


# Guilford events

VOLUME 9 • QUARTER 4 • 2020

COVID Recovery Campaign

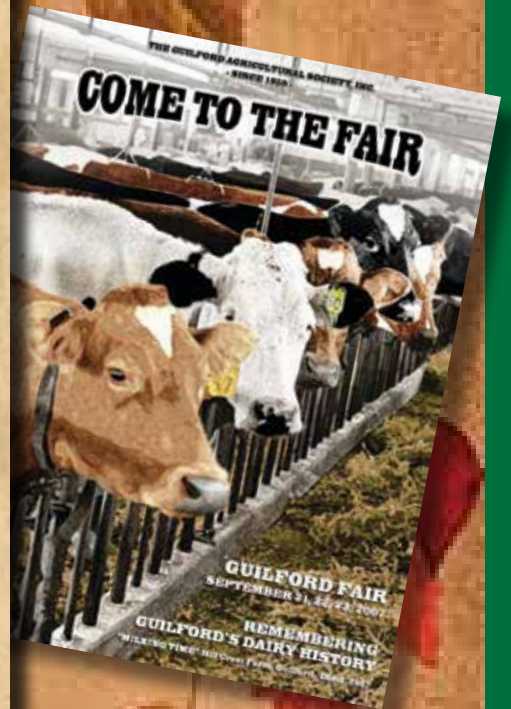
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# The First Selectman's Corner

The end of summer brought some severe storms to our area and I want to commend the great work that our police, fire and public works departments did to make sure residents were safe and that roads were opened as soon as possible. We have provided comments to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) and the legislature on Eversource's performance during this time.

The start of this school year went very well. Although it looks a little different this year with the hybrid model that was implemented, the administration and staff worked hard and did an exceptional job making the schools safe for the return of teachers and students.

I am pleased to report that Guilford continues to have the lowest COVID-19 infection rate among neighboring communities. I attribute this to our community following all the various safety protocols. Our continued vigilance will help keep our numbers down and help keep our residents safe during this time.

The Town of Guilford has recently lost three valuable employees with the retirement of Economic Development Coordinator Brian McGlone, In-House Counsel/Purchasing Director Pam Millman and Health Director Dennis Johnson. Brian was with the Town for nine years in his position and during that

time he guided the economic growth of the Town, helping to bring in many large projects. During her 12-year tenure Pam oversaw the Town's purchasing functions and insured that all facets of town government were run within legal parameters. In his 20 years, Dennis was dedicated to the health and safety of this Town and its residents. His hard work and dedication was especially evident this past year during the COVID-19 pandemic. Dennis, Brian and Pam will be greatly missed, but we are excited to welcome our Interim Economic Development Coordinator Sheri Cote and new Health Director Sonia Marino, who we are sure will bring the same hard work and dedication to their jobs as their predecessors.

Lastly, I want to congratulate the Guilford Little League Boys 11 & 12 All-Star Team for winning the District Championship by beating Madison to advance to the Sectionals.

Matthew T. Hoey III,  
First Selectman



Matthew T. Hoey III, First Selectman



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# events

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**SALES REPRESENTATIVES**

**ESSEX • WESTBROOK**  
**CLINTON • MADISON**  
 Ward Feirer 914-806-5500  
 wfeirer@gmail.com

**OLD SAYBROOK**  
**OLD LYME • EAST LYME**  
 Betty Martelle 860-333-7117  
 betty@eventsmagazines.com

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**EAST LYME**

Betty Martelle 860-333-7117  
 betty@eventsmagazines.com  
 Kelly Harper 860-391-5534  
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## Guilford Lakes Golf Course

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Our golf course is open for the autumn so come on down and enjoy one of New England's Top 5 Best Executive public golf courses! Check out our beautiful golf course at: [www.guilfordlakesgolf.com](http://www.guilfordlakesgolf.com).

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- Open 7 days a week,  
 Tuesday - Sunday from 8:00 am - 7:00 pm,  
 Monday from 12:00 pm (noon) to 3:00 pm.

Guilford Lakes Golf Course will follow the "COVID-19 Resources for playing golf in Connecticut" as set out by the Connecticut State Golf Association as it applies to our course.

# Assessor's Office

Telephone: 203-453-8010 | FAX: 203-453-8013

**MOTOR VEHICLE TAX BILLS** were mailed in June. If between October 2nd and August 31st you sold or totaled your vehicle and did not transfer the license plate to a new vehicle or if you registered your car out of state, then you may, with the submission of acceptable proof, be eligible for a tax reduction for that motor vehicle tax bill.

## PERSONAL PROPERTY DECLARATION FORMS

were, as a courtesy, mailed in September to all persons known to be conducting business in the Town of Guilford as of October 1, 2020. Said forms must be filed by November 2, 2020. If not penalties will be applied. Forms will also be available online on the Town's website under the Assessor's Office.

## Exemptions

The following is an abbreviated look at some of the exemption programs that the Assessor's Office administers. Some programs are State Programs which means they are available in all towns. Some programs are Local Programs which means they are available in Guilford and only available in other Towns that have also passed an ordinance authorizing that particular program. If you think you might be eligible for any of these programs, please call the Assessor's Office, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm for more information. There is also additional information about these programs (and other important information) on the Town's website: [www.ci.guilford.ct.us](http://www.ci.guilford.ct.us) under Departments; Assessor's Office.

**Please note:** Exemptions are always stated in assessment dollars. To calculate the actual tax savings, multiply the assessment exemption amount by the appropriate mill rate (e.g., the assessment exemption amount is \$1,000 and say the mill rate is 22.36 so the tax savings is \$22.36 or \$1,000 times 0.02236.)

