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# Haddam Killingworth News

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September 8, 2022

For breaking news go to [HK-Now.com](http://HK-Now.com) every day

Free weekly

## Killingworth Artisan Market at Parmelee Farm: September 10



By Laura Lefko

The Parmelee Farm Artisan Market will be held at Parmelee Farm on Route 81 in Killingworth on September 10th from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., rain or shine. I had a chance to speak with Karen Milano one of the people who started the market in 2014 along with her good friend Susan Hotkowski. Susan now runs the popular Chester Sunday Market. Linda Dudek joined Karen as her partner a year later.

Linda and Karen were both members of what was originally called the "Parmelee Farm Steering Committee," a group of appointed volunteers who were dedicated to the resurrection of the farm as a gathering place for the community. The goal of the market was to raise funds to support the ongoing work at Parmelee Farm. The market originally began as a monthly summer event and over time evolved into a yearly event that is loved by all of Killingworth and the surrounding towns.

Karen and Linda work independently throughout the year to assemble the market. They enlist a large group of friends, civic groups, and the

rest of the current Parmelee Farm Committee to help out on market day and throughout the year to assist in their efforts.

The market utilizes the entire grounds of the farm; with 90 or more



Photos by Parmelee Farm Artisan Market.

vendors, there is "something for everyone." All artisan ware is hand-made by quality artisans, some of whom are our neighbors right here in Killingworth. You'll find woodcraft, cutlery, jewelry, pottery, soaps and lotions, clothing, furniture, pet products, alpaca products, candles, local honey and florals, wreaths, glass art, paintings, photography, handbags, farm produce, jams and sauces, and so much more. Literally "something for everyone."

Also represented are the nonprofits that do so much to help the community: the Lions Club, the Killingworth Women's Organization (KWO), HK Backpack Program, Save Deer Lake, and Helping Hands Food Pantry all will have a presence at the market. The Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company will be selling breakfast sandwiches, hamburgers and hot dogs all day to raise funds to support their efforts. Tee-Shirts to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Fire Company also will be available via their Auxiliary.

The market is pet-friendly, and Rover is welcome; he must be well-behaved and be on a leash at all times. Free parking, free admission. When the Parmelee Farm parking lot is full, you can park at the HK Middle School next door; there is a short, marked, and easy-to-walk trail from the school to the market grounds.

## Schemmerling Completes Ranger 1 & Advanced Ranger Courses

By Sharon Challenger

Ranger Tristan Schemmerling, of Killingworth, completed Ranger 1 and the Advanced Ranger Course of the 2022 XMC Ranger Course Program. The courses took place from July 2-30, 2022 at Camp Liberty, Alabama. Ranger Schemmerling, 16-years old, also attends Xavier High School.



Extreme Military Challenge (XMC) offers a variety of courses, including Cadet Basic Training, Cadet Field Leader Course, Cadet, Fitness Challenge, Cadet Ranger School, Cadet Scuba School, and more.

According to their website, Cadet Ranger School is organized into two phases. Before Cadets can begin their training, they must pass an intensive selection process. Applicants must be highly-motivated young men or women, age 16 or older, and a graduate of XMC Cadet Basic Training program. XMC also

Continued on page HK2

## KVFC Hosts Fireman's Ball to Celebrate 75th Anniversary: September 17

By Brianna Shipman, KVFC

Come dance the night away with the members of KVFC!

Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company is pleased to be celebrating our 75th anniversary of service to the community. To honor our volunteers and all

Continued on page HK4

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# Schemmerling Completes Ranger 1 & Advanced Ranger Courses

Continued from page HK1

recommends they attend the Cadet Field Leader Course where Cadets learn how to fit into a team and develop critical thinking skills.

“Phase I (of the Ranger Course Program) is designed to expose Cadets to challenging situations designed to test and develop their skills in extreme leadership, teamwork, self-reliance. The skills they learn are designed to be used and built upon the rest of their lives. By the end of Phase I, Cadets must work as a self-sustaining team to plan, train, execute, and debrief missions.” Extreme Military Challenge Courses (2013-2022) Available at: <https://www.xmccamp.com/cadet-ranger-school> (Accessed: August, 25, 2022).

If a Cadet completes Phase I, they earn the right to wear the Cadet Ranger Tab. Upon completion of Phase 2, the Cadet receives the “Cadet Ranger” beret.

