

# East Haddam



# Events

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Volume 6 • Quarter 1 • 2013



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TECHNOLOGY WITH A HUMAN TOUCH<sup>SM</sup>

## First Selectman's Corner

"I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them."

- Thomas Jefferson

Well there is no pretense in East Haddam of government taking care of us. We are blessed with a skilled town ready to roll up its sleeves and do whatever it takes to help each other. This cannot be more obvious than our volunteer citizen efforts following our last three storm events. In rural wooded towns the wind and snow knocks down trees on our power lines, causing us to lose electricity.

We rely on mutual aid from our surrounding towns for fire and ambulance emergencies. We must help our police and each other by calling in any unusual cars or activities in our neighborhoods. We need and value our volunteers who provide so many services to our community. If you are not already a citizen volunteer, I would encourage you to explore the many organizations in our community to find one that suits you best. This dedicated service to our friends and neighbors is what bonds us together.

We must continue to look forward and plan for our future with a goal of improving the ability of our volunteers and employees to provide essential services to our citizens. It is critical that we maintain our infrastructure, not just roads and bridges but town and school buildings and facilities.

Four projects have been identified by our Financial Needs Roundtable Committee for recommendation to the Board of Finance and ultimately our citizens:

Firehouse Companies #1 and #2 are in need of renovation. Company #2 in Moodus was found to be structurally weakened to the point of needing major repairs or if too extensive replacement. Company #1 across from Ballek's Garden Center is jammed with equipment to accommodate our fire, ambulance and emergency management operations - ambulances must back in and out of the garage to depart. We received a large grant from Joe Courtney's office to help us double the size of this facility to achieve an emergency management center and ambulance three bay addition on the front for direct departure with each call for service. Improved emergency response is also coming together as we narrow our options to rebuild our radio communications across all departments.



Mark Walter with Staff Sergeant Vincent Marcolini

Continued on page 3


# POLITO & QUINN

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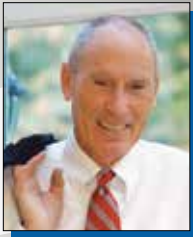
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# Volunteer of the Month

Please join us in congratulating our most recent volunteers of the month:

*Barbara Boynton*

*Jane Lewis*

*Jeff Savitsky*

*Zachary Bogue*

If you would like to nominate someone, please do so in a letter to the First Selectman

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*First Selectman's Corner ... continued from page 1*

Our elementary school was built in the early sixties and now needs upgrades to the roof, windows, physical plant and parking lot as well as building and fire code updating.

Our old middle school is targeted to be our new municipal office complex which will house the Board of Education and Town offices, have a recreation focus to give residents access to the gym and outdoor facilities as well as a police center providing for improved visibility and community engagement with our police services and residents.

Public hearings will be scheduled in the coming months to layout this ten year plan focusing on these four identified capital improvements; including how we might restructure our existing debt to take advantage of record low interest rates, how we might self-finance some of the smaller projects, and how we can stage these projects to take advantage of grants and state reimbursement. I welcome citizen feedback, questions and comments as we embark on this ten year plan.

I invite you to stop at the Town Office to pick up the 2012 Annual Report or look for it on the Town's website. This is the fifth year that our Finance Director Cindy Varricchio has created this great document in a format that is so useful and informative. It includes our town finances in a very understandable layout. In the report you can - find out who our top ten taxpayers are; see detailed information on the accomplishments of our Boards, Commissions and town departments; see impressive fire and ambulance response statistics; see the academic achievements of our public schools and much more. This year's annual report is dedicated to eleven residents that gave so much to our town during their lives - James Gallagher, Mort Gelston, Dr. Edmund



*Private Jaron Sweet and Staff Sergeant Vincent Marcolini*

Gubbins, Roy Hajek, Peg Hnilicka, Robert Masci, Leah Pear, John Shanaghan, Anita Louise Sherman, Albert Sievers and Majorie Parks Veronesi.

East Haddam has an amazing Yellow Ribbon Program, organized by Shelly Mosig. The Yellow Ribbon Committee recently welcomed home Staff Sergeant Vincent Marcolini from the Middle East and tied a new ribbon and extended prayers and support to our latest deployed resident Private Jaron Sweet.

The level of commitment of our citizen volunteers is what makes East Haddam an amazing place to live, work and play. I am looking forward to an even better 2013!

*Mark B. Walter, First Selectman*

## ***East Haddam's Earth Day - Clean Up and Picnic***

The Moodus Sportsmen's Club, and the East Haddam Scout Troops are sponsoring the Annual Town Wide Clean Up Day to be held on Saturday, April 6. The goal of these organizations is to coordinate an annual effort to pick up the streets, lakes, streams, and other public access areas in the Town of East Haddam. Would your organization or individuals in your organization be willing to participate? We are still in search of families and groups to pick up sections of the streets in which they live on. Is there a section of town that you or your group would like to take over the stewardship? Could you and your neighbors adopt a street?

We plan to start the pickup at 8:00 a.m. If you wish to join

our groups, meet us at the East Haddam Town Hall on Town Street at 8:00 a.m. or start from your own street. At the conclusion of this pick up day, an invitation is extended to all participating to a picnic at the Moodus Sportsmen's Club starting at 12 noon to 1 p.m. Traditional picnic items such as hot dogs, baked beans, coffee and iced tea and lemonade will be served along with the seasonal bounty only a sportsmen's club could serve. At this time we can inventory the items collected and discuss solutions to reduce these problems. We also will have educational information about the Town's natural resources and outdoor recreational opportunities that are available to all.

### **Moodus Sportsmen's Club Calendar**

Ice Fishing Derby - January 27 - Pre Registration required.

If there is no ice on the 27th the Derby will be postponed until February 3rd.

Earth Day Clean Up - April 6 - See notice above.

# Events

MAGAZINES



**East Haddam Events**  
EAST HADDAM TOWN HALL  
7 Main Street, P.O. Box K  
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18 Industrial Park Road, P.O. Box 205  
Centerbrook, CT 06409  
860-767-9087 Fax 860-767-0259  
www.essexprinting.com

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Cover photo by Dorothy S. Gibb

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## From the Assessor

The October 1, 2012 Grand List of all real and personal property is anticipated to be certified on January 31, 2013 at which point final assessment notices will be mailed. As most of you know, the town underwent a revaluation of all properties for the 2012 grand list. There was a general decrease in assessments to reflect the downturn in the real estate market since the 2007 revaluation. The mill rate is expected to be adjusted to satisfy the town's budgetary needs. Vision Government Solutions, the revaluation company, completed their informal hearings on assessments in December. Any persons who wish to appeal their assessments at this point in time may appeal to the Board of Assessment Appeals in March, 2013. Requests to the Board are due by February 20, 2013. Written requests should include the property owner's name, name and address of the person appealing the assessment, type of property being appealed (real estate or personal property), reason for the appeal, and opinion of value. Although any written request is accepted, forms are available at the East Haddam web site: [www.easthaddam.org](http://www.easthaddam.org). The mailing address for the Board of Assessment Appeals is P.O. Box K, East Haddam, CT 06423.

The Assessor's Office will begin taking applications for the Homeowners Credit Program and Additional Veterans Benefits on February 1, 2013. To qualify, total income must not exceed \$33,500 for a single person, and \$40,900 for a couple (joint income), including Social Security and Medicare. The deadline for applications is May 15, 2013. Applications for the Homeowners' Local Option Program will be accepted from February 1, 2013 until May 15, 2013. The age and proof of income requirements are the same as for the state programs but the income limit is \$50,000 per household.

