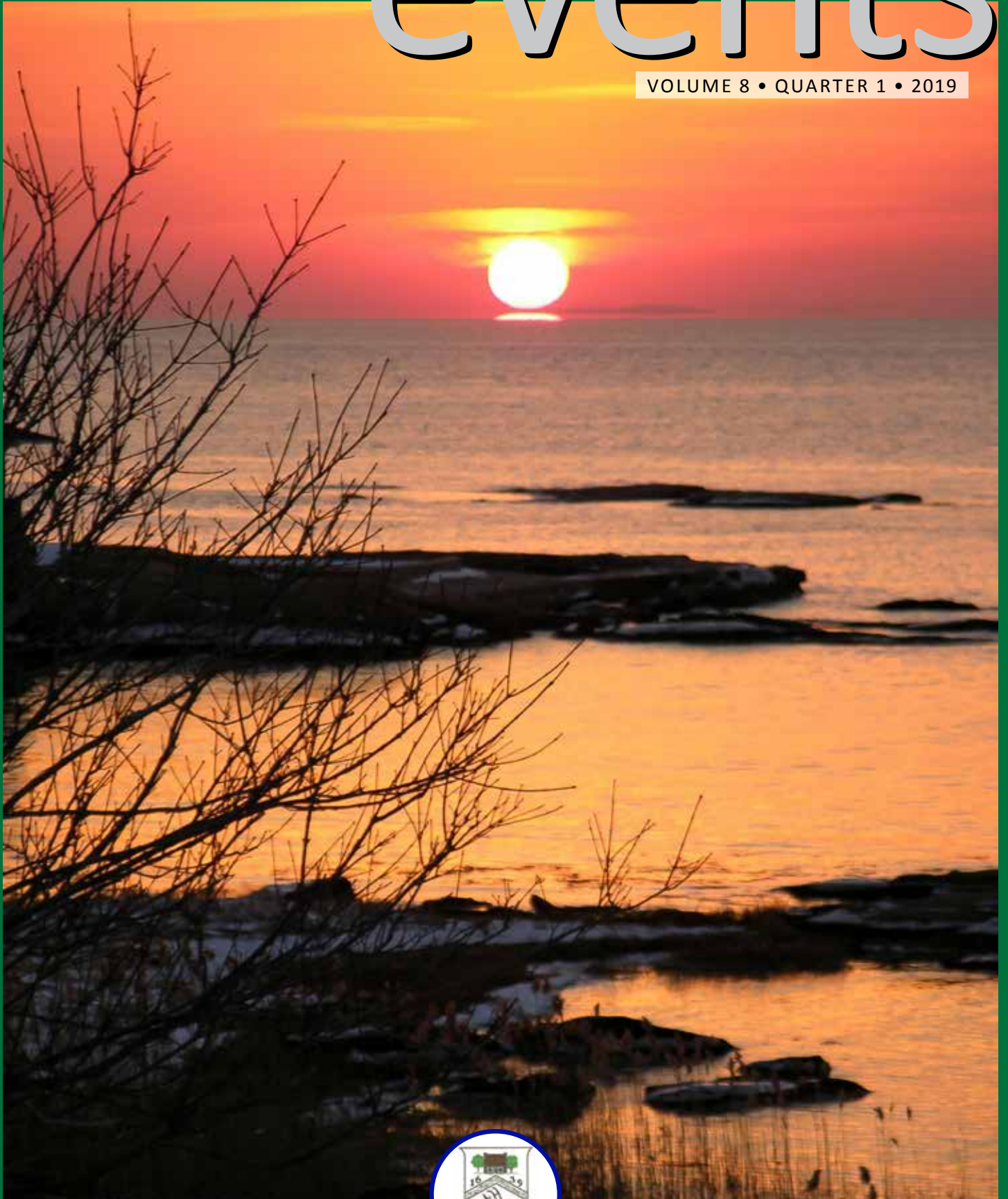


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The First Selectman's Corner

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. We are quickly moving now into the budget season where the Board of Selectmen will be working closely with the Board of Finance to craft a budget for the Town for FY2019-2020. The Board of Selectmen will have its budget workshop meetings in mid-January, where it will hear budget presentations from the various departments. Then the Board of Education and Board of Selectmen will make formal budget presentations to the Board of Finance at its February 14th meeting. The Board of Finance's budget public hearing is scheduled for March 5th with workshops to follow on March 7th and 11th. The public is encouraged to attend these meetings and offer input on the budgets being presented.

Residents can now access town budget information and can also compare Guilford's finances with other municipalities by visiting the town's profile on CLEARGOV.com using the following web link: <https://www.cleargov.com/connecticut/new-haven/town/guilford>. There is also a new button on the home page of the town website that will take you to the information as well. This is intended to provide more information and transparency during the budget process.

The Town of Guilford has received a grant from the Connecticut Department of Housing. The grant provides \$442,000 in 0% interest loans to eligible low- and moderate-income Guilford

residents to make needed health and safety improvements to their homes. Eligible repairs under the program include electrical and plumbing upgrades; ADA modifications; windows, door, and roof replacements; septic repairs, energy improvements, and other types of improvements.



Matthew T. Hoey III, First Selectman

There is an update on the Mulberry Point Water project that will extend the public water main to the communities of Mulberry Point, Tuttle's Point and Long Cove. The project was approved in May 2017, but when initial bids were submitted, there was a wide discrepancy in costs and the town lost the low bidder, so the project was bid a second time. Unfortunately, the second bid costs came in significantly higher than projected. Increased costs can be attributed to a number of factors, including additional ledge, the need to elevate a certain portion of pipe and an increase in the price of materials. The town has received an additional \$450,000 in state bond funds from the Malloy administration and is working with the legislation delegation for additional funds to offset the increase, since the remaining cost of the project (outside of **continued on page 3**

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First Selectman... continued from page 1

grants) will be allocated to the residents of those three communities through special assessments.

The Board of Selectmen has formally established a Facilities Task Force and it is hard at work evaluating all existing town facilities and reviewing the suitability for current operations. The task force will also determine any current needs for space and facility improvements as well as longer term needs. Once its charge is completed, the task force will make the appropriate recommendations to the Board of Selectmen

Public Works is preparing for the winter season and, as always, we hope for a mild winter. I want to remind everyone to be extra careful when traveling our roads, especially during inclement weather and to be aware of our winter ordinances related to snow removal and parking. Within 24 hours after a snowstorm is over, property owners must have their sidewalks cleared. There is an "Overnight Parking Ban" in effect from December 1st through April 1st. No on-street parking is allowed between the hours of 1:00 am and 7:00 am or whenever snow removal operations are in progress. The Fire Department also requests that if you have a fire hydrant in front of your property, to keep it free and clear of snow in case of emergencies. In addition, please do not plow snow into the roads. We need everyone's cooperation in order to clear the roads quickly and make sure all roads and sidewalks are safe for vehicles and pedestrians.

Lastly, I want to congratulate the Guilford High School Girls Field Hockey Team for winning the State Championship under the guidance of their Head Coach Kitty Palmer, who just finished her 37th year coaching the Indians and earned her 400th career victory with a 6-1 win versus Haddam-Killingworth on October 24.

Matthew T. Hoey III
First Selectman

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Assessor's Office

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Elderly Tax Relief applications will be taken in the Assessor's Office, between February 1st and May 15th, during the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. If you are unable to come in, an agent of your choice may file on your behalf. Please bring all proofs of income for both spouses (for the year 2018), including (but not limited to) your Federal Income Tax Return (if you file or will file), your Social Security (SSA-1099 Form) annual statements, statements of pension, interest or dividends, etc. All information must be in English and U.S. dollars.

