Occasionally we are asked "what is the Anti-Racism Affinity Group of Greater Newburyport?" and "can I join?" We are a small group that has been meeting since May, 2017 to support, discuss, and learn about systemic racism and intersectional issues generally, as well as mentor others beginning their journeys of anti-racism.

We support and challenge one another in our own education through books, movies, articles, podcasts, workshops, etc., and look at ways to share these ideas and information with the community, with individuals, and with others who wish to begin their own learning pods.

We stand in solidarity with all those working to end racism, inequality, war and imperialism, while also supporting efforts to build power in working class communities of color. Collective and individual liberation for all!

This is our Facebook page, Anti-Racism Affinity Group of Greater Newburyport

Please feel free to share this email, or give others my email address (mentalchatter@yahoo.com) so they can get on the (blind carbon copy) mailing list. This newsletter began in Feb., 2021.

#### PLEASE SUBMIT ANY POTENTIAL ADDITIONS BY THE 25th of EACH MONTH

#### Discussion of "The 1619 Project" Returns!



Four hundred years ago, a ship carrying enslaved Africans arrived in the English colony of Virginia. This series examines the long shadow of that fateful moment. Join members of the FRS Anti-Racism Initiative for discussion of the six-episode documentary series 1619, which seeks to reframe our country's history by placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of Black Americans at the very center of our national narrative. Episode themes include Democracy, Music, Fear, and Justice.

Conversations will be on Zoom on Monday evenings. If you'd like to watch the episode at the church, there will be a showing of each episode after church on selected Sundays.



26 Pleasant St. Newburyport, MA 01950

Unitarian Universalist

Dates of discussions and viewings are below. You can also opt to watch the episodes at home -- they are available on Hulu, https://press.hulu.com/shows/the-1619-project/

Please register for the discussion in order to get the Zoom link

- https://bit.ly/1619DiscussionWinter2024

Please note that **you do not need to attend all sessions**. Registering will simply allow you to receive the zoom link for any discussions you wish to attend.

You do not need to register to come to the church to watch the episodes.

#### **Episode showings at the church and Zoom discussions:**

Episode 1: Showing on Feb. 25, 11:45-1pm; discussion on Zoom Feb. 26, 7-8pm

Episode 2: Showing on March 3; discussion on March 4

Episode 3: Showing on March 10; discussion on March 11

Episode 4: Showing on March 24; discussion on March 25

Episode 5: Showing on April 21; discussion on April 22

Episode 6: Showing on April 28; discussion on April 29



#### Land, the Arts, and Black Culture: Intersecting Pathways

Date & Time

Feb 27, 2024 03:00 PM in Eastern Time (US and Canada)

#### Description

Join us on February 27 at noon (PST) for an exploration into the power of outdoor spaces and their impact on Black communities, culture, and the arts. Moderated by Dr. Jocelyn Imani, national director for Trust for Public Land's Black History and Culture program, our Black History Month Park Bench Chat brings together an esteemed panel of speakers, each providing a unique perspective on how these spaces can be transformative for communities.

https://tpl.zoom.us/webinar/register/7617061233833/WN\_s9nu0CSSREiAEks4vxHeJQ%20#/registration



#### FROM THE MARGINS

# Presented by Dr. Sean M. Kelley Professor in the Department of History, University of Essex

#### Massachusetts in the Transatlantic Slave Trade, 1644-1865

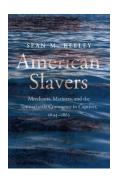
A total of 305,000 enslaved Africans arrived in the New World aboard American vessels over a span of two hundred years as American merchants and mariners sailed to Africa and to the Caribbean to acquire and sell captives. The American-based transatlantic slave trade began in Massachusetts, and the colony/state continued its involvement into the Civil War. In this talk, historian Sean Kelley will chart the changing nature of the Bay Colony/State's engagement with the transatlantic slave trade over more than two centuries.

#### REGISTER HERE



Dr. Sean M. Kelley is a historian of New World slavery and the transatlantic slave trade. His most recent book, <u>American Slavers: Merchants, Mariners, and the Transatlantic Commerce in Captives, 1644-1865</u> (Yale University Press, 2023), examines American involvement in the transatlantic slave trade over two centuries.