Disabled veterans must submit proof of disability by March 31, 2013 to receive exemption benefits. Qualifying income for Additional Veterans Benefits is the same as the Elderly and Totally Disabled Tax Relief Program. Applications for the Additional Veterans Benefits will be accepted until October 1, 2013.

Any person or entity starting a new business in town should notify the Assessor's Office so that we can send a personal property declaration in the fall. Personal property assessments are based on the declarant's filing. These assessments can be appealed to the Board of Assessment Appeals in March, 2013. Please note that recent legislation has raised the assessment limit for appealing to the Board from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000. Assessment appeals over \$1,000,000 will be tried in the Superior Court.

Any questions should be directed to the Assessor's Office at (860) 873-5026.

## From the Tax Office

The Tax Office would like to remind everyone that the second payment on Real Estate and Personal Property taxes was due January 1, 2013. To avoid interest, payment must be received on or before February 1, 2013. Motor Vehicle Supplemental bills were mailed in December and were also due January 1, 2013, payable by February 1, 2013. Payments can be made in person, by mail or on-line. To pay by mail, send to: Tax Collector, P.O. Box 376, East Haddam, CT 06423-0376. To pay on-line, go to easthaddam.org and click the link to "Pay Taxes Online". You may now look your taxes up online at easthaddam.org. Go to the Tax Collector's page and click "Online Tax Information".

This office is for the collection of taxes only. Any adjustments to your bill must be made by the Assessor. The Assessor can be reached at 860-873-5026 or assessor041@easthaddam.org.

You may contact the Tax Office at 860-873-5033 or taxcollector@easthaddam.org.

*Denise Dill*

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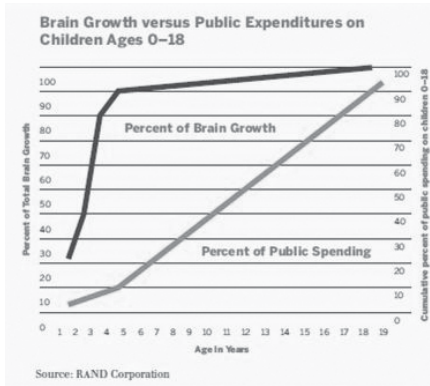
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## Early Childhood Council

### A Need to Match Resources To Research



The basic structure of the brain is built through an ongoing process that begins before birth. Early life experiences that are “nurturing, active and challenging actually thicken the cortex of an infant’s brain, creating a brain with more extensive and

sophisticated neuron structures that determine intelligence and behavior... children exposed to fewer colors, less touch, little

interaction with adults, fewer sights and sounds, and less language actually have smaller brains” (Ounce of Prevention Fund). Though we know the importance of experiences in the first five years of life, as a public, we invest only 10% of our funds in children during these years. Because the first five years present the greatest opportunity for the development of skills and abilities, it is the most economically efficient time to provide instruction and intervention. “The later in life we attempt to repair early deficits, the costlier the remediation process.” (Dr. James Heckman). The East Haddam Early Childhood Council works to ensure that all our children are healthy and successful children living with nurturing families in a supportive community. For more information about the Council, contact Cindy Praisner at [cpraisner@prodigy.net](mailto:cpraisner@prodigy.net).

## Master Gardener’s Corner

In the days before Christmas my family ventured out onto the water company’s property by invite to enjoy the Christmas spirit by cutting our own tree. For 30 minutes we frisked around the many beautiful evergreens trying to decide what ‘type’ of evergreen we wanted. As a Master Gardener and, as of 2012, a Certified Tree Warden, I find the world of trees astounding.

Did you know trees evolved in a forest community over hundreds of millions of years? They survived weather, disease, insects and crowding of forests. And, in the forests, sugar maples can live 200 years or more!

Trees are a species we often take for granted. Trees, as we know, provide wood. These large and small living plants are among the tallest, most massive, longest-lived organisms ever to grow on earth. They provide us countless amenities and necessities for living. Just think about all the ways in which wood is used in our society! Where would your life be without wood? How would you get through your day without wood? Would we have oxygen for breathing without trees? What would our landscape look like without the adornment of beautiful trees? When was the last time you gave trees more than a passing thought?

The men assisting at the water company Christmas tree location gave me the motivation to share my thoughts about the world of trees. None of the men knew the difference between an Eastern White Pine, a Douglas fir, or a Norway spruce. This got me thinking about the lack of emphasis put on

such important natural resources in the environment we so strongly depend upon.

There are so many ways your family and you can learn about trees as a fun activity and family adventure. The more you participate in all the available opportunities the more you will want to learn.

Here are some valuable contacts and organizations to Google as you get started in learning about trees in our environment: The Forest and Park Association (CFPA); Connecticut Tree Protective Association; East Haddam Conservation Commission; The East Haddam Land Trust; The Connecticut Department of Energy & Environment Protection; Project Learning Tree ([www.plt.org](http://www.plt.org)) or, give Forester Thomas Worthy a call at the Middlesex Cooperative Extension on Saybrook Road. Mr. Worthy, offers free education seminars on forest conservation and land management. Good reference guides include: National Geographic Field Guide to the Trees of North America; Timber Press Pocket Guide to Conifers by Richard L. Bitner; Bark, A Field Guide to Trees of the Northeast by Michael Wojtech; and Fandex Family Field Guide, TREES, North American Trees Identified by Leaf, Bark &Seed.

Rural East Haddam gives us 57 square miles of stunning trees. Let’s help our young people to look up - and this time, see the trees through the forest.

*Linda Stuhlman, Certified Master Gardener  
Certified Tree Warden*

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# Town of East Haddam

7 Main Street ~ P.O. Box K East Haddam, CT 06423

## Administrative Office Building

Fax: (1st floor) 860-873-5042, (2nd floor) 860-873-5025

**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 860-873-5020 admin@easthaddam.org

### Assessor's Office

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

### Building Department

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

### 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 finance@easthaddam.org

### Land Use Offices

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

### Tax Collector's Office

Denise Dill, Tax Collector 860-873-5033 taxcollector@easthaddam.org

### Town Clerk's Office

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

### 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.

Elizabeth Lunt, Public Works Administrator 860-873-5023 pwadmin@easthaddam.org  
Richard Toolan, Public Works Superintendent 860-873-5023 pwsuper@easthaddam.org  
Shirley Dill, Administrative Assistant 860-873-5023 publicworks@easthaddam.org  
Don MacKenzie, Transfer Station Foreman 860-873-5030 publicworks@easthaddam.org

### Other Departments

Don Angersola, 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  
Peter Simmons 860-873-5044 animalcontrol@easthaddam.org  
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 and Ian Hawes 860-873-1226 police@easthaddam.org

### Probate Court

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

### Registrars of Voters

Lucy Yacovino & 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](http://www.easthaddam.org) for more information,  
including meeting minutes



## Knights of Columbus

### Community Dinners

The St. Bridget of Kildare Knights of Columbus Council #9358 will be hosting two community dinners. The first is its annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner to be held on Sunday, March 10. Tickets can be purchased for eat in or take out and include a traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner. Contact Bill Talbot 860-873-9230 for tickets or more information.

Join us on Sunday, May 5, for an ethnic Polish Dinner. Tickets are \$15 each and include a dinner of pierogi, golabki, and kielbasa. The music starts at 3:00 and continues during a sit down dinner. For tickets or more information, call Ernie Malavasi at 860-873-0707.

Both dinners will be held at St. Bridget's Church, 75 Moodus-Leesville Road, Moodus.

