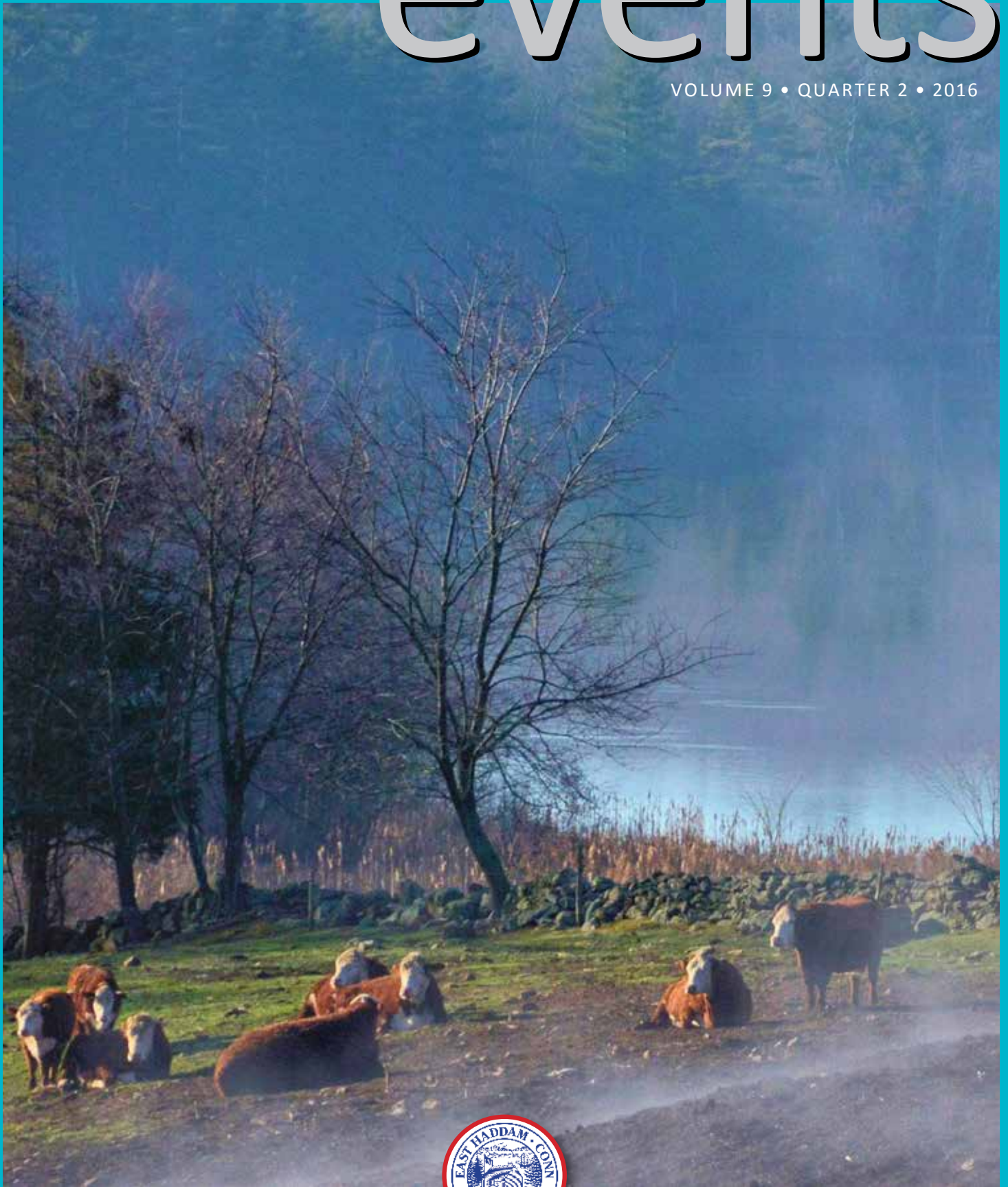


East Haddam events

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First Selectman's Corner

As usual spring in East Haddam is going to be very busy. The East Haddam and Haddam Economic Development Commissions (EDC) have collaborated to form a tourism committee. They are planning two special weekends in 2016:

Spring Weekend will be April 30th and May 1st and **Fall Weekend** will be October 1st and 2nd. On Saturday of Spring Weekend, we will have our annual Taste of East Haddam, sponsored by the East Haddam Business Association. The event will be held at Heritage Park located at the corner of Route 149 and Great Hillwood Road. A number of businesses are taking advantage of this opportunity with sales and promotions.

A flyer of "Events" will be given out to the businesses a few weeks prior for everyone to pick up, it will list the name of the participating business, phone number and location and the event that business will be having that weekend.

We hope these events will bring many people into our towns and provide them with the opportunity to stay and patronize our businesses and enjoy the natural beauty that abounds here.

In case you are wondering why my photo for this article is an Emoji, I wanted to highlight how much information is generated on our computers and websites. Please sign up for

the news you find informative and we can deliver it right to your email.

On April 14th, Youth and Family Services partnered with our Police Department to provide a very informative night for parents of younger and older students with information that can protect your family from online attacks. The topics covered ranged from online predators, cyber bullies, apps used by our kids and an open forum for your questions. This presentation will be available on our website. If demand is strong, we could repeat this program again.



The Police Department is also conducting a drug take back on April 30th. This important event is state wide through our Local Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Agency.

One of my current challenges has been the way The Courant Community delivers the paper by throwing them all over town. A neighboring community had the same challenge with an unsolicited paper. They started a very successful campaign to

Continued on page 3

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events

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East Haddam Elementary School's 16th Annual Basket Bash

The East Haddam Elementary School (EHES) PTO is proud to announce that our 16th Annual "Basket Bash" fundraiser will be held on Friday, May 6 from 6:00 – 9:00 pm in the EHES Gymnasium. This amazing fundraiser supports the EHES PTO Cultural Arts program directly benefiting the children of East Haddam Elementary School. This program enables us to host educational events for our children including Mad Science, Living Abe Lincoln, Project Oceanography, Colonial Kids, and many more! Students, faculty, and members of the community create baskets based on a chosen theme. The baskets are then raffled off the evening of the event. We will also have a \$5 raffle and silent auction.

Basket Bash is a wonderful community event. There is something for everyone of all ages. Come and be a part of this spectacular evening!!

Contact: Tammy Spurgeon at tammy.spurgeon@gmail.com if you'd like to be involved in this event or to make a donation.

SELECTMAN'S CORNER...continued from page 1

unsubscribe from the paper. As a result the management is going back to mail delivery with an opt-in requirement. I want to make sure we provide full support to East Haddam News and end the litter on our driveways from the Courant Community paper. For now, you can call 800-472-7377 and request special delivery instructions (Example: I do not want the paper thrown at the end of my driveway).

Thank you to everyone from our employees to all our board and commission members and the numerous volunteer organizations that unified and help create another great budget for our 2016-2017 year. This budget focused on sustaining East Haddam as a great place to live, work, play, and visit. We also take a short and long-term look at our goals and objectives to maintain our AA+ bond rating, our capital savings plan and continued focus on our four major capital improvement projects. Economic development opportunities in the two villages and industrial areas are planned for and increased public safety initiatives are a focus. We are continuing the expansion of programs and services for our seniors and continuing the critical support to Youth and Family Services, our community's vital social services organization.

Our East Haddam Public Schools budget includes implementing a new curriculum, world language program for elementary students, expanded opportunities for our students with special needs, including ways to reduce these costs with increased in-house support, continued textbook renewal cycle, enhanced K-3 reading program and finally an improved library/media program.

Please join us for the budget Town Meeting and Referendum to be held:

Tuesday, May 3rd - Budget Town Meeting at 8:00 pm in the Town Meeting Hall.

Tuesday, May 17th - Budget Referendum in the Town Meeting Hall.

Mark B. Walter, First Selectman

Memorial Day Parade

The Memorial Day Parade will step off at 10:00 am from the old Middle School parking lot on Monday, May 30. All community groups are encouraged to join the parade. If you have any questions, please call the Selectmen's Office at 860-873-5021. If you aren't a marcher, please join us on the sidelines. It is a great community event!

