

Haddam Killingworth News

AN INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER COVERING HADDAM, HIGGANUM, HADDAM NECK AND KILLINGWORTH Copyright ©2022 Haddam Civic League LLC

July 21, 2022 For breaking news go to HK-Now.com every day Free weekly

Crossroads Ice Cream Opens in Killingworth



Photo Courtesy of Crossroads.

By Laura Lefko

Crossroads, the new ice cream shop in Killingworth opened last week and Killingworth received it in the way only Killingworth can. On Tuesday, July 12 for the “soft opening,” between 800 and 1,000 people stopped by. On Thursday, the third night that Crossroads was open, they sold out of 36 tubs of ice cream! Crossroads was sold out again on Sunday night. Crossroads is owned by Killingworth’s Mike Harkin of Harkin Engineering. Mike said that the design of the building was deliberately reminiscent

of an old firehouse because it stands on the spot of Killingworth’s first firehouse. If anyone has any photos of that, please share them. Crossroads is located at the traffic circle at 250 Route 81; they are open Monday through Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Crossroads features delicious hard and soft ice cream in a cute, friendly atmosphere; there are plenty of seats both in front of and behind the building, along with two corn hole boards. Stop by and give Crossroads a try; you will not be disappointed!

Killingworth Author Continues International Success with Children’s Book

By Connie Bombaci

Independent Book Publishing Professionals Group (IBPPG) has named the best indie books of 2022 and named local, international award-winning author, Connie Bombaci of Killingworth, the finalist award for Hogan’s Hope: Discovering Fun and Favorite Things. Illustrated by Bombaci’s daughter, Heather Ferrer, this non-fiction children’s book received recognition in the Animals/Pets category. This is the second time the duo has collaborated on a children’s book, the first being Hogan’s Hope: Finding a Forever Home of Love and Acceptance, which also



Photo courtesy of Connie Bombaci.

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Children’s Kindness Camp Comes to Haddam

By Barbara Fernandez

Did you know that kindness makes you happier and healthier? A recent paper published by the American Psychological Association indicated that people who were kind tended to have higher well-being. That advice we got from our parents and teachers to be kind is supported by scientific fact! This summer the First Congregational Church of Haddam and Higganum Congregational Church are taking kindness to a whole new level by dedicating an entire week to it. The churches are hosting a “Children’s Kindness Camp” from Monday, August 15 to Friday, August 19. The camp will focus on four main areas, each day dedicated to one of the themes: Be kind to yourself, family and friends; Be inclusive and kind

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Small Steps, Big Gains for Higganum Center

By Peter Baird, Chair of Haddam Democratic Town Committee

Editor's Note: The views stated here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the staff or other editors of this newspaper.

When Haddam Elementary School (HES) closed, Higganum Center lost its largest employer and its social hub. As a result, fewer people are bringing business into the Center, and there has been a reduction in the number of children and families regularly enlivening its atmosphere. COVID-19 further impacted our businesses, our sense of community and our ability to come together for events. Higganum Center needs revitalization, as well as new businesses that appeal to a broader part of the population.

Higganum has two truly exciting opportunities coming up in the near future.

(1) The town received a \$1.8 million grant to remediate the Scovil Hoe Buildings in Higganum Center, and at the May town meeting voters unanimously approved purchasing the buildings.

This will ultimately result in the transfer of the property to a developer, at which point the property becomes taxable. The developer will invest up to \$1 million renovate and rent out the space, bringing in much needed retail and dining options to Higganum.

(2) The Higganum Cove Advisory Committee is working with our Town Planner and Board of Selectmen in overseeing the preservation and development of a town park on this historic and environmentally sensitive site. The eventual plan will include trails, historical markers and a more usable, accessible space.

As Scovil Hoe and Higganum Center come online and serve as community resources over time, an important question remains: How can we better leverage HES and our lovely Green in pursuit of our goals?

The revitalized Higganum Friday Farmers Market has been great as a way for us to get together and buy local produce and products. However, I'd propose that we, as a town, consider other "low hanging fruit" that can help re-establish Higganum as a place for community gatherings.

1) Annual "Hoe Down!" at HES: Everyone who had a child go to HES remembers the annual "Hoe Down!" It included raffles, a "haunted hayride," music, dancing, face-painting and various kid-friendly events like bounce houses. This would be a great event to restart on the HES campus.

