Saturday, September 27, 1pm: DEB HILL and KIM YOUNG on Oral History Interviewing: Bringing Life to the Past

Gathering reflections and life stories from our neighbors can be interesting and rewarding in many ways, especially what we learn about our town and family history. Oral history projects use the practice of good interviewing techniques to gather primary source information about a topic from a knowledgeable person and creating a recorded spoken interview. Then the interview is preserved archivally.

In an engaging workshop format, Deb and Kim will discuss the best practices of the Oral History Association and the Smithsonian Institution's Oral History Project. And they will describe how to interview your town's residents for the vibrant valuable perspectives they provide -- for today and in years to come. With team members **Mary Rouleau** and **Carrie Sutton**, Deb and Kim will use the experiences of the ongoing Conesville Historical Society's Oral History Project as examples.

DEB HILL is a member of the Oral History Association, Conesville resident, and member of the Conesville Historical Society. Her decades-long professional career as a Registered Nurse and clinical Research Nurse in Vascular Surgery trained her in interviewing and storing data according to protocol. She helped develop the oral history project for Conesville and conducts workshops like this one for other historical societies interested in developing their own programs.

KIM YOUNG has been teaching Social Studies for 17 years in several schools including Cario-Durham and currently Windham, Ashland, Jewett Central School. With family roots going back to the 18th century, Kim enjoys researching local history. She serves as Conesville Town Historian and, founding member and President of the Conesville Historical Society.

MARY ROULEAU has always been interested in history and stories. She is a Conesville long-term resident where she built a home, raised children, and taught elementary school in Roxbury.

CARRIE SUTTON is a Conesville native and Navy veteran. With her grandmother living with the family, Carrie heard all the stories of the town, people, stores and houses. Loving the stories, people from the past seemed like old friends.

Program will be held at the Gilboa Museum and Nicholas J. Juried History Center, 122 Stryker Rd. Gilboa NY 12076; 607-588-6894

'First Drafts of History' is a series to promote the use of our local archives.

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