

# East Haddam Events



[www.eventsmagazines.com](http://www.eventsmagazines.com)

Volume 3 Number 1 • Winter 2010

## GOODSPEED OPERA HOUSE *A BRIEF HISTORY*



### *In This Issue:*

**Update From First Selectman • Business Updates • Park and Recreation  
Middle School Conversion Project • Economic Development Commission  
Goodspeed Housing Project • Senior News • Assessor Information ... *and more***



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## From Your First Selectman

### Dear East Haddam Residents,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you for two more years as your First Selectman. I am honored and poised to lead our town in these challenging times.

### Economy and Budget

The results of this past election communicate clearly that you want us to maintain the course we set out on a bit over two years ago to maintain a steady tax rate and a watchful eye on the budget.

Frankly, the state's budget problems are of great concern to me. Why? Instead of making the tough choices to reduce the size of state government they are passing their problems down to the towns by cutting municipal aide that they had committed to us at the beginning of the budget cycle. In effect, the state is changing the rules AFTER we set our local budget based on their funding commitment for this fiscal year.

I challenge our representatives and the Governor to do as we have done here in East Haddam; reduce the size of government and live within its means. Instead of looking within their own agencies to increase efficiency and eliminate waste they want to reduce the amount of money we use to fund our local school system. Net, net the state wants to shift the burden from the state to the towns with no real savings to the taxpayer... just a shifting of who you, the taxpayer, write the check to. Instead of making tough decisions, the state is deflecting its problems to the towns. (www.dothemath.com)

As frustrating as things are at the state level and regardless of what happens, East Haddam is well positioned to handle whatever the state throws at us. We have outstanding elected officials, employees and volunteers on our various boards and commissions who are deeply committed to discovering creative solutions to the challenges we face.

### Economic Development

Our theme for this publication is a tribute to the Goodspeed Opera House and the economic incentives in the works to capitalize on our towns unique assets. The historical articles will reveal how close we came to losing the Opera House. Jump ahead to today and we are looking forward to the huge five and a half million dollar investment that Goodspeed Musicals will be making with the new actor housing village. The East Haddam Village Revitalization Commission has developed a concept for mixed use residential and commercial development of the Town Office property to improve the commercial tax base and better use of our valuable river front property. Finally we are close to spending a \$250,000 grant to improve downtown sidewalks and install traffic calming crosswalks.

### New Employee

It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Cindy Varricchio as Finance Administrator. Cindy has served as the Administrative Manager for the Town of Essex and comes to



us with a wide range of experience in municipal accounting and public administration. I am sure that she will be an asset to the East Haddam team and we all look forward to working with her.

According to our Constitution, "We the People" tell the government what to do, it doesn't tell us. I look forward to hearing your ideas and opinions as we weather this storm of overspending at the State and Federal levels.

- Mark B. Walter, First Selectman

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## Volunteer of the Month

Please join us in congratulating our most recent volunteers of the month: Nancy and Ted Pincus, David Meade, and Chad Petersen. If you would like to nominate someone, please do so in a letter to the First Selectman.

## Annual Town Report

Copies of the East Haddam Annual Town Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 are available now in the Town Clerk's Office. This book is filled with valuable information regarding meeting dates, boards and commissions, reports from all town departments, the current 2009-2010 town budget, and the 2008-2009 summary financial report. The full 2008-2009 year-end audit can be viewed on line at [www.easthaddam.org](http://www.easthaddam.org). This year's cover features the new Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School, which was dedicated on August 26, 2008. The report also includes artwork from students at the Middle School. Feel free to stop in for your very own copy of the Annual Town Report.

## Role of the Police on the Local Prevention Council (LPC)

As a member of the Local Prevention Council (LPC) in East Haddam, I was asked to write an article for the Events Magazine as to why the police are members of the LPC. We currently have two spots on the LPC, which are filled by Craig Mansfield, who is a part-time police officer for East Haddam, and me. Our reasons for being members of the LPC may be slightly different than the other members but we are all members for relatively the same reasons.

As police officers our job is not only to keep the public safe through motor vehicle enforcement and the investigation of crimes, but it is our responsibility to help improve the quality of life for those who live in the community we serve. The LPC is a community-oriented organization that aggressively promotes a drug-free lifestyle. As a State Trooper for nearly seventeen years, I can say that the most common denominator associated with the crimes that I have investigated over the years has been alcohol and drug abuse. I have seen more than my share of tragedies that could have been prevented had alcohol/drug use not been involved. I have witnessed families ripped apart by drug/alcohol abuse and have broken many hearts having to deliver tragic news of the death of a husband, wife, son, or daughter, a death that could have been prevented. Alcohol continues to be the "gateway drug" and most widely used drug among our children.

As individuals we may not have the power to compete against our kids' peers when it comes to the pressures that they face daily...but as a community we can provide a positive pressure and an outlet for kids who may be on the fence regarding drug and alcohol use/abuse. It is not the job of our schools, religious groups, politicians, or police to instill the

*Continued on next page*

health care - banquet & community centers  
municipal - office - retail - industrial - historical  
multi-family - residential - adaptive re-use  
sustainable design - green architecture



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George Fellner, AIA, LEED AP

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[fellnerarchitects.com](http://fellnerarchitects.com)

*Continued from page 2*

“rights and wrongs” in our kids; however, as community members it is our responsibility to do whatever we can to ensure that our kids grow up safe and provide them with alternatives to falling into the drug/alcohol scene.

As for me personally, I want to effect change, a positive change for our community. Over the years, I guess that I have changed from an idealist to a realist, but I still have hopes and dreams and I believe that anything is possible if you work hard enough. I know that we cannot rid East Haddam of drug/alcohol abuse overnight. My goal and the goal of my office is to have a positive effect within our community through the LPC so that we can save your family from the devastating effects and tragedies associated with drug/alcohol abuse.

- Jeffrey Rhoades

*CT State Police/East Haddam Resident Trooper's Office*

## ***Notary Public Services***

Both the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk provide Notary Public Services at the Town Clerk's Office. Government-issued photo identification is required.

The person whose signature is being notarized must sign the document in person in the presence of the Notary.

Notaries in the Town Clerk's Office do not notarize wills, nor do they witness to statements attesting to an individual's competency. No charge is assessed for Notary Services.

## ***Holiday Closings***

The Town Office Building and Transfer Station will be closed on the following holidays: Monday, January 18 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, February 15 - Presidents' Day and Friday, April 2 - Good Friday.

## ***Nathan Hale-Ray High School Project Graduation 2010***

### **RAFFLE**

Project Grad is currently holding a \$5 raffle to benefit the all-night graduation party for the Class of 2010. First prize is a trip to Block Island valued at \$1,200.00. The drawing will take place February 4, 2010. For a complete list of prizes please visit our web site at: [www.nhrhsprojectgrad.com](http://www.nhrhsprojectgrad.com)

### **SURF 'N TURF DINNER**

The annual surf 'n turf dinner will be held March 27. Tickets will be \$25 and available in advance. Please check our web site in early March for more details.

### **LITTLE CAESAR PIZZA SALE**

Due to popular demand, we will be once again running our pizza sale beginning March 22. More information will be available on our web site in March.

# Events

## MAGAZINES

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 EAST HADDAM TOWN HALL  
 7 Main Street, P.O. Box K  
 East Haddam, CT 06423

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## 5k Road Race

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## East Haddam Preschool

The East Haddam Preschool will be holding an open house on Tuesday, February 2 at 7 p.m. This will be an informal time to learn about our programs for 3- and 4-year-olds, our school, and our teaching philosophies; meet our teachers; and ask questions. We will also be taking registrations for the 2010-2011 school year. The preschool is located in a picturesque white house at 14 Plains Road in Moodus. For additional information, please call us at (860) 873-8250. Come Learn Under the Apple Tree with Us!

## Business Updates

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

Adduci's Bookkeeping Services provides full bookkeeping and accounting services to small and medium-sized businesses. Owner Elizabeth Adduci has over sixteen years of bookkeeping and financial management experience and expertise. Contact Elizabeth at 860-759-3747 to discuss the advantages of hiring a professional to take care of your bookkeeping system.

Village Spa announces its new owner, Susan Korpela. Same location in Moodus on the second floor in Lumberyard Plaza, same wonderful services and same phone number for appointments and information: 860-873-8156.

### Growing Businesses - Recent Expansions:

CT Farm Fresh Express ([www.ctffe.com](http://www.ctffe.com)) has recently moved into temporary space within the East Haddam Industrial Park as they move forward with their expansion plans.

Dutch Oil ([www.dutchoil.com](http://www.dutchoil.com)) has moved into their new location at 35 William F. Palmer Road.

Hillside Sweet Shoppe at 19 Main Street in East Haddam Village has added a Party Room for birthdays and more!

Payson LLC ([www.WhoIsTheOldGuy.com](http://www.WhoIsTheOldGuy.com)) has moved a few doors up the street to 32 Main Street (next to the East Haddam Post Office), giving more elbow room to their growing staff of web designers.

Root & Scholes Insurance Agency is now located in the old Bank of America building at 40 Main Street.

Please visit the EDC website, [www.easthaddam.net](http://www.easthaddam.net), for a complete East Haddam business directory. Also, check the calendar section for upcoming events. Contact the EDC at

*Continued on next page*

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info@easthaddam.net or P.O. Box K, East Haddam, to have your business listed here or to enter our drawing for a FREE ad in the next East Haddam Events Magazine.

#### SAVE THE DATES:

Economic Development Commission Events  
Business Night – January 29, 2010 – Grange Hall - 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Chowder Cookoff – March 20, 2010 – Patio of La Vita Gustosa - begins at 11:30 a.m.

- Deb Mathiasen and Patricia Stricker

## Fostering Appropriate Economic Development in East Haddam

The East Haddam Economic Development Commission (EHEDC), with the support of the Economic Development Coordinator, Melissa Ziobron, continues to meet objectives and set new goals to enhance the economic resources within our great town, consistent with East Haddam's historic character, quality of life, and natural environment. The commission consists of the following members: Robert Scherrer, Chairman; Deb Mathiasen, Joe Albuquerque, Patricia Stricker, Michael Gionta, Robert Casner, and Eric Sabetta. Each member works on various projects throughout the month and reports updates to the commission at our regularly scheduled meetings—on the first Thursday of every month, 7 p.m. at the River House. If any project requires action by any of the East Haddam commissions, Planning & Zoning, Inland Wetlands & Watercourses, or Historic District, the member with project responsibility makes sure that EHEDC is represented at these meetings in support of local or new businesses.

In addition to its special projects, the commission is proud of its past and ongoing efforts to promote and support tourism, small commercial businesses, and light industrial businesses. Accomplishments include ten years of a continually updated Tourism and Business website with free Business Directory [www.easthaddam.net](http://www.easthaddam.net); an annually updated Tourism Brochure; two Business Directory signboards; six Chowder Cook-off events; bi-annual Business Nights for local business owners; three years of Business Showcases during Project Safe Halloween; and ongoing support of merchant-organized special events. The addition of a part-time staff person has expanded the EHEDC's ability to impact key development projects and provide more effective support for local businesses; also see the Economic Development Coordinator article in this magazine. The coordinator and EHEDC commissioners also continue to be active in town, regional, and statewide advocacy for East Haddam business interests.

