Haddam Killingworth News

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

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December 29, 2022

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

Free weekly

HVFC: Annual Children's Christmas Party With Santa – A Joyful Evening!





By Olivia Drake, HVFC Information Officer

On December 17, nearly 70 local children shared their Christmas wish lists with Santa during Haddam Volunteer Fire Company's Annual Children's Christmas Party.

After Santa arrived at the firehouse on Engine 1-13, he greeted each family before taking his seat in the community hall. There, each child had a chance speak with Santa and receive a gift. Families also were treated to Christmas cookies and refreshments and the HVFC Auxiliary held a basket raffle to help offset the costs of the party.

The Children's Christmas Party may be the most long-standing tradition in the fire company's history. For more than 90 years, volunteers have worked to host the gathering, which began at the town green in the 1930s. According to Company Historian and Firefighter Teresa Kuchyt, life members recall giving children apples as presents.



Photos by Olivia Drake.

When Haddam Volunteer Fire Company acquired its newest firehouse in 2001, its members, with help of the HVFC Auxiliary, began hosting the party at this new building on Saybrook Road. More than 30 volunteers, spearheaded by the HVFC's Christmas Committee, participate in the annual event and assist with decorating the firehouse, wrapping gifts, setting up, and hosting the party, which lasts for approximately two hours.

"The Children's Christmas Party is one of the fire company's most fun-filled events, not only for the children, but for us as members," said Christmas Committee Chair and Firefighter Malcolm Meyer. "It's wonderful that members of both the fire company and our auxiliary can work together to bring so much joy to several families in the community."

To see more photos of the event, visit the Facebook page of HVFC: https://www.facebook.com/theHVFC

KVFC & Guilford Professional Firefighters Rescue Dog on Cliff

By KVFC & Guilford Professional Firefighters

Busy day for D-Shift yesterday on December 18: Guilford Professional Firefighters responded for mutual aid to the town of Killingworth for assistance with a high angle rope rescue.

Guilford Professional Firefighters are specially trained in many specialized emergency capabilities including high angle rescue. A report of a hiker and their dog slid off a 40 foot cliff and the dog was stranded on a small ledge halfway down the cliff.

Killingworth Fire Department was in the scene and special called Guilford Professional Firefighters to respond. Upon their arrival they set up a special rope system to reach the dog and performed a rescue to lower the dog safely to the ground.

https://www.facebook.com/KillingworthVFC/ https://www.facebook.com/guilfordfiredepartment



Photo courtesy of KVFC & Guilford Professional Firefighters.

In This Issue: • KVFC Santa Cruise Sucess, HK2 • Scout Can & Bottle Drive, HK5 • Cookie Walk Success, HK8



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KVFC: Santa Cruise Enjoyed by More Than 350 Killingworth Fans

By Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company

Santa Cruise 2022 has come to an end! We had a very successful day with just

over 350 people counted! Thank you to everyone who came out and saw Santa – until next year!



Photos courtesy of KVFC.



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KVFC

KVFC Honors 2nd Grade Girl Scout Troop for Making and Donating Special Christmas Ornaments

By Michelle Ford, KVFC First Responder

The second-grade Girl Scout Troop 62311 from Killingworth and Haddam meets twice a month to learn about how to be a good friend, how to be a leader, and how to give back to their community.

This month, the girls completed a lesson about Community Helpers and engaged in a thoughtful discussion about people who help others as a career and as a volunteer. When the girls learned that the firefighters in Killingworth are all volunteers, they were both surprised and impressed!

To show their gratitude, each girl made several ornaments for the station Christmas Tree featuring messages inside such as "Thank you for Being Brave" and "You are special to me."

On Monday, December 19, 2022, the Girl Scouts will be honored by the KVFC Chief with certificates of appreciation and a tour of the fire station and apparatus. We are thankful for their contribution of

ornaments and their thoughtfulness toward the department.

As a member of the KVFC, a gift such as this means so much and will become a permanent part of our Christmas decorations for years to



Photo courtesy of KVFC.



Killingworth Dance Performance Collects Toys for Children in Need

By Carrie Smith, Owner, The Dance Corner

The Dance Corner, of Killingworth presented its fourteenth annual performance of the Winter Follies: A Celebration of the Seasons Through Song and Dance on Saturday, December 17, at the Andrews Memorial Town Hall Auditorium in Clinton.

