

Merry
Christmas
from all of us
to you!

Haddam Killingworth News

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

Copyright ©2022 Haddam Civic League LLC

December 22, 2022

For breaking news go to HK-Now.com every day

Free weekly

HKMS 7th Grader Wins Killingworth Lions Peace Poster Contest

By Greg Wind, Killingworth Lions Club

Eli Snow, a 7th grade student at Haddam-Killingworth Middle School, has taken the first step toward becoming an internationally-recognized artist by winning a local competition sponsored by the Killingworth Lions Club.

Eli's poster was among more than 600,000 entries submitted worldwide in the annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest. Lions Clubs International is sponsoring the program to emphasize the importance of world peace to young people everywhere.

There were eleven students who entered their posters and the top three were chosen by a panel of judges that included Regional School District 17 Superintendent of Schools Jeffery Wihbey, Principal Dolores Bates, Vice Principal Heather Persson, Art Teacher Jill Thompson, Killingworth Lions President Richard Clare, Peace Poster Chair Ellen Oppenheimer, Charlie Smith, Dean Rupp, Greg Wind, Sandy Smith and Michele Sokoloff for originality, artistic merit and portrayal of the contest theme, "Leading with Compassion." The



(left to right): Lyla Ford, Eli Snow, Cecilia Stevens. Photos by Greg Wind.

judging was held on November 10, 2022 at HKMS and an award ceremony took place at the school on December 6th, which recognized 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners accompanied by their very proud parents, school Administration, Killingworth's First Selectman and members of the Killingworth Lions.

Killingworth Lions Club President Richard Clare said he was impressed by the expression and

creativity of the students at HKMS. "It is obvious that these young people have strong ideas about what peace means to them. I'm so proud that we were able to provide them with the opportunity to share their visions." Killingworth First Selectman, and Lions Club member, Nancy Gorski expressed

Continued on page HK6

Beaver Meadow Road Re-Opens

By Edward Munster

After months of work on a culvert project, Beaver Meadow Road is now fully re-opened to traffic. The road, a main artery between Routes 154 and 81, was first closed in April of this year to repair a culvert, the components of which began to arrive in mid-August. Traffic had to be detoured around the site for several months.

The manufacturing of the needed box culverts at United Concrete was delayed because of other projects going on around the state that took Haddam's place in line at the manufacturer. But once the components were installed, the wing walls that direct the stream into the culvert could be formed and poured and the final grading of the area was able to be done. There had also been a delay in getting a power pole relocated. Frontier had to move the pole, and Eversource was responsible for moving the power lines.



Photo by David Challenger.

In This Issue: • Local dog on Netflix, HK2 • State Grant Awarded, HK5 • Spacecraft Return, HK7



202 MAIN STREET
DEEP RIVER CT
860.526.9567

www.PondsideKitchens.com

Your local source for Cabinets,
Countertops, Fireplaces, Stoves

FREE ESTIMATES...LOWEST PRICES

PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Kitchen Cabinetry At Affordable Pricing.



Dovetail Drawers, Soft Close Glides and Hinges, Quick Ship

Killingworth Deaf Dog Featured in Netflix Movie

By Connie Bombaci

On November 24, Netflix released its Christmas movie, *The Noel Diary*, starring Justin Hartley and Barrett Doss. Rubbing paws with these notable personalities was Killingworth's very own deaf dog, Elsie. Elsie made her movie debut on Thanksgiving by sitting patiently atop the town's fire truck.

Bill Berloni, the renowned animal trainer, commissioned Elsie to be in the Netflix movie after auditioning her for the movie producers via video. She remained obedient and patient

throughout the four-hour shoot on a hot June night as she sat atop the town's fire truck. Berloni carefully guarded the pup's welfare and ensured that she was well cared for and given proper breaks. During a set adjustment, Justin Hartley, unaware of her deafness, proclaimed to Barrett Doss, "Oh, my goodness! That dog understands sign language!"

Elsie is a member of the Bombaci Family and trained by Connie Bombaci. Elsie is the fourth deaf dog whom Connie has rescued and worked



Family photo courtesy of Connie Bombaci.

with to ensure good communication through American Sign Language and good manners in public. Bombaci believes that deaf dogs can do it all and make great family members when humans learn the right strategies necessary to live with any challenged individual. Community members have had many opportunities to interact with this special pup at book signings, events, presentations, and school appearances.

