On May 12, Jeff Rapsis creates a live musical score for the 1927 film "Wings," the first of 25 events scheduled as part of Over There, Over Here: WWI and Life in New Hampshire Communities.

OVER THERE, OVER HERE:
Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the United States Entering World War I

No mistake was made at the pivotal moment of the very first Academy Awards. In 1927, "Wings," a silent movie set during the First World War, won Best Picture for its dramatic rendering of the American soldiers’ experience in what was then called "The Great War" (as nobody expected another). "Wings" puts moviegoers in the cockpit of biplane fighters as they swoop and dive over France and Germany. Accompanied by live music by composer-organist Jeff Rapsis, the film will be shown on May 12 at 6:00 pm at the Webster Town Hall and Library.

Rapsis, who will also give introductory remarks and lead discussion, says, "The Great War was the 9/11 of its day. It was the defining event of that generation, whether they were in the service or not." Aviation was as new in the early part of the century as movies. Although fictional, Rapsis notes, "Wings' would have seemed as though it were based on almost unbelievable current events, similar to the film 'United 93' which came out after the 9/11 hijackings." And for audiences today, he says, "'Wings' is an amazing time capsule
that shows so much of what it was like to serve one's country in a time of war a century ago."

Supported by a New Hampshire Humanities grant, this program is one of more than 25 taking place between May and November under the auspices of a special project, "Over There, Over Here: WWI and Life in NH Communities," a collaboration of 13 historical societies, museums, and libraries. "The goal of the series is to put the war in social context," according to project director Heather Mitchell of the Hopkinton Historical Society. "The teens and early 1920s were a time of great change in the U.S." Topics to be explored include the lives of service men and women, including Native Americans; the development of camouflage and chemical warfare; battlefield communications; as well as the war relief effort and social changes and challenges from temperance, to women's suffrage, to the influenza pandemic.

In addition to the scheduled programs, five of the organizations will mount exhibits related to WWI. To encourage people to attend multiple exhibits and programs, organizers have created bingo cards that attendees can get stamped; if you acquire a row of stamps, you will be eligible to win a fabulous gift basket of prizes.

Now the Great War is sometimes considered "The Forgotten War." But, according to project humanities expert Dr. Lynn Clark, "The social struggles of the time should not be forgotten as we still wrestle with them today." One struggle that has resonance today is over the strengths and excesses of patriotism. On the positive side, patriotism was the impetus behind the groundswell of support for the war effort. Children and adults raised money through Liberty Bond sales. Women and men formed Red Cross chapters and worked to supply hospital units. Farmers offered land and seeds to strangers; college students left their studies to work on farms; and schoolchildren planted gardens, all to overcome shortages at home and in Europe. Yet patriotism's darker side resulted in suspicion of and attacks on immigrants, paranoia over spies, and moves to limit civil rights and free speech. The demand for security and the need for freedom are still at odds. Organizers hope that attendees will not only enjoy the variety of programs and exhibits but ponder and talk with others about the parallels and contrasts between events of 100 years ago and what they see happening around them today.


For a complete list of upcoming programs and exhibits, visit www.OverThereOverHere.com.

Everybody Must Give Their Mite:
Soldiers, Sailors, Nurses and the Warner Homefront
Friday, May 19, 7:00 pm at the Warner Town Hall

There are 47 names on the World War 1 plaque hanging at the Warner Town Hall, not including the unsung heroes like Marion Derry who served as an Army Corps nurse and lived in Warner after the war. The historical society has her uniform. The local Red Cross in Warner raised money and rolled bandages. Businessmen organized and raised money through selling war bonds. Come and discover who these people were and what they were doing both on the war and home fronts.
Dear friends,

Recent news about the possible elimination of the National Endowment for the Humanities has—on a positive note—reignited a national conversation about how a strong, vibrant democracy requires informed, engaged citizens.

Why do we need the humanities? The humanities connect us, despite our diverse perspectives. They enable us to find common ground and better understand ourselves, our world, and each other. We believe in the capacity of the humanities to raise silenced voices, create spaces where listening transcends rhetoric, and inspire empathy and critical thinking.

In the past year, in partnership with more than 300 local organizations in more than 150 cities and towns, New Hampshire Humanities provided hundreds of programs that offered 145,000 residents opportunities for learning, reflection, and reasoned discussion. This month alone, you’ll find more than 65 free public programs listed here – from living histories where you’ll meet Abraham Lincoln, Queen Victoria, or Walt Whitman, to diverse topics ranging from weathervanes, songs of old New Hampshire, and the golden age of American animation, to beer brewing in the Granite State, George Washington’s courageous runaway slave, America’s fastest sailing ships, movie mavericks who challenged Hollywood, and more.

While we work to advocate here in New Hampshire and around the country for the importance of federal support for broad public access to knowledge and community connections through the exchange of ideas, we also know that we need to reduce our reliance on that federal funding. In other words, we need YOU!

Would you make a gift today to help ensure that tens of thousands of residents, young and old, will benefit from strong humanities programming across the Granite State? Please use the envelope in this edition of the Calendar, or donate securely online at www.nnhumanities.org/give.

The humanities are not a luxury. If we are to thrive as individuals, as communities, and as a nation, we need the humanities. We need an understanding of the past, a willingness to wrestle with the complex issues we face, and opportunities to engage in respectful conversation with those of different beliefs.

Thank you for joining us as an advocate and a supporter!

JANET PITMAN ANDERSON:
Why I Support New Hampshire Humanities

It’s no surprise that a young girl who fell in love with New Hampshire and its deep cultural history at an early age would grow up to become one of the most steadfast supporters of New Hampshire Humanities.

With fond memories of her grandfather reading history stories to her and her brother when they were young, she instilled in her own children a love of literature, learning, and the importance of giving others a sense of history and connection to a place.

