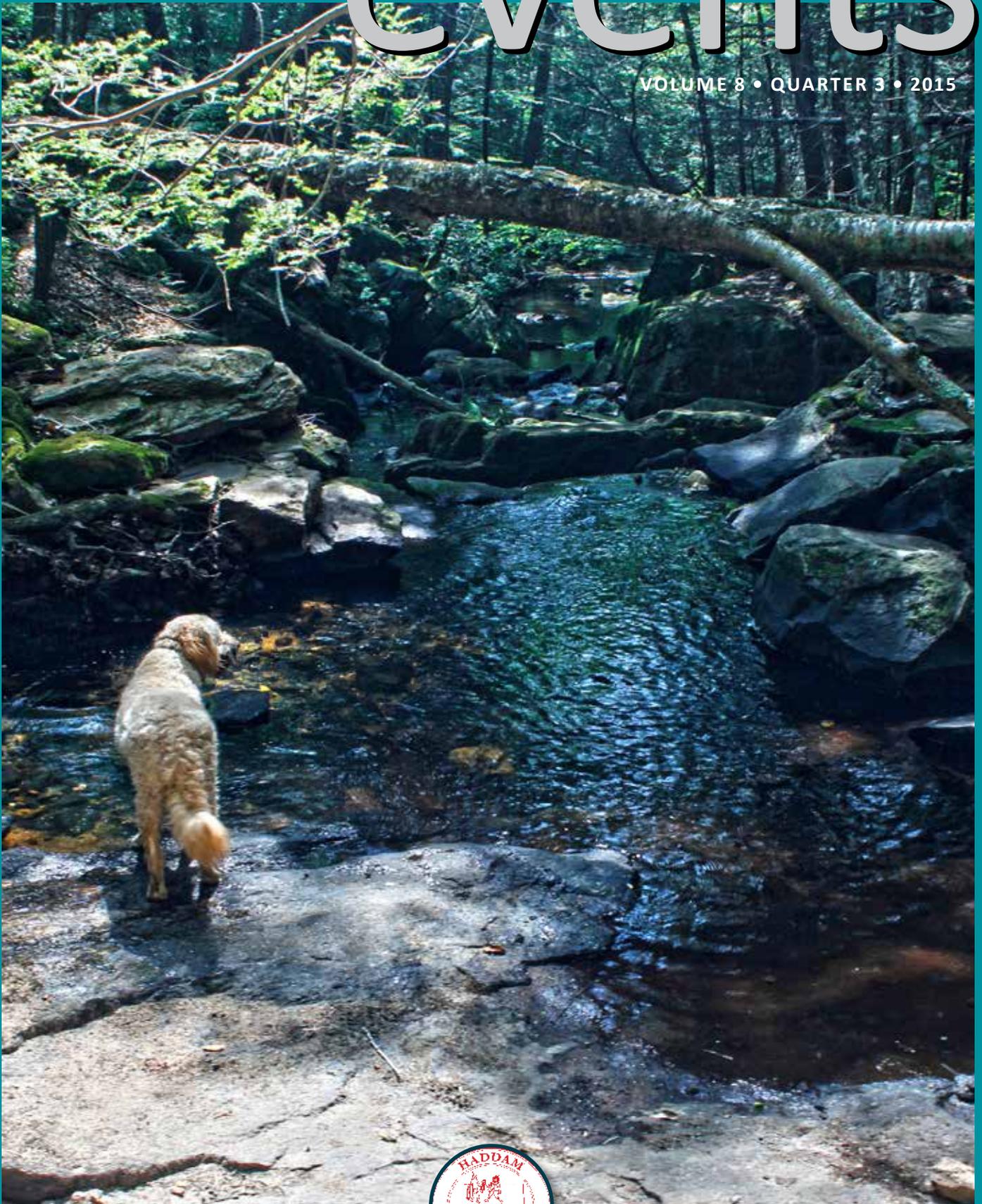


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First Selectman's Corner

I can't believe it has been almost two years since I walked into town hall in November of 2013. To be honest, I've never really liked politics; I always thought of it as a dirty job. But a few years ago I realized you couldn't accomplish much without being involved and working on issues from the inside. When this realization hit me, I decided I would have to run for office if I wanted to help and have a positive effect on our wonderful community. You then gave me the wonderful privilege to serve you as your First Selectman.

