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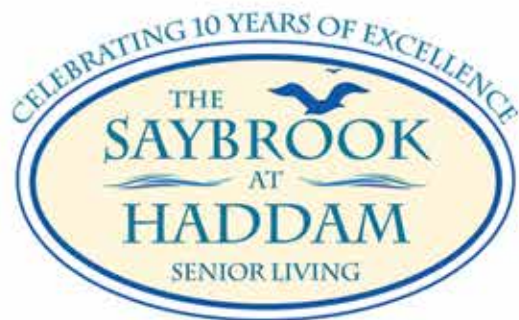
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Selectman's Corner

A lot has happened in the three months since my last Haddam Events article. Let's start with some good news.

Injun Hollow Road was paved and the town crew finished work on curbing and driveway aprons throughout Haddam Neck. Millings were put on the unimproved (dirt/gravel) section of Ague Spring and Basket Shop Roads. That not only improves the road but it also increases the amount of Town Aid Road (TAR) funds the town will get from the state. TAR is based on the number of miles of improved roads in each town. Millings were also put on the unimproved sections of Plains and Wig Hill Roads. The town crew did extensive drainage work on Christian Hill Road and it's been paved. If all goes according to plan, preparation work should have been completed on Lt Shubael Road which is scheduled for paving at the end of October. Old Turnpike Road is scheduled for milling and filling this fall. Originally, the town crew was going to do that but cleaning up after Tropical Storm Isaias cost us about three weeks of roadwork time. Old Turnpike will be completed by a contractor. Other roads we planned to do this year will likely be delayed until next spring.

The Higganum Village Farmers Market continues a very successful year. So successful that they're discussing extending the market beyond the planned October 9th end. The number of vendors increased, food trucks were added and most importantly, the number of visitors increased dramatically. I'm sure the new

location at the Haddam Elementary School parking lot helped but the lion's share of the credit for the improvements goes to Kristy Benson, our new market master, the Economic Development Commission and all of the volunteers. My thanks go to all of them. I can't wait to see what they have in store for us next year!



First Selectman
Robert McGarry

There were two other significant developments in Higganum Center. We finally got permission from the state to access the Scovil Hoe buildings and grounds. In my last article, I reported we had selected an engineering firm, Tighe and Bond, to do the structural and environmental assessment of the property. They started that in early August. The other development involves the Rossi property. During the charettes held last winter to develop a vision for Higganum Center, there was widespread support for the town buying the property. It's a critical piece of land that has gone largely unused since the Rossi Company moved out in the early 1990s. In September the Board of Selectmen authorized me to negotiate that purchase and approved a purchase and sale agreement and the Board of Finance approved funding to conduct an environ-

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Selectman's Corner... continued from page 3

mental and structural assessment of the property. There are many more steps in the process, the final and most important one being approval at a town meeting.

The August primaries went well thanks to the efforts of our Registrars of Voters, poll workers and Town Clerk's Office. A total of 1230 people voted; 705 by absentee ballot and 525 in person. By now you should have received an application for absentee ballot for the November election. They were mailed to every registered voter by the Secretary of State's Office. If you didn't get an application and want one please contact the Town Clerk. (If you don't want an absentee ballot just throw the application away.) Absentee ballots were mailed to those who requested them starting October 2nd by the Town Clerk. You can return them by mail (please allow at least seven days for delivery), take them to the Town Clerk's Office or leave them in the ballot drop box in front of the Town Office Building. More information is on our website. If you have questions or concerns about your request or ballot, please contact the Town Clerk.

I'll close with a reminder that the pandemic is still here. Public health officials are concerned about cases increasing as cooler weather moves us back inside and conditions become more favorable for infecting others. Please wear a mask, maintain social distance, and wash your hands. Until a Covid vaccine is widely available, those are the only tools we have to keep each other safe. The arrival of flu season is only going to make things worse. Flu shots are strongly recommended. Please continue to support our local businesses.

