



Glastonbury Newcomers' & Neighbors' Club Newsletter

December 2020

GNN Club NEWS

Community Enrichment – Socktober Joy!

October and November were busy months, collecting and sorting socks for the area's homeless. December was the month of joy. With no advanced notice, **Julie Campbell**, **Jen Phillips**, and **Luciana Wiksten** were welcomed with lights, cameras and newscasters from all the local news stations. Together we shared the story of Socktober; the enthusiasm and love our GNN kids put into creating our very first Socktober video, and the spirit of kindness for those less fortunate. We couldn't be more proud and grateful for all the volunteers, community support, and members of GNN that helped make this yearly event a huge success.

If you missed us in the news, below are the two links from Fox 61 News and NBC Connecticut. Both stories are heartwarming and display the true essence of helping others during the holiday season.

NBC Connecticut:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uBBooTc-yJo&feature=youtu.be>

Fox 61 News:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TonsH3sSX-U>

Next year, we will mark our 5th year anniversary with Socktober. If anyone is interested in getting more involved with this event or learning about CRT

Upcoming Club Events

Dec:	Family Social – Holiday Slideshow
Dec 4:	Ladies' Night In - Hallmark Movie Night!
Dec 6:	Ladies Day Out/Ladies Night Out – Evergreen Wreath Workshop
Dec 6:	Holiday Baking Series with Chef Karen Chin – Holiday Cookies
Dec 9:	GNN Book Club – A Redbird Christmas by Fannie Flagg
Dec 17:	Holiday Baking Series with Chef Karen Chin – Holiday Cakes
Dec 20:	Holiday Baking Series with Chef Karen Chin – Holiday Pies
Dec 31:	Family Social – New Year's Eve Party

(Community Renewal Team) please email Julie Campbell (julieanuckcampbell@gmail.com).

Thank you again for everyone's support and efforts this year. Socktober 2020 will go down in history!

Applause! Applause!

A big shout out again to all the **GNN kids** who participated in our first Socktober video! The video has **over 3,000 views** on the Web - Congratulations!

Club Planning Meeting

All GNN members are welcome to attend our club planning meetings to find out more about what is going on with the club.

WHEN: Tuesday, January 12th at 7:00 pm

WHERE: Virtual; Zoom Link will be sent out the day before.

RSVP: Facebook or email Jen at jphirui@icloud.com

Membership

Happy Holidays! We have no new members to announce this month.

Membership Renewal Reminder

Just a friendly reminder that if you have not already done so, there is still time to renew your GNN membership - but not much. All unrenewed members will be deleted from our facebook page and directory by the end of December. If you have already spoken with the board about your membership status, we are excited you are staying on. If you still wish to renew, the process is easy:

Go to our GNN Cub website www.glastonburynewcomers.org and click on the "join" heading. The system will prompt you to join/renew through PayPal. You do not need a PayPal account; just a valid credit card. It's that simple!! Membership is \$35 for the year.

Even during this unusual year, collection of dues is critical to GNN in order to cover club expenses including advertising, liability insurance, and website maintenance. In addition, the club contributes funds to purchase items and/or donate through our helping hands/community enrichment

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program, bake sale fundraiser, and club events to keep member participation fees for these occasions affordable.

Helping Hands

It's during the difficult times when neighbors can rally together to help brighten someone's day and give true meaning to the Helping Hands Committee. If you know a Newcomers' & Neighbors' family who has had a baby, has suffered an illness, has had a death in the family, or simply could use a helping hand, please call or email so we can organize something for them. We rely on other member families to inform us when a helping hand is needed. Thank you! Please contact Julie Campbell at juliemancampbell@gmail.com

GNN Club **FAMILY** Events & Activities

Family Social – Holiday Slideshow

We'd like to put together a slideshow that represents this season and what makes it special for you. We'd love for every family to participate. Send in one or many photos or images! And you can be creative. Photos and images can include kids, pets, adults, families, scenery. You can attach the photo(s) on the Facebook post or email them to communications@glastonburynewcomers.org.

Ideas include:

Christmas Tree	Santa Claus
Menorah	Poem or Saying
Snowman	Indoor/Outdoor Decorations
Cookies	Drawing
Gingerbread Houses	Elf on the Shelf
Snow Scene	Sledding
Snow Fight	Letter to Santa

Family Social – New Year's Eve Party (Virtual)

Every family is invited to attend a special New Year's Eve Celebration. There will be a surprise sweet activity to do during the party.

WHEN: Thursday, December 31st at 6:00 pm

WHERE: Virtual; Zoom Link will be sent out the day before.

RSVP: Facebook or email Marlise at marliserandle@aol.com

Family Social – Holiday Programs in Glastonbury

Warm the car, pack some snacks and grab the entire family for some fun and safe holiday cheer this December. Thanks to the Glastonbury Parks & Recreation, they have a fabulous list of activities families of all ages can enjoy.

Light Displays in Glastonbury: Their site has links for the family to participate in this year's holiday season.

- Participating Houses/Businesses
- Recommended Driving Routes
- Family Scavenger Hunt
- Vote for Fan Favorite

Letters to Santa: The town has Santa mail boxes around town where kids can drop off a letter and will receive a letter back from Santa. For locations go here.

Selfie with a Snow-person Contest: Glastonbury Youth & Family Services (Y&FS) is hosting a "SELFIE WITH A SNOWMAN" contest. 17 bright and cheerful snow-people have been located around town to bring some light and cheer this winter. Check link for details.