Pr. Kelley has been involved in the <u>Freedom Narratives Project</u>, a collaborative effort by historians on four continents to collect, transcribe, and publish the autobiographical testimonies of Africans from the era of the slave trade. He was also the UK Principal Investigator for the Documenting Africans in Transatlantic Slavery (DATAS) Project, funded by the NWO and ESRC, which brought together scholars from four continents to recover materials on enslaved Africans and to build a biographical database.



## The event will be moderated by maritime historian Lincoln Paine



Lincoln Paine is a maritime historian, speaker, and teacher. His books include the award-winning The Sea and Civilization: A Maritime History of the World, Down East: An Illustrated History of Maritime Maine, and Ships of the World: An Historical Encyclopedia. Paine has written more than a hundred articles and book reviews and given countless public lectures.

<u>Atlantic Black Box</u> is dedicated to expanding the field of historical recovery. We empower communities throughout the Northeast to research and reckon with the region's active role

in colonization and slavery while recentering the stories of its historically marginalized groups.

#### Atlantic Black Box is a 501c3 public charity EIN 86-2963335 P.O. Box 8771, Portland, ME 04104

www.atlanticblackbox.com info@atlanticblackbox.com

SUPPORT OUR WORK

#### BECOME A MEMBER

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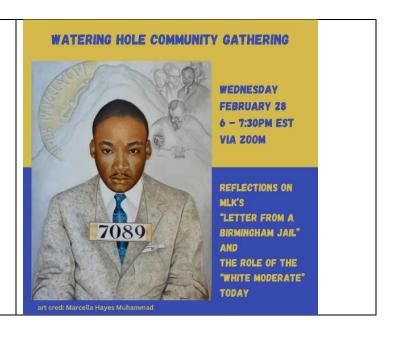
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Portland, ME 04101

Add us to your address book





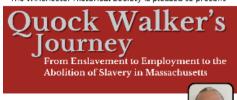
Sign up here for our next virtual Watering Hole Gathering this month, Wednesday February 28, 6-7:30pm EST.

In preparation for this event, we encourage you to spend time with Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." Please reflect on the role of the *white moderate* today in New England, and how we may be perpetuating patterns then, and how we can transform them now.



From Network for Social Justice newsletter --

The Winchester Historical Society is pleased to present



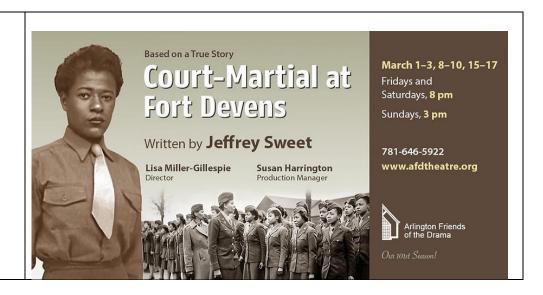
Presented by **Sean Osborne** Co-founder & Past President, Association of Black Citizens of Lexington



Wednesday, February 28, 2024 15 High Street, Winchester 7:00 pm Refreshments / 7:30 pm Program Quock Walker's Journey from Enslavement to Employment to the Abolition of Slavery in Massachusetts, with Sean Osborne I Winchester Historical Society I 15 High Street I Wednesday, February 28, 2024 I 7:00 PM refreshments, 7:30 PM program

Co-founder and Past President of the Association of Black Citizens of Lexington Sean Osborne presents the true story of Quock Walker, who, in the middle of the Revolutionary War, courageously pursued freedom from chattel slavery in central Massachusetts. His efforts through a series of court cases led to the abolition of slavery in Massachusetts. Learn more here.





#### Court Martial at Fort Devens March 1-17, 2024

When a group of young black women join the Women's Army Corps during WWII, they're promised training as medical technicians. But a racist Colonel at Fort Devens has other ideas, and demotes them to cleaning duty. The battle of wills leads to a confrontation in which the colonel makes comments so offensive that the WACs pull an immediate strike.

Though a visiting general is able to compel most of the women to go back to work, two refuse and are held for trial. Defended by a civilian lawyer who's never tried a court-martial, they embark on an uphill fight to change the status quo. Based on a true story, this gripping and inspiring drama explores the complexities of standing up for one's rights.

https://www.ticketstage.com/T/AFD



masspeace.us/ppc-boston-rally

Massachusetts Poor People Campaign Moral March | Old State House, Boston | Sat.,, March 2 | 10:00 AM march, 11:00 AM rally

March 2 is a day of nationally coordinated simultaneous direct action at 31 State Capitals, including the Massachusetts State House. This mass Poor People's and Low Wage Workers' moral march to those state house assemblies is part of 40 weeks of massive voter mobilization across the country. The event starts with a 10:00 am march from the Old State House in Boston (on the corner of Washington and State Streets) and ends at the steps across the street from the State House on Beacon Street, where the rally commences at 11:00 am. More information can be found <a href="here">here</a>.