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East Haddam Business Association

The East Haddam Business Association, a 501c non-profit, is proud to continue to promote local East Haddam businesses while simultaneously supporting local communities and youth. Already in its fifth year of formation, the association's members have played a vital role in raising money for its senior high school scholarship program, the East Haddam food and fuel banks, and East Haddam Youth and Family Services. On Saturday, April 30th the association will be hosting the 3rd Annual Taste of East Haddam where the public gets the chance to divulge in the delicious local flavor of the town's best foodies! Local businesses and EHBA members also have an opportunity to join in the festivities to create more visibility for themselves, but most importantly, raise funds for the association's many charitable projects.

The association has remained firm on their mission to create unity amongst the community and the businesses that make their home in the town of East Haddam because its members understand that money spent locally is money that is investing in the future of the community. There is a tremendous amount of local talent from culinary arts, entertainment, fresh and locally grown organic food products, to fitness experts and professionals in many different fields. The association takes great pride in representing these businesses as they continue to enhance the landscape of East Haddam both culturally and financially and looks forward to continuing to create more visibility for those businesses because they know once people get a "Taste" of East Haddam they will want to continue to come back for more!



East Haddam resident Amy Dorfman with "Chowder" and Eve Alexander with "Carla" in the Smooch Booth at the 2015 Taste of East Haddam.

For more information on upcoming events or how to become a member: www.ehbact.com.

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Richard and Ellen Klinck enjoy tai chi and many other activities at The Saybrook at Haddam

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Summer Reading

EHFPL & Rathbun will once again be offering first class summer reading for all ages! There will be weekly programs for kids & teens, and many exciting guest speakers for adults all throughout the summer. Kids will get a prize every week when they visit the library, teens can enter to win a \$100 gift card to Amazon.com, and Adults will have a chance to win a gift certificate to one of East Haddam's local restaurants. For more details, visit EastHaddamLibrarySystem.org and click on the Summer Reading Link or stop by a library branch to pick up a brochure. Nothing is more relaxing than reading a book outside on a nice summer day, and nowhere in the world is more beautiful than East Haddam in Summer. Stop by the libraries for all your summer reading needs and have the best summer ever!

Tax Collector

The Tax Office is busy preparing for the mailing of the 2015 Grand List tax bills. All bills will be in the mail by June 30 with a due date of July 1 payable by August 1 without interest. **Payments by mail must be postmarked by August 1 to avoid interest.**

If you still owe taxes on the 2014 Grand List, an attempt should be made to clear up the back taxes before the new bills come out. Liens will be placed on all outstanding Real Estate balances in May. This is an additional charge.

Tax payments may be made in person, by mail or on-line. Office hours are; Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Tuesday 9:00 am – 7:00 pm and Friday 9:00 am – Noon. There is a secure Lock Box in the front alcove, which is available during non-business hours. Our on-line payment service, Point and Pay, is available to all taxpayers who wish to pay tax bills by e-check, credit or debit. There is fee of 2.95% on all credit/debit transactions. The fee for e-check is \$2.95 per transaction. These fees also apply to all over the phone and in office payments.

To pay taxes or inquire taxes online, go to easthaddam.org and click the link "Pay Taxes Online."

This office is for the collection of taxes only. Any adjustments to your bill must be made by the Assessor. Email: assessor@easthaddam.org Phone: 860-873-5026.

The Tax office may be reached at 860-873-5033 or email: taxcollector@easthaddam.org.

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Ray FFA Chapter Celebrates National FFA Week in Unique Ways

Submitted by Cheryl Matthewson,

Ray FFA Advisor

Each year, FFA chapters around the country celebrate National FFA Week. This tradition began in 1947 when the National FFA Board of Directors selected the week of George Washington's birthday as National FFA Week in recognition of Washington's legacy as both an agriculturist and as a farmer. Here in Moodus, the Ray FFA Chapter kicked off the week's celebration by painting "the rock" at Nathan Hale-Ray High School with the official FFA colors of national blue and corn gold. During the school week, members kept the FFA spirit going with theme dress days which included "Blue and Gold Monday," "Red/White/Blue Tuesday," "Work Boot Wednesday," "Camo Thursday" and "Flannel Friday." The week concluded with a farm breakfast for the Hale-Ray staff which boasted food from local farms. Food products fed to the Hale-



FFA members served a farm breakfast to the Hale-Ray staff that consisted of local food items in an effort to promote awareness of the importance of supporting local agriculture.

Ray staff were from local farms including Connecticut Farm Fresh Express in East Haddam, Penfield Farm in Portland, Applewood Acres in Lebanon, the Ray FFA Sugar House, Shear We Go in Moodus, Farming 101 in Newtown and The Farmer's Cow. The breakfast was designed to showcase and stress the importance of

local food products. Much appreciation was shown by the staff members for this effort! The FFA hopes to continue this tradition in future years.

The FFA mission reads "FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education." Please visit <https://www.ffa.org> for more information on this fantastic organization.



FFA Members kicked off National FFA Week by painting the school rock the official FFA colors of national blue and corn gold.

PASSION

We are fortunate and grateful for the great work being done by our neighbors, those who are giving of their time, talent and resources to support a passion or area of interest that is special to them and benefits our communities. At the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, we connect these valued donors with worthy causes to address the important work of helping others.

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East Haddam Garden Club

Thank You, East Haddam

The East Haddam Garden Club is deeply appreciative of the contributions of funds and manpower from the Town of East Haddam to help with the restoration of urn at the Goodspeed green (see photo). This centerpiece of the green will continue to welcome residents and visitors for many years to come! The club could not have completed this project without the town's assistance. Special thanks also go to the club's Civic Committee co-chairs, Ginny Turner and Bonnie Zwernemann, for their commitment and perseverance in seeing this project through to completion.

The planting and maintenance of the green has been an EHGC project for many years. Watch for this year's colorful display.

Don't Miss Plant, Bake, And Tag Sales

The popular annual combined sale of the East Haddam Garden Club and the East Haddam Historical Society will be Saturday, May 14, 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, at the East Haddam Historical Society, 264 Town Street. The Garden Club Plant & Bake Sale will feature annuals, perennials, vegetables, shrubs and special plants from members' gardens, as well as delectable homemade baked goods. The treasures and bargains at the EHHS Tag Sale are always hot sellers.

East Haddam Garden Club Scholarship

For the third year, the EHGC will be awarding a scholarship to a graduating East Haddam Senior. For this year, the amount of the award is \$1000 (double that of the previous two years). In order to be eligible, students must be at least a two-year resident of East Haddam. Seniors from Hale-Ray and other area schools, class of 2016, can apply. For more information, contact Dora Lyman at 860-873-9715.

Our Projects

In addition to the maintenance of the Goodspeed green, EHGC members are involved in several other ongoing civic



Celebrating "the return of the urn" at Goodspeed green are (l to r) East Haddam Garden Club members Connie Anderson, Nancy Seaman, Nancy Borge, Dora Lyman, Betty Gross, Bonnie Zwernemann, and Ginny Turner.

projects. They will be planting annuals at Gillette Castle and in the planters at Shagbark Triangle. The club assists with garden projects at Hale-Ray Middle School, and participates in the annual Arbor Day Ceremony at East Haddam Elementary School. We try to help out in town however we can.

Officers Elected


EHGC Officers for June 2016 – May 2017 were recently elected. They are: Co-Presidents – Nancy Borge, Nancy Seaman; Vice-President – Bette Lomme; Recording Secretary – Judy Metcalf; Corresponding Secretary – Jo Golec; Treasurer – Debby Duncan.

EHGC Information

Established in 1929, the EHGC has 40 members, including several master gardeners. Meetings are the third Wednesday of the month.

Continued on page 9



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GARDEN CLUB...continued from page 8

New members are always welcome. Our club activities are a combination of civic beautification and youth activities, such as those described above; programs featuring knowledgeable speakers; and visits to notable gardens, parks and nurseries. Future programs include presentations on beekeeping, flower arranging, and garlic; and visits to the Connecticut College Arboretum and the garden of a master rosarian. Please join us for one or more of our meetings.