From her cozy living room in one of Pembroke’s oldest homes, Janet Pitman Anderson shared stories about growing up in New Hampshire, among them her experience working in the gift shop of one of New Hampshire’s historical treasures, the Summit Hotel on the top of Mt. Washington. Her future husband, Fred, served as Assistant Postmaster at the summit.

A retired teacher and mother of five grown children, Mrs. Pitman Anderson’s historical interests first drew her to a New Hampshire Humanities program about the author and explorer, Richard Halliburton. A member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Pierce Brigade, Janet has attended hundreds of humanities programs and continues to be an active and enthusiastic audience member.

When asked about why she supports New Hampshire Humanities, she says she believes in keeping the organization going strong on behalf of all the citizens of New Hampshire.

“I love history, and it’s wonderful to be able to learn about a topic and then ask questions afterward,” she said. “You can read the newspaper, but you can’t always get the information and insight shared at these programs.” We couldn’t agree more.

Thank you, Janet Pitman Anderson!

Read more about our work across the Granite State in our Annual Report, now available online at www.nnhumanities.org/annualreport
HYPE conference draws 1,100 students

HYPE (Hosting Young Philosophy Enthusiasts), a student-led philosophical initiative founded by students at Souhegan High School and guided by Chris Brooks, director of the Ethics Forum there, hosted its 8th student conference on March 16 at the University of New Hampshire for a day of challenging Socratic discussions led by their peers.

A growing national student movement to study philosophy as a way to build the skills of critical thinking, respectful dialogue, and reasoned debate is reflected in the explosive growth of HYPE, which drew more than 1,100 students and their teachers from 48 schools around the state this year to talk and reason together about what it means to be a responsible citizen. The critical thinking it inspires improves problem-solving capacity and nuanced thinking about difficult issues, and the study and practice of philosophy feeds our young peoples’ desire to know, to think, and to reason together.

“HYPE gives students the opportunity to think about ideas in new ways. It can help spark people’s imagination and their curiosity to learn more than what they’ve been taught in school,” explained one of HYPE’s student facilitators.

“Thanks to all of you who helped to pull off another awe-inspiring HYPE conference. It never gets old seeing that many local high school students fired up about philosophy and wearing Aristotle quotes on their backs;” said Nick Smith, J.D./Ph.D., Professor and Chairperson of the UNH Department of Philosophy which hosted the event. “It was also great to have the support of our friends at NH Humanities and to share this event during these challenging times.”

“Many of us only see the one day of HYPE... but it is the tip of the iceberg of years of good education in philosophy and leadership.” Congratulations, HYPE!
Have a great idea for a humanities project in your community?

Many of the projects you read about in our monthly Calendar are projects funded through the New Hampshire Humanities Community Project Grants program, which support your efforts to share knowledge and spark conversations about topics that interest your community. Quick Grants of up to $1,000 support single events or short series and are available in as little as six weeks from submission deadline to the first public event. Proposals are accepted six times a year. Upcoming deadlines are:

- Apply by: July 1  
  - Notification by: August 1  
  - Earliest date of public event: September 1
- September 1  
  - October 1  
  - November 1
- November 1  
  - December 1  
  - January 1

Read the guidelines at www.nnhumanities.org/grants and contact Susan Hatem, Associate Director and Grants Coordinator, with your ideas and questions. She can be reached at 603-224-4071 or shatem@nhhumanities.org.

Recently-funded Community Project Grants include a panel discussion with UNH historian Dr. Jeffrey Bolster (top) on individual rights, liberties, and conscience versus societal concerns, presented in Conway and Dover in April, and a one-man portrayal of Walt Whitman by actor Stephen Collins and poetry discussion with English professor Dr. Denise Askin, in Derry.

Immigration in the Granite State

2-DAY WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS  
JUNE 29-30 IN KEENE

To teach the story of America to students, it helps to put human faces on what can seem like large and impersonal social forces. A New Hampshire Humanities grant to the Historical Society of Cheshire County will support a 2-day teacher workshop on immigration for elementary and middle school educators. Guided by Paul Vincent, Keene State College Professor of Holocaust Studies and History, participants will learn about United States immigration policy during the intense period of transition from the 1860s through the 1940s, and explore questions such as: How have Americans’ views of immigration changed over time? How have local communities been redefined by immigration? What have immigrants gained and lost in the process of becoming American?

Sessions led by local historians will focus on the history of Jewish, Finnish, and French-Canadian populations in our state, followed by a contemporary look at New Hampshire’s refugee resettlement program. Museum and historical society staff will offer hands-on practice in teaching about immigration using artifacts, archival research, and library materials, as well as a new immigration history “wonder box” for classroom use.

Participants will receive 12 professional development credits for attending both days.

June 29-June 30, 9am-3:30 pm daily
Historical Society of Cheshire County  
246 Main Street, Keene

For more information and to register: hscnh.org/education/opportunities/teacher-workshops-professional-development, or contact Jennifer Carroll, Director of Education at dired@hscnh.org or 352-1895.
All the events listed in this calendar are funded in whole or part by New Hampshire Humanities.

Humanities in New Hampshire
Your Monthly Guide to Programs Around the State

Humanities to Go programs are made possible in part by the generous support of:

Fair Point communications

May 2017

1 NEWBURY

Monday, 7:00 pm, Newbury Public Library, 933 Route 103

Book Discussion: Lincoln’s Boys: John Hay, John Nicolay and the War for Lincoln’s Image

This book discussion is part of the “Abraham Lincoln: Behind White House Doors” grant-funded project described on page 4. Contact: Pat Baldissard, 763-4789, ext. 5

2 MEREDITH

Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Meredith Historical Society, 45 Main St.

John Winant: NH Man of The World

John G. Winant, three-time governor of New Hampshire, went on to serve the nation in several capacities on the national and international scene. In the process he became a hero to the British in World War II and to the common man throughout the developed world. His life, marked by highs and lows, ended tragically in his mansion in Concord. The program examines his life and measures his impact at home and abroad. Contact: Daniel Heyduk, 279-1206

2 EXETER

Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Exeter Historical Society, 47 Front St.