## East Haddam Farmers' Market Update

2012 marked the first year of the community farmers' market in East Haddam. With a few bumps in the road we are pleased it was a big success.

The farmers' market committee is currently meeting to plan for the 2013 year.

We are hopeful to increase our vendors, our patrons, and community participation. We have various activities and events in the works that are family and children oriented. Because this market is an endeavor for the community, and by the community, we are striving to increase weekly participation at all levels.

If you are interested in participating on the planning committee, having a vendor booth, or offer your ideas, please contact:

Market Master, Jeff Savitsky  
easthaddamfarmersmarket@gmail.com

## East Haddam Garden Club News

### FACEBOOK

The EHGC is on Facebook! Look for "East Haddam Garden Club," and we hope you "Like" us! Member Caitlin Laffan created and maintains our page. New members are always welcome!

### METEOROLOGIST ART HORN

MARCH 27 - Public Invited! Well-known Connecticut meteorologist, climate researcher, TV weatherman and writer Art Horn will speak at a meeting of the EHGC on Wednesday, March 27, at 7:30 p.m. at the East Haddam Senior Center, 15 Great Hillwood Road, Moodus. He will discuss "Weather Myths and Mysteries," including weather folklore and rhymes. This meeting will be open to the public. The program will be preceded by a members' only business meeting at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and information about garden club membership will be available. For more information, contact Betty Gross, 860-873-8732.

### RECENT COMMUNITY PROJECTS

We hope residents and visitors have enjoyed the festive holiday decorations at the Goodspeed Green and Shagbark triangle, created by EHGC members. Look for the club's creations at both locations throughout the year! In November, the club made centerpieces for the East Haddam Food Bank for distribution with their holiday dinners. This is an annual club project. Members provide all the plant materials, mainly from their own gardens, as well as containers and decorations. At their holiday party in December, individual club members donated nearly \$500 to the East Haddam Fuel Bank and more than \$200 to the East Haddam Food Bank.

### FUTURE PROJECTS and EVENTS

Mark your calendars now for the EHGC Annual Plant and Bake Sale, scheduled for Saturday, May 11, 9 a.m. to noon at the East Haddam Grange. There is always a wide selection of member-grown perennials, annuals, shrubs, etc.



Goodspeed Urn - 2012

*Now interviewing 3-12 yrs old students for the 2013 school year.*

### Classroom Tours

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### Open House

**Sat. Feb 2nd. 9:30-1:00**

**Sat. Feb 9th 9:30-1:00**

**Thurs. Feb. 28th 5:00-8:00**

**Sat. March 9th 9:30-1:00**



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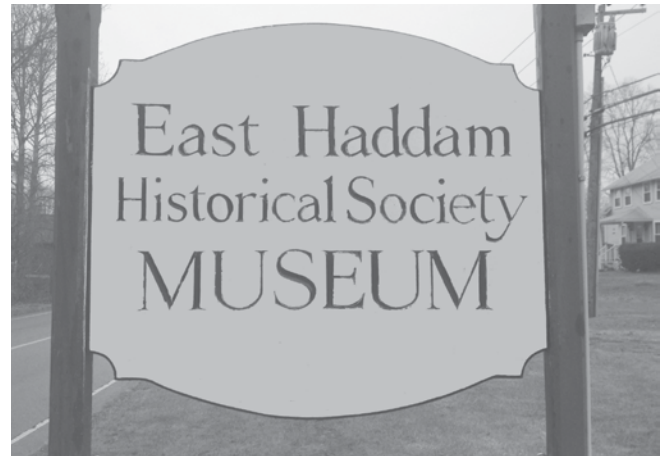
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## East Haddam Historical Society



*The Historical Society needs someone to restore its front sign. The body should be hunter green, the incised letters gold. We will supply the materials. If someone is willing to do gold leaf, that would be wonderful! At present, the sign is in shabby condition.*

Right now the East Haddam Historical Society Museum, with its unbelievable collection of local history, is open by appointment and will resume regular hours Memorial Day. Its Directors thank all the individuals and businesses who made 2012 our best year ever.

There is a never-ending need for volunteers. If you like to paint, plan, clean, curate, research, organize, etc., a fun job awaits you.

The Museum is available for rental and accommodates up to 125 people. The package comes with parking, tables, chairs, a kitchen, bathrooms, handicapped access, video display, and 7000+ square feet of fascinating things to look at and study.

This winter's projects are the renovation of the Moodus Room, which houses Moodus Mills and Drum and Fife memorabilia, and the installation of a massive Lionel O-scale train display. Public input is always welcome.

One long-range plan is the creation of an endowment; that's money given to the Society in trust and only the interest is spent. Call George Drega if you have a spare million or two lying around. He also accepts lesser amounts.

Ways to contact the Museum:  
Phone: 860-873-3944.  
museum@easthaddamhistory.org.  
www.easthaddamhistory.org.  
Facebook - East Haddam Historical Society Museum

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## Registrars of Voters

November brought us the Presidential Election, and with it many new registrations, absentee ballot requests, and a good voter turnout. We had 5,885 active, eligible voters. Of these, 4,331 came and voted at our polling place. Also, 303 voters cast absentee ballots, and we had 15 overseas ballots.

Thus, we had a voter turnout of 79%. We appreciate the time and effort put in by all of our poll workers, especially our certified moderators; Edward Blaschik, head moderator, Joel Ide, Ernest Malavasi and Lloyd Neudecker, who were assistants. Though we had a minor glitch due to a package of misprinted ballots which the tabulators would not accept, the election went smoothly.

The Secretary of State's office had a new "widget" for figuring allocation of minor party votes when a voter votes for a candidate on two different party lines. Our moderator

and his helpers figured out the formula and happily faxed the official results to the SOS. The issue of minor party vote allocation may be taken up by the legislature this coming session.

In other news, the Registrar's office is working on finalizing our Emergency Response Plan under the helpful direction of Deputy Martha Hansen. We have been working with the Secretary of State's Office, other nearby registrars, and our own Craig Mansfield, to try and foresee, and prepare for, all contingencies.

We also welcome the new Republican Registrar, Lucy Yacovino. We thank Hollie Cummings for her years of work in running the Registrar's office with the nonpartisan integrity requested by the Secretary of State.

## Troop 22 - Bottles and Cans

East Haddam's Boy Scout Troop 22 proudly donated all proceeds from the Bottles & Cans collected in November to the Moodus Branch of Liberty Bank's collection for the East Haddam Food Bank. A donation of \$500 was made which was

matched by a 25% donation from the bank. The Bottles and Cans are collected throughout the year at the Transfer Station and proceeds are used to support the Scouts' activities. The Scouts greatly appreciate the town residents' donations.



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## Business Updates

The East Haddam Economic Development Commission (EDC) is pleased to announce the following:

**Curbside Pet Spa** is a new business that offers full service, mobile pet grooming from a self-contained, custom trailer at your home or other convenient location. Owner Nikki Varriale has three years of experience as a dog grooming professional. Curbside Pet Spa is a stress free experience for you and your pet. The service is convenient with no waiting, no interruptions, and the same groomer every time.

Call for an appointment. 860-970-2300 or visit [www.curbdepetspa.com](http://www.curbdepetspa.com).

**The Spa at New Image Salon** opened in November in Moodus at the former Village Spa location. Cookie Gowac, the owner of New Image Salon, has expanded to the second floor of 25 Falls Road to offer facials, massages, skin care, manicures, pedicures, waxing and Reiki services. More services are planned. The Spa hours are: Tuesday and Wednesday 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Call 860-873-3494 or stop by for an appointment. More information can be found on [www.newimagesalonandspa.biz](http://www.newimagesalonandspa.biz).

