the two-story house. Firefighters extinguished a fire in the home's fireplace and removed all burning debris. Crews then used a ladder to access the roof and removed the chimney cap. By using special chains and other equipment, firefighters were able to knock away a small area of creosote that had built up near the top of the fireplace.

Officers advised the homeowners to have their chimney inspected before using the fireplace in the future.

Deputy Chief Jed Morrissey recommends homeowners have their chimneys inspected and cleaned annually.





Photos by Olivia Drake, HVFC.

In This Issue: Killingworth Business News, HK1-2 • Haddam Garden Club, HK4 • Local student achievements, HK7



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The Search for a Cactus at Running Brook Farms

Continued from page HK1

The cafe will serve coffee, tea, cocoa, cider, and baked goods. I am looking forward to when the cafe opens so I can enjoy a cup of coffee and their friendly company. I forgot to ask the name of the woman who's running this, but I could have talked to her for hours. She is so interesting and informative!

The herbs they grow and sell are all organic....so many healthy products to choose from. CBD products are one of their specialties.

As you can see above they have quite a few succulent and cactus specimens to choose from.

I love the way everything is displayed so nicely with such an organic feel.

These are the three cute little guys I ended up bringing home. They look so healthy and I can't wait to transplant them into larger pots.

Come and browse their exotic plants and fun and useful products and gifts. Let's make this inviting place a new hangout!

Winter hours are every day from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Summer hours are usually 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Running Brook Farms also offers a complete range of landscaping services.

Running Brook Farms is located at 219 Route 80, Killingworth, CT 06419 Phone: (860) 663-5522



Photos by Marjorie Tietjen.

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POLICE NEWS

State Troopers need your help identifying car responsible for Brainerd Library damage

By Marijean Conrad

The Brainerd Memorial Library, located at 920 Saybrook Roar in Haddam, had a beautiful (and expensive) new light pole knocked over and pulled out of the ground on Saturday morning, December 25, 2021 at about 11:15 a.m.

A neighbor saw a light silver/pearl white sedan at the scene. There would have been front-end damage to the car. While apparently no one was injured there was significant property damage at Brainerd Memorial Library.

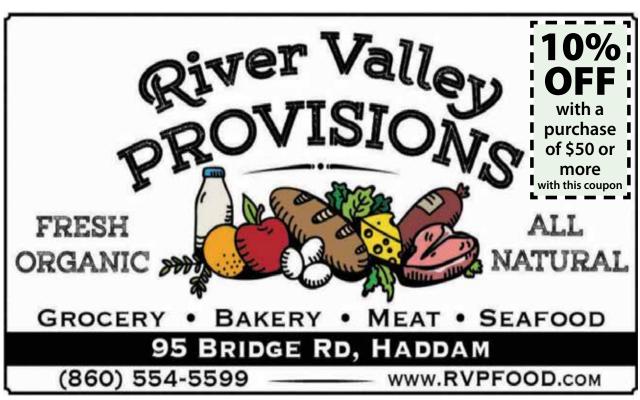
The State Troopers were called and are searching for anyone who might have seen or might have any knowledge of the accident.

If you have any knowledge of this incident, please contact State Trooper Vaughan at (860) 399-2100 or Molly.Vaughan@ct.gov. or Trooper DeAngelo at 860-345-2769 or Joseph. Deangelo@ct.gov

Photo by Tom Piezzo, Director, Brainerd Memorial Library.









KILLINGWORTH PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

It's a Record: KAA's 496 Responses in 2021 "Real Tribute to All EMTs"

Continued from page HK1

Included were 138 fourth-quarter calls in 2021, a 36.6 percent increase from the 101 in 2020.

"It's far and away the most we've ever had," said chief of service Mike Haaga.

The ready explanation, it would seem, would be COVID, especially with the recent surge of the Omicron variant. But that's not the case. In fact, most responses weren't for persons complaining of COVID-like symptoms.

They were for victims of falls.