I Can’t Die But Once - Harriet Tubman’s Civil War

Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti’s characterization of Harriet Tubman tells the story about the remarkable life of an enduring warrior. As Harriet Tubman, she weaves a tale of truth, pain, courage, and determination. The U.S. government enlisted Tubman as a scout and spy for the Union cause and she battled courageously behind enemy lines during the Civil War, but Tubman is best known for her role as a conductor on the Underground Railroad. Though she is one of the most famous women in our nation’s history, we have come to know her through fictionalized biographies written for school children. Quezaire-Presutti separates reality from myth to reconstruct a richer and far more accurate historical account of Tubman’s life. Contact: Barbara Rimkunas, 778-2335

2 PORTSMOUTH

Tuesday, 7:00 pm, Portsmouth Public Library, 175 Parrott Ave.

African American Soldiers and Sailors of NH During the American Revolution

One of the most interesting aspects of the American Revolution is the role played by African Americans
in the fight for independence. Both free African Americans and those who were enslaved were key in manning state militias and Continental Army units, as well as serving on the high seas in the Navy and on privately armed ships. Indeed, their service to the colonies was crucial in a conflict that lasted nearly seven years. Prohibited from serving in military units and largely considered "undesirable elements," how is it that these African-American soldiers came to fight for the cause of liberty, even when their own personal liberty was not guaranteed? Glenn Knoblock examines the history of African-American soldiers' service during the war, how they were perceived by the enemy and the officers under whom they served, and their treatment after the war.
Contact: Laura Horwood-Benton, 427-1540

3 CONCORD

Wednesday, 6:00 pm, Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St.
Shadows Fall North Screening
Portsmouth, Milford, Canaan, and many other NH towns have been home to natives of Africa and African Americans for centuries, but their stories have often been left out of official histories. Shadows Fall North, a documentary produced by the UNH Center for the Humanities in collaboration with Atlantic Media Productions, focuses on the recovery of Black history in NH by two extraordinary women, historians and activists Valerie Cunningham and JerriAnne Boggis. Shadows Fall North, supported in part by New Hampshire Humanities, explores these questions and more. Contact: Cheryl Dempsey, 228-2448

3 PLYMOUTH

Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Pease Public Library, 1 Russell St.
Rights & Reds
Rights & Reds tells the story of New Hampshire's investigation of "subversive activities" during the 1950s. John Groerer facilitates this documentary and discussion which explores the confrontation between people who thought they were protecting the Bill of Rights and people who thought the Bill of Rights should protect them. Most importantly, it is the story of people who had the courage to stand up for what they believed. Contact: Diane Lynch, 536-2616

3 RICHMOND

Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Veteran's Hall, 105 Old Homestead Hwy.
Poor Houses and Town Farms: The Hard Row for Paupers
From its earliest settlements New Hampshire has struggled with issues about treatment of its poor. The early Northeastern colonies followed the lead of England's 1601 Poor Law, which imposed taxes for maintenance of the poor but made no distinction between the "vagrant, vicious poor" and the helpless, and honest poor. This confusion persisted for generations and led directly to establishment in most of the state's towns of alms houses and poor farms and, later, county institutions which would collectively come to form a dark chapter in NH history. Steve Taylor will examine how paupers were treated in these facilities and how reformers eventually closed them down. Contact: Wendy O'Brien, 239-6164

3 PLAISTOW

Wednesday, 7:00 pm, First Baptist Church, 122 Main St.
Songs of Old New Hampshire
Drawing heavily on the repertoire of traditional singer Lena Bourne Fish (1873-1945) of Jaffrey and Temple, New Hampshire, Jeff Warner offers the songs and stories that, in the words of Carl Sandburg, tell us "where we came from and what brought us along." These ballads, love songs, and comic pieces reveal the experiences and emotions of daily life in the days before movies, sound recordings and, for some, books. Songs from the lumber camps, the decks of sailing ships, the textile mills and the war between the sexes offer views of pre-industrial New England and a chance to hear living artifacts from the 18th and 19th centuries. Contact: Jean Latham, 382-5843

4 GORHAM

Thursday, 5:00 pm, Medallion Opera House, 20 Park St.
Uprooted: Heartache and Hope in New Hampshire
Uprooted is a 30-minute documentary based on interviews collected during the NH Humanities Fences & Neighbors initiative on immigration. It tells the story of five refugees who escaped from war-torn countries to resettle in New Hampshire. The film explores what it means to be a refugee and how it feels to make a new life in a strange place, often without English language skills, family, a job, or community contacts. The film leaves us pondering questions of belonging and citizenship. What does it mean to be an American? Once a refugee, are you destined always to be a refugee? What are our responsibilities toward one another? Sara Withers introduces the film and leads a post-film discussion. Contact: Pam Laflamme, 752-8587

4 JAFFREY

Thursday, 6:30 pm, Jaffrey Civic Center, 40 Main St.
A Visit With Queen Victoria
In 1837, teenaged Victoria ascended to the British throne, untrained and innocent. Those who would try to usurp her power underestimated this self-willed intelligent young woman whose mettle sustained her through her 63-year reign. Using Queen Victoria's diary and letters, this program reveals the personal details of a powerful yet humane woman who took seriously her role as monarch in a time of great expansion. She and her husband, Albert, set an example of high moral character and dedication, a novelty in the royal house after generations of scandal. Through her children she left a royal legacy; an era bears her name. Sally Mummey performs this living history in proper 19th century clothing resplendent with Royal Orders. Contact: Mary Jo Marvin, 532-7301
When worldwide surveys of happiness are conducted, why doesn’t the United States make the top ten? Participants will be invited to discuss various definitions, current measures for assessing self-reported levels of happiness, specific findings reported as increasing the extent to which engaging in one’s community impact happiness?