Netflix, continuing its trend of adapting best-sellers into movies, acquired the rights to Richard Paul Evans's New York Times bestselling novel, *The Noel Diary*. The romantic

holiday movie follows the best-selling author Jake Turner (Hartley) as he returns home during Christmas. After her passing, he is forced to manage his "estranged" mother's estate. Unknowingly, while cleaning out his mother's home, where he spent his childhood, he discovers a diary that holds secrets to his past. The journal also unlocks answers for Rachel (Doss), who is looking for her birth mother. The two start on a journey of uncovering their pasts and discovering love.

Next time you visit the Killingworth area, be on the lookout for Elsie. She might like to give you a paw shake.

20% OFF CANDLELIGHT KITCHENS
25% OFF all in-store Kitchens & Vanities
Expires 12/31/22

100 Bridge Road, Haddam
(860) 345-8453
RiversEdgeHomeCenter.com

River's Edge Home Center

We accept all major credit cards.

Family owned and operated since 2014

ABSOLUTE AIR SERVICES LLC

860-666-4200

Serving Central CT & Middlesex County

Energy Efficient Heat Pumps, Ducts or No Ducts, No Problem

They heat, they cool, with no fossil fuels! Take advantage of rebates, tax credits, & 0% Financing! Call today or Visit our Ductless & Heat Pump Showroom in Portland!

View our Mitsubishi & Bosch Product lines in full operation and talk to one of our experts.

Heating & Cooling Installation and Service
absoluteairservices.com

1116 Portland Cobalt Rd.
(Rt. 66), Portland
Hours: Mon - Fri
8 AM - 4 PM

BOSCH Accredited Contractor
DIAMOND CONTRACTOR

HIC. 0630546 ~ HTG.0393975-S1

Social Distancing with our Mobile App

Free Services Include:

- ♦ Mobile Check Deposit
- ♦ Online Banking
- ♦ Bill Pay
- ♦ Person to Person Payments
- ♦ And More!

Visit essexsavings.com to download today!

ESSEX SAVINGS BANK
Service & Trust Since 1851
Member FDIC



HOMETOWN HOLIDAY SHOPPING GUIDE

PIZZERIA
Da Vinci



davincict.com

Buy a \$25 Gift Certificate & get a \$5 Gift Certificate for yourself.

Buy a \$50 Gift Certificate & get a \$10 Gift Certificate for yourself.

25 Falls Road Moodus, CT
Sun & Tue-Thur 3pm - 9pm; Fri-Sat 11am - 9pm; closed on Monday
860-873-2299

7 Killingworth Rd, Higganum
Tue-Sun 11am - 9pm; closed on Monday
860-345-2251

Family owned & operated since 1990



We want to extend our warm wishes to you this holiday season. Have a safe and enjoyable time with family and friends.

Gift Certificates Available

112 Bridge Rd, Haddam | 860-345-2022
alansct.net
Hours: M-F 8am-5:30pm, Sat. 8:30am-3pm

Dino's Pizza Restaurant

Unlimited Menu & Daily Specials
Greek, Italian & American Cuisine

SEASON'S GREETINGS
TO OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS,
NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS

For a Great Holiday Idea
Give a Gift Certificate from Dino's.

Rt. 81 (Rt. 9 - Exit 9), Higganum, CT
Phone: **860-345-2990**
Closed Tuesdays

Hi-Way Package Store

Gift Cards Available Locally Owned

Happy Holidays from Hi-Way Package


Home town store with a world class selection

Online orders visit HiWay.online

18 Killingworth Road, Higganum, CT | 860-345-2315
Mon-Sat 9am-9pm, Sun 10am-6pm

River Valley PROVISIONS

FRESH ORGANIC ALL NATURAL



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

GROCERY • BAKERY • MEAT • SEAFOOD

95 BRIDGE RD, HADDAM

860-554-5599 **WWW.RVPFOOD.COM**

Happy Holidays

Gift Certificates Available



General Repairs 24 Hour Towing

- Now Making Hydraulic Hoses
- Tire/Wheel Alignment Service
- Engine & Transmission Diagnosis & Repair
- 24 Hour Towing-(860) 304-0934

Make sure and drop your letters for Santa in our North Pole mailbox!
Starting Monday after Thanksgiving



969 Killingworth Road | Higganum, Connecticut 06441
www.newimageautoct.com | Phone: 860-345-4185

Aj's RESTAURANT AND PIZZA

Hours: Monday to Sunday 11a.m. to 9p.m.

