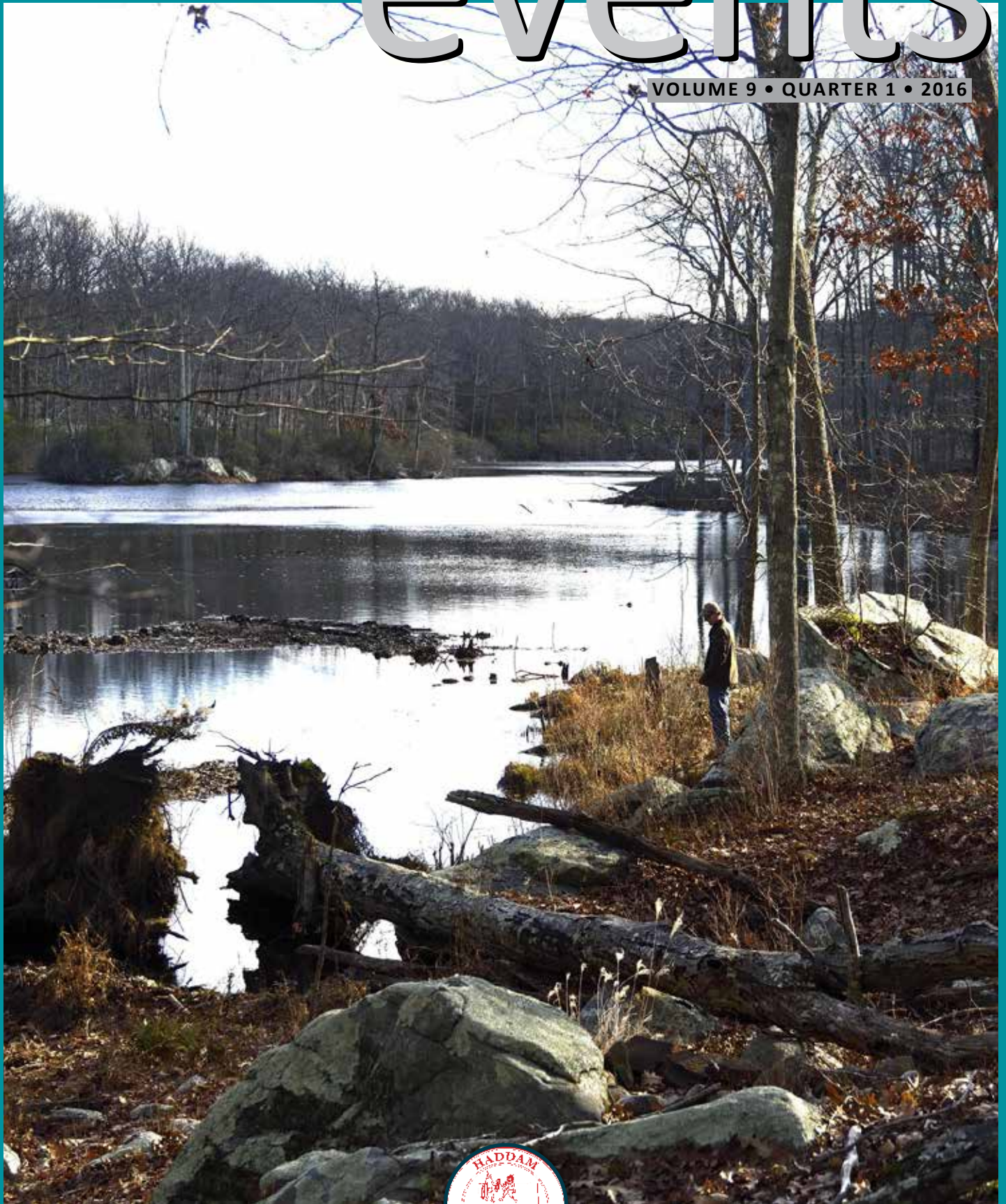


Haddam events

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First Selectman's Corner

The New Year is traditionally a time when we reflect on the past and set goals looking forward. We make resolutions and we have hope that our future will be a path of health, happiness and prosperity.

My goal for Haddam is a viable community that can support our seniors, children, individuals and families who live here and want to be able to stay in Haddam.

We are fortunate to live in a quiet country community that was settled in 1662, more than 350 years ago. We love our traditions, our historic charm and history. Over the centuries our ancestors built and grew this town and now the responsibility for its future is ours. Change is constant and we need to embrace those changes that will help our community.