2) Bring back family movie nights: The movie could be displayed in front of the gazebo, or on the large wall facing the basketball courts at HES.

3) Concerts on the Green: Until COVID, there was a concert on Higganum Green held after the Farmers Market, and they have restarted this summer and should continue!

4) Better utilize the HES property: This is a more complicated question, but one that deserves significant thought.

When the town voted in referendum to purchase HES, we took ownership not just of the building, but close to 10 acres of land. While the eventual use of HES is yet to be decided, what can we do now to make HES a better resource for Higganum? Some low-cost options, as well as some that will require some resources, are below.

a. Rebuild the playground so that it can be a resource for children and families.

b. A dog park—these are extremely popular in many towns around us.

c. Pickleball courts, a popular new sport enjoyed by people of all ages.

d. A disc golf course. This is a free and popular sport.

e. Mountain bike parks that would appeal to younger and older bicyclists alike.

We should eagerly work with town leadership and with each other, regardless of party affiliation, to get this done. Higganum is a beautiful part of Haddam and deserves more attention and care from all of us. Let's work together on this!


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The Killingworth Republican Town committee asks all registered Republicans to come out and vote in the primary on August 9th, 2022, at Killingworth Elementary School. The candidates are:

US SENATE:
Leora Levy, Themis Klarides* and Peter Lumaj

SECRETARY OF STATE:
Dominic Rapini* and Terry Wood

You can also vote via Absentee Ballot. Absentee Ballot applications are available from the Town Clerk beginning on July 19th. Absentee Ballots must be returned by 8pm on Primary Day, August 9th. Per Dawn Mooney, Town Clerk all Absentee Ballots must be placed in the big silver mailbox next to the driveway at town hall; any ballots placed in the small mailbox mounted on the wall next the door to Town Hall will not be counted.

*Indicates that this candidate is the party nominee, however the other candidates received enough votes at GOP convention to go to primary.

Dance of the Fireflies

By Terry Twigg, HGC

Last month I wrote that I had followed “No Mow May.” May stretched into June, and now July, as I discover an entirely new, almost unrecognizable world in my own backyard.

Lawn is synonymous with green uniformity, but the range of colors and textures just waiting to show their stuff is remarkable. Now, in high summer, I find pink stems tipped with clotted oatmeal, green stems wearing purple chenille seedheads, red stems with dainty feathers, wiry tan stems with neat braided rows of wheaten seeds, even almost-blue grasses. They create a tapestry of color on the ground, and add fireworks to a vase of summer flowers.

My neighbor lives in a handsome Federal house, surrounded by exquisitely-kept gardens perfectly suited to the formal architecture. I spoke somewhat apologetically about my wild yard, assuring him I’ll mow it eventually, but his answer took me by surprise. “I was just thinking how pretty it looks. ‘Amber waves of grain.’” The description used to sound clichéd, but now I realize just how apt it really is. As the grass lengthened it bowed into graceful waves of silver-gilt, glistening in the sun. The long shimmering stems do ripple just like the river, catching and reflecting the light differently as the breezes shift.

The wildlife appreciates the difference. I’ve read heartbreaking stories of failed birds nests, where desperate parents, unable to find enough soft-bodied insects, tried to feed seeds to their babies. But the robins at the top of the lilacs found plenty of bugs in my pesticide-free yard, and their babies have fledged and moved on. My pond is teeming with frogs, which are an important indicator of the general health of the ecosystem.

The peepers’ season is done, replaced by the trilling of tree frogs and measured pronouncements of bullfrogs. They hide in the tall growth at water’s edge, and when I approach, they jump to safety in a perfectly timed, perfectly spaced sequence, for all the world like a row of chorus girls in an Esther Williams movie. Two frogs have claimed the courtyard

fountain pool. Their bronze bodies exactly match Raphael, my cherub fountain; they even have streaks of verdigris. Half submerged, they watch balefully while I perform the task I refer to as “weeding” but which they regard as “removing essential cover.” Fear not, guys, I’ll replant the desert.

