



# THE MILE VIEW



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Website: [www.mileonline.org](http://www.mileonline.org)

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2013  
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM  
PROGRAM ANNOUNCED  
THE AMERICAN DREAM**

Written and performed by Judy Bernstein, this is a one-woman dramatization of inspiring characters – mostly ordinary new Americans – who share their hopes and struggles in fulfilling their own personal American dream. Remember Eleanor Roosevelt’s visit and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the White House?

**Judy Bernstein**, graduate NYU School of Dramatic Art; MA, Oral Communication; college level instructor; has performed on radio and TV in NYC; has written several notable historic one-woman plays and is a popular past MILE presenter.

Wed, OCT 17 – German Castles and French Chateaux – CANCELLED.

**2013 – 2014 Officers**

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Joseph Soja</b>
<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Elizabeth Tischio</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Judy Cook</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Robb Evans</b>

**FYI:** New officer candidates are needed for the election to be held at the annual meeting/luncheon in April, 2014.

**VOLUNTEERS**

Sign-up sheets for committee volunteers will be available at Orientation. We hope you will consider becoming a Monitor. We are also looking for help with the website.

**FREE PIANO**

Upright piano, manufacturer: Cable, estimated date of manufacture: 1940’s to 50’s. The piano stands approximately 45” tall and is normal piano size depth and length, 20” by 53”. Action good. Needs tuning. Case in good condition. Offered free to good home. Contact Joe Soja or Robb Evans.

**OPEN HOUSE / ORIENTATION  
September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Starting MILE’s 21<sup>st</sup> Year  
1:00 PM, Chapman Hall  
Middlesex Community College**

**FALL SEMESTER PROGRAMS**

**Don’t forget to bring your brochure with you to Orientation. Note the Registration form is on the last page, rather than an insert.**

**We have only two off-site locations this semester:** St. Francis Hall on Tuesdays, Oct. 8 and 15, and Wednesday, Oct. 9, at Village at South Farms. As usual, Great Decisions on Thursdays, Oct 24 and 31, Nov. 7 and 14, is at Village at South Farms.

**Programs about books with their authors:**

Tue, Oct 1 – *The Curse: Big-time Gambling’s Seduction of a Capital New England Town* by Robert H. Steele.

Thu, Oct 24 – *Sidonia’s Thread: A Study in Resilience after the Holocaust* by Hanna Marcus.

**Book discussion with Kathy Amoia:**

Wed, Nov 13 – *Jack Kennedy: Elusive Hero* by Chris Matthews, including reference to Bill O’Reilly’s *Killing Kennedy*.

**Trips:** There will be two trips to the Grand Lodge of New York and the Cloisters on Wed, Oct 23, or Wed, Nov 6. We hope a lot of you will check “Either” so we have people to fill each bus.

Note the second trip form for Wed, Oct 16, Masonic Free Mason Building in Meriden and Fri, Oct 18, for the Hill-Stead Museum in Farmington has October 1 as the “register by” date. Please be sure to attend if you register since numbers are meaningful!

**GET UPDATED CALENDAR ON LINE**  
[www.mileonline.org](http://www.mileonline.org)

## Meet MILE Secretary – Judy Cook

Judy Cook has been an active member of MILE for five years. She was introduced to the organization the way many of us are. A friend and mentor, Mary Dickes, strongly encouraged her to attend a program and she hasn't stop coming since. In addition to being a regular program attendee, Judy also took the next step. She became a volunteer and has been Board Secretary for the last three years.



When asked what programs she most enjoyed, Judy was quick to answer. Book discussions, Tai Chi, and meditation classes top the list. She also enjoys the day trips and signed up for this June's Road Scholar Trip to view the mansions of the Hudson River Valley. Judy is thoroughly enjoying the total MILE educational experience.

To corral prospective members, Judy's pitch is perfect. "This is a terrific organization and a great way to meet people. Each semester it introduces you to new topics covering a variety of interests and experiences."

Raised and educated in New York City, Judy worked for 35 years as a health administrator for the New England Electrical Workers Benefit Fund. An unexpected benefit for Judy herself turned out to be meeting her husband. Now retired, she is finding learning adventures abroad. Recent trips with her husband included Scotland and Europe.

Judy has two children, twostep children, and ten grandchildren. She describes herself as "the original cat person" although admits to being down to only two. "My joys are my grandchildren and the cats."

Judy's enthusiasm for MILE programs and her willingness to volunteer for the Board are the kind of commitment that keep MILE energized and affordable. She and her fellow volunteers and officers are to be congratulated as MILE marks its first 20 years of service to the senior scholars of Middlesex County.

(Thanks to MILE member Kathleen Amoia for this interview.)

## Our Scholarship Recipients

**Cimarron Crouse:** Is a nontraditional student enrolled in the Ophthalmic Design and Dispensing Program with a GPA of 4.0. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Fordham University College of Business where he was on the Dean's List six times. In 2005, Cimarron visited China as a member of the International Scholar Laureate Program. Cimarron worked as an apprentice in SPECS, an optical shop in his home town. Wanting to use his business experience to start his own business, Cimarron decided to pursue a career in the field of optical dispensing and eventually become a licensed optician.

**Diana Davis:** Diana is pursuing an Associate's degree in General Studies. Diana, a single parent, lives in Meriden with her family. She has worked as a CNA for 20 years and would really love to become a nurse. Although she was frightened to return to school, she is motivated by her children and grandchildren to achieve her goal. Upon graduation from MxCC, Diana plans to transfer to St. Joseph and become an emergency department nurse.

**HongZhen Reilley:** HongZhen is pursuing a General Studies degree with the career goal of becoming a Chinese language teacher. She was born in Shen Yang, China and became a teacher when she was 20 years old. In China, she worked, bought books, and studied in the evening. After 3 years, she passed the test for elementary certification and became a 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and taught Chinese language and mathematics. HongZhen moved up to the middle school and taught there until 1999 when she came the United States. HongZhen was selected to join a State Government Education Tour to study the school system in the U.S. She met her now husband while on tour and remained in America. Now that her daughter is 1 year old, she has returned to college and plans to transfer into the Chinese Language Department at Yale or UConn. She plans to earn teacher certification and teach in a community college.