The Economic Development Commission is undertaking the following special projects for 2010 in addition to its regular agenda:

A tax-incentive program for new and expanding businesses in East Haddam is being considered. This program follows existing state guidelines but sets criteria specific to the

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## Town of East Haddam

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

### Administrative Office Building

Fax: (1st floor) 860-873-5042, (2nd floor) 860-873-5025  
Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,  
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m. to Noon

#### Selectman's Office

Mark B. Walter, First Selectman	860-873-5020	admin@easthaddam.org
Linda Zemienieski, Administrative Assistant		admin@easthaddam.org

#### Assessor's Office

Loreta Zdanys, Assessor	860-873-5026	assessor041@easthaddam.org
Patty Veselak, Administrative Assistant		

#### Building Department

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

#### Chatham Health District

Liz Davidson, Sanitarian	860-873-5101	health.district@easthaddam.org
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#### Finance Department

Cynthia Varricchio, Finance Administrator	860-873-5022	financeadmin@easthaddam.org
Dawn Snow, Administrative Assistant	860-873-5020	finance@easthaddam.org
Kathy Klinck, Treasurer	860-873-5022	

#### Land Use Offices

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

#### Tax Collector's Office

Denise Dill, Tax Collector	860-873-5033	taxcollector@easthaddam.org
Sharon Kuhn, Assistant Tax Collector		tax@easthaddam.org

#### Town Clerk's Office

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

#### Public Works Department

Fax: 860-873-6014

Town Garage - Hood Lane Hours: Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Transfer Station - Nichols Road Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
and Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Fred Thumm, Director of Public Works	860-873-5023	pwdirector@easthaddam.org
Richard Toolan, Road Foreman		roadforeman@easthaddam.org
Shirley Dill, Administrative Assistant		publicworks@easthaddam.org
Don MacKenzie, Transfer Station Foreman	860-873-5030	

#### Other Departments

Scott Brookes, Fire Marshal	860-873-5004	admin@easthaddam.org
Tiffany Quinn, Parks & Recreation Director	860-873-5058	parkandrec@snet.net
Karl Karabeinikoff, Animal Control Officer	860-873-5044	

#### Resident State Troopers

Jeff Rhoades & Steve Bellandese	860-873-1226	police@easthaddam.org
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#### Probate Court

Paul Buhl, Judge of Probate	860-873-5028	
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#### Registrars of Voters

Holly Cummings & Laurie Alt	860-873-5029	vr.easthaddam@po.state.ct.us
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#### Senior Services - 15 Great Hillwood Road

Joanne Rocznik, Municipal Agent	860-873-5034	seniors@easthaddam.org
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*Continued from page 5*

character of East Haddam. Commissioners are reviewing the costs/benefits of this tool and the implementation of such programs in other Connecticut communities. If successful, the EHEDC hopes to present a proposal to the town during the year.

The EHEDC continues to support the expansion of the operations of the Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam as a major economic engine for the town as a whole. The EHEDC will be working with various boards, commissions, and Goodspeed officials to determine if a mutually viable location is available for a second theatre located within the borders of our town.

A review of the existing infrastructure of the Moodus business center is a long-term project that the EHEDC will begin in 2010. After numerous components are evaluated, the commission will make recommendations to ensure future development and success of businesses in this district.

The EHEDC will continue to follow up with Department of Environmental Protection officials regarding the renewed operation of the state-owned former Sunrise Resort. Early in the year, the state plans to actively solicit operational partners for the campground and other related activities. The EHEDC would like to see recreational activity return to this local treasure.

Remember to shop local and enjoy all the history, art, and natural beauty that East Haddam has to offer.

### *From the Economic Development Coordinator*

The East Haddam Economic Development Coordinator is a part-time position that the East Haddam Economic Development Commission worked hard to establish during the 2007-2008 budget year. Since the inception of the job two years ago, I have served in this role. During this time, I have assisted numerous businesses located in East Haddam and outside the town with interest in locating here, with issues relating to permitting, marketing, locating available properties, facilitating town support, loan applications, and a variety of confidential issues.

Here are some examples of how this position allows for regular interaction and support for local business owners, many of whom are also residents, to benefit the town as a whole:

Bagels Plus, 25 Falls Rd., Moodus (previously operated in Colchester): met with the new owner and toured Moodus for a new location, introduced him to the old owner of the current site, and helped mediate purchase agreement.

Gingerbread Kids Daycare, 27 William F. Palmer Rd., Moodus (previously operated in Haddam): met with new owner and real estate agent over the course of several months to help navigate the purchase of their new building in Moodus. Assisted the new business with marketing support and attended several Planning and Zoning Commission meetings to support the project during the permitting stage.

CT Farm Fresh Express-[www.ctffe.com](http://www.ctffe.com): assisted in permit applications to allow the business to expand, while coordinating future funding assistance and grant application review

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*Continued from page 6*

for equipment needs. Attended Planning and Zoning and Historic District Commission meetings supporting this business and recently facilitated their move to a temporary home in East Haddam while their expansion project moves forward.

Goodspeed Musicals-[www.goodspeed.org](http://www.goodspeed.org): encouraged neighborhood outreach meetings during the permit application for the new actor housing, provided written and verbal testimony at numerous Historic District, Planning and Zoning, and Inland Wetland and Watercourse Commission meetings to support the project.

Industrial Park Expansion, Matthews Dr., East Haddam: reviewed plans for an additional building and attended several onsite and offsite Inland Wetland and Watercourse and Planning and Zoning Commission meetings to support the project.

Shagbark Lumber Company-[www.shagbarklumber.com](http://www.shagbarklumber.com): facilitated meetings with Fire Marshall, Building Inspector, and Land Use Departments to address outstanding permit issues. Resulted in a successful application, this passed unanimously at Zoning Board of Appeals.

East Haddam Transfer Station: helped to ensure that local haulers were represented during the process of installation of new scale.

Middlesex Chamber Revitalization Commission (MCRC): serving as the Town of East Haddam designee, I review loan applications for businesses throughout Middlesex County. Since my time on the MCRC, one East Haddam business has received a \$50,000 loan and another's application for \$50,000 is currently being reviewed.

Midstate Regional Planning Agency (MRPA): serve as the Town's designee at monthly meetings to review area towns (including East Haddam) zoning and planning projects, while making sure East Haddam's needs or applications are supported. This agency is the conduit to which federal and state grant dollars are disbursed.

As the EDC Coordinator, I continue to work with business owners, future business owners, or others who are in need of assistance. Current projects that I am working on along with the East Haddam Economic Development Commission and First Selectman include consideration of an expansion of Village District zoning to include additional business opportunities, working with an entrepreneur interested in opening a brewery, consulting with a business owner on outstanding permit issues, drafting a tax-incentive program, evaluating Moodus infrastructure needs, supporting new bed and breakfast establishments, and reviewing business signage in and around the Industrial district (IG zone). Also, I continue to help a variety of businesses with social marketing, brochure layouts, advertising assistance, and other assistance as requested.

The East Haddam Economic Development Commission has a team of people available to help businesses navigate through the town permit process, advocate on their behalf before town commissions, and provide other business support. If you have an issue regarding opening or expanding a business in East Haddam, feel free to contact me.

- Melissa Ziobron  
[edevecoordinator@easthaddam.net](mailto:edevecoordinator@easthaddam.net)  
 Home office: 860-873-1153

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*Carnival!*

July 9 - Sept. 18

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## *East Haddam Garden Club News*

"Native Butterflies and Butterfly Gardening" will be the topic of a meeting of the East Haddam Garden Club on Wednesday, March 24, 2010, at 7 p.m. at the First Church of Christ Congregational, Town St., East Haddam.

The speaker will be Rose Hiskes, Diagnostician and Horticulturalist, Department of Entomology, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven.

This meeting is open to the public. There will be a brief garden club business meeting before the program. Refreshments will be served, and information about garden club membership will be available. Contact Betty Gross at (860) 873-8732 for more information.

### **EAST HADDAM GARDEN CLUB RECEIVES AWARD**

In October 2009, the East Haddam Garden Club was honored by the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut at their annual awards luncheon. The club received the Award of Excellence in the Historic, Memorial and Public Gardens category. The citation reads: "The East Haddam Garden Club has restored the Goodspeed Garden Triangle, which had been severely damaged after an automobile drove through it, damaging hardscape as well as plant material. The club will maintain the garden." The restoration effort was coordinated by club members Ginny Turner and Bonnie Zwernemann.

During the fall of 2009, club members planted more than 200 spring-flowering bulbs at the green. There should be a splendid display of color.

The club hopes residents and visitors have enjoyed the club's holiday decorations at the restored Goodspeed Green and at the Shagbark Triangle. Club members create these annual displays.

The club's annual plant sale will be Saturday, May 29, 2010, at the East Haddam Historical Society.

## *Moodus Sportsmen's Club Calendar*

Ice Fishing Derby – January 31 - Pre Registration required. If there is no ice on the 31st the Derby will be postponed until February 7th

Earth Day Clean Up - April 3 - See following notice.

## *Town-Wide Clean-Up Day An Earth Day Celebration: April 3*

The Moodus Sportsmen's Club and the East Haddam Scout Troops are sponsoring an Annual Town-Wide Clean-Up Day to be held on Saturday, April 3. The goal is to coordinate an effort to clean up the streets, lakes, streams, and other public access areas in the Town of East Haddam.

If you wish to join this effort, meet us at 8 a.m. at the East Haddam Town Hall on Town Street, or begin working on your street at whatever time is best for you. The Transfer Station will be open to accept trash from this project.

*Continued on next page*

All participants are invited to a picnic at the Moodus Sportsmen's Club starting at 1 p.m. Traditional picnic items such as hot dogs, hamburgers, potato salad, baked beans, coffee, and soda will be served along with the seasonal bounty only a sportsmen's club could serve. At this time we will inventory the items collected and discuss solutions to reduce pollution, trash, and other problems. If you or anyone in your family or an affiliated group is interested in participating, please call Jim Ventres at 873-5031 (the cooks need to know how much food to prepare). Please remember that any work along the streets requires adult supervision and that all volunteers should wear bright colors. Please join in this community effort to keep our landscape clean.

***East Haddam Green Committee  
Presents Suburbia:  
The Good Life in Connecticut?***

Connecticut is one of the most highly suburbanized states in the country. The suburbs have long been where we want to be, but at what price?

Suburbia: The Good Life in Connecticut, a film by local Emmy-winning filmmaker and Green Committee chairman Ken Simon, reveals how our long-held suburban ideals and accompanying myths influence our views on community, privacy, education, safety, and the future of Connecticut's cities.

The program will be presented Sunday, January 31 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. at the Town Grange, 488 Town Street, East Haddam. Admission is free.

The film was originally broadcast on CPTV as part of the award-winning Connecticut Experience series, a co-production of CPTV and Connecticut Humanities Council.