There are some drawbacks, of course. Bittersweet and wild raspberries press relentlessly from the margins. I have to guard against ticks. I can’t spot the woodchuck in the tall grass, though sometimes his progress is apparent when stems bend as he waddles past. I grew dahlias outside the fence for the past three years, and nothing touched them, but this year’s plants are badly chewed by something—deer? The woodchuck? Did the long grass bring them closer in, or did they just decide to change up the menu? I do know that the rascally Munk brothers, Chip and Thelonious, appreciate the cover as they help themselves to not-quite-ripe strawberries, which seem to be the only kind my garden produces: they start out white, begin to flush pink, and disappear. I have been blaming the birds. Must remember to apologize.

But the best surprise of this no-mow summer is the fireflies, photinus pyralis. When I was a kid, they filled summer evenings, and we made a game out of trying to guess the direction of their zigzagging flight. Sadly, like so many other insects, their numbers have declined. The culprits are familiar:

loss of habitat, chemical poisons, and light pollution. These are common threats to many species, but the third—light pollution—poses a unique problem for fireflies. If your lifespan is only a few months, and you can only attract a mate with your tiny flashing light, every street light, porch light, and floodlight reduces your chance of getting a date. Just as we can’t see the moon on a sunny day, they can’t see each other’s signals.

During my first four summers here, fireflies were a rarity. But their response to a changed environment has been dramatic. The unmown grass encourages a buffet of snails, slugs and worms, free of toxins, and so the larvae thrive. Adults, ready for mating, flaunt their signals in darkness, unspoiled by artificial lights. Now, when twilight arrives, my yard sparkles with the flashes of dozens of dancing creatures. The air becomes an invisible Christmas tree on which the lights not only twinkle, but move. How could a boring lawn even begin to compete with such a display?

Our children and grandchildren deserve to experience the joy of summer nights filled with fireflies. Please, leave at least part of your yard wild. Reject pesticides and herbicides as the life-killers they are. And even if you feel you must have outdoor lighting during the long winter nights, please, when spring arrives, TURN OUT THE LIGHTS.

SUMMER SAFETY

Dog Rescued from Hot Car

By Connecticut State Police

Remember, never leave your pets alone in a car on a warm day. If you see an animal in distress in a hot car, report it to police immediately.

On July 4, at 1:48 p.m., New Fairfield Officers and Sergeants/Troopers from the New

Fairfield Resident Trooper’s Office responded to a business parking lot for a report of a dog locked inside a parked car. The temperature at the time was approximately 82 degrees. Officers observed a dog in distress, locked inside a dark-colored car, with its

windows rolled up. It is unknown how long the dog was left unattended inside the car. Officers broke a window and moved the dog to an air-conditioned police cruiser, where the dog’s condition improved. The New Fairfield Animal Control Officer (ACO) quickly responded to the scene and took custody of the dog. The investigation by the New Fairfield ACO remains ongoing. Per the ACO, verification of ownership, evaluation from an emergency vet and the medical records/shots are being determined. Anyone with information is asked to contact the New Fairfield Animal Control Officer.

FAITH/COMMUNITY

St. James Episcopal Church Tag Sale: July 30

By Elaine Jackson

St. James Episcopal Church in Higganum will sponsor a tag sale on Saturday, July 30, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the church’s parish hall at the corner of Route 81 and Little City Road. The sale will feature furniture, collectibles and other items. We welcome people from all over looking for an opportunity to sell their wares. If you are interested in a space to sell your wares, cost is \$20. Please reserve and make payment by 7/24/2022 for a space. Please contact Elaine Jackson 860-424-6178 or elainejack835@gmail.com or call Alice Bartolotta at 860-347-6719 to reserve your space.



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A Call for Volunteers to Be Youth Mentors

By Patty Coletti, HK Youth & Family Services

Ever wondered what you could do to impact the life of a child in a positive way? Do you have one spare hour of time per week to become a valued friend and role model to a child? If you answered yes, please join the next HK Mentoring Program information session on Wednesday, August 3, from 11:00 to 11:45 a.m. at the Killingworth Library. (A Zoom meeting can be arranged upon request). At this meeting, you will learn about the Program, a partnership between Youth & Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth (HKYFS) and Regional School District 17. During the information session, you will learn about the importance of mentoring, the value it can bring to a student in our community, and the steps you can

take to become a mentor.

For more information, or to register, please email Patty Coletti, Mentor Program Consultant for HK Youth and Family Services, at mentorprogram@hkyfs.org or you can call Patty at 860-345-7498. Once you RSVP, you will receive an invitation to the orientation. Please be sure to indicate the date you want to attend. We look forward to meeting with you!