**VETERANS (STATE PROGRAM)** must have their honorable discharge papers (full copy DD-214: must contain Block #24) on file with the Town Clerk by September 30, 2020 in order to receive a \$3,000 assessment exemption on the October 1, 2020 Grand List. Once filed in Guilford, there is no need to re-file. Veterans moving into Guilford from another town must file their DD-214 in Guilford by September 30, 2020 to receive this exemption. Administratively, the exemption is applied to real estate, even if recorded in the spouses name only. If real estate is not owned, then it is applied to one's motor vehicle.

**VETERANS (LOCAL PROGRAM)** who qualify for the above-described program, may, depending upon income, qualify for an additional \$10,000 assessment exemption. Income, including Social Security, cannot exceed \$62,000

continued on page 6

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## Assessor... continued from page 5

for a single individual and \$70,100 for a married couple. Applications must be filed no later than October 1, 2020.

**VETERANS (STATE PROGRAM),** who qualify for the Veterans State Program (described above,) may qualify for an additional exemption depending upon income. The amount of the assessment exemption will vary. Income cannot exceed \$37,000 for a single individual or \$45,100 for a married couple. Applications must be filed no later than October 1, 2020.

**DISABLED TAXPAYERS (STATE PROGRAM)** must file their Award Letter (issued by the Social Security Administration) with the Assessor's Office by October 1, 2020 in order to receive a \$1,000 assessment exemption.

**DISABLED TAXPAYERS (LOCAL PROGRAM)** who qualify for the above-described program, may qualify for an additional \$1,000 assessment exemption depending upon income. Income cannot exceed \$37,000 for a single individual and \$45,100 for a married couple. Applications must be filed no later than October 1, 2020.

**BLIND TAXPAYERS (STATE PROGRAM)** must file a Certification of Legal Blindness (issued by the Board of Education and Services for the Blind, State of Connecticut, Wethersfield, CT) with the Assessor's Office by October 1, 2020 in order to receive a \$3,000 assessment exemption.

**BLIND TAXPAYERS (LOCAL PROGRAM)** who qualify for the above-described program, may qualify for an additional \$2,000 assessment exemption, depending upon income. Income cannot exceed \$37,000 for a single individual and \$45,100 for a married couple. Applications must be filed no later than October 1, 2020.

**FARM, FOREST LAND & OPEN SPACE (STATE PROGRAM)** applications must be filed between September 1, 2020 and October 30, 2020.

**FARM BUILDINGS (LOCAL PROGRAM)** used exclusively for farming activities by farmers who are receiving an exemption for their farm equipment may be exempt. An application must be filed no later than November 1, 2020.

Jennifer Bernardo, Assessor

## Economic Development

### HELLO GUILFORD COMMUNITY!

I am pleased to have the opportunity to introduce myself to you. I recently stepped into the role of Economic Development Coordinator with the town on an interim basis. You may be aware that my predecessor, Brian McGlone recently retired after serving the town for 9 years. He will be missed!

The Guilford community is strong and despite COVID-19 our businesses are weathering the storm thanks in large part to you for supporting our local businesses! A large part of my job will be assisting our businesses as they navigate and eventually recover from the pandemic that has impacted all of us. Please reach out and let me know how I can help.

My role as Guilford Economic Development Coordinator is part-time, and some of you may also know me as the President of the Shoreline Chamber of Commerce, where I also serve in a part-time capacity. The two roles complement one another. Both the town and the Chamber work hard to support our business community and



Left to right: Matt Hoey - Town of Guilford First Selectman, Bob Reinhardt - Defibtech CEO, Sheri Cote - Town of Guilford Economic Development, Sadie Colcord - AdvanceCT Municipal Services Associate and Caitlin Styrzula - AdvanceCT Business Associate  
Photo Courtesy Events Economic Development.

to generate sustainable economic growth. We share a common purpose to maintain and enhance Guilford's reputation as a great place to live, work and raise a family.

Recently, First Selectman Matt Hoey, along with representatives from AdvanceCT and myself visited with Bob Reinhardt, CEO of Defibtech for a 'check in' with one of Guilford's largest employers. I look forward to meeting with other business leaders as we emerge from the pandemic.

Please visit the town's website at: [www.ci.guilford.ct.us](http://www.ci.guilford.ct.us) to learn more about our ongoing activities. We welcome your ideas, input and suggestions. My email address is: [cotes@ci.guilford.ct.us](mailto:cotes@ci.guilford.ct.us).

Sheri Cote  
Guilford Economic Development  
31 Park Street  
Guilford, CT 06437  
203-453-8071

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# GUILFORD TOWN HALL DIRECTORY

[www.ci.guilford.ct.us](http://www.ci.guilford.ct.us)

