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Selectman's Corner

It is our annual budget season and I am proud of the way this year's budget came together as a collaborative effort with the Boards of Selectmen, Education and Finance. We kicked off the budget season with the first ever tri-board meeting to jointly discuss the financial challenges we all faced and published a combined budget book that used the same format for all boards. This increases our transparency of how our tax dollars are spent at all levels of our municipality.

I am happy to report that our overall proposed expenses have DECREASED for the current fiscal year. Due to intense focus on increasing efficiency and reducing costs our expenses have been relatively flat the past few years. While many other towns as well as the state and federal governments face fiscal crisis, we in East Haddam are on a sound financial footing. Our goal each year of my administration has been to reduce our expenses without affecting services to our citizens.

The 2011-2012 proposed budget now passed to the Board of Finance represents a 1.9% or .23 mill increase. This represents a decrease in the General Government expenditures of (-\$439,586) and an increase in the Education budget of \$298,413.

OK, so expenses are down, but we are asking for a very

small increase in the mill rate. If I were you, I would be thinking "what gives?" right now. The reason for the proposed increase is simple; revenues from the state, from permits, etc are down significantly due to the recession (more detail below).



This proposed budget includes investments in technology that will give added access to the information our residents need from the Town without the necessity of coming to the Town Office Building. This plan will also create a safer storage system with easy search capabilities that residents can access via the internet 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Furthermore, we have achieved these reductions in expenses by continually adding more interlocal agreements between our neighboring towns.

Continued on page 2

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middlesexcountycamp.org

Selectman ... continued from page 1

We have our first two photo-voltaic installations thanks to our new Clean Energy Task Force and Craig Bradway of DCS Energy. You can check them out at the Senior Center and our salt shed at the public works complex.



Senior Center

Over the last four budgets the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance have reduced East Haddam's total budget each year; unfortunately our revenues continue to decline. As I wrote earlier, the weak economy is to blame for these shortfalls. The State which relies on income and sales tax revenue is facing a \$3.5 billion dollar shortfall. Locally, our grand list grew by less than 1% generating additional tax revenues of only \$160,000. Intergovernmental revenues are down \$137,738 interest income is down \$45,000, local revenue is down \$59,125 and other fund sources are down \$284,899.

We are all paying more attention to these economic trends due to the credit meltdown.

The debt we are able to carry as a home owner, business owner or town is based on revenues and existing long term bonded debt. Since bonds are normally a twenty year obligation we must be very careful about the total debt to

which we are committed. Presently we are carrying \$23 million in total debt to finance the High School, New Middle School, Sewer plant and Open Space. The payments on this debt total \$2.3 million per year.

As many of you know, the Old Middle School Conversion Committee has just submitted its recommendation to the Board of Selectmen that we spend another \$13 million on a 67,000 square foot renovation. Let's look at the actual cost of such a project. Our total town annual debt service payments would rise to \$3.3 million.

This would be approximately a 40% increase in our total debt service resulting in an immediate 1.3 mill rate increase.

Before any referendum to commit our town to a long term debt both the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance must be convinced that this is a course that will leave the town in a strong financial state with the flexibility to handle our economies' uncertain future. I personally think this project is far too big, that it is far too expensive and that there are other more cost effective ways to modernize our town facilities.


So what are our next steps? The good news is that we now know what it costs to renovate the entire old middle school complex and we have the plans ready as one option. I will be starting a committee to examine a more scaled down proposal or rethink a "phased approach" to solving our desire to re-purpose the old middle school.

Lastly, congratulations and a huge "thank you" to all the donors of this year's Muscular Dystrophy challenge! I was locked up in Middletown until I met bail with your donations. Not only did we make bail but we were the highest bail raiser with \$2,857 dollars.

Thanks also goes to Linda Cherry, Sophie Soja and Toni McCabe for their leadership in helping to create our new food bank in the lower level of the Grange Hall. We can't wait to show off the new facility.

Now let's all enjoy Spring!

- Mark B. Walter, First Selectman





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Economic Development Commission

There has been significant activity on the East Haddam Economic Development Commission over the last few months. We have welcomed two new regular members (Edward Odell and Gerry Rucker) and two alternates (Ralph Parady and Pamela Rubenbauer).

We're pleased to report success with two of our recent outreach events. The East Haddam Townwide Business Night, which was hosted at the Grange Hall on January 31, was very well attended. The event was sponsored not only by the EDC but Essex Printing, Hayden Wine and Spirits, and Desservir Bakery. At this event our town Land Use Administrator spoke about how to obtain a home occupation permit for those working from home or may be considering setting up a home office. Maria Keiser from eCircle discussed the benefits of peer-to-peer consulting, and Paul Hughes, from the Middlesex Chamber Revitalization Commission, spoke regarding the availability of Chamber funding for small businesses.

Our 8th Annual Chowder Cook Off also did very well this year. For the first time this event was held in tandem with a Business Expo organized by the newly organized East Haddam Business Association. We are grateful to La Vita Gustosa and the Gelston House for hosting these events, and we want to especially thank all the volunteers, restaurateurs, and organizations that participated and made the event such a success.

We have been getting regular reports on the progress of the Goodspeed actor housing project. Naturally it is impossible not to take notice of the progress as one drives through the village; as of this writing, we are told two of the units on Creamery Road are nearly ready for occupancy.

Another item the Commissioners have been monitoring is the village mobility project. Architects Fuss and O'Neill made a presentation at our regular March meeting. Pending approval from the State Department of Transportation, we hope to see the crosswalks installed in the village during the summer.

In addition to her regular duties, our Economic Development Coordinator Melissa Ziobron has been working closely with Joe Clark to support planning for the East Haddam Brewery, which is now moving through the zoning and permitting process.

The EDC has taken recent steps regarding vacant commercial properties: we have asked our Planning and Zoning Commission to consider a blight ordinance. We are currently developing a website where we will seek to maintain an active list of available commercial properties, which will be linked directly from the town website.

Continued on page 4

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The "People's Choice" winners of the 8th Annual Chowder Cook-off (L to R): Chef Billy Schumacher from the kitchen of Chestelm Health & Rehabilitation Center - 3rd place, Chef Joe Spooner of La Vita Gustosa - 1st place, and Linda Carlson representing Riverhouse Catering and Chef John Thompson - 2nd place.

Economic Development ... continued from page 3

A Vacant Property Subcommittee has been formed with members from our Commission and the town Land Use office. Watch for our updated visitor brochures coming in late spring and remember to check all the interesting business and other activities on our municipal website calendar www.easthaddam.org.

WHO SHOULD USE A DESIGNATED DRIVER?

A Designated Driver is a drinking-age adult who agrees not to drink any alcoholic beverages, and to safely transport anyone else home. Designated Drivers should not drink any alcoholic beverages; therefore, they are never the person least drunk. A Designated Driver can be used anywhere people ride together after drinking alcohol. Designated Drivers are also important when someone is taking medication that makes them drowsy or otherwise impaired and not fit to drive.

Safe Ride programs are intended for those who drink or plan to drink alcohol or take prescription and non-prescription drugs that may affect driving. Find out about Safe Ride programs in your community, and how they operate. If one does not exist in your community, ask local businesses and community service groups to start one, to ensure that everyone has a safe and sober way home.

By starting or expanding a Designated Driver program, your community will help fight impaired driving. Designated Driver and Safe Ride programs, highly visible law enforcement mobilizations and training programs, help change attitudes about impaired driving.

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Dog Licenses

Connecticut State law requires all dogs aged six months or older to be licensed in the town in which they reside. Licenses are renewable during the month of June for the coming fiscal year. Proof of rabies vaccination and of spaying or neutering is also required, if not already provided.

The fees for dog licensing are as follows:

- \$ 8.00 - spayed or neutered - per dog
- \$16.00 - not spayed or neutered - per dog
- \$51.00 - per kennel (10 dogs)
- \$102.00 - per kennel (20 dogs).
- \$ 1.00 - transfer license from another CT town
- \$ 1.00 - lost dog tag
- \$ 1.00 - late fee per month

Dog licenses may be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office or through the mail. Look for reminder notices to be mailed beginning June 1. If licensing through the mail, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Any veterinary paperwork sent in will be returned along with the license and tag.

Deb Denette, Town Clerk

Down the Drain

Right about now, with the snowmelt and spring rains upon us, we are thankful to have roads that are designed to drain properly, keeping us safe in our travels. That water does, however, need to go somewhere. In some cases road drainage is designed to drain to adjacent land over long stretches, while other times it is necessary to collect the water and transport it to another spot for discharge.

In the past, road drainage was considered relatively clean water. Today we know that it can carry excess nutrients, bacteria, heavy metals, oils, grease, salt, sand, and other debris when it discharges. Additionally in summer, with asphalt surfaces reaching well over 100°F, it produces flushes of warm or even hot water. The closer the discharges are to bodies of water, the higher the potential for water degradation.