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TOWN OF HADDAM PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE OF DECISION

It was decided at the Town of Haddam Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting on July 7, 2022 meeting at 7:00 p.m. to approve the following:

1. Modification to the site plan for Hope Gardens, it was approved to remove the following items from the previously approved site plan:

- A. Pool
- B. Stone Wall
- C. Fence (perimeter)
- D. Gate and pillars
- E. Tennis Court
- F. Gazebo, trellis and storage
- G. Greenhouse

Location: 7 Island Dock Rd - Map26/Lot 7a Applicant: Paramount Properties
Town of Haddam Planning and Zoning Commission

PUBLIC SAFETY

Troopers Arrest Middletown Man for Police Impersonation

By Connecticut State Police

On Friday, July 8, at approximately 8:07 a.m., Troop F in Westbrook received a report of a vehicle consistent in appearance with a police vehicle, driving erratically in the area of Durham Road (Route 79) in the Town of Durham. The caller provided a license plate and described the vehicle as a gray Ford SUV, which had allegedly displayed flashing red and blue lights.

During the course of the investigation, it was discovered that the SUV described was a privately owned vehicle, registered to a residential address in the City of Middletown. Troopers and Officers from the Middletown Police Department responded

to the residence and observed a vehicle matching the description provided by the caller parked in the driveway. An adult male, positively identified as Vincent Hodge, DOB 09/01/1996, was present at the residence. As a result of this investigation, Hodge was placed under arrest and transported to Troop F, where he was charged with the following:

- C.G.S. 53a-130a, Impersonation of a Police Officer
- C.G.S. 14-96q, Illegal Use of Flashing/Color Lights
- C.G.S. 14-240 Following Too Closely
- C.G.S. 14-301 Failure to Obey Stop Sign

Hodge was released on a \$10,000.00 non-surety bond and is scheduled to appear at New Haven Superior Court on Friday, July 22.

TOWN OF HADDAM LEGAL NOTICE FROM THE TAX OFFICE

Legal Notice is hereby given to the Taxpayers of the Town of Haddam. A Tax levy of 32.33 mils on the dollar was laid on the 2021 Grand List. The first installment will become due July 1, 2022. If payment is not received on or before August 1, 2022 they are subject to an interest rate of 18% per annum or 1.5% per month or any fraction of a month from the due date. A minimum interest charge of \$2.00 will apply to all delinquent taxes. The tax becomes delinquent and interest will be charged as of August 2, 2022. Please visit our website Haddam.org for more details. Payments will be received at the Tax Office located in the Town Office Building located at 30 Field Park Drive Haddam, CT 06438. The Haddam Tax Office hours are: Monday through Tuesday 8:30AM to 4PM; Wednesday by appointment only; Thursday 8:30AM to 6:00PM; Friday 8:30AM to Noon.

Contact Kristin at 860-345-8531 X 207 or taxcollect@haddam.org with questions.
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Killingworth Author Continues International Success with Children's Book

Continued from page HK1

was recognized as a Reader's Favorite 5-Star read for children in 2020.

Bombaci's mission is to broadcast the inspiration of hope and the belief that we must love and accept each other, no matter what. Children get to read how a deaf dog named Hogan explores his world of silence to find his favorite fun activities and shows us that anything is possible with hope. Children learn that being different makes us special and that "fantastically fun" things can fill our lives.

The books are finalists of the 2022 Next Generation Indie Book Awards, the largest international book awards program for independent publishers and self-published authors. The winners and finalists will be honored Friday, June 24, at a gala event at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C., coinciding with the American Library Association Annual Conference.

The Next Generation Indie Book Awards are judged by leaders of the indie book publishing industry, including many with long careers at major publishing houses. Their love of a great read and experience in the publishing arena identify books deserving a wider audience.

Catherine Goulet, Founder and Co-Chair of the Next Generation Indie Book Awards, states, "Like other independent artists, many indie book publishers face challenges that the industry giants don't experience. The indies must work much harder to get their best books into readers' hands. Authors and publishers who compete in the Next Generation Indie Book Awards are serious about promoting their books," adds Goulet. "They aim to stand out from the crowd of millions of books in print."