I'm proud of our accomplishments and honored to work on many projects alongside hardworking volunteers; from big exciting grants, to a higher and fairer ECS distribution, to streamlining our government and lowering our operating budget two years in a row.

My goals for Haddam are to continually fight for what's rightfully ours and to keep improving on our successes for the good of all the people of Haddam. Together we've accomplished so much in the past short year and a half and we are only getting started. I believe in Haddam's future and would be honored to continue our work together to make this town something remarkable for all.

Therefore, I am proud to announce I'm ready for the ultimate job interview again, my 2015 reelection campaign. With your support, together we'll continue to make Haddam affordable, successful, vibrant and one of the greatest little towns in America!



Thank you for your support,
Melissa Schlag, First Selectman



Congressman Joe Courtney and Representative Phil Miller showed their support at First Selectman Melissa Schlag's campaign kickoff event in June.

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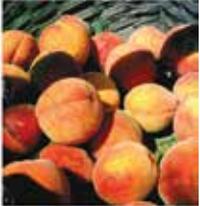
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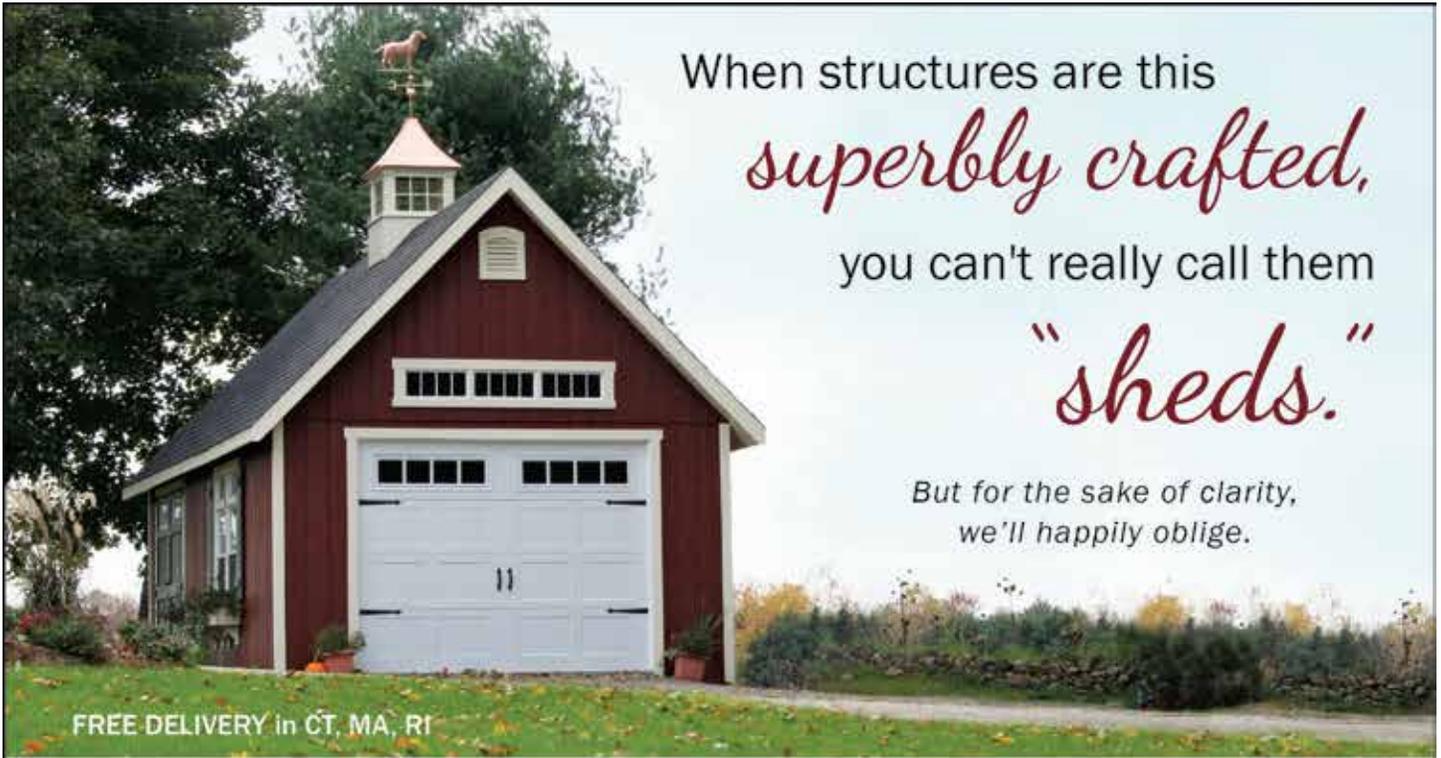
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Assessor's Office