Sound familiar? It should. Most calls the past two years have been for falls. This time, however, the number increased significantly. Where there were 71 in 2020 and 75 the year before, that number vaulted to 117 in 2021 — or 23.6 percent of all calls for 2021 and nearly double anything else.

That's consistent with figures from 2020, where falls comprised 19.2 percent of all responses and were more than double the figure for breathing problems, which was second at 9.2. It's also consistent with nationwide figures. According to the National Floor Safety Institute, falls are the leading cause of emergency-room visits, accounting for over 8 million annually.

Want more? What follows are the five leading responses for KAA emergency service in 2021:

Falls – 117 (23.6 percent) Sickness – 61 (12.3 percent).

Sickness – 61 (12.3 percent). Breathing problems – 36 (7.3 percent) Chest Pain – 26 (5.2 percent)

Altered mental status – 25 (5.0 percent)

Of interest here is that where overall figures increased...and, in some cases, significantly...the number of responses for traffic accidents did not. The KAA responded to 24 in 2020 (6.8 percent), which ranked fifth. It responded to another 24 last year (4.8), which ranked sixth.

"I'm proud of the fact that we're able to cover all these calls on a completely volunteer basis," said Haaga. "We're one of the few ambulance services around here that is completely volunteer. Just about all of the others have some period of time where they pay crews to cover."

The KAA has 26 EMTs and two EMRs.

Remarkably, the KAA completed its record year with its ambulance out of service for a week due to repairs. Fortunately, the Clinton Volunteer Fire Company came to the rescue. Three times in the past two years it loaned the KAA a vehicle while the Killingworth ambulance was serviced.

"For a small volunteer service like ours, covering this large number of calls — and sharp increase in the number of calls — is a real tribute to all the responding EMTs," said KAA president Dan O'Sullivan. "It is even more impressive when you factor in the risk to them, never knowing if the patient might also have COVID. I thank all the responders and their families for providing this critical service to the community."

VOTING

Town of Haddam - Voter Registration Summary

By the Haddam Registrar of Voters January 1, 2022 District **Democratic** Republican Unaffiliated Other **Total** 001 Firehouse 917 786 47 3106 1356 002 Central Office 753 766 1252 44 2815 003 Haddam Neck 97 85 89 3 274 Totals: 1767 1637 2697 94 6195 29% 26% 44% 1.52%

Offerdahl Emerson & Company, LLC is seeking an experienced **seasonal tax preparer** to join our growing and established firm. This position requires a tax professional with strong analytical skills. This position is needed from February 1, 2022, through April 15, 2022. Prior experience

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New Year's Reflections

By Terry Twigg, Haddam Garden Club

It's New Year's Day, and I just wrote "2022" for the first time. A somber grey day, appropriate for reflecting on the year just ended and imagining the one newly under way.

Despite pandemic limitations, our club managed to be almost as active throughout 2021 as it had been in other years. We moved our meetings outdoors in the nicer weather; maintained our many town gardens, wearing masks when necessary; and continued our tradition of creating holiday decorations for town buildings, the greens, and all seven "Welcome to Haddam" signs. We managed the flowers and floral design sections of the Haddam Neck Fair, supervising intake and judging the entries. Some of us joined forces with two other clubs for a field trip to the Holiday Train Show at the New York Botanical Garden. We had to

cancel most fundraising activities, but focused our Town Tag Sale inventory on plants from our own gardens, and just about sold out! Planning ahead, many of our members cultivated dahlias to be sold at next May's sale. If you haven't grown these gorgeous flowers yet, you'll want to mark your calendar now. (And none of that "They're too much work" nonsense. Dahlias are easy to grow!)

New members are always welcome—a welcome that goes far beyond gardening. I joined as soon as I arrived in town, four years ago, and everyone made an effort to make me feel part of the group. We meet the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 in the Community Center, so come see us, or check out our Facebook page and website, www. haddamgardenclub.org.