For more information, call Betty Gross (860-873-8732) or check out our Facebook page ("East Haddam Garden Club"). Our mailing address is P.O. Box 193, East Haddam, CT 06423. The EHGC is a member of The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut.

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A future without dependency on glasses or contact lenses can be yours. Imagine being able to enjoy all of life's activities such as hiking, skiing, swimming, biking, and many others without the burden of glasses or contacts. Consider daily activities such as looking at the alarm clock, showering, and picking out an outfit without the hassle of contacts or glasses. If you have a busy lifestyle like most of us or are experiencing discomfort from wearing contacts or glasses, it is time to consider LASIK Laser Vision Correction.

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Middlesex Eye Physicians' Dr. Peter Shriver specializes in corneal and refractive surgery with a focus in refractive laser surgeries. He participated in the original FDA trials for LASIK approval and has performed over 10,000 LASIK procedures. Dr. Shriver is a member of numerous professional organizations including the American Academy of Ophthalmology, International Society of Refractive Surgery, and the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery.

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Number One Dog Tag Contest

Please submit a photo of your dog, along with the following information by May 18th:

1. Owner's name, address, phone number, and email address
2. Pet's name, age, and breed

Submit entry to:

Town Clerk
PO Box K, 7 Main Street
East Haddam, CT 06423 or
e-mail to townclerk@easthaddam.org

Photos will be compiled and forwarded to the Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School for voting.

The contest is designed to promote the importance of licensing your dog; the students have a lot of fun judging the contest. Licenses are required pursuant to Connecticut law for all dogs over 6 months of age.

The winner and the runner up will receive the #1 and #2 tag (rabies vaccine must be up to date); license fees will be paid by the Town Clerk's Office.

Photos will not be returned, so please retain a copy if it's a favorite photo.

Dog Licenses

Dog licenses are renewable each year in the month of June. Licenses are required for EVERY dog over 6 months of age.

The cost for a dog license is \$8 for a spayed/neutered dog and \$19 for a dog that has not been altered. Current law assesses a \$1 late penalty per month. In addition to it being the law, a license serves as a ticket home should your pet become lost. An unlicensed dog may also subject the owner to an infraction.

Reminder notices will be mailed to licensed dog owners at the end of May. If sending in your payment via the mail,

please include any updated paperwork; it will be returned to you with the license.

If you have any questions regarding licensing your dog, please contact:
Deb Denette, East Haddam Town Clerk
860-873-5027 or Mike Olzacki,
East Haddam Animal Control Officer
860-873-5044.

License #1 and #2 will be reserved for the winner and runner up chosen by the students at the Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School in the annual Number One Dog tag contest.

Sales Representative Wanted

Due to expanded growth we are seeking a full time sales representative to sell advertising in our publication. We seek someone experienced that understands the consultative sales process. Responsibilities include maintaining ongoing relationships with existing clients including daily contact over the phone and in person, meeting and exceeding sales goals, identifying and capturing new business through cold calling. Apply if you are an overachiever. Send resume to print@essexprinting.com.

The East Haddam Library System

Everyone knows that the libraries have over 50,000 materials available and have access to over 2 million books, movies, TV shows, and more through the LION Consortium. But did you know that EHFPL & Rathbun have more to offer?

The libraries are the technological center of East Haddam and can help you with your day-to-day tech needs. The library system has a dozen computers available for public use. All PCs are equipped with Microsoft Office and high-speed internet. As members of the LION Consortium, the libraries regularly receive PC upgrades and updates.

Is your printer giving you trouble? Print at the library! Printouts are 10¢ a page and schoolwork is free. The libraries also have photocopiers and fax machines available.

Are you having trouble with your tablet, smartphone or computer? Good news, the EHLS offers free tech support. On the fourth Wednesday of every month at 4:30, the East Haddam Leos are at EHFPL to help you with your technology woes. Bring your device or use one of EHFPL's PCs and the Leos will be your personal Tech Support team. If you can't

make it to Tech Night, the libraries are happy to offer 1-on-1 help anytime you need it. Simply make an appointment by calling the library or by emailing Library Director Michael Gilroy at Mgilroy@easthaddamlibrarysystem.org. We can help with anything tech related including from email trouble, homework help, resume review, smartphone setup and more.

EHLS also has free rentals on ebooks, digital audiobooks, and digital magazines. All you need is a library card and way to get online. Visit <http://EastHaddamLibrarySystem.org> for details or stop by the library.

Technology is just one of the many great things about your libraries. There are programs available for all groups, books that cover a wide range of subjects, the latest DVD releases, large print books for the visually impaired, and lots of information on local history & genealogy. If you haven't visited the libraries in a while, or if you've only visited one, now is a great time to stop by and see what's available. Your library card is good at either town library (or any library in CT for that matter), and gives you access to a wealth of knowledge, culture, and information. East Haddam Library System – Check us Out.

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East Haddam Public Schools

Mission Statement: The mission of the East Haddam School District is to develop a community of lifelong learners who are prepared to become independent, creative and productive citizens for our diverse and ever-changing global society.

East Haddam Public Schools is a very exciting place to be for students and staff. With the spring comes the college application process that affects 90% of our soon to be graduates. Our 2016 seniors have acceptances to schools all over the world. To name just a few; McGill University, University of Connecticut, Wentworth, Rensselaer, MIT and many other universities, colleges and programs. You can see a complete list on the High School page. We are very proud of our students and their successes.

I realize that the word ‘curriculum’ is not the most exciting parcel of the English vocabulary. For many, it brings to mind the long lists of assignments on that syllabus that you could not wait to be done with and, for others, it revives images of the 4 inch thick textbook that cost more than your first car payment. Here at the East Haddam Schools, the word curriculum is synonymous with words like creativity, collaboration, and problem solving. One of the recent units that exemplifies this concept is called Matter and Engineering. This unit guides students to learn about science, social studies, and language arts at the same time. While students will start the unit by studying the properties of matter and how it can be taken apart and reconstructed as a new object, they will soon find themselves citing evidence which will lead to writing in an informative and explanatory format. This integrated approach supports second grade students to learn all of these subjects in context. With lesson resources spanning from the three little pigs to the works from Leonardo da Vinci students are learning inter-connected concepts and subjects as they are used in real life. We are excited to see our students thrive as a result of this work. Next time you hear about the *Three Little Pigs*, you will know it is no longer just about the porridge.

Hannah DiMartino sits proudly in front of Hale-Ray's new Core Values and Beliefs poster. Hannah designed and created the artwork for the poster that will hang in the school gymnasium, cafeteria and outside of the Main Office in preparation for the upcoming NEASC visit in September.



HAVE
2016-2017 BUDGET QUESTIONS?
EMAIL US AT:

BUDGET.QUESTIONS@EASTHADDAMSCHOOLS.ORG

Upcoming Board of Education Meetings

May 10th — 7pm — HS Café
June 14th — 7 pm — HS Café
July 12 — 7 pm — HS Cafe

A complete listing of the Board's regular and subcommittee meetings can be found on our website: <http://www.easthaddamschools.org/>



East Haddam Elementary



**Principal
Joanne Collins**

Telephone: 860-873-5076



COMING EVENTS

April 27

**Incoming Kindergarten Parent
Orientation
6-7 pm**

May 2-5

Kindergarten Experience

May 6

Basket Bash

June 2

**Grade 3 Performing Arts
Concert**

PTO Meetings:

**7:00 pm Room 304
5/19/2016**



World Language Club from the high school, teaching 3rd grade students French numbers.



Student Council meeting to discuss our new school mascot.

