May 30
Litchfield Historical Society
Biltmore to Bomber Seats:
The History of Warren McArthur
The Warren McArthur factory in Bantam produced everything from stylish aluminum furniture to lightweight bomber seats. Join us for an in-depth look at the company’s history and lasting legacy.
Speaker: Alex DuBois, Curator of Collections
Lecture Site: Litchfield Historical Society, 7 South Street, Litchfield, CT
860-567-4501; www.litchfieldhistoricalsociety.org

June 6
Mattatuck Museum
The House Built by Brass:
The History of Rose Hill
Learn of the three families who occupied Rose Hill during Waterbury’s Gilded Age. Follow the narratives of the Scovill, Welton and Chase families as they make their fortunes and forge the way for the Brass City to flourish.
Speaker: Christina Volpe, Public Historian
Lecture Site: Matt@Rose Hill
63 Prospect Street, Waterbury, CT
203-753-0381; mattmuseum.org

June 13
Old Bethlem Historical Society
Robert Leather and the Abbey of Regina Laudis
In 1946 the coincidence of successful industrialist Robert Leather living around the corner from two nuns from France boarding with artist Lauren Ford leads to the founding of a Benedictine abbey and an Oscar winning movie.
Speakers: Carol Ann Brown, Past President
Lecture Site: Church of the Nativity’s Shellman Parish Center, 48 East St. Bethlehem, CT
203-266-5196; www.ci.bethlehem.ct.us

2019
History Bites
Lecture Series

Each spring History Bites presents a series of weekly lunchtime programs that shares topics of local history with the regional community. This year’s lecture series theme Who's Behind This? looks at the players behind the stories.

Thursdays, April 11th through June 13th from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
Free and open to the public.
Please contact hosting organization for directions and more information.

History Bites is generously funded by the Connecticut Community Foundation.
2019 History Bites Lecture Series

April 11
Topsmead State Forest
From Private Estate to Public Land
Who are the people behind Topsmead becoming a state forest? How and why did this 500 acre private estate end up the property of the people of Connecticut?
Speaker: Jerry Geci, Educator & Tour Guide
Lecture Site: Litchfield Community Center
421 Bantam Road, Litchfield, CT
860-567-5694; deep.state.ct.us/rec/parks/ctforests.htm

April 18
Southbury Historical Society
An Insider’s Look at South Britain
Join us on April 18, at 12 o’clock as resident and well-known architect, Hugh Sullivan, shares what you can still see of old South Britain, if you look hard enough.
Speaker: Hugh Sullivan
Lecture Site: Old Town Hall Museum, 624 South Britain Road, Southbury, CT
203-405-3124; www.southburyhistory.org

April 25
Bellamy-Ferriday House & Garden
The Stories Behind The Story...Lilac Girls
The bestselling novel Lilac Girls has shared the story of Caroline Ferriday and the Women of Ravensbruck ...but the story behind this novel is just as intriguing; come and hear how one woman’s journey became a best seller.
Speakers: Peg Shimer, Site Administrator
Lecture Site: Bellamy-Ferriday House & Garden, 9 Main Street N., Bethlehem, CT
203-266-7596

May 2
Glebe House Museum & Gertrude Jekyll Garden
Our Secret Garden: The Women of Glebe House
Much has been said of the famous men who were associated with the Glebe House, but what of the women who lived and worked beside them? Join us as we take a look at the lives of some of the women whose history intersected with the "Glebe" and how they affected its future.
Speakers: LoriAnn Witte, Director
Lecture Site: Glebe House Museum & Gertrude Jekyll Garden, 49 Hollow Road, Woodbury, CT
203-263-2855; www.glebehousemuseum.org

May 9
Flanders Nature Center & Land Trust
The Woodbury Path: A Historic Roadway
Starting at the Derby seaport and going past Flanders, a 350 year old roadway was used to move farmers goods to market. Join Peter Rzasa for a fascinating lecture on its early origins and how it opened up CT to Colonial life.
Speaker: Peter & Barbara Rzasa
Lecture Site: Natalie’s Studio @ Flanders Nature Center, 5 Church Hill Road, Woodbury CT
201-263-3711; flandersnaturecenter.org

May 16
Gunn Historical Museum
Unsung Heroes of The Gunnery
Among many notable alumni The Gunnery has produced, there are many who have served in the armed forces. Michael Kassis will share their stories of military service.
Speaker: Michael Kassis, Gunn Scholar 2019
Lecture Site: Wykeham Room, Gunn Library
5 Wykeham Road, Washington, CT
860-868-7756; gunnmuseum.org

May 23
Torrington Historical Society
Behind the Lines in World War I
Over a century ago, nearly 1,400 Torrington men and women, many of them immigrants, served in World War I. This program will explore some of their stories and contributions
Speaker: Mark McEachern, Executive Director
Lecture Site: Torrington Historical Society, 192 Main St, Torrington, CT
860-482-8260; torringtonhistoricalsociety.org

All lectures are at noon on Thursdays. Bring lunch. Beverages and dessert are provided. Reservations requested, but not required.