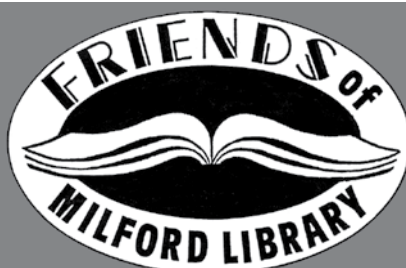


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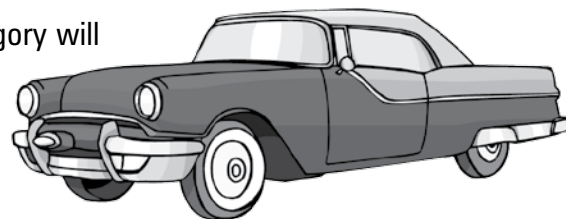
Mission: Friends of Milford Library

The Mission of the Friends is to maintain an association of persons interested in books and libraries; to foster relations between the Milford Library and the residents of Milford; to focus public attention on Library services as well as the needs of the Library; to stimulate gift giving of books, collections, electronic equipment and media, endowments and bequests; to encourage and support fund raising activities and to provide and support programs and events for the community which are compatible with the Library's policies and objectives.

May Annual Meeting Announcement

The Friends of Milford Public Library will hold its annual meeting on Wednesday, May 25, at 7 p.m. in the Library Program Room.

Following a brief business meeting and election of officers, David Gregory will present ***Growing up in Milford in the Fifties and Sixties***. Bring your own memories. Come join us and learn more about the Friends of Milford Public Library and how you can become involved. The public is welcome and refreshments will be served.



Red Robin Makes Donation

The Friends of Milford Library received a \$3,000 donation from the Red Robin Restaurant for the Library's Children's Department. The donation was made in conjunction with the opening of a new Red Robin Restaurant at the Connecticut Post Mall in Milford and demonstrates the company's interest in partnering with the local community. Fred Chidester and Margot Sahlmann accepted the donation on behalf of the Friends at the Restaurant's new location.

Red Robin Marketing Coordinator, Donna Ellis says that Red Robin likes to select a library because of its "Reading with Red Incentive Program for Libraries and Schools" which encourages reading among children. Donna explains that during her various library visits, "I say to the kids, the most important thing in your life is learning to read, and then reading! When she sees the children again, Donna says that she poses the question about what is the most important thing in life and they always answer 'Reading.' Ellis, who recently participated in a Milford Library Children's Story Hour, feels that promoting the idea of reading at a young age is important and a rewarding effort.

The Friends are grateful to Red Robin for its wonderful gift to the Library's Children Department which will be extremely helpful.



Pictured (LtoR) at the Milford Connecticut Post Mall outside the Red Robin Restaurant are Red Robin Marketing Coordinator, Donna Ellis; Milford Friends, Fred Chidester and Margot Sahlmann; Library Director Jean Tsang; Children's Librarian, Suzanne Harrison-Thomas; Children's Department Library Assistants, Lois Hoory and Scott Brill; and Phyllis Rosello Mercurio, Executive Vice President of Red Robin RED.

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Library Board, the staff and myself, I thank the Friends for their continued generosity and support. The Friends help the library in numerous ways throughout the year. Your monetary support has paid for art prints, museum passes, movie licensing, and children's and adult programming. Friend's funds have supplemented the DVD collection and our downloadable audio book collection.

The officers of the Friends generously donate time and input at monthly meetings. This is an election year for the officers of our Friends group. Those who have served as officers for the current term should be commended for their diligence and hard work. This professional newsletter, the Ella Friendraiser, and the continued efforts put into the Friends website are but a few examples of how innovative and hardworking our core group is. Thanks to the board for a job well done!

Many of our Friends work behind the scenes helping with the on-going book sale and with our Adopt-a-Shelf Program. There are many ways that volunteers can get involved. For questions about volunteer options, please visit the webpage at: <http://www.foml-ct.org/> or send a written inquiry to Friends of Milford Public Library, 57 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT 06460.

The economy has affected us all in so many different ways. I ask that you support us in any way you can. If you would like to show support for our Library budget, please contact your aldermen.

Thank you all for your support of our library.

Cordially,

Jean S. Tsang
Library Director



Photo: Kathy Nemeć-Lucas

Friends Membership Renewal Time

Remember May 1st marks the day for your membership renewal with the Friends of Milford Library. And, for those of you who aren't yet members, please consider becoming one today. Our Library is the pride of our community thanks to the Friends and our kind donors.

Today especially, in these challenging economic times, more people than ever are utilizing the Library. With your help, the Library can continue to meet the ever-changing community needs and demands.

The Friends of the Milford Library is a 501 (c) 3 organization. All contributions to the Friends are tax deductible. All proceeds from the Friends activities and dues, including the ongoing book sale in the lower lobby, are used to fund programs and to support projects and expenses not covered by the City budget. The membership year runs from May 1 to April 30. You can drop your membership form with a check at the Library or send it in the mail to:

The Friends of Milford Library
57 New Haven Avenue
Milford, CT 06460

For more specific information, contact: Jean Tsang, Library Director at 783-3399 or e-mail JTsang@ci.milford.ct.us

Our membership year runs from May 1 to April 30

Please make checks payable to

The Friends of the Milford Library



LIBRARY GETS NEW ART

The Friends of Milford Library teamed up with local photographer, Paul Hzork to add a permanent display of colorful photographic images of Milford to the Library lobby. Three photographs, taken by Paul, were enlarged and printed on canvas and donated by the Friends for the public to enjoy and be inspired.