As the elementary school welcomes the arrival of spring and more families having fun, with their young children, in the Family Resource Center, we are experiencing great excitement! Our *Read Across America* events, included Student Council's "school spirit" days and Dr. Seuss displays! We "kicked off" the week with a visit from First Selectman, Mark Walter as a guest reader for the first-grade and he read his favorite Dr. Seuss book Green Eggs and Ham. Mr. Walter also brought fresh eggs from his chickens that had a greenish hue to show students that green eggs really exist! Other guest readers, including the Principal of the Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School, Mr. Jason Peacock and Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Brian Reas, joined Mrs. Collins as they each read to the other grade levels. Storyteller Ann Shapiro also helped students celebrate with stories and songs.

Our school was officially recognized as a *SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION* by the Connecticut State Department of Education as they released results from the Next Generation Accountability system at the State Board of Education meeting in March! This is a substantial recognition considering the East Haddam Public School district is one of forty-two districts, recognizing schools of distinction, out of the state's 169 districts and 840 schools! Preceding this honorable recognition, our school was recognized by the State Department of Education in 2013 as an *EXCELLING SCHOOL*, and in 2010 with ConnCAN's Award as the *1st of Connecticut's Top 10 Most Improved Schools!* CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL IN THIS SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOR THEIR CONSISTENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO EACH STUDENT'S SUCCESSES!

Mr. Peacock, middle school principal, and Mrs. Collins presented the Global Language Exploratory Committee's World Language Proposal, to the Board of Education on March 8th, to enhance instruction in our secondary schools and incorporate Spanish instruction for kindergarten through third grade, starting this fall! Ms. Marianna Wikarska brought her World Language Club members and French students to our school to teach third graders French numbers, through songs, on March 11th!

Our PTO sponsors a wealth of cultural enrichment opportunities! Among many events, they hosted a bus driver appreciation breakfast where drivers received special gratitude cards and messages from the children! Additionally, students were treated to presentations by accomplished children's author, Rachelle Burk! Aside from publishing six books, Ms. Burk has contributed articles to many children's magazines. She is currently working on a seventh book, which is a picture biography about a blind artist from Turkey. Eight randomly selected students were invited to a PTO-sponsored author's luncheon in our conference room!

The entrance to our school continues to look beautiful as caring parents, and grandparents, have worked in partnership with the PTO and Balleks and the planters are now filled with pansies! Additionally, we are enjoying the blooming of daffodil and tulip bulbs that were planted by Brownie Troop #62268, along the school's front sidewalk's garden edge.

Teachers have been consistently working together to develop curriculum and assessments, share instructional strategies and best practices, and build a positive school climate, with the staff, for our students and families. As always, we appreciate working with our school community partners in fostering educational excellence, consistent communication, and mutual support for the benefit of our students and we are grateful for this community's support!



Principal
Jason Peacock

Assistant Principal
Roy Parker

Telephone: 860-873-5081

COMING EVENTS

May 2
MPAC Meeting

May 3-8
8th Grade to Washington DC

May 26-29
Trip to Montreal

May 2
Career Day



Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School Crowns 2016 Geography Bee Champion

Eighth grade student John "Nick" Iarusso, the son of Ed Iarusso and Ann Guptill of East Haddam, will represent Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School at Central Connecticut State University on Friday, April 1st at the state level of the National Geographic Bee competition, which is now in its 28th year. School Bees were held in schools with fourth- through eighth-grade students throughout the state to determine each school champion. School champions then took an online qualifying test. The National Geographic Society has invited up to 100 of the top-scoring students in each of the 50 states, District of Columbia, Department of Defense Dependents Schools and U.S. territories to compete in the state Bees. Each state champion will journey to Washington, D.C., to represent their state in the National Geographic Bee Championship at National Geographic Society headquarters, May 22-25, 2016.



Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School - Athletics Awards Night

Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School recognized their student-athletes this year at their annual fall and winter awards assemblies. The coaches of Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer and Co-ed Cross Country, Volleyball, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball and Cheerleading individually presented a year-in-review summary of their team's successes to the students, parents and faculty in attendance. Some students were also honored with individual awards and accolades.

Honorees/Coaches: Janet Kelly – Girls Soccer, Matthew Hopkins – Boys Soccer and Shaleen Thody – Co-ed Cross Country, Volleyball – Eleni Vossoughi, Cheerleading – Kimberly Anderson, Girls Basketball – Melissa Martin Andrew Riccio – Athletic Coordinator and Boys Basketball

Fall Awards

Girls Soccer: Most Improved – Lexi Desiata, Sportsmanship- Jackie Parker, Leadership – Jasmine Ziobron
Boys Soccer: Most Improved – Tucker Stanley, Sportsmanship – Matthew Conroy, Leadership – Michael Quinn

Boys Cross Country: Most Improved – Avery Gugliotti, Sportsmanship – Christiano Carta, Leadership – Braden Lankarage

Girls Cross Country: Most Improved – Imogen Grzemski, Sportsmanship – Michele Grelotti, Leadership – Sabrina Kaupp

Volleyball: Most Improved – Caroline Bonadies, Sportsmanship – Lauren Peckham, Leadership – Maggie Zemienieski

Winter Awards

Girls Basketball: Most Improved – Kayla Bartolotta, Sportsmanship – Jackie Parker, Leadership – Erin Molkenthin

Boys Basketball: Most Improved – Julian Brown, Sportsmanship – James Gagne, Leadership – Noah Sanders

Cheerleading: Most Improved – Lexi Desiata, Sportsmanship – Helen Adams, Leadership – Sierra Sherman



Nathan Hale-Ray High School

NOISES NEWS



**Principal
Eric Spencer**

**Assistant Principal
Michael Regan
860-873-5065**

**School Counselors
Mary Little-Finnegan
Laura Corbet**



Congratulations to Jordan D'Addio who was recently named a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist. Semifinalists are the highest scoring PSAT entrants in each state. The selection of some 7,400 Merit scholarship winners from this group of more than 15,000 Finalists from across the nation is now underway. Good luck to Jordan!

COMING EVENTS

May 2-13
Advance Placement
Testing

May 7
Prom Night
The Water's Edge

May 13
FBLA Gong Show
7PM

May 18
Band Concert

May 19
Choral Concert

May 23
Underclassmen Awards
Night 7PM

May 31
Music Banquet

June 1
HR Connections Parent
Meeting

June 2
Senior Awards Night
5PM

1ST ANNUAL SHORELINE CONFERENCE

Students Claire Lavarreda, Connor Egan, Zach Corey, Felicia Horeczy, and Sam Van Valkenburg joined faculty of Nathan Hale-Ray High School at the 1st Annual Shoreline Conference *Balancing the Ride of High School* conference at Lyme-Old Lyme High School on March 18. The conference brought many of the Shoreline Conference schools together for presentations and discussions focused on the stressors of high school life for adolescents and educators.



2015-16 Accepted Colleges List, As of 4/1/2016

ADLEPHI UNIVERSITY
ALBANY COLLEGE
ALBERTUS MAGNUS
BECKER COLLEGE
BLOOMSBURG UNIV.
DUQUESNE UNIV.
EMERSON COLLEGE
FAIRLIEGH DICKINSON
HARTWICK COLLEGE
JOHNSON & WALES
KEUKA COLLEGE
LYNDON STATE
MOUNT IDA COLLEGE
UNIV. OF NEW ENGLAND
UNIV. OF NEW HAVEN
NORWICH UNIV.
COLLEGE OF REDWOODS
SETON HALL UNIV.
SOUTHERN CT. STATE
SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE
TREASURE VALLEY
WELLS COLLEGE
WESTERN NEW ENGLAND
STONY BROOK UNIV.