The basic requirements for all of the following Elderly Tax Relief Programs are as follows:

1. The homeowner must have owned the property as of October 1, 2018.
2. The homeowner must be at least 65 years of age as of December 31, 2018 or was receiving 100% disability benefits from Social Security as of that date;
3. The homeowner must have lived in Connecticut for at least one year;
4. The homeowner must not be receiving tax relief from any other town or state;
5. The homeowner must occupy the property as their principal residence.

HOMEOWNERS PROGRAM, A.K.A. CIRCUIT BREAKER (STATE PROGRAM)

Under this program, the State of Connecticut pays a portion of your tax bill ranging from \$150 to \$1,250. There is no requirement to re-pay the State.

The homeowner must have income (including Social Security) of not more than \$36,000 for a single individual or \$43,900 for a married couple.

TAX DEFERRAL, A.K.A. GSTRP (TOWN PROGRAM)

This program allows you to "defer" up to 75% of your taxes (depending upon income) until either the property is transferred or at the time of your death (at which time the taxes must be re-paid with interest). The deferred taxes constitute a lien on your property.

The homeowner must have income (including social security) of not more than \$38,000 for a single individual or \$45,900 for a married couple.

ELDERLY TAX RELIEF PROGRAM, A.K.A. ETRP (TOWN PROGRAM)

Under this program, the Town attempts to "freeze" your taxes **continued on page 6**

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Assessor's Office... continued from page 4

subject to budgetary restrictions and the requirements of the enabling ordinance.

1. The homeowner, if eligible, must be on the State Program known as Circuit Breaker (see above);
2. The homeowner must not owe any taxes (including motor vehicles);
3. The homeowner cannot be on both the Town's Tax Deferral and this program; and
4. The homeowner's income is based upon residency (as follows):

Years of Residency	Single	Married
1 to 4 years	\$29,600	\$36,000
5 to 8 Years	\$44,500	\$54,000
9 to 20 Years	\$62,500	\$75,000
21+ Years	\$79,000	\$95,000

Jennifer Bernardo,
Assessor

Guilford Lakes Golf Course



The 2019 golf season is approaching as quickly as the 2018 season left us. The weather prediction is calling for a milder than usual winter. That is not to say that we will not be getting our share of snow, but we are supposed to have stretches of warmer weather in between. Last season was one of the wettest on record. All of

golf in New England took a hit. For many winters, the ski resorts suffered, but this fall they are enjoying an early start. We cannot control the weather, but we can hope for our own break this coming golf season.

18-Hole Disc Golf Course

The Parks & Recreation Commission's plans to construct an 18-hole disc golf course are beginning to take shape. With design from professional disc golfer, Craig Smolin, work has begun creating fairways in the woods in Bittner Park. Several residents have volunteered to help construct the course, along with Boy Scout Troop 472 and members of the U.S. Coast Guard. Eighteen local businesses and organizations have each pledged \$500 or more to sponsor the course, including \$3,000 from the Guilford Rotary Club and \$1,000 from the Youth Advisory Group of the Guilford Foundation. Local Eagle Scouts are building a kiosk and the tee boxes for their projects.

continued on page 8

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Disc Golf Course... continued from page 7



Disc golf follows the same rules as ball golf, but instead of clubs and golf balls, a disc is thrown from a tee pad towards a chain basket 200 - 500 feet away. The fairway is basically a wide trail

through the woods. All large trees remain and serve as challenging obstacles for the disc golfers.

Disc golf is growing in popularity and is attractive to all ages, from six year-olds to senior citizens. There are twenty-seven courses in Connecticut, but none on the immediate shoreline. The course in Bittner Park will be free to play, except for an occasional tournament.

The Parks & Recreation Department will offer clinics to help people learn how to play and more accurately throw the discs. The goal is to have the course open in the summer.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help build the course can contact the Parks & Recreation Department or Rick Maynard at: maynardr@ci.guilford.ct.us.

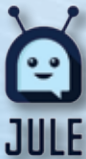
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Economic Development

As you get older, you realize how time quickly passes by. Many are wondering where 2018 went. In many respects it was a great year in Guilford and we are looking forward to what 2019 will bring.

If you are driving throughout town, you can't miss the major renovations and new construction that have been recently completed or are underway. Extensive renovations have been completed at the "former SPLASH restaurant site" and now the **Central Hospital for Veterinary Medicine** is open for business. **The Guilford House**, a rehabilitation facility located at 109 West Lake Avenue, expanded, adding 19 rooms to support longer-term assisted living care. Just off the town center, phase 3 of **66 High Street**, the Leete Building, is under construction. Spring occupancy is expected for the first 6 units with the balance anticipated later in 2019. A swimming pool for the residents and their guests will be constructed in the spring as well. The Horton Group was recognized during the recent Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Connecticut's annual dinner and award presentations. They added to their collection of "HOBI Awards" (Home Building Industry Awards), being recognized for the Best Condominium units by their peers. This recognition is bringing positive visibility to our Guilford community.

As you travel on Rt. 1 heading west, you'll notice the extensive work underway at the former Wire Journal building which will become the home of **Agemy Financial**. Agemy Financial will occupy approximately 1/2 of the space and will lease the balance to tenants needing commercial space. **The Mews**, a 14 unit condominium development is actively under construction at the former Guilford Tavern site. **The Woods at Gatehouse West** is a 5 unit condominium complex situated behind the main buildings, bordering acres of land trust property. The model unit is essentially complete as are the exteriors of the adjoining units. However, these interiors allow for much input from future owners. Continuing west, the **New Haven - Middlesex Realtor Association** is renovating and expanding the former Old Broadway Mason Supply property. A small group of employees will be occupying the space full-time, however, it is being designed to support periodic training programs required of real estate professionals. Completion is expected during Q2. Located next door at the corner of Rt. 1 and Moose Hill Road will be the **School House Manor**, a 10 unit, 1 bedroom apartment complex. Occupancy is expected during Q1. Final landscaping and plantings will occur in the spring.

After a period with no new tenants, **Guilford Commons** recently added **Mattress Firm** as a tenant, who relocated from a space along Rt. 1 East. Additionally, **Pure Barre**, a unique exercise facility will be opening soon. And as many have requested, we're pleased to advise that **Panera Bread** has committed to Guilford Commons. They will be building on the left side of the driveway as you enter the property. The existing stores report they are

doing well and these additional businesses should bring more customers to this convenient plaza.

While much is happening to expand and bring businesses to Guilford, we experienced several recent closures as well. **Supply New England**, a plumbing supply location closed as it was consolidated within a different branch of the parent corporation. The building and land are owned by a separate party. **Royal Printing** was acquired by TYCO Printing; however, the acquisition did not include the property. The building and land will be sold separately. **Land Rover Guilford** was acquired by the Executive Auto Group approximately 1 year ago. Executive built a new facility in North Haven and moved all operations to this site, which also is the new home for Jaguar by Executive. Executive will continue to own the Guilford buildings and land. While we regret seeing these long time Guilford businesses move out, we are confident the properties will be utilized in the near future. We'll do all we can to bring new or expanded businesses to these locations, providing our residents with products, services, and employment opportunities.

As you can see, much is happening in Guilford. Continue enjoying our fine community. SHOP-DINE-EXPLORE... and more. Should you have any questions or comments, feel free to reach out to me.