Additionally, Bombaci's new book receives a warm literary welcome with 5 Stars from Readers' Favorite. Readers' Favorite announced the review of the Children's - Christian book "Hogan's Hope" by Connie Bombaci and illustrated by Heather Ferrer, Bombaci's daughter.

Readers' Favorite is one of the largest book review and award contest sites on the Internet. They have earned the respect of renowned publishers like Random House, Simon & Schuster, and Harper

Collins, and have received the "Best Websites for Authors" and "Honoring Excellence" awards from the Association of Independent Authors. They also are fully accredited by the BBB (A+ rating), which is a rarity among Book Review and Book Award Contest companies.

Reviewed by Philip Van Heusen for Readers' Favorite: "Hogan is a young Dalmatian that is adopted into a forever family, which consists of a mom and dad (both human) and a sister (another dog). Then the family adopts another dog, and the family is complete. Hogan has what many would think of as a problem, but as Hogan shows, being deaf is not an issue. In Hogan's Hope: Discovering Fun and Favorite Things, Connie Bombaci lets the world know that being different is good. We are all different in some form or fashion. Hogan may be differently-abled, but that makes the point that he is able, just in a different manner. For example, Hogan may not understand verbal orders for all the games at doggie day camp. Still, he had learned primary sign language and could perform all the activities like the other dogs. This story will help children understand that differently-abled people are as worthy as normal people. Help your children learn to be accepting and loving to those who are different.

"Using a story based on the real life of Hogan,

Connie Bombaci helps children to understand that everyone deserves a chance to be included. Hogan is a dog that is adopted into a forever family that loves each other, no matter what differences they have. Hogan's Hope teaches many lessons about hope, love, and acceptance. Hogan is deaf, but instead of using his difference as an excuse, he is encouraged to participate in all the activities and he is not left out. Many children are different and just want the chance to be loved and accepted. Many children have no parents and need a forever home. Use this book to start discussions with your children concerning how to accept those who are different. If your child is differently-abled, use this book to teach them that they are just as important and worthy as other children. This book entertains, teaches, inspires, and hopefully motivates. Spend time with your children going over all the lessons found in this story."

Readers can learn more about Connie Bombaci, Heather Ferrer and Hogan's Hope at <https://readersfavorite.com/book-review/hogans-hope/4> where you can read reviews and the author's biography, as well as connect with the author directly or through their website conniebombaci.com and social media pages [Facebook.com/conniebombaci](https://www.facebook.com/conniebombaci)

COMMUNITY

Children's Kindness Camp Comes to Haddam

Continued from page HK1

to your community; Be kind to animals and Be kind to the earth. The curriculum is designed for children ages four to twelve years old. Each day will be filled with activities, arts, crafts, drama and most of all, FUN.

"We chose this theme for our camp because we know that these have been difficult times for many in our community- especially our children. Being kind is something we can do to bring some positivity into our lives. Most of all we wanted to have a camp for kids just to relax, have fun and be kids," said Rev.

Hilary McLellan. The churches picked that week for the camp because it's a time when many families do not have an affordable recreational option for their children in town. The camp will take place at 905 Saybrook Road in Haddam and will run each day from 9:00 a.m. to Noon, with early drop-off and afternoon care options. The fee for the camp is \$50, the early drop off/afternoon care option is an additional \$50.

For more information contact Amy Harlow at amyharlow.ucc@gmail.com, or call 860-345-2742.

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*Paper is affiliated with the Haddam Civic League Member of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce

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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, July 21

CT Summer at the Museum – 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Thankful Arnold House.

Toddler Tunes – Brainerd Library 10:00 a.m.

Pirates Ahoy – Killingworth Library morning & evening sessions on Tuesdays & Thursdays. For ages 10-17. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited, so please register in advance. 860 663-2000.

Teen Trivia Night – Killingworth Library 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Mystery Book Club – Killingworth Library 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Join us as we discuss *Win* by Harlan Coben. Extra copies of the book will be available at the circulation desk.

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

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

Friday, July 22

CT Summer at the Museum – Thankful Arnold House.

Higganum Farmers Market 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Free Concert – Higganum Green 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Bring a blanket or a chair to enjoy an evening of live entertainment. In the event of rain, shows will be cancelled.