The ancient Greek philosophers defined eudaimonia as living a full and excellent life. In this illustrated talk, Maria Sanders explores how ideas of happiness have changed in Western civilization through the ages, while comparing and contrasting major concepts of well being throughout the world. Can money buy happiness? To what extent does engaging in one’s community impact happiness? When worldwide surveys of happiness are conducted, why doesn’t the United States make the top ten? Participants will be invited to discuss various definitions, current measures for assessing self-reported levels of happiness, specific findings reported as increasing people’s levels of happiness, and happiness projects undertaken by entire communities—including a town-wide happiness quest in Plymouth. Contact: Canaan Town Library, 523-9650

Abraham Lincoln, portrayed by Steve Wood, begins this program by recounting his early life and ends with a reading of the “Gettysburg Address.” Along the way he comments on the debates with Stephen Douglas, his run for the presidency, and the Civil War. Contact: Larry Converse, 542-2180

This program offers a fun and engaging look at the historic and unusual weathervanes found on New Hampshire’s churches, town halls, and other public buildings, from earliest times to the present. Highlighted by the visual presentation of a sampling of the vanes found throughout the state, Glenn Knoblock’s program traces the history of weathervanes, their practical use and interesting symbolism, as well as their varied types and methods of manufacture and evolution from practical weather instrument to architectural embellishment. Contact: Ronda Gregg, 529-2630

Music in My Pockets: Family Fun in Folk Music
Singing games, accessible “pocket instruments” like spoons and dancing puppets, tall tales, funny songs, old songs and songs kids teach each other in the playground — all “traditional” in that they have been passed down the generations by word of mouth — will be seen, heard, and learned in this program led by Jeff Warner. We will revisit 1850 or 1910 in a New England town with families gathered around the kitchen hearth, participating in timeless, hearty entertainment: a glimpse into how America amused itself before electricity. Contact: Malcolm Cameron, 463-7076

Moved and Seconded: Town Meeting in New Hampshire
Drawing on research from her book, Moved and Seconded: Town Meeting in New Hampshire, the Present, the Past, and the Future, Rebecca Rule regales audiences with stories of the rituals, traditions, and history of town meeting, including the perennial characters, the literature, the humor, and the wisdom of this uniquely New England institution. Contact: Jerry Hanauer, 472-5587

Harnessing History: On the Trail of New Hampshire’s State Dog, the Chinook
This program looks at how dog sledding developed in New Hampshire and how the Chinook played a major role in this story. Explaining how man and his relationship with dogs won out over machines on several famous polar expeditions, Bob Cottrell covers the history of Arthur Walden and his Chinooks, the State Dog of New Hampshire. Contact: Lucille Noel, 798-5709

New Hampshire on High: Historic and Unusual Weathervanes of the Granite State
This program offers a fun and engaging look at the historic and unusual weathervanes found on New Hampshire’s churches, town halls, and other public buildings, from earliest times to the present. Highlighted by the visual presentation of a sampling of the vanes found throughout the state, Glenn Knoblock’s program traces the history of weathervanes, their practical use and interesting symbolism, as well as their varied types and methods of manufacture and evolution from practical weather instrument to architectural embellishment. Contact: Ronda Gregg, 529-2630

Songs of Emigration: Storytelling Through Traditional Irish Music
Through traditional music, Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki relays some of the adventures, misadventures, and emotions experienced by Irish emigrants. The focus is on songs about leaving Ireland, sometimes focusing on the reasons for leaving (a man who is driven from his land by English persecution), sometimes revealing what happened upon arrival (an immigrant drafted into the Union army during the Civil War), and sometimes exploring the universal feeling of homesickness of a stranger in a strange land (a factory worker in London missing his home in County Clare). The presenter discusses the historical context of these songs, interspersing their stories with tunes from Ireland that made their way into New England’s musical repertoire, played on his fiddle or guitar. Contact: Jan Cote, 785-4090

New England Quilts and the Stories They Tell
Quilts tell stories, and quilt history is full of myths and misinformation as well as heart-warming tales of service and tradition. Quilting is not just an American art; nearly every world culture that has cold weather uses quilted textiles. Pam Weeks weaves world history, women’s history, industrial history and just plain wonderful stories into her presentation. Participants are invited to bring one quilt for identification and/or story sharing. Prompted in part by the material culture at hand, the presenter may speak about fashion fads, the Colonial Revival, quilt making for Civil War soldiers, and anything else quilt related she can squeeze in. Contact: Susan Wren, 865-7355

Moved and Seconded: Town Meeting in New Hampshire
Drawing on research from her book, Moved and Seconded: Town Meeting in New Hampshire, the Present, the Past, and the Future, Rebecca Rule regales audiences with stories of the rituals, traditions, and history of town meeting, including the perennial characters, the literature, the humor, and the wisdom of this uniquely New England institution. Contact: Jerry Hanauer, 472-5587
Everyone knows that there’s “something about lighthouses” that gives them broad appeal, but their vital role in our history and culture is little appreciated. Our early nation was built on maritime economy, and lighthouses were part of the system that made that possible. Due to automation, traditional lighthouse keeping is a way of life that has faded into the past. Jeremy D’Entremont tells the history of New England’s historic and picturesque lighthouses primarily focusing on the colorful and dramatic stories of lighthouse keepers and their families. Contact: Robert Gustafson, 553-0531.

**New England Lighthouses & The People Who Kept Them**

Thursday, 6:30 pm, Seabrook Library, 25 Liberty Ln.

Granite Gallows: The Origins of New Hampshire’s Debate Over the Death Penalty

As one of the last northeastern states with capital punishment still on the books and with its first person on death row since 1939, New Hampshire continues to struggle with this controversial issue. Chris Benedetto examines the history of the death penalty in New Hampshire and the major legal and social issues which challenged our predecessors, revealing that many of them still haunt us today. Contact: Ann Robinson, 474-2044.

**Exemplary Country Estates of New Hampshire**

Thursday, 7:00 pm, Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Sq.

