

East Haddam News

AN INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER COVERING MOODUS, LAKE HAYWARD, HADLYME AND EAST HADDAM

April 11, 2019

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Free weekly

Golfers rate Fox Hopyard best course in Connecticut

By David Holahan

Long known as an outstanding golf course, Fox Hopyard Golf Club recently was recognized as the best course in Connecticut in 2018—and number 24 in the nation—by Golf Advisor, a sister company of The Golf Channel.

Opened in 2001, the scenic 18-hole course is set on 123 of the club's 519 acres—rolling, wooded and well-watered land. Length ranges from nearly 7,000 to 5,650 yards depending on the tee and par is 71.

The season's opening day at the semi-private course, where the public is welcome along with its members, was April 1, and Brian Cummings, the newly appointed Director of Golf Operations and Membership, said he is aiming for an even better 2019. "We feel this recognition by a survey of golfers themselves is the culmination of many practices that are in place here," he said. "Our goal is to provide the ultimate experience and the best conditions for our patrons. Our whole team here is very excited about having our efforts rewarded."

In other golf news, Fox Hopyard will host the prestigious Connecticut Amateur Golf Championship this year, from June 17-21. On the opening two days, 144 golfers will compete to qualify to be among the 32 finalists to reach the match play elimination rounds that will crown the 2019 champion. "This is the biggest tournament we have hosted," Cummings said, adding, "All efforts



Tom Pannier, PGA Head Golf Professional at Fox Hopyard Golf Club, drives one of the course's new, fully loaded golf carts. The clubhouse and On The Rocks restaurant building is in the background. Tom has been helping the Nathan Hale-Ray High School Golf Team get ready for their season.

are being made to be certain the golf course and facilities will be in the best condition possible."

Fox Hopyard's sister course, Crumpin-Fox Club in Bernardston, *Continued on page EH9*

Town meeting on school repairs called for April 16

By Danielle Faipler

A town meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16 at 8 p.m. at the Town Meeting Hall (next to the Grange) to approve funding to rehabilitate the outside masonry and windows at the East Haddam Elementary School. The Board of Selectmen approved the call for town meeting during their regular April 3 meeting.

Town residents will vote whether to approve a transfer of \$21,725.31 from the town's General Fund to the Board of Education Capital Reserve Fund, and to amend the charge of the board's Capital Improvement Building Committee.

The selectmen also discussed the Request for Qualifications the town recently put out to find developers to transform the Village area's former town office property. Four prospective developers attended the site walk as well as an observer from the Good-speed. First Selectman Emmett Lyman said the town was working with its attorneys to determine if there could

Continued on page EH6

Play tonight

A one-act play will be presented tonight, April 11, for theater goers 12 years and older at the East Haddam Historical Society & Museum on the remarkable life of Yukitaka Osaki, who came to America in 1888 and stayed on to work alongside actor William Gillette at his famous Hadlyme castle. The 45-minute show is at 7:30 p.m. For more information, www.EHSCO.org or (860) 873-3521. *See page EH8.*

In This Issue: Celebrate East Haddam, EH3 • Letter on Transfer Station, EH4 • Osprey Watchers Wanted, EH5

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EVENTS

Turn in old unwanted meds on April 27

The East Haddam Police, the Resident Trooper, and the Drug Enforcement Administration is giving residents an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs.

People can bring pills for disposal to the East Haddam Senior Center on Great Hillwood Road on Saturday, April 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, only pills or patches. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health shows year after year that the majority of misused and abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including someone else's medication being stolen from the home medicine cabinet.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the October 27 Take Back Day, go to www.DEATakeBack.com or contact Officer Jeffrey Rhoades of the East Haddam Police Department at (860) 891-8200.

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HALE-RAY LETS ITS HAIR DOWN

Teagan D'Addeo, left, and Noah Bonilla rocking it out in the high school musical, "Rock of Ages," which was performed March 29-31 at the Nathan Hale-Ray High School. The play was about young people who struggled in the 1980s to make it big as actors and rockers out in Los Angeles. More than 40 students in grades 9-12 participated on stage and in crew. Seniors Jack Rogerson, Cameron Jirowitz, and Cliff Saunders led the technical aspects, while Senior Alexis Behilo kept cast and crew on top of their game backstage. Other Drama Club Officers, Seniors Isaac Manfull, Teagan D'Addeo, and Junior Noah Bonilla were some of the leads as well as helping with the various management aspects of putting on the show. Senior Melissa Essency organized all the costumes and props with help from Junior Angelina Caminati. The show was truly a team effort, and everyone involved is very proud of the end product. Shout out to some parents, the Caminatis, Rogersons, Ricards, D'Addeos, and Mrs. Beniot for their endless support of the Performing Arts at NHRHS.