Brian McGlone, Economic Development Coordinator
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FIRE	Charles Herrschaft, Fire Chief/Fire Marshal, Fire Headquarters - 390 Church Street	453-8056	gfd10@guilfordfire.com
GUILFORD LAKES GOLF COURSE	Ted Tighe, Golf Course Superintendent, 200 North Madison Road	453-8217	guilford_lakes@hotmail.com
HEALTH	Dennis Johnson, Director of Health, Town Hall South - 50 Boston Street	453-8118	johnsond@ci.guilford.ct.us
HOUSING AUTHORITY	Guilford Court - 32 Guilford Court Boston Terrace - 41 Boston Terrace Sachem Hollow - 310 State Street	453-4760 453-4760 453-4760	
HUMAN RESOURCES	Mitch Goldblatt, Director of Human Resources, Town Hall - 31 Park Street	453-8075	goldblattm@ci.guilford.ct.us
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LIBRARY	Rob McCoole, Library Director, Guilford Free Library - 67 Park Street	453-8282	rmccoole@guilfordfreelibrary.org
MARINA	Rod McLennan, Dockmaster	453-8092	townmarina@att.net
PARKS & RECREATION	Rick Maynard, Park & Rec Director, Community Center - 32 Church Street	453-8068	maynardr@ci.guilford.ct.us
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POLICE	Jeff Hutchinson, Police Chief, Police Headquarters - 400 Church Street Animal Shelter Routine Calls	453-8244 453-8083 453-8061	hutchinsonj@ci.guilford.ct.us
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Children's Programs

REGISTRATION for starred (**) programs began on Tuesday, December 18, at 9 am in person, by phone at 203-453-8282, or online at: www.guilfordfreelibrary.org.

PARENT PROGRAMS

Preschool Information Fair: Wondering which Nursery School or Day Care is best for your child? Come meet representatives of local preschools, get information, and ask questions. Registration appreciated; drop-ins welcome. Friday, February 1st
from 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Parents & children welcome

****What Everyone Should Know About Wildlife:** Have you ever found a seemingly abandoned baby animal in your yard? Do you know what to do if there's a bat inside your house? Guilford Animal Control Officer Danielle Borrelli will share information that shoreline residents should know about wildlife to keep themselves, their children, and their pets safe, as well as how to identify and assist animals in distress. All ages welcome with adult supervision. Saturday, March 9th
from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Parents & children welcome

SPECIALS

Please Register for ****starred**** programs

****No-sew blankets for shelter pets:** Families are encouraged to work together to create no-sew fleece blankets which the library will then donate to animal shelters in need, providing warmth and comfort to pets awaiting their forever homes. We provide the materials and instruction, you provide the helping hands. This is the first in our year-long Mutt-i-grees in the Library series, teaching compassion and community with the help of animals. Limited space. Thursday, January 3rd
from 4:30 - 6:30 pm All ages

Pajama Storytime: Wear your comfiest pajamas to the library for this special evening storytime, featuring songs, puppets, and flannel board stories led by librarian Sara Bartelmo. Stuffed animals and pillows encouraged. Thursday, January 10th
from 6:30 - 7:00 pm All ages

Take Your Child To The Library Day: Stop by to decorate a tote bag for all your library books. We supply the materials, you supply the creativity. One per child, while supplies last.

Saturday, February 2nd
from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm All ages

****Valentine's Day Story & Craft:** Hear a delightful Valentine's Day story and make a lovely themed craft with librarian Sara Bartelmo. Please only sign up for your appropriate age group. Space is limited. Monday, February 11th
from 11:00 - 11:45 am Ages 3 to 5 OR
Monday, February 11th
from 4:15 - 5:00 pm Ages 6 & up

****DIY Dog Treats (Tween & Teen Program):** Students in grades 5 through 12 are welcome to bake a double-batch of home-made dog treats: one to take home, and one to donate to shelters in need. Mutt-i-grees in the Library event. Thursday, February 28th
from 3:30-4:30pm Grades 5 to 12 only

****Annie and the Natural Wonder Band:** Annie and Safari Bob will sing songs about creatures great and small while children get up and dance to the wonders of nature in this fabulous family performance. Tuesday, March 19th
from 4:30-5:30pm All ages

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Library... continued from page 11

****Weekend Wildlife:** One Saturday each month, come to the library to learn about local wildlife and meet animals & plants. Check back with the library for dates and themes. Registration required for each individual event.

Saturdays, 1/12, & 3/16
from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Ages 4 & up

****In-Be-Tween:** Join us for two Wednesdays each month. Sometimes art, sometimes science, sometimes food, but always a great time! Check back with the library for dates and themes. Registration required for each separate event.

Jan. 9 & 30, Feb. 13 & 27, & Mar. 6 & 20
from 3:30- 4:30pm 5th & 6th graders

SERIES

Open to All - Please Register for ****starred**** programs

****Paws & Read:** Reading can be stressful for children who are struggling with it, and reading to a silent furry partner can help. Sign up for a 15 minute reading slot with one of our licensed therapy dogs: Chief or Miley, and dog handler Howard Taylor, or Lucy, and dog handler Ellen Silberman, or Denver, and dog handler Kimber Tanaka. Parent/legal guardian must sign a permission form for their child to be alone in the room with the dog and handler.

-Dates and times for Chief or Miley

Tuesdays, January 8-March 26
from 4:00 - 5:00 pm Ages 6 & up

-Dates and times for Lucy

Thursdays, January 10-March 28
from 4:00 - 5:00 pm Ages 6 & up

-Dates and times for Denver

Saturdays, 1/12, 1/26, 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/16, & 3/30
from 10:00 - 11:00 am Ages 6 & up

-Dates and times for Chief or Miley

Tuesdays, January 8-March 26
from 4:00 - 5:00 pm Ages 6 & up

****Crazy 8s Math Club:** This is not your ordinary math club. Numbers are anything but boring in this after school program. Kids will jump, play, and build to learn mathematical concepts while having tons of fun. Both new and returning students are welcome for Crazy 8s Math Clubs from Bedtime Math.

Tuesdays, January 8th - February 26th
from 4:00 - 5:00 pm Grades K to 2

Tuesdays, January 8th - February 26th
from 5:15 - 6:15 pm Grades 3 to 5

Crafternoons: Get creative at the library! We supply the materials, you supply the imagination. Build and take home anything you can dream up. No need to register.

Mondays, Jan. 14, Feb. 4, Mar. 18
from 3:30 - 6:30 pm All ages

****Tots & Tunes:** Come and enjoy a musical program with your toddlers and preschoolers. Dance to great children's music, play musical instruments, and swing scarves.

Tuesdays, January 15th through March 5th,
from 10:00 - 10:30 am Ages 0 to 5
OR Wednesdays, January 16th through March 6th,
from 10:00 - 10:30 am Ages 0 to 5

****Baby Time:** Meet other parents while you learn about developmental issues and let your babies play together. Please register, and receive a free gift for your baby. (With Guilford Youth & Family Services.)

Mondays, January 7th through February 11th (skip 1/21)
from 9:30 - 10:00 am Ages 0 to 11 months

****One On Ones:** A playful time with songs, stories, and poems led by library staff for toddler & parent/caregiver.

Fridays, January 4th through February 8th
from 9:30-10:00am Ages 12 to 23 months

****Time For Twos:** A parent-child introduction to a traditional story time with books, songs, marching and more, led by library staff for toddlers & parent/caregiver.