**Then again Antiques and Collectibles** is now open for business at 12 Boardman Road, on Monday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturdays when home. Offered are many varied collections, and select antiques. Items include: Head Vases, Salt Cellars, Gnomes, Napkin Holders, Brass Molds and Kitchenware, Silver Scissors, Buttonhooks, Vintage Hand held Urinals, Old Bottles, Tobaccoana, Pez Dispensers, and more. Owner, Susan Costomiris notes that the selection is always changing, so it is never the same shop twice. In addition, there are two acres of gardens and terraced paths for visitors to enjoy - and letterboxing locations for the letterboxers out there! Call for more information at 860-873-3484.

**The Town Tavern** – the BEST place in town, is at 381 Town Street, on the corner of Route 82 and 151. After months of hard work and preparation, the Topi family opened the restaurant's doors in mid-December. This 120 seat casual dining restaurant offers American Italian cuisine, Italian style thin-crust pizza, pasta dinners, sandwiches, a full bar and more. The Topi's have many years of restaurant experience and ran their own restaurant in Greece. Stop by and experience the Town Tavern - East Haddam's newest restaurant! They are open seven days a week for lunch and dinner - eat in or take out. Hours are Sunday through Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m. Call to order at 860-891-8431 or visit [facebook.com/The-Town-Tavern](http://facebook.com/The-Town-Tavern) or [www.thetowntavernct.com](http://www.thetowntavernct.com).

Please visit the Business Directory on the homepage of the municipal website [www.easthaddam.org](http://www.easthaddam.org) for a complete listing of East Haddam businesses. Also, check the Community Calendar section for upcoming local business events.

Contact the EDC at [mrcdm@snet.net](mailto:mrcdm@snet.net) or P.O. Box K, East Haddam, to have your business listed here. Businesses, send us your request to be added to our drawing for a FREE ad in the next East Haddam Events Magazine or listing on one of the Directory signboards.

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## Holiday Closings

**The Town Office Building and Transfer Station will be closed on the following holidays:**

**Monday, January 21- Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

**Monday, February 18 - Presidents' Day**

**Friday, March 29 – Good Friday**

## National Honor Society

Congratulations to the newest members of the Nathan Hale-Ray High School 2012 Dean McDermott Chapter of the National Honor Society. Members must meet high national standards for Scholarship, Leadership, Service to Others, and Character.

Photo: Front row - Annabelle Bass, Alix O'Brien, Gretchen Lemke, Alexandra LaFemina, Courtney Fiala. Middle- Samantha LeMire, Sylena Kraczkowsky, Zachariah Brandes-Powell, Haley Bishop. Rear - Patrick Riordan, Lindsay Pattavina, Nicole Muckenhirn, Makayla McPherson, Lauren Turner, and Daniela Sabando. Not Pictured - Megan Ouellette and Andrew Lochowski.



## East Haddam Free Public Library

The library has boatloads of exciting programs planned for 2013. Ducks, turtles, lizards, and more will soon have you flocking to your friendly neighborhood library. For adults we'll be hosting some novel new programs about self-publishing from start to finish. We also have special guest authors, gardening workshops, and maybe even a festival or two in the works. It's an exciting time to own a library card (and an even better time to get one!). To see all of our programs please visit our blog at <http://ehfpl.blogspot.com>.

Popular monthly events:

**East Haddam Book Club:** Get the book of the month from the circulation desk, and join us for a discussion on the second Wednesday of every month from 7:00-8:00 p.m. (Upcoming dates: 2/13, 3/13).

**Terrible Thursday:** Join us the 4th Thursday of every month for the best of the worst movies ever made. Refreshments at 6:00 p.m., film starts at 6:30 p.m. (Upcoming dates: 2/28, 3/28)

**Teen Night:** Watch your favorite online clips, music videos, and memes on the library's big screen TV. Join us on the fourth Friday of every month from 6:00-7:30 p.m. (ages 12-17) (Upcoming dates: 2/23, 3/23).

**Video Games for Kids:** Join EHFPL for an evening with the Nintendo Wii. The 4th Wednesday of Every Month, 4:30-5:30 p.m. (ages 5-11) (upcoming dates: 2/27 & 3/27). Check the blog for details.

**Story Hour:** Make memories with timeless tales followed by creative crafts. Every Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 a.m. (ages 3+). Please register by calling (860) 873-8248 or visit the library.

Your friendly neighborhood library has all the entertainment you need to weather the winter. Treat yourself and your whole family to the latest and greatest books & movies available. If the library doesn't have what you're looking for, we can order it through inter-library loan.



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## East Haddam Community Lions

It's been a busy Fall! The EHCL hosted a Betting Hole at the East Haddam Lion Golf Tournament on September 14th. Thank you to the golfers who tried for a hole-in-one or purchased a ticket for a gift basket. It was a beautiful day and we added \$545 toward our fundraising goals. In October more than 100 guests came to the East Haddam Historical Society for our 3rd Ladies Night Out event. There were a dozen local food vendors treating us to delicious tastings of what East Haddam restaurants have to offer and 25 local crafters and artisan vendors selling items from jewelry, soaps and candles to books, oils and accessories to help us jump-start our holiday shopping. From Ladies Night Out, we slid right into our annual Military Whist. We had nineteen tables of 4 playing Whist for fun and prizes. Lots of fun, great desserts, snacks and cider was had by all. Our final event for 2012 was the annual *Light Up The Holidays* silent auction and cocktail party held at the Rathbun Library on December 7th. There were 75 donated wreaths, wall hangings, gift baskets and tabletop decorations for auction. Wine, punch, cider, hors d'oeuvres and holiday confections helped to get the party started, as guests checked and rechecked their bids on wanted items. We thank everyone who participated by donating their handmade crafts and gifts or bidding and

helping us add over \$2400 to our Project account. All proceeds from this community-wide fundraiser will go to the East Haddam Fuel Bank, Food Bank and Youth and Family Services. It was a very festive occasion with a beautifully decorated Library. If you didn't come this year, we hope you will join us next year.

Mark your calendars for our Spring activities. Our annual Fashion Show at the Gelston House is scheduled for March 17th and our 5K & 10.5 Mile Race will be held on April 6th. Stay tuned for more info or check out [www.ehcl.org](http://www.ehcl.org) for up-to-the-minute information.

We appreciate and thank everyone - our local businesses, townspeople and our Lions who support us in many ways - with gift certificates, donations of gift basket items and most of all, their time. The EHCL work as a team and things come together seamlessly - it makes the event a FUNdraiser and enjoyable by all!

The East Haddam Community Lions will be performing pediatric eye screening of pre-school children, ages 2 through 5 at their respective pre-schools during the week of May 6th.

*Continued on next page*



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*Community lions ... continued from previous page*

Children not enrolled in a preschool can be screened through the Early Childhood Center in the Elementary School. Call the number below for day and time. This service is being offered free of charge by the East Haddam Community Lions under the Lions Eye Health Program administered by the Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation.

The PediaVision scanner is capable of screening for astigmatism, nearsightedness, farsightedness, lazy eye, misalignment of the eyes and pupil size anomalies in a 20 second scan. Nearly 20% of children between the ages of 2-5 are found to have a problem and need to be referred for treatment. The earlier the child's problem is diagnosed the chance to return to normal or near normal vision by age 7 is possible. The hand held scanner resembles a camcorder with blinking lights to keep the child's attention for the brief time needed for the scan. The scanner is held 3 feet from the child. It is not necessary to even touch the child. A complete printout will be given to the teacher after the scan to distribute to the parents. Lions will be working statewide over the next year to reach as many communities as possible with this valuable service.

