

Haddam Killingworth News

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

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September 29, 2022

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

Free weekly

HVFC: Firefighter Teresa Kuchyt Receives 30-Years-of-Service Pin

By Olivia Drake, HVFC Information Officer

Congratulations to Firefighter Teresa Kuchyt for earning her 30-years-of-service pin during the Haddam Volunteer Fire Company's September meeting.

Teresa joined the fire company on September 14, 1992 and was promoted to the rank of Firefighter on September 13, 1993. She was named "Firefighter of the Year" in 2008 and received The Chief's Award in 2015 for her superior effort as Company Historian and Records Administrator. She continues to serve in these roles today.

In addition, Teresa has served on multiple committees including the Fire Prevention Committee, Pension Point Committee, Grievance Committee, Nominating Committee, Christmas

Committee, and chair of the "Old Timer's Night" Committee. She has also served on the HVFC Board of Directors.

Firefighting, one might say, is in Teresa's blood. Her grandfather, Elmer Edman, and great-grandfather, Harold Edman, were founding members of the fire company and were present at the original firehouse dedication in 1930. Teresa's husband, Jamie Kuchyt, and brother-in-law, Scott Kuchyt, also are longtime members of the company. Jamie and Scott's father, Martin Kuchyt, joined in 1948 and served for 17 years. Her nephews, Mike and Kyle Kuchyt, also served as HVFC firefighters.

Please join us in thanking Teresa for volunteering for 30 years!



Photos by Olivia Drake, HVFC.

Haddam River Day Is This Saturday!

By Kate Anderson, Haddam Board of Selectmen

Haddam River Day returns! Our annual fireworks display is scheduled for Saturday, October 1, at Haddam Meadows State Park, with a rain date of Sunday, October 2. Co-hosted by the Haddam Lions Club and Town of Haddam, the event starts at 5:00 p.m. with fireworks at around 8:30 p.m. There will be food options from local town civic groups. Grab a blanket and bug spray, and head down to everyone's favorite annual event!



Photo by Olivia Drake, HVFC.

Cross Country: HKHS Wins Two Invitationals

By Matt Diggs

The Haddam Killingworth High School Boys and Girls Cross Country teams continued their season as they split their squad at two invitationals on September 17. The Varsity Boys and Girls teams traveled to Bear Mountain, New York to compete at the Suffern Invitational, while the JV Boys and Girls traveled to Cromwell to compete in the Connecticut River Valley Invitational.

The Girls Varsity team raced well on the challenging three-mile course at Bear Mountain

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A Vermont Sunset with a California Connection

Editor's Note: Frequent contributor Phil Devlin sent this photo and description: The ash and particulate from those huge fires in the West have worked their way to New England. We can occasionally see the haze and actually smell the fire here in Connecticut, depending on the wind. This condition has also resulted in some spectacular sunsets, such as this one on September 11, 2022 at my sister's farm in Vermont.



Photo by Phil Devlin.

KILLINGWORTH LIBRARY

October Events at Killingworth Library

By Tammy Eustis, Killingworth Library Association

Please note that pre-registration is required for all programs: www.killingworthlibrary.org. Some programs started in September and are currently running, but there may be room to register. Please check the Calendar on our website.

Family Fun

Thursday, October 27, at 6:00 p.m. – Not So Spooky Pajama Storytime. Come in your jammies and bring your favorite stuffed animal as Mrs. Fig reads some of her favorite Halloween tales!

Ages 2-5

Fridays at 11:00 a.m. starting October 7, – Music with Margie. Fall into fun with Margie Warner and enjoy

music and songs for ten sessions!

Adults

Tuesday, October 25, at 7:00 p.m. – Turtles & the Sins of Good Samaritans. Adults are invited to enjoy this fascinating talk by Pamela Meier, state-permitted wildlife rehabilitator and local resident. Turtles are one of the oldest yet most threatened groups of animals on earth. Five of Connecticut's eight resident turtle species are on the state's List of Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern Species. As one of the state's few experienced rehabilitators specializing in turtles, Pam will share her knowledge about the harm done by well-meaning but misinformed individuals, and how you can make a difference.

BML & Essex Library to Host Forum for 2022 House & Senate Candidates: November 1

By Tom Piezzo, Director, Brainerd Memorial Library

The Essex and Brainerd (Haddam) Libraries will jointly sponsor a forum for State Senate and House candidates in our shared district.