Outdoor Patio Dining

Route 81, Village Plaza, Higganum, CT 06441
860-345-2737

Follow us on Facebook: ajspizzact
our website: www.ajspizzahigganum.com

River's Edge Home Center


100 Bridge Road, Haddam, CT 06438
860-345-8453 | RiversEdgeHomeCenter.com

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All

Morina Italian Restaurant & Pizza

Happy Holidays

Gift Certificates Available



1617 Saybrook Rd., Haddam | (860) 345-4472
Daily 11am - 10pm, Closed Tuesday

Musings From a Millennial: Mirth, Merriment, and Merry Christmas!

By Meghan Peterson

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

Mirth – from Old English myrgh, myrge (meaning merry): gladness or gaiety as shown by or accompanied with laughter (merriam-webster.com)

In my book, nothing beats the sound of belly laughing from my two young boys. On occasion, they instigate each other – resulting in kid-style guffaws. More often than not, they are laughing at and/or with me, as I burn pancakes for breakfast (I like to call them “crisped pancakes”), trip over paint brushes (thankfully, dry!) sporadically strewn across the hallway, slip on mismatched socks (that I have hypothesized they place strategically in Mommy’s high-traffic areas...like the kitchen and laundry room).

In fact, the more ridiculous the mishap is for Mommy, the more my two little comics fall into uncontrollable mirth – “gladness accompanied with laughter.” Indeed, glad they are – as they watch their Mommy. Inevitably, Mommy begins to belly laugh as well.

All this merriment is rooted in a foundational sense of humor. When you laugh, you are enacting

your view of the world at that specific moment. That is, you are identifying what is strikingly odd, funny, extraordinary about the universe around you in ways that prompt you to process it in no other manner but laughter. Through laughter and mirth, you are expressing to yourself, those around you, and the world that you recognize the innate, beautiful silliness of human beings.

A sense of humor – and the laughter that issues from it – is both built on and fosters, settings of freedom, liberty. How is that you ask? Seriously, we are talking about laughter here – not freedom. But can you have laughter (genuine – not coerced) without freedom? The short answer is no.

Throughout both American and world history, suppression of humor and comics has been a tactic deployed by totalitarian regimes to censor, limit, and determine the parameters for what they deem appropriately “funny” or not. Instructions as to how and when to laugh (if at all) go to the core, bodily autonomy of a human to express joy, mirth, humor – in human fashion.

Now, back to laughter, mirth, and merriment. As our kids so intuitively demonstrate to us, let us not let go of a sense of humor – especially during life’s major challenges.

Let us embrace and cherish this festive season. And during times when you least think it, you may just find a silver lining of humor and comic relief.

Merry Christmas and a mirth-filled New Year ahead to you!



Blissful Beauty
DAY SPA
Where beauty meets tranquility

Skincare | Lash Services | And More!

199 Main Street, Deep River, CT
www.blissfulbeautyco.com | 860-575-1086 @blissfulbeautyco

CLASSIFIED

Ford Explorer for Sale
2002 Ford Explorer. 4000 miles on tires, engine light on. \$600. 860 510 9847/

Interested in writing for us?
Write to us at: HK-NowEditors@Outlook.com



Competitive Prices — Great Service

Save 10% on fireplace & wood stove accessories.

Fatwood fire starters, Duraflame logs, fireplace gloves, wood carrying bags, and more!

Excludes natural wood bundles & kindling.

