



Civil War Recruitment in Litchfield County

. . . Tales of Scandal and Intrigue

Sponsored by Harwinton Historical Society
Presented by Peter Vermilyea

Sunday, February 25 @ 2:00 PM

Harwinton Town Hall- Bentley Drive

The Northern war effort depended upon local communities to raise the troops and supplies needed for the battlefield. Many had thought the Civil War would last only a few months; but in the summer of 1862 nearly all now believed it would take years. Consequently, President Abraham Lincoln issued two calls for troops that summer, which together hoped to raise 600,000 troops for the Union war effort. This staggering number prompted a near crisis on the home front as state and local governments struggled to meet quotas before a draft was necessitated. *Life on the Northern home front was changed.*

**-Examine the intriguing who/how/why of Civil War recruiting.
- Learn how the recruitment quota crisis played out in Litchfield County where the medical examiner found himself at the center of charges of corruption and disloyalty.**

-What were Harwinton's roles in the Civil War?

Peter Vermilyea is a local historian, and teacher at Housatonic Valley Regional High School and UConn. Peter is passionate about doing history and instilling that desire in all, fueling others own intellectual moxie. Peter writes and speaks about the lasting significance of our county's history. He is on the board of the Litchfield Historical Society, and is the author of several books including Hidden History of Litchfield County and Wicked Litchfield County; and will introduce his 2/19/ 24 release, Litchfield County and the Civil War. Books will be available for signing.

The program is free and open to the public.