One of the first steps to effectively manage stormwater from an environmental perspective is to figure out what is actually out there and where it drains to. With that in mind the Eight-mile River Wild & Scenic Coordinating Committee, or ERWSSC for short, teamed up with the three main watershed towns of Salem, East Haddam, and Lyme and the Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation Area, Inc., and went in search of some financial support. That support was received by way of a federal grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Federation by way of the Long Island Sound Future's Fund. Recognizing that towns operate on a town-wide basis, as opposed to following watershed lines, the grant provides enough funding to map all municipal stormwater outlets town-wide.

The firm of Nathan L. Jacobson & Associates, Inc. has been hired to conduct the field mapping as well as identify options for the town when infrastructure needs to be replaced. Some of you may recognize this local firm as one that also provides engineering support to the towns of East Haddam and Salem. While not the primary goal of this project, the team was pleased that its request to utilize the services of a local business was approved.

Let's face it: road drainage is probably not the most exciting topic for the majority of folks. But if you live near the water or enjoy fishing or boating or just a quiet hike along a wooded stream, you most likely appreciate clean water. And clean water, along with ensuring public safety, is the main goal of this project.

Want to do more? ERWSSC launched its RiverSmart Program a couple of years ago in an effort to involve local citizens in protecting the watershed they live in. This program outlines several simple activities that residents can do to improve water quality on their own properties. You can find more information about the RiverSmart Program and get your own free RiverSmart home decal by visiting our website at www.eightmileriver.org.

This program is open to all residents in the town, no matter what watershed you live in.

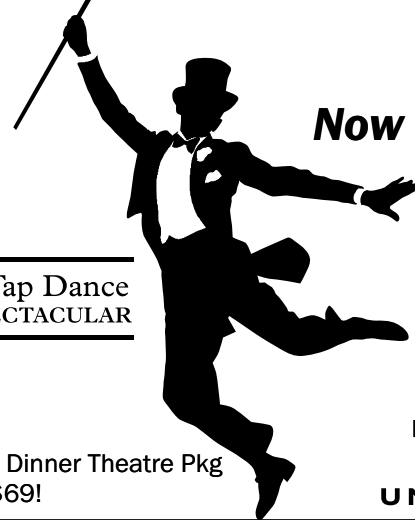
Continued on page 6

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Cinco de Mayo



Nathan Hale Ray Middle School will be having their second annual Cinco de Mayo Celebration at the East Haddam Free Public Library on Wednesday, May 4, from 6 - 7 p.m. Michael Gilroy, Director of the EHFPL, and all his staff has embraced all of our talented youth all year long, enabling the students to exhibit their art and have monthly artist receptions. This is a free program to all in our community. All the students' Mexican themed artwork will be on exhibit and sale through the evening, with games, music and food. General donations will go to the wonderful East Haddam Free Public Library.

*Claudia Mazzotta, art teacher,
Director of the Cinco de Mayo program for the students*



2011 Lions Club Auction and Tag Sale

DONATIONS WANTED - CARS, BOATS, AND RVs: For more than 50 years the East Haddam Lions have conducted a live auction on the first Saturday after the 4th of July (7/9). Donate your unwanted items of value NOW for the annual

auction. From tag sale items to boats, autos, pickup trucks, trailers and RVs. Free pickup by Lions members. 100% of proceeds benefit charity. Donations are tax deductible. Contact Joe Busher at (860) 873-2994 or at jmbusher@yahoo.com. Auction at Grange Hall grounds at 10 a.m. , tag sale starts at 8 a.m. Great bargains for all! Join Kevin Hogan from WFSB channel 3 and the East Haddam Lions Club for the annual Auction.



Down the Drain ... continued from page 5

Finally we would like to recognize all the efforts of the town road crews, especially this past winter. Their willingness to work under all sorts of hazardous conditions to ensure our safety is to be applauded.

Should you have any questions regarding this project, please feel free to contact us at (860) 345-8700.

- Eightmile River Wild & Scenic Coordinating Committee

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From the Assessor

I would like all residents to be aware that the Assessor's Office will begin accepting applications for the Elderly and Totally Disabled Renters Rebate Program on May 16. Applicant's total income must not exceed \$32,300 for a single person, \$39,500 for a couple (joint income), including Social Security and Medicare. Applicants must be 65 or older or totally disabled and bring all income, rent, and utility information from 2010. The deadline for filing is September 15, 2011.

In addition, the deadline for filing for the Elderly and Totally Disabled Homeowners Program is May 13. Qualifying income and age requirements for the Homeowners Program and Additional Veterans Benefits is the same as the Elderly and Totally Disabled Renters Rebate Program. It should be noted that the town of East Haddam has adopted by local option an additional tax credit to homeowners 65 and older whose income does not exceed \$50,000 (including Social Security). Applicants must bring proof of income including Social Security for 2010. Applications for the Additional Veterans Benefits will be accepted until October 1, 2011.

As the Tax Collector's Office prepares the July tax bills, those residents whose motor vehicles have been sold, stolen, totaled, or who have moved out-of-state may be eligible for a pro-ration of their car taxes.

Two forms of proof are necessary to pro-rate or remove a vehicle from the grand list. Residents must bring a copy of the plate receipt issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles at the time of cancellation of registration, and a copy of one of the following: bill of sale, transfer of title, receipt from junkyard, notification of total loss, or some other document showing the date on which the vehicle was disposed.

The Assessor's Office has its own web page on the town website. It includes information on real estate, personal property, and motor vehicle assessments; property tax relief for seniors, veterans, and the disabled; renters' rebate; information on revaluation; and access to applications and forms pertaining to the Assessor's Office.

Honoring our Veterans

The Town of East Haddam extends its sincere appreciation and gratitude for the courage and patriotism given to our great country by Jan Russell McKelvey, who served in Korea between 1950 and 1955. Mr. McKelvey's service to our country was missed on November 29, when the then Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz honored area Korean War Veterans.

East Haddam Community Lions

The Community Lions Club officers recently hosted a Chili-Fest in which they prepared a great supper for the members to thank them for all their hard work and dedication. Lion Linda Bradshaw presented an orientation to inform members, new and seasoned, of all the areas that the Community Lions support both locally here in East Haddam and within the state. The Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation (CLERF) at Yale and the Low Vision Center of Eastern Connecticut are two major areas that Lions support. An innovative eye screening program funded by CLERF for preschool children ages two to five has been offered to the six nursery schools in East Haddam. The PediaVision S08 Vision Screener can scan a youngster's eyes in seconds and produce a computerized printout of any abnormalities so the child can be referred for treatment. Nearly 20 percent of children in this age group are found to need treatment. The earlier the child's problem is diagnosed, the greater the chance to return to normal or near-normal vision by age seven is possible. Eight Community Lions are being trained to administer the scans at no cost to the parents or the schools.

Saturday, May 7th 2 p.m. at St. Stephen's Parish Hall, East Haddam, Tickets \$20 - The 6th Annual English Tea Party with its inspired table settings for eight (get a "Gaggle of Girls" together) will be a great treat to just sit, be waited upon, and have time to talk, laugh, and share a lovely tea together, or you can come alone and meet many new friends. There is entertainment, fun, and lots of indulgent goodies to eat, you won't be disappointed. Each person will also receive a favor. For information and tickets, call Linda 860-873-8933.

The East Haddam Community Lions Club is hosting a 9-hole golf tournament for men and women on Sunday afternoon, May 15 (rain or shine), at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. It will be a shotgun start-scramble format. There will be prizes and a cookout buffet following the tournament. All levels of golfers are welcome. The price is \$60 per

person. More detailed information and an entry form are available on our website. This event is to benefit the Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation (CLERF), located at Yale in New Haven. The foundation is dedicated to provide funding to eye research projects that are performed at the Universities in Connecticut. A part of these funds assist clinical work throughout the state. Join us in our cause to end preventable blindness by diagnosing and treating eye disease. It will be an afternoon filled with fun and competition.

The Community Lions wish to congratulate Lion Alice Sabo, who after twenty years as an active member of our Lions club, was honored with a Melvin Jones Fellowship



for her outstanding humanitarian service in this community. Eberhard Wieffs, Immediate Past International President of Lions Clubs International, presented her with the award at the New England Lions Melvin Jones Dinner hosted by Rhode Island on Saturday, February 28. We, her fellow Lions, are so proud that she is one of our "Pride."

All profits from our fundraisers are returned to the town and Lion charities. Thank you to all the businesses that sponsor our activities and to all the people that attend the events. Your support enables us to continue serving those in need. As always you can learn more about our club and the many events we sponsor at www.easthaddamcommunitylions.com.