Despite some setbacks, last year saw progress in my own gardens, particularly the hardscaping. A muddy front track was replaced by ninety-one feet of stone pathway, thirty feet of it put down by me before I conceded defeat (my neck is still in physical therapy; those stones are HEAVY) and turned it over to the impeccable craftsmanship of Steve Belz. Steve also shaped massive chunks of stone into an epic flight of steps from the lawn to the courtyard. I have more plans, and plenty more rock, for the spring.

Best of all, after years of waiting disconsolately in the living room, my bronze fountain Raphael is finally in place. He hasn't quite settled in; naked cherubs were designed for warm Mediterranean climates, not New England winters, and he almost shivers in the snow.

The fountain adds so much winter interest to the courtyard, even though the water is turned off until spring. When we think of a garden, we tend to think of its summer self, full of foliage and color, but January reminds us that we need to design for the rest of the year. I've written before about plants chosen for winter interest: those with evergreen leaves or colorful bark, striking shapes that come into their own once the leaves have fallen, berries that persist until the birds have exhausted other sources of food. Even before planting, though, the thoughtful gardener gives some thought to shape and structure. Gates and paths, arches and ponds, bird baths and sculptures all help to define your garden spaces and give you something to look at during the long months when everything living is dormant. I have a handsome stone retaining wall I forget about every summer and admire every winter as if seeing it for the first time. Walk

around your yard tomorrow, and you'll see exactly where something extra would be most welcome.

New Year's resolution: As I ponder the pile of seed catalogs next to my chair, and debate how far I will give in to temptation, I resolve to do a much better job this year of keeping up with my garden journal. It's supposed to be purely practical, reminding me what I planted where, which variety of tomato I liked best, which plants germinated easily and which I'll never try to grow again. In Master Gardening class we were urged to write down every pest we encountered, the first bloom date, the prettiest colors and freshest flavors. I do, most of the time, remember to jot down the names of the more expensive trees and perennials, and where I bought them. But something unexpected has happened: my journal, intended only to chronicle horticultural events, carefully tends so many other memories. Those dahlias—how my mother loves the orange ones! The catmint grown from seed, brought inside to woo newly-adopted cats. A road trip with a good friend that happened upon a garden sale: We filled my car; the trees are planted here, but the friend has returned to California. Snapdragons that became hospital bouquets; fancy mums that bloomed late enough to grace a Thanksgiving table; peonies that welcomed new babies and celebrated graduations. My life is written between the prosaic lines of my garden journal. Yours, too, will peek out from among the dry notations of dates and varieties and watering schedules.

Here's hoping 2022 will be our best year yet.

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The Demise of the Ball Family of Tylerville

By Connie Farrington

Once upon a time...

Long ago (1915) but not far away (Tylerville), there lived a forlorn Bohemian family named Ball: Joseph, Grace, and sons Jacob and Michael. Their shack had been purchased for them by the town to provide a roof over their heads. About 1911, their two sons had been placed in the county orphanage at Haddam and schooled at Haddam central school. During that time, it has been reported, that younger son Michael was tutored by a fellow student "to overcome his New York accent."

EXPIATES CRIME ON GALLOWS.



Emil Schulle. Haddain glover, who early this morning paid the extreme easity for the murder of the Ball family. He made no confession his latement concerning the crime being made before the board of pardons who

Photo of Schutte from Middletown Press article, courtesy of Haddam Historical Society.

Where he got a "New York accent" we know not, since Michael later claims to have been born in Moodus, East Haddam. And his financially destitute parents were immigrants, not native New Yorkers.

Subsequently the boys were returned to their still-impoverished family who lived two miles from the orphanage. One fateful night, at the hands of local Haddam businessman and neighbor, Emil Schutte, the parents, the older son, and their oneroom house were reduced to ashes. Or maybe not completely ashes. Their remains were placed in a casket in a Potter's Field. One account of the 1921 trial states that, having been exhumed from a Haddam cemetery, "the skulls of Joseph, Grace, and Jacob Ball grinned at the defendant from a display table."