In the early 20th century, the NH Board of Agriculture launched a program to boost the rural economy and promote tourism through the sale of abandoned farms to summer residents. After introducing the country house movement, Cristina Ashjian focuses attention on some of the great country estates featured in the NH program between 1902 and 1913. Which private estates were recognized as exemplary, and who were their owners? Using historic images and texts, Ashjian discusses well-known estates now open to the public such as The Fells on Lake Sunapee, The Rocks in Bethlehem, Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site in Cornish, and local examples when possible. Contact: Tanya Griffith, 465-7721.

**Debate Over the Death Penalty**

Thursday, 6:30 pm, Seabrook Library, 25 Liberty Ln.

Granite Gallows: The Origins of New Hampshire’s Debate Over the Death Penalty

As one of the last northeastern states with capital punishment still on the books and with its first person on death row since 1939, New Hampshire continues to struggle with this controversial issue. Chris Benedetto examines the history of the death penalty in New Hampshire and the major legal and social issues which challenged our predecessors, revealing that many of them still haunt us today. Contact: Ann Robinson, 474-2044.

**New Hampshire Roads – Taken Or Not**

Thursday, 7:00 pm, Tin Shop Building, 160 East Main St.

Moved and Seconded: Town Meeting in New Hampshire

For a description of this program, see the event on May 4 in Bedford. This program will be part of the Grantham Historical Society’s annual meeting, preceded by a potluck dinner at 6:00 pm and a short business meeting at 6:45 pm. Contact: Ken Story, 359-4405.

**New Hampshire Roads – Taken Or Not**

Thursday, 7:00 pm, Tin Shop Building, 160 East Main St.

New Hampshire Roads – Taken Or Not

Following World War II, New Hampshire embarked on an extensive program of constructing new highways and improving existing roads to accommodate explosive growth in passenger vehicles and the need for better infrastructure to accommodate commercial traffic. Hundreds of millions in federal, state, and local tax dollars would be expended on this initiative over the second half of the 20th century and road construction would become an enduring part of the state’s economy. Decisions about when and where highway projects would be undertaken were often driven by political considerations as well as by policy dictated from Washington. Frequently, choices not to build or improve certain roads would generate as much conflict...
and controversy as would the proposals that would eventually be implemented. Either way, decisions about highways would come to have profound and lasting impacts upon communities and entire regions of the state. Steve Taylor reviews some of the state’s most significant highway choices in the 20th century and discusses the economic, social, and cultural changes that followed decisions to build or not to build. Contact: Claire James, 938-2041

11 WOLFEBORO

Thursday, 7:00 pm, Wolfeboro Public Library, 259 S. Main St.

Galileo Galilei, The Starry Messenger

The Starry Messenger, presented by Michael Francis, is a dramatic fun-filled adaptation of Galileo’s short treatise “Siderius Nuncius.” Galileo (dressed in 17th-century costume) arrives to present a public lecture on his most recent discoveries made using his newly-devised spyglass. As he describes those discoveries, Galileo’s new method of observation and measurement of nature become apparent. Throughout the presentation audience members are actively involved in experiments and demonstrations. After the lecture, Galileo answers questions about his experiments, his life, and his times. Contact: Wolfeboro Library, 569-2428

12 WEBSTER

Friday, 6:00 pm, Webster Public Library/Town Hall, 947 Battle St.

“Wings” Silent Film

For a description of this program, see the article on page 1. Contact: Dorothy Bourque, 746-2133

13 WARREN

Saturday, 1:00 pm, Joseph Patch Library, 320 NH Route 25

Yankee Ingenuity: Stories of Headstrong and Resourceful People

Jo Radner shares a selection of historical tales—humorous and thought-provoking—about New Englanders who have used their wits in extraordinary ways to solve problems and create inventions. The stories are engaging and entertaining, but also raise some profound questions about our admiration of ingenuity and about the ethics of pursuing discoveries without taking their potential outcomes into account. The performance will include discussion with the audience, and may introduce a brief folk tale or a poem about inventiveness and problem solving. Contact: Veronica Mueller, 764-9072

15 BOW

Monday, 1:00 pm, Bow Mills United Methodist Church, 505 South St.

New Hampshire’s Long Love-Hate Relationship With Its Agricultural Fairs

The first agricultural fair in North America was held in what is now Londonderry in 1722, and it would become a wildly-popular event lasting for generations until it came to be so dominated by gambling, flim-flam, and other “scandalous dimensions” that the legislature revoked its charter in 1850. But fairs have always had strong supporters and eventually the state came around to appropriating modest sums to help them succeed. Steve Taylor will discuss the ups and downs of the fairs down through years and how public affection for rural traditions helps them survive in contemporary times. Contact: Peter S. Bartlett, 224-3172

15 PETERBOROUGH

Monday, 6:30 pm, Peterborough Community Theatre, 6 School St.

Shadows Fall North Screening

For a description of this program, please see the event on May 3 in Concord. Contact: 924-2255

15 BOSCAWEN

Monday, 6:30 pm, Boscawen Public Library, 116 North Main St.

Crosscut: The Mills, Logging and Life on the Androscoggin

Using oral histories, Rebecca Rule recreates the voices of North Country people and uses new and vintage photos to tell the story of logging, the Berlin Mills, and life in the Androscoggin Valley, from the beginnings of the logging industry in the 1800s, through the boom years of the Brown Company and subsequent mill owners, and on to the demolition of the stacks in 2007. Audience members will be invited to share their own stories and discuss the logging and paper industries and the special place north of the notches. John Rule assists with a PowerPoint presentation of photos and information from his own research into the history of the Brown Company as an archivist at the NH Historical Society. Contact: Bonny John, 753-4589

16 FRANCONIA

Tuesday, 6:00 pm, Abbie Greenleaf Library, 439 Main St.

Music in My Pockets: Family Fun in Folk Music

For a description of this program see the event on May 7 in Deerfield. Contact: Ann Steuernagel, 823-8424
**Stark Decency: NH’s WW II German Prisoner of War Camp**

During World War II, 300 German prisoners of war were held at Camp Stark near the village of Stark in New Hampshire’s North Country. Allen Koop reveals the history of this camp, which tells us much about our country’s war experience and about our state.