'Celebrate East Haddam' is April 27

Residents are invited to "Celebrate East Haddam" on Saturday, April 27 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Heritage Park. Celebrate East Haddam is the premier annual spring event hosted by the East Haddam Business Association to bring East Haddam and surrounding communities together for an outdoor festival with businesses and organizations showcasing their products and services. People can explore more than 80 booths and celebrate the myriad ways that local businesses connect, collaborate and bring our community together. General admission is free. There will be family friendly fun for all ages. Live entertainment will include performances by Quinn Miller, Bodega Band, DizzyFish, and Last Rhino. Attendees can sample food provided by area restaurants and businesses: Fried Cookie Dough Factory, Moodus BBQ, On The Rocks Restaurant, Super Soups, The Breakfast Barn, Brushmill

by the Waterfall, and OzNBones BBQ Food Truck. Local shops, home-based businesses, craftspeople and artists will have a variety of merchandise available for sale as well as samples, free services, grab bags, door prizes and more. Community organizations will have information about upcoming events and programs as well as opportunities to offer your support and get involved by becoming an East Haddam volunteer. Celebrate East Haddam is made possible in part by our very generous sponsors: Nathan Hale Pharmacy; Dutch Oil Co., Inc. & Dutch Propane, LLC; First Approach EMS Education & Staffing; East Haddam News; Tina Good, Berkshire Hathaway New England Services Realtor; East Haddam Historical Society & Museum, and Edie's Auto Body. To see the full list of businesses and organizations that will be hosting booths, search Celebrate East Haddam on Facebook or stay tuned for more information in upcoming issues of East Haddam News. Rain Date is Sunday, April 28th. Heritage Park is located at 15 Great Hillwood Road, Moodus.

Haines hosts tolls forum

Irene Haines, R-34, is among four legislators hosting a forum on tolls in Connecticut on Monday, April 15 at East Hampton High School from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Joining Haines as hosts will be three

fellow Republicans from the Connecticut General Assembly: Sen. Henri Martin (R-31), Rep. Laura Devlin (R-134) and Rep. Robin Green (R-55). Haines, an East Haddam resident, represents East Haddam, East Hampton and a portion of Colchester in the Connecticut House of Representatives.

East Haddam News

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Calls for changes at Transfer Station

Thank you for keeping us informed on the transfer station, although after reading your latest article I find the urge to write a viewpoint of what is happening and what could help alleviate the problem.

So, since August 2017 when the Town of East Haddam or rather its Board of Selectmen authorized a committee to study ways to improve the operation of the transfer station, all that has been accomplished is:

- 1.) Increasing the bulky waste fee from \$100 to \$120 a ton
 - 2.) All vehicles are now weighed for bulky waste disposal
 - 3.) Supposed to check for stickers
- This has been a joke for nearly the 15 years I have lived in town. People are not "sneaking by the

attendants" with 75 percent of the bulky waste (675 tons out of 900 tons in 2016 "snuck by"); the attendants are too busy having a cigarette in their "office." I probably paid half the time I used the bulky waste area due to the weigh station being unmanned, followed other vehicles which did not stop to be weighed or was told by the attendant to go ahead it's not that much. So 689 tons of waste generated \$66,566 in 2013 (average collected \$97 a ton, almost the \$100/ton mark), who knows what 2014 and 2015 were, and 900 tons generated \$36,251 in 2016 (average collected \$40/ton). Wow, when \$90,000 should have been received and only \$36,000 got deposited, without naming names, after losing \$54,000 the person(s) responsible should be reprimanded or released for not operating the department properly. Surely they received the standard yearly wage increase no matter the performance. It's just the taxpayers money! What are the numbers for 2017 and 2018? How much have we lost in the last 5 years?

Years ago the town issued stickers with the tax bill. For a time transfer station employees were putting stickers on vehicles as they did mine when I acquired a new vehicle. Then no stickers were available when I last requested one as I was told changes were


coming. And now there is a sticker though I don't have one, didn't know about it and have not been checked yet.

Let's stop pussyfooting around, get people to do their job or be sent down the road. The town should let everyone know (text, e-mail, newspaper) that a sticker is required and will be issued when you show proof of a "registered vehicle in East Haddam" or "property tax bill." Then hire a 'temporary' employee through an agency for 3 months to check and enforce vehicles entering the transfer station and issue stickers. Immediately let commercial haulers know that there is a fee to dump no matter what or rather it is not accepted from commercial haulers.

Do more now. Fix the problem and move on to the next one. Traveling in circles for years gets you nowhere.