Selectman, Robert McGarry

Fall Home Projects To Boost Your Comfort and Energy Efficiency

By: Enoch Lenge

Fall is a great time to tackle those home improvement projects that have been put off because of the summer heat. In addition to landscaping, gutter cleaning, power washing, and deck repair, here are some home improvement projects to add to your list to boost your comfort while helping save you money and energy this winter:

- Upgrade Your Lighting – Did you know that the average household dedicates about 5% of its energy budget to lighting? Now that it's getting darker earlier and your lights are on longer, consider switching your current light bulbs with LEDs. According to Energy.gov, ENERGY STAR-certified residential LEDs use at least 75% less energy and last up to 25 times longer than incandescent lighting.
- Insulate Doors and Windows – Air sealing, especially in an old, drafty house, can save homeowners more than 20% on their heating and cooling costs. Installing weatherstripping around your doors and windows is an easy and low-cost way to improve your home's energy efficiency and keep the cold winter wind at bay.
- Check Your Attic for Air Leaks – An unfinished, poorly insulated attic is another common area where homeowners experience significant heat loss. Adding insulation to the attic floor and sealing any air leaks can help stabilize the temperature inside your home, prevent ice dams, and save on energy costs.
- Maintain Your Heating and Cooling Systems – Be sure to add scheduling a preventative tune-up with your local



- HVAC company to your list to keep that system running efficiently and preserving air flow. A clean system that is free of dirt and debris will run more efficiently and preserve airflow.
- Install Programmable Thermostats – You can save as much as 10% a year on heating and cooling by simply turning your thermostat back 7°-10°F for 8 hours a day from its typical setting. Programmable thermostats allow you to easily set your home's temperature in advance to avoid coming home to a freezing house. A smart thermostat takes that a step further by allowing you to set your temperature from your smart phone or tablet. Some even learn your habits and adjust accordingly – saving you even more.
- Window Replacement – While this may not be at the top of your list, replacing old windows, especially with high performance ones like triple-pane windows, can improve a home's energy efficiency and overall comfort.

Before researching various contractors or DIY-ing these improvements, take advantage of the limited time only, no-cost Home Energy Solutionssm program offered by Eversource. To get started, you can schedule an appointment with an Eversource-authorized energy expert to evaluate your home's energy efficiency needs. During in-person visits, energy experts, while following COVID-19 safety requirements, will also conduct important safety tests and install weatherization measures and energy-saving improvements, such as air sealing, LED lighting, and advanced power strips.

To help make these improvements more affordable, program participants can take advantage of 0% financing on approved energy-saving improvements, and up to 100% off of eligible insulation projects. Eversource has you covered with a wide range of energy-saving rebates and discounts, including a new triple-pane window rebate.

From now through December 31, Eversource is offering a \$100 rebate per window for each window replaced with an ENERGY STAR-certified triple-pane window.

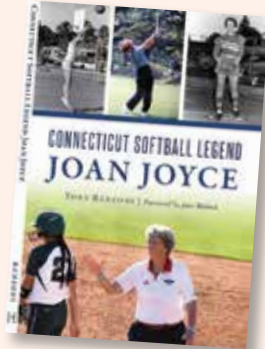
Whether you're looking to improve the comfort of your home, save on your energy bill, or help save the environment, Eversource has several budget-friendly solutions to help you get started. To schedule your energy assessment, call 1-877-WISE-USE (877-947-3873), or visit Eversource.com to learn more about Eversource's residential offerings and additional ways to save.

Enoch Lenge is Eversource's energy efficiency spokesman and provides energy saving tips on the company's blog.

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Absentee Ballot Information

With all the confusion about absentee ballots, COVID, the postal service and the election in general I thought some clarification from the Town Clerk's Office might be helpful. First of all I think it is important to note that you do not have to vote by absentee ballot. All three polling locations in town will be open on Election Day, Tuesday November 3rd. That being said we do expect a very large absentee ballot turnout because of COVID-19 fears.

Our office is receiving a large volume of calls relating to the election. With both parties having their conventions and the hype surrounding cuts to the US Postal Service many folks are concerned their vote will not be counted. As you are probably aware the Secretary of the State's Office will mail out an absentee ballot application to every registered voter in the state. These applications were mailed out approximately Sep-

tember 20, 2020. When you receive your application if you plan on voting by absentee ballot you should sign and date it and return it to the Haddam Town Clerks Office. If you plan to vote in person at your polling place, then do not sign and return it to us, tear up or shred the application and no ballot will be mailed to you. There was some confusion among voters in the primary who wanted to vote in person, but had been issued an absentee ballot after sending in the application.