Cadet Ranger School is the toughest and most intense of their programs. This training is reserved for young men and women who are driven to excel within a military training environment.

His mother, Rachel, notes that in addition to all of these accomplishments, Tristan “is also an Eagle Scout Candidate for Troop 18 of the Boy Scouts of America in Killingworth” and “plans to raise a memorial flagpole in front of the Congregational Church of Killingworth, honoring those who have served for the United States Military. He wants to give back to his country and honor those who sacrificed so much for the freedoms that we enjoy today. The memorial flag and 30’ flagpole will be placed on the lawn of the Congregational



Ranger Tristan Schemmerling. Photos courtesy of Rachel Schemmerling.

Church of Killingworth, which serves as the finish for the Memorial Day town parade. Donations will help to cover the costs associated with excavation of the area, raising the flagpole, and the materials. The flagpole will be a pillar of honor and tribute to those, living and deceased, who have given their service to this great nation. He hopes that his project will instill a sense of pride in our town and country and honor the legacy of those who served. Find more information at <https://linktr.ee/memorialflagofhonor>

# KVFC Hosts Fireman’s Ball to Celebrate 75th Anniversary: September 17

Continued from page HK1

their hard work over the years we have decided to bring back the Fireman’s Ball. On September 17, we will be hosting KVFC’s 75th Anniversary ball from 5:00 p.-m. – 10:00 p.m.

This event will be located at Parmelee Farm in Killingworth. Tickets will be going on sale effective immediately. Tickets will be \$25 cash per ticket and a ticket is required for entry. We will not be selling tickets at the door. Tickets will also have a tear-off stub that we will use as a raffle ticket entry.

There is limited parking at Parmelee Farm – first come, first serve. Overflow parking will be at Haddam Killingworth Middle School, which has a well-lit walking path to Parmelee Farm. This is a semi-formal event. We have hired GrooveTime Band to perform for the event, and we will provide light fare.

This is a BYOB – adult event! We encourage you to bring snacks as well as your favorite drinks. We will have tables and chairs under a tent for your convenience, but feel free to bring a lawn chair or blankets if you just want to chill in the grass and enjoy the music! We do ask that if you do not plan on attending, please do not purchase a ticket because ticket numbers are limited!

If you wish to just donate, you can come see us at the Artisan Market or purchase a tee shirt!

To purchase tickets, please email: [Briannashipman17@yahoo.com](mailto:Briannashipman17@yahoo.com) – If you do not have access to an email, you can direct message us on Facebook for Brianna’s phone number.

We hope to see you all there! Find us at our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/KillingworthVFC>

**Addresses:**

**Parmelee Farm:**

465 Route 81, Killingworth CT 06419

**Haddam Killingworth Middle School:**

451 Route 81, Killingworth CT 06419

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# HK Mentoring Program Seeking Mentors and Mentees

By Ray Galloway, HK Mentoring Program

Youth and Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth Executive Director Tyree Hughey, Regional School District 17 and HK Mentor Program developers Ray Galloway and Patty Coletti would like the residents of Haddam and Killingworth to have an increased awareness of a recent initiative, namely, the HK Mentoring Program. The HK Mentoring Program is a partnership between RSD 17 and HKYFS. The primary goal of the program is to match a trusted, caring adult with a student from the HK community who could benefit from having a relationship with a responsible adult. Mentees may be nominated for the program by a teacher, school staff member, or parent. Mentees and mentors meet weekly at school during the school year. Adult mentors will provide student mentees with attention and friendship. Mentors will also provide opportunities to engage mentees in fun activities that build confidence, optimism and positive relationships with others.

In collaboration with the HKYFS Executive Director, two volunteers from our communities with an interest in renewing an earlier mentoring program, Ray Galloway, who is now Chairperson of the HK Mentor Program Advisory Council, and Patty Coletti, who is now HK Mentor Program Coordinator, began developing the current program in 2019. It began as a pilot program, with nominees coming from the second and third grades in RSD 17 schools. Currently, students from grades 2 to 6 have participated; eventually, we enthusiastically look forward to including students from all grade levels. Ray and Patty have collaborated

with HKYFS staff and have had the privilege of having as their mentor and trainer, the founder of the very first mentoring program in Connecticut, Dr. Susan Weinberger of Norwalk. The current program was ready to launch and train new mentors in March 2020; however, Covid 19 necessitated a change to those plans. Accordingly, Patty and Ray shifted gears as a direct result of COVID restrictions and, as an alternative to in-person/in-school meetings, arranged for mentees and mentors to communicate as pen pals and later to meet virtually. After several months, a few mentors and mentees had the opportunity to meet in-person, as long as either the parents or another responsible adult was nearby.

