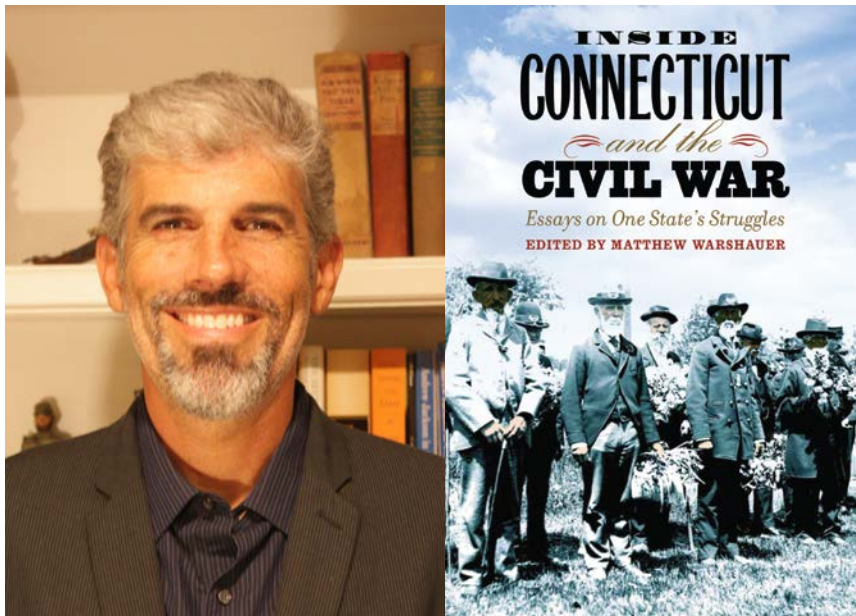


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Author and Historian Matthew Warshauer Examines Mental Health Treatment  
of Civil War Veterans at “Soldier’s Heart” Book Talk**



**Hartford, Connecticut (October 29, 2014)** - As part of a special series of programs in recognition of Veteran’s Day, Hartford Public Library will host a presentation by Central Connecticut State University history professor Matthew Warshauer on the early identification of post-traumatic stress disorder in Connecticut soldiers who served in the Civil War. The presentation will take place at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19 at the Downtown Library’s Hartford History Center.

“Soldier’s Heart: The Civil War and Treatment of Post-Combat Stress” is a new look at a time nearly 150 years ago, when Civil War veterans were treated for post-war psychological trauma Middletown’s Connecticut Valley Hospital (then called the Connecticut Hospital for the Insane). “Soldier’s Heart” was

the term used at the time to describe the condition of soldiers who survived the Civil War but later suffered from post-battle psychiatric disorders severe enough to require hospitalization.

Based on a chapter from *Inside Connecticut and the Civil War: Essays on One State's Struggles* (Wesleyan University Press, 2014), written and edited by Dr. Warshauer and his graduate students at CCSU, "Soldier's Heart" will examine how the hospital records of Connecticut soldiers were discovered, the stories and suffering they reveal, and how the workings of mind and body were perceived in the 19th century.

Dr. Warshauer teaches American political and constitutional history, historiography, sectionalism, the Jacksonian era and the Civil War at CCSU. His first of two books on Andrew Jackson, *Andrew Jackson and the Politics of Martial Law: Nationalism, Civil Liberties and Partisanship*, received acclaim in *The New Yorker* in 2007, and he has written numerous scholarly articles and two books on Connecticut and the Civil War.

Dr. Warshauer also coordinates the Connecticut Commemorates the Civil War project, a state-wide endeavor bringing together historical societies, memorial groups, and organizations to plan events in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. For eight years he served as editor for the publication *Connecticut History*.

Dr. Warshauer's work has been praised as lucid, well-researched, incisive, rich and vivid. This new research into Civil War soldiers with symptoms that mirror those of post-traumatic stress disorder should be of particular interest to veterans and their families, and a special invitation is extended to them.

All are welcome at this free event; for more information on this and other special Veteran's Day events, please visit [hplct.org](http://hplct.org).

**ABOUT [HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY](#)**

As a finalist for the 2014 National Medal from the Institute for Museum and Library Services, Hartford Public Library has been recognized as national leader in redefining the urban public library in the 21st century as an innovative and stimulating place where people can learn and discover, explore their passions, and find a rich array of resources that contribute to a full life. Hartford Public Library provides free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. Serving the residents of Hartford and beyond at its nine branches and Downtown location, Hartford Public Library receives more than 860,000 visits per year from adults, children and families seeking early literacy opportunities, work skills training, civic engagement, arts enrichment, and so much more. Visit [hplct.org](http://hplct.org).

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