It is very important to note that absentee ballots did not become available until October 2, 2020. What we do recommend is to sign and date your absentee ballot application as soon as you receive it and return it to our office, either by mail, in office or the absentee ballot box outside the Town Office Building. That way we can prepare your absentee ballot and mail it out to you

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as promptly as possible. With all the highly publicized problems of the presidential primary with the Rhode Island mail house it has been decided by the Secretary of State's Office to have all absentee ballots issued by the local town clerk's office. That is a job we have always performed in the past. The big change is having the applications mailed to every registered voter. Our crystal ball is quite cloudy but we expect somewhere in the vicinity of 3500 to 4000 absentee ballots to be processed in our office. If the COVID problem gets better, perhaps less; if it gets worse maybe 5,000 ballots. Time will tell. We have almost 6,200 registered voters in Haddam, Higganum and Haddam Neck.

Both the Haddam and Higganum postmaster were in touch with our office right up through primary day to insure all ballots that reached their office were counted. That cooperation will continue with the November election as well.

Because the return of ballots is time sensitive it would be our recommendation that if you have not mailed back your ballot by October 24, 2020 then to be on the safe side you should deposit it in the absentee ballot box located outside the front door of the town office building. Your ballot must be received no later than November 3, 2020 at 8:00 pm for your vote to count.

In our office we have observed a few problems where ballots have not counted in the past:

- Late arriving ballots (parents kindly make sure your college age students send in applications and ballots as soon as possible.) Few college kids send much through the mail and it's not as fast as texting.
- We see where folks do not sign and date envelope B. Think of your Ballot as A. Once you place it in envelope B you must sign, date and seal envelope B. Then envelope B in placed in envelope C which is returned to the town clerk's office. If you return by mail please note that envelope C which is addressed to the Haddam Town Clerk's Office already has pre-paid postage stamp.

Everyone expects to have their ballot counted and we pledge to do everything in our power to see that occurs. You can do your share by sending in your ballot application signed and dated as soon as humanly possible. Once you receive your ballot, fill it out, follow all instructions and return it to our office promptly. If we all work together the election process should go smoothly.

Sincerely,
Scott R. Brookes, CCTC

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Fall Programs at HK Recreation

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering many fun and exciting programs this fall. Please visit our website (www.hkrec.com) for more detailed information or the Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Dept. facebook page.

UPCOMING FALL PROGRAMS - KIDS

Kidscapades Pirate Adventure & Spooky Science

Wednesday, 10/21 via zoom

Kidscapades Candy Science & Dino Day

Wednesday, 11/18 via zoom

Kidscapades Grinch Day & Gingerbread Baby

Wednesday, 12/16 via zoom

Creative Art

Tuesdays, 10/13 - 10/27, 4:15 - 5:30 pm at Sheldon Park

Archery

Wednesdays 10/14 - 10/28, 5:00 - 6:00 pm at Sheldon Park

Zumba Kids

Thursdays 10/15 - 10/29, 4:15 - 5:15 pm at Sheldon Park

Canvas & Pumpkins in the Park

Saturday, 10/17, 2:00 - 4:00 pm at Sheldon Park

Swim Lessons

Tuesday/Thursday, 10/13, 6:30 - 7:10 pm at HK HS Pool

ADULT PROGRAMS

Aqua Aerobics

Mondays and Wednesdays starting 10/7

Abrakadoode Art Splash - Scream

Thursday, October 29, 7:00 pm via zoom

Fitness Yoga

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 pm via zoom

Adult Semi-Private Swim Lessons

Tuesdays and Thursdays, HK HS Pool

www.haddam.org

We hope you will find our website to be a useful tool to find updated information and explore our wonderful community.

Your Support Matters...Now More Than Ever.

Now is the time for us to give thanks for all the good people making great things happen in Middlesex County.

Thank you for stepping up to support our frontline workers with critical supplies and services.

Thank you for helping our local nonprofits meet the increasing and changing needs of our most vulnerable citizens.

