



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

# The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

March 2007



CSH Affiliate

## Life at the Lighthouse

Join us at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden on Monday, March 19, when we welcome back the equally entertaining and informative archaeologist, Kenneth L. Feder, Ph.D., Professor of Anthropology at Central Connecticut State University. Dr. Feder calls this presentation, "Halfway between a wood-pile and a log fence: Life at the Lighthouse, Barkhamsted, Connecticut."

According to the legend of the Barkhamsted "Lighthouse," the community's first inhabitants were a wealthy white woman and an Indian man who had married against her father's wishes and then fled. According to a newspaper article which appeared late in 1854, the destitute village was inhabited by a group of Indians, the descendants of African slaves, and poor whites.

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## Taking the Message to Congress

Join us at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 4, to welcome Lori Lipman Brown, the first Congressional lobbyist to explicitly represent nontheistic Americans. She will report on key

## Calendar of Events

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT. RSVP for dinners at [humanism.meetup.com](http://humanism.meetup.com).

### MARCH, 2007

Sun., 4	Lori Lipman Brown, lobbyist for the Secular Coalition for America: <i>Protecting Our Secular Freedoms: Taking the Message to Congress</i>	3:00 p.m.
Mon., 12	Social Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. (203) 799-9601 for directions.	7:00 p.m.
Mon., 19	Monthly meeting <b>Main program:</b> Professor Ken Feder, Ph.D., <i>Halfway between a wood-pile and a log fence: Life at the Lighthouse, Barkhamsted, Connecticut</i>	7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Sun., 25	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.
Wed., 28	Dinner at Mayor Mike's Restaurant, 283 Asylum Street, Hartford. (860) 522-6453.	7:00 p.m.

### APRIL, 2007

Mon., 2	Social Dinner at Pasta Fair, 262 Boston Post Road, Orange. (203) 799-9601 for directions.	7:00 p.m.
Sat., 14	Book Group: <i>Freakonomics</i> by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner	2:00 p.m.
Mon., 16	Monthly meeting <b>Main program:</b> Professor Bruce Russett, Yale	7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Wed., 25	Hartford-Area Dinner: Location TBA.	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 29	Board meeting	2:30 p.m.

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issues she has lobbied, upcoming issues in the 110th Congress, the reception she has received both on Capitol Hill and in the media, and the changes she has noticed with the introduction of a new majority in both Houses of Congress.

Lori Lipman Brown was hired

in September of 2005 as Director of the Secular Coalition for America. Brown is a former Nevada State Senator, a lawyer, and an educator. She was also named Civil Libertarian of the Year by the ACLU of Southern Nevada and Legislator of the Year by the

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Lori Lipman Brown — *Protecting Our Freedoms. Continued from page 1.*

National Association of Social Workers, Nevada Chapter, for her legislative accomplishments which included mental health care reform, education curriculum changes, and repeal of Nevada’s consensual sex crimes law. In addition to lobbying Congress, Brown serves as a media spokesperson and speaker amplifying the voice of nontheists nationwide.

Following an appearance at the Congregation for Humanistic Judaism on Sunday, March 4th at 9:30 a.m., Lori Lipman Brown will be our guest speaker at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden at 3:00 p.m. Please join us, and bring a friend!

Ken Feder — *Life at the Lighthouse. Continued from page 1*

Intensively between 1986 and 1993, and intermittently every since, Ken has directed a research project focusing on the Lighthouse community, combining documentary and archaeological analysis. The results indicate how the Lighthouse evolved from a community of isolated outcasts to one connected to a world economic system and how, ultimately, it became the stuff of legend.

Bring a friend to 700 Hartford Turnpike at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 19, for coffee and conversation to be followed by Ken’s fascinating presentation!

## Book Group: *Freakonomics*

Join the discussion of *Freakonomics* by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner. We will meet on Saturday, April 14 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden.

Either of the two editions of this book are fine for our discussion, and there are plenty of copies in Connecticut libraries. Both editions are also available as unabridged audio recordings. If you have internet access, don’t miss the website: <http://www.freakonomics.com>.

This book provides a refreshing, creative look at a variety of aspects of our society and comes up with some surprising and politically incorrect findings (no matter what your political leanings are). An easy read, this book is nothing at all like what we usually think of as “economics.”

“If Indiana Jones were an economist, he’d be Steven Levitt...”

Wall Street Journal

“An unconventional economist defies conventional wisdom.”

Associated Press

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