Moderators will be Essex Library Interim Director Ann Thompson and Brainerd Library Director Tom Piezzo.

Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at Valley Regional High School, Deep River

District 36 Incumbent State Representative Christine Palm (D) and Chris Turkington (R)

District 33 Incumbent State Senator Norm Needleman (D) and Brandon Goff (R)

Questions for the candidates can be sent by US Mail, dropped them off at either the Essex Library (33 West Ave, Essex, CT, 06426) or Brainerd Library (920 Saybrook Road, Haddam, CT 06438) or emailed to athompson@essexlib.org or tpiezzo@brainerdlibrary.org.

Please submit questions for Representative and Senatorial candidates separately.

In order to be considered for inclusion, questions must be relevant to issues facing our state, particularly at the district level, and not constructed in such a way as to favor a particular candidate. All questions must be received by Wednesday, October 26th.

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Cross Country: HKHS Wins Two Invitationals

Continued from page HK1

and placed first overall as a team with 52 points, defeating the 23 other teams from New York and New Jersey in the race. The girls were led by Freshman Grace Mitchell, who placed 4th in the race with a time of 20:04. Following her was Senior Izzy Berardino in 5th (20:08), Freshman Delaney Aronson, 11th (20:55), Junior Sydney Adelberg, 16th (21:18) and Sophomore Keira Sehl-Albert, 18th (21:26). Rounding out the rest of the team were Seniors Kira O'Brien, 31st (22:55) and Chloe Lacoss, 36th (23:06).



Photos courtesy of Matt Diggs.

The Boys team also raced well to place 4th as a team out of the 20 teams in the race. They were led by Senior Tri-Captain Alex Lara, who placed 13th

in the race with a time of 16:54. Next to cross the line were teammates, Senior Jack Insalaco, 16th (17:02), Sophomore Jack Cozean, 28th (17:34), Junior Luke Hedges, 34th (18:00) and Senior Joe Giaccone, 50th (18:53).

At the Connecticut River Valley Invitational, held at Cromwell High School, the Boys JV squad swept the first 3 places to win the meet with a score of 20 points. They were led by race winner, Freshman Daniel McCourt, who covered the 5,000 meter course in a time of 18:11. The Girls team placed third overall, scoring 72 points and were led by Sophomore Margaret Robinson, who placed 9th in a time of 23:52 for the 3.1 mile course.

The Cross Country team also played on Saturday, September 23, at the Ocean State Invitational in Warwick, Rhode Island.

REAL ESTATE

Transactions for July & August

Information from *The Hartford Courant*

HADDAM

17 Teaberry Ct, J. W. and S. M. Houde to S. Segal and J. Bills, 7/19, \$575,000

70 Burr Rd., Venture Parkland, LLC to D. and M. G. Rambo, 7/19, \$605,000

243 Pokorny Rd., L. A. Prokop to J. and P. Beekley, 7/18, \$481,000

75 Little Meadow Rd., GV Residential LLC and G. V. Vesta to Belle Vue Properties LLC, 7/25, \$135,000

xx Landing Rd., L. Murad to R. and B. Murad, 8/1, \$150,000

33 Little Fawn Trl., A. Bochman to K. S. Christensen, 8/3, \$509,000

37 Sepunnono Ln., J. Telan, Jr. and C. G. Telan to R. and L. Drozd, 8/1, \$575,000

60 E. Shore Dr., B. G. Meyer Est. and L. M. Mascaro to J. V. and B. Meyer, 8/4, \$222,500

224 Rock Landing Rd., T. M. and S. M. Macauley to M. Fournier, 8/2, \$331,000

42 Old Cart Rd., Old Cart Rd. LLC to D. and S. Fontaine, 8/8, \$110,000

439 Plains Rd., R. Hamilton to E. and N. Pullen, 8/9, \$535,000

KILLINGWORTH

12 Cedar Dr., G. K. and H. M. Kennedy to J. and E. Maragliano, 7/18, \$437,000

12 Lower Ledge Rd., A. L. and W. B. Duques to M. J. and L. Magner, 7/29, \$803,000

55 Burr Hill Rd., P. R. and L. A. Horner to S. Guiheen, 7/25, \$345,000

60 Schnoor Rd., J. Woodward and K. Kronberg to D. M. Moore and M. Davidson, 7/28, \$400,000

370 Rt. 148, J. T. Hutchins and M. C. Rodini-Vansetti to S. J. Kooperkamp and W. C. Lopez, 7/26, \$450,000

72 Birch Mill Rd., D. E. Baxter to R. M. and A. Hacker, 8/8, \$1,050,000

35 Buell Hill Rd., J. and E. Hand to C. J. Winalski 3rd and A. Winalski, 8/4, \$757,000

Haddam Killingworth News

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Thursday, September 29

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

Dungeons and Dragons for Teens - Killingworth Library 5:30 p.m.