Saturday, July 23

Something is Fishy – Killingworth Library 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Our friends from Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center return with a “scaly” program. Hands-on learning fun! This program will be held under the tent in the library’s back yard. Adults must remain with children for the duration of the event. Space is limited, so please register in advance.

Sunday, July 24

CT Summer at the Museum – 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thankful Arnold House.

Monday, July 25

Crafting Connection – Brainerd Library 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

To register call 860 345-2204. Space is limited to 24.

Crafting Connections has now moved to a monthly in-person program! Do you have a bottle of sea glass on your shelf? Bring your treasures with you to this class and we will make a sea glass framed picture. Do not worry if you do not have sea glass as all materials will be provided for this project.

Killingworth Board of Selectmen meeting 7:00 p.m.
Town Office Building.

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

Killingworth Zoning Board of Appeals meeting 7:00 p.m.
Town Office Building.

Tuesday, July 26

Summer Storytime at Brainerd Library 10:00 a.m.

Killingworth Economic Recovery meeting 7:00 p.m.
Location TBD

Wednesday, July 27

CT Summer at the Museum – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Thankful Arnold House.

Science Wednesdays for Tiny Thinkers – Killingworth Library 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. This 6-week program is filled with hands-on activities! Children ages 2-5 will explore colors, discover what makes things float, learn about wind and rain, and have fun experimenting with gravity. Space is limited, so please register for each session that you wish to attend.

Middle School Game Night – Brainerd Library 5:30 p.m. Join us for Game Night, we’ll play different Switch games based on the input of the club. Controllers will be provided, but participants can also bring their own controllers.

Haddam Conservation Commission meeting 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 28

CT Summer at the Museum – 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Thankful Arnold House.

Toddler Tunes – Brainerd Library 10:00 a.m.

Pirates Ahoy – Killingworth Library morning & evening sessions. For ages 10-17. (See July 21 for more info.)

Sand Art Terrariums – Killingworth Library Come learn with us as we make colorful terrariums. All supplies will be provided. For ages 10-17. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited, so please register in advance. 860 663-2000.
Haddam Zoning Board of Appeals meeting 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events for Summer and Fall, 2022

By Barbara Nair, Spectrum Gallery

Spectrum Gallery in Centerbrook announces the following events and opportunities coming in the months ahead:

Spectrum Gallery Exhibit: Fun and Pleasure

It’s the height of the Summer! Celebrate the magic of the season with Spectrum Gallery and Store’s newest exhibit, *Fun and Pleasure*. Discover established and emerging artists who use the Summer as creative inspiration and prove just how much fun and pleasure can be had! Opening Reception Friday, July 22, 2022 (6:30-9:00 p.m.); Open House Weekend, Saturday, July 23 (1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.) and Sunday, July 24 (1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.). Show runs through September 10, 2022. Spectrum Art Gallery, 61 Main Street, Centerbrook. Spectrum Gallery Hours: Wednesday-Saturday (Noon to 6:00 p.m.) and Sunday (Noon to 5:00 p.m.). More information (860) 767-0742 and spectrumartgallery.org

Call for Artists! Autumn Arts Festival on the Madison Green. Seeking artists for the outdoor festival on the Madison Town Green (Boston Post Road/Route 1 and Copse Road), Saturday, October 8, 2022 (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) and Sunday, October 9 (Noon to 5:00 p.m.). The rain date is Monday, October 10th (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). Fine artisans may submit work for consideration for sale in the Store at Spectrum Gallery, 61 Main Street, Centerbrook. Email materials to Barbara@spectrumartgallery.org. More information and prospectuses, visitspectrumartgallery.org/call-for-artists

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are being sought to help at gallery show installations, outdoor arts festivals, and other events and programming throughout the year. Upcoming Volunteer Opportunity: Autumn Arts Festival on the Essex Town Green, October 8 and 9, 2022. No experience necessary. Teens earn community service credit. Call (860) 663-5593 or email artscenterkillingworth@gmail.com. Visit the volunteer page for more information and other volunteer opportunities at spectrumartgallery.org/volunteer



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Local Students Excel at Colleges, Universities

Information from Merit Pages News

Jackson Mirmina of Higganum Wins Award at 2022 Hofstra Film Festival

Information from Merit Pages News

The Lawrence Herbert School of Communication showcased a record 70 films at the 25th Hofstra University Student Film Festival. The annual year-end event, which spanned three days, included 26 thesis films, as well as documentary, experimental, intermediate and advanced films. More 20 students, including Jackson Mirmina of Higganum, were recognized for creating exceptional films in categories such as screenwriting, editing, sound and production design, and cinematography. Mirmina's film, *Real Criminals*, took second place in the "Thesis Films" category.