The heartless Mr. Schutte, whose frail wife and seven sons were terrified of him, had been unsuccessful

in getting the small, pitiful, and penniless Ball family to move away so that Schutte could more easily sell his adjoining acres. He doused the hut with kerosene and, when the victims ran from the fire, Emil shot each one. He and his son then threw the bodies into the fire. According to his son's testimony, as he walked away, Emil said, "The fire is burning fine. It looks pretty."

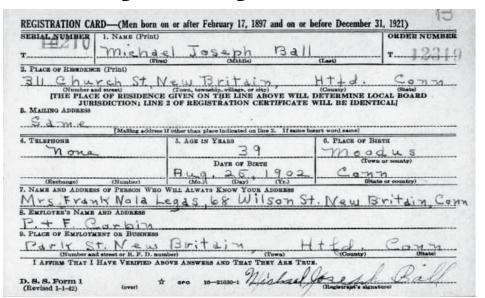
The murderer's undoing was the presence of bullets found among the bones of the family buried six years earlier, dead, supposedly, as a result of "asphyxiation" in a house fire. Also, there was Emil's son's eyewitness account. In 1922 the perpetually ornery Mr. Schutte, local grocer and one-time constable of Haddam, was hanged by his neck, courtesy of the state of Connecticut.

And what, pray tell, became of the unaccounted-for son named Michael Ball, born about 1903 and not named as a victim of the infamous Mr. Schutte? In the 1910 census of Haddam, he was the six-year-old in his parents' household. Where was he in the 1920, 1930, and 1940 census?

Could he be the Michael Joseph Ball whose 1942 WWII draft registration in New Britain lists the person who will always know his address as Mrs. Frank Legas? Based on the 1940 census of New Britain, her husband is Frank Legas, 28. He is probably the Frank Legas, 18, listed ten years earlier in the 1930 census as being incarcerated in the reformatory at Cheshire. The draft card that Michael Joseph Ball signed very legibly states that he was born August 25, 1902 in Moodus, Connecticut, the very town from which this Ball family moved to Haddam before the 1910 census. In 1942 he was 5'7 1/2" and weighed 133 lbs. He had a scar on the right side of his face, blue eyes, brown hair.

In the 1938 city directory of New Britain and for many years thereafter, a Michael J. Ball is listed as living at various addresses in New Britain, yet his name is not found in the 1940 census. The Connecticut Death Index reports that his birthdate was Aug. 25, 1903. Michael's death record for June 20, 1985 states that his residence was New Britain, he was a packer at the American Hardware Co., he died in Newington, was 81, and was "never married." No military service has been found. No record of a gravestone. No ashes.

Thus endeth the sad story of the Joseph Ball family of Haddam, Connecticut.



 $Draft\ registration\ card\ from\ ancestry.com$

ENTERTAINMENT

This Week on Valley Shore Community TV: January 20-26

By Chris Morgan, Public Access Coordinator, VSCTV

Comcast Channel 18 - Valley Shore Educational Network

1/21 7:00pm LIVE HK vs Westbroook Girls Basketball

1/25 7:00pm LIVE HK vs Portland Boys Basketball

1/26 7:00pm LIVE HK Middle School 8th Grade Concert

Comcast Channel 19 - Valley Shore Community Television

1/20 - 1:00pm & 8:00pm UMC of Clinton Sunday Service 1/16/22

1/23 - 4:00pm First Congregational Church in Essex Sun. Service 1/16/22 1/23 - 5:00pm Emmanuel Baptist Church Sunday Service 1/16/22 1/23 - 6:00pm Deep River Town

Meetings 12/28/22 1/24 - 5:00pm Silver Linings Talk

1/24 - 5:00pm Silver Linings Talk Show 1/24 - 6:00pm Shore Things: Dr. Joonun Choi

1/24 - 7:00pm Looking Back

1/24 - 8:00pm Art of Poetry

1/25 - 4:00pm Clinton Meetings

1/25 - 6:00pm Arts & Entertainment: Drama Works Theatre

1/25 - 7:00pm Pete Mezzetti Show: Chris Aniskovich Clinton Town Council

1/25 - 8:00pm Shoreline Music Monthly: BEPW

1/26 - 4:00pm Westbrook Congregational 1/23/22

For the complete schedule and to watch programs on-demand, visit www.vsctv. com. HKTV and VSCTV are available on Comcast Xfinity channel 18 & 19, Frontier TV channel 6089 & 6090, or on Apple TV, Roku, & Fire TV by using the free Cablecast Screenweave app. Links to download the Cablecast Screenweave app are on VSCTV's homepage.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Thursday, January 20

