AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

Bloody Sunday. The event that still resonates as the day that state and local lawmen attacked hundreds of peaceful civil rights marchers as they tried to cross Selma’s Edmund Pettus Bridge. All of it was filmed and shown on the national news. Almost immediately, the direct voices of Americans contacted the White House by telephone, letters, telegrams and signed petitions. Enough was enough.

At Canisius College, in Buffalo, a small group of student leaders decided to take a stand for the social justice principles that their Jesuit Catholic college imbued in them. Not without challenge nor resistance from some family, faculty and friends, “...33 students, two Jesuit priests, and the college’s dean of men...” headed south on a bus to participate in the nonviolent demonstrations for voting rights. (continues page 3)
Jill Tominosky, our Member Services Coordinator, has accepted a full-time position as a Librarian at the Guilderland Public Library. Her duties will include managing their local history collection—a perfect fit for Jill’s talents! Jill has made a big impact in her time with ConnectNY: working with committees, designing and writing our newsletters (and most of our communications), keeping the website up to date, and providing front line support for ReShare, to name a few things. I will miss working with Jill every day but I am so happy that she has found a full-time job that will utilize her archival skills. Her last day with ConnectNY is February 11th. Please join me in wishing her all the best in her new endeavor!

I too will be making a change this year, as I will be retiring on July 31, 2022. I have enjoyed my 7 years of work with all of you, and look forward to working with your new Executive Director as part of the leadership transition process.

Wishing you all well,

Pam

The Rosemont Shared Print Alliance and the Partnership for Shared Book Collections are pleased to announce their first annual joint membership meeting. While the meeting agenda is still being finalized, topics will include high level updates from both programs, and discussions of topics of interest to the shared print communities. Use the registration link below to register for this 3-hour virtual meeting.

FEBRUARY 8, 2022 @ 12:00 pm ET
Two weeks after the horror of Bloody Sunday, March 21, 1965, the students, wearing suit coats and ties, carried banners boldly announcing they were from Canisius College, Buffalo, New York. They stepped in alongside 3,200 black and white men and women, facing dissenters and taunts, on a 54-mile nonviolent protest March to Freedom from Selma, Alabama to the state capital, Montgomery. They crossed over the Edmund Pettus Bridge, and buoyed by the promise of justice for all they walked into history.

By the time they reached Montgomery, more than 25,000 citizens had joined their ranks. Among the marchers, Civil Rights pioneer, Rev. C.T Vivian, soon-to-be Congressman John Lewis, and the man synonymous with the Civil Rights movement, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Five months later in August, President Lyndon B. Johnson would sign the Voting Rights Act.

For more information about this historic event, visit New York Heritage, a portal for learning more about the people, places and events that contribute to the making of New York State. The Canisius College Student Activities Collection can be found HERE.

Thanks to Kathleen DeLaney, Archivist for submitting this accompanying text.