# Misinformation: Why is it a problem and what can we do about it?

Wednesday, March 6, 2024 HKS campus (or virtual) 2:00PM ET

Why can't people just realize when something is false and then not believe it? Professor **Lisa Fazio**, Associate Professor of Psychology and Human Development at Vanderbilt University, will discuss the cognitive mechanisms that make exposure to misinformation problematic, even when people should realize it is false.

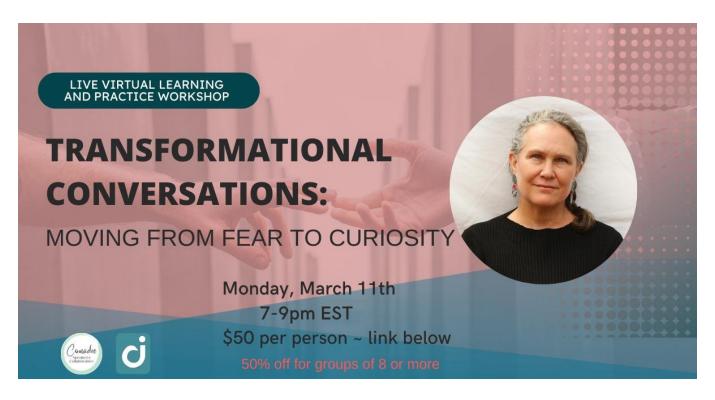
**Register Here** 



#### Saturday, March 9 | 4:00 PM | YWCA | Manchester

The Future is Female

<u>Victory Women of Vision</u>, a nonprofit in Manchester, invites you to a celebration in honor of International Women's Day. Through fellowship, a panel discussion, food, and entertainment this event will highlight the importance of promoting inclusivity and eliminating bias, stereotypes, and discrimination.



So often I've found myself conflicted at white family and friend gatherings, and white dominated workspaces, where my antiracist values get put to the test.

And too often I have frozen.

Do I keep quiet? Do I rock the boat? There's so much to talk about these days and the tensions keep getting worse! Help!

The worst part is, doing nothing often leads to more misunderstanding, resentment, and mistrust. When it comes to conflict, the tools I grew up with do not work.

I'm discovering that there's a middle ground - between winning and caving - that allows me to simultaneously grow my relationships, my knowledge, and my skills.

In this workshop, I share my latest learnings and tools.

PRO TIP: invite someone/others to attend with you so you can keep the practice going  $\stackrel{\smile}{\circ}$  50% off for groups of 8 or more

Would love to see you there!

REGISTER HERE <a href="https://bit.ly/DebbyTC311">https://bit.ly/DebbyTC311</a>





March is Jewish Women's History Month

# Through Women's Eyes: Antisemitism in America \*



With antisemitism rising today at home and abroad, award-winning author **Professor Pamela Nadell** of American University, discusses American Jewish women in the past facing antisemitism, how it affected their lives, and how they responded.

Thursday, March 14, 2024 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. ET on Zoom

The recording will be available to everyone who registers for the program.

For more information, contact Sharon Wyner at 978-565-4450 or email swyner@lappinfoundation.org

The program is free, and everyone is welcome.







"The hard ugly truth is the number of people who choose whiteness over democracy is tens of millions. Precariously close to an electoral majority." - Steve Phillips

This year, we are in a decisive moment in the centuries-long battle between very different visions for our country: a white nationalist, authoritarian state with its roots in slavery and the Civil War, and a true, multiracial democracy that movements for justice have been working towards for generations. As we enter this critical period of organizing, those of us who are white must do the work to get crystal clear about how we got to this point and what we can do to get out of it.

We're excited to invite you to join us in reading and discussing the book "How We Win the Civil War: Securing a Multiracial Democracy and Ending White Supremacy for Good" by national political commentator Steve Phillips. Sign up here and we'll send you a free copy of the book to get started.

#### >> Register for a book

Then, register to join the author and me in conversation on March 14th at 8 pm ET at a public webinar to discuss the book.