The Dance Corner students, ages 4 and up, presented an evening of festive entertainment while collecting toy donations to benefit Clinton Social Services and Haddam Killingworth Youth and Family Services. "This was an extremely successful event. We collected more than 220 toys and more than \$1000 in cash donations

at the performance," said Carrie Smith, Director of The Dance Corner. Officers from the Clinton Police Department stopped by before the show to cheer on the dancers and collect the toy donations. The dancers performed to a full house and the holiday spirit was felt by all.

Smith says the Winter Follies gives her students the chance to do what they love: dance and perform on stage, while giving back to the community. Over the course of 14 years of toy drive performances, The Dance Corner students have collected 4000+toys for families in need.

Photo courtesy of Carrie Smith.





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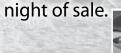
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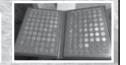
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New Laws Taking Effect in Connecticut on January 1, 2023

By State Sen. Norm Needleman

With a new year comes new laws going into effect after work completed in recent years by legislators at the State Capitol. Among the new state laws to go into effect in 2023 are several policies to support children's health and wellness:

- The state's "Bottle Bill" receives its first significant update in decades, with redemptions expanded to include teas, hard seltzers, ciders, energy drinks and coffee. This comes as, at the start of 2024, bottles and cans will see their redemption value double from 5 cents to 10 cents per can and
- Testing for lead poisoning will increase, part of an effort to reduce the presence of lead in children, which can harm their development. In 2020, just over 1,000 children in Connecticut had lead concentration in their blood, but only 178 of



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Ken Pellegrini 116 Filley Rd Haddam, CT 06438 Office/Fax 860-345-8743 Cell 860-508-0611 kjwelder@att.net HIC #0631508 them would have had their homes inspected to find sources of lead; this new law will help protect children's health.

- Certain health insurance carriers will be required to provide explanations of benefits to members.
- Children's mental health will be supported through the use of screening tools to diagnose mental, behavioral and potential substance use

disorders in children.

• Certain health care providers will be required to expand coverage requirements for specified procedures to treat or prevent breast or ovarian cancer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Support Your Newspaper

Editor's Note: 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.

The Haddam Civic League is the 501(c) (3) non-profit organization that publishes Haddam Killingworth News and gives scholarships to high school seniors who have an interest in communication and media. It is the support of our advertisers, and of our readers who make taxdeductible contributions to the paper, that make it possible to publish our community newspaper every Thursday and provide these scholarships. We encourage our readers to shop local and support those businesses that advertise with us. To make a tax-deductible contribution in support of the paper, write a check to HCL and send it to P.O. Box 15, Higganum, CT 06441

We want to thank and recognize those readers who have made contributions during the year 2022:

Diane Andrews Amy and Michael Barron **Robert Berens** Scott and Deborah Bowden Fie and Anthony Budzinsky

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And numerous anonymous contributions.

Edward Munster, Haddam



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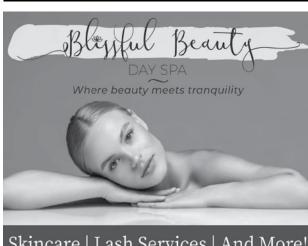


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LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE PLANNING AND ZONING NOTICE OF DECISION

It was decided at the Town of Haddam Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting on December 1, 2022 meeting at 7:00 p.m. to approve the following:

1. An amended site plan for Blueway Commons at 3 Brooks Court, to allow for the additions of a 10x20 shed and a pickle ball court.

Town of Haddam Planning and Zoning Commission

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

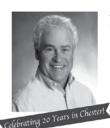
1. A site plan review to allow for a +/-10,700 sq ft retail building on Killingworth Road, Map 60/lot 26-7, adjacent to 968 Killingworth Road. Applicant: MPA Realty Associates

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



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Update: Haddam Board of Selectmen December 12 Meeting

By Gigi Simko

The regular meeting of Haddam's Board of Selectmen on December 12, at Town Hall was called to order by First Selectman Bob McGarry at 6:35 p.m. Selectmen Kate Anderson and Sean Moriarty and Administrative Assistant JoAnn Ricciardelli were in attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting on November 14, 2022, were approved unanimously.