*Sherry Langan, President
East Haddam Community Lions
sllangan@comcast.net*



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Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,
 Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m. to Noon

Selectman's Office

Mark B. Walter, First Selectman 860-873-5020 admin@easthaddam.org
 Linda Zemienieski, Administrative Assistant admin@easthaddam.org

Assessor's Office

Loreta Zdanyis, Assessor 860-873-5026 assessor@easthaddam.org
 Patty Veselak, Administrative Assistant

Building Department

Keith Darin, Building Official 860-873-5024 building.dept@easthaddam.org
 Carolyn Hart, Administrative Assistant

Chatham Health District

Liz Davidson, Sanitarian 860-873-5101 liz.davidson@chathamhealth.org

Finance Department

Cynthia Varricchio, Finance Administrator 860-873-5022 financeadmin@easthaddam.org
 Dawn Snow, Administrative Assistant 860-873-5020 finance@easthaddam.org
 Kathy Klinck, Treasurer 860-873-5022

Land Use Offices

Jim Ventres, Administrator 860-873-5031 admin.landuse@easthaddam.org
 Jim Puska, Zoning Enforcement Officer zeo.landuse@easthaddam.org
 Janet Lombardo, Administrative Assistant landuse@easthaddam.org

Tax Collector's Office

Denise Dill, Tax Collector 860-873-5033 taxcollector@easthaddam.org
 Sharon Kuhn, Assistant Tax Collector tax@easthaddam.org

Town Clerk's Office

Deb Denette, Town Clerk 860-873-5027 townclerk@easthaddam.org
 Beverly Christopher, Assistant Town Clerk

Public Works Department

Fax: 860-873-6014

Town Garage - Hood Lane Hours: Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Transfer Station - Nichols Road Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 and Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Director of Public Works 860-873-5023 pwdirector@easthaddam.org
 Richard Toolan, Road Foreman roadforeman@easthaddam.org
 Shirley Dill, Administrative Assistant publicworks@easthaddam.org
 Don MacKenzie, Transfer Station Foreman 860-873-5030

Other Departments

Scott Brookes, Fire Marshal 860-873-5004 admin@easthaddam.org
 Tiffany Quinn, Parks & Recreation Director 860-873-5058 parkandrec@easthaddam.org
 Michael Olzacki, Animal Control Officer 860-873-5044 animalcontrol@easthaddam.org
 Melissa Ziobron,
 Economic Development Coordinator 860-262-0347 edevcoordinator@easthaddam.org
 Craig Mansfield,
 Emergency Management Director 860-873-5103 ehaddamemgmt@easthaddam.org

Resident State Troopers

Jeff Rhoades & Steve Bellandese 860-873-1226 police@easthaddam.org

Probate Court

Jennifer Berkenstock, Judge of Probate 860-295-6239
 Linda Neal, Clerk lneal@ctprobate.gov

Registrars of Voters

Holly Cummings & Laurie Alt 860-873-5029 registrars@easthaddam.org

Senior Services - 15 Great Hillwood Road

Joanne Rocznik, Municipal Agent 860-873-5034 seniors@easthaddam.org

Visit our Website at www.easthaddam.org for more information,
 including meeting minutes

Earth Charter Community

The Earth Charter Community of the Lower Valley, Inc. (ECCoLOV) is active again this year with a number of exciting programs. Just recently, in March, we hosted author and speaker Charles Eisenstein at the East Haddam Grange for an incredible two-hour talk about the changing role and nature of money in our society. We continue to offer exciting programming every month, typically on the second Sunday of each month. Our annual meeting was on April 10 at the Yurt, the Sanctuary at Shepardfields, where we discussed our success in 2010, our plans for 2011, with a goal to contribute to the building of this community focused on channeling good works through the Earth Charter - a framework for creating sustainable communities.

We will again be selling rain barrels this spring, holding our annual Bake and Book sale, and sponsoring an Awakening the Dreamer/Changing the Dream symposium. Please check our website for details of all our programs at www.earthcharterct.org.

[ECCoLoV is a 501c3 nonprofit organization focused on deepening awareness, strengthening vision, and creating beauty as a process for bringing forth a sustainable world.]

The Best Seat in Town

The East Haddam Lions and East Haddam Community Lions Clubs are announcing a joint project, The Best Seat in Town, to raise funds for the construction of a pavilion and other improvements to the proposed Heritage Park located adjacent to the East Haddam Senior Center in Moodus.

The clubs will be selling cedar benches to local business, organizations, families, or individuals who in turn will then have them decorated by area artists. The completed benches will then be displayed at various locations of the participants' choice throughout the summer and early fall. During the summer, town residents will be able to cast ballots for the bench that is their choice for The Best Seat in Town.

The project will culminate with festivities on October 2 at Fox Hopyard, when the benches will be auctioned off to help raise funds for Heritage Park.

The cedar benches are available now from any Lions Club member for \$195. Each bench will include a brass plaque permanently attached to the back commemorating the buyer's participation.

During the summer the Lions will make available location maps to provide participants and voters a guide to viewing the benches.

Get your bench now and get a head start on decorating the potential Best Seat in Town.

The Historical Society Begins Another Season

Visit your local museum, full of photographs, artwork, artifacts, textiles, maps, and memorabilia of life in the lower Connecticut River Valley. Knowledgeable docents and a stocked gift shop await. Extensive displays for artists Langdon Kihn, Barbara Stone, Bill Tyner, and Heinz Warneke, as well as documentation about William Gillette, provide something for everyone. The nine-room, 7,000-square-foot facility, with parking, large rooms, and party necessities, is available for a modest donation.

Events:

May 11 - "Bud's Birds." Bud Haines will show and discuss the intricacies of bird carving. 7:30 p.m.

May 28 - East Haddam Garden Club and Rathbun Library sell plants and books. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

May 30 - "Opening Day." 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

June 4 - "The Circus Comes To Town." Ms. Mazzotta and the NHR Middle School classes present the results of their year-long study of the circus. 12 - 3 p.m.

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Later in July - "William Gillette Visits the Museum."

Basic Information: Open Friday-Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., other hours by appointment. Admission \$5 for non-members. 264 Town Street, museum@easthaddamhistory.org. 860-873-3944.



The model of the Goodspeed Opera House was constructed from more than 20,000 wooden matches by an anonymous inmate at Haddam's old Stone Jail on Route 154.

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East Haddam Free Public Library

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Here at Your Friendly Neighborhood Library.
Free for everyone in town,
Programs, books, and movies abound.
Lots of things to see and do, drop on in and see
what's new!

EHFPL is the place to be this spring and summer! In addition to all the latest books and movies, the library is proud to present programs for the entire family.

Join us on April 29 at 4:30 to meet local celebrities, Daisy the Pig and Farmer Minor.

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Get a library card. Get free stuff. It's that easy.

*The East Haddam Free Public Library
18 Plains Rd (Rte. 151)*

*Moodus, CT 06469 (860) 873-8248
www.ehfpl.blogspot.com EHFPL: Check it out.*

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The annual donation drive is underway. All donations are tax deductible and help benefit the library. This year the funding will help the library's summer reading programs for tots, kids, teens, and adults. The library plans to host weekly programs for each age group and give out prizes to celebrate a lifelong love of literacy. The goal of the friends is to help the library bring books to every citizen of East Haddam.

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Another great way to donate is to buy materials for the library. Did you know that EHFPL has a program that lets you get any book for 50% off the cover price? You can keep the book as long as you'd like, just donate it when you're done.

Being a friend has its benefits. Talk to a librarian for more

Memorial Day Parade

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MUSIC ON THE RIVER



July 11, 2011 (Rain date Aug. 22) – 2U - “The Worlds 2nd best U2 show”! 2U’s precise emulation of a U2 live show has EARNED them a full touring schedule, quite literally world-wide, as the world’s 2nd best U2 show (2nd only to U2).

July 18, 2011-Riverside - a Connecticut band from Middlesex County made up of several talented, local musicians. Influenced by the folk-rock music of the 60s and 70s, Riverside is known for their tight harmonies, will surely have you tapping your feet to song selections from that awesome era.

July 25, 2011- Gunsmoke - Join us for a special Commemoration of Gunsmoke’s 25th anniversary! Gunsmoke and founder, Nick DeMaio were inducted into the Connecticut Country Music Associations Hall of Fame on Feb. 12. They have a lot to celebrate this year with their true Country and Western music.

August 1, 2011- Eight to the Bar - Drawing its musical influences from American roots music - swing, boogie woogie, rhythm & blues, soul, Motown, Eight to the Bar is known for its outstanding instrumentalists and sophisticated musical and vocal arrangements, highlighted by female vocals.