Love2Sign - Killingworth Library 10:45 a.m. Fun, interactive sign language classes for children ages 6 months to 6 years old. Through October 27.

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

Friday, September 30

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

Cricut Crafting for Teens - Killingworth Library 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. A Cricut is a cutting machine that can cut a wide variety of materials for craft projects (like paper, vinyl, and light wood veneers). We will be starting off with easy projects and gradually progressing to more complex ones. Teens only, please - sharp tools will be in use! Program runs from September 23 through December 16.

Cricut Crafting for Adults - Killingworth Library 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 1

Haddam River Days 5:00 p.m. Haddam Meadows State Park. Fireworks later in the evening (around 8:30 p.m.)

Minecraft for Kids - Killingworth Library 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Minecraft for Tweens - Killingworth Library 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Ray of Light Silent Auction 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. There will be food and fun at the farm (232 Town

Street, East Haddam) with a silent auction, a live auction, an online auction and a kids auction, live music by Center Line, food by Slice of New Haven.

Sunday, October 2

Middlesex County Historical Society 36th Annual Antique Car Show 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Palmer Field on Bernie O'Rourke Drive off Washington Street in Middletown.

Haddam-Killingworth CROP Walk to End Hunger - Chatfield Hollow State Park Route 80 Killingworth, 12:00 p.m.

Monday, October 3

Killingworth Charter Revision Commission meeting 7:00 p.m. (remote).

Killingworth Park & Recreation meeting 7:30 p.m. Emergency Operations Center.

Lego Club Themed Build - Brainerd Memorial Library 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 4

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

Do the Write Thing for Kids - Killingworth Library 5:45 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

Do the Write Thing for Tweens - Killingworth Library 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 5

Lego Hangout - Killingworth Library 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 6

Music with Margie - Brainerd Memorial Library 11:00 a.m.

Love2Sign - Killingworth Library 10:45 a.m.

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

Parmelee Farm Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m. Pond Room.

HADDAM SENIOR CORNER

Upcoming Events at Club 60

By Marjorie DeBold and Jo Ann Woickelman

Someone special is coming to the Haddam Club 60 meeting on Monday, October 17. Vicki Harlow, longtime Haddam resident and local author, will treat us to background information about writing her new book, convince us about the importance of the animals in her and our lives, and maybe give us hints about what we'll find in her new mystery, *Books, Bites and Murder*.

Vicki is a good storyteller, and we are sure that her book will reflect that. We wanted to ask her, "Are the three cats pictured on the book's cover important in the story? Did they solve the mystery?" After all, a murder occurs early in the book. The cats must be important to the story. Surely by the end of the novel, the mystery will be solved. By that time we will have learned more about the role of Vicki's three rescue cats, the effects of Lyme Disease on Zoey, the main character, and - if it's like most detective stories - the murder mystery will be solved.

While this event is happening at a Haddam Club 60 meeting, all Haddam Seniors are invited to join us, and possibly consider becoming members of our well-established and long-lasting group. Our dues this year

are \$8. We serve refreshments, and our meetings offer good chances to get together with old friends and to meet new ones.

Mark your calendar now for:

Haddam Club 60

Vicki Harlow's Visit

Monday, October 17, at 1:00 p.m.

Community Center near the foot of Candlewood Hill Road, Higganum Center.