**Green Committee Collaborates with Nathan Hale Ray  
High School in Art Contest**

This fall the committee invited local high-school students to compete in an art contest with an environmental theme. The winning artwork will be featured on reusable bags purchased by the Green Committee with funding provided by a grant from the New England Grassroots Environment Fund (NEGEF). The contest, which had a December 22 deadline, provided a great opportunity for all to increase their environmental awareness.

The Green Committee would like to thank all participants, and particularly Jackie Fastaia for her tremendous help facilitating the contest.

Look out for our reusable bags! They will be available for purchase soon. Using a reusable bag helps eliminate the need for about 1,000 plastic bags over its lifetime. Get into the Reusable Bag Habit!

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**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- 01/16/10 - July in January Grill Event**
  - Come down for Food, Fun & Sales
- 02/16/10 - Contractor Paver Seminar**
  - Contact Ted for more information

## What Is A Lion?

### Did you know there are two Lions Clubs in East Haddam?

We have the same goals: to recognize and treat eye disease and diabetes in our community and worldwide, to support many nationally recognized foundations, and to focus on the needs of our friends and neighbors in East Haddam. Our mission is the same, and the East Haddam Community Lions invite you to participate in all of our FUNdraising activities!

Each June when the new Board of Directors is installed, we hit the ground running to plan for the coming year. Preparations begin for our Ice Cream Social in August, Eye Fund Drive in September, and annual Fashion Show and Military Whist in October. In November we prepare for the "Light Up The Holidays" silent auction and reception held at the Rathbun Library in mid-December. We also prepare for our largest fund-raiser and community activity, the 5K/10M April Fools Road Race. In 2009, we registered over 200 runners - our largest ever! We end the fund-raising year with our Tea Party in May. In between all these larger activities we participate in a Lions District 23C (the eastern half of the state!) Sight Saver Day collection in April, Journey for Sight Walk-A-Thon in May, and assist other Lions Clubs and civic organizations throughout the year. Each year we promote the Peace Poster Contest in our middle school for students age 11-13. Students this year were encouraged to create a drawing with the theme "The Power of Peace." This year's

winner is as follows: 1st Place, Austin Carey; 2nd Place, Johann Bettencourt and 3rd Place Walker Perrault. A poster chosen from East Haddam is entered in the district, state, national, and worldwide contests. In past years we have had several state winners! The worldwide winning poster will be made into note cards sold by Lions International.

Locally, several people were screened for eye disease and diabetes at a recent Lion-sponsored Health Fair. They were referred to their physicians and are now in treatment. We have the tools to help people who are reading handicapped; who may be blind; who cannot turn the pages; who may need a magnifying device; or whose insurance won't cover that badly needed pair of glasses.

Last year we raised \$8,500 for the East Haddam Fuel Bank, Food Bank, Youth and Family Services, Project Graduation, our two libraries, Project Safe Halloween, Little League, Soccer League, Senior Center, Music on the River, and two scholarships for graduating seniors. We also help those in our community who may be facing a hardship and need some assistance to get through a crisis. Several of our members help staff the Food Bank, have been trained for East Haddam's Emergency Management Team, deliver Meals on Wheels, and much more.

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

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

All funds raised by the East Haddam Community Lions are returned to the community through service projects, through direct donation to community organizations, and to foundations supported by Lions International.

For more information, or to become involved with the East Haddam Community Lions Club, please contact President Linda Lucas at 860-873-9163 or visit our website at [www.easthaddamcommunitylions.com](http://www.easthaddamcommunitylions.com) for a list of all our activities, photos and email contact.

***We are the East Haddam  
Community Lions ... Hear us ROAR!***

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**Premiere Issue Coming Winter 2010**

**MADISON**  
This area, formerly part of Guilford and known as East Guilford, was first settled about 1650 on land bought from the Indians and set aside for the Indians. The population increased rapidly and in 1700 the Society of East Guilford was incorporated. In 1702, the Society in North Madison, called North Bristol, in 1753. The Town of Madison, named for President James Madison, was incorporated in 1820. This was once a center for fishing, shipping, shipbuilding, trading, and iron manufacturing. Famous people born here included Thomas Clapton, first Governor of Vermont, publisher Daniel French, artist Gilbert Sargent, and chief sponsor of the C&D RR. Prominent residents: Mosier, Corbridge, Jackson, Rockwell.

## *East Haddam Welcomes New and Incumbent Elected Officials*

Several new faces joined some already familiar names in the town government after the November 3 elections. Mark Walter was reelected as First Selectman; also reelected to the Board of Selectmen were Emmett Lyman for his second term and Pete Govert back for a fourth term. These three will be principally responsible for overseeing the affairs of town government and administration of its budget.

Deb Denette retained her position as Town Clerk; so did Kathy Klinck as Treasurer. Newcomer Denise Dill has assumed the duties of Tax Collector. Ed Schwenzfeier will join returning members Bob Bennett and Paul Maxwell on the

Board of Finance. Nancy Haslam was returned to the Board of Education, where she will join Brian Pear, Susan Taylor, and Amy Apostoleris.

Michael Gross returns to the Board of Assessment Appeals. New member Beth Lunt and returning members Cray Brownell and Bernie Gillis will take their places on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The Town of East Haddam recognizes the service and dedication of all its citizens who put themselves forward for the demanding work of public office in our community.

## *East Haddam Receives Award for Salt Storage Building*

The Town of East Haddam has been honored by the Connecticut Transportation Institute Technology Transfer Center with its 2009 Connecticut Creative Solutions Award Honorable Mention.

East Haddam received this award for a Context Sensitive Covered Storage Shed that will be used for storing sand and salt at the Early Road winter storm operations site. This site is a satellite storage location that minimizes the time required to refill trucks that serve the roads in the eastern part of town. Prior to this project, sand/salt mix was stored in an uncovered pile on the Early Road site. In order to keep the material dry and to mitigate environmental impacts, the decision was made to build a covered storage facility. Modular or pre-fabricated buildings were rejected in the interest of a less costly

structure that fits into its natural setting; thus the concept of a "Context Sensitive Design." Through a competitive bidding process, local building contractor JPN Construction of Moodus was awarded a contract to build a performance-based structure satisfying design requirements defined by the Town's Public Works Director and Building Official. The town highway crew built the foundation and did all site work and paving, further keeping project costs to a minimum. The result is a cost-effective design that is both functional and aesthetically pleasing to look at. Taxpayers can be proud of our award and our new building.



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## Update on the Middle School Conversion Project

The committee (MSCC) has been quite active as we head closer to a referendum on converting the former middle school to a town office complex. Since receiving approval to expend Phase II funding at a town meeting in October 2009, we have been meeting with the architect to develop plans that will be used to solicit actual bids (instead of using conceptual plans and estimated project costs to go to referendum) and continue to modify those plans to reduce potential costs.

Each of our subcommittees has been working hard on a variety of projects:

Grant and Legal Subcommittee, under the leadership of Sharon Wheeler, has presented on RFQ for a construction manager and researched different grant opportunities, including adding the building to the historic registry.

Facilities Committee has toured the complex numerous times and with the assistance of our building inspector and architects has sought code modifications to the State of Connecticut to reduce costs and use existing materials.

Public Relations Committee hosted an informational booth during Election Day from 6 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Space Needs Committee have allocated additional space for the Ambulance Association and met with the architects to fine-tune the layouts. Also, under the leadership of Patty Stricker, have inventoried remaining property, allowed town

nonprofit organizations to view and arrange pickup of left-over items (not including those which will be re-used by the town) and are going through the process of liquidating what remains.

We will continue to evaluate the design process and hope to be able to bring this project to the Board of Selectmen sometime during the Spring of 2010.

We regrettably received a member resignation from Dick Everett. Ed Blaschik was moved up to regular member status and we welcomed new alternate member David Nelson.

We meet on the second and fourth Monday of each month in the Town Office Annex. All agendas and minutes are posted on our website [www.ehmscc.com](http://www.ehmscc.com). We value your input and encourage you to attend meetings, follow the process on our website, or call Chairman Maryjane Malavasi at 873-0707.

## Middle School Art Exhibit

Beginning January 6, the Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School Art Department and East Haddam Free Public Library are having formal art opening receptions the first Wednesday of each month, from 6 - 7 p.m. throughout May 2010. The library sponsors the events, with the fabulous support of Michael Gilroy, Library Director, in conjunction with Miss Mazzotta, the middle school art teacher. You will be amazed with the students' talents at 18 Plains Road, Moodus. The art stays on exhibit throughout the month. Family, friends, and members of the community can meet the artists with their art, enjoy refreshments, and sign in messages to the artists in the guest book. January will be highlighting Ceramic Piggy Banks and Expressionistic Sun Paintings as a social protest art to global warming by seventh graders. For details please call (860) 873-5081 (school) or (860) 873-8248 (library).





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## Protecting Your Pets

Our Pets are an important part of our family, and we need to have a disaster plan for them like we do any other family member. During a large-scale emergency, you may be without power, the ability to get pet supplies, or be required to evacuate your home. As part of your planning you should have a Pet Kit that includes the necessary items to keep your pet safe and healthy during the emergency. You should NEVER leave your pets at your home if you are required to evacuate for an extended period of time.

East Haddam Emergency Management is developing plans to assist you with the sheltering of your Domestic Pets should you need to evacuate your home. Other than Service Animals, pets can not be sheltered in the same area as people. A separate shelter will be designated within the town for pets. For pets to be eligible to be sheltered, they must be current on all of their required vaccinations.

To assist us in this preparation we would ask that you create a pet kit with the following items for each of your pets.

### Items to consider keeping in or near your pack include:

- A crate or carrier for each animal.
- Pet first-aid kit and guide book
- 3-7 days' worth of canned (pop-top) or dry food (be sure to rotate every two months)
- Pet feeding dishes
- Photocopies of medical records and proof of vaccination
- Two-week supply of any medicine your pet requires (be sure to rotate every two months)
- Blanket or bedding for crate and cages
- Recent photos of your pets (in case you are separated and need to make "Lost" posters)
- Toys
- Cats: Litter tray and scoopable litter
- Dogs: Extra leash, long line and yard stake

For additional information on Pet Disaster Preparation you can visit the following websites:

[www.aspca.org/pet-care/disaster-preparedness](http://www.aspca.org/pet-care/disaster-preparedness)

[www.fema.gov/plan/prepare/animals.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/prepare/animals.shtm),

[www.ready.gov/america/getakit/pets.html](http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/pets.html)

or contact your local vet.

Anyone interested in assisting with pet sheltering or if you have any pet supplies (cages, crates, leashes, etc.) that you would like to donate, please contact Craig Mansfield at 860-873-5103.



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## *Economic Development in Moodus*

Moodus's earliest businessmen were shoemakers, tanners, farmers, fishermen, woodworkers, and blacksmiths, followed by millers and sawyers using the power of the Moodus River. When Asa Smith built the Granite Twine Mill in 1815, eleven families lived in Moodus. Change came quickly as Edward Brownell, Stanton Card, Emory Johnson, and others built mills along the river, producing cotton twine for fishing and home use.



