

Guilford ABC News

SPRING 2014

The Secret Gardens Tour is Back!

June 14, 2014 Will Mark the 18th Year of This Guilford ABC Benefit

After two years when local gardens were decimated by violent weather, the Secret Gardens Tour is back, and better than ever! This highly anticipated event will be held on Saturday, June 14th from 10 am until 4 pm, regardless of weather. This year's tour will include both in-town gardens and six seashore gardens, each with waterfront views. Many of this year's gardens have never been on the tour before.

New features of the 2014 tour include a curated Secret Garden Marketplace featuring unusual gifts and garden-related treasures, choice annuals and a special Secret Garden perennial plant, as well as morning coffee and box lunches for purchase. The marketplace, free to all, will be open before, during and after the tour, from 9 am – 6 pm at St. George Hall, 33 Whitfield Street, where tickets and programs describing each garden will be distributed.

Free bus service to the seashore gardens will leave from St George's parking lot every few minutes beginning at 9:45 am, with drop off and pick up locations between gardens.

A no parking ordinance will be in effect around all seashore gardens on the tour. Bikers are welcome!

Secret Garden tickets are \$25 if purchased in advance or \$30 on the day of the event. Ticket price includes free bus transportation to and from the shoreline gardens as well as

access to all tour gardens, each staffed with knowledgeable volunteers. Tickets and box lunches are now available for purchase, both online (www.abcsecretgardens2014.com) and at these local merchants: Hole in the Wall, Break water Books, MIX, Star Fish Market and the Guilford Chamber of Commerce. Look for Secret Gardens' colorful posters and new logo all around town. This year's Secret Gardens organizers have been hard at work planning a very special tour to celebrate the return of this beloved Shoreline event, which attracts statewide visitors. Committee chairmen include Marie Berry, Helen Carlson, Connie Dickinson, Kathy MacElhiney, John Mele, Eileen O'Brien, Patty Penman, Barbara Pine, Winnie Seibert, Susanna Smith, and scores of volunteers. For more information, call 203-453-5622.



ABC Scholar Graduations, College and Summer Plans

Congratulations 2014 GHS graduates Karolina Heleno and Gabby Vargas!

Karolina will attend Franklin and Marshall College, majoring in Creative Writing with an eye to the fashion industry. While admitting some nervousness about the college work load, Karolina is excited about being part of a new freshman class, meeting new people and getting to know some of F&M's many international students. Reflecting on four years with Guilford ABC, Karolina expressed appreciation for the program and noted that from the beginning she recognized the great opportunities that ABC could open up for her.



2014 GHS Graduates Karolina Heleno and Gabby Vargas

Gabby will attend Wesleyan University and plans to study Economics. Asked how she felt upon receiving her acceptance from Wesleyan, Gabby said, "It felt like I won the lottery!" She was both relieved and very excited about beginning a new chapter.

As a Guilford ABC scholar, Gabby noted that the program was sometimes difficult; over four years, though, she became more comfortable with the process and with herself. In all, ABC has been a great experience that helped her prepare for college.

The ABC community wishes Karolina and Gabby the best of luck, and they will be missed by their returning housemates! *(Continued on page 2)*

Graduation, College, and Summer Plans, cont.

(Continued from page 1)

Juniors Cleo Adebisi and Kymar Stewart are completing a successful year and looking ahead to summer study, work and travel—and the start of their senior year!

Cleo has been accepted to Syracuse University's Creative Writing Summer Program. She is interested in both crea-



Rising Seniors Cleo Adebisi and Kymar Stewart

tive writing and journalism, and Syracuse is one of her top college picks. This summer, Cleo will also take a first-ever trip to Africa to visit extended family in Nigeria.

Though Cleo's first three years with ABC have gone fast, once senior year starts, she'll be looking forward to "after January and – after 16 years – knowing what I'm going to be doing."

Kymar's summer studies will take her to Bryant College's summer Accounting program, run in partnership with accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers. During the remainder of the summer Kymar plans to work and finalize her college application list.

Looking ahead to senior year, Kymar is excited, nostalgic and "kind of all over the place." Her goal is earning early decision acceptance to her college of choice.

Freshmen Rebekah Calderon and Katrina Green not only survived, but excelled, in their first year with ABC!

Rebekah found that her first year in Guilford went really fast and it feels as if she just moved in. Her adjustment to GHS and the ABC House has been smooth. In addition to strong academics,

GHS's large size has made it possible for Rebekah to meet a lot of new people as well as different groups of people.

This summer Rebekah plans to volunteer at a pre-school in Bridgeport, working with children, some of whom have special needs. She also looks forward to spending time with family and catching up with old friends.

Katrina's summer will begin with a reunion with family members in Florida. She is excited to see her aunt and uncle and meet cousins whom she has only seen in photos. Closer to home, she is looking at volunteer opportunities.

Of her first year with ABC, Katrina said it was an adjustment at first, but after a short time everyone came together. Her ABC housemates have been supportive and encouraged her to express herself. At GHS, Katrina has valued making friends from different groups—exploring and making connections she expects will last a long time!



Rising Sophomores Rebekah Calderon and Katrina Green

ABC Host Families

The Guilford ABC Program is in need of Host Families for the 2014-2015 school year. Host families provide an additional source of emotional and social support by welcoming a scholar into their home one weekend a month during the school year. Please contact Lisa Rogers at 203-453-5699 if you are interested.

GUILFORD ABC PROGRAM

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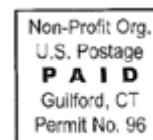
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THE SECRET GARDEN TOUR IS BACK!

June 14, 2014 will mark the 18th year of this Guilford ABC benefit
New This Year: Secret Garden Marketplace

Hole in the Wall: Upgrades and Applause

Guilford's Hole in the Wall at 35 Boston Street, has had a record year under the capable leadership of Patty Sullivan. To celebrate its success, and to continue to make this consignment and resale shop a comfortable place for customers and consignees, Guilford ABC's Board of Directors has allocated funds for a number of upgrades to the selling space. Planned changes will include moving one counter to allow for more merchandising space, an eye-catching new color for the walls, a new rug, updating dressing room curtains and the addition of new stainless steel display racks.

Loyal customers of Hole in the Wall know that the real secret to the shop's success is its cadre of wonderful volunteer staffers. According to Patty Sullivan, "They are very giving and dedicated, and they provide stability and continuity at

the shop." She noted that "Many regular, loyal customers come in specifically to see and chat with these lovely, bright individuals, and of course they find wonderful new bargains while they're there." Special thanks to each and every volunteer, and special applause to those

who volunteer more than one time a week. That group includes Bette Beauvais, Terri Bryant, Harriet Grabo, Louise Odermatt, Sally O'Such, Priscilla Passas and Emma Stevenson. We thank you for helping to make Hole in the Wall such a special place.

A volunteer appreciation party was held on Sunday morning, April 27th at the shop before business hours began. All volunteers and board members were welcomed for good food, lively conversation and some surprise thank you gifts for the wonderful staffers. Hole in the Wall, where new merchandise arrives every day, is open seven days a week: Monday through Friday, 10 am to 5pm; Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm; Sunday, noon to 4 pm.



Celebrating HITW 40th Anniversary