DEPARTMENT	EMPLOYEE / TITLE / ADDRESS	PHONE	E-MAIL
ASSESSOR	Jennifer Bernardo, Assessor, Town Hall - 31 Park Street	453-8010	bernardoj@ci.guilford.ct.us
BUILDING	Kimberly Norman-Rosedam, Building Official, Town Hall South - 50 Boston Street	453-8029	normank@ci.guilford.ct.us
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Sheri Cote, Economic Development Coordinator, Town Hall - 31 Park Street	453-8071	cotes@ci.guilford.ct.us
ENGINEERING	Janice Plaziak, Town Engineer, Town Hall South - 50 Boston Street	453-8029	plaziakj@ci.guilford.ct.us
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING	Kevin Magee, Environmental Planner, Town Hall South - 50 Boston Street	453-8146	mageek@ci.guilford.ct.us
FINANCE	Maryjane Malavasi, Finance Director, Town Hall - 31 Park Street	453-8027	malavasim@ci.guilford.ct.us
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	Sonia Marino, Director of Health, Town Hall South - 50 Boston Street	453-8118	marinos@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
LEGAL/PURCHASING	Peter Barrett, Town Counsel/Purchasing, Town Hall - 31 Park Street	453-8015	barrett@ci.guilford.ct.us
LIBRARY	Rob McCoolle, Library Director, Guilford Free Library - 67 Park Street	453-8282	rmccoolle@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
PLANNING & ZONING	George Kral, Town Planner, Town Hall South- 50 Boston Street Erin Mannix, Zoning Enforcement Officer - Wetlands	453-8039 453-8039	kralg@ci.guilford.ct.us mannixe@ci.guilford.ct.us
POLICE	Warren Hyatt, Police Chief, Police Headquarters - 400 Church Street Animal Shelter Routine Calls	453-8244 453-8083 453-8061	hyattw@ci.guilford.ct.us
PUBLIC WORKS	Tom Fillion, Public Works Director, Public Works Garage - 47 Driveway	453-8081	filliont@ci.guilford.ct.us
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	(D) Lisa Kops, Registrar, Town Hall - 31 Park Street (R) Gloria Nemczuk, Registrar, Town Hall - 31 Park Street	453-8028 453-8028	registrar@ci.guilford.ct.us registrar@ci.guilford.ct.us
SELECTMAN'S OFFICE	Matthew T. Hoey III, First Selectman, Town Hall - 31 Park Street	453-8021	hoeym@ci.guilford.ct.us
SOCIAL SERVICES	Tammy DeFrancesco, Social Services Director, 263 Church Street	453-8009	defrancescot@ci.guilford.ct.us
STUMP DUMP		453-8029	
TAX COLLECTOR	Debi Milano, Tax Collector, Town Hall - 31 Park Street	453-8014	milanod@ci.guilford.ct.us
TOWN CLERK	Anna Dwyer, Town Clerk, Town Hall - 31 Park Street	453-8001	dwyera@ci.guilford.ct.us
TOWN PROPERTIES	Steve Neydorff, Facilities Engineer, Town Hall South - 50 Boston Street	453-8487	neydorffs@ci.guilford.ct.us
TRANSFER STATION	1900 Boston Post Road	453-8095	
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES	Lyne Landry, Director, 36 Graves Avenue	453-8047	landryl@ci.guilford.ct.us



# VOTE !!! November 3, 2020 in the Presidential Election

## The Upcoming Election

### WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW!!!

On November 3, 2020 Guilford (and the entire country) will be voting for a new President of the United States. In addition, here in Connecticut we will be voting for our US Senator, US Representative, State Senator and State Representative. All polling places will be open from 6:00 am until 8:00 pm and will be safe and sanitized frequently for in-person voting; you can vote at your usual polling place. Please see the Registrar of Voters section in the website for town of Guilford at: [www.ci.guilford.ct.us](http://www.ci.guilford.ct.us), for information on your exact voting place.

As of this writing, all registered voters should have received an application for an absentee ballot. If you have not, you can download one from the Guilford website, Town Clerk Department at: <http://www.ci.guilford.ct.us/resources/town-clerk/absentee-ballot-application/>. Fill it in and mail it to the Town Clerk if you wish to vote by absentee ballot. The Town Clerk's office handles all absentee ballots. If you have any other questions about Absentee Ballots please contact the Town Clerk at: [dwyera@ci.guilford.ct.us](mailto:dwyera@ci.guilford.ct.us) or by phone at: 203-453-8001, #3.

## Make Sure You are Registered to VOTE

THE DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 27, 2020.

DO IT SOONER RATHER THAN LATER. HERE'S HOW:

### ONLINE REGISTRATION

You can register to vote, or change your address, name and/or party affiliation online. Go to the Town of Guilford's website – [www.ci.guilford.ct.us](http://www.ci.guilford.ct.us), choose Registrar of Voters from the Town Department list and then "Register to Vote Online" which is located on the left side of that page; or you may choose to go through the Secretary of the State's website – [www.sots.ct.gov](http://www.sots.ct.gov), choosing the Elections and Voting tab, or go directly to the website at: [www.voterregistration.ct.gov](http://www.voterregistration.ct.gov). The only requirement for registering online is that you have a current Connecticut Driver's License with your Guilford address. The last day to register online is Tuesday, October 27, 2020.

### IN-PERSON REGISTRATION

Last day for in-person registration is Tuesday October 27; mail-in applications must be received or post-marked by this date. The Town Clerk can handle in person applications if the Registrars are not in their office. Town Clerk hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

### DMV

When creating, updating or renewing your Connecticut drivers license you will be given the option to register to vote (if you are

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## Registrar... continued from page 9

not already a registered voter in Connecticut,) or to change your current voter registration.

### ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION

If, by any chance, you have not been able to register to vote before November 3, 2020, you may come to the Election Day Registration office, register to vote, and receive a ballot on Election Day. We highly recommend that Election Day Registration be your last option. We urge you to not wait until November 3. There are many options (see above) for you to register. Your voting experience will be many times smoother if you complete your voter registration by October 27, 2020.

### CURBSIDE VOTING

Curbside Voting is available if, for any sudden reason, you cannot walk into your polling place on election day. Two poll workers will come to your vehicle and give you a ballot to fill out. Please call our office at: 203-453-8028 when you are ready to go to the polls so we

can set the process in motion and save you time when you get to the polling place.

### PERMANENT ABSENTEE STATUS

**We would like to remind you of the availability of permanent absentee ballot status. Here's how it works:** If you have a disability which prevents you from going to your polling place to vote you may file a request for an absentee ballot and include, with that request, a letter from your physician which states that your physical condition prevents you from going to the polls to vote. From then on the Town Clerk will automatically send you a ballot for every election, primary, and referendum, which you can fill out and return by mail. Every year we will send you a letter asking you to confirm the accuracy of your address.