BENTLEY COLLEGE
CASTLETON UNIV.
COLBY SAWYER
CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE
CENTRAL CT. STATE
EASTERN CT. STATE
EMMANUEL COLLEGE
HALLMARK INST. OF PHOTO.
HOFSTRA UNIV.
KEENE STATE
LOYOLA UNIV.
MITCHELL COLLEGE
NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE
UNIV. OF MAINE
NORTHEASTERN UN.
QUINNIPIAC UNIV.
ROWAN UNIV.
COLLEGE OF SISKIYOU
UNIVERSITY OF S. MAINE
STONEHILL COLLEGE
WASHINGTON COLLEGE
WENTWORTH TECH
WORCESTER STATE
RUTGERS UNIV.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE, CHICAGO
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
DEAN COLLEGE
FRANKLIN PIERCE UNIV.
GETTYSBURG COLLEGE
GOUCHER COLLEGE
HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
ITHACA COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
LASELL COLLEGE
MIT
UNIV. OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
COASTAL CAROLINA
PACE UNIVERSITY
RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE
RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
ROGERS WILLIAMS
WPI
WHEATON COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

East Haddam Leo Club

by Leo Sarah Gieseler

The East Haddam LEOs have been hard at work this past month. On April 2nd the club helped out the East Haddam Community Lions at their annual Road Race. They cheered on over a hundred runners as they ran the course and crossed the finish line, also providing them with water. The LEOs also held an Epic Game Night fundraiser to help benefit the community. The month ended with Tech Help Night on the 26th, where LEOs helped anyone in need of tablet and smartphone assistance. Thank you to all the Leos who participated, and to all the parents who helped get them there.

The East Haddam LEO Club will be hosting their annual Mother's Day Bake Sale on May 7th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. The LEOs will be at several locations across town, including Nathan Hale Pharmacy, Ballek's Garden Center, Grist Mill Market, and Two Wrasslin Cats. There will be a plethora of delicious treats for all the mothers in your life.

The East Haddam Free Public Library and the East Haddam LEO club will be partnering up on May 5th to host a Cinco de Mayo Celebration. It will be held at the library from 5:00 to 7:00 pm and will feature games, pinatas, and live animals!

The LEOs will be hosting another Tech Help Night on May 18th from 4:30 to 6:00 pm at the East Haddam Free



Public Library. This month's theme will be Microsoft Office, which includes all of the major Microsoft programs: Publisher, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook, and Excel. There will be plenty of knowledgeable LEOs to answer any technology questions you may have. Tech Nights will be the third Wednesday of every month at EHFPL.

The East Haddam LEO club is always looking for new LEOs. Upcoming 7th graders can join the club in July. LEO meetings are held the first Thursday and third Tuesday of the month from 7:00 to 8:00 pm at the East Haddam Senior Center. LEOs is a great combination of community service and fun. There will be an all-night LEO lock-in in August for members only, so join today.

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Haddam-Killingworth Relay for Life

American Cancer Society

The 10th Annual Haddam – Killingworth Relay for Life walk will be Saturday, June 11th at 3:00 pm until Sunday, June 12th at 9:00 am. If anyone is interested from Haddam, Killingworth or any surrounding town, please join us. Come and walk the Haddam – Killingworth track for an hour, two hours or stay the night. Campsites are available. The American Cancer Society walk is a fundraiser which helps in its fight against Cancer! The night of the event has a survivor dinner, entertainment, silent auction, food, etc. You may find more information on our website RelayForLife.org/HKCT or you may contact Ed Yantosh at rflofhk@gmail.com.

Huge Annual Tag Sale & Family Fun Day

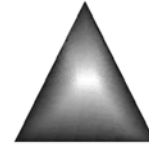
Mark your calendars for First Church of Christ, Congregational, 499 Town Street (Route 151), East Haddam, CT Annual Tag Sale & Family Fun Day on Saturday, May 21 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Rain or Shine. Come shop for tag sale treasures, delicious baked sale items and enjoy a hot dog or hamburger for lunch. Enter our silent auction. The kids will enjoy the moon bounce and face painting.

Donate gently used items (no electronics or exercise equipment). Drop off Saturday, May 7th and May 14th 9:00 am – 12:00 Noon.

Rent a Space! Just \$25 for a generous spot. Email Karan at Karancon@yahoo.com to reserve space.

Help Wanted – Bookkeeper

Bookkeeper – full time. Must have experience with QuickBooks, record daily transactions, A/R & A/P, customer invoicing, sales tax and payroll, month end close, reconciliation, filing and other tasks as needed. Hours 9-4:30. Please send resume to wcminn@essexprinting.com.

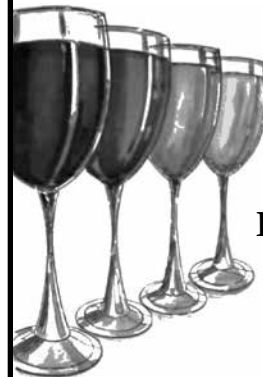


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From the Assessor

The assessor's Office will be taking applications for the **Elderly and Totally Disabled Renters Program** from **April 1 to October 1**. Applicant's total income must not exceed \$35,200 for a single person, \$42,900 for a couple (joint income), including Social Security and Medicare. Applicants must be 65 or older or totally disabled and bring all income, rent, and utility information from 2015.

In addition, the deadline for filing for the **Elderly and Totally Disabled Homeowners Program** is May 15. Qualifying income and age requirements for the **Homeowners Program** and **Additional Veterans Benefits** are the same as the Elderly and Totally Disabled Renters Rebate Program. It should be noted that the town of East Haddam has adopted by local

option an additional tax credit to homeowners 65 and older whose income does not exceed \$50,000 (including Social Security). Applicants must bring proof of income including Social Security for 2015. Applications for the Additional Veterans Benefits will be accepted until October 1.

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

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

The Assessor's office has its own web page on the town website. Included is information on real estate, personal property, and motor vehicle assessments; property tax relief for seniors, veterans, and the disabled; renters' rebate; information on revaluation; access to applications and forms pertaining to the Assessor's office. Also, the assessments as a result of the October 1, 2012 revaluation are available on the website.

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Attorney Barbi is a graduate of Nathan Hale-Ray High School, 2008, Gordon College, 2011 and Quinnipiac University School of Law, 2015."

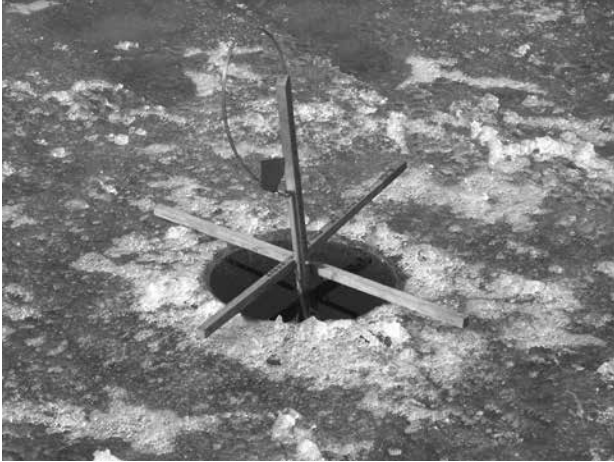
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Terrance D. Lomme, of Counsel**

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Moodus Reservoir Preservation Group



The Moodus Reservoir Preservation Group, Inc. (MRPG) is a 501 c (3) non-profit corporation founded to improve and maintain the water and environmental quality of Moodus Reservoir. The Reservoir comprises approximately 500 acres in two sections separated by a causeway. It offers the town's free beach and two free State boat launches.

A full lake study completed by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station showed rapidly expanding growth of invasive weeds in the reservoir. MRPG works with the town and state and has raised funds through grants and donations to accomplish several lake health studies and an invasive plant treatment pilot study.

MRPG welcomes anyone interested in healthy water. Dues are \$25 per year. Donations to help us continue projects to improve this beautiful lake are always welcome and are tax deductible, as are dues. For information contact Jeff King at 860-873-1957 (jeffwk@sbcglobal.net) or email us at Moodus.Reservoir@gmail.com. Also see our website at www.moodusreservoir.org and on Facebook at "Moodus Reservoir."

Holiday Closings

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

Monday, May 30, Memorial Day

Monday, July 4, Independence Day

Regular hours will resume on the next business day.



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From The Desk of State Representative Melissa Ziobron: Connecticut Trails Day 2016

As part of the 2016 Connecticut Trails Day Weekend, I plan to host a guided bird-watch hike through Devil's Hopyard State Park in East Haddam on Saturday, June 4 from 7:30 – 10:00 am. As a state park advocate and a member of the Connecticut General Assembly's Environment Committee, I invite and encourage residents of all ages to join me for this exciting event in our beautiful local state park.

