

Recommended Reads

The Store - *Goods & Curiosities*, is participating in the Page Turners section of Shore Publishing's papers including the *Valley Courier* and six other regional newspapers. We want to share these reviews and invite you to drop by the Store. Come browse our outstanding selection of books.



A Connecticut Christmas: Celebrating the Holiday in Classic New England Style By Caryn B. Davis

The quintessential Americana Christmas starts in Connecticut—with its coastal hamlets, 17th century villages and old world traditions, there's no other place

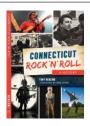
to be for the Holidays. Customs of bygone eras are still alive today, and Davis's book illuminates these so perfectly, the photographs seem to sparkle off the page. Paired with historical essay, this is an exquisite tour of CT history and holiday— and a celebration of a time and place untouched by modernity. Complete with stately homes, extravagant settings, trees, farms, and festivals, you'll find familiar places therein (Gillette Castle, Essex Steam Train, and of course The Griswold Inn!) (Ellen)



Taverns of the American Revolution
By Adrian Covert

Author Adrian Covert asks, "What better excuse for a road trip than the pursuit of rum, beer, and history at America's oldest bars?" This complete collection of surviving taverns of the American Revolution was compiled as a result of the author's fascination with

these taverns as a gathering place for locally relevant events. Noteworthy taverns include Raleigh Tavern in Virginia, where Thomas Jefferson drafted both the Continental Congress and Declaration of Independence, and we are thrilled to find Connecticut's own Griswold Inn of Essex, the oldest continually operating Inn in the United States! Covert successfully weaves historical text regarding the taverns themselves, alongside trivia and anecdotes about the political leaders who frequented them. (Christine)



Connecticut Rock 'n' Roll: A History By Tony Renzoni

In 1961, while The Beatles were performing for the first time in Liverpool, a teenager by the name of

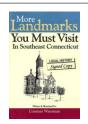
Bob Dylan was singing at a Folk Festival in a small, East Coast town across the pond. It was Branford, Connecticut. Such begins Renzoni's odyssey exploring our state's contributions to the genre— through sock hops, billboard charts, band interviews, and raw photographs (see Joe Sia's Jimi Hendrix shot at Yale), this CT resident/rock enthusiast highlights musicians both in and out of the limelight. Because in the end it's all about the love for the music. (Ellen)



Hiking Through History New England: Exploring the Region's Past by Trail By Johnny Molloy

Isn't it a wonder that the paths we've walked have long since been crossed by others? War

soldiers, literary figures, history makers underfoot! As one of the earliest English settlements dating back c. 1600's, New England is one of the most historically rich regions—this is palpable when hiking in its wilderness. With this guide in hand, you can not only explore forty awesome hikes but also learn their back stories, complete with trailhead directions, aids in planning, maps, and photographs. Next on my list is to check out Robert Frost's Stone House Museum and Walden Pond. (Ellen)



More Landmarks You Must Visit in Southeast Connecticut By Constant Waterman

Illustrator and Author Matthew Goldman (a.k.a. Constant Waterman) encourages us to get out and explore with his second

volume of Landmarks. Crossing the state from Portland to Stonington, his detailed pen and ink drawings enhance each historic synopsis for 60 significant sights in over 25 towns. Whether you are an area resident, seasonal visitor, or discovering what this region has to offer for the first time, Goldman's book gets you to grab a camera or sketch book, get off the highway, head down a back road and observe and appreciate all that is around! (Karen)



Magic Cakes
By Kathleen Royal Phillips

This sweet little book teaches you the techniques and

foundations, while encouraging you to invent magic cake concoctions of your own! The recipes all stem from the layered Vanilla Magic cake that graces the front cover, and immediately evolve into yummy desserts that will be perfect additions to the caloric consumption on the holiday table. My favorites include the Gingerbread, Cranberry Orange (served warm!) and Tiramisu. Basically this book of easy- mix batters is great for holiday entertaining as well as gifting! (Karen)



Pattern Behavior By Natalie Kossar

This hilarious retro book, is a compilation of vintage McCalls Pattern Company archives coupled with satirical commentary – as if the models

themselves were speaking! It speaks to a past generation of sewers, and their offspring, who sometimes had to wear these iconic handmade, outfits for better or worse! Witty, sharptongued, fashion insults – these women had something to say! This truly original, nostalgic book will "leave you in stitches", as these well-known drawings come to life. (Christine)



The Alexander Hamilton Cookbook By Laura Kumin

Cook, eat and entertain like the Revolutionary War hero, Alexander Hamilton (and his

contemporaries -Washington and Jefferson) would have! Now that the holidays are upon us, what better time to read about, and test these delicious and interesting recipes, to create dishes such as bread pudding, toaster oven English rabbit, West Indian Pepper Pot Soup, fried sausages and apples, and gingerbread cake! This informative and entertaining book is part cookbook and part historical summary of Hamilton's life — so you really get to know the man behind the food! (Christine)