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Registrars:** Lisa Kops & Gloria Nemczuk  
**Phone:** 203-453-8028  
**Email:** registrar@ci.guilford.ct.us  
**Office Hours:** M, W, F from 1:00 to 4:30 pm

## goPINK+ 2020 is All Quacked Up!

This year the goPINK Project invites the community to give back and support cancer patients from the comfort of their own homes by participating in the goPINK virtual duck race to benefit Middlesex Health Cancer Center and provide free integrative medicine to cancer patients.

Throughout the month of October, you can participate by donating as an individual or by forming a duck race team. Visit MiddlesexHealth.org/gopink to get started. The duck race will be held November 2 at 5:00 pm, and it will be live streamed on the goPINK Project Facebook page, @GOPINKPROJECT. Rubber ducks will be tossed into a body of

water. The sponsors of the first ducks to reach the finish line win prizes. There will also be prizes for the top fundraising teams. A donation of \$10 enters one duck into the race. For each additional \$25, another duck will be entered into the race for you. If you donate \$500 or more, a larger size duck will be entered in the race for you. For duck race teams, the minimum fundraising goal is \$100. For that amount, four ducks will be entered in the race. For every \$500 raised, a larger size duck will be entered into the race for your team.

The goPINK Project is in its 11th year. The money raised helps

Middlesex Health cancer patients receive free integrative medicine therapy, including patients who have breast cancer. Integrative medicine includes massage therapy, reflexology and acupuncture - all therapies not covered by insurance. Integrative medicine helps patients with symptoms of cancer treatment, including fatigue, pain and nausea. Since 2010, the goPINK Project has raised more than \$263,856 and has helped 1,400 patients.



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## Children's Programs

### OCTOBER - DECEMBER

The Guilford Free Library will be offering a variety of programs for children and families: in-person while socially-distanced, virtual, and self-guided. Our calendar will constantly be evolving, so please visit our website at: [www.guilfordfreelibrary.org](http://www.guilfordfreelibrary.org) to keep up to date on new offerings being scheduled after this publication is printed.

### SUNSHINE STORYTIME

Stories and songs in the sunshine on the library lawn, weather permitting. Listen to stories and dance to great children's music in this brand-new program for children ages 4 & up with a parent/caregiver. Registration absolutely required. Space is very limited. See website for safety procedures (*strictly enforced - those who cannot follow safety protocols will be asked to leave immediately.*)

**Please register for each date individually.**

Wednesdays October 21st, & 28th,

November 4th & 11th  
 from 11:00 am - 11:45 am.

### POLLINATOR COUNT

Download a pollinator count sheet from our website, submit your data, and be entered to win free milkweed seeds to start or expand your own pollinator garden.

### TELLABRATION

A (virtual) celebration of the art of storytelling for all ages.  
 Date & time TBA.

## Teen Programs

### OCTOBER - DECEMBER

### SIT 'N' SNACK: A Stress Free Book Club for Tweens & Teens

5th graders and up, Wednesday, November 4 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Do you love to talk about books? Want to join a book club, but don't want to commit to having to read something that doesn't interest you? Meet (virtually) monthly to discuss your recent reads! Recommend titles to the group, or tell us what books to avoid. Feel free to snack while we chat! Pets and siblings are always welcome as special guest appearances as well. Registration required.

**continued on page 12**

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## Library... continued from page 11

### GUILFORD TEEN IRIS CLUB

7th graders and up, Thursdays, October 22, November 5 and 19, December 3 at 4:00 pm. Interested in local activism? We're a new club, run by GHS students and open to all GHS and Adams students. Our mission is to help refugees and immigrants by holding events to help Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS), a non-profit organization in New Haven. We try to focus less on meetings and more on getting involved, so this club is not a huge time commitment! Registration required.

### PRACTICE SAT EXAM

High school students, Saturday, November 14 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Revolution Prep will host a free virtual practice ACT exam. Registration required.

### HARRY POTTER BOOK CLUB for Tweens & Teens

5th graders and up, Friday, November 20 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. How many times have you read the Harry Potter series? Whether it's your first time or your 394th, join us for a stress-free book club that will take you through the entire series! We will meet monthly via Zoom to discuss each book after we've finished it. If you've read it before but can't re-read it right now, you are still welcome to join us!

We will be discussing the fourth book, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. Registration required.

### SIT 'N' SNACK:

#### A Stress Free Book Club for Tweens & Teens

5th graders and up, Wednesday, December 2 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Do you love to talk about books? Want to join a book club, but don't want to commit to having to read something that doesn't interest you? Meet (virtually) monthly to discuss your recent reads! Recommend titles to the group, or tell us what books to avoid. Feel free to snack while we chat! Pets and siblings are always welcome as special guest appearances as well. Registration required.

### PRACTICE ACT EXAM

High school students, Saturday, December 12 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Revolution Prep will host a free virtual practice ACT exam. Registration required.

### HARRY POTTER BOOK CLUB for Tweens & Teens

5th graders and up, Friday, December 18 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. How many times have you read the Harry Potter series? Whether it's your first time or your 394th, join us for a stress-free book club that will take you through the entire series! We will meet monthly via Zoom to discuss each book after we've finished it. If you've read it before but can't re-read it right now, you are still welcome to join us!

We will be discussing the fifth book, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*. Registration required.

## Adult Programs

### GUILFORD FREE LIBRARY OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2020 ONGOING PROGRAMS

#### Book a Lawyer

Free 15-minute legal consultations offered every other Monday evenings and had begun October 5. 2 sessions per evening. Registration is required. Call the Reference Desk at: 203-453-8282 for more information

#### Book Buzz

Join us on Zoom the second Tuesday of each month at 11:00 am (November 10 & December 8) to discuss the latest books. Registration is required to receive the zoom link.