The bird-watch hike will be led by Certified Ecologist and expert birder, Anthony Zemba and is free to all lovers of the outdoors and bird enthusiasts. Please remember to bring comfortable hiking shoes and be mindful that this event takes

place in an area that has a high density of deer ticks. Families are encouraged to pack a picnic lunch to enjoy following our hike.

Interested participants should meet at the parking lot nearest the covered bridge at 7:30 am in the park. Please note that the bird-watch hike will begin at 8:00 am sharp.

Connecticut Trails Day is sponsored by the Connecticut Forest and Park Association (CFPA), which has been a devoted advocate of our state park system and natural resources for quite some time. We are lucky to have them and appreciate all their hard work.



Visit <http://www.ctwoodlands.org/ct-trails-weekend> for more information.

I hope to see you there.

Melissa Ziobron
State Representative of the 34th District

Take A Walk On The Wild Side

Rose Farm, Hatch Lot, Chapal Farm, Davison Walking Park, Boot Rock, Urbanik, the Dean Easement. Sound inviting? These are just a few of the places where outdoor experiences await you on town owned and managed open space. The Conservation Commission has marked and mapped miles of trails that will take you through forests, over streams, to distant views and quiet glens, all right here in your town.

Here are three ways you can enjoy these beautiful wild places. First, take advantage of handy hiking maps. They include all the information you need to enjoy these miles of trails. Find them online by going to the East Haddam town website. In the Conservation Commission section, select East Haddam Trail

Maps to find printable maps for each parcel. You can also pick them up from displays at Nathan Hale Pharmacy, Balleks Garden Center, the Town Offices, or Gillette Castle State Park Visitors Center. Look for them also at kiosks or map holders right at the trail heads.

Second, join up with one of the Conservations Commission's work parties. Twice a month on Saturday afternoons, volunteers gather to tackle a stewardship project such as boundary marking, trail clearing, or bridge building. There are tasks suitable for all levels and skills. If fresh air and a bit of some exercise in the company of friendly folks is your thing, you will feel right at home.

And third, consider becoming a Steward. If you live near one of our open space parcels...or if there's one that you feel a strong connection to...you can become its Steward by agreeing to take periodic scouting walks on the parcel, serving as the eyes and ears of the Conservation Commission by spotting issues that must be addressed. Organizations can get in the act too. The East Haddam Community Lions is the Steward of the Davison Walking Park as a way of contributing to our community.

Stewards and participants in Conservation work parties earn a handsome embroidered patch as well as our gratitude. For more information about any of these opportunities, contact Sue Merrow at amerrow@snet.net.

The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries provide food and fellowship to those in need. Serving the towns of Essex, Chester, Clinton, Madison, Old Saybrook, East Lyme, Lyme, Old Lyme, Killingworth, Westbrook and Deep River.

**Learn how you can help at:
www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org**

The East Haddam Lions Club Auction

Mark Your Calendars – It's Time for the Annual Lions Club Auction

The East Haddam Lions Club will be hosting its annual auction & tag sale on Saturday, July 9th at the East Haddam Grange Hall. The tag sale begins at 8:00 am, the auction begins at 10:00 am, good food & good times will be had all day.

Currently, the lions are seeking donations of all sizes. Cars, boats, trailers, and other large items of significant value are in special demand. The Lions Club relies on your kind donations to make the auction

a success, all donations are tax-deductible. Donations can be dropped off during the week leading up to the auction.

There are few feelings more satisfying than knowing you helped your hometown. All earnings from the auction go directly to good causes all over East Haddam. In the past, proceeds from the annual auction have helped to fund emergency vehicles for the fire department, holiday food baskets, lighting for Legion Field, little league field equipment, aid to the local food & fuel banks, and much more.



Please note: Due to limited storage space, we'll be unable to pick-up items until the summer. If you have storage space available and would like to help a good cause please contact Lion Auction Chairman Joe Busher at (860) 873-2994 or email Lion President Michael Gilroy at GilroyM@gmail.com.

New Dementia Caregiver Group Formed at The Saybrook at Haddam

Caring for a family member or loved one suffering from dementia requires patience, fortitude, and a network of much-needed support from others in similar situations. To help caregivers develop this network, better understand the disease, and reduce stress and anxiety associated with dementia care, The Saybrook at Haddam has created a new monthly Caregivers' Support Group. The group, which is open to the public, offers caregivers as well as family and friends of persons with dementia an opportunity to share information, talk through challenges, and learn more about local resources. Meeting dates and times vary, so interested individuals should contact Brooke Conley at 860-345-3779 for details.

Each meeting of the support group will focus on one of the many stages of dementia or issues surrounding those suffering from dementia, as well as general caregiving concerns of members. Recent research or relevant articles will be discussed along with personal stories and experiences (including humorous ones). Group members are encouraged to suggest themes and topics for the meetings based on their specific needs.

"It is very powerful and therapeutic for caregivers to spend time and share experiences with people who also are facing dementia in their families," said Brooke Conley, The Saybrook at Haddam's licensed clinical social worker who created and moderates the group. "Just having a community to talk to, learn from, and laugh with can bring a sense of reassurance

and relief to caregivers, and can improve day-to-day life for those with dementia."

Attendees at the group's first meeting said they were happy to know they were not alone and were eager to build and strengthen connections with others. Those who are new to dementia care were pleased to talk directly with others who have coped with dementia for longer periods of time. The exchanges were helpful on many levels.

"Since Safe Harbor opened in 2011, we have worked one-on-one with family members to help them understand dementia, to try to relieve some of the anxiety families feel, and to work with them to enjoy happy visits with their loved ones," Conley said. "Now with this larger Caregivers' Support Group, we can share our knowledge base with the greater community, build a larger community, and hopefully improve lives for dementia patients and caregivers."

Known as the region's premier assisted living, retirement, and memory care community, The Saybrook at Haddam (www.thesaybrookathaddam.com) offers 108 apartments for individuals or couples. The gracious manor is located in Haddam, Conn., with proximity to major highways, medical services, restaurants and entertainment venues. Private tours are being scheduled, and applications for residence are available by calling 860-345-3779.

Harvest House – A New England Tradition

A community gathering for a meal and fellowship is as old as New England. That tradition is kept alive in towns and villages throughout our region. Harvest House is East Haddam's contribution to this centuries old tradition. Begun in 1989, Harvest House is a coalition of more than a dozen East Haddam civic organizations who have formed teams of from four to eight members, and agree to prepare and serve several meals a year to benefit East Haddam residents.

Each participating organization prepares a menu for their dinner, and prepares it in the kitchen at St. Stephen's Church. Entrees vary from week to week, but include an entrée, vegetable and/or salad, rice or a potato, dessert and beverages. The cost of the dinner is borne by the sponsoring organization with assistance from St. Stephen's Church as needed. There is never a charge for our patrons. It is worth noting that Harvest



"One of the many Harvest House Teams, the Leo Club always bring many smiles to the Meal." Pictured left to right: Mike Gilroy, Antonio Addario, Sarah Haentjens, Alyssa Andrews, Sammy vanValkenburg, Charlotte White, J.T. Gilroy (Baby), Erica Gilroy.

House has served over 11,000 meals to East Haddam residents since its inception.

Coordinating Harvest House are Diane and Craig Delecke (ddelecke@yahoo.com) and Bill Barney (William_Barney@sbcglobal.net). Community organizations that are seeking a way to give to the community are urged to contact one of the coordinators to get information on joining the Harvest House team.

Submitted by Bill Barney, Harvest Coordinator

To download previous issues of *East Haddam Events* visit www.eventsmagazines.com and download the issue you desire!

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Absentee Ballots For Referendum

An elector may vote by absentee ballot due to:

- 1 the elector's absence from their town for all of the hours of voting;
- 2 illness or physical disability;
- 3 active service in the US armed forces;
- 4 religious tenets forbid secular activity on Election Day; or
- 5 service as a polling place official in a town other than their own.