Thank you for working together for a better today and a brighter tomorrow for all.



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Assessor's Corner

Tammy Anderson CCMAI, Assessor

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DEADLINES

Active Members of the U.S.

Armed Forces

Any active member of the United States Armed Forces (defined as United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Air Force and any reserve component thereof, including the Connecticut National Guard) is eligible for the exemption of one motor vehicle.

Applications for the exemption must be completed annually and forwarded to the Assessor's Office not later than the December 31st following the date on which property tax is due in the town in which the motor vehicle is registered. In other words, for the 2019 Grand List year the deadline is December 31, 2020. The forms are available in the Assessor's Office and online on the Assessor's page of the www.haddam.org website.

Farm, Forest or Open Space under Public Act 490

New applications for property owners claiming land as Farm, Forest or Open Space can be filed with the Assessor's Office between September 1st and December 30th, 2020. Please note that when filing for Forest Land, the application must be accompanied by a Certified Forester's Report which is due to the Assessor's Office no later than October 1st. The State's Forestry Department can provide a list of state foresters who can assist you.

The Assessor's Office must review all applications, and accompanying reports, to determine if the property qualifies to be a part of the PA 490 Program.

Additional information and forms for the above programs are available in the Assessor's office and on our web page at www.haddam.org.

Personal Property Declarations

Personal Property Declarations were mailed in late September. Anyone not receiving a Personal Property Declaration should contact the Assessor's Office. Even though a declaration was not received by you, it does not preclude you from filing.

Notice is hereby given to all persons liable to pay **Personal Property** taxes in the Town of Haddam that they must return to the Assessor's Office, on or before the **Second day of November**, their personal property list (declaration).

Failure to declare will force the Assessor to estimate the value of the property and add a **25% penalty**.

The personal property declaration shall include all furniture, fixtures, equipment and machinery of all commercial and industrial businesses; unregistered motor vehicles, snowmobiles, farm machinery and horses. Manufacturing

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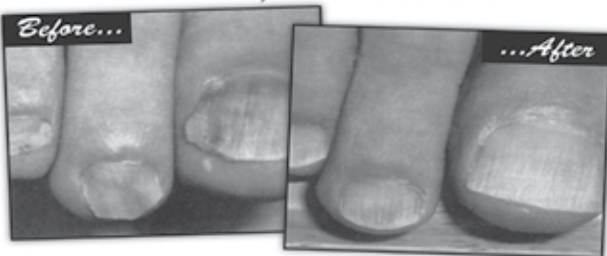
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Assessor's Corner... continued from page 9

Machinery Exemption and Farm Building Exemptions Applications must be filed at this time. Anyone claiming either of these exemptions must return the Declaration and Application by the October 31st deadline. A declaration received late, or not returned, will not be eligible for the exemption for the 2020 Grand List.

IMPORTANT

If you do not receive a Personal Property Declaration and you are operating a business in the Town of Haddam, it is your responsibility, according to Connecticut State Statutes, to file one. **Failure to declare** will force the Assessor to estimate the value of the personal property and add a **25% penalty**. Once a penalty is applied to a Personal Property account, it cannot be removed.

If you have received a personal property declaration and are no longer conducting business in Haddam as of October 1, 2020, you **must** complete the Affidavit on the front page of the declaration and return it to the Assessor's Office prior to November 2, 2020. This signed affidavit is mandatory as proof to allow the Assessor to remove you from the Grand List. If the documentation is not received it will force the Assessor to estimate the value of the personal property and apply a **25% penalty**.

Defining a “Business”

There have been many questions raised over the past months regarding businesses and whether or not they should be picked up by the Assessor's Office. It is my hope that this article will help to explain and give the situation some clarity for everyone.

The definition of a business is not easily conveyed in words because every situation is different and there are many aspects and questions that need to be asked in order to ascertain if a business should be listed with the Town.

Here are the ways we looked at it. Hopefully this will help answer any questions that you may have.

Do you provide a good or service in exchange for compensation? If you answered yes, then you are in a business.

There are a couple of ways to examine your individual situation to determine if you are a business or not. These are the most common aspects that we look to; and this list is not all-inclusive, but generally covers the most common aspects.