Contact: Anita Creager, 424-5084

**Abby Hutchinson’s Sweet Freedom Songs: Songs & Stories of the Struggle for Abolition & Woman Suffrage**

Deborah Anne Goss appears as Abby Hutchinson Patton, recalling mid-19th-century U.S. and New Hampshire history and performing rousing anthems, heartfelt ballads, and humorous ditties sung during anti-slavery and early women’s rights struggles. In the 1840s and 1850s the Hutchinson Family Singers strongly influenced the opinions of the era with their popular songs promoting healthy living and social justice—most prominently the abolition of slavery. Participants are encouraged to join in the singing on several choruses or read a poem or political diatribe of the time.

Contact: Kim Hanson, 493-4749

**The Founding Fathers: What Were They Thinking?**

In 1787 delegates gathered in Philadelphia to address a wide variety of crises facing the young United States of America and produced a charter for a new government. In modern times, competing political and legal claims are frequently based on what those delegates intended. Mythology about the founders and their work at the 1787 Convention has obscured both fact and legitimate analysis of the events leading to the agreement called the Constitution. Richard Hesse explores the cast of characters called “founders,” the problems they faced, and the solutions they fashioned.

Contact: Christine Fogg, 524-8268

**Pretty Halcyon Days, on the Beach with Ogden Nash**

Ogden Nash and his family spent their summers on Little Boar’s Head, in North Hampton. Using examples from their original stage work, “Home is Heaven,” Pontine Theatre explores the ways that Nash’s life on the New Hampshire seashore influenced his poems, giving the reader insight into the man, his character, and his ideas about family, society, and nature. These themes form a rich portrait of the poet and underscore how the intersection of literature and local history can deepen our understanding and appreciation of everyday events in our own backyard.

Contact: Rye Historical Society, 997-6742

**All Eyes Are Upon Us: Racial Struggles in the North, from Jackie Robinson to Deval Patrick**

From Brooklyn to Boston, from World War II to the present, Jason Sokol traces the modern history of race and politics in the Northeast. Why did white fans come out to support Jackie Robinson as he broke baseball’s color barrier in 1947, even as Brooklyn’s blacks were shunted into segregated neighborhoods? How was African-American politician Ed Brooke of Massachusetts, who won a Senate seat in 1966, undone by the resistance to desegregation busing in Boston? Is the Northeast’s history a microcosm of America as a whole: outwardly democratic, but inwardly conflicted over race?

Contact: Carol Luers Eyman, 589-4610

**New England Quilts and the Stories They Tell**

For a description of this program, see the event on May 9 in Grantham. Contact: Charles Brault, 878-1105

**America’s Top Popular Songs**

“Your Hit Parade” aired on radio and then on television from 1935 to 1959. It set the standard for American popular music. Calvin Knickerbocker outlines a quarter century of the show’s history as a “tastemaker” featuring songs inspired by the Great Depression and on through the advent of rock and roll. He explores the show’s relationship with sponsor American Tobacco and Lucky Strike cigarettes and shares stories about the artists the show helped launch and promote, from Frank Sinatra to Elvis.

Contact: Dorothy F. Sidore, 935-9445

**Having a Fine Time in Manchester: Vintage Post Cards and Local History**

Post cards have many a story to tell about the built landscape, disastrous events such as fires or floods, daily folk customs, and the identity of place. During the golden age of the post card, before telephones, personal messages could contain anything from the mundane, “Having a fine time, wish you were here...” to more profound reflections on family life or colorful portraits of towns and cities from the perspective of newly-landed immigrants. Vintage post cards of Manchester offer a lively, nostalgic adventure through a major industrial center, home to people from around the world.

Contact: Rebecca Brown, 654-2581
**From Mickey to Magoo: The Golden Age of American Animation**

From the 1920s to the 1960s, adult American theatergoers could anticipate a cartoon before each feature film. From Mickey Mouse to Donald Duck, Popeye, Betty Boop, Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Tom and Jerry, Casper the Friendly Ghost, and Mr. Magoo, the beloved cartoon "stars" were every bit as memorable as the Hollywood actors who shared the marquee. Many of the cartoons were redistributed as Saturday morning shows for kids of the next generation. Margo Burns introduces you to the people and studios that made these films and the changing technology, aesthetics, music, politics, and economics behind them, showing stills, characters, and clips from many of these beautifully hand-drawn films. At the end of her program, participants are treated to one of the classics in its entirety. Contact: Campton Public Library, 726-4877

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**Vanished Veterans - New Hampshire’s Civil War Monuments and Memorials**

New Hampshire towns did not erect monuments to prior wars, but the emotional and family toll, unprecedented in American history, drove the decision to honor our local soldiers and sailors of the War of Rebellion. From Seabrook to Colebrook, Berlin to Hinsdale, along Main Streets and 19th-century dirt roads, in city parks and on town greens, in libraries and town halls, and in cemeteries prominent and obscure, George Morrison located, inventoried, and photographed the fascinating variety of New Hampshire’s Civil War memorials. He shares his discoveries, from the earliest obelisks, to statuary and artillery, to murals, cast iron, stained glass, and buildings from the 1860s through the 1920s. Contact: Alison Vallieres, 774-3681

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**Yankee Ingenuity: Stories of Headstrong and Resourceful People**

Every town and watershed in New Hampshire has ancient and continuing Native American history. From the recent, late 20th century explosion of local Native population in New Hampshire back to the era of early settlement and the colonial wars, John and Donna Moody explore the history of New Hampshire's Abenaki and Penacook peoples with a focus on your local community. Contact: Susan Gilbert, 772-5022

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**Global Banjar: International Voices in Antebellum**

The Hardtacks (Marek Bennett and Woody Pringle) deliver an engaging overview of global politics prior to the American Civil War through the lens of early banjo music. Between 1820 and 1860, the banjo transformed from a slave instrument found only on Southern plantations to an international pop phenomenon: songs and playing techniques carried far and wide in the emerging global economy, from the streets of New York’s Five Points slum to the gold fields of California and the elite drawing rooms of London, from the battlegrounds of Nicaragua to official diplomatic receptions in Japan. How did this African-derived, slave-borne folk instrument come to symbolize all the best and worst of a young United States of America? Contact: Beth Merrill, 588-6615

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**Resourceful People**

Yankee Ingenuity: Stories of Headstrong and Resourceful People

For a description of this program, see the article on page 2. Contact: Rebecca Courser, 456-2437.