## BOOKS, MUSIC & MORE

### (all programs are virtual)

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| October 21 | Steve Alpert Book Talk<br>"Sharing a House with the Never-Ending Man: 15 Years at Studio Ghibli" 7:00 pm |
| October 28 | Writing Injustice Book Discussion,<br>"The Parable of the Talents," 7:00 pm                              |

## TECHNOLOGY

### Book a Librarian

Free technology and research assistance is available by appointment. Small group computer classes are scheduled throughout the year. Check [www.guilfordfreelibrary.org](http://www.guilfordfreelibrary.org) for the most current listings.

Guilford Free Library

203-453-8282 | [www.guilfordfreelibrary.org](http://www.guilfordfreelibrary.org)



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# Community Matters

Thank You Guilford for Always Being There for Your Neighbors!



**GUILFORD  
FOUNDATION**

It has been a tough year for all – and it isn't over yet. It is hard to believe the Guilford community has been dealing with COVID-19 shut-downs since March, and the uncertainty and anxiety continue to persist. But amid the incredible changes we have endured and the tragedies that have come with the pandemic, we have seen some incredible community togetherness.

Welcome to Community Matters - a new feature in Guilford Events Magazines thanks to The Guilford Foundation. In these difficult times, it is heartening to know that there is a silver lining. That silver lining is you! From those who create the campaigns/programs to help those in need to those who support those campaigns/programs by donating their time,



money and energy. Indeed, community matters!! Here are some examples.

## THE GUILFORD FOUNDATION (TGF) - COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND

In our Quarter 2 issue of Guilford Events we noted the efforts of TGF and the Women and Family Life Center (W&FLC) in establishing a temporary fund to provide short-term financial relief to individuals who live or work in Guilford who were negatively impacted by the

pandemic. TGF did the fundraising. W&FLC took applications and distributed the \$500 one-time grants. Less than a week after the program was launched (March 19), 140 applications had been received. Within a few days, the \$20,000 goal was exceeded. By mid-July over \$133,000 was raised through the generosity of 206 individuals. Almost 88 families received much needed assistance. Many thanks to TGF Executive Director Liza Janssen Petra, W&FLC Executive Director Meghan Scanlon, the 206 donors, and everyone who helped in this effort.

## GUILFORD HAS HEART

The Guilford Has Heart campaign was launched by Jen and Manish Shanbhag to raise funds for the COVID19 Response Fund and the Guilford Food Bank. The lawn signs (pictured here) were given to families as a thank you for donating to the campaign.



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## SUPPORTING THE GUILFORD ART CENTER

The response to the COVID19 Response Fund was so great that TGF was also able to assist numerous local nonprofit organizations who found themselves in need

due to pandemic-related shut downs. This include, among others, the Community Dining Room, the Guilford Center for Children, and the Guilford Art Center. "The Guilford Foundation funding helped us figure out how we can survive and stay

connected with the community," said Maureen Belden, GAC's Executive Director. "It allowed us to say, 'Yes! We can do this!'" For more information, go to [www.guilfordfoundation.org](http://www.guilfordfoundation.org).

## Guilford Preservation Alliance

During this COVID-19 period of restricted social activity here is a welcoming experience for you and your family to participate in.

### GUILFORD HISTORY SCAVENGER HUNT

#### Can you find these 33 items around town?

A Guilford history scavenger hunt has been created during the COVID-19 pandemic as an outdoor activity for children to safely do with their families, using proper social distancing. Other residents and tourists can also enjoy this activity while learning about Guilford and North Guilford's history.

**Included is:** (1) an introduction, (2) a checklist of items to find (<https://www.history-hunt.gflarchives.org/items.html>), (3) aerial maps, (4) detailed descriptions with audio, photos, and addresses, (5) a quiz, and (6) source information.

Historians from the Guilford Free Library, the Guilford Keeping

Society, the Henry Whitfield State Museum, and others have put together this Guilford History Scavenger Hunt. Lisa Cody, Adult Reference Librarian, Guilford Free Library, designed the webpages. Please be respectful of items listed that are located on private property, by viewing them from the street.

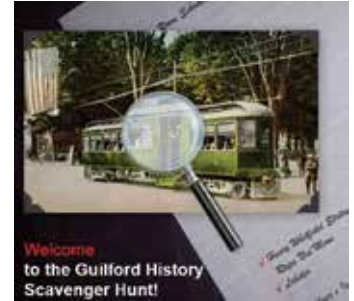



Photo courtesy Guilford Preservation Alliance.

For more detailed information regarding many of the locations please consult *A Treasury of Guilford Places*, by Joel Helander. To learn more about the GPA visit: [www.guilfordpreservation.org](http://www.guilfordpreservation.org).

Tracy Tomaselli



I am a New York City native.  
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# National Night Out 2020

On Tuesday, October 6th, 2020 the Guilford Police Department held National Night Out on the Guilford Green. This free event was fun for the whole family with music and entertainment as well as catered food from Naples Pizza.

## COVID-19 SCAM

Over the last few months, you have heard about contact tracing in regards to COVID-19. Contact tracing is a program that tracks the people who have been in close proximity to an infected person once that person has been diagnosed with COVID-19. The Contact Tracer then tracks down those people who are at risk of infection and explains that they may have been exposed. They work to help those people get tested and isolate for a set quarantine period to limit further exposure to the community. There is no fee for this program.

Recently, scammers have figured out that they can pose as contact tracers and call you to inform you of a fake exposure. The fake scammers will run through a series of questions in order to sound authentic. They then request a credit card or debit card number for the \$50 testing fee. This is the scam... do not give your personal information or any financial information. These scammers will clear out your accounts

and send the money to untraceable accounts before you can cancel the card.