August 8, 2011- Basically Blues - This CT based band will entertain you with “a little bit of country, a little bit of rock and roll and a whole lot of blues”. BB has earned a reputation for providing first rate entertainment throughout the area.

August 15, 2011- Santa Mamba - represents a new attitude in cross-cultural harmony. We have forged a sound that we call Latin Roots Rock, taking a firm understanding of various Latin and American musical traditions and giving them new voice in a unique combination of styles and personalities, celebrating diversity and life. “Our chief ambition is to get the whole world dancing”!

All concerts are held on Monday nights from 6:30-8:30 pm at the green of the Goodspeed Opera House. If it rains, the concerts will be moved to the High School Auditorium (please call the Recreation Office for location information if weather is questionable; 860-873-5058). Great food and drinks will be available to purchase at the Gelston House. Parking is available in the Goodspeed Opera House parking lot, behind the Gelston House. The Music on the River site is made possible through the generous support of Goodspeed Musicals.

(Please tear off and mail the lower section with your check)

Please remember that all concerts are funded completely by your donations! No tax dollars are used to support the concert series! Please be generous, the donations that we receive before the concerts will allow us to book the bands, pay the band deposits and advertise! Please put this reminder on your refrigerator, and tear off the bottom portion to mail in with your donation.

Name as it should appear in the program: _____

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Amount of Donation: _____

Concert you wish to sponsor: _____

Please make your checks payable to “Town of East Haddam-Music on the River” and mail them with this completed form to East Haddam Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 278, East Haddam, CT 06423

Green Committee

Single Stream Recycling, Food Bank Garden

In June 2010, East Haddam became one of many towns in Connecticut to move to single stream recycling. Recycling conserves natural resources, saves energy, and reduces the cost of waste disposal for the town. Now all your recyclables – paper, cardboard, milk and juice cartons, plastic, glass, and metal– can be combined in one bin (separate from the trash). All containers must be empty and rinsed clean.

According to the Transfer Station’s report for the last quarter of 2010, East Haddam disposed of about 1,229 tons of solid waste (not including construction debris); about 215

tons, or 17%, of that was made up of recyclables. So the average East Haddamite disposed of, per day, about 2.5 lbs. of trash and about .5 lb. of recyclables. Compare this to what the average American produces: about 4.4 pounds of trash per day, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Food Bank Garden will begin its third season this spring! Started in 2009, it has provided 218 lbs. of organically grown produce, all donated to the Food Bank. Last year the garden was expanded with the help of a grant from the Rock-fall Foundation and grew a large variety of vegetables. We would like to expand the garden again this year, doubling the size to 34’ x 28’. Wood ashes and chicken manure are on our garden wish list. Seedling starts are also appreciated. Please contact the Town Office or email the Green Committee at easthaddamgreencommitte@gmail.com if you can help.

The Green Committee is looking for new members.

Do you have an idea for a “Green” initiative to benefit the community, but don’t know how to get started?

Are you concerned about keeping our groundwater safe?

Are you interested in reducing your carbon footprint, trash, or dependence on fossil fuels (and saving money in the process)? You are invited to share your suggestions with likeminded individuals.

Join the conversation at a Green Committee meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the River House (located behind the Town Office Building). All of our meetings are open to the public.

What we’ve done:

Offered home energy audits to town residents at reduced prices.

Brought the reusable “Blue Bags” to your local merchants.

Organized the Food Bank “Victory Garden”

Please note that these projects were funded by grants and private donations, and not taxpayer dollars.

To receive our email newsletter, please contact us at easthaddamgreencommittee@gmail.com

SCOTT W. JEZEK

Attorney at Law



Law Office of Scott W. Jezek
31 W.F. Palmer Road
P.O. Box 376
Moodus, CT 06469

Tel: (860) 873-1449
Fax: (860) 873-1113
E-mail: swjezek@sbcglobal.net



East Haddam Business & Visitor Info.

Attractions, Recreation, History

www.EastHaddam.org



Look on the Municipal Website

Business Directory—over 250 town businesses, browse general categories, website links

Community Calendar—find or suggest upcoming special events at town businesses

Municipal pages—Town Departments/Staff, Boards/Commissions, Agendas & Minutes

Holiday Closings

The Town Office Building and Transfer Station will be closed on:

Friday, April 22 – Good Friday

Monday, May 30, Memorial Day

Monday, July 4 - Independence Day (Observance)

Regular hours will resume on the next business day.

Agriculture Commission Established

East Haddam established an Agriculture Commission by vote of Town Meeting on June 1, 2010, making East Haddam one of the few Connecticut towns to have such a commission. Agriculture is an important element of the rural character of East Haddam, linking the town's past with its present and its future. The purpose of the Agriculture Commission is to preserve, protect, and promote farming in East Haddam and to encourage new agricultural enterprises.

Specifically, the commission is charged with the following duties and responsibilities:

Information: To serve as a conduit between municipal boards and commissions, elected officials, nonprofit agencies, civic organizations, and local farmers.

Education: To recommend changes in local law, regulations, rules, and practices regarding compatibility with agriculture, farms, and farming. To provide information and guidance on agriculture-related issues - such as zoning, inland wetlands, public works - to town departments and other town boards and commissions. To support young farmers and new farmers. To support local, regional, and vocational agriculture education programs.

Conflict Resolution: To serve as a resource for information and nonbinding advice for residents, town commissions, and departments concerning resolution of agriculture-related conflicts.

Economic Opportunities: To identify innovative opportunities for farming in East Haddam. To promote opportunities for residents and local businesses to support and value farming. To work to create a climate that supports the economic viability of farming as a career in East Haddam and to create a sustainable agriculture community. To help East Haddam farmers secure state, federal, and other grants. To work with land-use boards and commissions and East Haddam's Open Space Committee to secure the land base necessary for agricultural uses.

The Agriculture Commission consists of five regular members and three alternate members serving three year terms. The commission meets on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Office Annex. Its meetings are open to the public, whose attendance is welcomed. The commission can be reached at EHAGCOMM@comcast.net.

The first project the commission has undertaken is to identify all the agriculture operations in town. It has tentatively identified over seventy operations, ranging from full-time farms to hobby farms to people who maintain a couple of mowing lots and sell hay to others. The next step will be a letter introducing the commission to those identified, asking them if they would like to participate in a survey or interview to enable the commission to determine how best it can be of assistance. If you are engaged in agriculture and do not receive such a letter in the next few weeks and would like to participate, please email the Commission at the above address.

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East Haddam Free Public Library

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Free for everyone in town,
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East Haddam Board of Education Passes 2011-12 Budget

At a special Board of Education meeting held on Tuesday, March 1, Dr. Ellen Solek, Superintendent of Schools, presented the annual 2011-12 school budget proposal to the board. Highlights of the budget proposal include:

- Minimal increases for Certified/Noncertified, and Transportation Contracts
- Reduction of 2.0 Staff Positions
- Addition of 1.0 Reading Consultant and 1.0 Math Consultant

Dr. Solek highlighted several underlying goals for the budget proposal including Academic Achievement and Accountability, K-12 implementation of state-mandated Scientific Research-Based Interventions, equal access to district-wide technology, and balancing the needs of the East Haddam School District with the need for continued fiscal responsibility amidst challenging economic conditions.

The proposal reflects a dollar increase of \$298,413 and a percentage increase of 1.65%. District-wide salaries and benefits continue to represent about 75% of the total proposal. Health insurance costs have increased by over 16% since the 2010-11 fiscal year, as has the cost per gallon for fuel oil and diesel. The district is estimating revenue from the state's Education Cost Sharing Grant and other sources to be about \$4.3 million dollars for fiscal year 2011-12.

The Board of Education presented its budget in conjunction with the town budget on Monday, March 14 at the Grange Hall. The annual town meeting is scheduled for May 11, with the Referendum scheduled for May 24. East Haddam citizens are encouraged to contact Ellen Solek at 860-873-5090 with any questions they may have about the budget proposal.

East Haddam Garden Club Sale

East Haddam Garden Club's annual plant and bake sale will be Saturday, May 28, 2011, at 8 a.m. at the East Haddam Historical Society, 264 Town St., East Haddam. Please note that although the date of the EHHS annual tag sale has been moved to June 11, the garden club sale will continue to be on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend.

This event features special plants from members' gardens

as well as delectable baked goods from their kitchens – both of which sell out very rapidly.

Proceeds from the sale are used to fund the club's many civic projects, including the flower beds at Gillette Castle, plantings and year-round care of the Goodspeed green, seasonal plantings in planters at Shagbark triangle, sponsorship of programs for area seniors, annual centerpieces for the East Haddam Food Bank, public events featuring gardening experts, and many more endeavors.

For more information contact club vice-president Betty Gross, 860-873-8732.