As of February 2022, and as a result of RSD 17 relaxing its COVID restrictions, our current mentors and mentees began meeting in-person and in schools. This was a very important and exciting stage of the program's development! In March 2022, three new mentor/mentee pairs were matched and also began meeting in schools weekly. This past school year there were 8 mentee/mentor matches meeting among Killingworth Elementary School, Burr Elementary School, H-K Intermediate School and H-K Middle School. Ray and Patty have both had mentees, starting as pen pals and have continued their friendships, now meeting in person during the school year. Ray and Patty highly recommend becoming a mentor. It is a very rewarding and beneficial experience for both mentors and mentees. We anticipate having 3 new applicants ready to be matched soon; they all seem eager to start! We hope to match each of them with a mentee this fall.

We are always looking to nominate new mentees and to recruit new

mentors as well. Mentees are most often nominated by a teacher or school staff member. Typically, a member of the school staff contacts parents to share the idea of nominating their child for the program prior to proceeding. If the parents wish for their child to participate in the HK Mentoring Program, they are asked to sign a permission form. Students are nominated for a variety of reasons, yet the common thought for each student is that he or she would benefit from having another caring, attentive, adult friend. Ray and Patty conduct periodic informational sessions for those interested in learning more about the program. Prospective mentors must complete an application, must provide references, agree to a criminal background check screening, and attend a two-hour New Mentor Training Program before being matched with a student mentee. Once a mentor begins meeting with their mentee, mentors are asked to

participate in on-going training. In addition, mentors are monitored by the Program Coordinator and School Liaison throughout the school year.

HKYFS and the HK Mentoring Program would like to extend much gratitude to The Middlesex County Community Foundation and the Killingworth Community Foundation for providing a generous grant. The grant ensured continued development of the program and helped us to eventually reach an intended and very important goal, namely for mentors and mentees to meet in-person at the student's school each week. We would also like to thank our wonderful mentor volunteers, parents and mentees, as well as the RSD 17 Board of Education and staff members, inclusive of Superintendent Jeff Wihbey, teachers, principals and support staff, HKYFS Board of Directors and staff, for supporting the program.

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Nurse Case Managers: Helpful or Harmful?  
By Attorney Alexander J. Sarris

Injured employees typically are assigned a nurse case manager at the onset of a new workers' compensation claim. The purported purpose of a nurse case manager is to act as a liaison between the injured worker, medical treaters and insurance company to ensure seamless treatment and a speedy recovery.

So how is this a problem? First of all, the nurse case manager is compensated by the insurance company (or even employer) and not the employee. Thus, because the insurance company and employer have a financial incentive to keep medical costs down and return the injured employee back to work as quickly as possible, so too does the nurse case manager. This approach may be at odds with the injured worker's best interest – particularly if it involves a lengthy recovery. Keep the following in mind:

- You have the right to choose if you want a nurse case manager at all.
- You have the right to enter a medical examination room without a nurse case manager present if you so choose.
- You have the right to attend a medical examination without pressure from a nurse case manager for the doctor to speed up your timetable to return back to work before it is medically advisable to do so.

With all those factors in mind, if you are feeling overwhelmed and need some guidance on whether a nurse case manager is helping or harming your case, please contact us right away.

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

## Thursday, September 8

Haddam Park & Recreation meeting 7:30 p.m.  
Killingworth Conservation Commission meeting 7:00 p.m. (remote).  
Toddler Tunes - Brainerd Memorial Library 11:00 a.m.

## Friday, September 9

Higganum Farmers Market 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
FOOD TRUCK "Get Stuffed" Music by Mark Fornwald.

## Sunday, September 11

Killingworth Car Cruises - The car & truck cruises will again take place from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. on the front lawn of Parmelee Farm before each summer concert on the 2nd Sunday of the month thru September.  
Killingworth Summer Concert Series - Parmelee Farm 5:00 p.m.

## Monday, September 12

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Killingworth Open Space Committee meeting 6:00 p.m. (remote).  
Haddam Board of Selectmen meeting 6:30 p.m.  
Killingworth Board of Selectmen meeting 7:00 p.m. Town Office Bldg.  
Killingworth Park & Recreation meeting 7:30 p.m. Sheldon Park.