Lions work world wide to help the visually impaired and to eliminate preventable blindness by diagnosing and treating eye disease and diabetes. Local Clubs schedule eye screenings, collect old eye glasses, sponsor diabetes clinics and do what ever they can to serve their communities. For further information, please contact Sherry at sllangan@com cast.net or 860-873-9282.


There are donation boxes for eyeglasses and hearing aids at both libraries, Liberty Bank, Senior Center and Nathan Hale Pharmacy. If you have unwanted glasses or hearing aids, please drop them off at one of these locations - many children and adults in other countries are given the chance to see and hear with these refurbished items.

The East Haddam Community Lions Club, chartered in May 1992, now boasts 59 men and women, and meets twice monthly. The first is a Board and Business meeting dedicated to Club projects and business matters. The second, our monthly dinner meeting, features invited guests to speak about Lionism, Lion-related topics or community issues.

The Lions motto is WE SERVE. To the individual member, it is not only a motto, but a definition and philosophy. The secret to our success? Camaraderie, new and old friendships and a desire within that encourages us to help our community - locally, statewide and worldwide.

For more information on any of our events, or to become involved with the East Haddam Community Lions Club, please contact President Arnie Davis at 860-873-1082 or Membership Chair Debi Ryczek at 860-873-9281 or visit our website at [www.ehcl.org](http://www.ehcl.org).

*East Haddam Community Lions  
P.O. Box 328, East Haddam, CT 06423  
[www.ehcl.org](http://www.ehcl.org)*




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## Rathbun Free Memorial Library

Do you have a kindle, nook, iPad, e-Reader, or tablet? Did you know the Rathbun Free Memorial Library has free EBooks and Digital Audio Books for all the latest gadgets? Learn more at one of our free tutorial sessions!

Monday, January 28 at 5:00-6:00 - eBooks, Audio Books, Downloads, and You!

Tuesday, January 29 at 5:00-6:00 - How to Download Library Materials on the Amazon Kindle

Wednesday, January 30 at 5:00-6:00 - Nook Workshop for free eBooks

Thursday, January 31 at 5:00-6:00 - The Rathbun Library on Your iPad

Can't make any of our sessions? No worries - the library will be offering 1-on-1 help every Saturday in February from 10:30

am - 12:30 pm. Call (860) 873-8210 to make an appointment or visit the library to register. For the e-Readerless, there's still plenty to do at the Rathbun Library. In addition to our amazing selection of Books, DVDs, CDs, and more, there are programs for all ages. Story Time is on Mondays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Baby Time is on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. American Girl Club is the First Wednesday of every month at 3:30 p.m. FETCH Science and Craft Club is on the Second Wednesday of every month at 3:30 p.m. Finally, the library is proud to present a very special program - join us on Monday, March 11 at 6:00 p.m. for Drum Away the Blues! Chase the winter blues away and enjoy some St. Patrick's Day rhythms with a live musical performance.

For more details visit the library's blog at <http://rathbunlibrary.blogspot.com>

## Friends of Rathbun

The Friends, Council, and Staff of the Rathbun Library would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's Joint Annual Drive. Your generous donations will help provide resources, materials, and programs for the entire community to enjoy. Please remember that all donations are tax-deductible. If you

have not donated yet, there is still time. Mail your donation to: Rathbun Library, PO Box G, East Haddam, CT 06423, or stop by the library to pick up a donation envelope. Thanks again!

The Friends are looking forward to another fantastic year. Stay tuned for information about our Fridays at 5:30 Programs!



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## ***Help Wanted!*** ***Serve East Haddam in Elected Office***

Are you looking to make a difference in the town and want to be part of a winning team? East Haddam is a great town because of the many volunteers who generously serve the town with their time, knowledge and expertise.

The East Haddam Republican Town Committee is looking for candidates to run for and serve in public office in the Town of East Haddam. Candidates are sought to run for election in November 2013 for the positions of Board of Education, Board of Finance, Planning and Zoning.

If you have been looking for an opportunity to give back to this great town and want to explore if or how the requirements for the above positions are in alignment with your background and availability please contact Brian Linares at 860-685-1683 or email him at brianlinares@att.net.

## ***Looking for New VFW Members***

We are looking for Veterans, active duty, recently released, male and female who might be interested in becoming members of our local post.

We are also looking for former VFW members who would like to reinstate their membership and current VFW members that have moved to town and belong to a Post out of town and interested in transferring to our Post. There are many benefits afforded VFW members.

For questions, and a membership application, please contact Russ Schondorf, Quartermaster at 860-873-9772.

Along with the application, a copy of your DD-214 is requested to confirm eligibility. If you cannot locate your DD-214, we can provide you with a Form SF-180, so you can request your military records.

The monthly meeting is the 3rd Tuesday of the month, at 7:00 p.m. from September to May and is held in the auxiliary room at the American Legion Post 156 on Neptune Ave. in Moodus.

*East Haddam - Moodus Memorial Post 3336  
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## East Haddam Lions Club

This past December, the Lions Club once again sold Christmas trees to families all over East Haddam. In addition to selling trees, the Lions donated and prepared over 75 holiday feast baskets at the East Haddam Food Bank. They also arranged for their good friend, Santa Claus, to visit Chestelm. Special thanks to Lions Zac Jezek, Jim Prue, and Ed Barry for helping East Haddam have a simply wonderful Christmas time.

The Lions have a number of projects planned for 2013. Perhaps the most anticipated is the annual auction & tag sale in July. The club is already collecting donations for the event. If you have any "big ticket" items that you would like to donate, especially automobiles, boats & RVs, please contact a Lion.

The Lions would like to thank everyone who donated funds to the Fred Gagnon scholarship fund. Lion Fred personified the true meaning of Lionism and was an exemplary community servant. Your kind gifts are a great tribute to a truly great man. Thank you.

If you have any questions about the Lions, upcoming events, etc. please contact Lion Secretary Michael Gilroy at [MGilroy@ehfpl.org](mailto:MGilroy@ehfpl.org).

**Thank you! Thank you!  
Thank you!**

The Friends of the East Haddam Free Public library would like to thank the public who generously contributed to the annual request for donations. Because of your contributions, the library was able to enlarge adult, teen as well as the children's offerings. This year's fundraiser netted a larger amount of contributions than in the past.

The Friends would also like to thank everyone involved in the annual double auction. Due to the many businesses that donated the prizes, the auction was a success.

Thank you to all who contributed (prizes, time and talent) and all those of you who purchased tickets. Please support local businesses and restaurants as they support us.

The next deadline  
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## 6 Ways to Add Years to Your Life

You might not be able to stop the clock but why not choose a healthy lifestyle to make your senior years all about living life to its fullest potential. Here are a few suggestions.

**Stay Sharp:** Turn off the TV and pull out the crossword puzzle. Giving your brain a workout can ward off dementia and cognitive decline. Stimulate your mind by learning to play a musical instrument, a new language or taking up a new hobby. Stay engaged with your community and up-to-date with current events in order to have meaningful conversations with others.

**Get Moving:** Remaining physically active helps you ward off chronic illness, decrease the chances of obesity and remain independent. This does not mean you exercise as strenuously as a professional athlete, but most everyone can exercise at their own level. Most experts recommend that adults get at least 30 minutes of physical activity 5 days each week. This can be in the form of group exercise classes such as aerobics, yoga or a swimming class. Or take a walk around the block or in the woods. Just keep moving. One can move arms and legs quite vigorously from the safety of a chair.