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**Architectural historian Bryant Tolles, Jr. shares the history and architecture of the grand resort hotel phenomenon and hospitality tourism in the White Mountains of New Hampshire from the pre-Civil War era to the present. The primary focus is on the surviving grand resort hotels: The Mount Washington Resort, the Mountain View Grand, the Balsams, the Eagle Mountain House, and Wentworth Hall and Cottages. Extensive illustrations document these buildings and others no longer in existence. Contact: Lori McKinney, 228-6630**

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**Everybody Must Give Their Mite: Soldiers, Sailors, Nurses and the Warner Homefront**

For a description of this program, see the event on May 13 in Warren. Contact: Heidi Deacon, 483-8245

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**The Grand Resort Hotels of the White Mountains - Architecture, History, and the Preservation Record**

Architectural historian Bryant Tolles, Jr. shares the history and architecture of the grand resort hotel phenomenon and hospitality tourism in the White Mountains of New Hampshire from the pre-Civil War era to the present. The primary focus is on the surviving grand resort hotels: The Mount Washington Resort, the Mountain View Grand, the Balsams, the Eagle Mountain House, and Wentworth Hall and Cottages. Extensive illustrations document these buildings and others no longer in existence. Contact: Lori McKinney, 228-6630

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**(Not So) Elementary, My Dear Watson: The Popularity of Sherlock Holmes**

The recent spate of Sherlock Holmes movies, television shows, and literary adaptations indicate the Great Detective is alive and well in the 21st century. Holmes is the most portrayed literary character of all time, with over 230 film versions alone in several different languages. Over the past century, Sherlockians created societies like the Baker Street Irregulars, wrote articles sussing out the "sources" of...
Doyle’s works, and, most recently, developed an entire online world of Holmesian fan fiction. Sherlock Holmes is now a multi-million dollar industry. Why is Sherlock Holmes so popular? Ann McClellan’s presentation explores the origins of Arthur Conan Doyle’s famous detective and tracks his incarnations in literature, film, advertising, and modern media in order to crack the case of the most popular detective. Contact: Meagan Carr, 444-5741

24 GREENLAND
Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Weeks Public Library, 36 Post Rd.
“If I Am Not For Myself, Who Will Be for Me?”
George Washington’s Runaway Slave
Oney Judge Staines, according to the Constitution, was only three-fifths of a person. To her masters, George and Martha Washington, she was merely “the girl.” All she wanted was the freedom to control her own actions, but her account of escaping the Executive Mansion in Philadelphia, fleeing north and establishing a life in New Hampshire is not a typical runaway story. Portrayed by Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti, Oney’s tale provides an alternative perspective on the new nation’s social, political, and economic development, from one whose personal experience so contradicted the promise of the principles embodied in the nation’s founding documents. Contact: Denise Grimse, 436-8548

24 NOTTINGHAM
Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Blaisdell Memorial Library, 129 Stage Rd.
Angling in the Smile of the Great Spirit
Anyone who ever posted a Gone Fishin’ sign on the door during business hours will appreciate this native fisherman’s glimpse into the habits, rituals, and lore of some of the more colorful members of the not-so-exclusive “Liars’ Club.” Hal Lyon shares tales, secrets, folklore, and history of fishing in New Hampshire’s big lakes, especially Lake Winnipesaukee which translates into “Smile of the Great Spirit.” Contact: Wendy Roberts, 679-8484

24 GREENFIELD
Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Stephenson Memorial Library, Route 31
Robert Rogers of the Rangers - Tragic Hero
On a frontier where individualism flourished, New Hampshire’s consummate woodsman was just the leader to bring his men back safely from deep in dangerous country, even in stormy, freezing weather. The famous “Major Rogers” renown was such that he became perhaps the single-best-known American on both sides of the Atlantic. In October 1765, a private audience with young King George III led, eleven months later, to the launching of an expedition to find the long-dreamed-of Northwest passage to the Pacific – forty years before Lewis and Clark. But who was this frontier farmer, raised in Dunbarton? Thirty years after his death in obscurity in May 1795, Rogers’ exploits were mined by James Fenimore Cooper for his best-selling novels, and in the 20th and 21st centuries, for other histories, novels, movies, and television. George Morrison takes us along on a journey from colonial North America to the 21st century. Contact: Adele Hale, 547-3403

24 TAMWORTH
Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Cook Memorial Library, 93 Main St.
New England Quilts and the Stories They Tell
For a description of this program, see the event on May 9 in Grantham. Contact: Amy Carter, 323-8510

25 CONCORD
Thursday, 2:30 pm, Heritage Heights, Tad’s Place Cultural Arts Center, 149 East Side Dr.
“If I Am Not For Myself, Who Will Be for Me?” George Washington’s Runaway Slave
For a description of this program see the event on May 24 in Greenland. Contact: Susan Belanger, 229-1266

25 LEBANON
Thursday, 6:00 pm, Upper Valley Senior Center, 10 Campbell St.
New England Quilts and the Stories They Tell
For a description of this program, see the event on May 9 in Grantham. Social hour at 5:30, program at 6:00 pm. The public is welcome. Contact: Jill Vahey, 448-4213

25 PIERMONT
Thursday, 7:00 pm, Piermont Old Church Building, 131 NH Route 10
Yankee Ingenuity: Stories of Headstrong and Resourceful People
For a description of this program, see the event on May 13 in Warren. Contact: Fred Shipman, 359-9845