At the writing of this article I have been in office for 30 days. I have been gathering information on many existing projects and prioritizing them. My management style is to have Haddam's citizens provide input on setting those priorities. As a town we need to think about where we want Haddam to be in a year, 5 years or 10 years or for the next generation. I have met with committees, task forces, Fire, Ambulance, Police, Public Works, Town Department Heads and staff, State organizations, Chamber of Commerce, conservationists, business owners and residents. I am listening and gathering the most current information on the issues facing the town.

It is well known that Connecticut has an aging population. We need services in place to support the elderly as well as the full spectrum of Haddam residents. Haddam is known for its exceptional education system and this attracts young families to our town. Many residents rely on out-of-town services. We should be working to attract businesses to our town. A viable business community is essential not just for supplying services to our community but will also create jobs, improve our housing values and increase our tax base.

Haddam has infrastructure issues involving our roads, bridges, clean water, and cellphone service to name a few. We are an old town and we have environmental issues as well. If we do not have a solid plan for our infrastructure we are going to continue to stagnate and little will change. Taxes were a major concern of many with whom I have spoken during the past six months or more. We will need to weigh the cost of infrastructure



Lizz Milardo
First Selectman

Continued on page 2

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After an active day, Charlotte Walters relaxes and enjoys a good book by a cozy fireplace at The Saybrook at Haddam.

A Full and Comfortable Life

Charlotte Walters always enjoyed an active life with family, friends, many travels, and plenty of visits to art museums and cultural events. At The Saybrook at Haddam, her life continues to be filled with many activities, cultural events and friendly people—but now, it includes none of the worries. Her home here is maintained, snow is shoveled, delicious meals are prepared daily, and her time is her own!

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Selectman, continued from page 1...

improvements against the impact on taxes. As of this writing our state legislature is in special session trying to figure out how to cut more than \$350 million from a budget that was passed as a balanced budget only last August. Who knows if the state grants will continue to be available at previous levels? As a small rural town, we are at a disadvantage because the state administration favors putting state funds in the large cities. In spite of this I will advocate for Haddam's fair share of state funding.

Regarding infrastructure issues,

- We have some road projects underway and prioritization of other bridge and road projects will be needed.
- I recently met with DPH (Department of Public Health) to get an update on the Tylerville water issue and am gathering information on options for clean water for the residents and businesses of Tylerville. When this work is completed our town will be in a better position to make a decision on this issue.
- I view cell phone service as both a safety and an economic concern and have begun discussions to solve this issue.
- Another top priority is communication with our residents. We need to get information out to the public on issues under consideration, when and where meetings are being held, etc. Some generations use social media for everything and others do not have a computer or do email. I have been working on setting up a Town Facebook page for all departments to be able to post current information. The site is Town of Haddam. Departments will be able to post information and use this to get out reminders and update the community on issues for those who want to share their email addresses I will send an email newsletter to residents. The Town Website will be kept up to date. We hosted an "open house" at the town office building on Dec. 17th, if you missed it we will hold another one this spring.

Board of Selectmen meetings have been moved to the Old Town Hall which affords space for more people to attend and we are going to move them to 7pm to see if this helps with attendance starting in January 2016. Special BOS meetings are needed when an urgent matter arises between regular BOS meetings. I will do my best to hold them at a convenient time for more people when possible as these traditionally have been held during the day time working hours. However last minute issues usually cause these meetings to sometimes be held as soon as possible.

The position of First Selectman keeps me quite busy but I am enjoying the opportunity to serve you. I do not follow the comments on the various Facebook pages. If you have something to discuss with me please send an email or come in to speak with me. I don't think that you voted for me to spend my time on Facebook. My door is open. I already have met with residents on property issues, open space, community improvement, Chatham Health, additional services for seniors, Swing Bridge and CT Yankee to name a few. The initial phases for the town budget for the next fiscal year has been started. Our new phone system is being installed.


Haddam has many talented residents who have much to offer the town. Regardless of party affiliation I am looking for people to serve on various committees. I ask any of you who would like to contribute your time and efforts to please email me at firstselectman@haddam.org.

I will continue to update you each month via the First Selectman's Corner and other publications and media sources. I look forward to Moving Haddam Forward together.

Happy New Year!