## Tuesday, September 13

Killingworth Health & Safety Committee meeting 2:30 p.m. Town Office Bldg.  
Preschool Storytime at Brainerd Memorial Library 11:00 a.m. Join us every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. for themed stories, songs, finger plays, and crafts. Appropriate for children ages 2 to 5, but siblings are always welcome. Storytime is held outside, weather permitting. Folding chairs will be provided, and families are welcome to bring a picnic blanket if they prefer.  
RSD #17 Board of Education meeting 7:00 p.m. Central Office.  
Killingworth Board of Finance meeting 7:00 p.m. Town Office Bldg.  
Killingworth Inland Wetlands Commission meeting 7:00 p.m. Town Office Bldg.

## Wednesday, September 14

The Killingworth Women's Organization and Killingworth Seniors Club will host an event on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. called "Living Your Best Life: Recognizing Aging in Yourself and Others, or Where Did My Eyebrows Go?" The program will be held at the St. Lawrence Church

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Social Hall, 7 Hemlock Drive in Killingworth. Register by September 5, 2022 at [KillingworthSeniors@gmail.com](mailto:KillingworthSeniors@gmail.com) or by calling 860-452-4420 (leave a message). Seating is limited to 60 participants.

Haddam Economic Development meeting 6:30 p.m.  
Brainerd Memorial Library Culinary Club - Second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The theme for this week is Soup and Stews.  
Killingworth Public Health Agency meeting 7:00 p.m. (remote).

## Thursday, September 15

Toddler Tunes - Brainerd Memorial Library 11:00 a.m.  
Mystery Book Club - Killingworth Library 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Join us as we discuss Local Woman Missing by Mary Kubica. Extra copies will be available for checkout at the circulation desk. Meeting location to be determined. Newcomers are always welcome!  
Love2Sign - At Killingworth Library 10:45 a.m. Jaye Carlson returns with a fall session of Love2Sign! Fun, interactive sign language classes for children ages 6 months to 6 years old. The program starts on September 15th and runs for 7 weeks, through October 27th. Please register for each class that you can attend 860 663-2000. The program will be held in the children's room. Adults must remain with their children for the duration of the program.  
Haddam Planning & Zoning meeting 7:00 p.m.

## LEGAL

### TOWN OF HADDAM INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

The Inlands Wetlands Commission of Haddam, Connecticut has given the following agent approval:

1. A permit to allow for a detached metal 26'x30' garage within the upland review area.  
Location: 735 Candlewood Hill Rd - Applicant: Jonathan and Patricia Rose

Said applications are on file in the Land Use Office of the Town of Haddam.  
Inland Wetlands Commission, Haddam CT

### TOWN OF HADDAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

Zoning Board of Appeals, Haddam, Connecticut will hold a Public Hearing at the Haddam Town Hall, 21 Field Park Dr., Haddam, CT on September 29, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. to act upon the following item (s):

1. Request for a front yard variance to Section 4 and Table 1 of the Zoning Code to authorize the construction of a detached garage to be within 10 feet when 30ft is required at 493 Little City Rd, Higganum. Applicant: William Vinopal  
Said application is on file in the Land Use Office of the Town of Haddam.  
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# Living Your Best Life: KWO Hosts a Program on Aging and Health

By Joyce Mason

The Killingworth Women's Organization and Killingworth Seniors Club will host an event on Wednesday, September 14, called "Living Your Best Life: Recognizing Aging in Yourself and Others, or Where Did My Eyebrows Go?" The program will be held at the St. Lawrence Church Social Hall, 7 Hemlock Drive in Killingworth. Check-in begins at 10:00 a.m. The program runs from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and a light lunch will be served.

Speakers will include: Keith Lyke, Pharmacist; Molly Standley, Family & Patient Advocate;

Micaela Finnegan, LMSW; Mary Fretz, EMT, Killingworth Ambulance Association.

Topics will include:

- HEALTH ISSUES AS ONE AGES
  - HOW TO BE A CAREGIVER
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  - HOW TO COMMUNICATE CONCERNS TO YOUR DOCTOR
  - IMPORTANCE OF MAMMOGRAMS, WITH LYNN ALSTON
- Register by September 5 at KillingworthSeniors@gmail.com or by calling 860-452-4420 (leave a message). Seating is limited to 60 participants.