Information from the Assessor's Office
Marilyn R. Baumann, CCMail, Assessor
Tammy Anderson, Assistant Assessor

Important Dates To Remember

Active Duty Servicemen – Active Duty Servicemen, stationed outside of Connecticut, must file a written application yearly by December 31st for the exemption of one passenger motor vehicle garaged out of state. The forms are available in the Assessor's office.

Veterans are reminded to file their Honorable Discharge with the Town Clerk's office on or before September 30, 2015. Those veterans who have already submitted their DD214 need not file again.

Totally Disabled and Blind exemption forms must be filed on or before October 1, 2015.

Additional Veteran's Exemption – The filing period for Additional Veteran's exemptions is February 1, 2015 to October 1, 2015. The exemptions for income qualifying applicants will be based on the income maximums as follows: the maximum income for single applicants will be \$34,600 and the maximum for married applicants will be \$42,200.

Farm, Forest or Open Space under Public Act 490 - New applications for property owners claiming land as Farm or Forest or Open Space must be filed with the Assessor's Office between September 1 and October 31 except in a year in which a revaluation of all real property is effective in the town, in which case the filing deadline is December 30th. When filing for Forest land the application must be accompanied by the certificate from the Forestry Department. The Forestry Department will no longer be responsible to certify parcels as forest land. They will provide a list of state foresters who will recommend to the Assessor's Office the number of acres to be considered as forest land. The Assessor is responsible for certifying land as forest.

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

Trade Name Certificates - All New Businesses in the Town of Haddam:

According to the Connecticut General State Statutes under section 35-1, no person or persons shall conduct or transact business under any name other than the real name of the person or persons conducting business in the Town of Haddam unless a Trade Name Certificate has been filed in the office of the Town Clerk. Business Personal Property Declarations – Personal Property Declarations will be mailed from the Assessor's office sometime during the last two weeks of September.

Notice is hereby given to all persons liable to pay Personal Property taxes in the Town of Haddam that they must return to the Assessor's office, on or before the first day of November 2015, their personal property list (declaration). Failure to declare will force the Assessor to apply an arbitrary assessment and a 25% penalty.

The personal property declaration shall include all furniture, fixtures, equipment and machinery of all commercial and industrial businesses; unregistered motor vehicles, snowmobiles, farm machinery and horses. Manufacturing Machinery Exemption Applications must also be filed at this time.

Anyone not receiving a personal property declaration should contact the Assessor's office. Even though a declaration was not received, it does not preclude you from filing.

***PLEASE NOTE:** if you do not receive a personal property declaration and you are a resident business in the town of Haddam it is your responsibility according to Connecticut State Statutes to file one. Failure to declare will force the Assessor to apply an arbitrary assessment and a 25% penalty.

continued on page 5

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Haddam Events

We encourage community organizations, town departments and service clubs to send information for consideration for publication in *Haddam Events*.

Please send your articles to kathy@eventsmagazines.com

The next deadline for article submissions is September 24th.