*Emory Johnson (1817-1896) created Johnsonville - two mills, worker and owner housing, and a lending library for mill workers - in the late 1860s. The only owner to have surplus cotton during the Civil War, he made "lucrative transactions" and used the profit to build the Victorian home still standing across from the millpond.*



*This 1907 view of Johnsonville shows the Neptune Twine Mill, which employed thirty-five workers and processed 7,000 pounds of raw cotton each week.*

*Its timber dam was the largest one in the state, and the brick "picker" room at the rear cleaned the cotton, whose flammable dust was a threat to the wooden mill. Struck by lightning, the mill burned in 1971.*

Moodus joined the national and international scene; exporting cotton and agricultural products and importing molasses, chemicals, spices, glass, and finished goods. Capital development meant business expansion, more jobs, more people. The demand for services brought stores, bankers, doctors, lawyers, and mechanics.



*In the early 1900s, Moodus Center had Purple & Silliman's store, a hotel, residences, and a fountain for watering horses. This view looks east on Rt. 149. The Civil War monument is off to the right and the hotel is in the distance on the right.*

Because of the regular steamboat stops in East Haddam, whatever was sold in New York, Hartford, or Boston was available in Moodus. The 1870's influx of Central European immigrants energized the dairy and egg farms, and later many of these became the famed Moodus resorts.

Moodus Center, looking much like what remains in Chester, suffered a disastrous fire in the early 1900s. Rebuilt, the town's business district lasted until redevelopment in the 1960s created Nathan Hale Plaza.

The businesses of today - the market, the restaurants, the medical and legal professionals, the pharmacy, the barbers, the bank, the fuel dealers, the tradesmen, etc. - are mirror images of ones that have always been part of Moodus life. The difference is that now they act locally but think globally.



*One of the more than fifty vacation resorts, Donnellon's Riveredge featured dancing, eating, swimming, and canoeing and helped make Moodus "The Catskills of Connecticut." The waterfront beach is on the Salmon River.*

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## Goodspeed Housing Project



Goodspeed Opera House draws more than 100,000 people a year to our scenic East Haddam Village, set on the banks of the Connecticut River. Beyond the Opera House, Goodspeed holds title to 17 additional properties, including nine Victorian-era residences that provide temporary housing for the actors, directors, and technical staff members who put on the productions.

“Thirty years ago, we wanted to build our own housing,” said Michael P. Price, who has been Goodspeed’s executive director since 1968. “At that time, the town wasn’t ready to let us do that. So we kept buying houses, at \$100,000 apiece, which didn’t make the town happy.”

The East Haddam Village Revitalization Commission has recently drawn up concept plans for the village. Key to the design will be the momentum Goodspeed has created with their new actor village. Goodspeed is about to start production on seventeen homes throughout the village. In return, the theater company will relinquish five of the houses it owns, so that they can be incorporated into village revitalization plans.

“Freeing up buildings in the heart of the village is a key starting point for a redevelopment effort that envisions more shops, restaurants and residences near the theater,” said Mark

Walter, the town’s First Selectman.

Goodspeed produces at least three musical revivals a year at the opera house, and also develops new musicals at its Norma Terris Theatre in nearby Chester. (Nineteen Goodspeed productions have gone on to Broadway in its forty-six years of operation.)

The centerpiece of Goodspeed’s new housing project is a crescent-shaped array of seven homes around a green. A short walk from the Opera House on land currently used for parking, the buildings will be old New England in style with front porches and clapboard siding. Each house will have three to six bedrooms, with shared kitchen and living areas. All will be heated and cooled with geothermal systems. The ten remaining houses will be built on three separate sites, including a hillside above Goodspeed’s rehearsal studio. Removed from the theater campus, housing there will be reserved for leading actors.

The estimated cost of the project is \$5.5 million, \$2.5 million of it to be financed by a grant from the state Department of Economic and Community Development. Goodspeed will rely on fundraising for the rest, and is already about halfway there, Mr. McMahan said.

In a sign of the times, Goodspeed has received fifty-five bids for the project, about five times as many as expected. The company hopes to choose a developer and begin work within a month.

The five older houses will most likely go on the market in the spring. True progress on the revitalization plan, however, hinges on the relocation of town offices from the village to a vacated middle school. Mr. Walter couldn’t predict when that might happen; “the economy’s not cooperating at the moment,” he noted.

Regardless, Mr. Price is confident that the theater has turned a corner in relations with the town; “We are a part of the community.”

## Ray FFA Sends Members to the 82nd National FFA Convention

This past October, ten FFA members went to Indianapolis, Indiana to attend the 82nd National FFA Convention. Alex Lemire, Eddie Vidou, Tyler Jacobs, and Dream Shrader represented Connecticut by competing in the Food Science Career Development Event. Hannah Palmer, Ashley Borenski, Kaligh Hargrave, Robbie Johnson, Jared Gruetter, and Lauren Manuel acted as Ray Chapter delegates. Advisor Mrs. Matthewson and parent Mrs. Vidou chaperoned the students. Students had opportunities to attend leadership workshops and the career show, where they visited with many agricultural college and industry representatives. Students met with Ford, Carhartt, Kraft, Dupont, and many other agricultural companies. At the opening business session of the convention, the students heard remarks from Mike Rowe from Discovery’s “Dirty Jobs.” Mike talked about his experiences in his show and brought words of wisdom and encouragement

from his own life. The Ray FFA would like to extend our gratitude to the Friends of Ray FFA for sponsoring our registration fees, airport parking fee, and the shuttle bus fees. The support made it possible for the students to have this valuable experience!



Left to Right:

FFA Advisor Mrs. Cheryl Matthewson, Tyler Jacobs, Eddie Vidou, Alex Lemire, Dream Shrader

## East Haddam Historical Society



*Amos W. Shepard, 1916-2009, eminent antiquarian, philanthropist, and citizen*

The East Haddam Historical Society is open by appointment until Memorial Day. Please call (860) 873-3944 to schedule a visit to this Lower Connecticut River Valley gem. The 7000 square foot, nine-room facility, packed with photographs, artwork, artifacts, and displays, is available for rental to community groups for a donation. This includes a generous parking lot, a kitchen, and tables and chairs, as well as guided tours.

The museum needs additional volunteers of all ages. Opportunities include cataloging, photographing, painting, polishing, and display reorganizing. Several hours or many; all are appreciated. Please drive by and notice the exterior renovations underway. Changes are happening inside, too.

"Famous Artists Visit EHHS" is something new this winter season. Edgar Degas, Paul Gauguin, Francisco Goya, Michelangelo, and others will appear in slide lectures led by Museum President Charlie Farrow. Call (860) 873-3944 for details.

The Historical Society mourns the passing of one of our most illustrious members, Amos W. Shepard, this past fall. He was an eminent antiquarian, philanthropist, and good citizen. In town he volunteered for Planning and Zoning, the Good-speed Opera House Foundation, the Land Trust, the Rathbun Library, and the Historical Society. In his eulogy, the Society's Executive Director, Robert Cumming, said, "Amos left our town a more honorable, beautiful, and dignified place than he found it."

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on the right-hand side of the page, or simply give us a call at (860) 873-8248.

Don't have a library card? Why wait? You don't want to miss all the exciting events planned for 2010. Book clubs, dinner parties, art shows, drawings, video game tournaments, and free movie nights are just around the corner. Make your New Year's Resolution to be an active member of the library community!

### New Library Director

The Board of Directors would like to introduce Michael Gilroy as our new library director. Michael grew up in Port Jefferson, Long Island. He received his MLS from Drexel University, with his undergraduate work completed at Manhattanville College in Westchester County, New York. He has had experience in the libraries of Shelton, Connecticut and Terryville, New York.

As a new resident of Moodus, he is enjoying the town's sense of community and looks forward to making the East Haddam Free Public Library even more accessible to residents of all ages. He is enjoying working with the library's new catalog system and steering this library further into the digital age.

Library hours are Monday & Wednesday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Please stop by and welcome our new library director, Michael Gilroy.



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## Clean Energy Task Force

The East Haddam Clean Energy Task Force is an informal committee made up of town officials, Green Committee members, and residents working to achieve a goal of 20 percent clean energy by 2010.

This goal is part of the town's participation in the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund's Clean Communities / 20% by 2010 program.

As participants in the program, East Haddam has committed to shift a portion of its electricity use to clean energy. The task force is assembled to investigate the best means of achieving this commitment while saving money.

Volunteers to serve on this committee are welcome.

The task force will also be working to raise awareness throughout East Haddam about the benefits of signing up for clean energy and ways to save money in the process. They also welcome the participation of groups interested in fund-raising opportunities associated with clean energy sign-up drives and outreach.

Contact Selectman Pete Govert  
at (860) 873-9714

or Mike Harris at (860) 873-8989  
for more information.

# East Haddam Newcomers' Guide

## WELCOME TO OUR TOWN!

On behalf of *Events Magazines*, welcome to East Haddam. Whether you are new to Connecticut or just to East Haddam, you will find wonderful people and places to visit in town. Below are important phone numbers. Please tear out this page and keep it for future reference.

*Events Magazines* and *Essex Printing* support local businesses.

Please use this guide and "Buy Local" - we do!

### BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

#### CHURCHES

Church on the Move .....873-1187  
 First Church of Christ Congregational.....873-9084  
 Hadlyme Congregational Church.....526-9628  
 St. Bridget's of Kildare .....873-8623  
 St. Stephen's Episcopal .....873-9547  
 Moodus United Methodist.....873-8491

#### CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion .....873-8042  
 Boy Scout Troop 22 .....873-1098  
 Cub Scouts Pack #28 .....873-1872  
 East Haddam Ambulance Assoc.....860-790-0575  
 East Haddam Democratic Town Committee ..873-3787  
 East Haddam Education Foundation  
 .....www.eheducationfoundation.org  
 East Haddam Garden Club .....873-8732  
 East Haddam Lakes Association .....860-537-6070  
 East Haddam Republican Town Committee....873-9240  
 Friends of Gillette Castle State Park  
 .....526-2336 (434-2603 Judy)  
 Friends of Rathbun Library.....873-8310  
 Friends of East Haddam Public Library.....873-8248  
 Hadlyme North School Society  
 .....P.O. Box 328 Hadlyme CT 06439  
 Middlesex County Community Foundation ....347-0025  
 Moodus Fife & Drum.....873-8837  
 Rotary Club of East Haddam .....873-2284  
 St. Bridget's of Kildare Knights of Columbus  
 Council 9358 .....873-9663

#### EAST HADDAM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

www.easthaddam.net

#### CONSUMER PROTECTION.....860-566-2294

#### CT STATE LEGISLATORS

Linda Orange .....860-537 3936  
 Eileen Daily .....860-399-7342  
 East Haddam Senior Center.....873-5034  
 Youth and Family Services .....873-3296

#### SCHOOLS

East Haddam Elementary.....873-5076  
 Nathan Hale-Ray High School .....873-5065  
 Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School .....873-5081  
 Superintendent .....873-5090

#### MUSEUMS & ATTRACTIONS

East Haddam Historical Society .....873-3944  
 Nathan Hale School House .....873-3399  
 Amasa Day House .....873-8144