While you're looking at this year's calendar, set aside these upcoming meeting dates (generally the first and third Mondays of the month, and all at the Community Center at 1:00 p.m. unless noted):

- October 3 - Business Meeting
- October 17 - Vicki Harlow, Author
- November 7 - Business Meeting
- November 21 - Nancy Meyers, Patriotic Program
- December 5 - Christmas Party at St. Peter Church Hall
- December 19 - Business Meeting

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FAITH/COMMUNITY

Killingworth Congregational Church Annual Outdoor Fall Festival

By Leslie Judge

The Congregational Church in Killingworth, UCC, will hold its Annual Outdoor Fall Festival on the front lawn on Saturday, October 1, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (rain date is October 8). Join us for family-friendly events. Highlights include a Silent Auction, 50-50 Raffle, attic

treasures, home goods, clothing, Chrysanthemums of all colors, bake sale, food and so much more. For further information or to donate items (please donate items in very good condition), call the church office at 860-663-1789 or visit <https://killingworthchurch.org/>



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How It Happened: The Path to Saving Deer Lake

By Clark Judge

A chance meeting. A spurned offer. An unexpected phone call. Put them together, and you have the last step in a grassroots effort that became one of the biggest stories in recent Killingworth history.

The purchase of Deer Lake from the Boy Scouts. The 255-property was acquired last week by Pathfinders, Inc., a local non-profit dedicated to its preservation, for \$4.75 million – a figure that eclipsed a previous offer of \$4.625 million by a private developer.

But you knew that. What you may not know is that it was secured only after Tom Mercaldo, president of Aquinas Consulting in Milford, made a last-minute, \$500,000 loan to Pathfinders to clinch the deal, with an announcement at a news conference on September 16th.

“This wasn’t just a come-from-behind victory for Deer Lake and the community,” Connecticut Attorney General William Tong said then. “This was a Hail Mary.”

Now it’s a Hail Tom.

An Eagle Scout, who is the Boy Scout Leader of Troop 1 in Milford, has 38 years experience in the Scouts, and camped multiple times at Deer Lake (including once as a CampMaster), Tom Mercaldo (photo above) was interested in keeping the property as green space. So he approached Deer Lake’s owner, the Connecticut Yankee Council (CYC) of the Boy Scouts of America, with an offer to buy the property at \$2-3 million and keep it open to the public.

He was rebuffed.

“I was discouraged,” said Mercaldo. “The idea that the property wouldn’t be available to the people of Killingworth, Clinton and Madison wasn’t conceivable to me. I thought it was all over.”

It wasn’t. With the help of a sister (Renee Allen) who lives in Clinton, Mercaldo learned of Pathfinders’ Save Deer Lake fundraising campaign. So he decided to investigate, liked what he found and offered to help. Result: Success. He made Pathfinders a \$500,000 loan that pushed its offer to \$4.75 million and produced a settlement.

“I realized that we all had the same goals in mind,” Mercaldo said after being named to the Pathfinders Board of Directors on September 20th, “and that it would be best to turn my attention to supporting this group. They were basically trying to accomplish the

same thing that I was.”

Which was?

“To preserve this camp in perpetuity,” he said, “for use by the Boy Scouts, for use for inner-city kids, to save it as a greenway and, hopefully, get it to a point where the property was deeded as open space. Really, the goals of Pathfinders were the exact same goals that I have and everybody I was working with have. So the timing was right.”

So were the individuals.

It turns out that Mercaldo and Ted Langevin, Chairman of Pathfinders, knew each other. They first met in 2010 when they helped build lean-to’s at Deer Lake for a Cub Scouts venture that eventually fizzled. But the two hadn’t been in touch since, with Mercaldo conceding that he was unaware of Langevin’s involvement with fundraising for Deer Lake until he phoned him.

“It’s funny,” he said. “I had almost forgotten who he was. I saw the literature (on Pathfinders) and said, ‘I’ve got to reach out to this guy, Ted.’ And as I started to type his email address and it came up in my Outlook as Ted Langevin with all his contact info, I said, ‘Wait a minute, this is the guy who was organizing all the work parties at Deer Lake that I worked with every weekend for all those years.’ It had been 12 years since I had seen him. So I reached out to him, and after I did, I thought: Maybe these guys have a shot.”

Mercaldo’s offer followed one made earlier by Don Vaccaro, CEO of Ticket Network. He approached Pathfinders in March with an unsolicited \$1.3-million loan that elevated the group’s fundraising total to a figure just shy of \$4.3 million – a total that provoked Pathfinders to make an offer in late March that was rejected.

Enter Mercaldo, and you know what happened next.

“He called me up,” said Langevin, “and said, ‘I’m doing the same thing you’re doing. Let’s join forces.’ It was pretty much a similar type of phone call that I got from (Vaccaro). They were both cold calls. He had e-mailed me and said, ‘I think I can help you.’ So I told him, ‘Great, I’ll bring it to the Board.’ And I did.