Thank You!
The Staff at
Events Magazines

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ASSESSOR ... continued from page 3

If you have received a personal property declaration and will not be conducting any business in Haddam as of October 1, 2015 you must complete the Affidavit on the front page of the declaration and return it to the Assessor's office prior to November 1, 2015.

This signed affidavit is mandatory as proof to allow the Assessor to remove you from the Grand List. If the documentation is not received it will force the Assessor to apply an arbitrary assessment and a 25% penalty.

Commercial Vehicle Exemptions

(M-65 MV) – Certain newly registered (never registered in any state or juris-

diction prior to August 1, 2015, but must be registered in Connecticut on or after that date) commercial trucks, truck tractor and semi-trailers in excess of 26,000 pounds, gross vehicle weight rating, and used exclusively 100% of the time for the interstate or intrastate transportation of freight for hire, may be exempt as outlined in 12-81(74) of the Connecticut General statutes. Guidelines, information and applications are available in the Assessor's office. Please note that the application deadline is November 1, 2015.

If you need any assistance on any of the above deadlines or programs, we would be happy to assist you. Please call our office at 860-345-8531.

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News from the Tax Office

It's that time of year. You should have received your new Tax Bills around the first of July for the 2014 Grand List. If you did not, please call us. The first installment for Real Estate and Personal Property and the total Motor Vehicle bills came due July 1, 2015. The mill rate for the 2014 Grand List was set at 31.20 by the Board of Finance. We do not mail bills again in January so hold on to the remainder bill stub. Tax bills were mailed out right around their due date for a reason. The Tax Office cannot start collecting on the new grand list until July 1, 2015. This is the beginning on the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Because August 1st falls on a Saturday, the grace period is extended to Monday August 3rd.

We accept post marked dates from the post office. This post mark is very important. If a payment is received after the deadline, the interest is calculated from the original due date of July 1, 2015.

Do not put your mail in your mail box on August 3rd. It may not be post marked on time. Go down to the post office and ask them to stamp it.

The interest rate set by the State of Connecticut on delinquent taxes is 1.5% a month or 18% a year. If you cannot pay the total amount due, partial payments are always accepted. This is not considered a payment plan. However, it is the best way to keep some of the interest down. Interest will be calculated on the amount due, not the original bill.

Payments can be mailed into the office at: Town Office Building, Tax Office C/O Kristin Battistoni, 30 Field Park Drive, Haddam, CT 06438. Payments can also be brought into the office or done on line. There is the service fee to use a credit card of 2.95%. It is calculated based on the total payment. A flat fee of \$1.99 is charged for an EFT. Please make checks out to Town of Haddam.

If you received a bill for a vehicle or a business you do not own any longer please give us a call immediately. These bills will not go away if they are not addressed. Avoid any additional fees or penalties by contacting us as soon as possible. If you did not receive a bill for your Real Estate or a Motor Vehicle please let us know. Escrow companies do not always tell us when you have paid off your mortgage: The DMV does not tell us you returned plates or changed the registration address. If you have moved, please let us know in case we need to contact you.

Please allow some extra time for payments to be processed during the busy collection period. If you make an on line payment, it may not reflect for a week. This is typical for our on line payment service. Do not worry; if you received a confirmation number, your payment was processed. You can always email me to confirm it was received. If you mail your payment in, please know they are processed in the order we received them. Historically the mail tends to pile up towards the end of the month. This year is no exception, we are already seeing this.

As long as a payment is post marked by August 3rd no interest will be accrued. They will all be posted with their post marked date. Please allow a little extra time this July and August for me to catch up on the mail.

If you have any questions please call or email. Emails are easier to respond to during very busy times.

I can be reached at taxcollect@haddam.org or 860-345-8531 X 207.

Linda Walczak retired at the end of June. We are all very excited for her! See article below.

Submitted by Kristin Battistoni, CCMC
Haddam Tax Collector

Happy Retirement to the Assistant Tax Collector!