Your new source for Milwaukee products

860-554-0420
www.HigganumHardware.com
23 Killingworth Road, Higganum, CT

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



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

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



YORK
TREE SERVICE
HIGGANUM, CT 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

**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, 2021 Grand List becomes due and payable on January 1, 2023 with a grace period to February 1, 2023. After the grace period, if still unpaid, the bill becomes delinquent and is subject to interest from the original due date of January 1, 2023 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 Building, 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. A drop box is located outside the front door of the Town Office Building. Office hours: Mon-Tue. 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

**TOWN OF HADDAM
LEGAL NOTICE
PLANNING AND ZONING PUBLIC
HEARING AND MEETING**

The Planning and Zoning Commission of Haddam, Connecticut will hold a Public Hearing and meeting at the Old Town Hall, 30 Field Park Haddam CT on January 5, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. to act upon the following item(s):

1. A site plan review to allow for a +/-10,700 sq ft retail building on Killingworth Road, Map 60/lot 26-7, adjacent to 968 Killingworth Road. **Applicant:** MPA Realty Associates
2. A 2 lot re-subdivision of a previously approved re-subdivision at 33 Gulf Quarry Rd, Haddam CT **Applicant:** Cameron Bailey

Said amendment and regulations are on file in the Land Use Office of the Town of Haddam.
Planning and Zoning Commission, Haddam CT

**Haddam
Killingworth News**

PO Box 15, Higganum, CT 06441

Staff and Contact List

Anthony Giamei, Managing Editor
Sharon Challenger, Senior Editor
Meghan Peterson, Composition Editor
Carl Cavrell, Editor
Joanne Nesti, Copy Editor

Reporters:

Phil Devlin, Sally Haase, Clark Judge, Laura Lefko, Gigi Simko, Deb Thomas

Ed Munster, Advertising Manager
Contact us at:
HK-NowEditors@Outlook.com

Please indicate your interest in the subject line as: Business, Education, Sports, Fire & Rescue, Town News, Organizations, Advertising or OTHER

Advertisers for Haddam-Killingworth News:
Call Ed at 860-345-2225 or send email to e.munster@comcast.net

Advertisers for East Haddam News:
Call Michelle at: 860-209-4729 or send email to sales@easthaddamnews.org

Haddam Killingworth News Deadline

To be considered for publication, news items & events must be sent to:
hk-noweditors@outlook.com

Please indicate the category in the subject line (i.e. sports, letter to the editor, calendar.)

To be eligible for print, any submissions need to be submitted by noon on Wednesday the week before the following Thursday’s print edition (i.e., 8 days before publication).

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

Second Installment Due on Property Taxes by February 1, 2023

By Kristin Battistoni, Haddam Tax Collector

The second installment for Real Estate, Personal Property and the full Motor Vehicle Supplemental bills are due by February 1, 2023. Postmarked dates from the Post Office are accepted. You can use the pre-addressed envelope that came in the July bills to mail a payment through the lockbox. Please be sure to enclose the tax bill with your payment. Payments can still be sent to Town of Haddam, 30 Field Park Drive, Haddam CT 06438 or dropped off in the lockbox outside the Town Office Building to the

right of the front door. And as always, if you want to come in, I love seeing residents.

I do not mail out bills for the second installment for Real Estate or Personal Property. If you need a copy of your bill, visit Haddam.org and search under Pay Taxes Online. You can print a copy of your original bill, pay a bill or see when a payment was made. You can always call, email or stop in for a copy.

If you bought a house, paid off your mortgage, or changed escrow companies after July, please confirm with them regarding who is going to be paying the January installment. Please do not assume I have the most current information. If you receive a bill for a vehicle you no longer have, contact me immediately. Once interest has accrued it cannot be removed.

Credit Card payments can be made in the office or online. I do not take payments over the phone. A service fee of 3% for payments made with a credit or debit card will be applied to all card transactions. An electronic funds transfer can be set up online from a checking account for a flat fee of \$1.50. Please put the current bill number on the memo line; it makes it easier for me to find with online checks from your bank.

If you are paying online, you will receive an email confirmation that your payment was made. If you do not receive one, or you're not sure if your payment went through, please give your bank or the Tax Office a call before you try again. Online payments have to be manually processed in the office and will not be reflected on our website for a few days.

Any payments postmarked after February 1, 2023, will start to accrue interest at a rate of 1.5% a month from the original due date of January 1, 2023. To help keep interest down, partial payments can be made at any time.