Killingworth Library's Mystery Book Club Location TBD 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Killingworth Board of Fire Commissioners meeting 7:00 p.m., KWFC

Haddam Planning & Zoning meeting 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 22

Killingworth Library Saturday Storytime on Zoom 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Haddam Land Trust, Inc. Annual Business Meeting 4:30 p.m., Firehouse #1, 439 Saybrook Rd., Higganum

Monday, January 24

Haddam Committee on Aging meeting 10:00 a.m. Killingworth Board of Selectmen meeting 7:00 p.m. (remote access)

Killingworth Zoning Board of Appeals meeting 7:00 p.m. (remote access)

Killingworth Library Association meeting 7:00 p.m., KW Library

Wednesday, January 26

Spiritual Book Study Sacred Heart on the Lake Retreat Center 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Killingworth Town Hall meeting Economic Recovery Committee 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Rep. Christine Palm's Virtual Coffee Hour 8:00 a.m. (Zoom)

Haddam Sustainability meeting 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 27

Red Cross Blood Drive at Valley Bible Evangelical Free Church 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Haddam Zoning Board of Appeals meeting 7:00 p.m.

Killingworth Workforce Alliance meeting 9:00 a.m. (remote access)

Haddam Special Town Meeting 7:00 p.m., Firehouse Community Room, 439 Saybrook Road



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LEGAL

LEGAL NOTICE SPECIAL TOWN OF HADDAM, CT **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, 439 Saybrook Road, Haddam CT 06438 on Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 7:00 pm for the following purpose:

- 1. To elect a Moderator
- 2. To consider and vote on Year End Transfers of General Fund surplus to Capital.
- 3. To consider and vote on use of ARPA funds for capital purchase of Hybrid Meeting equipment.
- 4. To consider and vote on the Transfer of funds within CNR fund for Bridge Road Sidewalk project.
- 5. To consider and vote on the Transfer of Funds within CNR Fund for Used Roller Equipment.
 - ** Copies of all resolutions can be found at the Town Clerks office or at www.haddam.org **

Dated in Haddam, CT this 20th day of January 2022. Board of Selectmen: Robert McGarry, Kate Anderson and Sean Moriarty.

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HADDAM

A certified list of 45 Republican party-endorsed candidates for the town of Haddam for election as members of the Town Committee At-Large is on file in my office at 30 Field Park Drive, Haddam, Connecticut and copies are available for public distribution. The number of Town Committee Members to be elected, under party rules, is 50.

A primary will be held March 1, 2022, if 13 candidacies (which is at least 25% of the number of town committee members to be elected by such party in the municipality) are filed in accordance with §§9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, of the General Statutes, by persons other than party-endorsed candidates, not later that 4:00 p.m. of January 26, 2022, provided the number of such candidacies plus the number of endorsed candidates exceeds the number of town committee members to be elected. (If the number of opposing candidacies filed is reduced to less than such 25%, no primary will be held.) Petition forms, instructions and information concerning the procedure for filing opposing candidacies, may be obtained from Raymond Skarsten, Republican Registrar of Voters, 439 Saybrook Road, Higganum, CT 06441.

