

Presentation of Bradley slides highlights Derby Historical Society event

By Patricia Villers

DERBY - Glass slides depicting images of late 19th and early 20th century life in the Valley were featured last week at the Derby Historical Society's fundraiser.

The 29th annual appeal was held at SAGE, Sons of Italy banquet hall.

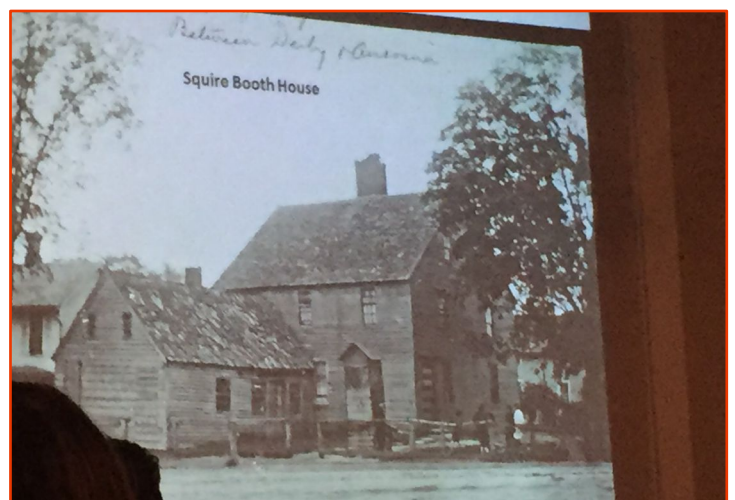
Seymour town historian Marian O'Keefe presented a lively talk, *Bradley Slides Revisited*, about the slides that feature interesting photographs and drawings of the area. She included photographs she had taken of many sites since about 1960 that show the changes made over the years.

The slides are from the collection of state Sen. Henry M. Bradley Jr. (1882-1939), a Derby native who represented the 17th District.

He was a student of local and American history and his collection includes images from Ansonia, Derby, Seymour, and Shelton.

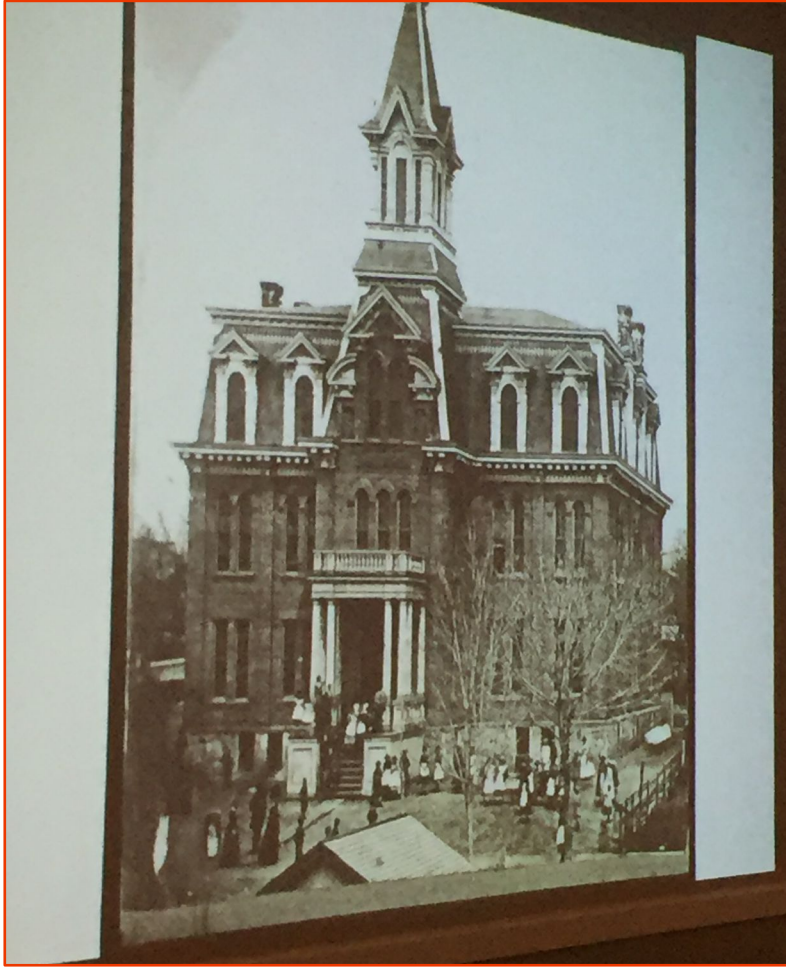
In 1935 Bradley authored legislation making American history a mandatory subject in Connecticut high schools.

Daniel L. Bosques, Derby Historical Society executive director, said, "Like anything else historically related, I enjoy having a perspective of the world that once was; the presentation provided me, as well as others, an opportunity to step back in time and appreciate the hard work of our forebears."



