



# Gloucester Daily Times

## Town Talk: Author-scientist to talk baby birds at Greenbelt

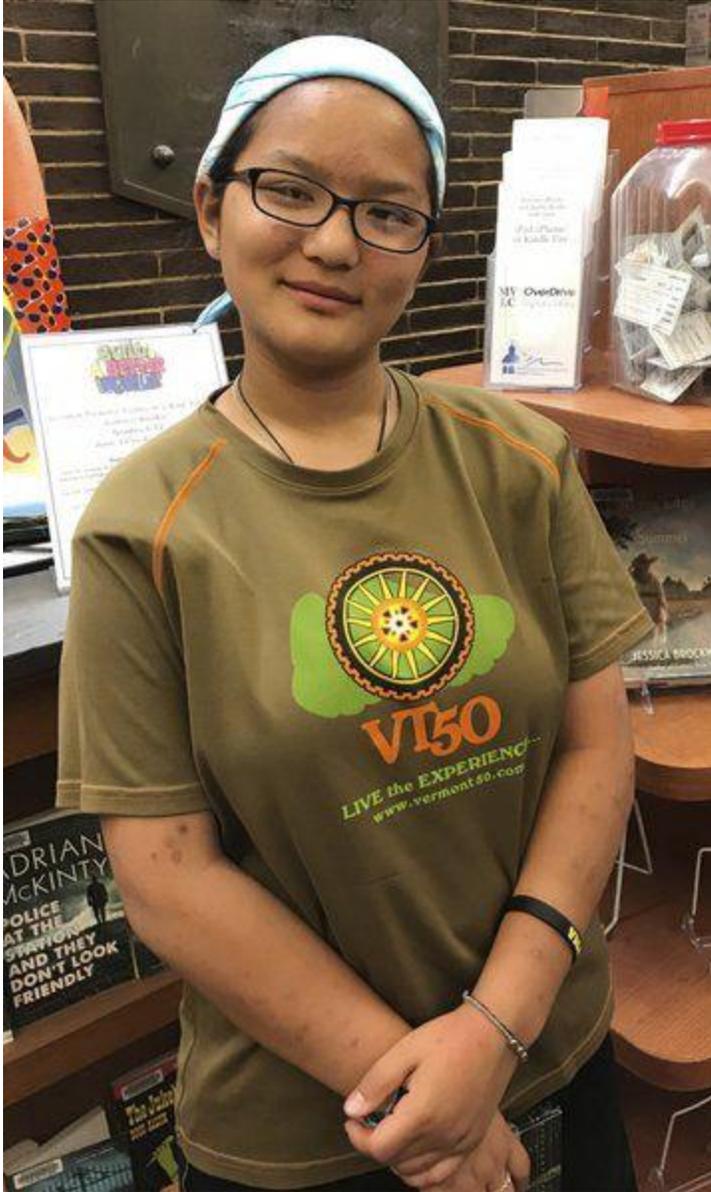
By Mary Markos Jul 14, 2017



Courtesy photo Faith Palermo won Manchester Public Library's Cookie Bake-off with her delicious coconut Oreo cookie



Courtesy photo After shelving books all morning, volunteer Elinor Shankman enjoys a moment to pause in a new chair at Manchester Public Library



Courtesy photoSneha Rising won Manchester Public Library's recent Where in the Library contest

Why and how do baby songbirds develop so quickly, some launching into flight only 11 days after hatching? In 2002, **Julie Zickefoose** began to draw and paint wild nestlings day by day, bearing witness to their swift growth.

Over the next 13 years, Zickefoose would document the daily changes in 17 bird species from hatching to fledging, and eventually publishing "**Baby Birds: An Artist Looks Into the Nest.**"

**Greenbelt**, Essex County's land trust, is hosting a program and book-signing for "Baby Birds: An Artist Looks Into the Nest," on Thursday, July 20, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the **Cox Reservation**, 82 Eastern Ave. in Essex. Attendees will meet and mingle with the prolific artist, writer and naturalist, also the author of "Letters from Eden" and "The Bluebird Effect" from 6 to 7 p.m. and enjoy light refreshments. Her presentation, followed by book-signing opportunities, will begin at 7 p.m.

More than 500 life studies hop, crawl and flutter through the pages of "Baby Birds." In this presentation, Zickefoose shares her influences as well as her artistic process.

Art and science blend in every Zickefoose pursuit, as the scientist's relentless curiosity joins the artist's quest for beauty. The work, wonder and fun of studying nestlings, including being foster mother to orphaned hummingbirds, chimney swifts and bluebirds, makes for an irresistible and highly inspirational presentation.

While the event is free, space is limited, so an RSVP is requested. To RVSP and obtain more information about the event visit the Greenbelt website, [ecga.org](http://ecga.org).

## **Summer leagues**

**Seaside Sustainability**, a non-profit organization that provides education adventure opportunities to the youth through environmental stewardship, is offering league play in **field hockey** and **Ultimate Frisbee** this summer.

The field hockey program meets weekly on Wednesday evenings through Aug. 16 at Coach Ed Field Field in Manchester. There are two sessions, a beginner league for ages 8 to 14 and an advanced league for ages 14 and older. The program is run by coach **Patty Wright**.

The Ultimate Frisbee League meets every Wednesday night through Aug. 23 at the Magnolia Woods Field in Gloucester. There are two sessions, one for ages 9 to 14 and one for ages 15 to 19. The program is run by coach **John Repucci**.

These are not drop-in leagues. For fees and other information, please visit [www.seasidesustainability.org](http://www.seasidesustainability.org)

## **Manchester library news**

**Manchester Public Library**, 15 Union St., has some **new seating**, inside and out, courtesy of the **Friends of the Library**.

A teak table with four chairs is located on the front lawn of the library for everyone to enjoy as as a picnic area, a quiet reading space, or a relaxing outdoor gathering spot with friends.

Several new armchairs have joined the seating around the stacks inside.

On Friday, July 21, the library hosts the **Egg Drop Challenge** at 3 p.m. Sixth- to 12th-graders are invited to come build a contraption to get an egg safely to the ground — from 8 feet high.

Two teens took home prizes in recent library contests. **Faith Palermo** won the Cookie Bake-Off with her delicious coconut Oreo cookie and **Sneha Rising** was the Where in the Library winner.