This is one example of why the budget increases every year. It's time to change and not just this department. The greatest percentage of tax money is education and with falling enrollment numbers that budget needs to go down, not up.

Dominic Carri
East Haddam





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Letter details town's various endowment funds

Like many towns in Connecticut, East Haddam has had many financial challenges over its long history. This year the Town is facing two high cost issues in addition to the day-to-day operation of town government and the education of our children. One issue is the removal of trees killed by the gypsy moth and emerald ash borer infestations. The second issue is the repair and reconstruction of roads, bridges and water drainage damaged by last fall's severe rain-storm.

However, when East Haddam has tough financial issues or concerns, we must remember that our town is very fortunate to have had citizens in its past who have, through their wills, left substantial funds dedicated to helping the town meet its needs in key areas. These funds are called endowments. East Haddam has probably more endowment funds than most towns of our size. Most of these endowment funds contribute to the revenue for East Haddam's operating budget each year or support Town endeavors. Please keep in mind that these endowment funds were primarily created to improve the quality of edu-

cation and the quality of life in our Town. The citizen donors knew that money was needed to help maintain and improve these qualities. The table below is a short summary of the major endowment funds for East Haddam.

These funds cannot be spent without constraints. They are managed by administrators appointed by the Town or by the stipulations of the donor citizen's will. This means that the principal is left untouched unless allowed by the fund's administrator. The principal untouched indicates that only some percentage of the principal's value is expended each year to allow for principal stability and growth. A typical distribution is 4 percent of the average principal balance over the last four years. In summary, East Haddam is very fortunate to have such generous and forward thinking citizens in its history. Over the years these Endowment Funds have contributed millions of dollars to the town's yearly budgets, the operation of the public facilities, and the education of our students.

East Haddam Board of Finance

Sources: 2018-2019 East Haddam Budget Book, East Haddam Board of Finance Financial Policies, East Haddam Probate Records

Major endowment funds for East Haddam

Year Founded	Name	Purpose	Funds paid to support Students for their Education and/or Work Experience	Projected Revenue Amount to be contributed to the 2018-2019 Budget
1926	Ray Board (Frederick Ray)	Maintain and improve Vocational Education : * Funds to Board of Ed and Town * Scholarships, Awards and Internships	>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> \$31,000 each year	\$279,000
1878	Helon Cone	Support Core Teachers	N/A	\$19,000
1929	A. E. Purple	Support Maintenance of the High School	N/A	\$309,976
1952	W. F. Palmer	Support Permanent Road Improvements	N/A	\$31,491
2010	Amos Shephard	4 year College Scholarships in the Arts	\$2,000 each year for each of four students	N/A
1922	Rathbun Library	Rathbun Library	N/A	\$40,825
1888	Reading Room Association	East Haddam Free Public Library	N/A	\$14,000
Various years	Cemetery Funds	Maintenance of Cemeteries	N/A	\$1,750

Activities at Hadlyme Congregational Church

Hadlyme Congregational Church, Town Street at Clark Hill, East Haddam has announced the following activities.

Sundays in Lent: 9:15 a.m. Bible Study, 10 a.m. Service, 11 a.m. Coffee Hour. Usual schedule for all Sundays, Communion is first Sunday of each month.

Palm Sunday, April 14: Special Music at 10 a.m. Service, Distribution of Palms.

Maunday Thursday, April 18: Service of Tenebrae, 7 p.m. at First Church of Christ, Congregational, East Haddam.

Good Friday, April 19: Town-Wide Cross Walk beginning at 8 a.m. at St. Bridget's, ending at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, with service at noon and soup luncheon.

Good Friday, April 19: Service of Meditations and Hymns on Seven Last Words, 11:30 a.m. at First Church of Christ, Congregational, East Haddam.

Easter Sunrise Service: April 21 at 6:45 a.m. at Gillette Castle, hosted by East Haddam, Hadlyme, and Lyme churches.

Easter Brunch, April 21: hosted by First Church of Christ, Congregational, East Haddam, directly after the conclusion of the Easter Sunrise Service.

Easter Sunday Service, April 21: 10 a.m. at Hadlyme Congregational Church, a special service of music, Bible readings, and Sermon.

All are welcome at all of these activities. We will be happy to see you.



An osprey catches a meal. Photo by Paul Fusco.

Osprey watchers wanted

Connecticut Audubon is looking for a few good Osprey watchers to track the species health this breeding season. There are at least 775 nests in Connecticut and hundreds of those need someone to monitor them for 20 minutes twice a month.

Based on 2018 data, we know that there are at least 775 Osprey nests in Connecticut. So far in 2019, 244 people have volunteered, some for more than one nest.