Thursdays, January 3rd through February 7th
from 9:30 - 10:00 am Ages 24 to 36 months

LEGO® Building Club: Join us one Friday each month from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm. We will build theme-based projects and put them on display in the children's room.

January 18th, February 15th, & March 15th
from 4:00 - 5:00 pm Kindergarten & up

Books-In-A-Nook: Listen to stories read in a quiet corner of the Children's Room. Community volunteers or library staff will read to you from new books and the library's special story collection.

Wednesdays, January 2nd through March 27th
from 11:00-11:30am All ages

Storytime: Children and their parents are welcome to join us for special stories, songs, puppets, and finger plays with the children's staff.

Thursdays, January 17th through March 28th
from 11:00 - 11:30 am Ages 3 & up

Pop-In-Playtime: Parents come! Meet your friends! Let your children play! All in a corner of the Children's Room.

Tuesdays and Wednesdays, Jan. 2nd through March 27th
from 10:30 - 11:30 am All ages

Registration for Spring Programs begins Tuesday, March 12th at 9:00 am, Guilford Free Library, 67 Park Street, Guilford, CT 06437
203-453-8282 | www.guilfordfreelibrary.org

Teen Programs

STARGAZING

All ages, Wednesday, January 16 at 7:00 pm. Have you ever looked at the stars with wonder and awe and wanted a closer look? Enjoy an overview of the Library's telescope, seasonal objects, and meteorites. We will go outdoors for sky viewings through the telescope, weather permitting. Please dress warmly! Presented by members of the Astronomical Society of New Haven.

LOADED POTATO SKINS

5th graders and up, Thursday, January 17 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Learn how to make a crowd-pleasing appetizer: loaded potato skins! Taste testing is highly encouraged once the potatoes are done.

ZENTANGLE

5th graders and up, Fridays, January 18, February 15, and March 15 from 4:00 to 5:30 pm. Zentangle is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. Join Ezia 'Z' Leach for this workshop where you will learn how to create your own zentangle design. Please plan on attending all 3 sessions.

TO BE READ

7th graders and up, Thursday, January 24 from 6 to 7:30 pm. Looking for the next hot read? Something new and exciting? Join

us for an exclusive look at some amazing books coming out in the next few months. At TBR you will be the first to get a sneak peek at the best new books BEFORE they hit the stacks! You might also have a chance to leave with a free book! Presented by Kathy Sharp (Formerly of R.J. Julia) along with other fellow book lovers. Snacks will be served!

EXAM CRAM

High school students, Tuesday, January 29 from 8:00 to 10:00 pm. The Library will stay open late to accommodate high school students studying for exams.

COLLEGE4LESS

High school students and parents, Wednesday, January 30 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. College4Less of North Haven will present a free workshop for college financial planning. Topics covered include the FAFSA and other college forms, how to lower "out-of-pocket" costs, how to receive the best financial aid packages, and more.

OREO TASTE TEST CHALLENGE

5th graders and up, Friday, February 8 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Taste them. Guess them. Rate them. Taste a variety of different kinds of Oreos! See if you can guess the flavor and rate your favorites. Plus, make brownie covered Oreos too!

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PRACTICE SAT EXAM

High school students, Saturday, February 9 from 10 am to 1:30 pm. The Princeton Review will administer a free practice SAT exam. Please bring a calculator and snacks.

VALENTINE'S YOGA: Practicing Unconditional Self Love

7th graders and up, Monday, February 11 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Be your own Valentine and treat yourself to some self care! Yoga instructor Sarah Kostandin (RYT 200) of Head Heart Yoga will show you how to practice breathing exercises, meditation, mantras, and physical poses to challenge the body and relax the mind. Indulge in a little self-love and learn how to take care of your mind, body, and spirit! Open to all levels. Please bring a mat or towel and wear comfortable clothes.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS WITH SCSU

All ages, Tuesday, February 26 at 7:00 pm. Representatives from Southern Connecticut State University's Admissions Office will give a talk on the college admissions process.

DIY DOG TREATS

5th graders and up, Thursday, February 28 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Learn how to make your own dog treats! Bring them home for your own furbaby, or donate them to a local shelter.

INTRO TO CRYPTOGRAPHY

All ages, Wednesday, March 6 at 7 pm. Join Walter Krawec, professor of computer science at UConn, on a talk about cryptography. Learn how historical ciphers lead to the computer security of today!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY SCAVENGER HUNT

5th graders and up, Thursday, March 14 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Go on a St. Patrick's Day themed scavenger hunt around the library. How many gold coins can you find?

SOLAR OBSERVATION

5th graders and up, Thursday, March 21 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Use the Library's telescope to safely observe the sun! Presented by members of the Astronomical Society of New Haven.

TEEN PAINT NIGHT

7th graders and up, Tuesday, March 26 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Join Pam from Pam's Picassos as she guides you through creating your own masterpiece. You will leave with a finished painting!

DIY CHALKBOARD FRAME

5th graders and up, Friday, March 29 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Create a photo frame that doubles as a chalkboard!

PRACTICE ACT EXAM

High school students, Saturday, March 30 from 10:00 am to

1:30 pm. The Princeton Review will administer a free practice ACT exam. Please bring a calculator and snacks. Drop In Programs:

GAME NIGHT

All ages, Thursdays, January 17, February 21, and March 21 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Play games with friends, family, or strangers. You do you. Bring your own or play one of the Library's!

FOOD AROUND THE WORLD

5th-8th graders, Wednesday, January 23 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at Guilford Community Center. Come join us to learn about cultures from around the world at this half day event. Sample different foods from local restaurants for free!

Adult Programs

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Book a Lawyer - Free 15-minute legal consultations offered most Monday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Call the Reference Desk at: 203-453-8282 for more information.

Book Buzz - Join us the second Tuesday of each month at 11:00 am (Jan. 8, Feb. 12, Mar. 12) to discuss the latest books. No registration necessary, just drop in!

OPERA TALKS

Cosponsored by Shoreline Village CT. (Each program begins at 7:00 pm and is scheduled a few days prior to the broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera production at Regal Cinema in Branford)

January 31	Bizet's "Carmen" with Janna Baty, Yale School of Music
February 28	Donizetti's opera "Fille du Regiment" with Paul Hawkshaw, Professor Emeritus, Yale School of Music
March 28	Wagner's "Die Walkure" with Paul Hawkshaw, Professor Emeritus, Yale School of Music
May 8	Poulenc's "Dialogues des Carmélites" with Marc Verzatt, International Stage Director

BOOKS, ART & MUSIC

January 7	Writing Injustice Film Screening, "I Am Not Your Negro" (2016), 6:30 pm
January 10	"Animal Viruses and Humans" with Dr. Warren Andiman, 7:00 pm
January 16 & 23	"Write Your Own Memoir" a 2-part workshop with Margaret Flesher, 4:00 pm
January 16	Stargazing with Members of the Astronomical Society of New Haven
January 17	"Why To Kill a Mockingbird Matters" a Book talk with Tom Santopietro, 7:00 pm
January 24	Capstone Presentations by Guilford High School Students, 3:00 pm

- February 6 Paint Night for Adults, 7:00 pm
 February 7 "The Stone Walls of New England" with Andrew Pig, 7:00 pm
 February 7, 14, 21, 28
 4-part Class "Introduction to American Mah Jongg" with Elizabeth Santoro, 1:00 to 2:30 pm
 February 13 Composting with Terri Cain, 6:30 pm
 February 20 "Brown Girl, Brown Stones" Writing Injustice Book Discussion, 7:00 pm
 February 27 "The Complexities of Cancer: Utilizing our differences to personalize treatment" with the Yale Science Diplomats, 7:00 pm
 March 6 "Introduction to Cryptography" with Walter Krawec, 7:00 pm
 March 7 "Complicity" and Guilford's history of trading with slaveholders in the Carolinas and West Indies" featuring Dennis Culliton, 7:00 pm
 March 11 - April 15
 6-Part Series on Mondays, "Dante" with Carol Rizzolo, Co-sponsored by SSIL, 11:00 am
 March 13 Concert with Kenn Morr Band, 7:00 pm
 March 14 Guilford Poets Guild, 6:30 pm
 March 20 Guilford Conservation Committee Talk, 6:30 pm
 March 21 Mark Schenker Discussion "Three Tall Women" by Edward Albee, 7:00 pm
 March 27 Yale Science Diplomats From Micro to Macro: Small Molecules with Big Effects, 7:00 pm

FILMS

Monday Night Movies: A film every Monday evening at 7:00 pm beginning in February. Check our website: www.guilfordfreelibrary.org for current listings.