1. **Advertising** – if you are advertising, in print media, online, or in any other way, you are in business.
2. **Amount of Time** – it doesn't matter if you work at the business 3 hours a week, full-time, part-time, seasonally, or whenever someone calls to ask for you to provide a good or service to them. The number of hours, or time spent, doesn't factor into the determination on whether or not you are in business.
3. **Assets** – The amount of tangible business personal property also does not factor into the determination on whether or not

you are in business. Business personal property can range from a hundred dollars for a part-time, home-based business, all the way up to millions of dollars (as is the case with most public utilities, and, in Haddam's case, the Connecticut Yankee property).

- 1) **Compensation** – The amount of compensation you receive also does not factor into the determination of whether or not you are in business. If you receive a 1099 for tax purposes, or you self-report your income to the IRS, you are in business. If you receive a W-2 from the business, then you are an employee and the business owner would declare the business personal property, not you as the employee (unless, of course you are an employee of your own company).
- 2) **Home-Based Businesses** – If you operate a farm, or make crafts for the local fairs, or are a CPA at home, you are in business. You are not required to rent or lease a space in order to be considered a business.
- 3) **Income** – The amount of money you make from your goods or services is irrelevant to determining whether or not you operate a business.
- 4) **Ownership** – If you have filed paperwork to be incorporated, or have created another legal entity (LLP, LP, LLC), then you are in business.
- 5) **Rent a Space** – If you rent/lease a space, then you are in business.
- 6) **Sales Tax** – If you have a Sales Tax Certificate, or if you collect sales tax, you are in business.
- 7) **Self-Employed** – If you are self-employed and work for yourself, you are in business.
- 8) **Trade Name Certificate** – If you have filed a Trade Name Certificate with the Town Clerk, or have a Trade Name that you use for your operation, you are in business.

The Assessor's Office can be reached by phone at (860) 345-8531 x 226; you can email the Assessor at assessor@haddam.org or stop by the office. We are open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

2020 Revaluation

Revaluations are conducted every 5 years with a full revaluation every 10 years. The revaluation we completed in 2015 was an interim revaluation. The 2020 revaluation is a full measure and list of all properties. The major phases to a municipal revaluation are Data Collection, Market Analysis, Valuation, Field Review and Informal Hearings

continued on page 12

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Assessor's Corner... continued from page 11

eQuality Valuation Services LLC was hired to conduct our 2020 revaluation. Due to COVID-19 there were no interior inspections allowed. Therefore a data mailer with the information that we have on your property was mailed out to all property owners for your review to make any corrections if needed. The exterior inspections should be complete within the next few weeks if they haven't already

done so before publication of this article.

Please look for the Notice of new Assessment sometime in November with information for an Informal Hearing if you don't agree with your new assessment. Informal Hearings will not be done in person, but rather by phone appointments or sending in documentation for us to consider.

I encourage all taxpayers to view your field card online, stop by, or call, if they have questions regarding their specific property, or any general assessment questions.

We can be reached by phone at (860) 345-8531 ext. 226; via email at assessor@haddam.org or stop by the office.

Tammy Anderson CCMAI, Assessor

Poet Laureate for Haddam to be Selected

The Brainerd Memorial Library is beginning a search process for the appointment of a Poet Laureate of Haddam. Once selected the Poet Laureate will serve in an honorary position as the ambassador of the community's vibrant literary life, promoting its literary community and celebrating the written word.

Nominees must be a poet, over 18 years old, a Haddam resident, and available to develop and present poetry-related activities and appear at public events. The Poet Laureate will be selected by a committee made up of community representatives and will need to have a breadth of experiences in poetry, a comfort level in public speaking, and achievements of distinction. Information on the program and applications can be found on the Library's website or

can be picked up at the Library by prior arrangement through email at haddampoetlaureate@gmail.com.

The deadline for applications is October 30, 2020. The Poet Laureate will be appointed to a two-year term, starting on January 1, 2021.

Although the position is unpaid, the Haddam Poet Laureate position is endorsed by the Town of Haddam and will be assisted by the Brainerd Memorial Library in the coordination of scheduling of events.