To sign up visit <https://www.ctaudubon.org/osprey-nation-map-data> and scroll to the map of Osprey nests in the state. Those with red markers are in need of stewards. Or for more information about being a volunteer steward, email Osprey Nation coordinator, Melina Giantomidis: Osprey@ctaudubon.org.

Good Friday Cross Walk

From St. Bridget's Church: "Everyone is welcome to come join us for our Annual Good Friday Cross Walk as we literally carry a Cross through town on April 19. We will be starting at St. Bridget's Church, 75 Moodus-Leesville Road Moodus at 8 a.m. We will have 7 stops along the way. As we walk, we will hear the '7 Benefits from the Cross' unfold before us. You are welcome to walk the 5 miles with frequent places to rest or you can drive ahead. We will have a person driving along with us and checking to see if anyone needs a ride. All ages are welcome to attend this very moving day. If you are so moved, you can carry the Cross. We will end at St. Stephen's Church at 31 Main Street. Questions? Please call Kathy at (860) 873-1830.

Calling all actors

Non-Equity auditions for the East Haddam Stage Company's summer show, "The Professor," at Gillette Castle State Park will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. at the visitor's center at Gillette Castle State Park, 67 River Rd, East Haddam.

EHSCO is looking for two men and two women for a 30-minute adaptation of the 1890 Victorian farce, "The Professor," written by William Gillette (but not published). Comedic roles range in age from 20 to 60. Synopsis and character breakdown is on the website www.EHSCO.org.

Rehearsals begin in June, and run during the week. Shows perform for 6 weekends only, July 6 to August 11. Call (860) 873-3521 or write info@ehsco.org for an audition slot.

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CALENDAR

April 13

Fire Department Easter Egg Hunt. The East Haddam Fire Department Company 2 is holding its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 13 at noon at William F. Palmer Road in Moodus (rain date is Sunday, April 14 at noon). It is recommended that one and all bring their Easter baskets and cameras since the Easter Bunny is expected to come hopping along!

Help Clear Trails on Stewardship Saturday at the Roaring Brook Preserve, 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Lunch will be provided. The Preserve is located near the intersection of Clark Hill Road and Mill Road. The event is sponsored by East Haddam's Conservation Commission. Questions? Contact: Todd Gelston at (860) 873-8221.

Migration Mystery with Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center on Saturday, April 13 at 2 p.m., free. Lyme Public Library, register at (860) 434-2272.

April 17

Audubon Connecticut makes a presentation on helping local bird species—besides simply putting out a bird feeder during the winter—on Wednesday, April 17 at the East Haddam Grange Hall from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Genevieve Nuttall, an Audubon Bird Conservation Programs Associate, will explore how to keep habitat available year-round for songbirds. Connecticut woodlands are home to some of the highest concentration of bird species breeding in the continental United States, according to Audubon. The group adds, however, that many local species are experiencing long-term population declines.

The free event is co-sponsored by the East Haddam Conservation Commission and is part of a Presentation Series offered by the Lyme Forest Block Conservation Project—an initiative launched by

Audubon Connecticut, in partnership with the Eight-mile River Wild and Scenic Coordinating Committee, The Nature Conservancy, local land trusts, and municipalities. RSVP online at <http://ct.audubon.org/events/what-birds-need-year-round-important-bird-areas> and email questions to gnuttall@audubon.org.

April 25

The First Church of Christ Congregational Restoration Committee has set a date of Thursday, April 25 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for the community open house for anyone interested in the restoration project. Tom Gribbin, the architect who prepared the condition assessment report will be there to present a power point of the needed work. Members of the committee will also be there to outline the approach for the project and the help needed from community volunteers. Refreshments will be served.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE EH1

Town meeting called

Continued from page EH1

be a second site walk for interested parties who were unable to make it to the first. All qualifications must be submitted by May 16 at 2 p.m. The RFQ is available on the town's web site- www.easthaddam.org.

There was also discussion of the town's Cemetery Committee, which was brought up during a previous selectmen's meeting on March 20. The committee, which is comprised of two members, requested more responsibility and a clearer direction for its overall charge.

Unlike every town board and committee, the Cemetery Committee does not have a formal charge or operating budget, which has led to some over-

sights, like halted payments to the Hadlyme Congregational Church.

According to Town Clerk Debra Denette, the town paid the Hadlyme Congregational Church interest payments since the 1990s, however, those payments stopped and now the town owes the church \$2,343.80. "Where have those funds been for the last 10 years, and why isn't there any oversight for it...it's because you don't have a committee with a charge," said Denette during the April selectmen meeting. "The cemetery committee has a huge need for a charge, and I don't understand why we have one committee that has zero charge whatsoever. Every other board and committee is responsible for its budget and (the cemetery committee) doesn't even know what its budget is," said Denette.