Linda Walczak the assistant Tax Collector, has made it a little easier for many people. For over thirteen years Linda has been greeting everyone that comes into the Town Hall with respect and a smile. Alice Zanelli, the assistant to the First Selectman said, "She will be greatly missed by her co-workers. She was always pleasant to everyone she dealt with. Good Luck Lindy."

Linda will be retiring at the end of June and will be moving to Florida with her husband John. Linda and John came to Haddam in 1961, and fell in love with this small town. Their daughter and son-in-law Carl and Sheila Johnson still live in Haddam. On Linda's desk she has a framed picture of four houses and the title reads "A small town is like a big family." That's what Haddam has been to Linda, a family.

Linda started working for the town in 2002 as part time help. After realizing the great addition to the office, she began working full time. Her previous work at the local bank gave her the foundation for working in the Tax Office.

continued on page 8



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HAPPY RETIREMENT ... continued from page 7

Linda went through the state program and became a Certified Connecticut Municipal Collector in 2006, and is a member of the CT Tax Association. Georgia Emanuel, Finance Coordinator, said “Linda never gets upset when people come in angry. She just explains the facts and I think tax payers appreciate that.”

If you are friends with Linda, you know her unparalleled ability to make you feel special and cared for. I have been amazed since my time in the tax office to watch her with visitors to the Town Hall. You are most likely greeted by name as you come to the window. She will always ask how a parent is doing, about a wedding, graduation or some personal information to let you know that you’re important to her. “Linda has been a never-ending source of strength and inspiration for all those having the pleasure of knowing her. I have grown very fond of her over the last 7+ years. She is irreplaceable.” remarks Marilyn Baumann, Assessor for the town.

The Town Hall will not be the same without her. She makes coming to pay your taxes a little easier because you are greeted by a friend. I personally can’t thank her enough for making my time in office successful. Our small town won’t be the same without her.

Kristin Battistoni, CCMC
Haddam Tax Collector

Revaluation Everything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask!

The Town of Haddam is undergoing an interim revaluation, with values effective October 1, 2015. Revaluations are conducted every 5 years with a full revaluation every 10 years. The last revaluation was conducted in 2010 and was a full revaluation with inspections of all properties. During this interim revaluation we will only inspect those properties that have sold or have open building permits such as new homes, additions and alterations.

Understanding Mass Appraisal means understanding the forces that contribute to inequities in appraised values of property. Inflation, changes in the economy and shifting neighborhood demographics all add to this. During a revaluation cycle of five years a lot can happen. During a period of appreciation, some properties appreciate at a faster pace than others. An example of this is waterfront properties, which due to higher demand, may appreciate faster than inland property. Similarly,

during a period of decline in the market, certain properties may depreciate faster. The disparate changes in property values result in some people paying more than their fair share while others are paying less than their fair share. Valuation updates are necessary to restore balance in property values and therefore, uniform, fair taxation.

The Assessor's office is responsible to determine the value by studying the market. A revaluation may result in an increase or decrease in individual assessments; it does not mean that all property values will change uniformly. New values will be finalized when all the data through October 1st, 2015 is available and analyzed. Notices will be sent to all taxpayers sometime in late November or early December.

The dollar amount of taxes a property owner pays is a direct result of the budget approved by taxpayers to fund town government. Quite simply, the total value of the Grand List divided by the approved budget equals the tax or mil rate.

Below are some examples of how a tax bill might be affected when a home assessed now at \$100,000 is increased due to a revaluation to a \$200,000 assessment.

EXAMPLE:

Old Assessment		Mil Rate 20.00 Mills		Taxes
\$100,000	X	.020 mils	=	\$2,000

If the budget (the money needed to run the town) were to remain the same and the mil rate dropped to 10.00 mils the taxes would remain the same even though the assessment doubled.

EXAMPLE:
Hypothetical

New Assessment		New (2015) Mil Rate 10.00 Mills		Taxes
\$200,000	X	.0100 mils	=	\$2,000

If the budget increased slightly and the new mil rate was set at 15.00 mils there would be a minor increase in taxes even though the assessment doubled.