"Brainerd Memorial Library is pleased to support the Town of Haddam in creating the position of Poet Laureate. Under the



Fox Ledge Farm

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leadership of Library Trustee Kent Jarrell, a team of community members has created guidelines for the selection of Haddam's first Poet Laureate. Upon request this poet will speak at various local events and will add to the cultural richness of our lives here in Haddam," said Marijean Conrad, President of the Library Board of Trustees.

Haddam's Poet Laureate would join more than two dozen poets serving in similar positions in other Connecticut communities. "Too often we forget, living our busy lives, that poetry originates in the need to be with others more deeply--to relax, tell stories, sing songs, talk about our lives and to hear about the lives of others," said Margaret Gibson, State of Connecticut Poet Laureate. "Poetry embraces all of those activities. Poems may be read in solitude or in the company of others; a poem can kick off a discussion, often deepening the way we talk with each other. Poems mirror our lives; they speak our truths. As State of Connecticut Poet Laureate, I am happy to think that Haddam is preparing to enrich the lives of its residents by appointing a Town Poet Laureate. "

Board of Assessment Appeals

The Board of Assessment Appeals has completed its work for the prior fiscal year. Meetings were held in September for motor vehicles and March for real estate, personal property and supplemental motor vehicles.

The Board would like to remind taxpayers that fall means a mailing from the Assessor requiring a Declaration of Personal Property be completed. This form goes out only to someone running a business based in Haddam. If you do not complete the form or file it by the deadline, there is a penalty. The penalty is 25% of the assessment of the personal property. The Board of Assessment Appeals cannot rebate this penalty, per state statutes. Please see the Assessor or the Assistant Assessor for assistance. They are more than willing to guide you. Also, keep a copy for use in completing next year's form. If you disagree with the assessment you may file an appeal, starting Feb, 1st. Hearings will be held in March.

Dave Beckman, Craig Salonia, and Jo Ann Woickelman

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Youth & Family Services - Holiday Giving Program

Youth & Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth
91 Little City Road Higganum CT 06441

The holiday giving program facilitated by HK Youth & Family Services, Inc. is available for families in need that reside in Haddam, Higganum, Haddam Neck and Killingworth. New gifts and toys will be collected for children and youth from birth through age 18. The program runs from November 2 through December 18, 2020. Deadline for registration is December 1, 2020. For more information about how you can donate, or to register for this confidential program please call 860-345-7498 or email office@hkyfs.org.

STUFF-A-CRUISER

Our Haddam Resident State Trooper will have their cruiser available at the Higganum Green, Route 154 from 10:00 am-2:00 pm on Saturday, November 21, 2020. Please join HK Youth & Family Services, Inc. to stuff a cruiser with a donation of a new gift or toy for families in need. Please remember our teens during this holiday season as well as young children. If you need ideas, please call HKYFS at 860-345-7498 or email office@hkyfs.org

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES HEALTHY KIDS COALITION

What is the Healthy Communities Healthy Kids Coalition? A group of community members formed this coalition (formerly the Prevention Council) in 1993 in response to the growing concern about the number of Haddam and Killingworth youth using and abusing alcohol and other drugs. A collaborative effort enhances and strengthens the process of identifying and addressing areas of concern.

Why was it created?

The towns of Haddam and Killingworth struggle with youth substance abuse. This continues to be an issue with all communities nationwide. The Healthy Communities-Healthy Kids (HC-HK) Coalition seeks to prevent and reduce substance abuse. The Coalition meets monthly and has had several working meetings where members break into small groups to analyze the local and national data, prioritize areas of concern and plan how they hope to address these areas.

Who is involved?

Representatives from all 12 sectors of the community are involved in coalition activities. They include youth; parents; the business community; media; school; youth serving organizations; law enforcement agencies; religious or fraternal organizations; civic and volunteer groups; healthcare professionals; state or local agencies with expertise in the field of substance

abuse; and other organizations involved in reducing substance abuse.

Interested in joining?

Contact us at office@hkyfs.org or 860-345-7498.

DRUG TAKE BACK

October 24, 2020 is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. We will be at The Killingworth Pharmacy (183 Route 81) from 10 am – 2 pm to collect all unused or expired medication for safe disposal.