# Fun, Friends and Community: Join the Haddam Garden Club!

By Terry Twigg

The Haddam Garden Club is about so much more than gardening. With 35 to 40 members, it's big enough to introduce you to lots of interesting people, but small enough to encourage making real new friends. At its meetings, held on the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Community Center, the club discusses its many civic projects—we maintain all the gardens you see around town, including those at the library, the transfer station, the town greens, Town Office Building, and more—but there's always plenty of time for camaraderie and laughter (and delicious lunches).

Often there are speakers on topics of interest—not strictly gardening, but also conservation, floral design, occasionally cooking and crafts. And the field trips are the best! Even with Covid-19 restrictions, we visited the New York Botanical Garden's famous Holiday Train Show, as well as this summer's production of the play "Native Gardens" at the Ivoryton Playhouse. Next month we'll be traveling to Enders Island, which features spectacular gardens on a small island just off Stonington. Other adventures are always in the works.

You'll see club members around town planting daffodils in the fall,

selling our home-grown flowers at the Higganum Farmers Market, and managing the flower competition at the Haddam Neck Fair. Feel free to stop and talk to any of us about our projects.

To learn more:

\*Contact our membership chair, Elizabeth Adams, ega5825@icloud.com, or club president Debbie Karpf, msfroller@aol.com.

\*Come to any meeting. During Covid, meetings aren't open to the general public, but prospective new members are invited. Please let Elizabeth or Deb know you're coming.

\* Check out our website, <https://www.haddamgardenclub.org>. and our Facebook page.

We can't wait to meet you!



Photo by Terry Twigg.

## TOWN OF HADDAM

# FREE Radon Test Kits for Haddam Residents available

Information from the Town of Haddam

Radon is a colorless, odorless gas. Testing is the only way to find out if your home has elevated radon levels. The DPH Radon Program recommends that Connecticut residents throughout the state test the air in their homes for radon.

CRAHD will be partnering with DPH to offer free Radon Test Kits to our residents in Fall 2022/Winter 2023.

Residents can start to register online: FREE RADON TEST KIT or visit [www.haddam.org](http://www.haddam.org) to print out the paper form and return it to the Town Hall.

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# Agreement Near on Preserving Deer Lake Property

By Clark Judge

Deer Lake is one step closer to being saved.

Nearly one year after the 300-acre property was listed for sale, a contract for purchase has been signed between Pathfinders, Inc., a local nonprofit dedicated to preserving and protecting it from development, and Deer Lake's owner, the Connecticut Yankee Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

That news broke on September 1, when Pathfinders posted a release on Facebook, announcing the deal to buy the tract is for \$4.75 million and that a September 15, 2022 closing is scheduled.

The post also indicated that the agreement covers the entire acreage of Deer Lake, its buildings and all improvements connected with the Deer Lake Camp. It said that Pathfinders will continue to operate the summer camp and Wilderness School and plans to

work with the state and Town of Killingworth "to ensure that the land is protected in perpetuity."

"We are relieved to report that the beautiful and ecologically crucial Deer Lake property can be protected forever," said Pathfinders president Ted Langevin in a prepared statement.

However, a spokesman for the Connecticut Yankee Council challenged the report, saying news of a sale is premature and asking that "we all remain unified" until the deal is complete.

"We just signed a purchase agreement," said Bob Brown of the Connecticut Yankee Council. "The property has not closed yet. I would ask that you refrain from reporting. Until you buy a house, nothing is solidified until you sign a paper, the deal is signed and the terms are all set with the banks and the lawyers doing their things."

Nevertheless, Brown confirmed that a contract has been negotiated and that a September 15th date for closing is the target. He also termed Thursday's development "encouraging" for all sides.

"It is encouraging, that's for sure," said Brown. "I think we are all unified. But we don't want to pop the Champagne, if you will, until the deal is closed."

If and when that happens, it will end months of drama and speculation that began last September when the Council announced that Deer Lake was for sale. More important, it will have kept the property from development.

"Honestly, I'm thrilled with this news," Killingworth First Selectwoman Nancy Gorski said.

Though details of the agreement were not revealed, it is known that the purchase price includes at least \$1.7 million in what Langevin referred to as "low-interest loans." However, it also includes more than

\$3 million in donations, the result of an ambitious grassroots campaign launched by Pathfinders in mid-March.

