

# Local genealogist to speak at area conference

FRANKLIN — Local Historian and Genealogist, Marian Pierre-Louis of Medway, will be speaking at the New England Family History Conference in Franklin March 29. A frequent instructor for community education classes in Medway, Franklin and Medfield, Pierre-Louis will give a presentation, "Organizing & Dating Your Old Photographs".

The identification of old photographs is used as a tool by genealogists to determine the age of old photographs in hopes of identifying family members. Many people have old family photos that have been passed down to them. Not all photos are clearly marked

on the back with a name and date.

Pierre-Louis will introduce the basics of unraveling those clues to attendees of the all-day conference. She uses information such as the type of photo, clothing, hairstyles and props to gauge the original date of a photo. That combined with known family history details can help pinpoint a possible match.

At the start of high school, Pierre-Louis became interested in photography. So much so she operated a black and white dark room in her house the next 10 years. When the digital camera age came, she switched over.

As an adult, it was her turn to in-

herit boxes of old family photos. She was awed and inspired by the faces of her ancestors. That led her to broaden her interest in genealogy to include researching old photographs. Now she helps other do the same.

The conference, sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is free and will feature 25 classes throughout the day by nationally known instructors. Go to [www.nefamilyhistory.com](http://www.nefamilyhistory.com). There will also be an Ancestors Road Show component where attendees can sign up to get one-on-one help with their research challenges from professional genealogists.