For more detailed information please go to:

<https://www.glastonburyct.gov/departments/department-directory-i-z/parks-and-recreation/holiday-programs>

Upcoming Family Social Events

We are planning some fun, creative events over the next several months including...

January: Family New Year's Eve Party

January: "Make It" art activity

February: Virtual Valentine's Bingo and Games

GNN Club **ADULT** Events & Activities

Adult Social – Support Local Businesses & Restaurants

We may not be able to gather in large social settings but we can definitely support our local business and restaurants in a few simple ways.

- Purchase a gift card to one of your favorite restaurants.
- Write a positive review on their Instagram or Facebook page.
- Recommend a shop, farm stand or local charity event to a friend or neighbor.
- On Facebook join “Glastonbury/East of the river shop local group” to find ideas and local promotions from local small businesses.

Together we can keep Glastonbury business and restaurants running.

#supportsmallbusiness #shopsmaill #shoplocal

GNN Book Club – A Redbird Christmas by Fannie Flagg

After a startling diagnosis from his doctor, Oswald T. Campbell leaves behind the cold and damp of the oncoming Chicago winter to spend what he believes will be his last Christmas in the warm and welcoming town of Lost River. There he meets the postman who delivers mail by boat, the store owner who nurses a broken heart, the ladies of the Mystic Order of the Royal Polka Dots Secret Society, who do clandestine good works. And he meets a little redbird named Jack, who is at the center of this tale of a magical Christmas when something so amazing happened that those who witnessed it have never forgotten it.

WHEN: Wednesday, December 9 at 7PM

WHERE: Virtual via Zoom

COST: Free

RSVP: Facebook or April at aprilroscow@yahoo.com

Ladies’ Day/Night Out – Evergreen Wreath Workshop

Join us at Hops on the Hill for an afternoon of wreath making. We’ll be spread out under the twinkle lights and amongst the fire pits in the tent outside at the brewery. Your ticket will include all of the supplies to build and decorate your wreath in addition to the class instruction and all of the tools to design your beautiful holiday wreath. Bring your own goodies picnic style and enjoy one of the many delicious beverages the brewery has to offer – wine, beer, or cider.

WHEN: Sunday, December 6 from 2:30 to 4:00pm

WHERE: Hops of the Hill Brewery, 275 Dug Road, South Glastonbury (in the tent)

COST: GNN members \$70 (PayPal link to come); non-GNN members \$80 + \$4.45 Everbrite fee; ticket includes one beverage of choice

RSVP: Facebook or email April at aprilroscow@yahoo.com

Ladies' Night In - Hallmark Movie Night!

When Anna offers a stranded mother and son shelter in a blizzard, she learns that they are the Royal Family of Galwick. Anna shows the Prince how they do Christmas in her hometown, encouraging him to open his heart and be true to himself. Filmed right here in CT!

WHEN: Friday, December 4, 2020 at 7 PM

WHERE: Virtual via Zoom

COST: Free

RSVP: Facebook or April at aprilroscow@yahoo.com

Holiday Baking Series with Chef Karen Chin – Live Webcast

In this baking series, chef Karen Chin will lead through each step baking some of her favorite treats and seasonal sweets. She will share baking tips and recipes you will want to recreate at home for family and friends. The series is for beginning to seasoned bakers.

Holiday Cookies

Karen will lead participants through each step baking holiday cookies. We will be baking:

- Snowflake sugar cookies
- Chocolate sable cookies
- Chocolate sugar cookies

WHEN: Sunday, December 6 at 4:00 pm
Class Length: 1 1/2 hours

COST: \$25 per household

Holiday Cakes

Karen will lead participants through each step baking holiday cakes. We will be baking:

- Apple Cake
- Cranberry Maple Pecan Cake

WHEN: Thursday, December 17 at 6:30 pm
Class Length: 1 1/2 hours

COST: \$25 per household

Pie Bakeshop

Karen will lead participants through each step baking holiday pies. (Baking may finish after the session ends.) The techniques you will learn are: 1) how to make a perfect pie crust; and, 2) how to partial bake crust. We will be baking:

- Salted Honey Pie
- Lemon Tart

WHEN: Sunday, December 20 at 4:00 pm
Class Length: 1 1/2 to 2 hours

COST: \$25 per household

Register

Email Karen at karenlchin@gmail.com with the following info:

- Baking Session/Class:
- Email:
- Name:
- Phone Number:
- Number of Participants (just for record keeping):
- Message (i.e., ingredient substitution):

Each baking session class has a cost \$25 per household. Pay by Venmo to Karen at karenlchin@gmail.com.

About Chef Karen Chin

After working in the luxury goods industry, Karen decided to pursue her passion for cooking. She attended the International Culinary Center (formally The French Culinary Institute). Karen apprenticed at New York City restaurants and is currently working at Kings Carriage House in New York City.

Upcoming Adult Social Events

We are planning some fun, creative events over the next several months including...

January: Ladies Night Out – Virtual Wine Tasting

January: Adult Social - Chili Challenge

February: Ladies Night Out – Virtual Bunco



December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 Ladies' Night In - Hallmark Movie Night!	5
6 Ladies Day Out/Ladies Night Out – Evergreen Wreath Workshop Holiday Baking Series with Chef Karen Chin – Holiday Cookies	7	8	9 GNN Book Club – A Redbird Christmas by Fannie Flagg	10	11 First Day of Chanukah	12
13	14	15	16	17 Holiday Baking Series with Chef Karen Chin – Holiday Cakes	18 Last Day of Chanukah	19
20 Holiday Baking Series with Chef Karen Chin – Holiday Pies	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Family Social – New Year's Eve Party (Virtual)		