"We are extremely grateful to the generous donors who have made this purchase possible," said Langevin, "and to the lenders who have provided low-interest loans that allow us to complete the deal on a timetable acceptable to the Boy Scouts."

The settlement punctuates a long and arduous effort by Pathfinders, as well as concerned preservationists, conservationists and state politicians, to "Save Deer Lake," as yard signs throughout the area urged.

"To allow it to go the way of development," U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal said at a January 26, 2022 news conference, "would be unconscionable."

The Pathfinders' drive began after the Boy Scouts announced in February that they had accepted a \$4.625 million proposal from a private developer, Fortitude Capital LLC. However, in an extraordinary move, the Scouts also said they would entertain superior offers until a March 31, 2022 deadline.

That's when Pathfinders stepped in, launching an aggressive fundraising push, and negotiations between the group and the Connecticut Yankee Council began. It's also when Connecticut State Attorney General William Tong intervened, pushing the deadline back to May 1st.

"I hope this time will allow all sides to work together on a positive resolution," Tong said then.

It did. But not without its hiccups. Most notable was a court action filed this spring by a local environmental attorney seeking to protect a bird sanctuary on the Deer Lake property. That halted negotiations until the Scouts filed a counter suit, and the complaint was withdrawn.

"Deer Lake is a beautiful, undeveloped property," Tong said in a statement released on Friday, September 2, "where generations of Connecticut children have spent memorable and impactful summers. I am pleased that all parties were able to work together to find a way to preserve this Connecticut gem. Over the past few months, I have heard from former campers, community leaders and advocates who all shared a strong desire to preserve

*Continued on page HK7*



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## Agreement Near on Preserving Deer Lake Property

Continued from page HK6

Deer Lake. I thank the Boy Scouts and Pathfinders for taking the time to reach this positive resolution.”

End of story? Not exactly. As Brown pointed out, there is still a closing that must be held. However, those close to the situation do not anticipate obstacles that could prevent that from occurring.

Furthermore, as Langevin pointed out, the purchase of Deer Lake includes considerable loans ... and those loans

must be repaid. That means a second, and equally aggressive, fundraising campaign is necessitated – one that could include state and local assistance.

“Once these loans are repaid,” Langevin said, “Pathfinders will be able to put a permanent conservation easement on the property. We must continue our fundraising efforts in order to repay these loans. We are confident that the people who recognize the vital importance of protecting Deer Lake will step up to this challenge.”

## Mark Your Calendars Now: Haddam River Day Returns October 1!

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 limited food options from local town civic groups. If your group is interested in having a tent, please contact Kate Anderson at kanderson@haddam.org. Grab a blanket and bug spray, and head down to everyone’s favorite annual event!



Photo by of Olivia Drake.

## VALLEY SHORE COMMUNITY TV

### This Week On VSCTV: September 8-14

By Chris Morgan, Public Access  
Coordinator, VSCTV

**Comcast Channel 18** - Valley Shore Educational Network

9/3 7:00 p.m. Haddam-Killingworth HS Concert

9/4 7:00 p.m. HKTV Music Videos

**Comcast Channel 19** - Valley Shore Community Television

9/8 - 1:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. UMC of Clinton Sunday Service 9/4/22

9/8 - 5:00 p.m. Old Saybrook Meetings

9/10 - 6:00 p.m. Talk of the Town/ Sports Talk

9/11 - 4:00 p.m. First Congregational Church in Essex Sun. Service 9/4/22

9/11 - 5:00 p.m. Emmanuel Baptist Church Sunday Service 9/4/22

9/11 - 6:00 p.m. Deep River Town Meetings 8/23/22

9/12 - 5:00 p.m. Silver Linings Talk Show

9/12 - 7:00 p.m. Looking Back

9/12 - 6:00 p.m. Shore Things

9/13 - 4:00 p.m. Clinton Meetings

9/13 - 6:00 p.m. Arts & Entertainment: Lyme Academy of Fine Arts

9/13 - 7:00 p.m. Pete Mezzetti Show: George DeMaio

9/13 - 8:00 p.m. Shoreline Music Monthly: Alison Farrell

9/14 - 4:00 p.m. Westbrook Congregational 9/11/22



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# Fall Arts Classes Begin at Oddfellows Playhouse in Middletown: September 17

By Dic Wheeler, Oddfellows Playhouse

Registration is now open for Fall Classes at Oddfellows Playhouse Youth Theater, located at 128 Washington Street in Middletown. Beginning September 17, classes in theater, dance, circus, music and visual art will be offered for ages 3 – 20. Teenagers are invited to audition for our fall mainstage production.