First Selectman McGarry announced that the Town of Haddam will receive \$1.5 million for environmental clean-up of the Rossi property. Sale of Scovil Hoe closed on November 21, 2022. Traffic cameras on the Swing Bridge are installed and should be live by Christmas. The feed will be on the Swing Bridge project website. A change order

to install approximately 100 feet of round rail fence by the steep drop from Bridge Road sidewalk to the road just east of Camp Bethel Road is under review. Beaver Meadow Road has reopened. All that is remaining of the Haddam Center sidewalk project are signs, pedestals, rapid flashing beacons and crosswalk markings.

Selectman Anderson recognized the Tylerville Tree Lighting as a success and thanked all the volunteers and Public Works for decorating the town. The Holiday Pop-Up Market is still going strong. There are openings on the Economic Development Committee. She also made a motion to accept tax refunds in the amount of \$31,057.09; the motion carried unanimously.

Colleen Totman, Senior Center Activities

Coordinator, resigned effective December 15, 2022, and Daun Kowalski, Animal Control Officer, is resigning effective February 1, 2023. Selectman Moriarty made a motion to appoint Emily Kyle to the Haddam Parks & Recreation Commission; the motion carried unanimously.

The Higganum Cove Master Plan received an award from the Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association.

The next regular Board of Selectmen meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 29

Toddler Tunes 10:00 a.m. Brainerd Memorial Library. **Haddam Zoning Board of Appeals meeting** 7:00 p.m.

Monday, January 2 New Year's Day Observed

Tuesday, January 3

RSD #17 Board of Education meeting 6:30 p.m. HKHS Community Room.

Thursday, January 5

Haddam Planning & Zoning meeting 7:00 p.m. 21 Field Park Drive.





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COMMUNITY

Haddam Scouts Can & Bottle Drive: January 7, 2023

By Greg Nicholas

Haddam Scouts BSA Troops #44 & #44G will be collecting returnable cans and bottles at the Community Center at 9 Candlewood Hill Road in Higganum Center from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 7, 2023. The money raised supports the troop activities such as trips, campouts, and outings.

If you could pre-sort your donations into plastic, glass, and aluminum, that would be very helpful to the Scouts. Thank you for your donation!

Scout Troop #44 is open to all boys from fifth grade to age 18; Scout Troop #44G is open to all

girls from fifth grade to age 18 (this is a regional troop, welcoming girls from East Haddam, Haddam, Killingworth, and surrounding towns). For more information about joining either troop, please contact Scoutmaster Mark Pach at markcp571@gmail.com or Scoutmaster Kathy Brown at kjbrown92@aol.com



Haddam Killingworth News

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Haddam Killingworth News Deadline

To be considered for publication, news items & events must be sent to:

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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



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Meet Rory!

By Judith Levin

Rory is an 11-month-old Papillon/Chihuahua/Corgi mix. This little chippy currently weighs twelve pounds and will get to thirteen pounds at his adult weight. He is full of pizzazz and loves to have fun. Playtime is one of his favorite things. He enjoys long daily walks, playing fetch, loves to explore and sniff everything. Squeaky toys are at the top of his list to play with. Rory would be great in a home where he can have a consistent, daily routine and opportunities to get him socialized, and have some positive experiences. He has had interest in other dogs his size and may even like a playmate in his new home who



is calm and fun to hang around with. Of course, if he were the only fur baby, he would be okay with that as well. Children 12 years and older would fine with this handsome guy. For more information about Rory, please contact Tracey at tracey.d@poainc.org and PLEASE complete an adoption application at www. poainc.org ASAP.

Upcoming Holiday Hours

By Town of Haddam

Town Office Building: Monday, January 2nd: CLOSED

Transfer Station:

Saturday, December 31st: CLOSING @ 11:45 a.m. Sunday, January 1st: CLOSED

Public Works:

Friday, December 30th: CLOSING @ 11:00 a.m. Monday, January 2nd: CLOSED

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Cookie Walk a Great Success!

By Pam Crum

An important message from Pam, Linda and Edie: Higganum Congregational Church wishes to offer our sincere appreciation to Nutmeg Pharmacy and to our Community for your patronage at our annual Cookie Walk. This year's event, our 15th, was the most successful to-date.

Thank You, Thank You all for your unending support of our Church and local mission work.



We look forward to seeing you again next year! cy Higgar liddlesex

Photos by Pam Crum.



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