



The Y's Women

February 2022

The Y's Women Newsletter

Because of current COVID concerns, our February General Meetings will be broadcast on the Y's Women YouTube channel – <https://tinyurl.com/YsWomenCT> – and can be viewed live or at a future date. Click on the Videos tab, then click on the live video, which will not be available until 11:30 am on the meeting date. We hope that by March we will be able to meet face to face once again!

February 14: Nicole Carpenter – Hidden Histories of Connecticut's Indigenous and Black Communities



Many Americans misunderstand the history of their Indigenous and Black communities. In this presentation, Nicole Carpenter, Programs and Collections Director of the Westport Museum for History & Culture, uses primary sources and objects from the Museum's

collections, as well as other statewide resources, to relate true stories about those who were enslaved and fought for their own freedom. Tales of community bonds are continuously being uncovered to reveal the hidden truths of the First Peoples of North America as well as those kidnapped from their own Native lands.

Nicole is a museum professional with 10 years of experience in exhibition design and curation, collections management, and museum education in cultural organizations. She joined the Westport Museum for History & Culture as Programs and Collections Director in 2016. She received a BA degree from Castleton University and a Master's degree in Museum Studies from Syracuse University.

February 28: Asha Rangappa – Preserving Democracy in the (Dis)Information Age



The 2016 presidential election highlighted the ability of Russian intelligence to exploit social media to target and manipulate the American public. In this presentation, former FBI counterintelligence agent Asha Rangappa explains how Russia adapted

Cold War tactics for the digital age, and why the growing political fragmentation in America facilitates its efforts and has serious implications for the future of democracy.

Asha is currently Senior Lecturer at Yale University's Jackson Institute for Global Affairs and a former Associate Dean of Yale Law School. Prior to this position, she served as a Special Agent in the New York Division of the FBI, specializing in counterintelligence investigations. Her work involved assessing threats to national security, conducting classified investigations on suspected foreign agents, and performing undercover work. While in the FBI, Asha gained experience in intelligence tradecraft, electronic surveillance, interview and interrogation techniques, and firearms and the use of deadly force. She has taught National Security Law and related courses at Yale University, Wesleyan University, and University of New Haven.

Asha graduated *cum laude* from the Woodrow Wilson School of International and Public Affairs at Princeton University and was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to study constitutional reform in Bogotá,

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Colombia. She received her law degree from Yale Law School and served as a law clerk to the Honorable Juan R. Torruella on the US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit in San Juan, Puerto Rico. She is admitted to the State Bar of New York (2003) and Connecticut (2003).

Asha has published op-eds in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, and *The Washington Post*, among others, and has appeared on NPR, BBC, and several major television networks. She is an editor for *Just Security* and is currently a legal and national security analyst for CNN.

SATELLITE GROUPS (Y's Women Members ONLY)

Book Group 2 will meet on Thursday, February 3 from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. The book to be discussed is *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah, and the discussion will be led by Susan Baron. For questions, contact Nancy Bloom at nancyerb@aol.com or Arlene Bloom at bloomah@sbcglobal.net.

Book Group 3 will meet via Zoom on Friday, February 11 at 10:30 am to discuss *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. The discussion will be led by Teri Klein. The Zoom link will be sent the day before the meeting. Questions? Contact Doris Levinson at drjlevinson@gmail.com.

The **Movie Club** will have a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, February 16, at 1:30 pm. We plan to discuss *The Imitation Game* and *The Power of the Dog*.

The Imitation Game will be shown on February 12 at 9:00 pm on PBS Reel 13. The DVD of this movie is listed in the catalogs of the Westport and Fairfield Libraries. *The Power of the Dog* is available on Netflix.

The Imitation Game is a 2014 American historical drama based on the 1983 biography *Alan Turing: The Enigma* by Andrew Hodges. The film's title quotes the name of the game cryptanalyst Alan Turing proposed for answering the question "Can machines think?" in his 1950 seminal paper "Computing Machinery and Intelligence." The film stars Benedict Cumberbatch as Alan Turing, who

decrypted German intelligence messages for the British government during World War II.

The Power of the Dog is a 2021 Western psychological drama written and directed by Jane Campion, based on the 1967 novel of the same name by Thomas Savage. The film stars Benedict Cumberbatch, Kirsten Dunst, Jesse Plemons, and Kodi Smit-McPhee. Shot mostly across rural Otago, New Zealand, the film is an international co-production among New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Canada. It deals with themes such as love, grief, resentment, jealousy, and sexuality.