Garden Club Officers Elected

At the March 30 meeting of the club, the following officers were elected:

Co-Presidents - Helen Whatley and Bonnie Zwernemann; Vice-President- Betty Gross; Recording Secretary - Connie Anderson; Corresponding Secretary - Nancy Seaman; Treasurer - Rita Fiala.

Basket Bash

The East Haddam Elementary School PTO is proud to announce that the 11th Annual "Basket Bash" fundraiser will be held on Friday, May 6 from 6-10:30 p.m. This fundraiser supports the cultural arts programs that benefit the children of East Haddam Elementary School. Each classroom will make donations to create differently themed baskets. These baskets will be raffled off, along with several other large raffle items. This will be an entertaining and exciting night for everyone - please mark your calendars!

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Friends of Rathbun Library News

PLANT SALE

The Friends' annual plant sale will be Saturday, May 21, at 9 a.m. at the library, 36 Main Street. Please think of the Friends if you have extra flower or vegetable seedlings that you started this winter; we will gladly accept them! Donations may be dropped off Monday through Thursday, May 16 - 19. Please leave on the north side of the Rathbun, 36 Main Street. For more information about the plant sale contact Marianne Halpin, 860-526-4645.

NEW DATE FOR FRIENDS' BOOK SALE

The Friends' annual book sale will be Saturday, June 11, at 8 a.m. at the East Haddam Historical Society, 264 Town Street. This sale will be in conjunction with the EHHS annual tag sale and will include hard cover adult, young adult and children's books in very good to excellent condition, CDs, DVDs, and VHS tapes. There will be NO paperbacks, sets, textbooks or soiled/damaged books.

The book sale will also include a selection of vintage, inexpensive hardcover books for "scrap bookers" and "re-bookers." For more information about the sale, contact Betty Gross, 860-873-8732.

FARMERS' MARKET

The weekly Farmers' Market, sponsored by Friends of Rathbun, will begin Saturday, July 9, at 8 a.m. at the library and continue every Saturday until the end of the growing season. Fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers, and crafts are featured. New vendors are always welcome. For more information about the market, contact Ruth Neudecker, 860-873-8125.

ANNUAL MEETING OF FRIENDS OF RATHBUN

The annual meeting of the Friends will be Thursday, June 2, at 3 p.m. at the library. New officers will be elected. All Friends members are welcome to attend.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME!

Anyone interested in joining the Board of Friends of Rathbun can contact the secretary, Maureen Tarbox, 860-526-4431, or let any of the library staff know of your interest. There are currently board vacancies.

Deadline for next issue is
JUNE 10

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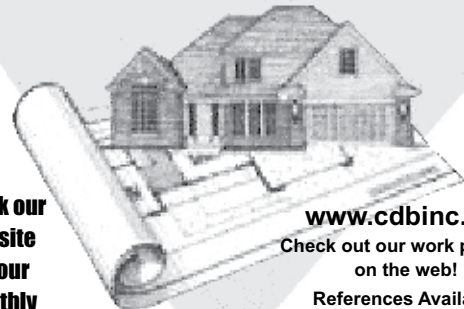
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East Haddam Parks and Recreation

Park and Rec Fees and Registration Procedures

Do you want to register for a great program...or several? You may use the registration form to register for any of our programs except the following: Day Camp and swimming lessons; these programs have a specific registration form. In order to register, mail in, or drop off your completed form and the appropriate fee. Forms are available on the website: www.easthaddam.org. The website contains program information, registration forms, up-to-date information, and details. If you have a question, suggestion, or need further assistance, please feel free to contact Tiffany at the Recreation Office at 860-873-5058, or by email at parkandrec@easthaddam.org. Office hours are generally Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Forms can also be dropped off at the Selectman's Office. Pre-registration for all programs is greatly appreciated. We cannot guarantee the class will be held, or that there will be openings for drop-ins.

Music on the River - Summer is here and we cannot wait to sit by the River, on the beautiful lawn of the Goodspeed Opera House and listen to this year's fantastic summer concerts! These concerts are free. We do not use any town funds to offer these concerts; they are completely supported by community, patron and business donations. If you are interested in making a donation to support Music on the River 2011, please send a check to East Haddam Park and Recreation, P.O. Box 278, East Haddam, CT 06423.

The following concerts will be held on Monday nights from 6:30-8:30. In the event of rain, the concerts will be held at the Hale-Ray High School Auditorium. Feel free to bring a picnic dinner, but please leave the dogs at home!

July 11 - 2U (Rain date August 22, 2011)

July 18 - Riverside

July 25 - Gunsmoke (Join us for their 25th Anniversary Concert, and a very special commendation)

August 1 - Eight to the Bar

August 8 - Basically Blues

August 15 - Santa Mamba

Please check the website (www.easthaddam.org), our blog (<http://musicontheriver.blogspot.com>), and the separate ad on page 4 in this *Events* magazine for band information and music clips.

Grand Opening of the Bea Bula Playground at Nichols Field!

Join us for the Grand Opening on Saturday, May 21st at 9:00 a.m. at the playground.

Digital Photography Class

In this class you will learn about basic camera settings and how to use them to get the results you really want. Shutter speeds, ISO, aperture settings and other camera functions will be discussed. In each class we will be discussing something new for you to use with your camera during the week. You will have a task to complete each week and we will be sharing our photos at our next class. You will need a digital camera with shutter speed and aperture options, preferably a digital SLR

camera. Please remember to bring your camera and user's manual to each class. Thursday, April 28 - May 26, 2011 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Room 702 at Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School. The minimum age requirement for this class is 13 years old and the fee per person is \$85. The maximum number of participants is 15 so please get your information in as soon as possible.

Adult Co-Ed Soccer - Open to all East Haddam residents, age 18 and older. Indoor soccer is a fast paced, rigorous game, and we are always looking for new players to join us. This program will continue year round, returning to outdoor soccer when the weather permits. Sunday and Wednesday nights from 6-8 p.m. - ages 18 and older, join us at any point during the season. High School Soccer fields. \$10/resident; \$20/ non-resident, per season.

Open Gym Youth Basketball - A great opportunity for basketball fans to keep up their skills, join their friends and have fun! This will be an open gym, there will be time to practice your skills and scrimmage other players that are your age. April 8 - May 20 (will not be held on April 22 and May 6).

5:00 - 6:00 p.m. - boys and girls in grades 2, 3 and 4

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - boys and girls in grades 5 and 6

7:00 - 8:00 p.m. - boys and girls in grades 7 and 8

Elementary School gym. \$10 per participant

Community Music Circle - Bring your acoustic instruments and/or your voice. We will play songs that are easy to learn, play and lend themselves to improvisational solos. All acoustic instruments are welcome: guitars, mandolins, auto-harps, percussion toys, hand drums, harmonicas, etc. I'll provide one electric bass to be played softly. If you don't want to play, just come and listen. The point is simply this - to make music in the moment. Questions to: swahilipete@sbcglobal.net. Every 4th Monday, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Grange Hall on Town Street.

Outdoor Youth Music Festival - Join us for a day of great music, sunshine, friends and food! Co-sponsored by East Haddam Parks and Recreation and East Haddam Youth and Family Services, the event will be held at the Town Beach on Saturday, June 4th from 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. The rain date will be Sunday, June 5th. House equipment will be provided, so bring a beach chair and enjoy a day of acoustic performances, youth bands and organized, spontaneous jam sessions! There is no fee for admittance, if you have a band that is interested in playing, please call Rob Bradway at 860-873-1143.

Tai Chi - An Introduction to The Taoist Tai Chi Society® internal art and method of taijiquan (tai chi). The Taoist Tai Chi Society® internal art and method of taijiquan (tai chi) incorporates stretching and turning into a sequence of movements that improve the health of body, mind, and spirit. They reduce tension; improve circulation and balance, and increase strength and flexibility. In this 6 week introductory class, you will learn approximately 25 of the 108 moves that make up the complete sequence of the Taoist Tai Chi™ internal art of taijiquan (tai chi).

Continued on next page

Parks and Rec ... continued from previous page

The class is open regardless of physical conditioning or age. At the end of the class, you will have the opportunity to join The Society and learn the remainder of the set. The Taoist Tai Chi™ internal art of taijiquan, taught entirely by volunteers, is not only physically beneficial, but fun and a chance to be part of an energetic group focused on health and well being. Please wear comfortable shoes and loose clothing for the class. Night class: Thursday, April 21 - May 26; 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the First Church of Christ, Congregational, Town Street. Day Class: Thursday, April 21 - May 26; 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. at the Grange Hall, Town Street. \$20 per person, per 6 week class.

Discount Theme Park Tickets - The Recreation office is offering discounted theme park tickets this summer! These prices cannot be beat! Just call or stop by to pick up your tickets. These tickets will be available all summer, based on availability. Six Flags Tickets are \$30.00 each (gate price is \$44.99 each), Lake Compounce tickets are \$27.00 each (gate price is \$34.99).