EXAMPLE:
Hypothetical

New Assessment		New (2015) Mil Rate 15.00 Mills		Taxes
\$200,000	X	.0150 mils	=	\$3,000

Remember these are estimates and are for illustration only.

Generally speaking, an increase in assessment does not always result in an increase in taxes. The budget process plays a significant role in affecting the outcome of your taxes. The mil rate for the 2015 Grand List will not be set until the spring of 2016 once the budget process is complete.

Notices with new values will be mailed to homeowners in November. At that time, homeowners will have a chance to discuss their property with a representative of Vision Government Solutions, Inc.

If you have any questions regarding the revaluation process, please call the Assessor's office at 860-345-8531.

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Curious Campers Pre-School Camp

Wild Wild West: July 27 – 31

A VARIETY OF YOUTH / TEEN PROGRAMS:

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HK Football Camp

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Skyhawks Tennis Camps

July 27 – 31 at HK HS / August 3 – 7 at Sheldon; 9:00 – 12 pm

Skyhawks Mini-Hawk Multi-Sport

for ages 4 – 6 / August 10 – 14 from 9:00 – 12 pm

UK International Soccer Camp

July 27 - 31, 9 - 12 pm ages 6 - 12 / 9 - 10:30 am ages 4-6

Skyhawks Multi-Sport Camp

for ages 7 - 12 / August 10 - 14;
9:00 - 12:00 pm

Academy International Field Hockey Camp

August 17 - 21 from 9:30 - 12:30 pm

Field Hockey Clinic

August 17 - 21 from 8:15 - 9:15 am

AQUATIC PROGRAMS:

Children's Swim Lessons

ages 4+ until August 7th
M- F am classes

ADULT PROGRAMS

INCLUDE:

Fitness Yoga

Tuesdays/Thursdays
July 21 - August 13th ; 7:00 - 8:15 pm

Zumba

Mondays until August 10th, 6:45 - 7:45 pm

Aqua Aerobics

Thursdays until July 31st,
6:45 - 7:45 pm

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Tick Borne Illnesses In Connecticut

Summer is the time for picnics, hiking, outdoor concerts, and just relaxing in your back yard. It is also the time for ticks to come out and feed.

In Connecticut there are several illnesses caused by a tick bite. The common deer tick, *Ixodes scapularis*, can transmit Lyme disease, Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis (Ehrlichiosis), and Babesiosis. Symptoms of these illnesses include fever, body aches, headaches, and in the case of Lyme disease an expanding red rash. Symptoms may begin from 3-30 days after the bite.

The American dog tick, *Dermacentor variabilis*, can transmit another illness Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

Symptoms include the sudden onset of fever, headache and muscle pains followed by a rash. These symptoms may appear 3-14 days after the tick bite.

All of these infections can be treated with antibiotics, but without prompt treatment they can cause serious or even fatal illness.

After spending time outside it is important to do thorough skin survey to find any ticks.

The longer a tick remains attached the more likely it could transmit an illness.

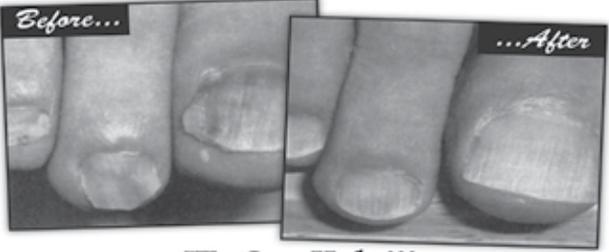
An infected deer tick can transmit one or even more illnesses at the same bite.

The Connecticut Agricultural Station estimates that about 25-30% of deer ticks are infected with Lyme disease. But not every tick bite will transmit the illness.

If you find a tick it is important to remove it promptly. Use tweezers and grasp the tick's mouthparts as close to the skin as possible. Using steady pressure, pull the tick upward. After removal wash the area with soap and water and apply an antiseptic. Write down the date it was removed. If you develop a rash at the bite site and/or symptoms of a flu like illness contact your physician immediately.