**See the Doctor and Dentist:** Regular visits to your doctor can help manage any chronic problems and catch some potential issues before they arise. Develop a good relationship and do not be afraid to ask questions. Dental hygiene is also very important. See your dentist regularly.

**Mix and Mingle:** Social interaction can be as important as exercise and medical appointments. Stay connected with your

friends. Entertaining can be as easy as picking up a prepared meal and adding your own fresh salad. Social interaction can promote a healthier diet, exercise and sleep habits. Isolation can lead to cognitive decline and depression.

**Eat to Live:** "We are a wonder being. To be alive is a gift. Don't miss out by partaking in foods that are subpar. Keep a watchful eye on eating a moderate diet that balances the food groups. Think in terms of fresh foods with fewer processed foods. Experiment with grains, legumes and nuts to create whole proteins. The same holds true with generous amounts of fresh fish and vegetables. With the diet above, fewer meats will be consumed. Above all, enjoy the ritual of eating with joy in mind. Again, it is a gift to be able to do it." —Chris Pardue, Executive Chef, Chester Village West.

**Relax:** Take time to reflect on the world around you. Take some deep breaths during the busy day. According to the Mayo Clinic, the benefits of relaxation can lower blood pressure, reduce muscle tension and increase energy levels and concentration. Try yoga, tai chi or meditation. Or set aside some time each day to simply curl up in a favorite chair and read a book.

All these recommendations are a part of our Healthy Life™ Services program at Chester Village West.

*By Marian Bairstow, Chester Village West  
Senior Living Community for Independent Living*

## Recycling in East Haddam

Did you know that you can recycle electronics, including TV's computers and monitors, batteries, aluminum cans, any metals, cardboard, glass jars, magazines, newspaper, plastic bottles and plastic bags all for free? In the United States each one of us creates about 4.7 pounds of waste every day and 54 percent of this makes its way into landfills. It takes 80 to 100 years for an aluminum can to decompose in the land fill and up to 700 years for plastic to decompose. By recycling, we not only help save the environment by keeping much of our waste out of the landfill, we save energy equivalent to 185 gallons of gasoline for each ton of mixed paper recycled, and one ton of aluminum cans recycled conserves the equivalent of 1,665 gallons of gasoline. Plastic can be recycled into clothing, toys and a variety of fiberfill to name just a few products. Glass is recycled into jewelry, jars, dishes and many other items. Please do your part, separate your waste and recycle properly at our Transfer Station. Thank you.

*JR Toolan  
Public Works Superintendent*



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## New Year, New You!

The winter season awakes temptation in most people to hit the couch instead of a gym or training room. Build your body and mind strong, and don't allow temptation to overpower you. Instead, use this time to get your body ready to tackle any fitness goal-whether it's increasing your speed and endurance, boosting your strength, sculpting muscles, or slimming down in time for the spring and summer. The key to scoring a healthy body year round is simple-you need to commit to healthy eating habits and fitness plan that is easy to fit into your busy schedule. So stop with the excuses, make a plan, and start the New Year with a New You!

Your plan should include a minimum of 30 minutes of physical activity every day. Three days of the week you should break a sweat through an effective planned workout, using your body weight, resistant bands, weights or medicine balls. Strength training has some amazing benefits; it increases lean muscle mass, which boosts metabolism and helps torch calories and shed stubborn fat. It also helps improve the quality of your sleep, relieve back pain, and protect you from diseases. Don't feel intimidated, instead ask for guidance. Knowledgeable Personal Trainers will help design exercise sessions you can use more effectively.

Don't forget to stretch for a longer body; you will walk stronger, look thinner, and feel better. Why is stretching so

important? Simply put, it makes your body perform. You'll gain a greater range of motion; flexible muscles also help prevent soreness and injury. Aesthetically, a well stretched and limber body appears leaner than a body with shortened, constantly contracted muscles. Stretching also undo a lot of the postural damage (slumping at your desk or while driving...) you inflict on yourself even when you're not working out. Stretching is a type of joint movement that is performed to the limit of the range of motion in specific direction. Stretching elongates muscles and connective tissue, and obtains muscle relaxation. Practical knowledge of the structure and the movement at each joint is essential to ensure the safety of the recipient during joint movements.

Sometimes we need a necessary spark to move us to vital action. Sometimes life is about baby steps towards a bigger goal. Never give up! The ability to move is a gift you need to cherish and use. Build your body and mind strong, and when things are harder to deal with simply adjust your routines. Be mindful that nothing long-lasting happens overnight. Start that new year-new you journey, with one step; be patient and persistent!

*Maryla Radziszewski. LMT, CPT  
moreFIT Proactive Health Care*



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## Middlesex Hospital Total Lung Care

Complete Care for Lung Cancer Patients - According to the national Centers for Disease Control (CDC), more than 350,000 people in the United States have been diagnosed with lung cancer. Although lung cancer is very serious, if it is detected in its earliest stages and appropriate treatment is provided, a cure is possible.

The Middlesex Hospital Total Lung Care Center offers a coordinated approach to providing everything patients with lung cancer need - including the one-to-one services of a specially trained nurse navigator, Gean Brown, R.N., O.C.N., increased surveillance improved screening, and appropriate treatment options, including surgery, chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

Surveillance - When Brown first arrived at the Cancer Center in 2009, she realized there wasn't a coordinated system to help patients suspected of having lung cancer "navigate" the steps from diagnosis through treatment, and on to potential recovery. Since then, Brown and a number of physicians have worked hard to change that. The first step in developing the Center, according to Brown, was to begin a quality assurance (QA) program to ensure that any abnormal lung testing done through the Radiology Department would automatically be sent to her. From there, Brown takes the results and makes sure to always inform the patient's primary care physician if the finding looks serious, and then recommends a consultation with a pulmonary physician or thoracic surgeon to review the findings further. The clinicians then refer to what is called the "Fleishner Society" guidelines to assess the lung nodules. The Fleishner Society comprises a group of thoracic surgeons who developed standard guidelines to follow for appropriate actions to take based on the differences in lung tumors, i.e., size, whether or not the person is a smoker, has a history of lung disease, etc.

Screening - The Total Lung Care Center offers screening for lung cancer using low-dose CT scanning. Studies have shown that these low-dose CT scans have the potential to catch lung

cancer in its early stages, which means that it is more likely to be cured (Stage 1 or 2). They are recommended for people at high risk for lung cancer. The test takes ten minutes and there is no preparation needed. In addition, Hospital pulmonologists utilize an endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS) machine, which employs sound waves to detect cancerous tumors in the lungs.

Treatment Options - In addition to the services offered by the Cancer Center's medical and radiation oncologists, thoracic surgeons now work in concert with other Middlesex Hospital surgeons to treat lung cancer, using minimally invasive techniques.

The Total Lung Care Center is a coordinated and comprehensive one, which includes radiologists, oncologists, pulmonologists, surgeons, radiation oncologists and Brown, the Lung Nurse Navigator. In fact, different doctors may consult on a patient, so he or she can feel confident that the entire team is working for their benefit at all times." The cost for the low-dose CT scan is \$250 and is not covered by insurance. A physician order is required for the scan. If you do not have a physician, Brown can assist you in getting a referral. She can be reached at (860) 358-2066. Middlesex Hospital also offers a smoking cessation program that provides information and counseling to motivate smokers to quit tobacco use. Call (860) 358-3003 for more information.