#### PARKS

Devil's Hopyard State Park .....873-8566  
 Gillette Castle State Park .....526-2366

#### POST OFFICES

East Haddam .....873-8521  
 Moodus.....873-8632  
 Hadlyme .....526-6088

#### ARCHITECT

Fellner Associates Architects .....860-345-7558

#### ADULT DAY SERVICES

Chestelm Adult Day Services Inc.  
 .....860-873-3833

#### ATTORNEYS

Polito & Quinn, LLC .....860-447-3300  
 Peter Charbonnier.....860-526-1780

#### AUTO / REPAIR AND SALES

Carriage House .....860-873-0006

#### BANKING

Essex Savings Bank .....860-767-4300  
 Liberty Bank .....860-873-2265

#### CHILDCARE

Little Noises Daycare & Preschool  
 .....860-873-9848

#### COMPUTER SERVICES

Enterprise Computer.....860-664-3730

#### CONSIGNMENT STORES

Haddam Family Consignment ....860-345-2895

#### DENTIST

Higganum Dental Associates .....860-345-4538

#### EXERCISE & PHYSICAL FITNESS

Banner Total Fitness Center.....860-615-4050  
 East Haddam Bootcamp Fitness  
 .....773-343-4355

#### GARDEN CENTER

Ballek's Garden Center .....860-873-8878

#### GENERAL CONTRACTOR

R.A. Parady & Sons .....860-873-8687

#### FARM SUPPLIES & HARDWARE

Shagbark.....860-873-1946

#### HEALTH CARE CENTERS

Middlesex Health Care Center.....860-344-0353

#### OIL COMPANY

Moroni & Son .....860-388-2298

#### PACKAGE STORES

Hayden Wine & Spirits .....860-873-9822  
 Moodus Package Store .....860-873-8577

#### PAINT SUPPLIES

The Paint Shop .....860-388-2345

#### PODIATRY

Center for Podiatry .....860-345-7996

#### PLUMBER

In-A-Jam Plumbing .....203-675-2129

#### PRINTING SERVICES

Essex Printing .....860-767-9087

#### REAL ESTATE

Century 21 Root Agency.....860-873-8619  
 Dee Hasuly, Prudential  
 .....800-890-9904 ext. 556  
 William Raveis Jodi Lisitano .....860-344-1658

#### RECORDING STUDIO

Riverway Studio .....860-873-3404

#### SALON

New Image Hair Salon .....860-873-3494

#### RESTAURANTS

Gelston House .....860-873-1411  
 La Vita Gustosa .....860-873-8999

#### RIVER CRUISES

Riverquest.....860-662-0577

#### SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

Saybrook at Haddam .....860 345 3779

#### Specialty Printing

Paper Marche .....860 916-9824

#### THEATRES

Goodspeed Musicals.....860-873-8668  
 Madison Art Cinemas .....203 245-FILM

#### TREE SERVICES

Bombaci Tree Experts .....860-767-1752

**Want to be listed on the Newcomers' page?  
 Call Susan Scott at 860-227-1022**

## *Goodspeed Opera House - A Brief History*

### *From the Goodspeed Archives*

The Goodspeed Opera House is a living historic landmark with a story as interesting as those played out on its stage. It all began with a man and his dream. William H. Goodspeed was born in 1816, a descendant of some of the earliest settlers of the area. His father owned the local



general store, but he was more ambitious. He eventually owned, founded, or operated the local bank, the river ferry, the railroad line, a steamboat line, the hotel, a shipyard, and, of course, the Opera House. His river ferry was the only regular link with the west bank of the Connecticut River until the East Haddam Bridge opened in 1913.

Early in 1876, William Goodspeed began to build the Opera House on the site of his father's store, more out of competition with the rival Upper Landing than his love for theatre. The project took eighteen months. Local materials and local workmen were used. Lumber was cut from the woods nearby and stone was quarried along the banks of the river. The completed edifice was an ornate building in keeping with the times. It was and still is the tallest wooden structure for 400 miles along the Connecticut River. It rises six stories on the river side and four above the street. The basement level on the river side provided space for passenger and freight services of the river steamers. The original bar was located there to quench the thirst and lift the spirits of the disembarking passengers. The street level was used for commercial purposes. A general store sold everything from food, clothing, and farm implements to imported French perfumes, fabrics, and lace. The porch was the most popular meeting place in town. On the second floor were several business offices and the actors' dressing rooms. As today, the top two floors were the theatre itself.



William Goodspeed died in 1882 and the Opera House began a slow process of decline. His steamship company and the Opera House were taken over by the Hartford & New York Transportation Company and by 1920, the theatre ceased to operate. By the 1930s the building was used only as a warehouse, and it was sold to the State of Connecticut for \$4,000 in

1943. Highway trucks and equipment were stored on the street level. By 1952, the state began to consider demolishing the structure and building a parking garage. Two concerned women, Mrs. Paul (Libby) Kaye and Mrs. Alfred Howe Terry wrote to Governor Ribicoff. He favored saving the Goodspeed providing that responsible backing could be found. A rally was held in May of 1958 at the Rathbun Library and petitions were signed. Governor Ribicoff personally stayed the demolition. Ultimately, the legislature authorized the preservation, sold it to the Goodspeed Opera House Foundation for \$1.00, and added a new roof and coat of paint. The restoration was a long and painful one under the direction of Frederick Palmer, the architect, and the supervision of Mrs. Terry. The Opera House reopened on June 18, 1963 with the Jerome Kern musical *Oh Lady, Lady*.

Today the opera house serves as Goodspeed Musicals' headquarters and primary performance venue, producing three musicals each season between April and December. A nonprofit organization, Goodspeed Musicals pioneered the practice of rethinking, restoring, and revitalizing America's Musical theatre heritage and is widely acclaimed as the Home of the American Musical. Nineteen Goodspeed productions have gone on to Broadway, including the premiers of *Annie*, *Shenandoah*, and *Man of La Mancha*. Goodspeed itself has received two Special Tony Awards, one in 1980 for outstanding contribution to the American musical and the second in 1995 for outstanding achievement for a regional theatre.

Goodspeed's 2010 season begins with *Annie Get Your Gun* (April 16 - June 27), followed by *Carnival!* (July 9 - September 18) and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (September 24 - November 28.)

*For more information about Goodspeed's upcoming season, please visit [Goodspeed.org](http://Goodspeed.org) or call 860-873-8668.*



## News from Ray of Light Farm

Like many other businesses, we've felt the pinch of today's economy. A heartfelt thanks to the patrons, sponsors, local businesses, and visitors who continue to support us; we would not have survived 2009 without your help.



November marked the third year of rescuing Premarin horses slated for slaughter. Their arrival was made more remarkable by the arrival of Anna Twinney. An internationally respected Natural Horsemanship Clinician and Trainer, Animal Communicator, and Reiki Master, she travels the world teaching the art of creating a trust-based partnership between Humans, Horses and all Animal Companions.

Anna conducted a 5-day Gentling Clinic with several of these "untouched" horses whose only experience with humans involved being herded and removed from their original destination. Anna worked with them to promote their acceptance of grooming, being led, blanketed, and loaded for transportation. Day 1 marked the foals' journey from paddock to indoor ring; Day 5 featured a graduation ceremony and the adoption of one lucky foal (see photo - Little Beau) by Connecticut resident Karen Fowler. The goal was to prepare the rescues for adoption into loving homes; the end result is a 2-3 disk DVD series slated for distribution in 24 countries.

Ray of Light Farm's founder, Bonnie Buongiorno, was honored by the opportunity: "Our mission is to bridge the gap between people and animals. It's a great match. We're lucky to have her - so are the horses." Visit Ray of Light Farm Rescues! 232 Town Street, East Haddam, CT 860-873-1895 [www.rayoflightfarm.org](http://www.rayoflightfarm.org) 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Closed Wednesdays.

## Friends of Rathbun Library News

Thank you to all who have generously given to the annual Rathbun Library Council/Friends Fund drive!

The Friends are finalizing the production of the book *EAST HADDAM ARTISTS* in which the work of thirty-two creative residents of our town will be featured in color. A variety of disciplines will be represented including sculpture, oil and watercolor, photography, ceramics, and conceptual art. The books will be available in April 2010, coinciding with the 75th anniversary of the Rathbun Library. Priced at around \$25, proceeds will help fund various library activities.

The Friends' annual plant sale will be Saturday, May 22. Please think of us if you are starting flower or vegetable seedlings this winter. We will gladly accept your donated extras! This sale always features special plants from East Haddam gardeners!

Details about the summer Farmers' Market and "Fridays at 5:30" series of author speakers will be published in the spring.



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## *From the Assessor*

The October 1, 2009 Grand List of all real and personal property is anticipated to be certified on January 31, 2010. Assessment notices will be mailed for all personal property and only real estate that had increases due to improvements on the property. Any persons who wish to appeal their assessment may appeal to the Board of Assessment Appeals in March, 2010. Requests to the board are due by February 20, 2010. Written requests should include the property owner's name, name and address of the person appealing the assessment, type of property being appealed (real estate or personal property), reason for the appeal, and opinion of value. Although any written request is accepted, forms are available at the East Haddam web site: [www.easthaddam.org](http://www.easthaddam.org). The mailing address for the Board of Assessment Appeals is P.O. Box 623, Moodus, CT 06469.

The assessor's office will begin taking applications for the Homeowners Credit Program and Additional Veterans Benefits on February 1, 2010. To qualify, total income must not exceed \$32,300 for a single person, and \$39,500 for a couple (joint income), including Social Security and Medicare. The deadline for applications is May 14, 2010. Applications

for the Homeowners' Local Option Program (new last year) will be accepted from February 1 until May 14, 2010. The age and proof of income requirements are the same as for the state programs, but the income limit is \$50,000 per household.

Disabled veterans must submit proof of disability by March 31, 2009 to receive exemption benefits. Qualifying income for Additional Veterans Benefits is the same as the Elderly and Totally Disabled Tax Relief Program.

Applications for the Additional Veterans Benefits will be accepted until October 1, 2010.

Any person or entity starting a new business in town should notify the assessor's office so that we can send a personal property declaration in the fall. Personal property assessments are based on the declarant's filing. These assessments can be appealed to the Board of Assessment Appeals in March 2010. Please note that recent legislation has raised the assessment limit for appealing to the board from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000. Assessment appeals over \$1,000,000 will be tried in the Superior Court.

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

## *Tax Collector*

After twenty-four years and twelve terms as Tax Collector, Janet Tucker retired as of November 3, 2009. The town has benefitted from her dedication and we wish her the very best in all her future endeavors. New Tax Collector Denise Dill started her first two-year term on November 4, 2009. Denise and her husband, Erik, have two children: Nick is fifteen and a sophomore at Xavier High School and Alyssa is twelve and is a seventh-grade student at Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School. The Dills live on a family-run, 300-acre farm dedicated to Farmland Preservation through the State of Connecticut.

Motor Vehicle Supplemental tax bills on the 2008 Grand List were mailed out in December. The bills are for new or used vehicles that were purchased after October 1, 2008 but prior to August 1, 2009. All supplemental bills are due in one payment in the month of January 2010.