"More significant than the number of films displayed was the outstanding quality of those films," said Professor Bill Jennings of the Department of Radio, Television and Film. "While *Variety* magazine rates our film program among the top 30 in North America, I can say without any hyperbole, based on the films that were produced here, that we may be the best undergraduate program in the country."

Aleksandra Glynn and Destiny Jewett of Higganum Earn Degrees at University of Tampa

The University of Tampa hosted its commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 7, to honor the 1,713 degree-seeking candidates at the University's 154th commencement. The event was attended by students, their family members and friends, UT faculty and staff members, and the general public. The ceremony included remarks by alumni and brothers, Javier Baldor '89, CEO of BST Global, and Carlos Baldor

'87, president and chief technology officer of BST Global.

The following local students graduated from The University of Tampa:

Aleksandra Glynn of Higganum graduated with a Master of Science in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

Destiny Jewett of Higganum graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology and Criminal Justice.

Samantha Briggs of Killingworth Graduates from Emmanuel College

Samantha Briggs of Killingworth graduated from Emmanuel College on Saturday, May 14, 2022, during the College's 100th Commencement Exercises on its campus in Boston. Briggs received a Bachelor of Arts in a double major of Political Science and Developmental Psychology during the ceremony.

Class of 2022: Haddam, Higganum, Killingworth Students Receive Degrees at ECSU

(July 6, 2022) — Hundreds of students graduated from Eastern Connecticut State University at the conclusion of the spring 2022 semester. The University's annual Commencement Exercises occurred May 17, 2022 at the XL Center in Hartford. The graduate-level ceremony occurred May 14th on the Eastern campus in Willimantic.

Among the graduates:

Owen Marica of Haddam graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology.

Matthew Savastra of Haddam graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

Connor Chute of Higganum graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Information Systems.

Clara Roby of Killingworth graduated

Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.

The spring 2022 graduates went through Eastern's School of Arts & Sciences, School of Education & Professional Studies and Graduate Division. More than 30 percent of the undergraduates were the first in their families to earn a bachelor's degree.

Commencement speaker Lena Rodriguez, president and CEO of the Community Renewal Team in Hartford, told graduates, "Take every skill you have acquired throughout these four years, place them in your personal toolbox, and lead with confidence and courage, as you are prepared."

At the graduate-level ceremony, Connecticut Secretary of the State Denise Merrill said, "When someone asks you to do something, take the leap. Ask 'why not me?' Make the change you've been waiting for. Don't sit on the

sidelines. Don't complain and not do anything about it. Build the world you want to see."

Eastern President Elsa Nunez gave her charge to the assembled graduates, telling them, "Tonight is a time for new beginnings . . . Each of you has a dream, talents you were born with. Your Eastern education has honed those talents and prepared you for the world ahead. Grasp your future with both hands. Be prepared to adjust your grip. Wake up each day committed to grow, to learn more, to make a difference in the world. Do all of this with a smile and the confidence that you can succeed."

Higganum, Killingworth Students Named to Dean's List at University of New Hampshire

(July 6, 2022) — The following students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire for the Spring 2022 semester:

Continued on page HK8

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CSP releases July 4th, 2022 Final Traffic Stats

By Connecticut State Police

2022 Independence Day Weekend Enforcement Stats (12:00 a.m. July 1 through 11:59 p.m. July 4):

Calls for Service: 6,463
 SPEEDING: 644
 SEATBELT: 43
 TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 910
 (to include unsafe lane change, Following Too Closely, Cell Phone, Texting, Speeding, Seatbelt, etc.)
 DUI Arrests: 50
 Motor Vehicle Accidents: 299
 With injury: 37
 Fatalities: 2

Statistics for 2019 – 2021

2021 Independence Day Weekend Enforcement Stats (12:00 a.m. July 2 through 11:59 p.m. July 5):

Calls for Service: 5,390
 SPEEDING: 483
 SEATBELT: 2
 TOTAL Moving VIOLATIONS: 978
 (to include unsafe lane change, Following Too Closely, Cell Phone, Texting, Speeding, Seatbelt, etc.)
 DUI Arrests: 26
 Motor Vehicle Accidents: 381
 With injury: 52