COUNSELING & SUPPORT SERVICES

We are pleased to offer our counseling and support services to the surrounding community. Our licensed therapists and counselors offer individual, couples and family therapy for all ages. We have solid clinical experience working with depression, anxiety, trauma, grief and loss, family conflict, and stress. Our commitment is to work with you to ensure the best possible confidential care to improve the quality of your life and your loved ones. We have flexible appointment times, please call us to schedule and meet one of our therapists at 860.345.7498, or you may email us at ClinicalDirector@HKYFS.org.

We look forward to partnering with you!

THE 27TH ANNUAL PUMPKIN RUN 5K RACE FOR KIDS!

We will be hosting our 27th Annual Pumpkin 5K Run/Walk and Kids Fun Run to benefit Youth and Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth (HKYFS). This year the event will be held at the Haddam-Killingworth High School (HKHS) on Sunday, October 25th. The programs we run are needed now more than ever so we hope you and your family members will join us this year.

Moving to HKHS means the race will start and finish on the track and be much flatter than the traditional 5K route. We will also incorporate many current safety measures including a rolling start to promote social distancing, three race start times to limit the number of runners and volunteers on site at any given time, increased hand sanitizer and washing stations, touchless food & drink options. Although the event this year will look different, our goals haven't changed and the event will be fun, and safe for participants, sponsors, and volunteers.

This year pre-registration is required. Contact www.jbsports.com/hk-pumpkin-run to sign up or call us at the office to learn more (860.345.7498).

goPINK 2020 is All Quacked Up!



This year the goPINK Project invites the community to give back and support cancer patients from the comfort of their own homes by participating in the goPINK virtual duck race to benefit Middlesex Health Cancer Center and provide free integrative medicine to cancer patients.

Throughout the month of October, you can participate by donating as an individual or by forming a duck race team. Visit MiddlesexHealth.org/gopink to get started.



continued on page 16



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goPink 2020... continued from page 15

The duck race will be held November 2 at 5 pm, and it will be live streamed on the goPINK Project Facebook page, @GOPINK-PROJECT. Rubber ducks will be tossed into a body of water. The sponsors of the first ducks to reach the finish line win prizes. There will also be prizes for the top fundraising teams.

A donation of \$10 enters one duck into the race. For each additional \$25, another duck will be entered into the race for you. If you donate \$500 or more, a larger size duck will be entered in the race for you.

For duck race teams, the minimum fundraising goal is \$100. For that amount, four ducks will be entered in the race. For every \$500 raised, a larger size duck will be entered into the race for your team.

The goPINK Project is in its 11th year. The money raised helps Middlesex Health cancer patients receive free integrative medicine therapy, including patients who have breast cancer. Integrative medicine includes massage therapy, reflexology and acupuncture - all therapies not covered by insurance. Integrative medicine helps patients with symptoms of cancer treatment, including fatigue, pain and nausea. Since 2010, the goPINK Project has raised more than \$263,856 and has helped 1,400 patients.

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The Tax Office

This year has been unconventional to say the least. Many of us are learning to do things in different ways we never thought possible before. The Tax Office is making a few changes as well.

I will be working from home on Wednesday's until further notice. This will allow me to balance family/school life as well as to continue to serve Haddam in the most effective way I can. I can still look up payment information, give DMV clearances or answer tax questions. I will pick up voice mails several times a day. For a quick response email is best. I can be reached at tax-collect@haddam.org or leave a message at 860-345-8531 X 207.

If you are in town on Wednesday or any night after hours and want to drop something off, I have installed a drop box outside the Town Office Building. Please do not put cash in this box. I have also installed a box in my door inside the Town Office Building that can be used while the building is open. Both drop boxes are secure and are under camera surveillance.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during these uncertain times as we are all trying to adjust to a "new normal".

Kristin Battistoni,
CCMC



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Joan Joyce - Our Finest Athlete by Sigrid Kun

Many fondly remember going to Raybestos Memorial field in Stratford, CT. Amid chants of "Joanie, Joanie," the softball phenom mowed down the competition. Joan Joyce dominated women's fast pitch softball for decades - beginning her amateur career at age 13 with the Raybestos Brakettes. The Waterbury, CT native excelled at every sport she tried - a true competitor, a lifelong coach/mentor. Joyce combines an unbridled, remarkable talent with a matter of fact, humble personality. While she readily speaks about her success, there is no bragging.