Lizz Milardo, First Selectman, Town of Haddam

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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:

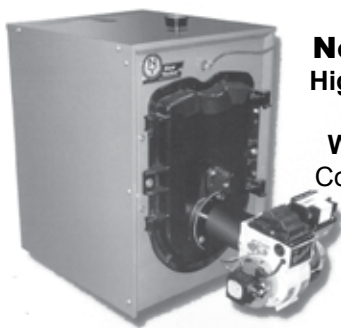
- eConsults that enable Middlesex physicians to connect electronically with Mayo specialists when they want additional input on a patient's care.
- AskMayoExpert that provides Middlesex physicians with point-of-care, Mayo-vetted information on disease management, care guidelines, treatment recommendations 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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Protect Yourself from Invisible Dangers in the Home

As the temperatures start to drop and the days get shorter, it's time to start preparing your home for winter. It's important that you are prepared for the winter months to save energy, protect your property, and to keep your family safe. For prolonged power outages, there are steps you can take to keep all members of your household as comfortable as possible.

- Only use flashlights for emergency lighting, candles can cause fires.
- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed. Most food requiring refrigeration can be kept safely in a closed refrigerator for several hours. An unopened refrigerator will keep food cold for about 4 hours. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours.
- Put on layers of warm clothing if it is cold outside. Never burn charcoal for heating or cooking indoors. Never use your oven as a source of heat. If the power may be out for a prolonged period, plan to go to another location that has



heat to keep warm.

- Turn off or disconnect appliances and other equipment in case of a momentary power "surge" that can damage computers and other devices.

Only use generators away from your home and NEVER run a generator inside a home or garage, or connect it to your home's electrical system.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas that can cause sudden illness and death if inhaled. When power outages occur during natural disasters and other emergencies, the use of alternative sources of fuel or electricity for heating or cooking can cause CO to build up in a home, garage, or camper and to poison the people and animals

inside. It's important to install a battery-operated or battery back-up CO detector in your home and check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall.

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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.

Plan of Conservation and Development

Every ten years each Town in Connecticut must review and update its Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). The POCD is the plan that establishes goals and objectives for town development and conservation and identifies ways to get there. Goals, such as economic development, natural resources, village planning, and transportation planning are included in the plan. The plan update is necessary to receive State discretionary funds as well as other State funded grants. Municipalities that do not update their Plans every ten years do not receive monies like STEAP and transportation funding. The last POCD update was adopted on January 24, 2008.

The POCD Advisory Committee will meet in late January to kick off the new planning effort; these meetings will be open to the public. The advisory board will continue to meet until a draft 2018 POCD is forwarded to the Board of Selectmen in the summer of 2017. Copies of the 2007 POCD are available on the town website www.haddam.org. The Advisory Committee will be selected in early January. It will meet at least once a month until a draft plan is forwarded to the Board of Selectmen.

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Haddam-Killingworth Parks & Rec Winter/Spring Programs

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is offering many fun and exciting programs this winter and early spring. The brochure is posted on www.hkrec.com. On-line registration is available at <http://hkrec.recdesk.com/recdeskportal/>.

Upcoming Pre-School programs will include:

- Messy Mondays (Mondays, 10 am, beginning January 25th or March 28th)
- Tumble Tots (Tuesdays, 9:30 am, starting March 1st)
- Pee Wee Soccer (Wednesdays, 3:45 pm, starting January 13th or March 9th)
- Critter Road Show (Wednesdays, 10:00 am, February 3rd – Reptiles; March 9 – Soft & Cuddly)
- April 20 – (Critter Combo)
- Science Outreach (Wednesdays, 1:30 pm, January 27 (Bridges), March 30 (Roller Coasters),
- April 27th (Wizarding)

Youth Programs

- Young Chefs of HK (2/3, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4, 6/1 at 4:15 pm at the HKHS)
- Engineering Workshops (Tuesdays at KES, Wednesdays at HES or Thursdays at BES; 3:30pm, Jan./Feb./March/April Session)
- Creative Art (Mondays at KES; Tuesday at HES; Wednesdays at BES; 3:30 pm) Jan/March/April sessions)

