

# Thursdays

## **Conversations in a Virtual Coffee Shop**

JB Goss and Anne Myers

Thursday March 11, 25, and April 8 10:30 – noon

Zoom

Polite conversation leads to reasoned and sober debates on matters of politics, science, literature and poetry, commerce and religion. In 18th century London coffeehouses became known as ‘penny universities’, as that was the price of a cup of coffee back then. Influential patrons included Alexander Pope and Isaac Newton.

Our version of this tradition is where you can be heard and hear other's views on exciting timely topics. A topic will be introduced with a brief background by the moderator, then attendees will have a conversation about the topic. This is not a debate or lecture but an open polite and fun conversation that is free to roam to alternate topics with a high degree of listening and respect for all participant's views. Typically, the moderator maintains the discussion's flow and will often provide a brief introduction on the topic. Sessions run 90 mins. Session One: The God of Albert Einstein, what did he believe about God? Session Two: Anti-intellectualism in ancient Rome and America in 2020. What they have in common? Session Three: Attendees will vote on and choose the topic.

## **Carlisle Walking Trail**

Chris Keefer

April 29, 2021 10am

The Carlisle Walking Trail, completed in Spring of 2020, is a packed gravel path encompassing a large field owned by the Town of Carlisle. Located at the Town Hall at 541 Crommie Road, the trail is an 8/10 of a mile loop with a single slight grade; otherwise, the path is flat. Along the trail, walkers can observe birds, wildflowers, dragonflies and butterflies and a variety of trees and grasses. Examples of karst geology can be seen along the woodlands that border the trail on the west side. Picnic tables, doggie clean-up bags and a (seasonal) port-o-john are installed for walkers' convenience. The parking lot is paved; the Town's pavilion is updated to provide shelter from the elements. The trail is open from dawn until dusk. Wear sturdy shoes, especially if it is wet.

## **Hike Across the Mohawk**

Carolyn Melszer

May 13, 2021 10 am

Hike across the Mohawk River on the beautiful new Mohawk Valley Gateway Overlook Pedestrian Bridge. We will begin on the bridge and continue onto the canal way path for about 1 mile and then return. The trail is flat and covered with gravel. An easy and beautiful walk. There is an excellent deli that can supply fresh and delicious sandwiches, desserts and refreshments. Wear walking shoes such as sneakers or boots and bring a container of water. Meet at 1 Bridge Street in Amsterdam.

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## **Bozen Kill Hike**

Don Martin

May 27, 2021 10 am

The Bozen Kill preserve is a 214-acre site with a 1.1mi trail along the Bozen Kill creek, maintained by the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy. We are trying to time our hike to allow drying time from spring thaws but in time for wildflower blooms. Please wear water proof shoes/boots with good ankle support. The trail will unfortunately likely be muddy and uneven with rock and ruts. Please be aware of that likelihood when deciding to attend the hike. Wear good shoes/boots, tick spray, hiking poles, and appropriate clothing for the weather. To get more information/directions, visit the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy at:

<https://mohawkhudson.org/our-preserves/bozen-kill-protected-area/>

## **Walking the Landis Native Plant Trail**

Anne Donnelly

June 3, 2021 10am

The Native Plant Trail at Landis Arboretum showcases trees and shrubs native to NYS by family. This allows you to see the subtle differences between closely related plants. For those wishing to delve deeper, there is a guided tour using QR codes AND mailboxes along the way with annotated maps of each area. It is a fairly easy walk with a bit of a steep ending where it climbs through the Fern Glen.