If you would like to have a receipt mailed to you, please include a self-address stamped envelope and include a phone number and mail the payment to the Tax Office at 30 Field Park Drive, Haddam CT 06438 or use the drop box located to the right of the front doors. Please make checks payable to: Town of Haddam.

The Tax Collector's office is open to the public: Monday-Tuesday 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Thursday 8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m., and Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:00 Noon. Wednesday is reserved for appointments only.

Contact: Kristin Battistoni – 860-345-8531 X 207 or via email at taxcollect@haddam.org.

OBITUARY

Stanley J. Kokoszka



Stanley J. Kokoszka, 94, of Haddam passed away peacefully on December 11, 2022 at Portland Care and Rehabilitation Centre after a short illness. Stanley was born in Rockfall on September 1, 1928, the son of John and Mary

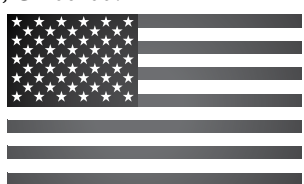
(Ciesla) Kokoszka. Stanley graduated from Horace C. Wilcox Technical School in 1948. He served in the U.S. Army in Japan for 9 months and in Korea with the 40th Division Infantry for 9 months attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant. Prior to his retirement, Stanley was employed with Pratt & Whitney Aircraft for 35 years as a Tool and Die Maker, first in North Haven and later in East Hartford. Stanley also spent many years working a second job as a Tool and Die Maker at Rogers Manufacturing in Rockfall.

Stanley was a Life Member of the Middlefield Volunteer Fire Company and the Tadeusz Kosciuszko Society "K-Club" in Rockfall. He was Past Commander of VFW Post 10362 in Rockfall, a member of the Catholic War Veterans Post 1166 in Middletown, American Legion Post 192 in Middlefield, and Disabled American Veterans. He also was a member of the Eagles Aerie No. 681. Stanley spent many enjoyable years square dancing with the Durham Cugin-Chuggers square dance club where he made many friends and he also enjoyed throwing darts and playing setback.

Stanley is survived by his three children, Robert of Meriden and William and Carole of Rockfall and several nieces and nephews. Stanley was predeceased by eight brothers, Peter, Walter, Frank, Joseph, Anthony, Bert, Chester, and Edward, and one sister, Stephanie (Kokoszka) Kruvka.

Stanley's family is grateful for the compassionate and professional care he received from the nurses, aids and staff members of both the former One MacDonough Place in Middletown and The Saybrook at Haddam, where Stanley resided since 2021. The family would also like to thank VNA Homecare nurse Patty Tsou, Dr. Rathier of the VA Medical Center in Newington, Dr. Read and Dr. Carini of the Middlesex Hospital Family Practice Residency Program, the doctors, nurses, aids, and staff of Middlesex Hospital South 7, and the nurses, aides, therapists, and staff of Portland Care and Rehabilitation Centre where Stanley spent the final two weeks of his life.

A Funeral Liturgy was held Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 12 Noon at Saint Mary of Czestochowa Church, Hubbard Street, Middletown. Burial with Military Honors was held at the State Veterans Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Stanley's memory to the Middlefield Volunteer Fire Company, 406 Jackson Hill Road, Middlefield, CT 06455.



COMMUNITY

Haddam Awarded \$1.5 Million State Grant

By State Sen. Norm Needleman

As always, I'm continually working with state and local leaders to bring back funding to support the needs of our towns – in particular redeveloping blighted properties so that they may once again contribute to the local economy and vibrancy of a community. I can report that Haddam has been awarded a \$1.5 million state grant to complete remediation of the former Cutaway Harrow Company manufacturing complex property. After remediation of the over 4-acre property at 300 Saybrook Road, there are plans to construct medical and retail-related buildings.

This substantial grant is welcome news, and it will be a boost to Haddam and the region. My thanks to

Governor Lamont and the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development for recognizing the benefits created for Haddam by awarding this grant funding.

For more information on the Cutaway Harrow Company: <http://www.vintagemachinery.org/mfgindex/detail.aspx?id=11237>

Haddam Swing Bridge Project Website: Confused by the frequent updates on the Haddam/East Haddam Swing Bridge project? The Town of Haddam has provided a website that will be updated weekly with the latest construction activity and potential changes to traffic on the bridge. Click here and bookmark this page to get the most frequent and up-to-date information.