"The color and detail on the canvas art pieces are crisp and vibrant. They are wonderful additions to the Library," says Jean Tsang, Library Director.



Pictured standing before the new Library art are (L to R) Friends Board Members, Fred Chidester, Barbara Rose, Margot Sahlmann and Paul Hzork.

Watch Our Garden GROW

Be sure to keep your eyes focused on our Milford Public Library Garden along New Haven Avenue as it grows and matures over this and the next several summers. It has been tilled, weeded and re-planted thanks to the efforts of the Milford Garden Club, their Girl Scout helpers and a grant for the plantings from the Friends of Milford Library.

With so many American gardeners discovering the benefits of gardening with native plants and Connecticut's abundance of beautiful native plants, the Club members decided to take the lead locally and go native with the Library garden.

According to Kathy Kobishyn, Garden Club President, "native plants are well-adapted to our climate and they are generally low-maintenance aside from the periodic weeding." Master gardener, Katherine Neville was responsible for the garden's design which focused on sustainability, says Kathy.

Some of the trees and shrubs selected consisted of Yellow Sweet Betsy (*Calycanthus floridus* 'Athens') with its star-shaped, light greenish-yellow flowers for spring together with Choke Cherry (*Aronia arbutifolia* 'Brilliantissima') and its red berries plus a 'Mini Twist' (pinus strobes) which is a dwarf white pine with green needles that curve and twist and lastly the beautiful UConn Wedding Bells (*Halesia tetraptera*) with its white bell-shaped flowers.



Garden Club members take a break from toiling in the garden outside the front of the Library during a day of toil in the garden. Pictured are Barbara O'Connor, Bunny Elmore, Matthew Elmore, Hedy Bastian (former member), Connie Wood, Cookie Roseann, Kathy Kobishyn, Gayanne Bristol, June Bencivenga, Marianna Greenlee (now deceased), and Janet Kuryla.



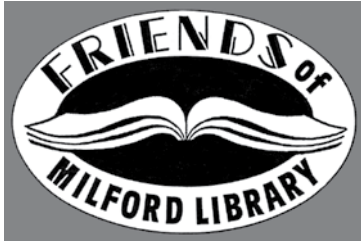
Milford Garden Club members proudly pose with their Non-Profit Organization of the Year Award for Championing the planting of native species and in cooperation with the Girl Scouts planted and nurtured the native plant garden in front of the Milford Public Library.

For the perennials and annuals that will bloom from May to September, the Club arranged *New England Assters* with its intense color and three varieties of *Asclepias* including *Asclepias incarnata* (*Swamp Milkweed*, *Rose Milkweed*, *Swamp Silkweed* and *White Indian Hemp*) which produces small, fragrant, pink to mauve (sometimes white) colored flowers, *Asclepias tuberosa* with its yellow/orange bloom and *Anemone canadensis* *Honorie jobert* with a crisp white blooms of golden centers and dark green foliage.

Adding to this colorful array, the members arranged some *Phlox* 'paniculata' with its flowers of white, pink, red or purple; a variety of *Echinacea* including *Harvest Moon* with its bloom color of golden yellow rays and orange center; *Sundown* with its russet-orange rays and dark brown center, and lastly 'Macaroni and Cheese' with bright creamy yellow bloom. For familiar non-native plantings, they inserted some *snowbells* and *daffodils* for spring.

Recognizing this labor of love, the Garden Club received the Conservation Commission's Award for "Non-Profit Conservation Organization of the Year Award" for championing the planting of native species.

The Library and its Friends are extremely grateful to the Garden Club for beautifying our garden for all to enjoy. And, for those who are interested in learning more about our native plant garden, a plot plan will be available inside the Library identifying each of the plantings. Plus, the Garden Club plans to hold a May 14th Market, behind the Library, where you can purchase at affordable prices perennials and shrubs taken from members' gardens.



57 New Haven Avenue
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www.foml-ct.org

Friends of the Milford Library Membership Form

Mail or Return Form To: FOML Membership, Milford Public Library
57 New Haven Avenue, Milford, CT 06460
secretary@foml-ct.org

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | 5.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | 25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business | 75.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household | 10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor | 50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime | 200.00 |

Commemorative gifts and donations are gratefully accepted

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Preferred Method of Contact: _____

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER? IF SO, PLEASE CHECK OFF YOUR AREAS OF INTEREST.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book Sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Chair a Position | <input type="checkbox"/> Mailing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> Library Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events |

If you need more information call (203) 783-3291. Thank you!

Receipt Given: Yes ___ No ___ Receipt sent on _____ Cash _____ Check Number: _____ Date: _____

The Friends of the Milford Library, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 organization. In that no goods or services have been provided in return for this contribution, therefore the full amount of your contribution is tax deductible.