Also due on January 1, 2010 is the second installment of Real Estate and Personal Property tax bills that were mailed out in July 2009. No second bill will be sent on these accounts. If you are a new owner of real estate property and need a copy of your tax bill, please contact the Tax Office. The Tax Collector can be reached at (860) 873-5033 or by email at [tax@easthaddam.org](mailto:tax@easthaddam.org).

The Tax Office is for the collection of taxes only. Questions regarding the assessment of a vehicle or if the vehicle being taxed was sold, destroyed or moved out of

state, please contact the Assessor at (860) 873-5026 or by email at [assessor041@easthaddam.org](mailto:assessor041@easthaddam.org). The Assessor will require two forms of proof to prorate or remove a tax bill. One proof needed is a plate receipt from the Motor Vehicle Department.

Tax payments may be made in person or by mail. There is a secure Lock Box in the front alcove, which is open 24 hours per day, seven days a week. Payments may be dropped there after hours. We also have a new payment service provided by Point and Pay, a firm that enables public and private sector clients across the country to accept electronic payments for taxes using credit/debit cards or e-checks. This program has been a great success with over \$45,000.00 in tax payments received to date.

The service is available to all taxpayers who wish to pay tax bills for Real Estate, Motor Vehicle, Motor Vehicle Supplement, Personal Property, and Sewer Usage. Point and Pay will process the tax bills paid by credit/debit cards at no cost to the town but will charge the taxpayer a fee of 2.95 percent on the amount charged. The fee for e-check is \$2.95 per transaction. The town will receive the tax money, less the fee, by direct deposit in one to two days.

This service is provided at the counter, over the phone or on the town's Web page, [easth77addam.org](http://easth77addam.org). Click on the Tax Collector's page and follow instructions listed.

## Rotary Grant Helps Ambulance Association

Members of the Rotary Club of East Haddam look on as members of the East Haddam Ambulance Association display their new EMS Emergency Response Uniforms. The Rotary Club partnered in the purchase of six of the uniforms with the help of a Rotary District Managed Grant. The grants are awarded to local Rotary Clubs for projects that benefit a community need.

Earlier this year, Chief Dean Anderson and Assistant Chief Frank Glowski spoke at a Rotary meeting and identified the need for OSHA-approved protective clothing when responding to dangerous situations such as car rollovers. While the volunteer Ambulance Association does receive funds through insurance payments and direct billing for services, the grant provided additional funds to purchase uniforms for six more of the responders. Ken Klein, then President of the East Haddam Rotary, chaired a team that submitted a proposal requesting funds from the district to match ambulance funds and funds collected at the Annual Rotary Club car raffle in June. The Rotary District, which provides matching grants up to \$3000, reviewed the



application and in October notified the Rotary Club that they had been awarded a matching grant.

The rescue jacket and pants have many features including an outer shell that provides flame resistance as well as a barrier that prevents the entry of blood-borne pathogens and moisture.

## St. Stephen's Church

This spring we invite all children to join us as we explore the Mystery of Easter through Godly Play. This is a visual hands-on curriculum for children ages 3 - 4th grade. Our warm and inviting classroom is open to all who wish to attend. We also have classes for children in 4th - 6th grade and a very active Youth Group as well. For more information please contact Lynda Hickey at [st.stephenchildren@att.net](mailto:st.stephenchildren@att.net).

### February 17

Ash Wednesday worship - 7:30 p.m.

### March 28

Palm Sunday Holy Eucharist & blessing of palms  
8 a.m. & 10 a.m., beginning of Holy Week

### March 29, 30, & 31

Holy Eucharist at 7 p.m.

### April 1

Holy Eucharist, Footwashing,  
stripping of the Altar at 7 p.m.

### April 2

Good Friday: Preaching of the cross from noon to 3 p.m.  
with local clergy and special anthems;

7 p.m. Youth presentation of Stations of the Cross

### April 4

Easter Day: Great Vigil at 5:30 a.m., with Holy Eucharist;  
Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. & 10 a.m., with choir.



WWW.EASTHADDAM-NET



East Haddam  
EDC website

**ANNOUNCING**  
***www.EastHaddam.net***  
***to merge with NEW***  
***www.EastHaddam.org***



**Watch for expanded content  
coming in early 2010:**

**Community Calendar – find or add upcoming  
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**Town Government, Business Directory,  
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## *From the Registrars of Voters*

Office Hours are Thursdays, 1 – 4 p.m. or by appointment; call (860) 873-5029.

Congratulations to East Haddam voters, who created a good turnout for the November municipal election. About 45% of East Haddam voters showed up at the Nathan Hale Ray High School gymnasium, the town's newest polling site. While that percentage was better than many of our neighboring towns, we hope with your help, to push that number higher in the future.

The high school gymnasium will now be East Haddam's polling place for all elections, except for referenda on local issues, until the old Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School is renovated for municipal offices. When that renovation is completed, we can return to the updated site for most elections. The plan is to use the revered old Town Meeting Hall whenever referenda are held in warmer weather.

We are looking forward to a busy new year: attending conferences for our required CEU's; doing our annual voter canvass; holding referenda; and primaries and elections for Connecticut state and federal positions in the fall.

- Laurie Alt, Harriet Cummings  
East Haddam Election Administrators

## *Good Fortune; A Gift to Nathan Hale-Ray High School*

Frederick L. Ray was a highly successful businessman who lived and worked in the town of East Haddam. Mr. Ray's workshop, located near the Goodspeed Opera House, was a manufacturing site for a specific lock to be used on caskets. His passion for manufacturing, coupled with his innate desire to foster vocational education in the town of East Haddam, led to his generous donation of a little over five hundred and thirty thousand dollars, a generous gift that he willed to the town for the specific purpose of improving manufacturing and vocational education.

Upon his death in 1926, a corporation was formed, now known as the Ray School Corporation. The corporation, made up primarily of trustees affiliated with the Bank of America, school administrators, and residents of the town who are alumni of the town's vocational education program, meet twice a year to oversee the fund and to allot monies to programs at the high school in support of students enrolled in vocational and technology education.

The corporation's annual donation to the Nathan Hale-Ray High School, in the form of grant and capital funding, has benefited hundreds of high school students in East Haddam over the years. From providing the Vo-Ag bus to promoting student work-study opportunities to adding numerous technology program additions, our high school and our community have benefited richly from the generosity of the Ray School Corporation. We are truly grateful for the Ray Board's on-going gift of support to our Hale-Ray High School students.

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## Senior News

**January 17** Senior Center is hosting a reception (with the assistance of the community Lions) to honor longtime volunteer Dan Maus. The reception will be held at the Senior Center from 2 – 4 p.m. Dan's name has been submitted for Humanitarian of the Year by the community Lion's Club.

**January 21** Our 4th annual blood mobile from 12:45 to 6:00 p.m. The community Lions will be assisting us.

**February 3** we are celebrating "HALF WAY to Spring" with a special lunch & music by the White Eyed Lizards. \$5.00 by reservation only. Call (860) 873-5197 for reservations.

AARP volunteers will be at the center to help with income tax preparation on February 24, March 11, March 24, March 31, and April 7. Hours are 10-2 p.m. They will offer assistance to anyone, but preference will be given to seniors and low-income clients. Call center at (860) 873-5034 to schedule an appointment.

**February 28** the Senior Center, Chestelm Adult Day Care, and Youth and Family Services will host a Family Pot Luck dinner & show at the senior center. Lunch will be from 2-3

with roast turkey. The comedy and music of Bobby Darling \* Dr. Devine will start at 3:30. Check their web site at [www.Bobbydarling.com](http://www.Bobbydarling.com) to see what a treat is in store. \$5.00 per person (children under ten \$2.00). Advance tickets available at Senior Center, Chestelm Adult Day Care, & Youth and Family Services. Chestelm is providing funding for the show so all proceeds will be divided between the Senior Center & Youth and Family Services. Participants are asked to bring a vegetable, salad, or dessert dish to feed six people.

**March 12** Windham Tech for lunch. We have reservations for twelve people on a first-come basis.

**March 14** 4th annual pancake breakfast / 8 to 11 a.m. We will be assisted by members of the Historical Society with proceeds being divided between the Senior Center and the Historical Society. \$7.00 for adults, seniors and children are \$6.00

**March 17** St. Patrick's Day corned beef & cabbage lunch, with entertainment by Roger Goodnow. \$5.00 by reservation only.

## Rathbun Memorial Library

Spend some time with us at the Rathbun Memorial Library as we swing into "2010 WinterFest." Special events are planned for January 19 through mid-March, including another series for our Writers Group; storytimes for babies, toddlers and preschoolers; "Grow Your Own" series; and DIY series with local "tool guys/gals!"

Don't forget - if the weather is bad - you can order and renew library materials online; write reviews; update your account; download audiobooks & ebooks via OverDrive; and check out our monthly calendar of events. Don't have a library card? Stop by and we'll fix you up with some plastic! Remember: [www.rathbun.lioninc.org](http://www.rathbun.lioninc.org) brings you the world!



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## Earth Charter Community of the Lower Valley

The year 2010 is expected to be a busy and productive year for East Haddam's Earth Charter group, ECCoLoV, a 501c3 nonprofit organization. We continue to offer educational programs oriented to the Earth Charter, a set of principles and an ethical framework for a sustainable world. The Earth Charter was developed through a collaborative, international effort and is a unique, unprecedented global agreement of the elements needed to respond to the myriad of social, environmental, economic, and spiritual challenges unfolding and converging in the world today. The ideas constituting the Earth Charter are rapidly becoming seen as indispensable in support of global efforts to accommodate today's challenges.

In addition to local monthly meetings, we continue to build a statewide network of people through which our ideas and news of our work can flow. In support of our mission to teach, learn about and put the Earth Charter to effective use in our communities, we are sponsoring a number of powerful programs in 2010. The first is a Summit Event on March 6 at the Gelston House in East Haddam featuring a keynote address by James Howard Kunstler, author of *The Long Emergency*, *The Geography of Nowhere*, and numerous other books. His presentation, "The Long Emergency and What It Means for Your Community," is an insightful and provocative look at the impacts and possible responses to an increasingly constrained oil supply. Please join us at this important, gala event! Tickets are \$20 before February 14 and available by calling

(860) 873-8989.

In May, we plan to host the "Awakening the Dreamer" symposium created by the Pachamama Alliance. The "Awakening the Dreamer" symposium is a powerful, four-hour event. Through dynamic group interactions, leading-edge information, and compelling multimedia, participants are inspired to reconnect with their deep concern for our world and are empowered to make a difference. The Pachamama Alliance is a U.S.-based not-for-profit organization that was born out of a relationship developed between a group of people from the modern world and the leaders of indigenous groups in the Amazon region of Ecuador.

We meet on the second Sunday of each month from 2 to 4 p.m. - January 10, February 14, and March 14 - at the Grange during these winter months.