25 CONCORD
Thursday, 7:00 pm, The Pierce Manse, 14 Horseshoe Pond Ln.
New Hampshire and the American Clipper Ship Era
Glenn Knoblock explores our nation’s maritime past with this exciting look at the fastest sailing ships ever built in America. Learn how the clippers evolved, who built them and why, as well as New Hampshire’s important role in supplying these unique ships. Though New Hampshire’s coastline is only seventeen miles long, the state produced more clippers, all built at Portsmouth, than many other cities, bested only by New York and Boston. Learn also about the exciting voyages these ships made, the cargos they carried, the men and, in a few cases, the women, who sailed them, and why the ships’ reign, lasting from 1844-1860, was so short. Whether you’re a boating or nautical enthusiast, or simply have an interest in saltwater history, this lecture will fill your sails. Contact: Nancy Hartford, 225-6496
**New Hampshire Quilts and the Stories They Tell**

Friday, 1:00 pm, Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Rd.

For a description of this program, see the event on May 9 in Grantham. Contact: Amy Friedman, 886-6030

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**Brewing in New Hampshire: An Informal History of Beer in the Granite State from Colonial Times to the Present**

Friday, 7:00 pm, Harvey-Mitchell Memorial Library, 151 Main St.

Glenn Knoblock explores the fascinating history of New Hampshire’s beer and ale brewing industry from Colonial days, when it was home- and tavern-based, to today’s modern breweries and brew pubs. Unusual and rare photos and advertisements document this changing industry and the state’s earliest brewers, including the renowned Frank Jones. A number of lesser-known brewers and breweries that operated in the state are also discussed, including the only brewery owned and operated by a woman before the modern era. Illustrations present evidence of society’s changing attitudes towards beer and alcohol consumption over the years. Whether you’re a beer connoisseur or a “tea-totaler,” this lecture will be enjoyed by adults of all ages. Contact: Michelle Hogan, 679-5944

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**Movie Mavericks: Filmmakers Who Challenge the Hollywood System**

Friday, 7:00 pm, The Curious George Cottage, 13 Noon Peak Rd.

Patrick Anderson focuses on contemporary film directors and screenwriters in the United States whose originality, independence and unconventional approaches to the medium have contributed to the evolution of the industry. The program provides a greater understanding of and appreciation for both the content and form of movies made outside the mainstream Hollywood system, and to consider some of the key differences in theme, style, and narrative format between these works and the more conventional fare of so-called “classic cinema.” Among the filmmakers to be examined are Steven Soderbergh, David Lynch, John Sayles, Spike Lee, Quentin Tarantino, the Coen brothers, Wes Anderson, Sofia Coppola, P.T. Anderson, Jim Jarmusch, and Charlie Kaufman. Patrick Anderson urges participants to view and analyze a variety of film clips carefully so that, by the end of the session, they will be more visually articulate and critically aware of how one “reads” a film. Hosted by the Margaret H.A. Rey Center. Contact: Stacy Luke, 236-3308

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**Songs of Old New Hampshire**

Saturday, 2:00 pm, Bath Public Library, 4 Lisbon Rd.

For a description of this program, see the event on May 9 in Grantham. Contact: Bath Public Library, 747-3372

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**A Soldier’s Mother Tells Her Story**

Sunday, 2:00 pm, New London Historical Society Meetinghouse, 179 Little Sunapee Rd.

Speaking as Betsey Phelps, the mother of a Union soldier from Amherst, New Hampshire who died heroically at the Battle of Gettysburg, Sharon Wood offers an informative and sensitive reflection on that sacrifice from a mother’s perspective. Wood blends the Phelps boy’s story with those of other men who left their New Hampshire homes to fight for the Union cause and of the families who supported them on the home front.

Contact: Sandy Schmid, 877-0180

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**Rosie’s Mom: Forgotten Women of the First World War**

Monday, 11:00 am, Groton Town House, 754 North Groton Rd.

One hundred years ago, a full generation before Rosie the Riveter, American women rolled up their sleeves and entered war industries where they had never been welcome before. They ran powerful machinery, learned new skills, and faced the sullen hostility of the men in the shops. In this illustrated lecture, historian Carrie Brown reveals their courage and their hard work, asks what impact “the Great War” had on their lives, and explores how these women helped shape the work that their more famous daughters would do in the next World War. Contact: Pamela Hamel, 744-5747

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**Flight of Remembrance: World War II from the Losing Side and the Dream that Led to Aerospace Engineering**

Wednesday, 6:30 pm, Langdon Public Library, 328 Nimble Hill Rd.

For a description of this program, see the event on May 11 in Lincoln. Contact: Langdon Library, 436-5154

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**“Unlaunch’d Voices: An Evening with Walt Whitman”**

Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Merrimack Public Library, 470 Daniel Webster Hwy.

Opening with the elderly Whitman on the evening of his seventieth birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminisce during his birthday, the audience becomes a visitor in his room as he prepares for his birthday celebration. Whitman begins to reminiscence during the telling. He transforms into his young vibrant self and we begin to trace back with him the experiences that led to the creation of Leaves Of Grass, his lifetime work. The first part of the performance explores Whitman’s preoccupation with the self and his resolve to write with “free and brave thought…” In the second part of the performance, Whitman’s life is changed forever by the Civil War. It is here that he finds “the most important work of my life,” nursing the wounded soldiers in the hospitals. Through Stephen Collins’ recitation of poetry and readings of actual letters, we experience Whitman’s movement from selfishness toward selflessness and his growth into a mature artist who is at peace about “himself, God and death.” Contact: Merrimack Public Library Adult Services, 424-5021
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Wednesday, October 25
Radisson Hotel Downtown, 700 Elm Street, Manchester

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STEVEN PINKER
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“Lock up your libraries if you like; but there is no gate, no lock, no bolt that you can set upon the freedom of my mind.”

– Virginia Woolf
A Room of One’s Own