Robert Siegrist

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TOWN OF HADDAM **LEGAL NOTICE**

Legal Notice is hereby given to the Taxpayers of the Town of Haddam. The second installment for Personal Property, Real Estate and the total Supplemental Motor Vehicle bills on the October 1, 2020 Grand List becomes due and payable on January 1, 2022 with a grace period to February 1, 2022. After the grace period, if still unpaid, the bill becomes delinquent and is subject to interest from the original due date at a rate of 1.5% of such tax each month. A minimum interest charge of two dollars would apply to all delinquent taxes. Payments may be made to the order of TOWN OF HADDAM and sent to TOWN OFFICE BLDG., TAX OFFICE, 30 FIELD PARK DR., HADDAM CT 06438-1196 or use the preprinted envelope supplied with the first installment. If receipt is desired, include a stamped self-addressed envelope and a phone number and mail directly to the Tax Office at 30 Field Park Drive. Payments may also be made in person at the Haddam Tax Office room 202 or on our website Haddam.org. Office hours: Mon- Wed. 8:30AM to 4PM; Wednesday closed to the public; Thurs. 8:30AM to 6:00PM; Fri. 8:30AM to Noon. Call 860-345-8531 x 207 with questions.

Haddam Tax Collector Kristin Battistoni, CCMC

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HADDAM

The Haddam Land Trust, Inc. will hold its annual business meeting on Saturday, January 22, 2022 1at 4:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at Firehouse #1, 439 Saybrook Road, Higganum, CT 06441.

William Cowan President

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HADDAM

A certified list of 36 Democratic party-endorsed candidates for the town of Haddam for election as members of the Town Committee At-Large is on file in my office at 30 Field Park Drive, Haddam, Connecticut and copies are available for public distribution. The number of Town Committee Members to be elected, under party

A primary will be held March 1, 2022, if 10 candidacies (which is at least 25% of the number of town committee members to be elected by such party in the municipality) are filed in accordance with §§9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, of the General Statutes, by persons other than party-endorsed candidates, not later that 4:00p.m. of January 26, 2022, provided the number of such candidacies plus the number of endorsed candidates exceeds the number of town committee members to be elected. (If the number of opposing candidacies filed is reduced to less than such 25%, no primary will be held.) Petition forms, instructions and information concerning the procedure for filing opposing candidacies, may be obtained from Kate Wessling, Democratic Registrar of Voters, 439 Saybrook Road, Higganum, CT 06441.

Robert Siegrist Haddam Town Clerk

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Musings from a Millennial: **First Things First**

By Meghan Peterson

The views stated here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the rest of our staff. We welcome supporting or opposing views on any published item.

*"Primum." – in the first.

"A primo." – from the first.

First days of the year. First month of the year. First beginnings. First steps. First principles. First liberties. The idea of "firsts" is a common one to associate with January, the temporal marker of a new year.

My sons and I have been discussing the concept of "first things first." Typically, I will say something like, "Boys, we need to do first things first." Older Boy (he turns 4 years old soon, but he informed me the other day that he is actually 60) asks "Mommy, what does 'first things first' mean?" I pause for a moment, as I do when he asks questions that make me realize not to take - or speak - phrases at face value. "Well...it means that we address the things we absolutely need to so that we can do the rest of our day." Older Boy looks at me, searching my face for a clearer answer than the gobbledy-gook philosophizing I just gave. "Like what, Mommy?" He wants specifics. I do not blame him.

I meet him where he is.

"Like making your bed. Like getting out of your jammies and into your play clothes. Like eating all of your breakfast before you can have the cookie you made yesterday. Like being thankful for yet

another day we have to play, learn, and laugh. Like giving me a hug. Like giving your brother a hug." Older Boy's look of puzzlement turns into one of contentment. "I am hungry, Mommy!" Meanwhile, Younger Boy has watched the entire conversation but quickly realized it was over his head - for now. We end the discussion and initiate one of the "first things first" items: preparing breakfast.

These are the actions, the tasks, the practices we do to establish the tone of the day – and to prepare mentally, physically, and spiritually for whatever comes next.

First things first. What "first things first" are we going to prioritize as a town, a state, a nation? Who and what will we put first? What are the underpinning conditions for firsts anyway? When - and if - we can begin to answer that question, we may be on to something: the urgency of first freedoms, first ideals, first goals. So, may we all find encouragement to put first things first in order to strive for excellence, pursue the optimal, and be at our prime. Carpe diem meus amicus et mea amica!