TECHNOLOGY

"Book a Librarian"- Free technology and research assistance is available by appointment every Tuesday and Thursday morning. Address the topic of your choice in a one-on-one session with a professional librarian. Small group computer classes and drop-in sessions are regularly scheduled throughout the year. Check www.guilfordfreelibrary.org for the most current listings.

Guilford Free Library
 203-453-8282
www.guilfordfreelibrary.org

Youth & Family Services

Guilford Youth & Family Services and the Guilford Police Department are co-sponsoring several "HOME ALONE" sessions. The Home Alone Program is a safety course for Guilford youth ages 9 and older.

Three dates have been scheduled:

Thursdays: January 31, March 7 and May 2 2019.
 The program runs 4:00 - 6:00 pm at the Guilford Police Dept. Meeting Room. Students will learn ways to feel more comfortable when home alone; how to prevent accidents, handle emergencies, internet safety and more. There is a \$5.00 fee to cover the cost of dinner and scholarships are available. Registration is required as space is limited to 18 students per class. Contact GY&FS at: 36 Graves Avenue, Guilford, 203-453-8047 for a registration form and to sign up for the date your child is able to attend!

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www.ci.guilford.ct.us

We hope you will find our website to be a useful tool to find updated information and explore our wonderful community.



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Guilford Police Department

2019 CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

The Guilford Police Department is seeking participants for the 2019 Citizens Police Academy beginning Thursday, March 21st through Thursday, May 23rd 2019. As the Department strives for transparency, the Citizens Police Academy provides a hands-on opportunity to educate the citizens of Guilford on the operations of the Department while obtaining valuable feedback from citizens to enhance police and community relations.

The 10-week Citizens Police Academy will include over 30 hours of instruction taught in 3-hour sessions every Thursday evening from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. We ask that participants commit for all 10 weeks to complete the program. The training includes interactive classroom participation, a department overview, elements of crimes, laws, a range day, patrol ride-a-long, K9 demonstrations, federal and state agencies. Classes will be held at the Guilford Police Department Community Room located at 400 Church Street.

If you have questions, contact Sgt. Jakober in the Crime Prevention Unit at: 203-453-8061. Applications will be at the Guilford Police Department, on our Facebook Page, and on the Guilford Police Department website, www.guilfordpd.com. The deadline for applications is March 15th, 2019 and the class size is limited to 30 people. Participants must be Guilford residents and 16 years of age or older. Sixteen and 17 year olds must have written permission from a parent or guardian to participate. A standard background check will be completed on each applicant.

IRS SCAMS/SOCIAL SECURITY SCAMS/PHONE SCAMS

This time of year, IRS scammers and Social Security scammers are looking to steal your money. Thousands receive fake letters from the IRS, fake phone calls and fake emails indicating that they owe back taxes. These scammers inform the victim that they will be penalized, both criminally and financially, if they do not pay the amount due immediately. The written correspondence appears legitimate with IRS letterhead formatting and personal information. The phone calls are equally convincing and very intimidating. The truth is, the IRS will not call, email or send a letter of that nature in a not certified fashion. The IRS will want to know if you have received a letter and document the contact via certified return/receipt letter.

If you receive some type of correspondence from the IRS or a call from someone claiming to be the IRS, contact the IRS directly via the online listed number, not the number listed in the letter, email or phone call. Do not give out your personal information. If they are calling you, they will have it. Tell them you will call them back on the number listed for the IRS online or in the phone book. Often times, the caller will hang up as they have realized that you have been educated on the scam and will not be a willing victim at that point.

Taking the extra step to determine if the IRS contact is legitimate will save you, possibly thousands of dollars, down the road. The IRS website has a list of known common scams associated with their agency. What you should know, is that this scam list is evolving almost daily as scammers out there seek to relieve you of your money in new ways. For more information go to IRS.gov or call the New Haven office at: 203-492-8609.

The Social Security scams are equally as real. They are most often a phone call from someone identifying themselves as an investigator with the Social Security Administration. The caller advises that the victim's Social Security number belonging to the victim has been suspended or deactivated. Ignore this call. Do not call back on the number they provide. If you have concerns, please call the Social Security Administration on their main listed number.

COMPUTER SCAMS

Have you received the call from "Microsoft" claiming something is wrong with your computer and they need access to it to fix the "bug." It's a scam. Microsoft will not call you to fix anything. The caller is attempting to gain access to your computer for one of two things. Either they are accessing your computer to take information from your hard drive or they are downloading a "keystroke virus" that will document your login and password information for banks, email, or other sites that contain personal financial information. They will use this information to steal your identity and wreak havoc on your credit.

Have you ever heard of "click bait"? The scammers are hoping you haven't and are fishing for victims with links they send in emails or videos on social media. Click bait is something as simple as an article with an interesting title that you 'click' your computer mouse on to view. While you are viewing the link, the virus is spreading throughout your computer. The viruses vary. Some just steal your email contact lists or social media contact lists. Others access personal information and search for usernames and passwords for online banking, insurance and tax sites. Don't fall victim to this scam. If you don't know who sent the email, if the email looks suspicious from someone you do know or if the article or video is not from a trusted source, DON'T OPEN IT. Just delete it or skip over it on social media. Make sure your anti-virus software is up to date on your computer and if you think your computer may have been accessed, disconnect it from the internet and bring it to a computer expert to make sure it is not infected.


Have you ever typed in the wrong website into your browser? For instance, google.com instead of google.com. Hackers are counting on you to misspell websites and then will send you an alert that you have a virus on your computer. The alert looks
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Police Department... continued from page 16

official, like it was sent from Microsoft or Apple. However, the virus alert is false and the scammers are trying to get you to click on the link they provide or call the number they provide to get access to your computer. If you see this happen, close your browser and disconnect it from the internet. Clear your browser history, clear the cache and cookies. Reboot the computer and you should be fine. Again, make sure you have up to date virus protection on your computer.

There is no definitive way to protect from all viruses and scams but the most important tool for computer safety is educating yourself on the scams and viruses out there. These criminals are lurking out there and waiting for someone to fall into their trap. See the Federal Trade Commission's website for further information on scams and computer crimes: <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/> To report these types of crimes go to <http://www.ic3.gov> to make sure the complaints are tracked and investigated.