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The Extra MILE

The MILE (Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education) Advisory Board has voted to set up a fund for Middlesex Community College students to help with extra expenses such as books, bus passes or student fees.

When the registration packets for the fall semester of the MILE program become available an "extra" envelope for voluntary donations to the Middlesex College Foundation will be included.

Orientations and registration for the fall session will be held in Chapman Hall, Middlesex College on Wednesday September 9th starting at 1:00 pm. Residents 50 and older are encouraged to participate in as many programs as they desire.

The fall offerings include a performance by Jim Firecrow, a travelog to New Zealand, Living in the Antarctic, Connecticut Gypsies, Making the Most of Your Brainpower, Great Decisions, a trip to the 9/11 Museum and Sustainable Landscaping for Long Island Sound.

Brochures will be available at local libraries and senior centers. For more information call 860-343-5863 or visit www.mileonline.org.

Safe Harbor Dedicated to Helen Shultz



The Saybrook at Haddam installed this personalized plaque in the Safe Harbor neighborhood to honor Helen Shultz.

Her daughter, Judy Sullivan, who is executive director of the Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce, was joined by husband, Dan, and son, Peter; Bob Shultz of Hudson, New Hampshire, attended with his son Matthew from Avon, Conn.; and Richard Shultz came from Norwich, Conn. Two of Helen's children, John Schultz of Staten Island, N.Y., and Mark Shultz of Mequon, Wis., were unable to attend (but were there in spirit).

During the celebration, Helen's children expressed their appreciation for the care she received at The Saybrook at Haddam – and for the tremendous support the community offered their own families. "When a loved one suffers from a memory illness, the family is forced into quite a learning curve," Judy Sullivan said. "The entire team at The Saybrook at Haddam walked us through that process, helping us understand Mom's new 'world,' how to have patience, and most importantly how to continue enjoying each moment we had with her. We are indebted to this community for their care, kindness and expertise and are so honored to have Mom forever be a part of Safe Harbor."

Helen actually moved into The Saybrook at Haddam in 2011 a few weeks before Safe Harbor was completed. As soon as the doors officially opened, she moved over to Safe Harbor. During this time, The Saybrook at Haddam was working to build awareness of its unique and personalized approach to helping those

suffering from Alzheimer's, dementia and other memory-related illnesses, and the Shultz family was the first to put its faith and trust into this new community.

"We owe a debt to the Shultz's as well, as they were the first to recognize and trust in our approach to memory care," Kathy Ryan, executive director of The Saybrook at Haddam, said. "Of course, since Helen was our only resident for a short time, she essentially had one-on-one care and really stole the hearts of our entire community. I like to say she was 'holding court,' because she always had a group around her listening to stories, sharing meals, and meeting her every need with lightning speed. Although we have grown tremendously since those days, Helen helped shape the quality and personality of the community we have become." Staff members who cared for Helen also shared warm memories of their premier resident, talking with fondness and laughter about their experiences with her. They enjoyed her "no-nonsense" style, which likely was a result of the 40 years Helen worked as owner of the successful Shultz Appliance and TV retail shop in Old Saybrook. Staff appreciated her real sense of family and knew they had made an impact when Helen began treating Safe Harbor like her home. This was considered a milestone since Helen's home in Old Saybrook was immensely important to her as the epi-center of very large family holidays, gatherings and memories.

"Safe Harbor really did become her home, and for us that was the true blessing," Sullivan said. "If there was a silver lining in Mom's illness, it was getting to know everyone at The Saybrook at Haddam. This plaque forever memorialized our connection to this community, and reinforces our hopes that other families find solace and reassurance here as they navigate through the difficult maze of memory loss."

Known as the region's premier assisted living, retirement, and memory care community, The Saybrook at Haddam offers apartments for individuals or couples. It is located in Haddam, Conn., with proximity to major highways, medical services, restaurants and entertainment venues.