Of course, my sons would contend that "first things first" means play time. On that note, let me return to my firsts: those rascals who demanded the conversation in the first place.

*Wordhippo.com is a great online resource for identifying Latin roots of words.

Local Students Excel at Colleges, Universities during Fall 2021

From Merit Pages News

Alexander Hill named to President's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, NH (01/06/2022) - Alexander Hill of Killingworth, Conn., has been named to the Plymouth State University President's List for the Fall 2021 semester. To be named to the President's List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.7 or better for the Fall 2021 semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Hill is an Art and Design major at Plymouth State.

Lasell University students named to Fall 2021 Dean's List

NEWTON, MA (01/07/2022) - Students at Lasell University were recognized for their academic performance in the fall 2021 semester, including:

Olivia Beckwith of Higganum

Dalton Brown of Killingworth

Students who receive this honor have completed at least 12 credits as a full-time student and have achieved a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Trent Ferguson named to Dean's List at UNG for Fall 2021

(01/11/2022) — Trent Erik Ferguson of Killingworth, Conn., made the fall 2021 Dean's List at the University of North Georgia (UNG) for achieving at least a 3.5 grade point average, carrying 12 or more credit hours in one semester and having no grade lower than B.

Haddam Killingworth News

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A Special Thanks to Someone I Don't Know

By Marge DeBold

I want to take this opportunity to thank someone here in town, someone who goes to the Transfer Station and frequents the Swap Shack there, someone I don't know. I'd like to tell you why and, at the same time, thank who-ever it was: the gift giver. Maybe he'll see this message.

It was a week or so before Christmas, and I was dropping off a few small bits and pieces that I thought might be of interest to others during the holiday period. Nothing big or impressive, it was just some "small stuff." At the time there were only a few people at the Shack, inspecting possible second-hand treasures that had been left by others in the shed-like area. As I was about to leave, I felt an unexpected, gentle tap on my shoulder. A young man (well, at least he was a lot younger than I) had gotten my attention. On turning, I realized that I didn't know him (or at least I didn't recognize him behind his mask). He was tallish I think, grey haired, and may have had a short, well-trimmed beard. He opened the plastic bag of books he was carrying, picked out one book and put it in my hands. He indicated that it was for me. Its title,

Enjoy Old Age.

I laughed and replied something like, "Well, that certainly fits! Thank you. I'll take it." I left the area quickly, carrying my new acquisition. (When I was younger, I would have left "with a hop, skip, and jump", having received an unexpected gift. But I'm older now – and somewhat slower.)

It wasn't until I got home that I looked more closely at my gift. There, on the dust jacket was the name of a person I remembered from the old days, B. F. Skinner. Wow! B. F. Skinner – a famous name in the world of Behavioral Psychology! It so happens that my husband had done some work in the same academic area as Skinner, so I recognized his name. He, along with M. E. Vaughan, had published Enjoy Old Age back in 1983. I reminded myself that books, like good wine, often improve with age. I looked forward to reading it. Just looking at the cover brought back so many good memories of being a student and later being an elementary school teacher.

In at least one sixth grade class, I remember teaching about the importance of positive reinforcement (reward) to the process of learning while using my golden retriever dog as an experimental subject. I brought Danny to the school to demonstrate how quickly he would learn a new trick if given suitable rewards. (I have to admit, it was so long ago, that I may have fabricated some of that classroom memory.) The importance here is the tie-in to one of the book's authors, making it more attention grabbing and giving me unexpected pleasure.

Consequently, I quickly read the book and found lots of good ideas from my new Shad Shack gift. I plan to read the book again, with interest and closer attention, even though it was written quite a while ago.

Most importantly, I want to thank the man at the Transfer Station who helped me to unveil so many pleasurable memories. He has provided me with a book of helpful hints aimed at making it easier to Enjoy Old Age, which I am definitely doing.

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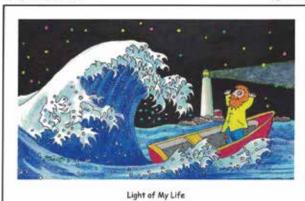
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