The town is also experiencing a shortage in cemetery space, and the selectmen believe the committee should begin investigating areas suitable for expansion, something that was identified in the town's 2008 Plan of Conservation and Development. The plan also acknowledged the need to evaluate the condition of the town-owned cemeteries and to determine how to ensure their longevity.

There are 23 cemeteries in the town, 10 of which are maintained by the town. Four are cared for by a local contractor because they require more care, and the other six are kept by part-time staff, said Ron Turner, the town's Director of Operations. The cemeteries are currently mowed regularly and crews are cutting down hazardous trees. The town also installed signs for the more prominent cemeteries, said Turner.

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**LEGAL NOTICE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
EAST HADDAM**

The Electors and citizens of the Town of East Haddam, Connecticut qualified to vote in Town Meeting are hereby warned and notified that a Special Town Meeting will be held in the Town Hall on Town Street in the said Town of East Haddam at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 for the following purposes, to wit:

Item 1: To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to approve a transfer of \$21,725.31 from the General Fund (10549010-58928) to the Board of Education Capital Reserve Fund (3320-10506-25790).

Item 2: To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen to amend the charge of the East Haddam Schools Capital Improvements Building Committee as follows:

RESOLVED: That an East Haddam Schools Capital Improvements Building Committee is hereby established for the purpose of the completion of the following projects:

- Electrical upgrade at the East Haddam Elementary and Former Nathan Hale-Ray Middle Schools;
- Roof replacement at the Former Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School;
- Asbestos tile removal/tile replacement in the East Haddam Elementary School;
- Asbestos tile removal/tile replacement in the Former Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School;
- Boiler Replacement/Asbestos Removal at the Former Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School;
- Window Replacement at the Former Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School;
- Roof Replacement at the East Haddam Elementary School;
- Fire Alarm System at the East Haddam Elementary School;
- Chimney Replacement at the Nathan Hale-Ray High School;
- Roof Replacement at the Nathan Hale-Ray High School;
- Water Supply System Replacement at the East Haddam Elementary School;
- Underground Oil Storage Tank Replacement at the East Haddam Elementary School; and
- Exterior Restoration and Window Replacement at East Haddam Elementary School.

A copy of the entire charge, as amended, is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Dated at East Haddam, Connecticut
this 11th day of April, 2019

Emmett J. Lyman
Susan C. Link
Robert R. Smith
Board of Selectmen

**TOWN OF EAST HADDAM
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTION**

At a public hearing and meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals held April 2, 2019 the following actions were taken:

Approved - Appeal - #1110 - 400 Hopyard Road, Gerald Schmid, requesting variances to Section 10.1 of the East Haddam Zoning Regulations as follows: 1. To construct a single family residence 20' from the side property lines where 40' are required. 2. To construct a garage 30' from the front property line where 40' are required and 20' feet from the side property line where 40' are required. 3. Said project will bring the lot coverage to 13.8% where 5% is the maximum allowed. 4. Said project will bring the impervious surface coverage to 19.2% where 10% is the maximum allowed. Also, requesting a variance to Section 24.1.1 to convert the property to year round status with .46 acres where .50 acres are required. Assessor's Map 61, Lot 14.

Dated at East Haddam, CT this 4th day of April, 2019
J. Gregory Daigle, Chairman

**TOWN OF EAST HADDAM
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP**

The East Haddam Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 8:00 pm at the Municipal Office Complex, Meeting Room #1-2, 1 Plains Road, Moodus to hear the following:

#19-03 - 21 Mt. Parnassus Road, Shagbark Farm & Lumber, special exception review to construct a 100' X 45' commercial building. Assessor's Map 27, Lot 91

At this hearing interested persons shall be heard and correspondence received.

Crary H. Brownell, Chairman
Dated at East Haddam, CT this 4th day of April, 2019

The Town of East Haddam shall endeavor to post its Legal Notices with the East Haddam News publication. In the event that the weekly publication cannot meet the Town's statutory requirements, the Hartford Courant shall be utilized to meet said statutory deadlines. Courtesy copies will be published to *East Haddam News* that may or may not be timely. The Town's website is: www.easthaddam.org.

**Drama portrays
life of aide to actor
William Gillette**

A one-act play at the East Haddam Historical Society & Museum depicts the remarkable life of Yukitaka Osaki, who came to America in 1888 and stayed on to work alongside actor William Gillette at his famous Hadlyme castle. Osaki became a beloved member of the community and outlived Gillette by five years, dying in 1942 at the castle while his native country was at war with his adopted homeland.