For the winter months, the ECCoLoV is sponsoring a continuation of the Sanctuary at Shepardfields' monthly community drum circle, normally held in the Yurt. For the months of January, February, and March, Drum for Fire will be held at the Grange. The drum circle meets year round on the first Friday evening of every month from 7 to 9 p.m. The upcoming dates are January 1, February 5, and March 5. All are welcome. Drumming is free, all are welcome. No previous experience is needed and drums/percussion instruments can be provided.

Call (860) 873-8989 for more information or visit our website, [www.eccolov.org](http://www.eccolov.org).

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## Protecting Yourself from Identity Theft

Identity Theft is committed or attempted fraud by using a person's identifying information without authority. It occurs when someone steals your personal information and uses it fraudulently. Examples of personal information include: Names & Addresses, Dates of Birth, Social Security Numbers, Credit Card numbers, Pins and Passwords, and other pieces of personal data.

In today's high-paced electronic world, identity theft is easy to do and difficult to track. It can cost you time and money to correct and can destroy your credit and ruin your good name. Identity theft can occur in many ways. Your information can be obtained by thieves going through your trash, stealing your wallet/purse, stealing your mail from your mailbox, "phishing" through your E-mail, or looking over your shoulder or eavesdropping while you communicate your personal information.

### What can you do to protect yourself? Safeguard your data:

- Carry only the identification that you need. Leave birth certificates, passports and social security cards at home and in a safe/secure place.
- Don't give out your personal information to anyone unless you are sure you know who you are dealing with.
- Never give out info over the phone or the internet, unless you initiate the contact.
- Never release your PIN or password to anyone. Don't use obvious passwords or numbers as your PIN, and change them frequently.
- Ask companies you are providing information about their privacy policy, how they will use your information and who will have access to it.
- Protect your trash. Shred all personal information before throwing it out and bring your trash to the curb just before pick-up.
- Promptly remove your mail from your mailbox once it is delivered and have your mail held if you are away on vacation.
- Opt out of receiving unsolicited credit offers by mail. Call 888-5-OPTOUT (888-567-8688) for more information. Contact the three National Credit Bureaus and ask about their OPT-OUT options.
- Routinely monitor your accounts:
- Be Alert. Notice if mail or bills don't arrive. Be aware of denials of credit for no reason.
- Review your financial statements and be aware of changes that you did not make.
- Inspect your credit report. The law entitles you to one free credit report per year from each of the three national credit reporting agencies. To get these reports go to [atwww.annualcreditreport.com](http://atwww.annualcreditreport.com), call 877-322-8228 or send your request to Annual Credit Report Request Service, PO Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.
- Report suspected identity theft as soon as you believe there is a problem:
- Immediately place a 90-day Fraud Alert on your credit reports by calling one of the three credit-reporting companies. This alerts creditors to contact you before any new accounts are

opened in your name. Their numbers are: TransUnion 800-680-7289, Experian 888-397-3742, and Equifax 800-525-6285.

- Completely review credit reports you will be sent for any fraudulent new accounts or accounts that have been tampered with.
- Close any accounts that have been tampered with or opened fraudulently.

Additional information can be obtained from the Federal Trade Commission at [www.ftc.org](http://www.ftc.org), the Identity Theft Resource Center at [www.idtheftcenter.org](http://www.idtheftcenter.org), the State of Ct Department of Consumer Protection at [www.ct.gov/dcp](http://www.ct.gov/dcp) or by contacting the Resident Trooper/East Haddam Police Office at 860-873-1226 or [police@easthaddam.org](mailto:police@easthaddam.org).

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## *East Haddam Park and Recreation*

**1st Annual EH Park & Recreation Sports Swap/Sale:** Bring all of your gently used sports equipment and trade with others for equipment that you need! Equipment accepted on Friday night, April 16, 6-8 p.m. at the elementary school gym. Swap will be held on Saturday, April 17 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Women's Volleyball:** Every Wednesday at the High School gym, from 7:30-9 p.m. A non-competitive game of volleyball. \$10 per player, per season. Runs through May 19. Adults only. A minimum of 10 players are needed to hold this program.

**Men's Basketball:** For all East Haddam residents. Non-residents are accepted, as long as they are accompanied by an EH resident each week (one guest per resident). Program offers pick-up basketball games on the following dates and times: Wednesdays at the Middle School gym from 7-9 p.m. for men age 18 and over; Sundays at the Middle School gym from 9-11 a.m. for men aged 30 and over. \$10 per resident - \$20 per non resident.

**Yoga:** Class designed to suit the needs of beginner to moderate-level practitioners. Bring a yoga mat, props, and wear loose, comfortable clothing. Please refrain from wearing perfumes or colognes. Questions? Call Nancie LaPier, at 344-9299. Feb. 24-May 12. Twelve-week program - \$75.00. Wed. evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Grange Hall on Town St.

**Community Music Circle:** Bring your acoustic instruments and/or your voice. We play songs that are easy to learn and play, and lend themselves to improvisational solos. All acoustic instruments welcome: guitars, mandolins, auto-harps, percussion toys, hand drums, harmonicas, etc. I'll provide 1 electric bass to be played softly. If you don't want to play, come and listen. Questions: swahilipete@sbcglobal.net. Every 4th Monday, from 7-9 p.m. at Grange Hall on Town St.

**Dog Training:** The mechanics of teaching your dog to obey the basic commands is the easy part. Understanding from the dog's perspective how they learn basic commands is the key to building a relationship with your 4-legged friend. Every Tues. night for six weeks, Feb. 2-March 9 from 7-8 p.m. at the "old" Middle School. \$129.00 Includes a "Sensation Harness". Class will be taught by Ken Grohbrugge, New Inn Kennels. A minimum of 8 and a maximum of 12 participants needed.

**Indoor Sports Fun:** A great winter activity for preschoolers! Bring them to the gym and they can run around in a safe environment while they learn the basics of many sports, including basketball, soccer, parachute, dodgeball, & T-ball. They will work on hand eye coordination and balance. Each class: maximum of 20 players - register early! Saturday mornings, children ages 2 and 3 from 9-10 a.m., and children ages 4 and 5 from 10-11 a.m.; Jan.9-Feb.6. at the Elementary School gym. \$20 per child.

**Tai Chi:** An Introduction to The Taoist Tai Chi Society® internal art and method of taijiquan (tai chi) incorporates stretching & turning into a sequence of movements that improve the health of body, mind, and spirit. It reduces tension, improves circulation & balance, & increases strength and flexibility. The class is open regardless of physical condition or age. At the end of the class, you will have the opportunity to join The Society and learn the remainder of the set. Wear comfortable shoes and loose clothing for the class. Night class: Thurs. Feb. 11-March 18; 7-8:30 at the First Church of Christ, Congregational, Town Street. Day Class: Thurs. Feb. 11-March 18; 1-2:30 p.m. at the Grange Hall, Town Street. \$20 per person, per 6 week class.

**Elementary School and Middle School Day Camp:** Registration will begin on Sat., April 17, from 9-12 at the Elementary School. Summer Day Camp will be held from July 5 - August 13. It is open to EH residents in grades 1-8 (as of the fall of '10). \$75 per week, per child, held from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Camp at the Town Beach on Fridays. After-Care is \$7 per day, per child, and will be held on Monday-Thursday from 3-5 p.m. Payment plans will be offered.

**Adult Co-Ed Soccer:** Open to all residents, age 18 and older. Program will continue year round, returning to outdoor soccer when weather permits. Sun. and Wednesday nights from 6-8 p.m.- ages 18 and older. Elementary School gym (we will move to an outdoor location in the spring) \$10 per resident/\$20 per non-resident, per season.

**DEP Safe Boating Class:** Class will prepare you to apply for State of CT boating license and personal watercraft certificate. Must attend all 4 classes. If you pass the test at the end of classes, you will be given a form to obtain your boating license. A max. of 50 students will be accepted, register early. EH residents are given first priority to register. April 6, 8, 13 and 15 from 6:30-9 at the High School cafeteria. \$15 per person.

**American Red Cross Babysitting Class:** Become a safe, certified babysitter. Participants learn many skills & techniques of child care. Taught by a certified, American Red Cross instructor. March 2, 9 and 16, or April 6, 13 and 20 from 6-8:15 at the Middle School. Students must be age 11 before the class begins. \$60 per student, a textbook is included.

**When I'm in Charge:** A safety class for children ages 9-11 who may be home alone; teach kids the safe way! American Red Cross certified class and instructor. Feb. 9 or April 8 from 6:15-8:15 p.m. at the Elementary School. \$30 per participant.

**Summer Employment:** Interested in a summer job with East Haddam Park and Recreation? We'll be taking applications on January 5. Beginning March 1, we will conduct interviews to complete the hiring process. We will be accepting applications for the following positions: Lifeguards; must be 16 years of age,

*Continued on next page*

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and have a minimum of the American Red Cross Lifeguard certification. Camp Counselors; must be 15 years of age to work at the Elementary School camp and 18 years of age to work at the Middle School camp. Counselors in Training; a volunteer position, must be 13 years of age. To request an application, please contact Tiffany at the Rec. Office at 873-5058.

**Fees and Registration Procedures:** Use the registration form for any of our programs except the following: Day Camp, Soccer, Basketball, Performing Arts, swimming lessons... these programs have a specific registration form. Mail in, or drop off your completed form & appropriate fee. Forms are available on our website: [www.easthaddamparkandrec.com](http://www.easthaddamparkandrec.com). The website contains program information. If you have questions, contact Tiffany at 873-5058, or email at [parkandrec@snet.net](mailto:parkandrec@snet.net). Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00-2, but please call ahead to be sure that I am in. Forms can also be dropped off at the Selectman's Office during business hours. Please try to pre-register, as this helps us to serve you better. There have been times when we've had to cancel a program due to lack of enrollment. We can plan better programs knowing how many people to expect.

**Spring Youth Tennis Clinic - Ages 3-13:** Saturdays: April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22. Rain Dates: June 5 & 6. Kiddie (ages 3-6) 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.; Junior A (ages 7-9) 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; Junior B (ages 10-13) 12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m. at the Old Middle School Tennis Courts \$95 (Kiddie Tennis) - \$140 (Junior A & B Tennis) Classes are provided by First Serve Tennis Academy. Participants will be broken up into groups according to age & ability and will practice proper grips, ground strokes, volleys, serves, and footwork with certified tennis pros through games and drills. Coaches also teach basic strategy, scoring, and tennis etiquette. Weekly class will consist of warm-ups, drills, games; practice matches (Junior B participants only) and cool down. Balls and other equipment will be provided by FSTA. Please come with racket and something to drink.

**Spring Ultimate Frisbee Clinic - Ages 6-14:** Sundays: April 18, 25, May 2, 16, 23, 30, June 6. Rain Dates: June 12 & 19. Ages 6-9: 2 p.m. - 3 p.m., Ages 10-14: 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Old Middle School Fields. \$95 Description: Spring 2010 Ultimate Frisbee Clinic combines speed, grace, & agility. Learn passing, pulling, scoring, stacking, & maybe complete a "Great-est." Bring something to drink and wear lightweight clothing and sneakers.