- Skyhawks Basketball for gr. K-1 (Mondays & Thursdays at BES, (3:45pm Gr.1) (5:00pm K), starting Jan. 4th)
- Science Outreach (Wednesdays at HES; 3:30 pm (January 27– Bridges / March 30th – Roller Costers / April 27th – Wizarding) Thursdays at KES; 3:30pm (January 28th– Bridges / March 31st– Roller Costers / April 28th –Wizarding)
- Gymnastics (Tuesdays at BES; Fridays at KES 3:30 pm, beginning in March)
- Swim Lessons (Tuesdays & Thursdays at 7:00 pm starting January 14th; 6:00 or 6:50 pm starting in March)
- Fencing (Wednesdays (ages 9-13) or Thursdays (Gr. 9-12) beginning week of January 20th for 8 weeks; 6:00 pm, HK New MS
- Karate Kids (Mondays at HES; Wednesdays at KES; 3:30 pm, started January 25th for 16 weeks)
- 2nd Grade Basketball (Saturdays, 10:30 am, starting January 23rd for 6 weeks)
- Flag Football (Saturdays, 12:30 pm, starting January 23rd for 6 weeks)
- UKI Indoor Soccer (Tuesdays at HES; Thursdays at KES; 3:30 pm started January 5th)
- Kid's Guitar Workshop (Mondays, 4:30 pm, starting February 1st at the HK HS)
- Play-Well LEGO Fundamentals (Mon. at BES beginning February 22nd; 3:30 pm)
- When I'm in Charge (Wednesday, February 3rd or April 6th at 5:45 pm at the HK HS)

- Wizard School of Magic (Wednesday, February 3rd at HES; February 24th at BES; March 23rd at KES 3:30 pm)
- Babysitting Course (Mondays, beginning February 29th for 3 weeks, 5:45pm, HKHS or Thursday, April 14th, 8:30 – 2:00 pm)
- Acting (Tuesday at KES; Thursdays at HES, starting February 23rd for 7 weeks, 3:30 pm)
- Hip Hop (Wednesday, February 10th at HES, 1:10 pm; Thursday, March 24 at KES, 3:30 pm)
- Motor Movers (Thurs. at HES; Fridays at KES, beginning January 14th for 4 weeks, 3:30 pm)
- Fairy Garden Fun (Saturday, 10:00am, February 20th or April 9th at Town & Country Nurseries)
- Corkum Baseball Clinic (Monday and Tuesday, April 11th and 12th from 9 – 12 pm)
- Skyhawks Soccer & Baseball (Wednesdays at HES, beginning May 11th, 3:45 pm (ages 4-6)
- LEGO Minecraft (Fridays at KES; Thur. At HES, beginning March 4th for 4 weeks, 3:30 pm)
- Field Hockey Fundamentals (Thursdays, 5:30 pm, beginning April 2nd at HK HS, for 6 weeks)
- LEGO 101 (Thur. at HES; Fridays at KES, beginning April 28th for 4 weeks, 3:30 pm)

Continued on page 8



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Parks & Recreation, continued from page 7...

- Horseback Riding (Tuesdays or Wednesdays, 5:30 pm, beginning week of February 23rd)
- Parent/Tot Swim and Pre-School Swim (Tuesday & Thursdays starting in May)
- CRPA Hotshot Basketball Shooting Contest (Wednesday, February 17th; 2:30 pm; HK HS Fieldhouse)
- Ice Fishing (Tuesday, January 12th, 6:30 pm at Killingworth Care Center)
- Canvas and Cupcakes (Friday, March 11th, 6:00 pm at HK HS Cafeteria)
- February and April Vacation camps will be held from 7:00 - 6:00 pm at the HK HS.

Teens can take Lifeguard Training, and Crossroads Driving School. Many Adult programs include Fitness Yoga, Zumba,

Kickboxing, Get Fit, Dog Obedience, Aqua Aerobics, Semi-Private Swim Lessons, Basic Boat Course, Adult Guitar, Horseback Riding, Hypertufa Workshop, Creating an Organized Home, Organizing Paper Clutter, Adult/Child/Infant CPR, Sr. Exercise and Sr. Swim.

Excursions that will be offered include UConn Women's Basketball game at Gampel Pavillion (2/6); Blithewold Mansion & Garden Tour (4/19); Boston Duck Tour (6/15); One World Observatory & Spirit of NY Cruise (6/23). The HK Rec. Dept. also has discounted tickets to the CT Science Museum. For more information about any of our programs, please call the Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Dept. at 860-345-8334 or visit www.hkrec.com.

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News and Deadlines from the Assessor's Office

Marilyn R. Baumann, CCMAI, Assessor, Tammy Anderson, CCMAI, Assistant Assessor

2015 Revaluation Update

At this writing we are wrapping up Informal Hearings between taxpayers and the representatives of Vision Government Solutions.

The Assessor's office and the Vision staff would like to thank all the residents of the Town of Haddam for their cooperation throughout the revaluation process.