The 45-minute show, suitable for ages 12 and over, is on Thursday, April 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the EHHS on Town Street. It is written and directed by East Haddam resident Kandie Carle and produced by the East Haddam Stage Company. Osaki is played by Taku Hirai. Admission is \$5; free to children 12 and under and members. For more information, www.EHSCO.org or (860) 873-3521.

Born in 1865, Osaki visited America in his early 20s with his brother Yukio; the latter returned to Japan and became a leader in Japanese politics, while Yukitaka remained here, went to work for Gillette in 1900 and lived through two World Wars at the castle, even after Gillette passed away in 1937.

A 1942 obituary in *The Day* describes Osaki, 85, as "butler, secretary and general factotum" to Gillette. He was found dead by a caretaker; the cause was "due to infirmities of age," according to Dr. Julian S. Ely, who served as the area's doctor for decades.

The article continues: "Born in Japan, he was of a high class family and well educated. He held a position of trust with Mr. Gillette and became well known in the community, where he was highly regarded. He greatly deplored the war between his native land and the United States."

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The East Haddam Fire Department Company 2 is holding its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 13 at noon at William F. Palmer Road in Moodus

(rain date is Sunday, April 14 at noon).

It is recommended that one and all bring their Easter baskets and cameras since the Easter Bunny is expected to come hopping along!

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Land Trust signs contract for 87-acre Miller Farm

The East Haddam Land Trust (EHLT) has officially acquired the 87-acre Miller Farm property bordering Tater Hill and AP Gates Roads in eastern East Haddam. The price was \$340,000.

"This is the largest purchase of land EHLT has made in its forty year history", said EHLT President, Marilyn Gleeson. "We now protect almost 700 acres in this beautiful town for current and future generations."

EHLT identified the Miller Farm as a conservation priority for many reasons: its abundance of oak, beech, and tulip trees as well as spicebush, winterberry, and blueberry shrubs plus ferns, mosses, and wildflowers make it ideal habitat for woodland creatures. The property lies within East Haddam's section of Audubon Connecticut's Lyme Forest Block Important Bird Area, acreage critical to overwinter-

ing and migratory birds. The Miller Farm is in the Roaring Brook and Eightmile River Watersheds and is close to EHLT's Sheepskin Hollow Preserve and the Town of East Haddam's Lena Preserve.

The Land Trust relied on multiple sources to complete this purchase. Private grants and a \$170,000 State of Connecticut Open Space and Watershed grant covered a bit more than half the cost, with the remaining dollars coming from donations to the Miller Farm Capital Campaign and from EHLT's existing land acquisition funds.

"While we now have the deed for the Miller Farm property, our financial obligations are far from complete," said EHLT Treasurer, Doreen Jezek. "We need to replenish our land acquisition fund dollars to allow us to act on future land preservation opportunities."

This is why EHLT's board of directors will con-

tinue accepting donations to the Miller Farm Capital Campaign until July 1, 2019. Donations may be made at www.ehlt.org or by mail to East Haddam Land Trust, PO Box 122, East Haddam, CT 06423.

"Our members have been so supportive of EHLT's land conservation efforts, which allows the land trust to preserve natural and historic sites in our beautiful town," Gleeson said. "We hope this support continues."

The Land Trust looks forward to inviting the public to an official opening of the Miller Farm Preserve once volunteers complete the work of creating a parking area, marking the Preserve boundaries, and blazing and clearing trails. These work party dates will be posted at www.ehlt.org and on the East Haddam Land Trust Facebook page; volunteers are always welcome.

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Students read across America

East Haddam Elementary School recently participated in Read Across America week in honor of Dr. Seuss's 115th birthday. Throughout the week, students celebrated in various ways: they dressed in clothing representing Dr. Seuss books, participated in partner reading with "book buddies," and they engaged in interactive activities, such as creating Dr. Seuss hats. Grade levels were treated to guest reader visits from East Haddam Elementary School Principal Joanne Collins, Nathan Hale-Ray Middle School Principal Jason Peacock, Board of Education Secretary Marc Piscioti, Superintendent of Schools Brian Reas, and Representative Irene Haines, who is also an East Haddam resident.



Irene Haines reads to the class.

The week culminated with an author visit and luncheon, sponsored by the PTO. School-wide assemblies were held with Angela DiTerlizzi, author of "Some Bugs and Some Pets!" She spent the morning with students discussing the writing process and reading a copy of her latest book, "Just Add Glitter." Her presentation was infused with humor as she described her early start as an author in elementary school. She showed students pictures of her earliest work and a video of how the illustrations in her most recent book were created—with the use of LOTS of actual glitter. It was an amazing week and all were eager to celebrate again next year, and keep reading.