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O'Keefe was honored with the Dr. John Ireland Howe Award. The Society presents the award to "a businessman or woman, individual, group, firm, corporation, or industry whose presence has consistently benefitted one or more communities in the Valley in the spirit of its namesake."

Howe, (1793-1876) was an inventor and manufacturer who had started his career as a physician. He lived on Caroline Street and in 1832 he received a patent on a machine to make pins.



This year's DHS annual appeal offered a chance to bid on an open hearth cooked meal for six at the historic David Humphreys House at 37 Elm St.

Albert "Duke" Misiewicz was the winning bidder for the dinner .



This private meal will be hosted by the Derby Historical Society.



Ansonia Teacher of the Year to be honored at Hartford ceremony

ANSONIA – Jennifer Mastroni, a business education teacher at Ansonia High School, will be honored Wednesday at the Connecticut Teacher of the Year ceremony at The Bushnell in Hartford.

Mastroni said it is a challenge to teach a subject that continues to evolve, but it's one that she embraces.

Courtney Hart, culinary arts teacher at AHS who graduated from the school in 2005, said Mastroni's lessons go beyond the curriculum.

"Her classes teach 'real life' lessons with 'real life' applications," said Hart, who was Mastroni's student.

Hart said Mastroni aims her teaching away from theory and more toward future use.

"Looking now from a teacher perspective, Jennifer pushes her students to be as good as they could be in the classroom and out of it," Hart added.

Mastroni started her 21st year of teaching in August.

"When I wrote my speech [for convocation], I thought of all of the former students who have gone on to do great things – and that makes me feel proud," Mastroni said.

"My speech wasn't about data. I told my colleagues to look to their left and to their right. These are the individuals who make education great."



Ansonia Teacher of the Year Jennifer Mastroni



Courtney Hart (L) with Jennifer Mastroni

A major change she has seen during her career is the extreme popularity of social media. Mastroni said she has noted it distracts students from the lessons of daily life.

She has experienced the positive outcome of social media: "hearing" from former students who were reminiscence about what they learned in her class.

"I used to really question myself, wondering if my students were listening," Mastroni said. "Hearing from these students, and many other former students, I know that some of them were!"

Through the Future Business Leaders of America Club, Mastroni works with students on a toy drive for TEAM's Toys for Kids, and the students work in the Toys for Kids store where they deliver the donations.

"They learn about appreciating what they have in life," she said. "Some of the other students in our schools are going to be the recipients of these gifts."

Mastroni's advice to those who want to become a teacher: "Make sure you are happy where you are going. When you are, you will know you chose the right career."

This is from a press release by Ansonia Public Schools

MAYOR DAVID CASSETTI & THE CITY OF ANSONIA Would like to tell you That on Friday ,Dec. 6th & Sat. Dec. 7th

"Ansonia is the place To be, with Three Great Holiday Events!"

1 The Annual Lighting of the Christmas Tree

December
FRI 6th

Veterans Park
at City Hall

6:00pm

Live Music By
The Ansonia High School Choir
Mark Lanzieri & Friends
Meet & Greet Santa!



2 HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

10 Father Salemi Drive, Ansonia, CT
Church Hall

Fabulous Selection of Homemade Crafts

Food & Baked Goods available, & Chinese Raffle.

ADMISSION IS FREE!

10:00 am – 4:30 pm
Saturday, December 7th

3 The Holiday Marketplace

After this Great Event...Why not stop by
the Armory for more Christmas delights?

Music, Crafters & Vendors Galore!

Enter Our Great Christmas Raffle!



**visit Santa's
WORKSHOP**
SANTA WILL BE THERE FROM
1:00 TO 4:00 PM

FREE Kid's Christmas Crafts!

at the Ansonia Armory, 5 State Street

Saturday, December 7th
11 am to 4:00 pm

Valley Soul

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019

Proceeds to benefit TEAM, Inc.

TICKETS ARE FREE!

Valley Soul Holiday Gospel Choir

Seating is general admission on a
first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, contact the
Griffin Hospital Development Fund at
203-732-7504 or development@griffinhealth.org



PLEASE JOIN US
FOR AN UPLIFTING,
HEART-SWELLING,
HAND-CLAPPING
GOSPEL CONCERT



...and celebrate the holiday season with some soul!

Under the direction of recording artist and music industry veteran Angela Clemmons (pictured above), a choir of volunteer singers will come together for Valley Soul. This can't-miss gospel performance will feature choir members from faith-based organizations, health and human service agencies, foundations, and other grassroots organizations, serving as a metaphor for the "choir of caring" that collectively wraps its arms around the residents of the Valley.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.

Valley Soul concert starts at 6:30 p.m.

Refreshments to follow immediately.

Church of the Assumption

61 North Cliff Street, Ansonia, Connecticut



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