## IRS SCAM

This time of year, IRS scammers are looking to steal your money. Thousands receive letters, phone calls and emails indicating that they owe back taxes and 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 **continued on page 20**



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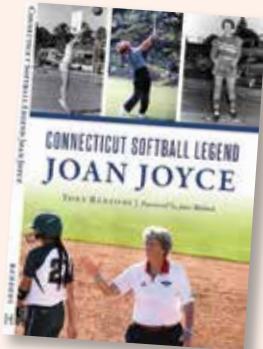
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# Play Café

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## Night Out... continued from page 18

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.

### 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 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 inter-

net. Clear your browser history, clear the cache and cookies. Reboot the computer and you should be fine. 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.

### SOCIAL SECURITY SCAM

Many people have reported receiving calls from the Social Security Administration scammers who are calling to advise that your social security number has been suspended. They also threaten legal action in some cases if you do not comply with their requests. The callers will initially present as legitimate but with a few questions, they will either hang up or begin to yell at you with various threats. As with most scam calls, the best prevention is to not answer unknown calls.

If you are concerned that there has been a violation or breach of your social security number, make sure to contact the Social Security Administration directly at: 866-331-5281 and report the fraud to your local police as well as online at: [OIG.SSA.GOV](http://OIG.SSA.GOV).

### CAR WARRANTY SCAM

**Anyone else tired of the 24/7 calls for your car warranty?**

They are scams... the more you answer the calls, the more they call you... even if you block it. These scammers actually sell your phone and contact info to other scammers the minute you answer. As with phone scams, the best practice is to not answer unknown calls.

### 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!

### PACKAGE THEFTS

As the holiday season approaches, be aware that Porch Pirates are out there looking to steal your delivered packages right from your front steps. These thieves drive around neighborhoods looking for packages or follow delivery trucks from place to place, waiting to whisk away your goods in broad daylight.

It is important to set up a safe drop location for your packages with your delivery drivers. If you don't have a regular driver, try to have a note placed somewhere the driver will see, to drop the packages in a safe location. You can also coordinate with neighbors to get your packages if you will not be home. Exterior cameras that have instant alerts to cell phones are very helpful in these cases. This technology has come down significantly in price in recent years to make home security more readily available and can help deter, prevent and solve these cases.

### And finally, LOCK YOUR CARS and TAKE YOUR KEYS... PLEASE.

The Guilford Police Department and agencies all around the state have been dealing with thefts of items from unlocked vehicles as well as a large number of stolen vehicles with keys or key FOBs left in them.

The best defense against your car being entered is to LOCK YOUR CARS. The best way to not have your car stolen is to TAKE YOUR KEYS. It is really that simple. JUST TAKE THOSE KEYS AND LOCK THAT CAR.

Follow us on the Guilford Police Department Facebook page for more helpful tips and scam updates. Thank you and stay safe!

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# Guilford Agricultural Society COVID-19 Recovery Campaign

The Guilford Agricultural Society - since 1859 - is a Library of Congress Local Legacy and producer of the Guilford Fair — an event held close in the hearts and minds of generations.

Because of the pandemic cancellation of the main event and other smaller fundraisers, we need your help to raise at least \$50,000 in 2020 operating funds. We know you may be facing hard financial times yourselves. We know you are being asked to donate to many causes. We don't take this challenge lightly.

The Society has kept agriculture in the forefront of the minds of Connecticut residents since 1859. The Society is a 501 (c) 5 agricultural/horticultural organization. It relies on event revenue and donations to maintain the 30+ -acre Fairgrounds that is adjacent to the Town of Guilford's historic district.

The roots of The Guilford Agricultural Society run deep. At a time of environmental advocacy, the Society's goals dovetail closely with the current movement to better understand our earth, its inhabitants and its riches. Producing a fair, sharing the property with for events, caretaking the 30-acre property - it is all a volunteer labor of love with all monies netted plowed right back into future fairs.

For years the Society has heard townspeople talk about the fairgrounds as a taxpayer amenity – almost a second town green. It's true that many view it as a second town green but we receive no tax dollars for the operation.

The Fairgrounds property is a vital asset to the community. It's always been offered for rentals, on a limited schedule and scope determined by town rules. And some town events held there ARE FREE of rent and charges - such as using the grounds for the annual town fireworks or, just recently, the 2020 Guilford High School Graduation. Even small gifts from those of you who have enjoyed past fairs, 2020 graduates who loved their graduation event this summer, those families missing fireworks, neighbors and other friends, are all appreciated.

### To donate, visit

Guilford Fair COVID Recovery at GOFUNDME  
[https://www.gofundme.com/ff/guilford-fair-covid-recovery?utm\\_source=customer&utm\\_campaign=p\\_cp+share-sheet&utm\\_medium=copy\\_link\\_more](https://www.gofundme.com/ff/guilford-fair-covid-recovery?utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link_more) or mail your check to the Guilford Agricultural Society at P.O. Box 290, Guilford, CT, 06437. Thank you for your consideration and we will keep you up to date on our progress.