#### > Join the conversation

I read this book when it was first released in 2022 and found it a powerful and grounding exploration of how the white nationalist forces grew their power over decades and used white supremacy and racism to court white communities and gain governing power. He lifts up powerful stories of successful organizing efforts and lays a pathway for us to defeat authoritarianism.

At SURJ, this is our work. We deeply understand the ways in which white supremacy has been used to court white people away from the multiracial solidarity required for us to win progressive change. And we've committed to taking action to organize more white people away from the lies of the right and into the campaigns and work led by organizers of color on the frontlines.

Join other SURJ members in <u>reading this important book</u>, and then I'll see you on March 14th at the webinar.

In solidarity,

Erin Heaney

P.S. Your book will arrive the week of March 12th.



**BLOCK PARTY Key Art** 

<u>PBS Digital Studios</u> continues to prioritize diverse storytelling and creators through a variety of digital web series on <u>YouTube</u>, PBS.org, and the PBS App. Audiences can celebrate Black History Month with PBS Digital Studios' <u>curated YouTube playlist</u> and the episodes below, highlighting the Studios' newest web series exploring history, culture, science, and the arts.

Ritual: The History of the South's Forbidden Black Burials

Brave Spaces: Inside the Black and Latino Ballroom Resurgence

Hungry Planet: How Rice is Preserving History and Rethinking Nutrition Science

Rogue History: <u>Traitor or Hero? The Black Musician Who Spied on His Own Community</u> Women of the Earth: <u>How This Aquaponics Farmer is Reinventing Urban Agriculture</u>

https://www.pbs.org/about/about-pbs/blogs/news/pbs-presents-a-curated-collection-of-films-series-and-digital-content-to-celebrate-black-history-m/



## EXHIBITION AT THE PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM IN SALEM, MA

Let None Be Excluded: The Origins of Equal School Rights in Salem

On view April 23, 2022 to April 28, 2024

**Buy tickets** 

In the 19th century, Salem residents celebrated the city's early public school system for welcoming and educating all

**children.** Despite the system's success, the Salem school committee decided in 1834 to establish separate schools for Black children. This sudden decision and its implementation angered Black residents who launched a near-decade long struggle for the educational rights of their children. Their valiant efforts convinced the Salem school committee to abolish racially separate public schools in 1844. Salem was one of the first US municipalities to do so. A decade later, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts would become the first state to pass a law forbidding school committees from classifying students by race.

https://www.pem.org/exhibitions/let-none-be-excluded-the-origins-of-equal-school-rights-in-salem



Our next Housing Choice Coalition meeting will be on Th., March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm (venue TBD), please register for that meeting and all of our future meetings here. This is a recurring meeting invitation but do not feel pressured about attending every meeting, this is just to put the meetings on your calendars and so people can use the same link every month.

We have a LinkTree to archive all of the resources we discuss and share, which is here -- <a href="https://linktr.ee/greaternbpthcc">https://linktr.ee/greaternbpthcc</a>

The Housing Choice Coalition is a result of a partnership between the YWCA of Greater Newburyport and the Citizens' Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA), as part of their <a href="Municipal Engagement Initiative">Municipal Engagement Initiative</a> (MEI) 2023 program. It's an opportunity for the communities of Newburyport, Amesbury, Salisbury, Newbury and West Newbury to actively work on increasing housing choice in our area.

#### **Amesbury Stands Against Racism** – FB Group

Hello friends - there has been a ton of interest in this group over the past few years in forming an antiracist reading / learning group. At present, I'm happy to announce the launch of the **Amesbury Racial Justice Learning & Accountability Group**. We envision a space where allies, co-conspirators, and advocates alike can come together to learn, hold each other accountable, and create a more equitable, just, and inclusive Amesbury community.

If you would be interested in participating in this learning and accountability group, please complete the brief form here: <a href="https://forms.gle/5dQguaDtrp45yszD8">https://forms.gle/5dQguaDtrp45yszD8</a>

We hope to launch this group in the upcoming weeks, so stay tuned! And feel free to share far and wide with friends, family, and community members!



How would you like to better understand the Racial Wealth Gap?