The family of Helen Shultz of Old Saybrook gathered at The Saybrook at Haddam for the unveiling of the personalized plaque to commemorate her position as Safe Harbor's first memory care resident. Pictured here next to the plaque, left to right, are: Dan Sullivan, Richard Shultz, Judy Sullivan, Peter Sullivan, Bob Shultz, and Matthew Shultz.



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- Terryville Lions County Fair / August 28-30
- Haddam Neck Fair / September 4-7
- Hebron Harvest Fair / September 10-13
- North Haven Fair / September 10-13
- Orange Country Fair / September 19-20
- Woodstock Fair / September 4-7
- Durham Fair / September 24-27
- Berlin Fair / October 2-4

Department Of Emergency Services And Public Protection Offers Hurricane Preparedness Tips

Recommended Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:

- One gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- At least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- A whistle to signal for help
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- Local maps

- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger

Family Emergency Plan

- Identify an out-of town contact. It may be easier to make a long-distance phone call than to call across town, so an out-of-town contact may be in a better position to communicate among separated family members.
- Be sure every member of your family knows the phone number and has a cell phone, coins, or a prepaid phone card to call the emergency contact. If you have a cell phone, program that person(s) as "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) in your phone. If you are in an accident, emergency personnel will often check your ICE listings in order to get a hold of

someone you know. Make sure to tell your family and friends that you've listed them as emergency contacts.

- Teach family members how to use text messaging. Text messages can often get around network disruptions when a phone call might not be able to get through.
 - Subscribe to alert services. Many communities/states now have systems that will send instant text alerts or e-mails to let you know about severe weather, road closings, local emergencies, etc. In Connecticut, go to www.ct.gov/ctalert to register for alerts.
- For more information on Hurricane Preparedness go to www.ready.gov.

"Experience the Difference" at The Saybrook at Haddam.



Diane Daudt with her mom, resident Marie Daudt, looking at all the places they've flown to as flight attendants.

We've Traveled the World and are Still Enjoying Happy Moments Together.

Diane Daudt and her mother, Marie, both enjoyed careers as flight attendants, traveling the world over. "We've shared so many happy memories in the past and continue to enjoy happy moments together now. At Safe Harbor Memory Care Neighborhood in The Saybrook at Haddam, Mom is able to be involved, stay active, and even go bowling with her friends, says daughter Diane." **Safe Harbor offers:**

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In 2014 Essex Printing received the highest award from PIA the "International Bennie Award". Winners are considered "The Best of the Best" in the printing industry.

Bill McMinn from Essex Printing and Gary Parrington from Lyme Art Association are shown with Lyme Art Association "Incredible India Invitation". The invitation was recognized by PINE and awarded the 2015 Pinnacle Award for its exceptional use of design, print and use of paper to create a bright and lively invite. The Pinnacle Award is given to the most outstanding entry in its category. Given the high standard, the entries must be flawless to win.



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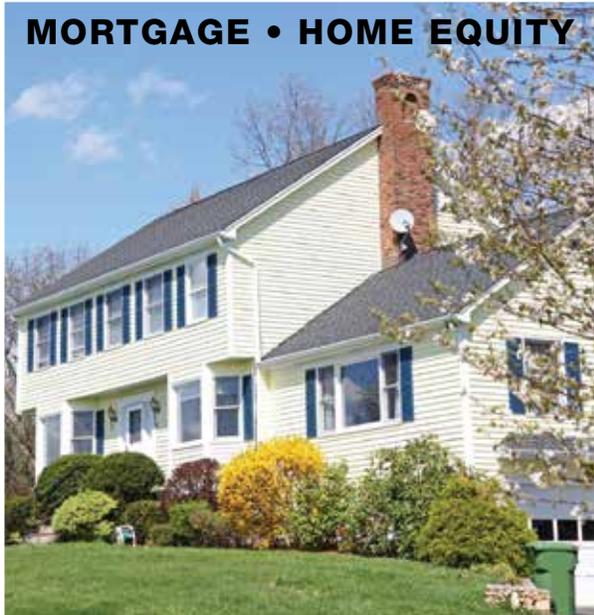
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