Total Hair **HAIR STYLIST WANTED**

Hair Stylist: Part time, flexible hours, in Killingworth salon.
 Chair Rental Available: Must have clientele.
 Call or text Lori: 860-663-2805

Open Tues, Wed, Fri 9-5; Thur 12-8; Sat 8-4
 The Courtyard, 176 Rte. 81, Bldg 2
 Practicing COVID-19 safety precautions.

HK Health + Fitness™

66 Killingworth Rd, Higganum, CT
www.hkhealthandfitness.com

• Cardio • Free Weights • Pelotons
• Circuit Weights • Hydrowater
• Group Classes: Spin, Strength, Yoga

860-554-3623

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

Lance Scaping

COMPLETE LAWN CARE

• Landscape Installation
• Snow Removal • Cleanups • Mulching
• Walkways & Retaining Walls

860-345-7769

One Year Later: Food Scrap Waste Program Ready to Grow!

By Linda Talbott, Haddam Sustainability Committee

December 8, 2021 was the opening day of Haddam's Food Scrap Compost program located at the Haddam Transfer Station. A large sign was made and located right next to the Swap Shack, telling people where the Blue Earth Compost 32-gallon bins would be located. Post card mailings announcing the new program went out to residents of Haddam, Higganum and Haddam Neck in November 2021. The Town purchased 100 starter kits, consisting of a six-gallon transport bin, a two-gallon countertop bin and included a roll of 25 Biobag compostable bags to line the countertop bin with. They all sold out and 50 more kits were ordered, as well as more of the Biobags.

You do not need a starter kit to participate, but if you want one, there are about 14 kits left at the Town Office Building. Stop by the Tax Collector's office, the Assessor's office or the First Selectman's office to

get one for a donation of \$25. Extra Biobags at \$5.00 for a roll of 25 are also available at the Town Office Building. This program is free to all residents who have a transfer station pass. You can participate even if you have a private trash hauler as there are free Food Scrap Only passes you can obtain at the Town Office Building.

How did we do in our first year? As of November 30, 2022, we have removed 41,755 lbs. or 20.87 Tons of food scraps from Haddam's Municipal Solid Waste! Congratulations to everyone who participated! We average filling seven or eight Blue Earth Compost bins, but have had a few times when we have filled nine bins and had a record ten bins filled on the weekend after Thanksgiving. If we consistently fill twelve bins, we can go to a two-yard dumpster.

Thank you to the Haddam Board of Selectmen and to Chris Corsa, the Assistant Director of Public

Works, both of whom have been highly supportive of this program. Special thanks go out to all the Transfer Station staff who monitor the bins and wheel them in and out of the shed where they are stored.

Members of the Haddam Sustainability Committee also volunteer their time to pick up the leftover food scraps from the luncheons at the Senior Center on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and bring them to the Transfer Station.

This is a real community effort. Let's keep it going! Contact the Committee at haddamsustainabilitycommittee@gmail.com

COMMUNITY

HKMS 7th Grader Wins Killingworth Lions Peace Poster Contest

Continued from page HK1

her admiration and appreciation for the students who participated in this meaningful contest. She was so impressed with their artwork and what "Leading with Compassion" meant to them and inspired them to paint these amazing works of art.

"Eli's poster will advance through the district, multiple district and international levels of competition if he is to be declared the international grand prize winner," Clare said.

One international grand prize winner and 23 merit award winners will be selected. The grand prize includes a cash award of \$5,000 and will be recognized at a special awards ceremony at Lions Day with the United Nations. The 23 merit award winners will each receive a certificate and a cash award of \$500.

"Our club is cheering for Eli as his poster advances in the competition, and we hope that his vision will ultimately be shared with others around the world," President Clare said.

HKMS Art Teacher Jill Thompson and Principal Dolores Bates have supported this program for many years and the Killingworth Lions thank them for enabling and encouraging their students to take part in this program, which emphasizes the importance of world peace and compassion to young people everywhere.