“I didn’t know Don at all, and I barely knew Tom. But I had a feeling about each of them. They were honest. They were in the same mode of thinking that the Board was. And they could help us.”

Both offered low-interest advances so critical to closing the Deer Lake purchase that Mercaldo and Vaccaro were asked to speak at last week’s news conference. Mercaldo did. Former State Rep. Bruce Morris stepped in for Vaccaro.

“This was something that needed to get done,” Morris said. “But there’s another piece to this. The Hail Mary pass was received. We need to get on to permanency. We encourage everyone for the posterity ... for the legacy of the state of Connecticut ... for the children of the future ... to let’s see what we can do to get the posterity done.”

That’s next. Deer Lake has been saved from development, but it hasn’t been saved for posterity – not until Pathfinders retires the \$1.8 mortgage and puts a permanent conservation easement on the property.

“I hope I can play a part in achieving those goals and play a part in fundraising,” Mercaldo said. He already has.



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Girls Swim: HKHS Wins Season Opener 90-77

By Alison Karam, Head Coach,
HKHS Girls Swim Team

The Haddam-Killingworth High School Girls Swim team won its first dual meet of the season on Tuesday, September 13, defeating Old Lyme/ Valley Regional/Old Saybrook 90-77. The H-K Cougar girls took first and third in the opening 200-yard medley relay and held the lead for the remainder of the meet. H-K co-captain Erin Marica qualified for State Championships in the 500-yard freestyle, swimming 6:07.47. Lauren Lee of Old Lyme qualified for States in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:09.66. Twelve swimmers scored the

winning points for H-K: Aleysha Brawley (SR), Emma Sajus (JR), Erin Marica (SR, co-captain), Johanna "Jo" Houska (SR, co-captain), Kristen Thebeau (SR, captain), Layla Hayward (JR), Maggie Miller (FR) Olivia Campo (SO), Olivia "Liv" Macaluso (SO), Peyton Tyler (JR), Sofia Campo (SO), Veronica "VV" Pypa (SO).

Top 3 finishes for H-K:

200-yard Medley Relay

1st: H-K (Thebeau, Marica, Houska, Macaluso)

3rd: H-K (Miller, S. Campo, Sajus, Hayward)

200-yard Freestyle

1st: Peyton Tyler (H-K)

200- yard Individual Medley

2nd: Jo Houska (H-K)

50- yard Freestyle

1st: Layla Hayward (H-K)

2nd: Kristen Thebeau (H-K)

100-yard Butterfly

2nd: Jo Houska (H-K)

3rd: Emma Sajus (H-K)

100- yard Freestyle

1st: Liv Macaluso (H-K)

3rd: Peyton Tyler (H-K)

500- yard Freestyle

1st: Erin Marica (H-K) *

200- yard Freestyle Relay

1st: H-K (Houska, Miller, Hayward, Tyler)

3rd: H-K (Sajus, O. Campo, Brawley, S. Campo)

COMMUNITY

Upcoming Haddam Land Trust Events

Information provided by the Haddam Land Trust

Mushroom Walk: Saturday, October 1, at 9:00 a.m. Bill Yule, retired teacher/environmental educator and naturalist will be our mushroom guide through the pathways, wetlands and forest of the Beaver Ledges Preserve. The walk may last most of the morning. It is dry, but hilly. Bring a pair of good walking legs, liquid, maybe a walking stick, and a basket to collect and identify the mushrooms at the end of the walk.

Directions: Traveling south on Saybrook Road/Route 154, just past the Route 82 ramp, take a right onto Dudley Clark Road, then a right onto Old Chester Road. Follow Old Chester Road to the overpass about 1.5 miles. Park beyond the overpass before the one-lane gravel road. We will meet just beyond the overpass. The preserve entrance is 1/3 of a mile from the parking area. Damp=yes, rain=no!

Full Moon River Paddle: Saturday, October 8, at 5:30 p.m. We will leave the boat launch at Haddam Meadows State Park at 5:30. Canoes and kayaks are welcome! The program should last two to three hours. This is a family outing. Children are welcome. Bring some campfire food and join us for a pleasant evening on the river. You may find this paddle to be a delightful hiatus from a sometimes busy holiday weekend. Weather permitting, we should have an easy, short paddle and a good time telling tales around the

campfire. Life jackets are MANDATORY and must be worn. A flashlight and a whistle are also good. Rain, snow, heavy winds, floods, hail and/or thick lava flows will cancel this program.

