

# Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**MATTATUCK MUSEUM**  
**ARTS & HISTORY CENTER**  
144 West Main Street  
Waterbury, CT 06702

## **Waterbury and Litchfield Museums Offer Joint Program in City and Town**

The Mattatuck Museum Arts & History Center in partnership with the Litchfield Historical Society presents *Fluteville Made*, on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. An illustrated talk by independent curator Ann Y. Smith, a trip to the Litchfield Historical Society for a guided tour of the exhibition *Goods for Sale!* and a performance by award winning flutist Barbara Hopkins are featured.

Fluteville was a tiny area with a remarkable past nestled in the southeast corner of Litchfield. For almost 50 years there was music in Fluteville and it came from the shop that drew its power from the Naugatuck River. That shop, founded by Asa Hopkins in the late 1820s, produced musical instruments. Former director and curator of the Mattatuck Museum Arts & History Center, Ann Y. Smith will tell the story of Fluteville and the role of the Hopkins and Camp families in bringing manufacturing to the village in an illustrated talk at the Mattatuck Museum.

Following lunch at the museum participants will travel to the Litchfield Historical Society for a one-hour guided tour of the current exhibition *Goods for Sale!* Led by curator, Julie Frey, the tour will showcase the many skilled craftsmen, artisans and tradesmen working in Litchfield from the end of the Revolutionary War until the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In the early 19th century, Litchfield was the state's fourth-largest town, and merchants from New York, Boston and London flocked there to set up shops and sell their wares. The exhibit focuses on such goods as furniture, clocks, jewelry, leather goods, musical instruments and silver. It also explores the town's economic boom — and subsequent decline — and the practices of purchasing goods on credit and through bartering.

The day will end with a performance by nationally known, award winning flutist, Barbara Hopkins. Ms. Hopkins is a descendent of early American woodwind maker Asa Hopkins, who lived and worked in Litchfield, Connecticut. Ms. Hopkins teaches flute at the University of Connecticut and researches early American instruments and music. She has acquired two flutes by Asa Hopkins, and has had them restored to playing condition. Dr. Hopkins received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook where she studied with Samuel Baron. She earned her Master of Music from the Mannes College of Music and her Bachelor of Music at the Hartt School.

The morning portion of the program will take place at the Mattatuck Museum Arts & History Center starting at 11:00 a.m. Free parking is available in designated lots on Park Place behind the museum. Following lunch, participants will travel on their own to the Litchfield Historical Society for the guided tour, which will start at 1:30 p.m. The \$35.00 registration fee includes the talk, lunch, tour, admissions and performance by Barbara Hopkins. For those interested only in attending the performance, the fee is \$10.00. Advanced registration is required. For more information or to register call 203-753-0381 ext. 10, or visit our website at [www.MattatuckMuseum.org](http://www.MattatuckMuseum.org).

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