MEDICATION DROP BOX

The Guilford Police Department has a Medication Drop Box in our front lobby which is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and is free of charge. This medication drop provides an environmentally safe alternative to disposing of medications in the landfill, septic systems or sewer systems, that may later negatively affect the environment. Unused or expired medication can pose a risk to children, family members, and caretakers. It can also be misused or abused, leading to serious complications, overdose, even death. Please feel free to stop by the station anytime to properly dispose of unused medications, no questions asked. Last year the Guilford Police Department safely disposed of over

800 lbs. of unused medications that could have otherwise gotten into the wrong hands. Please no needles or liquids in the medication box. Thank you for continuing to help us save the environment and our community!

CHILD SAFETY SEAT CLINICS

The Guilford Police Department hosts Child Safety Seat Clinics on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the station located at 400 Church St. This install is completed by officers who are certified Child Safety Seat Technicians through the CT SafeKids program. The installs only take a few minutes and can save a child's life. The inspections and installs are free of charge and open to residents and non-residents. Call 203-453-8061 for any questions.

FINGERPRINTING

The Guilford Police Department provides fingerprinting services to the public on Thursday evenings from 5:00 - 7:00 pm and Saturday mornings from 8:00 - 10:00 am. Arrive with your print cards as we do not have them available for the public and wait to sign them until you are with the officer lifting your prints.

GUILFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT FACEBOOK PAGE

Follow us on the Guilford Police Department Facebook page for more helpful tips and scam updates. Our page is public so you do not need a Facebook account to view the page and our postings. Join us for Coffee with a Cop to ask questions about this topic and more. Check our Facebook page for dates, times and locations. Thank you and stay safe!

The Guilford Foundation

LIVE HERE GIVE HERE



In 2018, the Guilford Foundation (TGF) committed nearly \$110,000 for initiatives and organizations serving Guilford, including grants for diapers for babies, the Witness Stones Project, tuition assistance for families in need, teen suicide prevention, and housing assistance, to name a few.

As we look towards 2019, we anticipate another year of intense funding requests. Thanks to our generous supporters and a prudent investment strategy, our permanent endowment has grown to over \$2.9 million. This will enable the Guilford Foundation to continue to address what-

ever the future brings through leadership and support to our citizens.

LOOKING FOR GRANT FUNDING?

TGF's annual application deadline for grant funding is March 15, 2019. Grant application materials-including the application and instructions-can be found on our website. Potential applicants are encouraged to attend one of two identical information sessions, to be held on Tuesday, February 5th, at 10:00 am and Wednesday, February 27th, at 10:00 am. RSVP to: jmullett@guilfordfoundation.org for location.

TGF also partners with Guilford High School's Interact Club to support the Youth Advisory Group. This group also accepts grant applications (also available on our

website). Their next annual deadline is April 1, 2019.

Looking to get involved? TGF has an annual dinner and celebration each year to review the previous year's accomplishments and present current strategies and efforts. TGF also has an electronic newsletter and Facebook page, which provide regular updates.

For more information, including ways to give, visit our website at www.guilfordfoundation.org. Thanks to the support of this amazing community, TGF is positioned better than ever to meet our mission to "connect people who care with causes that matter to them" and improve the quality of life in Guilford: now, and for generations to come.

Winter Pet Health Hazards

There are many pet health hazards to consider as winter begins. Despite their fur, cats and dogs are still susceptible to frostbite and hypothermia (low body temperature) and should not be left alone outdoors. Allow your pet to slowly acclimate to exercise in cold temperatures to avoid injury. Short-haired dogs should wear a sweater or coat on walks. Walks should be shortened in very cold weather to protect you both. If your pet is whining, shivering, slows down or stops moving, or seems weak, get him back inside quickly because he is showing signs of hypothermia. Arthritic and elderly pets may have difficulty walking on snow and ice and are prone to slipping and falling. Consult with your veterinarian about pain medications to keep your pet mobile and comfortable.

Paw pads can become cracked, split, or frostbitten, and snow or ice can accumulate in the fur between their toes. Consider using booties to protect paws. Alternatively you could massage petroleum jelly

into paw pads before going outside to help protect from salt and chemicals. After each walk, wash and dry your pet's feet and belly to remove ice, salt, or road chemicals which can cause irritation of the skin or mouth when they try to clean themselves. Consult your veterinarian to help treat split pads or severe skin irritations.

Outdoor cats or wildlife may seek shelter in warm car engines. You should always thump on the hood or honk the horn before starting the engine because these animals can receive serious and sometimes fatal injuries from the belts in the engine. Antifreeze is a lethal poison for dogs and cats, but it has a sweet taste that may attract them. Be sure to thoroughly clean up any spills from your vehicle. Don't leave pets alone in the car during cold weather, since cars can act as refrigerators that hold in and intensify the cold and your pet can't move around as much to keep warm.

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Vista To Host Beethoven-Themed Public Art Series

Vista Life Innovations, a community-based organization dedicated to supporting the personal success of individuals with disabilities, is partnering with Project: Music Heals Us to present Portraits of Beethoven, an interactive art series that explores the life of famed composer Ludwig van Beethoven through visual and performing arts.

Sponsored by the Danielle Rose Paikin Foundation, Portraits of Beethoven will

feature two paint nights at Water's Edge Resort and Spa in Westbrook where attendees will paint images that tie into Beethoven's life story. No prior painting experience is required and all artistic abilities are welcome to participate.

Based on Beethoven's incredible life journey, this series combines the missions of both Vista and Project: Music Heals Us, a nonprofit organization that uses music to

educate, encourage and heal diverse populations, including the homeless, disabled and elderly. The goal of this collaborative project is to inspire, motivate and unite the community at large through the power of music and creative expression.

The paint nights are scheduled for Jan. 16 and Jan. 23 at Water's Edge. For more information about Portraits of Beethoven, contact Jessica Lillge at: 860-399-8080 ext. 269.

With the Promise of Spring at The Dudley Farm



The Big Barn Project is nearing completion.

We need those cold nights and sunny days to make the sap flow.

The last of the holiday cookies are now reduced to crumbs; Super Bowl Sunday is on its way. The Dudley Farm sheep are huddled up and keeping warm. And the

Dudley Farm grounds continue to be busy: The Big Barn Project is nearing completion, our reconstructed milk house is in place, and the icehouse will soon be here. The Farmers' Market returns Saturday, February 2nd in the 1890 Munger Barn, and will be there the first Saturday of each month until May. Come visit between 9:00 am and 12:30 pm to buy special gifts, and maybe some goodies to eat Sunday morning - or Saturday night! Interested in becoming a vendor? Contact Martha at market@dudleyfarm.com. And keep an eye on the market's Facebook page for updates at: www.facebook.com/DudleyFarmFarmersMarket/.

If the weather cooperates, we will demonstrate making maple syrup in our sugar house in February. This is a great opportunity for kids - and adults - to spend some time outside and learn how this favorite New England treat is made. As always it is best to check our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/dudleyfarmmuseum/ for updates. We need those cold nights and sunny days to make the sap flow.

We are excited to be able to offer a 2-day workshop in rug hooking March 23rd and 24th. Both an art and a craft, these rugs are made by pulling loops of yarn or fabric through a stiff woven base such as burlap, linen, or rug warp. Rug hooking as we know it today probably developed along the Eastern Seaboard of New England after 1830 when floor coverings came into vogue, and women began looking through their scrap bags for materials to create their own home-made floor coverings. We are fortunate to have Michele Micarelli (michellemicarelli.com) as our instructor, a certified rug hooking teacher whose main objective is to unleash creativity. Michelle has been hooking rugs for more than 25 years. Fee charged, and includes lunch. For more information please see our website: www.dudleyfarm.com, Facebook page, or email: director@dudleyfarm.com. And as usual, we hope to see you "down on the farm."