Your participation is greatly appreciated and extremely important in accomplishing our objective to provide a successful, high-quality revaluation with minimum intrusion.

Important Application Deadlines from the Assessor's Office

State of Connecticut Homeowner's (**Circuit Breaker**) and the Town of Haddam Senior Abatement Program –The application period for these programs begins February 1, 2016 and ends May 15, 2016. Persons who file must be 65 years of age or totally disabled. Please call the Assessor's Office at 860-345-8531 to make an appointment or to discuss your qualifications.

The following tables show the levels of qualifying income for the Elderly and Totally Disabled Tax Relief Program applications to be filed in the year 2016. These levels are to be used for the 2015 Grand List Homeowner and Renter applications, 2016 Grand List Additional Veteran's applications and may be used for any local option programs.

State of Connecticut Homeowners

Income and Grant Information – 2015 Benefit Year

Filing period February 1 - May 15, 2016

Income Over To		Tax Credit %		Tax Credit Maximum		Tax Credit Minimum	
		Married	Unmarried	Married	Unmarried	Married	Unmarried
\$ -0-	\$17,600	50%	40%	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$400	\$350
17,600	23,600	40	30	1,000	750	350	250
23,600	29,500	30	20	750	500	250	150
29,500	35,200	20	10	500	250	150	150
35,200	42,900	10	-0-	250	-0-	150	-0-

Town of Haddam Senior Abatement Program Income maximum is \$55,000 and must be a property taxpayer for 15 years. If qualified, a participant will receive \$500 for single applicants and \$750 for married applicants.

Additional Veteran's Exemption – The application period for Additional Veteran's exemptions is February 1, 2016 to October 1, 2016. Please call the Assessor's office at 860-345-8531 to make an appointment or to discuss your qualifications.

The Additional Veterans' exemption for income qualifying applicants for the 2015 Grand List will be based on the following income maximums: The maximum for single applicants will be \$35,200; the maximum for married applicants will be \$42,900.

100% V. A. determined Disabled Veterans will continue to use \$18,000 for single applicants and \$21,000 for married applicants (adjusted gross income only; Social Security Income is not considered).

Exemption forms for the Totally Disabled and for the Blind are available in the Assessor's Office.

Proof of income is required when filing for the above programs. Income includes all taxable and non-taxable income as well as social security income.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call us at 860-345-8531

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Register Now for Spring Soccer!

In-House (ages 5-7)



(Deadline for registration 3/19/2016)

This program is for boys and girls ages 5-7 years old. Professional coaches will direct skill and fitness training. After that, players will be divided into small groups for games and scrimmages but we'll need parent volunteers to help.

If you are interested in helping please contact us at hksoccerclub@gmail.com.

We have designed this program to introduce young children to the game of soccer and to start building the foundation of skills needed for future play.

Players need to bring their own size 3 ball, shin pads and cleats.

Dates / Times / Location:

Saturday Mornings 9:30 - 11:00

April 9, 16, 23, 30 / May 7, 14, 21, 28 / June 4, 11

Sessions will be held at Killingworth Recreation Park.

Cost: \$110 (includes a t-shirt) Multiple player discount will apply for siblings. Go to hksoccer.org for all the details and to register.

Haddam Garden Club

The Haddam Garden Club met to create holiday arrangements for the local service organizations and municipal buildings in the Haddam area. The Garden Club is looking forward to having noted landscaper, James Petrillo, as our guest speaker at our January meeting. It will be held at the Community Center on Candlewood Hill Rd. (across from the Higganum Green) in Higganum at 11:00 am. The meeting is open to guests.

Suzann Mason



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Ballet of the Beaver

On a warm spring morning last year I marveled at two recently arrived Northern Watersnakes gliding lazily back and forth along the edge of a nearby beaver pond. As dozens of orange spotted red newts hung upright in the water, a large frog bobbed up from below. The young snakes, oblivious to all, continued their serpentine dance back and forth and on several occasions nearly bumped into the indifferent frog. I wondered how safe the frog would have been had the mother of the young, sunning in the mud just behind a rock, been more motivated. Apparently, a lesson for another day.



Photo by Peter Smith

At the time, the place of the beaver in this ballet remained unconsidered. Yet without the dam, no pond and no stage for this tiny ballet. It seems that our sometimes infuriating rodent is the director, producer and lead carpenter for

this and a shocking number of other such performances. Turns out 'Buckys' greatest role may be as nature's creative genius. North America's largest rodent conceives, constructs, and unrelentingly maintains, an entire habitat relied upon by untold numbers of other species. A beaver's committed work is on behalf of the health and well-being of their whole environment, including its denizens, and exhibits a level of responsibility that we 'highly evolved mammals' would do well to emulate. Plus for a rodent they are pretty cute.