Summer Running Program - This program is for all boys and girls entering grades 9-12 who are interested in learning about running and racing. Instruction will include hill training, pacing, intervals, form training and race tactics. Practices will take place on Monday nights from 6:00 - 7:30 at Hale-Ray High School, beginning June 27. Races will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays in a variety of locations. Transportation is not provided to out-of-town locations. The cost for this program is \$35. Each participant will receive a tank top for racing. Please call the Recreation office to register after the June 28 start date.

Summer Soccer Camp - Players must bring a lunch, shin guards, and plenty of drinks. June 27 - July 1, 9:00 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Hale Ray High School Soccer fields. Boys and girls who have completed grades 1-7. \$140. for the week.

YOGA - This is a comprehensive yoga class designed to suit the needs of beginner to moderate-level practitioners, and is intended to give you a total yoga experience by implementing those techniques and practices that exercise and tone the body, mind and spirit. Bring a yoga mat, props as necessary to make you comfortable and wear loose, comfortable clothing. Please refrain from wearing perfumes or colognes. Further questions can be directed to your yoga instructor, Nancy LaPier, at 860-344-9299. A minimum of 18 participants are needed. Class will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Senior Center May 18 - August 3; 12 week program, \$75.00.

Boot Camp Fitness - How long have you thought about it but not acted on really getting in shape? Make the most of your workouts with this total body crossing training program. Functional strength training, cardio fitness, agility, endurance, core building; everything you need to develop overall fitness and health. Two levels offered; Basic, we will get you started (you don't need to be in shape for this level) and Advanced, we will push you outside your current comfort zone (there are requirements for this level).

Continued on page 20

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Parks and Rec ... continued from page 19

Recruits receive bonus health and nutrition tips. Tuesdays, Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. Hale-Ray High School Parking lot. Tuesday, April 26 - Saturday, July 17. Cost: Commitment fees: 3x week \$230; 2x week \$190; 1x week \$100. Non committal fee/drop in fee: \$12. New student discounts available, full time student ages 15-21 (30% off regular fees). Trial fee/1 time only fee: \$5. We work out in all kinds of weather be prepared to get wet & dirty. Bring a towel and water.

Dog Training - The mechanics of teaching your dog to obey the basic commands is the easy part. Understanding from the dog's perspective how they learn the basic commands is the key to building the kind of relationship with your 4-legged friend that you always wanted. "Positive reward based training" goes far beyond giving your dog a treat when he sits, but it is the start of establishing yourself as the benevolent leader every pack animal needs. Teach your dog to Sit, Down, Stay, Leave It, Come and Place. Join us every Tuesday night for six weeks, April 26 - May 31 from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the "old" Middle School. \$129. includes a "Sensation Harness" (a \$22 value). The class will be taught by Ken Grohbrugge of New Inn Kennels. Minimum of 8 and a maximum of 12 participants.

American Red Cross Babysitting Class - Become a safe, certified quality babysitter after taking this important

class. Participants will learn many skills and techniques to child care. A good place to start for youth who are interested in babysitting. Taught by a certified American Red Cross instructor. May 31, June 7 and 14 from 6:00 - 8:15. Middle School. Students must be aged 11 before the class begins. \$60 per student, a textbook is included.

American Red Cross "When I'm in Charge" Class - A safety class for children ages 9-11 who may be home alone teaches kids the safe way! American Red Cross certified class and instructor; children will be introduced to many topics that need to be discussed to teach kids how to be home alone-safely. May 23 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Elementary School. \$30 per participant

Elementary School and Middle School Day Camp - East Haddam Summer Day Camp will be held from Tuesday, July 5, 2011 - Friday, August 12, 2011. There will be no camp on Monday, July 4th. The East Haddam Summer Day Camp is open to East Haddam residents in grades 1-8 (as of the fall of '11). The cost is \$75 per week, per child, and is held from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Monday - Friday. Camp is held at the Town Beach on Fridays. After Care is \$7 per day, per child, and will be held on Monday - Thursday from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Payment plans will be offered, but all fees must be paid before camp starts. After Care payments are due on Monday morning for each upcoming week. Registration forms will be available on the website beginning April 9, 2011. Due to low turnout, there will be no onsite registration. You may come in to the office to register, download the forms and mail them in, or call and forms can be mailed to you.

NEW! Teen Travel Camp - East Haddam Parks and Recreation will be offering a new camp to participants entering grades 9-10 in the fall of 2011. We will be going on a different field trip each day. Trips will include Winding Trails in Farmington, Brownstone Quarries, Lake Compounce and Ocean Beach. Registration forms will be available online beginning on April 9th at www.easthaddam.org. The cost will cover all expenses incurred, including buses, chaperones, and admittance fees. You will need to provide a lunch daily. Registration will not be accepted on a daily basis. Camp will be held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (Friday will be a rain date, if needed), from July 18 - 22, from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (although some trips may require longer days, as noted on the registration forms). The cost will be \$170 per week, per participant. Space is limited to the first 15 registrations, but a waiting list will be available in case of cancellations.

Swimming Lessons - East Haddam Park and Recreation will be offering swimming lessons at the Town Beach during the summer. Classes will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays. Each session consists of 2 classes per week, for 3 weeks for a total of 6 classes. Lessons will be held June 27 - July 18 (no classes will be held on July 4th); July 20 - August 8. The cost is \$40 per session, per child, and first priority is given to East Haddam residents. Specific class times and levels can be found on the registration forms.

Continued on next page

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Parks and Rec ... continued from page 20

Due to low turnout, there will be no onsite registration. You may come in to the office to register, download the forms and mail them in, or call and forms can be mailed to you.

A HUGE thank you to our basketball coaches - we couldn't have done it without ALL of you! Thanks to Herb Trapp, Eric O'Brien, Pete Gowac, Jr., Sherry Faircloth, Andy Riccio, Dan Soucier, Dean Dellolacono, Kevin MacDonald, Mike Gionta, Paul Zemienienski, Matt Calovis, Jeff and Matt Garafola, Matt Breton, Bill Feeley, Paul Velikaneye, Jeremy Francese, John Gowac, Jr., David Cabrera, Dia Poindexter, Chris Petkovich, Jen Eagan, Mark Goodspeed, Eric Lucas, Peter Dean, Megan Ryczek, and Toni McCabe.



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All District Art Show

The East Haddam Free Public Library will sponsor the first ever All District Art Show, with an opening reception on Wednesday, April 6 from 6 - 7 p.m. and continuing throughout the month of April. The multigrade exhibit will represent students from Nathan Hale-Ray High School, Ms. Fastaia, art teacher; Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School, Ms. Mazzotta, art teacher; and East Haddam Elementary School, Ms. Weaver, art teacher. The show's theme is Portraiture. The students, staff, parents, and community are all welcome to this exhibit.

Jackie Fastaia / Art Department



Photo #4 - Austin Carey's grid painting inspired by Chuck Close



Medusa Portrait by Gabby Cady



Stephanie Yackovetsky

Rendering dark to light values and working in pencil, Mrs. Fastaia's senior Art Portfolio students, Gabrielle Cady and Stephanie Yackovetsky infused their self-portraits with Surrealistic imagery.

While initially working from observation, the end result relied heavily on their vivid imaginations.



4th graders from NHRMS are holding up unfinished collages that are part of the April display - from left to right, Anna Link, Emily Sienna, Carly Houle.

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East Haddam Fire Department Benefit Dance

The East Haddam Volunteer Fire Department will be sponsoring a benefit dance on Saturday May 14. The proceeds from the dance will be divided equally and benefit the Fire Department and The American Cancer Society.

The dance will be held at the American Legion Hall on Neptune Avenue in Moodus from 7 to 11 p.m. Music will be provided by Bob Uguccione and The Happy Travelers Orchestra. Donations are \$10.00 per person. There will be a cash bar and raffle prizes. For further information or tickets please contact firefighters Ed Smith at 860-873-9165, Walt Parkus at 860-873-1021, or John Blaschik at 860-873-1600. Tickets will also be available at Liberty Bank (Moodus office).

The fire department thanks you in advance for your continued support.

Greetings from Ray of Light Farm

Thankful that Spring is upon us, we are also thankful to the many patrons who visit and participate in our programs - even through the winter months.

Ray of Light Farm's lesson program is in full swing and we are pleased to offer two new summer programs geared toward training and riding. There will be a 3-day program offered to adults, and a week-long program (Mon - Fri) offered to youths aged 11 & up. Both programs are based upon our Basics In Training (BIT) courses, and will teach students how their ground training skills transfer to successful riding. Dates & details will be posted on our website.