Locally, Eli and two other students, 2nd place Cecilia Stevens and 3rd place Lyla Ford, will be recognized for their participation at the Killingworth Lions Club "Night of Giving" in May of 2023.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, December 22

Dungeons and Dragons for Teens
5:00 p.m. Killingworth Library.

Sunday, December 25

CHRISTMAS DAY

Tuesday, December 27

Preschool Storytime 10:00 a.m.
Brainerd Memorial Library.

Killingworth Economic Recovery meeting 7:00 p.m. (remote).

Wednesday, December 29

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

Haddam Zoning Board of Appeals meeting

7:00 p.m.

Middletown Rug Cleaning Co.

20% Off
New Customers
Cleaning only

OR

15% Off
All Walkins

Get your rugs & carpets ready for the holidays!

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



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 rieboldsanitationllc.com

Teri's Package Store

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

HWS Package Store

1610 Saybrook Rd.,
Haddam, CT
Delivery upon request
860-345-4070



Owned & Operated by Teri & Chuck Everett

OBITUARY

John Stuart McCurdy

September 29, 1942 - November 28, 2022



A light on Earth has dimmed. John Stuart McCurdy of Killingworth, CT died at home November 28, 2022 at age 80, surrounded by family. John was the consummate gentleman, who was always well dressed, the life of the party and a fantastic dancer (which many ladies can attest to). Friends remember him for his charm, out-going nature, intelligence, wit, generosity, sportsmanship,

and leadership, as well as his ability to put people at ease. John was always friendly and full of life. He loved to tell a good story or joke and had that perpetual "twinkle in his eye" as he saw humor in so many situations. There is a new star in the heavens.

John McCurdy was born in the Chelsea Naval Hospital, Boston. He was raised in Scarsdale, New York, graduated from the University of Notre Dame, and attended New York University. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1964, serving aboard the USS Shasta and retired after six years as a full Lieutenant. He continued his love for the sea through his membership at the Larchmont Yacht Club where for over 40 years he sailed the waters of New England and the Atlantic.

In 1966 he joined Dancer Fitzgerald Sample advertising in New York City and for the next 11 years had management positions in consumer product marketing and advertising agencies in Virginia, Baltimore and, in New York City, as a Vice President on the staff of Richard K. Manoff Advertising.

In 1977 Mr. McCurdy married Kathleen Acheson Thompson of New York City and Central Valley, New York. They moved in 1980 from Larchmont, NY to Madison, CT after he founded McCurdy and Partners Inc, a one-man advertising agency in New Haven. Over the following 35 years his staff of some two-dozen people served national and local consumer, business and industrial accounts.

John McCurdy was drawn to volunteer work that served the needy, the displaced, his community, and his church. A devout Catholic, he was a member of Saint Joseph's Church in Chester, CT and Saint Lawrence, in Killingworth where he was active in a number of ministries. He was also a member of the board of the New Haven United Way in 1997, and later served a term as president of the Killingworth Lions club during which time he inaugurated the Killingworth Youth and Family Services, the town's first human services agency. For 10 years he served as Chairman of the Board of the mid-Connecticut Workforce Development Board entrusted with the annual approval and distribution of several million dollars of federal funds to human services agencies for misplaced disabled and challenged men, women and children. In support of his leadership, the board established in 1997 the John McCurdy Institute of Youth Studies.

Surviving John is his wife of 45 years, Kathleen; his daughter Julia McCurdy of Thibodaux, Louisiana; his son Patrick McCurdy, wife Christine, and two grandsons of Pleasant Valley, NY; and his daughter Heather and husband George Chamberlain of Essex, CT, and their daughter Lily.

A celebration of John McCurdy's life will be held at Saint Lawrence Church, Hemlock Drive, Killingworth, CT, on January 21, 2023 at 10:00 AM.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made in John S. McCurdy's name to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America. You can donate by check or money order and send to: Alzheimer's Foundation of America, 322 8th Avenue -16th floor, New York, NY 10001 If you would like to make a donation online, please visit www.alzfdn.org or call (866) 232-8484.

NASA: Orion Spacecraft Returns Safely to Earth

By Sharon Challenger

On December 11, the Orion spacecraft returned safely to Earth, making its splashdown at 12:39 p.m. ET in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Baja California.