When a Referendum is called with less than three weeks notice, (Town meeting calls the Referendum) different criteria for the issuance of absentee balloting result. Also, at referendum a non-registered taxpayer may vote if they are an American citizen and own property on the last published grand list valued over \$1,000.

The Town Clerk is statutorily charged to have ballots available within four business days after the question(s) to be voted on are finalized.

Absentee balloting is a two-step process. The ballot may not be issued until an application for the ballot has been received. At a referendum called with less than three-weeks notice, ballots cannot be mailed. If an applicant is unable to come into the Town Clerk's Office a designee may be appointed, however,

For additional information, or to obtain the application for an absentee ballot, call 860-873-5027 or come into the Town Clerk's Office. Forms may also be downloaded from the town's website www.easthaddam.org (elections under Town Clerk) or www.sots.ct.gov (elections & voting, voter resources, absentee ballot and procedures, application for ballot).

Debra H. Denette
East Haddam Town Clerk

What is 2-1-1?

It is Connecticut's free information and referral service. By dialing 2-1-1, a toll-free number throughout CT, callers can reach knowledgeable, multilingual staff and get information, referrals or seek help in a crisis. 2-1-1 operates 24 hours a day, every day of the year. TDD access is available.

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Middlesex Hospital Joins Mayo Clinic Care Network

Middlesex Hospital is the first health care organization from Connecticut to join the Mayo Clinic Care Network. Through the network, Mayo and Middlesex physicians will collaborate so more patients can get answers to complex medical questions and gain additional peace of mind, all while staying close to home. Network members remain independent, but share a common philosophy, commitment and mission to improve the quality and delivery of health care.

As a member of Mayo Clinic Care Network, Middlesex will have access to the latest Mayo knowledge. Network tools and services include:

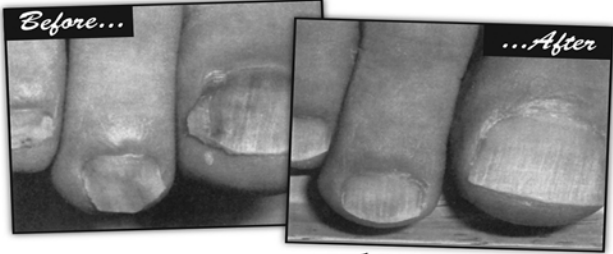
- eConsults that enable Middlesex physicians to connect electronically with Mayo specialists when they want additional input on a patient's care.
- AskMayoExpert that provides Middlesex physicians with point-of-care, Mayo-vetted information on disease management, care guidelines, treatment recommendations and reference materials for medical conditions.

- eTumor Board Conferences that enable Middlesex physicians to present and discuss management of complex cancer cases with a multidisciplinary panel of Mayo Clinic specialists and other network members.

Through network resources, Middlesex providers also will be able to consult with Mayo Clinic on operational and business processes such as patient engagement; quality, safety and accreditation; nursing leadership; and physician engagement. Providers also will have access to Mayo's extensive library of educational materials for use with their patients and grand rounds presentations that feature Mayo physicians and scientists.

Since its inception in 1904, Middlesex Hospital has continuously maintained the highest standards in medical care while focusing on delivering the very best patient experience possible. It does this through state-of-the-art medical technology and innovative approaches to care, along with a highly experienced staff that embraces the mission and culture of the organization.

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Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut

We offer seven support groups throughout the state in Bethel, Milford, Stamford, Middletown, Groton, Guilford & Hartford. Our meetings are for adults living with epilepsy and parents of children with epilepsy. Those interested in attending are asked to please RSVP, to the Epilepsy Foundation of Connecticut by calling 800-899-3745 or emailing Allison at Allison@epilepsyct.com.

For more information visit <http://www.epilepsyct.com> or call 800-899-3745.

Offices are located at 386 Main Street, Middletown, CT.

**For town updates & information:
www.easthaddam.org**

East Haddam Land Trust

Kudos to local residents who celebrate the natural beauty of East Haddam and our region.

Land Trusts Amateur Photo Contest

Many Youth entered the 2016 Photo Contest, including East Haddam's Patrick Burns, Sara Gada and Shawn Parent who won First Place and Honorable Mentions, respectively, in the Youth class. Pete Govert received Honorable Mention in the Plants category. Visit www.ehlt.org for a list of all the winners and where their 31 winning photos, depicting scenes of Lyme, Salem, Essex, Old Lyme, and East Haddam, are on display. Land Trusts in these five towns sponsor the annual photo contest which received 219 entries this year.



"Sunset at Hatch Lot II" by Patrick Burns of East Haddam, 1st Place winner in Youth Category, 2016 Land Trusts Amateur Photo Contest.

Katchen Coley award for Excellence in Land Conservation

EHLT's Rob Smith is one of two 2016 recipients of this award from the Connecticut Land Conservation Council, a statewide land conservation advocacy agency. The Award recognizes fierce devotion and long-term commitment to conservation, inspiring conservation and support of the environment, and furthering the work of conservation groups.



East Haddam Land Trust volunteer Rob Smith with his 2016 Katchen Coley award for Excellence in Land Conservation.

Rob has volunteered with EHLT since the early 1990's, leading hikes and preserve maintenance, developing nearly every EHLT

trail, representing EHLT to multiple regional conservation groups, handling the vast majority of EHLT's land acquisitions over the last decade, and as President for a total of nine one-year terms.

A staunch advocate for Town open space purchases, Rob has chaired the East Haddam Conservation Commission since 2013, was the guiding force behind construction of a new Chapal Farm Open Space footbridge over the Eightmile River, and garnered support for the new Richard H. Goodwin Trail, a multi-town hiking trail currently starting at Chapal Farm and ending in East Lyme.

Visit www.ehlt.org for more about Rob Smith's land conservation award, to see a video of the Eightmile River footbridge construction, or to support EHLT's conservation work.

The Ray FFA Chapter Collects Money to Help Rescued Animals

In February, the Ray FFA Chapter members became aware of a disturbing local issue. The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) had recently seized 32 horses, two dogs, several rabbits and over 80 chickens after an investigation found the animals at the Fairy Tail Equine Facility in East Hampton were malnourished, not receiving proper veterinary care and were being kept in unhealthy conditions. The horses seized were taken to the DoAg's Second Chance large animal rehabilitation facility in Niantic. The dogs, chickens and rabbits were taken to animal shelters in nearby

towns. Recently the court awarded ownership of the animals to the state DoAg and are moving forward with formal charges against the former owners.

The FFA chapter sold paper paws that were signed with messages by the people who donated. These were hung on the wall in the cafeteria along with updates on the animals' situation. The East Haddam Middle School also supported the cause by creating their own Wall of Paws and collected \$250. In the end, a total of \$746 was collected from the East Haddam community and donated to the Go Fund Me page that was started by State



Representative Melissa Ziobron. FFA plans to build another Wall of Paws next year and will select another community animal cause.

Cheryl Matthewson, Ray FFA Advisor

Be Your Best Self

“Adults sometimes say one thing and do another. If you say you are for youth, mean it.” That’s the message East Haddam kids want adults to hear.

Based on the responses of 500 Nathan Hale Ray High School and Middle School students, the 2014 Developmental Assets survey reported that only:

- 21% feel that adults in the community value them.
- 31% report having positive adult role models.
- 40% report having a caring community.

Parents Helping Youth (PHY) is a group of parents that want to increase those numbers and show kids in our community that we do MEAN IT. PHY developed the “Be Your Best Self” campaign to increase the number of community members who are actively involved with our youth and increase the number of youth who feel valued and connected to our community. Together we can be positive role models.

PHY challenges you to BE YOUR BEST SELF and take a few moments to connect with a young person outside of your own family. Whenever you see a young person, at church, the library, or a school event, say hello, ask a question or pay a compliment.

Research shows that young people who have three or more caring adults in their lives besides their parents/guardians are happier and more hopeful, do better in school, and are less likely to engage in risky behavior. Together, we can easily show



The Be Your Best Self campaign kicked off with a Family Dinner Night on March 11, 2016 at the NHRMS café. Members from Youth Help Youth and Parents Helping Youth organized and served dinner to over 80 East Haddam/Moodus family members.

the kids in our community that they do matter. You’re busy but it’s easy and everyone has the capacity to make a difference in a youth’s life. In fact, we bet you’re already doing it in your everyday lives.