GRACE AND TRUTH
BIBLE CHAPEL

Climate change has been The topic of much discussion lately. What is happening to the earth's temperature is an ongoing debate.

There's another climate change that is completely ignored. It is taking place within the human heart. As society's problems increase and lawlessness takes hold, the warmth toward the things of God is diminishing. Above all else, let us seek the full and free redemption found only through Jesus Christ lest the remaining warmth in our heart grow completely cold.

*And because lawlessness will be increased
the love of many will grow cold.*

—MATTHEW 24:12

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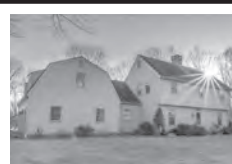
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Golfers rate Fox Hopyard best course in Connecticut

Continued from page EH1

Massachusetts, was ranked number two in that state in the same survey. “Any time either of our properties are ranked on state and nationally recognized lists, I am extremely proud,” said Tim Van Epps, CEO of the Sandri Companies, which owns and operates the courses. “It shows that our commitment to these two beautiful properties is paying large dividends.”

With accolades in hand, Cummings has launched a drive to add to the 181 existing single and family memberships: through the end of April new members can sign up without paying either the initiation fee or first quarter dues (<https://golffthefox.com/fox-hopyard/membership-rates/membership>). Members’ privileges include booking advance tee times and not paying greens fees or for practice range use, as well as discounts at On The Rocks restaurant (www.otrrestaurant.com). Also new this year, Fox Hopyard members have reciprocal privileges at Crumpin-Fox Club.

No 18-hole golf course is complete without the all-important “19th hole,” and On The Rocks offers both fine and casual dining as well an array of beverages with which to either celebrate a round, or drown one’s sorrows. The restaurant is open year round for lunch and dinner, now seven days a week. Among upcoming special events is an Easter Brunch Buffet on Sunday, April 21 from 11 to 3 p.m.

Executive Chef and General Manager Nick Muce said the restaurant is featuring farm-to-table specials this summer with food sourced from within a 10-mile radius, as well as a spring prix fixe special that features a three course meal with a glass of wine or beer for \$25 per person, from Sunday through Thursdays.

Cummings pointed out some new course improvements, including a new fleet of plush Club Car Golf Carts with touch-screen scoring and a GPS system that provides distances from the ball to the pin, to the front of the green, and, perhaps most important, the yardage necessary to clear the water hazard. For adventurous players, the club now features Golf Boards, a totally hip, open-air, scooter-like vehicle for getting around the links.

This past winter was the second year that the club offered indoor golf in the Fox Den, where golfers can stay in the swing of things by playing virtual golf using the simulator system Trackman.

As in the past, Fox Hopyard reduces its greens



The view is picturesque from the tee box down the hill to the green of the par 3 Fourth Hole on the Fox Hopyard Golf Club course.

fees during the “shoulder seasons:” before May 1 and after October 15. Rates also are lower at twilight time (after 2 p.m.) throughout the season and players can purchase a multi-round “Fox Pass” for discounts on multiple tee times for Mondays through Thursdays.

Among the golfers hacking away on opening day this year—on a chilly and blustery April Fools Day—was the author (whose scorecard at this writing is missing) and the Nathan Hale-Ray High School Golf Team. The student athletes got an opening day lesson from Tom Pannier, Fox Hopyard Head Golf Professional.

Paul Parkus, the team’s coach, said: “The whole staff there, I cannot give enough praise to them. They take very good care of the team.” He added, “I can’t say enough about Tom [Pannier]. He has helped out tremendously with setting our practice and match schedules ... He is great with the kids—he even endured the cold and winds [on opening day] and gave the new players a swing lesson; I can already see the improvement in just a couple hours of him working with them.”

Pannier also gives private lessons. “Typically for the first lesson we go out to the range and evaluate where the student is at,” he said. “We educate them a little bit about their golf swing and the golf swing in general. Then we identify the plan of action to

help them become more consistent.” He stressed the importance of a player’s short game: “You’d be surprised how much confusion and stress there is when people get around the greens, about the shot they want to execute.”

In addition to being a great place to play golf, Fox Hopyard Golf Club is East Haddam’s second biggest taxpayer, and the residential properties associated with the course—Fox Hopyard Realty LLC, also owned by Sandri Companies—are ninth on the grand list.

Besides the author and Hale-Ray’s golfers, other notables to play the course include Michael Jordan, Joe Pesci, Alice Cooper, Bill Murray, Ray Allen, Geno Auriemma, and Bob Cousy.