**Summer Soccer Camp:** June 28-July 2 2010- 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Hale Ray High School Soccer fields. For boys & girls who have completed grades 1-7. \$130.00 for the week. Soccer camp is in its 6th year as a Park and Rec. program. This is a full day camp that runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. from Mon. - Fri. Each player receives a ball at the beginning of the week \*can keep the ball when camp is over. \*The first 50 campers to sign up receive a ball with a camp logo at no extra charge!

**Boot Camp Fitness Winter Session:** A challenging, total body, cross-training program that focuses on cardiovascular health, muscle strength, agility, & endurance. Classes use a variety of techniques, very simple equipment, & local landscape for cardio exercises such as running hills & sprints, plus strengthening such as push-ups, lunges, squats, and pull-ups. Classes end with core strengthening and stretching.

- **Basic Training Level 1** - great for those who haven't been working out and need to start at a slower pace.

- **Boot Camp Fitness Level 2** - geared to those who are at a higher fitness level looking to challenge themselves.

- **After School Special** - One afternoon a week for those who end their day early, all levels (more core and strengthening, less cardio). Tues. and Thurs. at 6:30 p.m., Wed. at 3:00 p.m., Sat. at 8:30 a.m. Old Middle School for nights and Saturdays; Hale Ray (new); Middle School for Wednesday afternoons. After Jan. 30th, Tues. nights will be at the Elementary School. Tues., Jan. 12 through Tues. April 6 3x week \$225; 2x week \$180; 1x week \$95 and drop in \$12. Not all classes will be inside - be prepared for all kinds of weather. Bring a towel, water and free weights (5-8 lbs for women; 8-12 lbs for men).

**Music on the River:** Our band selection committee is already working on booking the events for the summer! These concerts are free. We do not use any town funds to offer these concerts; they are completely supported by community, patron, and business donations. If you are interested in making a donation to support Music on the River 2010, please send a check to East Haddam Park and Recreation, P.O. Box 278, East Haddam, CT 06423. Thank you for your generosity, and we'll see you in July!

**Ski Sundown:** In partnership with Ski Sundown, you and your family are invited to attend East Haddam Community Night at Ski Sundown. Go to Ski Sundown on one of the listed East Haddam Community Night dates (below), show an I.D. at the ticket window or Welcome Desk center and you'll receive these discount rates on night skiing 6-10 p.m. Dates: Sat. and Sun. - Jan. 30 and 31, Feb. 13 and 14, Feb. 20 and 21, and March 6 and 7. Adult (ages 15+) Lift Ticket\* \$29

*Continued on page 30*

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## East Haddam Park and Recreation ...continued

Junior (ages 7-14) Lift Ticket\* \$26. 1st Time Package (Sat. only/ages 7+) \$57. \*Child lift ticket is available at the regular rate of \$16 for ages 6 and younger. 1st Time Package (ski or snowboard) includes lift ticket to the Sunnyside Learning Area, rental equipment and a 1-1/2 hour group lesson. Lesson times for 1st Time Package: Sat. at 6:30 p.m. (there are no night lessons on Sun.)

**Silver Mills Bus Tours:** Silver Mills is offering bus tours to great places! Please call 203-379-0711 to pay for and reserve your seat. Pre-registration and payment are required. After registering, Silver Mills will set up a pick-up location that is convenient for you!

- **Montreal:** Feb. 13-15. Include round trip motor coach transportation, 2 nights at the Hyatt Hotel, 2 full buffet breakfasts and 1 dinner, Tour includes Notre Dame (exterior only on Sunday), Place Jacques Cartier and St. Joseph's Oratory. Leisure time for shopping in the Underground or along St. Catherine St., Casino Montreal, baggage, tax and service and a Tour Director. The cost is \$339 p.p./Double; \$399/single; \$309 p.p./Triple/Quad; and \$199 for a child with an adult. A passport is required by all passengers entering Canada.

- **Philadelphia Flower Show:** Feb. 27-28, 2010. Tour highlights include Round trip motor coach transportation, 1 night at

the Embassy Suites Center City, 1 full breakfast / 1 dinner, admission to flower show, Philadelphia highlights tour with Ben Franklin or Betsy Ross, including the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall, leisure time for lunch at the Reading Terminal Market, National Constitution Center, a tour director, baggage, tax and service. The cost is \$249 p.p./Double; \$299/single; \$239 p.p./Triple or Quad.

- **Atlantic City:** March 28-29, 2010- Tour highlights include round trip motor coach transportation, 1 night at the Atlantic City Hilton, \$20 casino rebate, \$10 food voucher, baggage, tax and service. The cost is \$137/single; \$109 p.p./double; and \$99 p.p./triple or quad.

### A Huge Thank You to our Soccer Coaches

They dedicated their time every week to attend practices and games. The kids had a great season, thanks to these adults: Leah Hetzel, Jason Torrence, Ben Manfull, Ray Sevigny, Deb Tischo, Mike Olbrias, Matt Riley, Jen Floyd, and Frank Romano. Thank you to the parents that pitched in a helping hand for these coaches. Without your time, talents, and energy, we would not be able to offer these programs to the youth soccer players in East Haddam!

*An Evening at the Kate*  
By Mike Eagle

The Main Street Gallery is proud to announce the release of this limited edition print by Old Saybrook artist Mike Eagle. Mike has focused this piece on the theater patrons gathering on a summer evening of an opening performance at the newly created Katherine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center. Each lithograph is in full color and signed and numbered by the artist. With a limited edition of only 500, it is sure to become a collectible and would make an excellent gift. Stop by and pick one up today!

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February and March

## Senior Living Alternatives in Connecticut

A few decades ago the three-family house, was a wonderful solution to the problem of caring for aging parents or grandparents. There were relatives at hand who could be depended upon to help the older generation with cooking meals, cleaning house, doing laundry, running errands, making doctor's appointments & taking their medications.

But with the huge changes our society has undergone since the end of World War II, the old formula doesn't work as well as it once did. What is called the "senior living industry" is growing & changing to meet the needs & demands of America's increasingly elderly population. Both the elderly & their adult children need to understand the variety of services & facilities to decide what is best in their particular case.

Here is a look at five different ways of meeting the needs of older adults & their families. Each appeals to a different segment of the population.

**Active Adult Community:** The first type of retirement housing is the age-restricted community, usually 55 & older, designed for those retired or about to retire. Active adult communities are often located in a picturesque area, overlooking a golf course, a lake, a river, or the ocean, or may be situated in an upscale, convenient location.

**Congregate Housing:** Congregate housing brings the elderly into a multi-unit building usually on a rental basis. Some, but not all, provide basic hospitality and convenience services including meals, housekeeping, transportation and activities. They receive Federal or State subsidies.

**Continuing Care/Life Care Retirement Communities:** Are typically distinguished by their requirements that residents pay an up-front entrance fee & a monthly service fee. The entrance fee may be fully refundable, partially refundable or non-refundable. Life-care and continuing care communities provide a continuum of care that ranges from independent living units with hospitality and convenience services to skilled nursing home care.

**Assisted Living:** Is defined as a special combination of housing, personalized supportive services & health care designed to respond to the individual needs of those who need assistance in some or all of the activities of daily living (dressing, bathing, grooming, walking, toileting & taking medications), but do not need the skilled medical care provided in a nursing home. It is the newest type of housing & services for the elderly and is a positive alternative at half the cost of a nursing home, while providing many options and benefits.

**Nursing Home/Skilled Nursing Facility:** Licensed by the State as a Chronic & Convalescent Nursing Home, this is a long-term care institution having the facilities & personnel necessary to provide skilled nursing care and medical supervision for persons with complex medical conditions requiring 24-hour skilled care.

- Kathy Ryan, Executive Director  
The Saybrook at Haddam

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## *East Haddam Completes Innovative Drainage Improvement on Salem Road*



In November the Public Works Department completed an innovative drainage project that was a landmark improvement in terms of cost effectiveness, environmental considerations, and highway safety. The aged corrugated metal culvert conveying Lake Hayward Brook under Salem Road had corroded and deteriorated to an extent that road safety was compromised. Repair of this existing culvert was not an option due to its condition. Replacement of the 10-foot wide by 7-foot high pipe would have been both costly and difficult with major environmental issues to be resolved. Instead of replacing the existing pipe, which would have required diverting the stream and closing the road for the duration of construction, the Public Works Department opted to install a slipline pipe lining inside the existing pipe. This new liner is an 84" double wall High Density Polyethylene smooth wall pipe that was "squashed" off site to fit within the old pipe. The smooth walls of the new pipe are more efficient in terms of flow characteristics and, in fact, the new liner will carry more water than the old corrugated pipe. This new pipe was installed in one day with minimal disruption to traffic or to the environment.

This new technology is becoming more common for applications of this type, but it is believed that East Haddam's Salem Road installation is the largest diameter pipe of this type ever installed in Connecticut.

## *Park and Recreation Thanks our Local Businesses!*

East Haddam Park and Recreation is so fortunate to have the support of wonderful local businesses! It is what makes a small town so special! Without their many contributions, our recreation and leisure opportunities would surely suffer! With the holidays just behind us, and a new year right before us, we would like to thank them for their continued support and generosity. The following businesses have been so helpful this past year:

Shagbark, Liberty Bank, Susan's Salon, the Fishwrapper, Hillside Sweet Shoppe, Coyote Blue, East Haddam Rotary, East Haddam Lions Club, East Haddam Community Lions, East Haddam Economic Development Commission, St. Stephens Episcopal Church, Stillwaters Massage and Yoga, East Haddam Senior Center, MP Impressions, WVA Graphics, Village Pizza, the Sanctuary at Shepardfields, Nathan Hale Pharmacy, the Gelston House, and the Goodspeed Opera House.

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## EAST HADDAM POSTAL PATRON

# REMEMBER US FOR JUMBO LOANS



Suddenly, the mortgage market is changing. What seemed like a good deal in the past can now become a real problem with runaway rates and disappearing lenders.

Essex Savings Bank has more than a century and a half of lending experience so we can tailor the jumbo loan that will be right for you, now and for the future. We offer the highest level of service and expertise, and because we underwrite and fund our own loans you get fast closings and great rates. Best of all, when you need to speak to someone about your loan, you'll talk to one of our professionals right away because we keep and service your jumbo loan in our own portfolio.

Your home is one of the biggest investments you'll make in your lifetime.  
The right mortgage can make it an even better one.

### Home Buyers

Other lenders' rates are rising because investors are wary of these types of loans. We have better rates. Call today to buy or refinance.

### Home Sellers

Tell your realtor to let buyers know about us so you can sell your luxury home faster and get the price you deserve.

### Realtors

Do your clients a favor and refer them to us. Close the deal by offering sound advice and a quick turnaround.

Call to speak directly with one of our loan officers:

Tom Lindner - Essex Plains Road Office, 35 Plains Road, (860) 267-2571  
Patricia Kolbe - Essex Village Office, 9 Main Street, (860) 267-8218  
Tom Masini - Old Saybrook Office, 155 Main Street, (860) 318-3543  
Betsy Dell - Old Lyme Office, 101 Halls Road, (860) 434-1646

  
**Essex Savings Bank**  
Service & Trust Since 1851

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www.essexbank.com