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Supplemental Feeding for Birds During the Winter

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

But, it's January. Days are short and cold. Nights are long, and colder. Birds have few daylight hours in which to find seeds, fruit, and a few insects to sustain them through the night. Even if you have planned your landscape and garden to provide shelter, water, and food producing plants, supplemental feeding is still recommended.

Most songbirds, during the spring and summer, have a diet that is largely insect based. This food supply is usually abundant, and highly nutritious. With the onset of fall and winter, seeds and fruits become the main source of food for both the migratory and permanent resident birds. During these seasons, backyard feeders can help to sustain bird populations.

WHAT TO FEED?

Certainly, providing a mix of seeds, fruit, and suet cakes will attract a diversity of species, but there are several key foods that one may want to purchase. In our region, black-oil sunflower seeds attract the greatest number of species. They are nutritious and high in fat, providing a good energy source. They have a high meat-to-shell ratio, and shells are easily cracked by both small and large birds.

"Nijer" or thistle seed is the preferred seed for finches. Because it is small and somewhat expensive, it is best to provide this seed in a special nijer feeder, rather than including it in a feeder of mixed seed.

Safflower seed is preferred by cardinals and grosbeaks, and is rarely eaten by squirrels. It can be fed separately, or mixed into your sunflower seed to discourage squirrels and starlings from visiting your feeder.

Ground feeding birds, such as doves, prefer cracked corn and white millet. Both of these seeds are generally found in a good quality seed mix, and seed that falls from the feeder is readily eaten.

Woodpeckers, chickadees, and nuthatches (insect eating birds) appreciate the high energy suet cakes that often contain additional bird seed or fruit. The cakes do not go rancid, and can be fed year round.

Feeders should be placed close enough to trees and shrubs to provide cover and shelter for the birds, but far enough away (10') to prevent jumping off places for squirrels and cats. Feeders should be kept clean, and the hulls and seeds that collect beneath your feeder should be raked up every few weeks. Water is as important for birds in winter as it is in summer. Using two round cake pans will allow you to fill one each day, bringing in the second one to thaw during freezing temperatures.

Lastly, consider Citizen Science and participating in one of the feeder counts. CT Audubon Society and Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology have annual feeder counts to help monitor the population trends of our avian friends.

Events Presents - SAYBROOK HOME

A new look and name for Saybrook Country Barn

Family owned and operated retailer, Saybrook Country Barn, located in Old Saybrook, CT has a new name for its longstanding retail location. It will now be known as Saybrook Home. A cornerstone of Old Saybrook (located at the foot of Main Street), the 41-year-old business, owned and operated by the Bolles Family, has continued to evolve as one of the area's largest shoreline retail destinations for the home. It started as a 4000 square foot home and barn. Today, it boasts 42,000 square feet of retail shopping, sprawling between 2 buildings featuring fine quality furniture, home décor, exquisite gifts, hardware & lighting, unique area rugs, custom window treatments and a large selection of designer men's and women's apparel and accessories. Saybrook Home also offers custom interior design consultations and personalized shopping experiences by their experienced and professional staff.

"It has been over forty years since my grandmother founded what was originally

the Marlborough Country Barn. She had a simple philosophy for the business: provide great products, with great service, listen to your customers, and live your best life. Well, our customers have spoken and we have listened, which is why we are changing our name from Saybrook Country Barn to Saybrook Home," said Keith A. Bolles, managing partner. "We are excited for our future, and look forward to helping customers Live Their Best Lives for many generations to come."

The new brand, Saybrook Home, achieves that "welcome home" feeling to resonate with existing customers and connect with those of the future. "We wanted to capture the essence of our core values and mission and, at the end of the day, don't we all just feel better when we are at home?" says Cheryl Mader, General Manager at Saybrook Home.

To celebrate the launch of Saybrook Home, the store is dressed and ready for the holidays. From seasonal custom pillows and throws, placed upon today's top furniture brands to favorite designer sweaters and accessories in the apparel



Owners (L-R) Keith A. Bolles, Jane Bolles, Keith Bolles, Sr.

shop, Saybrook Home welcomes you to explore its new brand at their Old Saybrook, CT destination along with a newly designed website saybrookhome.com.

Saybrook Home
2 Main Street
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

Guilford Preservation Alliance (GPA)

HAPPY NEW YEAR ONE AND ALL!

The Guilford Preservation Alliance has installed a new map case at the information center kiosk paid for by the Guilford Garden Club - located next to the Community Center. This case will house a large map of all the recreation sites and hiking trails in Guilford. Maps for these locations and trails will be available as well. Watch for this important information coming this spring.

GPA'S WEBSITE: visitguilfordct.com

The GPA's website visitguilfordct.com is proving very successful. There were 21,163 visitors to the site from May 1 to Oct 11 this year, compared with 14,410 visitors during the same period last year. This is an increase of 46.9% over last year. The highest website usage is in July, August, and September.

Most users are seeking information about specific events, e.g., St George's Men's Group Italian Fest, the Guilford Fair, Beau Bolero Steeley Dan Tribute Concert, or Taste of the Shoreline. Also popular is general information about Things to Do, or destinations such as the Guilford Green, Lake Quonnapaug, Chaffinch Island Park, Jacob's Beach, or East River Preserve. Many people do not realize that we have over twenty-five hiking trails in Guilford, and each is listed and described on the site.

While the website's primary focus has been on encouraging visitors to the shoreline area to consider coming to Guilford, it is also becoming a useful-and well-used-resource for our local residents and businesses. Our Events Calendar welcomes notices of special events from any organization in town; users should go to the site visitguilfordct.com and click on Contact Us to post their event, free of charge. Businesses can post an advertisement for a nominal annual charge, and non-profit organizations can post theirs for free-look under Things to Do for examples, and click on Contact Us for information on how to do this.

You have undoubtedly seen the free-standing touchscreen at the Information Plaza next to the Community Center on Church Street. This shows a slightly modified version



Carol Stephan presents Shirley Girioni, Guilford Preservation Alliance president, with a check for \$437.00 to cover the cost of the map case.

To Shirley's right and left are Tracy Tomaselli and Marcia Safirstein (Allison Alkire absent) GPA members who worked on this project with Kevin Magee, Town Environmental Planner. Mary Repetti consulted on the map graphic design.

of the online website, and is also popular with residents and visitors alike.

GPA SUPPORTS BELL TOWER RESTORATION

The GPA has made a \$50,000 loan to the North Guilford Congregational Church towards the restoration of the church bell tower. These funds were made available through the Huge McK. Jones Trust Fund and its mission to support the preservation of historic Guilford.

GPA WORKS TO PROTECT HISTORIC DAVIS HOUSE

GPA has entered into discussions with Yale New Haven Hospital regarding the protection, restoration and reuse of the historic Davis House, which is conspicuously located in front of the hospital's medical center property on Goose Lane at Ext 59 Guilford. The house, which was last used as the Sachem Country House Restaurant and closed in 2003, has an extraordinarily rich history connected to the history of Guilford, of Connecticut, and of the country as a whole.

James Davis, Jr., who served in the American Revolutionary War, built the house ca 1792. But the house's history took on a dramatic new significance during the Civil War, when it was owned by Captain and Mrs. George Bartlett who resided there from the time of their marriage in 1821 to 1893. There was an additional role that the Bartletts and the house played in the fight against slavery.