### Jake Shumbo

In December of 2011, our son Jake was snowboarding when he fell and hit his head. He was wearing a helmet but the blow caused his brain to swell very quickly as well as having a small bleed. He went to multiple hospitals, and four months later, he was able to come home. He continues to slowly make progress. Fundraisers and donations to The Jake Shumbo Fund at Liberty Bank have allowed us to keep him going to the therapy that he so desperately needs. We thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts, as does Jake.

Tom, Dawn, Ashley and Jake Shumbo

Donations can be made to any Liberty Bank in CT.

The original account was set up at the Liberty Bank in Moodus at 29 William F. Palmer Road, Moodus, CT 06469.

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## Senior News

AARP trained tax consultants will be available to assist with filing federal and state income taxes on February 20, & 27, March 7, March 20 and April 3. You must make an appointment by calling 860 873-5034.

The Senior Club will have its annual souper bowl event on January 28 starting at noon. There will be several kinds of homemade soup and chili for sale. Soup, bread, coffee and dessert will be \$5.00. The public is welcome.

This year's blood drive will be held on January 31 from 1:30 to 6:30 p.m. We will be serving our usual homemade soup as a reward for contributing.

February 14 we will have a special Valentines lunch. Bring your sweetheart for some fun.

The Senior Center will be closed on Presidents' Day (February 18).

The Noises from the Center newsletter is published on the first of each month. If you would like to have it mailed to you, please send a check for \$6.00 to The East Haddam Senior Center. P.O. Box 623 Moodus, Ct. 06469.

Watch the Newsletter for date of our St. Patrick's Day lunch and entertainment.

## New Dam at Bashan Lake

Bashan Lake Dam is just one of many dams that The State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is going to rebuild. The Bashan Lake Dam was number one on the list, because it was found to be bulging and leaking. Last summer, the engineers were doing an intensive study of the Dam's structural concrete and soil around the dam and the water gate. Come September 2013 the water level at Bashan Lake will drop twelve to eighteen feet starting the process for the new dam. The water level will be down approximately two years, summers of 2014 and 2015.

*William P. Denya  
President, Bashan Lake Association*

## Three Cheers for Events Magazines!

"Town specific, each *Events* does something good for the town it serves; it's local on a closer level. With every issue, we hear from our Selectman/woman, and read articles about town officials and town offices. Also, we read about those other organizations in towns which are not always on the forefront; it's nice to see them in the spotlight. The colorful cover gets your attention. The magazine is well-formatted and easy to read."

*Deb Umba, Haddam Resident and Chairwoman,  
Higganum Village Farmers' Market*



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## East Haddam Leo Club

The East Haddam Leos are hosting their annual "Big Bake Sale" at locations all over town on Saturday, February 9 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Stop by Nathan Hale Plaza, Gristmill Plaza, Shagbark Plaza, and other convenient sites and buy some sweets for your sweetie (or just some snacks for yourself). Simply make a kind donation of your choice, and enjoy tasty treats!

The Leos would like to thank everyone who has made their success possible. The club is now 30 members strong and growing. The club is looking forward to another year filled with community service projects & fundraisers. Leos work alongside the Lions Clubs of East Haddam at events such as Auctions, Road Races, Ice Cream Socials, and more. They also perform community service projects of their own design such as festivals, bake sales, food drives and more that will help East Haddam's organizations and charities such as the Senior Center, Libraries, Youth & Family Services, and Food Bank.

Any 12 - 17 year old interested in joining is encouraged to contact Leo Adviser Michael Gilroy at the East Haddam Library (860) 873-8248 or MGilroy@ehfpl.org.

The Leos meet the 1st Thursday and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the East Haddam Free Public Library; 18 Plains Rd, Moodus.

## T'was the Night Before Sandy...

Super Storm Sandy was certainly a momentous event this fall and it gave me occasion to witness, first hand, the quality and efficacy of the East Haddam Emergency Management Team. During the days leading up to the storm, I received frequent updates regarding the potential impact on the school district, and was included in final preparations when it became clear that the storm was imminent. As the storm ran its course, members of the team never faltered; there was no doubt as to their dedication and commitment to the safety and wellbeing of East Haddam citizens. While this little ditty is meant to be a whimsical tribute to the Emergency Management Team and to the many volunteers and businesses that supported the East Haddam community throughout the storm, the motivation behind it represents my sincere appreciation and respect for the team that lead us through this natural disaster.

### Twas' the Night Before Sandy

Twas the night before Sandy, and all through the town,  
 East Haddam residents were all battenning down.  
 Craig Mansfield was ready, he knew what to do,  
 He had a plan and a management crew.

*Continued on page 25*



### East Haddam Business & Visitor Info.

**Attractions, Recreation, History**

**www.EastHaddam.org**

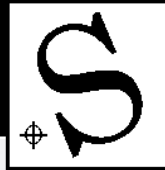


### Look on the Municipal Website

**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**



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## *Veteran's Day at Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School*



The students at the Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School honored our servicemen and service women on November 9th in observance of Veterans' Day. Students in all grades were engaged in activities throughout the entire day to learn about the meaning of Veterans' Day and to speak directly with our war



heroes. Activities included: school-wide flag raising and lowering ceremonies, special slide shows, a meet and greet, musical performances, lunch with a veteran, creating a wall of honor, guest speakers, and other classroom activities. There were nearly 40 veterans, from World War II through Afghanistan and Iraq, who joined the various grade levels to share their experiences as member of the United States military. This special day provided some memorable experiences for the students, staff, and the veterans. The Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School would like to thank all the men and women who have unselfishly served our country.

## *Matt D'Amico Memorial Classic*

In the severe July heat, the East Haddam Boys 9/10 All Star Baseball team participated in the first annual Matt D'Amico Memorial Classic. The tournament, formerly know as the Belltown Classic, was renamed in honor of Matt D'Amico who was involved in a fatal Christmas Day automobile accident in 2011. Matt was an avid baseball fan and played for the hosting town, East Hampton, in 2011. With Matt's family in attendance, he was remembered by all prior to each game. What an honor for the East Haddam boys to be a part of this event.

Playing in this tournament for the past several years, East Haddam had never won more than one game in the tournament. They also had never won an opening game of the tournament. They set out with something to prove.

Competing against East Hampton (the host team), Haddam, and Cromwell, East Haddam had their hands full for the week long event.

East Haddam played the first three placement games in almost flawless fashion. They managed to score 38 runs and only give up 4 runs over those first three games. Nine of the first outs in game one were recorded as strikeouts. In game three, the opposing team did not make it past second base!

Game four saw the East Haddam boys in their first tournament playoff round. In that game, the hitting for East Haddam continued and the defense was once again stellar. Ten out of our 18 outs were recorded as strikeouts!

As a result of winning game four (and going undefeated), East Haddam made it to the finals. With their nerves at their peak, both East Haddam and Cromwell played a great game. Being the closest game of the tournament, after 5 innings of play,



*Front Row (left to right) Aiden Clarke, Ethan Howley, Carter Rafala, Merrick Lankarge, Jonathan Perry*

*Second Row (left to right) Eli Dorf, Jacob Soucier, Michael Quinn, Antonio Dadario, Cody Velikaneye*

*Back Row (left to right) Coaches: David Howley, Dan Soucier, Paul Velikaneye*

East Haddam prevailed with a 5-4 win over Cromwell. They were the Champions of the 2012 Matt D'Amico Memorial Classic! Congratulations Boys!