“The splashdown of the Orion spacecraft – which occurred 50 years to the day of the Apollo 17 Moon landing – is the crowning achievement of Artemis I. From the launch of the world’s most powerful rocket to the exceptional journey around the Moon and back to Earth, this flight test is a major step forward in the Artemis Generation of lunar exploration,” said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson.



Photo courtesy of NASA.

Orion landed in stable upright position via three large orange and white parachutes. Upon entry into the water the vessel was supported by 5 bright orange flotation balls.

Approximately 5 miles away, the U.S.S. Portland awaited the splashdown. Two Navy helicopters were deployed to assess the spacecraft. After circling repeatedly, they indicated there appeared to be no damage to the spacecraft and no signs of fuel leakage.

The U.S.S. Portland crew had to wait for the ammonia boiloff before approaching Orion. Ammonia is used to keep the interior of the capsule cool and will help future astronauts as they travel to the Moon in 2023 for the Artemis II mission.

NASA Administrator, Bill Nelson remarked, “Orion exceeded the expectations. The heat shield worked beautifully. Parachutes had to work, and they did. This is a defining day, a whole new technology, for a whole new breed of astronauts.”

The Mission which began on November 16, 2022, took 25 days and 10 hours total time from start to finish.

Over the 25 days NASA reported the following information:

Orion performed two lunar flybys, coming within 80 miles of the lunar surface.

Orion traveled nearly 270,000 miles from our

home planet

Orion endured temperatures about half as hot as the surface of the Sun at about 5,000 degrees Fahrenheit

Within about 20 minutes, Orion slowed from nearly 25,000 mph to about 20 mph for its parachute-assisted splashdown

During the flight test, Orion stayed in space longer than any spacecraft designed for astronauts has done without docking to a space station

While in a distant lunar orbit, Orion surpassed the record for distance traveled by a spacecraft designed to carry humans, previously set during Apollo 13

What’s next for Orion?

Special teams will work to secure Orion for the journey back to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Several payloads will be unloaded including Commander Moonikin Campos, the space biology experiments, Snoopy, and the official flight kit.

Next, the capsule and its heat shield will undergo testing and analysis over the course of several months.

“With Orion safely returned to Earth we can begin to see our next mission (Artemis II) on the horizon which will fly crew to the Moon for the first time as a part of the next era of exploration,” said Jim Free, NASA associate administrator for the Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate.

CARTOON

Mac O'Moodus

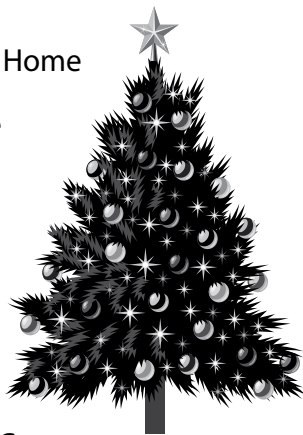
Roger Straub



Beary Christmas

This Year's Tylerville Tree Lighting was made possible by the following businesses:

- Adorable Pets
- Alan's Small Engine Service
- Blueway Commons
- Casko Designs
- China Royal
- Dunkin' Donuts
- Fireworks Hearth & Home
- HWS Package Store
- Into The Woods
- Liberty Bank
- Mike's Auto
- Ohh' Fudge
- River's Edge Home Center
- River Valley Provisions
- Tony's Package Store
- Subway
- The Sibley Company
- Town & Country Nurseries
- Wonder Paws



THANKS TO ALL THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES!

INDEPENDENT & ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE

Join Us
For A Winter
Stay At...



- Furnished apartment up to 3 months
- No community fee
- All meals included
- Housekeeping and linen service



Call us today at **860.345.3779** for more information or to schedule a tour.

The Saybrook at Haddam

1556 Saybrook Rd.
Haddam, CT 06438

Offer subject to change; additional fee for care.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE



www.TheSaybrookAtHaddam.com

Find comfort in knowing
that wherever you call
home, we are there.

Masonicare

It's all right here.

203.303.7984

Masonicare 
at Home

Masonicare 
Home Health

Masonicare 
Hospice & Palliative Care

masonicare.org | 