



University of Connecticut

OCTOBER IS MAKING HISTORY IN NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT-- October is shaping up to be a historic month in Northwest Connecticut--or at least a month chock full of Locally Grown History events. On Friday, October 2, UConn Torrington will host a lecture by Eric Foner, the DeWitt Clinton Professor of History at Columbia University and one of the nation's most distinguished historians. The event, part of the commemoration of the Bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth, will take place at the UConn Torrington's Hogan Auditorium at 6:00 p.m., preceded by a reception and book signing at 5:30. It is cosponsored by the Connecticut Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History.

On Friday, October 16, the Torrington Historical Society will present a program from 4:00 to 5:00 in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of Torrington native John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry. The ceremony will take place at the John Brown birthplace, on John Brown Road (about a half-mile on the right from University Drive).

At 5:30 on October 16, UConn Torrington will present the award-winning film, *Mary Silliman's War*, about the American Revolution as seen through the eyes of one remarkable Connecticut woman. The film will be introduced by Prof. Richard Buel, whose book, *The Way of Duty*, was its basis.

On Sunday, October 18, UConn Torrington will host the Locally Grown History Forum, on the topic "Connecticut and the American Revolution." Public sessions will begin at 1 PM with a keynote address by Prof. Robert Gross, the Draper Chair of Early American History at UConn and the author of the Bancroft-award-winning book, *The Minutemen and their World*. Other distinguished speakers at the forum will include Drs. Cathy Gorn, executive director of National History Day; Nicholas Bellantoni, Connecticut State archaeologist; Christopher Collier, former Connecticut State Historian, Jason Mancini, Senior Researcher at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, and Andrew Walsh, Associate Director of the Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion and Public Life at Trinity College. The forum is cosponsored by the UConn Early College Experience Program.

Locally Grown History is a project organized by historical societies and museums throughout Northwest Connecticut, along with UConn Torrington, the Northwest Connecticut Arts Council, the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, the Northwest Connecticut Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce. Valuable support has been provided by the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism.

For more information, please visit the website at www.locallygrownhistory.org or call Robert P. Forbes at 203-915-4248.