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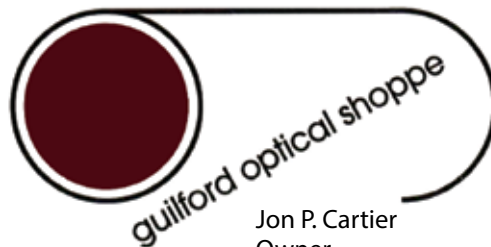
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# Fall Home Projects To Boost Your Comfort and Energy Efficiency

By: Enoch Lenge

Fall is a great time to tackle those home improvement projects that have been put off because of the summer heat. In addition to landscaping, gutter cleaning, power washing, and deck repair, here are some home improvement projects to add to your list to boost your comfort while helping save you money and energy this winter:

- Upgrade Your Lighting – Did you know that the average household dedicates about 5% of its energy budget to lighting? Now that it's getting darker earlier and your lights are on longer, consider switching your current light bulbs with LEDs. According to Energy.gov, ENERGY STAR-certified residential LEDs use at least 75% less energy and last up to 25 times longer than incandescent lighting.
- Insulate Doors and Windows – Air sealing, especially in an old, drafty house, can save homeowners more than 20% on their heating and cooling costs. Installing weatherstripping around your doors and windows is an easy and low-cost way to improve your home's energy efficiency and keep the cold winter wind at bay.
- Check Your Attic for Air Leaks – An unfinished, poorly insulated attic is another common area where homeowners experience significant heat loss. Adding insulation to the attic floor and sealing any air leaks can help stabilize the temperature inside your home, prevent ice dams, and save on energy costs.
- Maintain Your Heating and Cooling Systems – Be sure to add scheduling a preventative tune-up with your local



- HVAC company to your list to keep that system running efficiently and preserving air flow. A clean system that is free of dirt and debris will run more efficiently and preserve airflow.
- Install Programmable Thermostats – You can save as much as 10% a year on heating and cooling by simply turning your thermostat back 7°-10°F for 8 hours a day from its typical setting. Programmable thermostats allow you to easily set your home's temperature in advance to avoid coming home to a freezing house. A smart thermostat takes that a step further by allowing you to set your temperature from your smart phone or tablet. Some even learn your habits and adjust accordingly – saving you even more.
- Window Replacement – While this may not be at the top of your list, replacing old windows, especially with high performance ones like triple-pane windows, can improve a home's energy efficiency and overall comfort.

Before researching various contractors or DIY-ing these improvements, take advantage of the limited time only, no-cost Home Energy Solutions<sup>sm</sup> program offered by Eversource. To get started, you can schedule an appointment with an Eversource-authorized energy expert to evaluate your home's energy efficiency needs. During in-person visits, energy experts, while following COVID-19 safety requirements, will also conduct important safety tests and install weatherization measures and energy-saving improvements, such as air sealing, LED lighting, and advanced power strips.

To help make these improvements more affordable, program participants can take advantage of 0% financing on approved energy-saving improvements, and up to 100% off of eligible insulation projects. Eversource has you covered with a wide range of energy-saving rebates and discounts, including a new triple-pane window rebate.

From now through December 31, Eversource is offering a \$100 rebate per window for each window replaced with an ENERGY STAR-certified triple-pane window.

Whether you're looking to improve the comfort of your home, save on your energy bill, or help save the environment, Eversource has several budget-friendly solutions to help you get started. To schedule your energy assessment, call 1-877-WISE-USE (877-947-3873), or visit Eversource.com to learn more about Eversource's residential offerings and additional ways to save.

**Enoch Lenge** is Eversource's energy efficiency spokesman and provides energy saving tips on the company's blog.

# Houseplants Beyond the Home

Thick, practically opaque fog obscures my path. I glance down as I struggle to secure my footing and am shocked to see what lays at my feet: spiders. Massive spiders presiding over their innumerable babies. Every surface is teeming with them, save for a sparse few spaces, for instead of spiders, those areas are occupied by snakes. Snakes of all kinds, coiling, climbing, slithering, even raising up and standing to meet my eye line. However my gaze travels onward and upward, above the snakes, through the mist, and I can faintly make out faces— monkey faces, hanging poised from their perches. Just beyond them, slivers of light beam through the branches and illuminate the silhouette of enormous elephant ears. No, this is not an account of my latest jaunt through the jungle, but a description of my living room as the morning sun wakes and gently wraps her rays around my spider plants (*Chlorophytum comosum*) and snake plants (*Dracaena trifasciata*) while my humidifier softly mists my monkey face plant (*monstera adansonii*) and my elephant ears plant (*alocasia*). Houseplants add not just beauty to our home; they have incredible benefits to our health and well being. However, this article will focus on a lesser known aspect of houseplants: their ability to connect us with others and strengthen friendships, especially while being cooped up because of corona.

The sun comes up, I sit listlessly on my couch, I stare at my houseplants, and the sun goes down. The sun rises, I water my plants, and the sun sets. Day in and day out. The sun rises, but this time, one of my *Monstera's* leaves is yellow. I look online for the possible cause, read website after website, and I finally deduce it's from either overwatering, under-watering, too much light, too little light, too much humidity in the air, or not enough. So, still stuck at square one, I try a new strategy and consult Facebook. I join a few plant groups, take a picture of my plant, and make a post asking for advice. Within five minutes, Sara in Houston comments that she had the same problem and that my *Monstera* needs a bigger pot. Cyril in France agrees and adds that they are happiest in terra cotta pots. And lastly, Ira in Indonesia tells me how propagating *Monstera's* is fun and easy, suggests I give it a try, and wishes me luck. And here lies the unique beauty of houseplants; In contrast to outdoor planting, which is zone-specific and seasonal, the same houseplants are found year-round in homes across the globe. Soon I began commenting on other posts and before I knew it, I was recognizing faces and had become part of a community. People from all over the world, all stuck in quarantine, had the same plants—and problems—



A monkey face plant (*monstera adansonii*).

as I did. And we helped each other through it. Together we turned our isolation into an oasis.