If you don't have a beaver pond to enjoy nearby, or even if you do, join HLT in our efforts to acquire a very large one (with two lodges) at a property we call 'Beaver Ledges'. For information on how to help, contact HLTrust.org or call 860-575-5968.



Photo by Peter Smith

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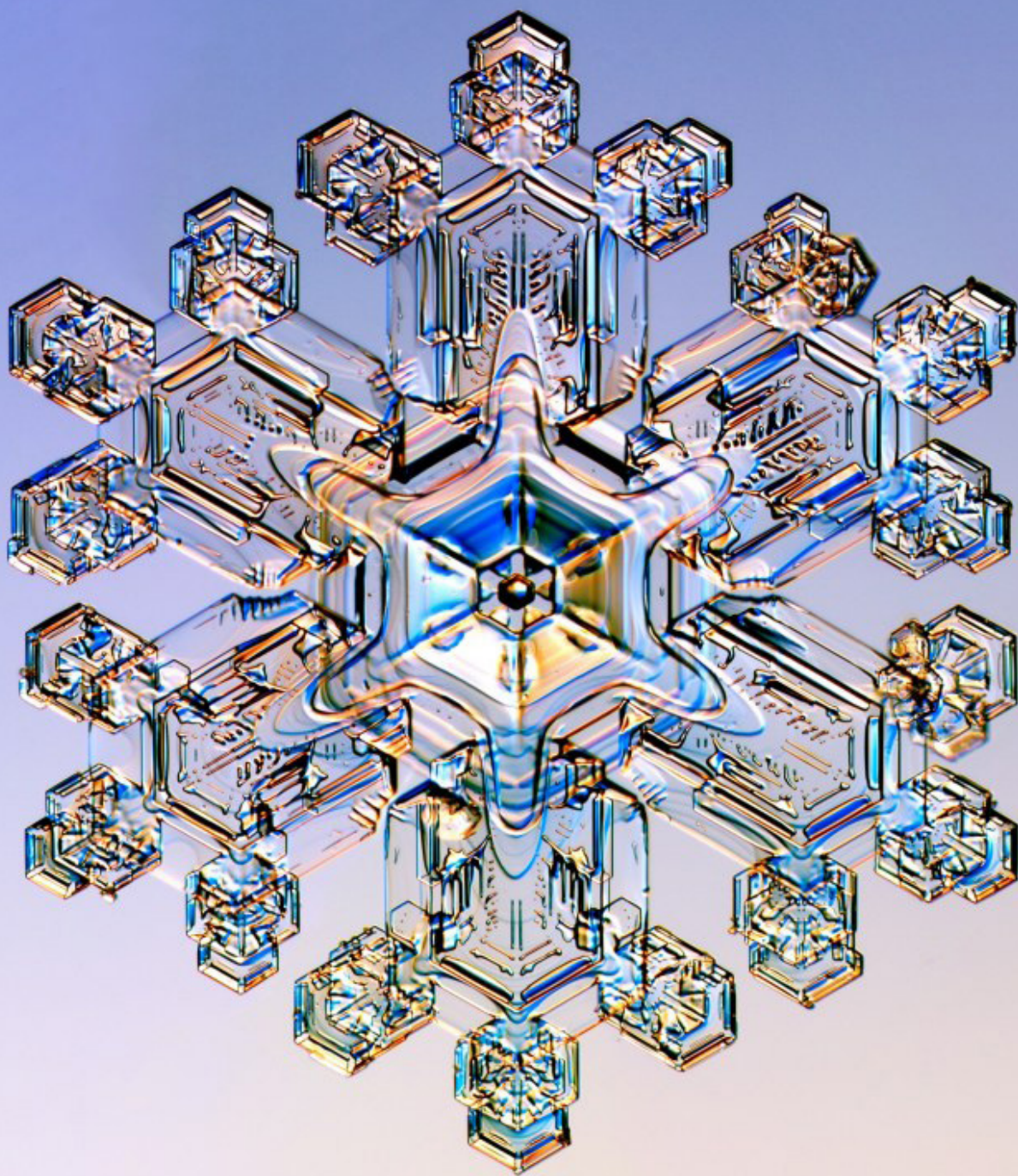


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