A Zoom link for the meeting will be emailed to Movie Club members before the February meeting. If you wish to be added to the email list for future events, please contact Margaret Mitchell at 255-9094 or margaret06824@yahoo.com.

Newstalk: Attention all news junkies!!!! Make sure that you are aware of the news happenings! Don't be left out of what is going on in our world and our country! Join our Newstalk group on the fourth Thursday of each month at 10:00 am at Panera Bread in Westport to get on top of the issues affecting us all. Our February meeting will be held on February 24. Call Doris Skutch for further information at 247-3656.

Wisest Investment Club: Consider joining the Wisest Investment Club. Currently we are nine women who manage our self-selected group portfolio on a Fidelity investment account. Looks like the Market is in for a bumpy ride. Come explore with us what is determining the future. We meet the fourth Thursday of each month at the Westport Senior Center or on Zoom. Call our president, Louise Demakis, for more information at 254-6424.

Solos will not have any functions in February because of our concerns regarding Covid. We hope that things will be better in March and we can once again get together. Stay safe and well.

The **Lunch & Trivia** group will meet at noon on February 17, the third Thursday of the month, at Organic Krush, which is located in Compo Shopping Center a few doors down from Trader Joe's. We will have sole occupancy of the restaurant, and the cost of lunch is \$20. Masks will be required for entry. Please call Ann Lloyd at 226-4145 or Arlene Bloom at 254-9096 if you are interested in attending.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome **Alin Chelico** and **Jilda Manikas** as new members of Y's Women.

IN MEMORIAM

We are very sorry to report the recent passing of two Y's Women:

- **Jean McGurk**, age 93, died peacefully at her home in Peabody, Massachusetts on Friday, January 7. Jean was a long-time Y's Women member and was honored with our Fabulous Friends award in June 2019, shortly before moving from Westport to Massachusetts to be near her family. For many years Jean organized the monthly donations of food for the Mercy Learning Center. A memorial service celebrating her amazing life will be held in the future.
- **Delia Demarco**, age 97, died at Norwalk Hospital on January 19.

If you know of any of our members who are ill or who pass away, please contact Cary Peterson, our Y's Care Coordinator, at carypeterson3@gmail.com.



a \$6-per-car parking charge to use the museum's lot. The gas reimbursement for your driver will be \$6 in cash. Please indicate whether or not you can drive, as drivers are **always** needed and appreciated.

Carpool and Go!

We look forward to a fascinating outing on Wednesday, February 23, when we visit the **Neuberger Museum of Art** in Purchase, NY for a 2:00 pm self-guided tour of the exhibit "**Impressions: The Inventions of Printmaking**." The heart of printmaking is the reproduction of repeated imagery. In art class, children make handprints by soaking their palms and placing them on newsprint over and over again in different colors. Originally, carved wood was used to make multiple images; with the advent of the Industrial Revolution, copper and steel were used. Over time, chemicals and solvents have further changed the ways prints are made. In fact, the history of printmaking mirrors the way technology has developed over the centuries, and this exhibit navigates the rich path of printmaking from relief to intaglio to planographic processes.

We'll meet at the Trader Joe's parking lot at 11:00 am for an 11:15 departure. Our first stop will be lunch at Trattoria 632, 632 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY. To reserve your place for this trip, contact Jill Meyer at jill@awayfortheday.net or 226-4310. Though there is no museum entry fee, there is

DIRECTIONS:

To Trattoria 632, 632 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY, 914-481-5811: Take the Merritt Parkway to exit 27, NY Rte. 120A North. At the end of the ramp, turn right and then left onto Anderson Hill Road.

To the Neuberger Museum: Turn left out of the restaurant parking lot and drive next door to the museum at 735 Anderson Hill Road. We have to park in the West 1 Visitor Parking Lot. From the main entrance to the Purchase College campus, turn left and continue on Brigid Flanagan Drive for approximately one mile. The entrance to the West 1 lot will be on your right. Use the pay station located near The Performing Arts Center (located near the ADA-accessible handicap parking space). Select the duration of your stay and follow the screen instructions to get a printed receipt. Be sure to place the receipt face up on your vehicle's dashboard.

To reach the museum on the plaza level, take the steps or the elevator located inside the Center for Media Film and Theater. Once on the plaza, proceed along the South Arcade to the Museum, which is located on your right.