GPA gives loan to the North Guilford Congregational Church for its bell tower restoration project. Left to right: from NGCC is Greg Ward, Pastor Judith Cooke, and Michael Sinclair. From GPA is Shirley Girioni and Kristen Sibley.

George Bartlett became a radical abolitionist, whose strong religious values and conscience put him and his family at risk standing up against slavery. Distraught by the stance of the First Congregational Church, he founded and led construction of the Third Congregational Church of Guilford (now the First Church of Christ, Scientist) at 49 Park Street. The Third Church resolved that the "Fugitive Slave Act is unconstitutional and condemns innocent men to perpetual bondage without due process of law or trial any jury..." The 9th resolve of the Third Church stated that, "As Christians, we will not only protect the fugitives, but by our prayers, our votes and all legitimate means we will labor for the deliverance of those who are yet pining in bonds and writhing under the lash of Southern oppression." Bartlett publicly prayed and pleaded for the enslaved. He broke the law to protect escaped slaves.

In a 1986 taped interview, a granddaughter of the Bartletts, Bessie Hall Watrous, told now Town Historian Joel Helander of her Grandfather Bartlett's pride for the role he played in the Underground Railroad. Watrous said the Bartlett House was a "station", where Ruth and George hid and fed runaway slaves in their cellar until people from Old Saybrook would take them on the next leg of their journey to freedom.

The third phase of the house's significance

came just after the turn of the century. Beecher and Louise Crouse, a wealthy Utica, New York couple, acquired the farmhouse in 1925 as a country retreat. As ardent preservationists during the Colonial Revival period, they retained renowned architect and architectural historian J. Frederick Kelly of Yale, to restore the house and add north/south wings to the structure. Great grandchildren of the Crouses who live in Florida and Colorado, were contacted by Joel Helander and subsequently came to Guilford in July of this year. At a ceremony organized by the GPA, the Crouse family presented original family photography, architectural drawings, and specifications to the hospital officials.

Lastly, the house became a Guilford icon in 1950, when it was converted to a restaurant by Andrew Valente and was closed in 2003, while under the proprietorship of the Khorsandi Family. The large addition was added to the front of the building as a cocktail lounge and event space by Valente. The house has been vacant for 15 years.

Research about the house and its residents used for this article was conducted and assembled by Guilford Town Historian, Joel Helander. Howard Brown also contributed. The GPA committee working with the hospital also includes Dennis Culliton and GPA President Shirley Girioni.

To learn more about the GPA visit: www.guilfordpreservation.org

Guilford Art Center

7TH ANNUAL OPEN ARTS DAY

Sunday, January 6, 2019 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Free and open to the public

The GAC studios will be open with instructor artists demonstrating and offering hands-on art projects. Adults and children are invited to try out an art form that you want to learn more about. Drop by and explore: pottery, blacksmithing, drawing, painting, metalsmithing, kids art and more! Discover a class or workshop that you might want to take. Feel free to ask us questions and found out more. This is also the last day of our Artistry Holiday Shopping event - all items will be on sale.

WINTER SEMESTER 2019

Runs from January 14 - March 10

Registration is open and ongoing throughout the semester for classes and workshops for all ages and abilities. See the entire catalog of classes on our website at: www.guilfordartcenter.org and register online or call 203-453-5947.

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Dr. Robert Ballard - The Race to Save the Human Race by Sigrid Kun



Above center, increasing our oceans' productivity can provide the way to human survival.



Above right, each Nautilus expedition includes scientists, student interns, and educators.

Just back from the last leg of a 7 month-long expedition by his Corps of Exploration, Dr. Robert Ballard was at his Lyme, CT home - busy summarizing the 2018 series of expeditions by his 64-meter exploration vessel, the E/V Nautilus. Yes, he discovered the Titanic in 1985 (old news, he says, of what was actually a cover for a top secret naval operation). Yes, his work caused a wholesale change in how science was taught by uncovering the secrets of plate tectonics and hydro thermal vents (a revolutionary revelation evidencing that sunlight wasn't needed to support life). And the 30-year naval veteran and /geologist/undersea robotics developer/explorer has for so many years revealed to the world human history lost beneath the sea - with over 35 National Geographic television specials and countless books. After 150+ expeditions, starting at age 17, retirement isn't in the works for the 76-year old.

Our Oceans - The Last Frontier

Dr. Ballard's unrelenting pursuit of ocean education and exploration through his non-profit organization, the Ocean Exploration Trust ("OET"), is urgent. There are sobering facts: 95% of the Earth's population lives on less than 5% of the Earth's surface; farmland is being replaced with housing tracts; while 95% of all living space is located in largely unexplored international waters. But 90% of all large, predatory fish have been hunted down and killed. The carrying capacity of our planet is already at the brink. By 2050 we will not have enough food to feed everyone.

The Wichita, Kansas-born explorer explains that the Earth's waters, largely unexplored, are the human race's final hope. "I'm worried about the human race," he says. "The big question is, will the human race survive? The Earth will be fine. The planet is a creature. It was born. It evolves. It will die. It just has a long life expectancy. But there's no Plan B for the human race." The key, he says, is to move from hunting/gathering in the ocean to creating productive waters via deep sea farming - just as society thousands of years ago moved away from hunting and gathering on the Earth's lands and into organized food production. Every Ballard/OET/Nautilus expedition provides vital information as to how our Earth's waters can provide for the survival of humanity. The programs run on

multiple tracks; internships, community STEM and STEAM (to include the Arts) programs, and fellowships. Each ocean expedition includes scientists, student interns and educators as part of the Nautilus corps. The OET website is maintained on a 24/7 basis while the Nautilus is at sea to provide for live communication and interaction. During the last expedition, over 24,000 questions were answered live. Each expedition cultivates a new set of students and mentors (both on and off-board). "The key is to do it wave after wave after wave," he says. To make a difference you needed to reach millions of students.

No Boundaries

Dr. Ballard's message, however, is about more than just the ocean. Life's lessons include understanding one's self. Dr. Ballard is dyslexic. For quite a while, he didn't even know it. It took the book "*The Dyslexic Advantage*" to explain me to me. It was a strange but enlightening experience. Those affected (which is 10% of the population) are often loathe to admit it. To him, it is a gift - an interesting advantage. "I created a dyslexic world that I excel in," he explains. Dyslexia has caused him to rely on visualization and memorization. "It's perfect," he says. "In the sea, it's all dark...it's pitch black. But the water goes away and I see everything." He recalls a dive in 1986 to explore the Titanic. Everything went wrong. No sonar. No tracking. Landing 12,000 feet below surface in the mud, there were no signs of the Titanic to the other crew members. "It's over there," pointed Ballard. And, indeed, the Titanic was.

Dr. Ballard is also a keen proponent for empowering women. As he puts it "males as top leaders is by their design." Empowering women, he maintains, is a key to saving the human race. Accordingly, he mandates that 50% of his team be comprised of women.

Where Do We Go From Here?

Dr. Ballard is a problem solver - from 15 years spent restoring an earlier home to jigsaw puzzles (even when the 1,000 pieces are the same shade of blue, with no border pieces, holes in the puzzle, and extra pieces just for kicks.) But he doesn't have the ultimate answer. Will the human race survive? "I am a realist. The Earth is becoming aware of us and deeming us as a threat," he observes. "We still have time but indications are we are going in the wrong direction." What can we do? "Look at the first 12 feet around you. Look at what you are doing," urges the avid recycler. "Leave things better than you found them. That's what my grandmother taught me."

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