Many consider her as "The Greatest Woman Athlete of All Time." Her jaw-dropping achievements/honors take pages to list, including 20 Hall of Fame inductions, Connecticut Athlete of the Year (selected by the Connecticut Sports Writers Alliance), and a softball field renamed Joan Joyce Field (a part of Municipal Stadium in Waterbury).



Women's softball coach at Florida Atlantic University.

A LIFETIME OF ASTOUNDING ACHIEVEMENTS

Joyce's softball career covered 1954-1963 and 1967-1975 with the Brakettes and 1964-1966 with the Orange Lionettes. The slingshot pitcher notched 150 no-hitters and 50 perfect games with a lifetime earned run average of 0.09. An outstanding hitter, her career batting average is .327. In 1974, her Brakettes were the first American team to win the World Championships.

She co-founded the International Women's Professional Softball Association, being the star player for

and part-owner of the Connecticut Falcons. The Falcons won every championship of the IWPSA's existence (1976-1979).

She is a four-time Women's Basketball Association All-American and three time AAU Basketball All-American. She played on the USA Women's National Team in 1964 and 1965, setting a national tournament basketball single-game scoring record (67 points) in 1964.

She formed the Connecticut Clippers volleyball team in 1968, and competed as a player/coach. She was named to the All-East United States Volleyball Association Regional Team. Taking up golf at age 35, she spent 19 years on the LPGA tour (1977-1995). She still holds the LPGA and PGA record of just 17 putts in one round of golf.

Now 80, Joyce is the women's softball coach at Florida Atlantic University. Starting the program from scratch in 1994, she has amassed 12 Conference Championships, participated in 11 NCCA Tournaments, and won 8 Coach-of-the Year Awards.

THE SECRET TO SUCCESS?

"I don't know," she says. "The only thing I can say about me is that I am very competitive. . . . I will beat you at just about everything. If you beat me, I'd shake hands. But I'd say to myself, you are not going to beat me a second time."

Joan with her biggest fan - Dad (Joe Joyce).



Photo courtesy of Joan Joyce.

Her mother worked days. She, her father (above) and brother played sports all the time. "We would end up going to my father's softball games," she recalls. "We had no gloves. We'd run around everywhere while my father was playing. When they came in from the field, they'd put the gloves under the bench. We'd take them and start catching. When they went back in the field, they'd have to come and get the gloves back from us." When her father played basketball, she and her brother would wait for the halftime buzzer and then fly onto the court to play.

SPECIAL MOMENTS - JOYCE SHARED A FEW



Striking Out Ted Williams/Hank Aaron. She calls striking out Ted Williams (left) and Hank Aaron, her favorite moments. "It's the easiest thing I've ever done in my life," she relates. "They had no chance against a softball pitcher just because of the distance." She faced Williams as part

of fundraisers in 1961 and 1966; Aaron in 1978 in a West Hartford exhibition. There were no radar guns then. A doctorate study from USC determined her pitching speed to be the equivalent of 119 mph in baseball.

Invited to China by the All-China Sports Federation (1979).

"It was the first team ever invited to China," she recalls of the Connecticut Falcons. "When we played our last game sixty thousand people came to the game. I was looking out and it was like a flood of people just coming and coming and coming. And I'm thinking, 'Oh, my God!'" The American team won all six games. In the final game, Joyce pitched a no-hitter to beat the Chinese all-star team.



Softball World Championships (1974).

Joyce pitched a no hitter against Australia. "Only one walk. And we picked her off," notes Joyce. "It would have been a perfect game." She also stymied Japan, giving up only two hits. No team wore helmets then. Japan showed up wearing them. Was it to distract her or out of fear of her? "It didn't work," she laughs. "You did not want to get me focused or to get my attention. Stare at me? Give me looks? I would say to myself,

keep doing that 'cause you're never going to beat me. I just didn't like to lose."

Photo of Joan coaching (far left) courtesy of FAU Athletics.

Photo of Joan pitching (left) and photo of Joan with Ted Williams (above left) courtesy of Joan Chandler.

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