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PARKS & RECREATION

Red Shirt Counselor Program for students entering grades 10 and 11. Applications can be found on our website under the "Forms" tab. Summer Day Camp registration is open! Camp will run July 1 to August 9 (No camp July 4) and is open to children who will be entering grades 1-8 this coming fall.

Noises Sports Academy – Summer Sports Camps led by our high school coaches. June 17-21, 9-12 a.m. Soccer, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Baseball and Softball. June 24-28, 9-12 a.m. Volleyball and Cross Country, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Basketball and Cheerleading. \$100/session if you register by May 15; \$125/session if you register thereafter.

Challenger Spring Soccer – Tiny Tykes: Ages 4-5, Saturdays 5/4 – 6/15 (No session 5/25), Session 10 – 11 a.m., Session 2: 11 a.m. – noon, Nichols Field, \$85.

Spring Soccer: Grades 1-2: Wednesdays (Practice) 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., Saturdays (Games), 4/24 – 5/15, Nichols Field, \$80.

Skyhawks – Spring Flag Football: Grades 1-6, Saturdays 10 – 11:30 a.m., 5/4 – 6/15, East Haddam Municipal Field, \$95.

American Red Cross – When I'm In Charge: Ages 9+, Wednesday 5/29, 5:45 – 7:15 p.m., Parks & Rec Activity Room, \$40.

Girls Basketball Open Gym: Grades 6-12. Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m., 3/27, 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 5/22, 5/29. NHRHS Gym, \$10.
Youth Open Gym: Grades 7-12, March 4 – June 21, 2-4 p.m. (unless otherwise specified.) March and April dates are as followed: 3/4, 3/7, 3/18, 3/22, 3/25, 3/27; 4/3 (12-2 p.m.), 4/4, 4/8, 4/11, 4/16 (12-2 p.m.), 4/17 (12-2 p.m.), 4/18 (12-2 p.m.), 4/23, 4/25, 4/30. May and June schedule TBA. MOC Gym, \$10.

Boot Camp Fitness: April 29-May 23, ages 16+, Tuesday and Thursdays: 6 p.m. Saturdays: 8:30 a.m. Cost: 1 session/week \$45, 2 sessions/week \$69, 3 sessions/week \$87, Drop-in fee \$10.

Gentle Yoga: March 1 – April 14. Ages 16+, Sunday and Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center; Fridays: 10:30 a.m. at The Grange, \$55/session (1x/week) or \$10 Drop-in.

Pickleball: Tuesdays and Fridays: 9:30-11:30 a.m., ages: 18+, Thursdays: 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$5 drop-in or

purchase pickleball club card, 10 games for \$40.

Co-Ed Indoor Soccer: Ages 18+, Sundays 6 – 8 p.m., through 5/19, EHES Gym, \$25.

Men's Basketball: ages 18+, Wednesdays 6-8 p.m., MOC Gym, January 2 – March 27, \$20. April 3rd to June 25th, \$10. April 3rd to September 25th, \$20. July 3rd to September 25th, \$10.

Indoor Corn Hole: Ages 21+, Mondays, March 4 – May 27, Municipal Gym, \$5 (drop in).

Men's Basketball: ages 30+, Thursdays 7:30-9 p.m., Dec 20- March 28, 2019, NHRMS Gym, \$10 April 4 to May 30, \$10. April 4 to August 29, \$20, June 6 to August 29, \$10.

East Haddam Co-ed Softball League (18+): Thursday nights, 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. games, May 30-July 25, \$550/ team registration (10-16 players), Nichols Field and NHRMS.

Summer Day Camp Registration opens April 1st! To register or learn more about a class please go to www.easthaddamrec.com.

CONVEYANCES

March

Grantor; Grantee; Address; Conveyance amount

Jezek, Scott; Carpenter, Lori-Anne; 11 Trowbridge Road; \$280,000

Williams, Patricia; Roehrl, Uwe; 28 Ackley Cemetery Road; \$250,000

SucHECKI, Frank; Mosier, Rodney L. II; 269 Lake Shore Drive; \$207,500

Winthrop Guptill Trust; Shelberg, David ; 27 Daniels Road; \$19,950

Carolyn Guptill Trust; Shelberg, David ; 27 Daniels Road; \$19,950

Goodspeed, Scott D; Balfour, Julia K; 22 Main Street; \$180,000

Hans, Deborah L; Meilleur, Melissa; 66 Clark Gates Road; \$230,000

Cornell, Vickie L; Staehly, Shannon; 128 Cherry Swamp Road; \$210,000

Sanchez, Jose; Wood, Arthur; 131 Alger Road; \$215,000

Additional property transfers are on file in the Town Clerk's Office. This is a summary of only those in which conveyance tax was tendered. Only the first named grantor/grantee is listed.

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