

Reporting Hybrid Meeting of 13 March 2023

Calendar of Events

Last Week: 3/6 Walter Grattidge, Author – Stories of My Youth

This Week: 3/13 Tobi Kirshmann – DNA Investigations
Hybrid Ballston Town Hall and Zoom
Catered Dinner!

Next Week: 3/20 Social/guest night at Active Ingredient Brewing
2443 Route 9, Suite 301, Malta

Coming Up: 3/27 Professor Angelina Wilson, U of Manchester

Note: Regular Meetings are held Mondays at 6:00 pm, with catered dinner at 6:15. Check your e-mail inbox the day of the meeting for the computer Zoom link and password, as well as the phone number you can use to phone in if using your cell phone to participate.

Please give suggestions for future programs to Darlene Bower & Peter Sawyer.

Find us at bhblrotary.org and on Facebook

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change - across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves

DNA Investigations – Tobi Kirschmann

Our speaker presented a fascinating talk about her knowledge as a criminalist and the use of new science to use genetic genealogy to solve high-profile long-term cold cases.

She is highly qualified with degrees in Chemistry, Woman's Studies, and Biology. She worked with the California DOJ from 2007-2017. During that time, she participated in the hunt to identify the Golden State Killer, known as Joseph DeAngelo. In 2018 when the case was solved, she was stunned. Using genealogy with DNA samples, 6 men were identified. Only one of the six had blue eyes. One of the rape victims had stated that the rapist had blue eyes. Case solved after all those years.

Tobi has relocated to Saratoga Springs and expects to establish a business using genetic genealogy, the new DNA pathway for human identification. Tobi is currently teaching DNA courses at local colleges. She promotes scientific and ethical discourse on her website, on social media and word of mouth. She will market her genetic genealogical services to adoptees, children of unknown parents, and donor conceptions. She works with coroners and investigators to evaluate and solve cases of Unidentified Human Remains.

To quote Tobi "As awareness of genetic genealogy increases, so does its recognition as a legitimate practice worth doing carefully, legally and transparently". The possibilities of developing communication between law enforcement and the use of this science will provide for less wasted time spent in criminal investigations.

To learn more: Tobi Kirschmann, info@DNAinvestigations.com
<https://www.dnainvestigations.com>.

Announcements

- To have dinner at in-person meetings at the Town Hall, please email Sue Stec on the Thursday prior to the Monday meeting. Dinners are \$15 and prepared by Marcella's as in the past. Our first such meeting was held 3/13 and it was good to be together as before. Be sure to read Darlene's weekly message with the meeting plan or check the website for confirmation of dinner.
- 4 Season 4K Fun Race – April 1, 10am, Camp Stomping Ground. This event is a fund raiser but a collaborative initiative. We are working with Laura Kriegel, Executive Director of CSG, and Megan James, coach of BH-BL cross country & track teams. This the second installment in a new fun series is for community members, families & pets, of all ages and abilities. Club members wishing to help should arrive at 9 am. Flyers to post in the community have been emailed to us as well as more information.
- Drive Thru Dinner with Spartan Catering – Wednesday, April 19. This fund raiser is important to our budget. Plan to buy and help if you are available. Menu forthcoming.
- Muchila Humanitarian Project & Global Grant – Steve Caine - Donations are complete. Darlene mailed a thank you letter to all you participated. The project a "go".
- Ugandan Sustainable Farming Global Grant (aka Seeds for Peace) Linda LeTendre has formed a committee to apply for a Global Grant & to plan to raise money needed to help nourish Ugandans and save lives.
- Operation Hunger – Thanks to Ray Callanan for continuing to lead in delivering needed donations to the Galway Food Pantry each week. Items requested include shampoo, crackers, hot chocolate, body wash.

Reported by Mary Anderson