Fatalities: 3

2020 Independence Day Weekend Enforcement Stats (7 p.m. July 1 through 11:59 p.m. July 5):

Calls for Service: 6,520
 SPEEDING: 279
 SEATBELT: 12
 TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 748
 (to include unsafe lane change, Following Too Closely, Cell Phone, Texting, Speeding, Seatbelt, etc.)
 DUI Arrests: 29
 ACCIDENTS: 271
 With injury: 49
 Fatalities: 1

2019 Independence Day Weekend Enforcement stats (7:00 p.m. July 3 to July 7, 2019, at 11:59 p.m.):

Calls for Service: 7,184
 SPEEDING: 652
 SEATBELT: 75
 TOTAL VIOLATIONS: 1,859
 (to include unsafe lane change, Following Too Closely, Cell Phone, Texting, Speeding, Seatbelt, etc.)
 DUI ARREST: 50
 ACCIDENTS: Investigated: 248
 With injury: 51
 Fatal: 0 accidents resulting in a fatality

Local Students Excel at Colleges, Universities

Continued from page HK7

Ronan Marino of Killingworth earning Honors

Marly Laberge of Killingworth earning High Honors

Natalie Aston of Killingworth earning Honors

Morgan Bowles of Higganum earning High Honors

Natalie Pontbriand of Higganum earning Highest Honors

Students named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire are students who have earned recognition through their superior scholastic performance during a semester enrolled in a full-time course load (12 or more graded credits). Highest honors are awarded to students who earn a semester grade point average of 3.85 or better out of a possible 4.0. Students with a 3.65 to 3.84 average are awarded high honors and students whose grade point average is 3.5 through 3.64 are awarded honors.

Class of 2022: Hall, Kulmacz Named to Dean's List at University of Hartford

(July 8, 2022) — The University of Hartford is pleased to announce the students who have been named to the President's Honors List and the Dean's List for Spring 2022, among them:

Hattie Hall of Killingworth

Gabriella Kulmacz of Higganum

Spread across seven dynamic schools and colleges, the University of Hartford has been guiding the purpose and passion of students for more than six decades. On our 350-acre campus alongside Connecticut's capital city, approximately 5,000 undergraduate and 1,500 graduate students from 48 states and countries come together for a common purpose: to collaborate across different disciplines, diversify perspectives and broaden worldviews. We're a four-year private university focused on advancing the public good through meaningful connections within our communities. Our unique approach to comprehensive education gives us the critical perspectives that lead to impactful change, regionally and beyond. With degree programs spanning the arts, humanities, business, engineering and technology, education and health professions, we focus on doing the work that matters. Visit www.hartford.edu for more information.

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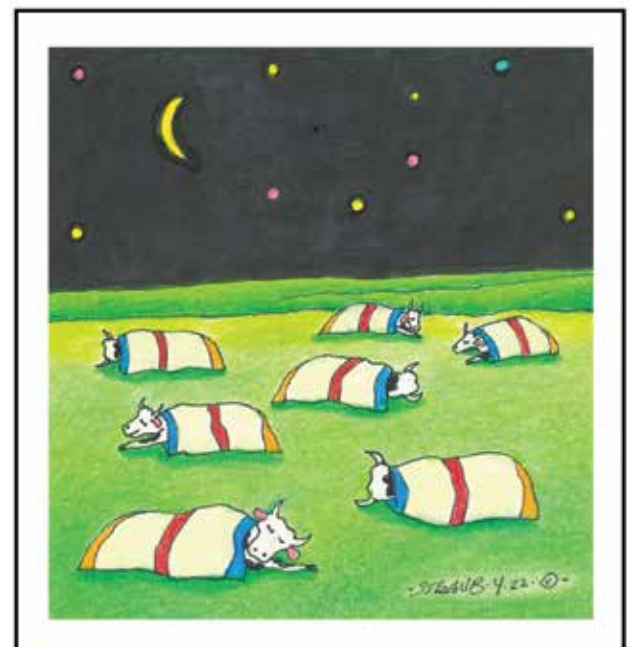
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