Ray of Light Farm's 7th Annual Auction Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, October 1st from 5 - 9 p.m. This is our most important opportunity to raise much-needed monies for

our animals and programs. Our theme this year is a Hoe-Down with square dancing and will include a silent auction, live auction, and kids' raffle. Food and beverages will be provided; suggested donation is \$25 for adults (18 & over). Amidst today's economy and in light of the rising cost of heat, hay and grain, donations are more important than ever. We hope that you will join us for a fun-filled evening for children of all ages!

*Ray of Light Farm, Inc., a nonprofit 501c3 public charity
Animal Rescue, Animal-Assisted Therapy & Riding Facility.
232 Town Street/East Haddam, CT 860-873-1895.
www.rayoflightfarm.org*

East Haddam Nonprofits Eligible for Free Solar Arrays

Town nonprofits are eligible to receive free solar arrays in 2011 through a federal program implemented by DSC Energy. The array must have an unobstructed view of the south. If a sloped, asphalt-shingled roof is not available, it

can be ground mounted or placed on a flat roof. The array can be up to 9 kilowatts, which produces about \$180 of electricity per month. Please email Selectman Pete Govert at petegovort@gmail.com for more information.

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Rathbun Free Memorial Library

The Rathbun will host The Odyssey Painters, a group of nine artists who travel around the state to paint the landscape, historic sites, and more, beginning on May 5 with a reception in the Main Room, 5 - 8 p.m. Throughout the following weeks, various artists of the group will be located on the grounds of the library to paint and discuss their work. The final weekend of the exhibit, a "wet-paint sale" is planned (date tba).

Don't forget the Friends' Annual Plant Sale on May 21, 9 a.m., followed by the Friends' Used Book & Media Sale at the East Haddam Historical Society on June 11, 8 a.m. Too busy to get to the library? Did you know that you can order and renew your materials online, keep a reading list, and order free ebooks and audiobooks? Just go to our new site: www.rathbunlibrary.blogspot.com and look for the links to the LION Online Catalog, to OverDrive, Jobs & Careers, Calendar of Events, Reference Links and more. And don't forget to find us on Facebook and Twitter for quick updates and alerts!

The Children's Department will hold the American Girl Club on May 4 and June 1, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.; Bouncing Baby Booktime continues on April 20, May 4, May 18, June 1, and June 15, 10:30 a.m.; and Preschooler's Storytime continues weekly on Mondays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. through mid-June. The 2011 Summer Reading Program begins June 23; this year's theme is One World, Many Stories. Guest Storyteller Joyce Marie Rayno will kick off our summer programs on June 28, 11:00 a.m. (all ages), followed by Make a Hot Air Balloon on July 13, 2:00 p.m. (ages 5 and up) and Let's Make an Australian Boomerang! on July 18, 11:00 a.m. (ages 5 and up). Registration is required for all children's programs.

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CIRCUS UNDER THE BIG TOP

Students will be dressed in costume at the Circus, Under the Big Top on June 4, Saturday, 12 - 3 p.m. at the East Haddam Historical Society. Students will be exhibiting and selling Jack in the Box sculptures, Large Expressionistic Clown Portraits, paper mache circus animal masks and clown shoes, circus-themed marionettes, life sized circus animal sculptures, and much more! Live animals, music, entertainment, and refreshments will be available. Miss Mazzotta and Mrs. Weaver's art students are all participating.



Kate Sobolesky's "Circus Lion"



Garrett Lemke's "Circus Clown"



Alan Stano's "Circus Tiger"



Cailey Botteon's "Circus Monkey"



Alyson Zawisza's "Circus Mermaid"



Will Meyers, grade 6,
Expressionistic Clown
Acrylic Painting, using
Mathematical Grid
Enlargement skills



Middle School Students in
costume with Ms. Mazzotta

Tax Collector

As we approach the end of the fiscal year, the Tax Collector's office is busy contacting taxpayers who have not paid their taxes on the 2009 Grand List. We would like to remind those taxpayers that monthly payments will be accepted. If you are having financial difficulties and are not able to pay your taxes in full, please contact the Tax office and arrange a payment plan.

Payment should be made to the Tax Collector, P.O. Box 376, East Haddam, CT 06423-0376. Payment may also be made through Point and Pay by Credit or Debit card and by e-check. There is a charge for this service. Please visit the town's website, easthaddam.org, for business hours and for the option of paying your taxes on line.

This office is for the collection of taxes only. Any adjustments to your bill must be made by the Assessor. That phone number is 860-873-5026 or by email to: assessor041@easthaddam.org.

You can contact the Tax Collector, Denise Dill, by email at taxcollector@easthaddam.org. The Assistant Collector, Sharon Kuhn, can be contacted at tax@easthaddam.org. The office phone number is 860-873-5033.



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Registrars of Voters News

The referendum on purchasing land and conservation easements to three parcels was held at the Town Meeting Hall on Town Street on Thursday, March 10, from noon to 8 p.m.

The vote was in the affirmative for all three parcels: Harris property passed 555 yes to 265 no; Dean property passed 518 yes to 302 no; Bogan property passed 526 yes to 296 no. The total number of recorded votes was 822. This included 805 registered voters (798 in person, 7 by absentee ballot); 14 voters who owned real estate; and 3 registered motor vehicle owners. Thus, 14% of the 5,780 registered East Haddam voters participated in the referendum.

The Moderator for the Referendum was Ernest Malavasi. Other workers at the polls included Laurie Bennet, Ed Blaschik, Jovita Cozean, Nancy Cummings, Josephine Golec, Walter Golec, Janet Loucks, Lloyd Neudecker, Ruth Neudecker, and Patricia Thomas. The Registers of Voters, Laurie Alt and Harriet Cummings, were assisted by their Deputies, Martha Hansen and Margaret Urban.

Currently the Registrars are working to complete the town-wide Canvas. This involves updating the voter list by recording all address changes, both within town and for those who have moved out of town.

The Registrars are also completing their office reorganization after moving from the hallway and under the stairwell to the former Judge of Probate office in the River House. A new fireproof cabinet was purchased, allowing data and tabulators to be securely stored. A copier/fax machine has been installed for use by all of the River House offices. The Registrars are very pleased to have a sunny, lockable office.

*Laurie Alt
Harriet Cummings
Registrars of Voters*

Happy Spring

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East Haddam Newcomers' Guide

WELCOME TO OUR TOWN!

On behalf of *Events Magazines*, welcome to East Haddam. Whether you are new to Connecticut or just to East Haddam, you will find wonderful people and places to visit in town. Below are important phone numbers. Please tear out this page and keep it for future reference.

Events Magazines and Essex Printing support local businesses.

Please use this guide and "Buy Local" - we do!

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CHURCHES

Christ Community Church.....	860-873-1187
First Church of Christ Congregational	860-873-9084
Hadlyme Congregational Church	860-526-9628
St. Bridget's of Kildare.....	860-873-8623
St. Stephen's Episcopal	860-873-9547
Moodus United Methodist	860-873-8491

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion.....	860-873-8042
Boy Scout Troop 22	860-873-1098
Cub Scouts Pack #28	860-873-1872
East Haddam Ambulance Assoc.	860-790-0575
East Haddam Community Lions Club	860-873-9282
East Haddam Lions Club.....	860-873-2822
East Haddam Democratic Town Committee	860-873-3787
East Haddam Education Foundation	www.eheducationfoundation.org
East Haddam Free Public Library.....	860-873-8248
East Haddam Garden Club	860-873-8732
East Haddam Lakes Association.....	860-537-6070
East Haddam Republican Town Committee.....	860-873-9240
Friends of Gillette Castle State Park	860-526-2336 (434-2603 Judy)
Friends of Rathbun Library	860-873-8310
Rathbun Library	860-873-8210
Friends of East Haddam Public Library	860-873-8248
Hadlyme North School Society	P.O. Box 328 Hadlyme CT 06439
Middlesex County Community Foundation	347-0025
Moodus Fife & Drum	860-873-8837
Rotary Club of East Haddam.....	860-873-2284
St. Bridget's of Kildare Knights of Columbus Council 9358	860-873-9663

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Eileen Daily.....	860-399-7342
East Haddam Senior Center	860-873-5034
Youth and Family Services.....	860-873-3296

SCHOOLS

East Haddam Elementary	860-873-5076
Nathan Hale-Ray High School	860-873-5065
Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School.....	860-873-5081
Superintendent	860-873-5090

MUSEUMS & ATTRACTIONS

East Haddam Historical Society.....	860-873-3944
Nathan Hale School House.....	860-873-3399
Amasa Day House	860-873-8144

PARKS

Devil's Hopyard State Park	860-873-8566
Gillette Castle State Park	860-526-2366

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Moodus	860-873-8632
Hadlyme.....	860-526-6088