I took Ira's advice and began propagating my *Monstera*, but it didn't stop there. I began propagating any and every houseplant that I could. I popped some of my spider babies and pothos cuttings in water and within days they had begun to grow roots! My first experiment was a success! But now that I had all these baby plants, I wasn't sure what to do with them. So I called my friend who told me how her Chinese money plant (*pilea*) had recently produced pups and she suggested we exchange. I jumped at the opportunity, jumped in my car, and drove to her house. Her baby *pilea* was waiting for me outside and I left my rooted cuttings on her front porch. (We arranged this contactless tradeoff to avoid spreading covid.). Word of our little exchange spread throughout our group of friends and that's how I went from having 10 different houseplants to having 25. Propagating houseplants was a not just a new hobby for my friends and I, it was something to look forward to everyday, something new and interesting to learn more about. It was a reason to call up a friend just to chat, even on the darkest days of isolation. Like me, they enthusiastically shared not only tricks on how to pass the time, but also picture of new, unfurling leaves. Like me, they anguished not only over the uncertainty of the future, but also the uncertainty of why their leaves were browning. Like me, their love of houseplants and sense of community grew because of corona. And like me, their houseplants extended far beyond the home.

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# Hyland House Museum



We regret to inform that due to COVID-19 the Hyland House Museum remains closed this year. We hope to welcome you when the pandemic is over.

In the meantime, please enjoy our **To-Do-At-Home-Activities** (available on our website at: [www.hylandhouse.org](http://www.hylandhouse.org)).

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## Joan Joyce - Our Finest Athlete by Sigrid Kun

Many fondly remember going to Raybestos Memorial field in Stratford, CT. Amid chants of "Joanie, Joanie," the softball phenom mowed down the competition. Joan Joyce dominated women's fast pitch softball for decades - beginning her amateur career at age 13 with the Raybestos Brakettes. The Waterbury, CT native excelled at every sport she tried - a true competitor, a lifelong coach/mentor. Joyce combines an unbridled, remarkable talent with a matter of fact, humble personality. While she readily speaks about her success, there is no bragging.

Many consider her as "The Greatest Woman Athlete of All Time." Her jaw-dropping achievements/honors take pages to list, including 20 Hall of Fame inductions, Connecticut Athlete of the Year (selected by the Connecticut Sports Writers Alliance), and a softball field renamed Joan Joyce Field (a part of Municipal Stadium in Waterbury).



Women's softball coach at Florida Atlantic University.

### A LIFETIME OF ASTOUNDING ACHIEVEMENTS

Joyce's softball career covered 1954-1963 and 1967-1975 with the Brakettes and 1964-1966 with the Orange Lionettes. The slingshot pitcher notched 150 no-hitters and 50 perfect games with a lifetime earned run average of 0.09. An outstanding hitter, her career batting average is .327. In 1974, her Brakettes were the first American team to win the World Championships.

She co-founded the International Women's Professional Softball Association, being the star player for

and part-owner of the Connecticut Falcons. The Falcons won every championship of the IWPSA's existence (1976-1979).

She is a four-time Women's Basketball Association All-American and three time AAU Basketball All-American. She played on the USA Women's National Team in 1964 and 1965, setting a national tournament basketball single-game scoring record (67 points) in 1964.

She formed the Connecticut Clippers volleyball team in 1968, and competed as a player/coach. She was named to the All-East United States Volleyball Association Regional Team. Taking up golf at age 35, she spent 19 years on the LPGA tour (1977-1995). She still holds the LPGA and PGA record of just 17 putts in one round of golf.

Now 80, Joyce is the women's softball coach at Florida Atlantic University. Starting the program from scratch in 1994, she has amassed 12 Conference Championships, participated in 11 NCCA Tournaments, and won 8 Coach-of-the Year Awards.

### THE SECRET TO SUCCESS?

"I don't know," she says. "The only thing I can say about me is that I am very competitive. . . . I will beat you at just about everything. If you beat me, I'd shake hands. But I'd say to myself, you are not going to beat me a second time."



Joan with her biggest fan - Dad (Joe Joyce).

Photo courtesy of Joan Joyce.

Her mother worked days. She, her father (above) and brother played sports all the time. "We would end up going to my father's softball games," she recalls. "We had no gloves. We'd run around everywhere while my father was playing. When they came in from the field, they'd put the gloves under the bench. We'd take them and start catching. When they went back in the field, they'd have to come and get the gloves back from us." When her father played basketball, she and her brother would wait for the halftime buzzer and then fly onto the court to play.

### SPECIAL MOMENTS - JOYCE SHARED A FEW



**Striking Out Ted Williams/Hank Aaron.** She calls striking out Ted Williams (left) and Hank Aaron, her favorite moments. "It's the easiest thing I've ever done in my life," she relates. "They had no chance against a softball pitcher just because of the distance." She faced Williams as part

of fundraisers in 1961 and 1966; Aaron in 1978 in a West Hartford exhibition. There were no radar guns then. A doctorate study from USC determined her pitching speed to be the equivalent of 119 mph in baseball.

### Invited to China by the All-China Sports Federation (1979).

"It was the first team ever invited to China," she recalls of the Connecticut Falcons. "When we played our last game sixty thousand people came to the game. I was looking out and it was like a flood of people just coming and coming and coming. And I'm thinking, 'Oh, my God!'" The American team won all six games. In the final game, Joyce pitched a no-hitter to beat the Chinese all-star team.



### Softball World Championships (1974).

Joyce pitched a no hitter against Australia. "Only one walk. And we picked her off," notes Joyce. "It would have been a perfect game." She also stymied Japan, giving up only two hits. No team wore helmets then. Japan showed up wearing them. Was it to distract her or out of fear of her? "It didn't work," she laughs. "You did not want to get me focused or to get my attention. Stare at me? Give me looks? I would say to myself,

keep doing that 'cause you're never going to beat me. I just didn't like to lose."

Photo of Joan coaching (far left) courtesy of FAU Athletics.

Photo of Joan pitching (left) and photo of Joan with Ted Williams (above left) courtesy of Joan Chandler.

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