Teen Repertory Company (ages 14 – 20) will hold auditions for Journey to the West on September 12 & 15, 2022 from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. Teens are asked to pre-register for one of the two audition evenings, to arrive on time, and plan to stay for the entire time. Everyone who auditions and commits to the rehearsal and production schedule will be cast in the show. Regular rehearsals will be Mondays and Thursdays, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Performances will be November 10 – 12 & 18 – 19, 2022.

Circophony Teen Circus (ages 12 – 20) offers fall circus training in preparation for a winter mainstage production. Acro Focus! will be held on Tuesday evenings 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. and Juggling+ on Wednesday evenings 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., culminating in a Fall Circus Showcase on December 2, 2022. Students may register for one or both classes. No previous experience is

required. Classes run September 20th – November 30th (10 weeks).

For our youngest Oddfellows, Saturday Classes feature Circrobatics (ages 3 – 5 and 6 – 8) combining circus, acrobatics and creative movement. Other classes include Faerie Tale Theater (for ages 3 – 5), as well as Circro-Balance (ages 6 – 8) with a focus on stilting, unicycling, rolling globe, tightrope and spool. Classes start September 17, 2022 and continue through November 19th (10 weeks).

Musical Mentoring, which offers students one-on-one music lessons with Wesleyan Music students, will be held on Saturdays this fall for students ages 6 – 8 and 9 – 11. Classes will be held October 1st – November 19th (8 weeks).

Technical Theater & Design (ages 14 – 20) will be held on Sundays, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., September 25th – October 30th (6 classes & Practicum).

This year, the Fall after-school program will be split into two 6-week sessions. Session one runs September 19th – October 27th, culminating in a Share Day on Friday, October 28th. Session two runs October 31st – December 8th, with Share Day on Saturday, December 10th.

Stage One classes for ages 6 – 8 include Circus I, Visual Expressions,



Photo by Bill DeKine, Oddfellows Playhouse.

Creative Movement, Fairy Tale Theater, and Hip Hop Dance, Musical Theater (ages 6 – 11).

Stage Two classes for ages 9 – 11 include Circus II, Whole Body Acting, Culture Tuesdays, Into the Story, Theater Improv, Watercolor Painting, Afro-Caribbean Dance, Musical Theater (ages 6 – 11) Hip Hop Dance (ages 9-14) and a Mini Production of James and the Giant Peach (ages 9 – 14.)

Stage Three classes for ages 12 – 14 include Clowning and Physical Comedy, Scene Study, and Hip Hop Dance (ages 9 – 14) Musical Theater, Advanced Acting: Michael Chekhov Technique, and a Mini-Production of James and the Giant Peach.

Most after-school classes run from 4:45 – 5:45 p.m., though the Stage Three classes and James and the Giant Peach Mini-Production run a bit longer. Middletown Public School students may complement their class experience with Oddbridge, an extended day program that provides transport from Middletown schools to the Playhouse, a snack, and supervised arts activities, games and homework help before classes start. This year Oddbridge will extend throughout the school year, providing special programs and field trips on early dismissal days or on days when regular Oddfellows classes are not in session.

For more details on times, tuition and class descriptions, please go to [www.oddfellows.org](http://www.oddfellows.org). If you have specific questions, email [info@oddfellows.org](mailto:info@oddfellows.org) or call (860) 347-6143. Financial Aid is available for all programs. It is Playhouse policy that the arts should be available to every young person regardless of ability to pay. No one is turned away for lack of funds.

Oddfellows Playhouse, founded in 1975, is Connecticut's oldest and largest performing arts program for young people. Oddfellows programs are made possible with support from the Middletown Commission on the Arts; Connecticut Office of the Arts/DECD; City of Middletown; The Fund for Greater Hartford; American Savings Foundation; State of Connecticut Judicial Branch (Youth Violence Prevention); Middletown Youth Services Bureau; Community Foundation of Middlesex County; Middletown Health Department; Maximilian E. & Marion O. Hoffman Foundation; Thomas J. Atkins Memorial Trust Fund; Middlesex United Way; CHEFA Cultural Relief Grant; New England Foundation for the Arts/New England Arts Resilience Fund; George & Grace Long Foundation; and many generous individual donors.

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