ATTORNEYS

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Peter Charbonnier	860-526-1780

BANKING

Essex Savings Bank	860-767-2573
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Creative Design Builders ..	860-767-2783
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CAMP

Bushy Hill Nature Center	860-767-2148
Pequot Sherwood Day Camp	860-767-0848
Middlesex County Camp	middlesexcountycamp.org

CANINE TRAINING

Advanced Canine Concepts	860-873-1444
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CLOTHING BOUTIQUE

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CRUISES

RiverQuest	860-662-0577
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Enterprise Computer.....	860-664-3730
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DENTIST

East Haddam Dental Associates	860-873-1404
Higganum Dental Associates	860-345-4538

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

H.R. Learning Academy	860-873-8700
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EXERCISE & PHYSICAL FITNESS

East Haddam Bootcamp Fitness	773-343-4355
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GARDEN CENTER

Ballek's Garden Center	860-873-8878
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HOSPITAL

Middlesex Hospital	WWW.MIDDLESEXHOSPITAL.ORG
Cancer Care	WWW.MHCANCERCENTER.ORG

KENNELS

New Inn Kennels	860-873-8149
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LANDSCAPING

Custom Landscaping	860-365-0862
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OIL COMPANY

Moroni & Son	860-388-2298
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PACKAGE STORES

Hayden Wine & Spirits.....	860-873-9822
Moodus Package Store.....	860-873-8577

PHARMACY

Nathan Hale Pharmacy	860-873-1481
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PODIATRISTS

Haddam Foot Care Specialists	860-345-3674
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REAL ESTATE

Coldwell Banker, Dee Hasuly	860-767-2636 x129
William Raveis, Jodi LaBella	cell: 860-301-2032

RESTAURANT

Gelston House	860-873-1411
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SENIOR COMMUNITY

Chester Village West	860-526-6800
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STUDIO

Riverway Recording Studio, LLC	860-873-3404
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THEATRES

Goodspeed Musicals	860-873-8668
Madison Art Cinemas.....	203-245-3456

TOWN CONCERTS

Music On The River, East Haddam Parks and Recreation.....	860-873-5058
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TREE EXPERTS

Bombaci Tree Experts.....	860-767-1752
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WINDOW DECOR

Budget Blinds of Old Saybrook	860-399-6442
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*Want to be listed on the Newcomers' page?
Call Diane Brown at 860-383-6376*

The Fish Sisters. A little shop with a big tale.

In the village of East Haddam, just steps from the Goodspeed Opera House, you'll find a small women's clothing boutique with a very unusual name.

First opened in 2003 by resident Carole Scherrer, The Fish Sisters has become a destination for local shoppers and tourists alike. But it's the name of the shop that has visitors most curious.

"Everyone always asks," Carole says, "and they're surprised when it has nothing to do with clothing, and that I don't even have a sister."

Born in Philadelphia, Carole and her family moved to Ridgefield, Connecticut in the 1970s. Once a year, she would meet her childhood friend, Susan O'Donnel, halfway, in New York City for a girls' weekend.



In 1984, on one of these trips, the duo bought matching fish pins in a SoHo gallery. They were wearing the pins when they crossed paths with Dan Hurley, a freelance writer who had set up a table on Houston Street with a vintage typewriter and a sign that said "60-second novels, written while you wait."

After asking a few questions, the "60-Second Novelist" typed a tale of "fish friends since they were minnows, in the sea of life." And he called it, "The Fish Sisters."

"His story was about how much we had shared in our lives." Carole says. "And I said to Sue, if I ever have a shop, I'm going to call it The Fish Sisters."

It took a few years, but when the Fish Sisters became a reality, Carole says support from the town and the Goodspeed visitors really made a difference.

Today, the one-page story is on display in the shop. And Sue stops in every time she visits.

"Since opening nine years ago, I've made so many more friends here," Carole says. "And that's the best thing about owning a small business. People come back and bring their friends. They remember you, even if you have a funny name."

The Fish Sisters is located at 2 Norwich Road, East Haddam

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Dee may be reached at **860-767-2636 Ext. 129** or by cell at **860-214-1864**.

Email: Dee.Hasuly@cbmoves.com

Website: www.DeeHasuly.com

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Volunteers of the Month

Please join us in congratulating our most recent volunteers of the month: Joseph Szczech, Andrew Riccio, Cynthia DiNino, and James O'Brien. If you would like to nominate someone, please do so in a letter to the First Selectman.

Volunteer Reception

The Annual Volunteer of the Month Reception will be held on Sunday, May 1, at 3 p.m. in the Grange Hall. Those volunteers named during the past year will be honored at this event. Past honorees and the community are encouraged to attend.

Light refreshments will be served.

Local Bank Executive Named to New Advisory Board

The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston has appointed 12 members, including one local bank executive, to an advisory council formed in response to new regulations.

Each Federal Reserve Bank across the country is establishing a First District Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council (CDIAC) in response to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010. The councils will represent the perspective of smaller financial institutions and provide input on the economy and lending conditions, among other issues, according to a statement.

The First District's 12 CDIAC members represent commercial banks, thrift institutions and credit unions with assets less than \$10 billion. Members, which are from each of the six New England states, will meet three times annually.

The following members were appointed:

Gregory Shook, president/CEO,
Essex Savings Bank, Essex, CT
James W. Blake, president/CEO,
HarborOne Credit Union; Brockton, Mass.
Tom Caron, president/CEO,
Bank of Easton; North Easton, Mass.
Christopher Oddleifson, president/CEO,
Rockland Trust Co.; Rockland, Mass.
Bill Stapleton, president/CEO, Northampton
Co-Operative Bank; Northampton, Mass.
Jane Walsh, president/CEO,
Northmark Bank; North Andover, Mass.
John J. Dwyer, Jr., president/CEO, New England
Federal Credit Union (NEFCU); Williston, Vt.
Michael L'Ecuyer, president/CEO, Bellwether
Community Credit Union; Manchester, N.H.
Gregg R. Tewksbury, president/CEO,
Savings Bank of Walpole; Walpole, N.H.
Peter Judkins, president/CEO,
Franklin Savings Bank; Farmington, Maine
Joseph J MarcAurele, president/CEO,
Washington Trust; Westerly, R.I.
Merrill Sherman, president/CEO,
Bank Rhode Island; Providence, R.I.

Stapleton will serve as District One's representative to the national CDIAC, which will meet twice a year to advise the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, D.C., according to a statement. The Federal Reserve Board announced in October it was forming the CDIAC to replace the Thrift Institutions Advisory Council.

The first meeting of the District One CDIAC was held on March 1.



Gregory Shook, President/CEO, Essex Savings Bank, Essex

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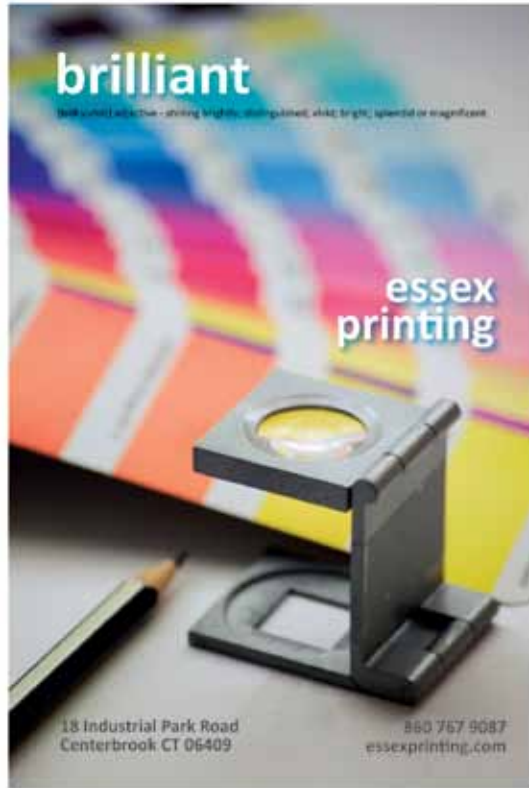
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Pets are Braggin' about..."

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East Haddam Preschool

Open House and Registration

The East Haddam Preschool will be holding an open house on Tuesday, May 17th at 7 pm. This will be an informal time to learn about our 3 and 4 year-old programs, our school, our teaching philosophies, meet our teachers and ask questions.

We will also be taking registrations for the 2011-2012 school year.

The Preschool is located in a picturesque white house at 14 Plains Road in Moodus.

For additional information,
please call us at (860) 873-8250
or visit www.ehpreschool.org.

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Throughout the years, Essex Savings Bank has never lost sight of our forefathers' goal – *a commitment to personal relationships*.

In this celebratory year we take the opportunity to thank our customers, directors, trustees, officers and staff who support our mission to continue to provide service and trust to our community.



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