For information on any of the programs above, contact Peter Smith at 860-267-9223 or check www.hltrust.org for changes and updates.

Continued on page HK7

HEALTH/WELLNESS

Senior Fall Flu Clinic: October 5

Information from the Town of Haddam

A Senior Fall Flu Clinic will be held on Wednesday, October 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the former Haddam Elementary School, 272 Saybrook Road in Higganum. The event is being hosted by the Town of Haddam and Nutmeg Pharmacy, with support from the Department of Social Services and the Committee on Aging. Lunch will be served. For further information, contact Nutmeg Pharmacy in Higganum, 860-345-3607.

LEGAL

TOWN OF HADDAM PLANNING AND ZONING PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING

The Planning and Zoning Commission of Haddam, Connecticut will hold a Public Hearing at the Old Town Hall, 30 Field Park Haddam CT on October 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. to act upon the following item(s):

Public Hearing and Meeting:

1. Proposed special permit to allow adaptive re-use of a historic building, formally known as State DOT garage/Scovill Hoe factory, for a mix of shops, galleries, lifestyle business offices, restaurants and brewery.

Location: 11 Candlewood Hill Rd - Map 15/Lot 90.
Applicant: PB Projects 8/Shannon Healy

Said application is on file in the Land Use Office of the Town of Haddam. Planning and zoning Commission, Haddam CT



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Girls Swim: HKHS Wins Season Opener 90-77

Continued from page HK6

100- yard Backstroke

2nd: Liv Macaluso (H-K)

3rd: K. Thebeau (H-K)

100- yard Breaststroke

1st: Erin Marica (H-K)

400- yard Freestyle Relay

1st: H-K (Tyler, Thebeau, Macaluso, Marica)

*Time qualifies for State Championships



Pictured L-R Peyton Tyler (JR), Emma Sajus (JR) and Erin Marica (SR co-captain). Photo by Ronnie Thebeau.

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HVFC Responds: Mutual Aid Assists with Truck Accident Route 9 South

By Olivia Drake, HVFC Information Officer

A patient was transported to Hartford Hospital via Life Star on Sept. 20 following a motor vehicle accident on Route 9 South between exits 9 and 10.

At 1:00 p.m., Haddam Volunteer Fire Company, along with mutual aid from Middletown South District and Middletown Rescue 1, were dispatched

to the scene. Upon arrival, crews found a dump truck down an embankment with the operator pinned inside the vehicle against a tree.

Crews stabilized the vehicle, and made preliminary attempts to extricate the patient, however, the tree was blocking access to the vehicle. Officers then called for a heavy-duty rotating wrecker to help free the vehicle from the tree. Once the vehicle was more



easily-accessible, extrication resumed for more than an hour and crews from Middletown hauled the patient out of the embankment using a ropes and pulleys system.

Once the patient was extricated, he was treated by EMTs and paramedics from Haddam Ambulance, Middlesex Health, and Life Star before being transported to Hartford Hospital with moderate injuries.

HVFC thanks our mutual aid companies and on-scene support from:

- South Fire District Firefighters IAFF Local 3918
- South Fire District Middletown
- City of Middletown
- Professional Firefighters Local 1073
- LIFE STAR
- Middlesex Health
- Haddam Volunteer Ambulance Service, Inc.
- Untouchable Towing & Auto Repair



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Photos by Sam Baber, HVFC Chief.

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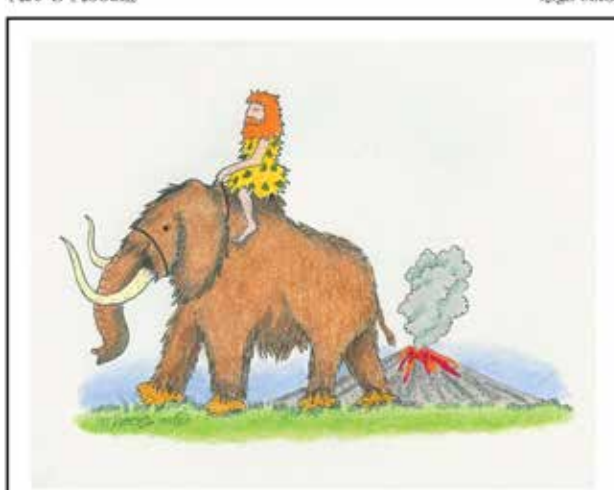
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