#### THE RACIAL WEALTH GAP:

#### **Deconstructing The Bootstrap Argument**

https://reparations4slavery.com/the-racial-wealth-gap-understanding-the-economic-basis-for-repair/

# New Podcast! What is Owed? Produced by WGBH Boston



Boston - like many cities around the US - has begun to wrestle with the notion of paying reparations to Black people to make up for 400 years of enslavement and economic exclusion. But in Boston, this debate is layered in history. It was here that slavery was first legalized in the American colonies; it was here that founders of American independence are buried alongside the Black people they enslaved; and it was here that legislation was introduced in the 1980s that became the model of a national bill calling for reparations - a bill that is still on agenda in the U.S Congress. In What Is Owed?, a new 7-part podcast, GBH News political reporter Saraya Wintersmith seeks to understand what reparations might look like in one of the oldest cities in America, uncovering the lessons for a successful reparations framework through the stories of its architects, past and present.

**Check it Out!** 

#### A free film from PBS, worth your viewing attention! –



In February 1939, more than 20,000 Americans filled Madison Square Garden for an event billed as a "Pro-American Rally." Images of George Washington hung next to swastikas and speakers railed against the "Jewish controlled media" and called for a return to a racially "pure" America. The keynote speaker was Fritz Kuhn, head of the German American Bund. *Nazi Town, USA* tells the largely unknown story of the Bund, which had scores of chapters in suburbs and big cities across the country and represented what many believe was a real threat of fascist subversion in the United States. The Bund held joint rallies with the Ku Klux Klan and ran dozens of summer camps for children centered around Nazi ideology and imagery. Its melding of patriotic values with virulent anti-Semitism raised thorny issues that we continue to wrestle with today.

https://www.pbs.org/video/nazi-town-usa-

y4vqkt/?utm\_source=Newburyport+Documentary+Film+Festival&utm\_campaign=664221118c-

EMAIL CAMPAIGN 2023 02 28 12 52 COPY 01&utm medium=email&utm term=0 -3e6394097e-

%5BLIST EMAIL ID%5D&mc cid=664221118c&mc eid=e42ce6de67



#### **Brave New Films**

#### Racially Charged: America's Misdemeanor Problem - FULL FILM - 36"

This is well worth your time -- PREMIERE ANNOUNCEMENT! Our BRAND NEW short documentary, "Racially Charged" is now available in its entirety on Facebook.

The murders of George Floyd and countless others are a DIRECT result of America's racist misdemeanor system which gives the police license to brutalize black people over petty, low-level crimes.

Help end this racist system by hosting a screening of this film in your community. Sign up <u>https://bit.ly/3rsL5jd</u>

Racially Charged, featuring voice over from Mahershala Ali, exposes how our country's history of racial injustice evolved into an enormous abuse of criminal justice power. 13 million people a year – most of them poor and people of color – are abused by this system.

Through first-person accounts of those charged under the Black Codes of the Reconstruction era paralleled with the outrageous stories of people trapped in the system today, the film brings to light the unfolding of a powerful engine of profits and racial inequality. With the emergence of the Black Lives Matter movement, this film provides historical context and examines America's history of racist oppression.

#### https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2851581955108071

interesting website to explore --

#### trincomalee walks

Walking in Wales, writing about social justice, abolition and history

Thinking about abolitionism and criminal "justice" -

#### WHAT ABOUT THE RAPISTS? AN ABOLITIONIST RESPONSE.

Published June 23, 2018 by jmmoore911

https://jmmoore.org/2018/06/23/what-about-the-rapists/



#### The audacity of racism

February 5, 2024 by Shay

https://blackgirlinmaine.com/racial-and-cultural/the-audacity-of-racism/

#### When Black History Month becomes Black Harassment Month

February 13, 2024 by Shay

# https://blackgirlinmaine.com/racial-and-cultural/when-black-history-month-becomes-black-harassment-month/

#### The cops and anti racists—They are not friends

February 17, 2024 by Shay

Shay continues to show up for all of us, in the face of violent threats. Please show support for her by donating.

https://blackgirlinmaine.com/activism/the-cops-and-anti-racists-they-are-not-friends/

Please consider this request from Debby Irving, author of "Waking Up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race".



# URGENT CALL TO WHITE MY WHITE FRIENDS: Can you send love to two Black liberation love warriors?

One of the many advantages we have as white people is to care about and do antiracism work without having racist tropes and slurs and threats hurled at us.

https://debbyirving.cmail20.com/t/r-e-tiddajt-neqgdku-f/

#### **North Shore MA NAACP Group**

Kenann McKenzie-DeFranza · ·

More N Shore History being recognized!



#### PATCH.COM

#### Salem State's Viking Hall To Be Renamed Charlotte Forten Hall

The residence hall is being renamed after the school's first African-American graduate.