Front Row (left to right) Aiden Clarke, Ethan Howley, Carter Rafala, Merrick Lankarge, Jonathan Perry

Second Row (left to right) Eli Dorf, Jacob Soucier, Michael Quinn, Antonio Dadario, Cody Velikaneye

Back Row (left to right) Caches: David Howley, Dan Soucier, Paul Velikaneye

*T'was the Night Before Sandy ... continued from page 23*

No chance that Santa could spare us his elves,  
We knew we would have to depend on ourselves.  
So emergency vehicles were called into action,  
All measuring up, to our great satisfaction.

Mark Walter made a list, and he checked it twice,  
Do we have enough diesel? Do we have enough ice?  
And ready for duty, from early to late,  
Good men and good women stepped up to the plate.

Shawn, Jiffy and Rich; Beth, Emmett and Dean;  
Jeff, Tiffany and Kevin all arrived on the scene.  
They transformed the fire station, dealt with the mayhem,  
No task was too daunting, not a thing could detour them.

Thank goodness for cell phones, and laptops and such,  
They kept us connected, they kept us in touch.  
And as damaging winds and rains escalated,  
Everbridge messages kept us updated.

The food stored in freezers and refrigerators,  
Was all going to spoil without generators.  
So Village Pizza, The Gristmill - all made donations,  
And Aramark workers whipped up tasty creations.

The high school was open to those with no power,  
To charge their devices or take a hot shower.  
Volunteers manned stations and with smiles oh-so-sweet,  
Offered bottled water and meals ready-to-eat!

Road crews worked non-stop from sun up to sun down,  
From one site to another all over town.  
Filling trucks full of tree limbs and other debris,  
Ensuring that traffic could pass through in safety.

And the Superintendent could not have been clearer,  
She made sure the CL&P crews could hear her:  
"We want to get kids back to school safe and sound,  
We can't do that with trees and live wires on the ground!"

Carmel responded, and she did what she could,  
We watched and we waited, but we understood.  
That she was, after all, paid by CL&P;  
Their agenda had to be her priority.

Meanwhile the Governor declared a disaster,  
He told Obama just what was the matter.  
While we took pictures and kept documentation,  
To comply with FEMA's specification.

By Thursday much of the power was restored,  
We were hopeful, encouraged, and our spirits soared.  
Yet there were large numbers still with cause to complain,

Their CL&P was Candle Light and Propane!

But slowly and surely, the lights on they went,  
Until we were back to one hundred percent.  
The lines were repaired and the roads were all cleared,  
Everyone was happy, they clapped and they cheered!

Craig Mansfield was tired, Mark Walter quite weary,  
Yet they hailed with enthusiasm - Hear ye! Hear ye!  
We've weathered the storm, everyone is all right,  
So Thank You to All and to All a Good Night!

East Haddam Emergency Management Team:  
Dean Anderson - Chief, East Haddam Ambulance  
Kevin Cavallo - Assistant Chief, East Haddam Ambulance  
Shawn Daigle - East Haddam Fire Chief  
Beth Lunt - Public Works Administrator  
Emmett Lyman - Selectman  
Craig Mansfield - Director of Emergency Management  
Tiffany Quinn - Director of Recreation  
Jeff Rhoades - Resident State Police Trooper  
Jiffy Spencer - Deputy Director of Emergency Management  
Rich Toolan - Public Works Superintendent  
Mark Walter - First Selectman  
Carmel Gondek - Connecticut Light & Power Liaison

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 My Father's House .....860-873-1906  
 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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 Nathan Hale-Ray High School.....860-873-5065  
 Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School .....860-873-5081  
 Superintendent .....860-873-5090

### MUSEUMS & ATTRACTIONS

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 Nathan Hale School House .....860-873-3399  
 Amasa Day House.....860-873-8144

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## *Moodus Reservoir Preservation Group*

The Moodus Reservoir Preservation Group was organized to protect and improve the 486 acre lake for the enjoyment of its property owners, town citizens and visitors.

With the town beach and two state boat launches located here, the lake provides swimming, fishing (including ice fishing), skating and water skiing and tubing.

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is completing a study of invasive and intrusive plants in the lake. This will be the basis for a program of treatment to control and reduce the occurrence of plant growth and its interference with the recreational use and health of the lake.

Information inquiries may be sent to MRPG, 58 Thompson St., Hamden, CT 06518. To get on our info distribution list e-mail [sam.guy@snet.net](mailto:sam.guy@snet.net).



*"Moodus Reservoir Dam after Superstorm Sandy", by Barbi Batchelder*

## *Emergency Management*

Thank You to the Community

As 2012 comes to an end, I would like to take this time to thank everyone in the community for their continued support of the Emergency Management function.

The East Haddam Emergency Management team is made up of representatives from the selectman's office, town departments, public safety organizations, schools, community

groups and other individuals with specific skills. In addition to our core group, we have 100's of people who have signed up to volunteer in times of need. Additionally, many of these volunteers have taken the time to attend training classes such as CERT or the American Red Cross Shelter Training so they are prepared to assist in times of need.

*Continued on next page*

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## Stuff A Cruiser Toy Drive - Thank You!

The East Haddam Police Officers and Resident Troopers held their 7th annual Police Stuff a Cruiser Toy Drive on Saturday, December 8, 2012. Toys, money and gift cards were collected at the Moodus Plaza to provide children in East Haddam and Moodus with gifts for the holidays.

Even with the rainy weather, the community's generosity and support was overwhelming. Donations were received from individuals as well as from many of our local community groups and businesses. At the end of the day, the cruisers were stuffed with plenty of items to ensure no child in our community would go without during the holidays.

According to East Haddam Youth and Family Services Activities Coordinator Kaitlin Besier, this year there were 50 fam-



*East Haddam Police Officers and Resident Troopers collect toys for the 7th Annual "Stuff a Cruiser"*

ilies and approximately 120 children in need of assistance within our Community. The toys were distributed based on requests received from the children and the money and gift cards were used to purchase gifts for the older children.

The East Haddam Resident Troopers and East Haddam Police Officers would like to thank Village Pizza for the use of the plaza, Jeff Lunt for providing us with a tent for shelter from the rain and

Youth and Family Services for their efforts to ensure these toys get to those in need. Most importantly we would like to thank the community for their continued support and generosity, even during these difficult economic times.

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### *Emergency Management ... continued from page 27*

During difficult times such as storms Irene and Sandy, community groups and individual volunteers donated THOUSANDS of hours of their time to provide food and supplies as well as staffing the school, information centers and shelter. Volunteers ensured all residents of the community were safe and had the necessary resources to get through those difficult days following the storm. Without all of you who have graciously volunteered, the town would not be able to support the community to the level that we are able to today. In addition to our volunteers, many businesses in town assist in providing food, supplies and support to ensure that we are able to provide the required services to all members of the community.

Additionally, I would like to thank all the residents for their patience and understanding around the restoration of power. The State of Connecticut has not been hit by storms of this magnitude in many years. Our group understands the inconvenience of not having power and works very closely with CL&P during these times to ensure power is returned to the entire community as quickly as possible. Throughout these storms I was able to speak with many residents and hear their frustration. Please be assured, we continue to work with CL&P and our state and local partners to improve the response to storms and decrease the restoration time of power for all of our residents.

I would again like to thank everyone, especially all of you who have volunteered through the years, for your continued support of the Emergency Management Department. We should all be very proud to say we live in a community that comes together so well and are there to support and care for each other during difficult times.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at 860-873-5103 or via email at [ehaddamemgmt@easthaddam.org](mailto:ehaddamemgmt@easthaddam.org).

All the members of the Emergency Management Team would like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy 2013 and we look forward to working with all of you in the future.

*Submitted by Craig Mansfield, Director of Emergency Management*

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