East Haddam Stage Company

Join the East Haddam Stage Company at Gillette Castle State Park for our 8th summer season!

Our original production of William Gillette: Senator’s Son to Super Sleuth written and directed by Kandie Carle plays from July 9th through August 14th.

This is our eighth summer season of live outdoor theatre at Gillette Castle State Park, 67 River Road, East Haddam, CT.

Our original production takes a fun and dramatic look at Victorian actor and Connecticut native William Gillette’s life leading up to

his creation of the iconic character of Sherlock Holmes.

The 30-minute show plays twice a day, on Saturday and Sunday afternoons only, at 1:00pm and again at 2:30 pm, on the outdoor stage near the Castle.

Shows are FREE! There is bleacher and bench seating, but feel free to bring a lawn chair and/or a picnic blanket and enjoy!

Call EHSCO at 860-873-3521 and visit www.EHSCO.org for more info. You can also find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/EastHaddamStageCompany and Twitter! [@EastHaddamStage](https://twitter.com/EastHaddamStage).



Open Trails at I-Park – Sunday, June 5

I-Park Foundation, Inc. (www.i-park.org), a 450-acre nature preserve which is host to an international artists-in-residence program located in East Haddam will be opening up its trails to the public as part of Connecticut Trails Day on Sunday, June 5 from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. I-Park will be participating in its third year of Connecticut Trails Day, a state-wide program with the goal of familiarizing people with fun and more healthful outdoor recreation. This event is FREE and open to the public. Visitors can spend the afternoon exploring I-Park's 26 trails, experiencing site-responsive, ephemeral art installations along the way. If anyone is interested in learning more about I-Park, attending Connecticut Trails Day on Sunday, June 5 and to see a full listing of events, please visit the website at www.i-park.org or contact the office at 860-873-2468/info@i-park.org.

I-Park 2016 Calendar of Events

- Saturday, May 14: Spring Volunteers Day
- Thursday, May 26 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm: OPEN Studios
- Sunday, June 5 from 2:00 to 6:00 pm: CT Trails Day Art and Nature Walk
- Sunday, June 26 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm: OPEN Studios
- Sunday, July 24 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm: OPEN Studios
- Saturday, August 13 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm: OPEN Studios
- Saturday, September 24: Autumn Volunteers Day
- Saturday, October 1: Annual Fundraising Dinner
- Sunday, October 2 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm: OPEN Studios
- Sunday, October 30 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm: OPEN Studios
- Sunday, November 20 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm: OPEN Studios



SmartER Appointments Now Available at Shoreline Medical Center

Why spend your time in the ER waiting room when you could be waiting in the comfort of your own home instead?

The new, innovative SmartER appointment system provides easier access to the Shoreline Medical Center Emergency Department – letting you schedule your ER visit for non-life threatening emergencies up to eight hours in advance.

According to Michael Saxe, M.D., Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Middlesex Hospital, “With people’s often hectic schedules, making an appointment on the SmartER website can improve convenience, help reduce waiting time in the Emergency Department, and allow

patients quicker access to medical care for non-emergency injuries or illnesses, once they arrive.”

Some examples of non-life threatening emergencies include sore throat, earaches, minor cuts, minor strains or sprains, mild diarrhea, or sports injuries. For any medical problem that is life threatening, dial 911 immediately.

To schedule a SmartER appointment, go to www.middlesexhospital.org/smartER. The Middlesex Hospital Shoreline Medical Center Emergency Department is located at 250 Flat Rock Place in Westbrook and provides care 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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East Haddam Community Lions

Downton Abbey English Tea Party on May 7th

This year's theme is 'Downton Abbey.' As this beloved PBS series comes to an end, join us and experience for yourselves the very British treat...Afternoon Tea. Costumes and hats optional...but preferred to set the tone, be it formal or silly, there is a place for each. The fun begins at 2:00 pm at St. Stephen's Parish Hall, East Haddam. Tickets are \$25.

Our inspired Table settings seat eight apiece, so if you can get a "Gaggle of Girls" together, it will be a great treat to just sit, be waited upon and have time to talk, laugh and share a lovely Tea together. Or you can come alone and meet many new friends. What an ideal "Mother's Day" treat. There is entertainment, fun and lots of indulgent goodies to eat...you won't be disappointed. Each person will also receive a favor. For information and tickets please call Linda at 860-873-8933 or Diane at 860-434-5611 or visit our website www.ehcl.org.



Beautiful hats and dresses from the 2015 English Tea Party.

Tickets go quickly, don't delay...an ideal gift for the ladies in your life.

Ladies Night Out

Our popular 'Ladies Night Out' vendor event will be held on Wednesday, June 22 from 6:00 – 9:00 pm at Grand View Camp Resort, 89 North Moodus Road, Moodus. A variety of vendors selling homemade items such as jewelry and handicrafts will be on display along with vendors selling Pampered Chef and other well-known products. Interspersed with vendors, local restaurants will provide their signature dish for all attendees to sample while shopping. This is a wonderful way to support local vendors and have a night out with your friends. The cost to attend is \$15 per person; tickets will be sold at the door. For more event or vendor info, call Maryjane at 860-759-5716.



Left: East Haddam Leo Kara Izzo modeling an outfit with coral purse from Pearls & Plaid. Right: East Haddam Leo Samantha vanValkenburg modeling an outfit with yellow purse from Pearls & Plaid.

Fashion Show

A wonderful afternoon was had by all who attended the Community Lions 'Spring into Fashion' Fashion Show at the Gelston House on March 13th. Following a delicious luncheon buffet, our Lions and Leos modeled colorful and beautiful spring and summer outfits courtesy of Christopher & Banks from Tanger Outlet in Westbrook and Pearls & Plaid from East Haddam. Several games and an array of raffle prizes rounded out the afternoon. Many thanks to Lion Cynthia Valentino and her committee for a successful show and to our vendors and all who attended.

For more information about these or any Community Lions events, visit www.ehcl.org and 'Like' us on Facebook. All proceeds from all our fundraisers are donated back to this Community and Lions Club Sponsored Charities.

Lions Clubs International is the world largest service club organization with 1.36 million members worldwide. We are also one of the most effective. Our members do whatever is needed to help their local communities. And communities get better – 100% of all funds raised by Lions Clubs goes back to the community or Lion-sponsored projects – all administrative costs are covered by its members in their annual dues. If you want to know more...ask a Lion or visit www.lionsclubs.org.

Contact details: Lion Barbara Davis, (860) 873-1082, barbdavis73@sbcglobal.net



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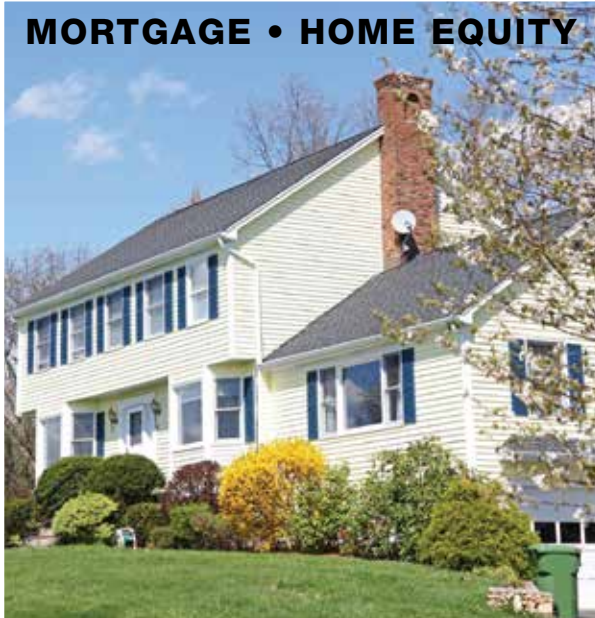


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