During World War II, a group of potato farmers opened the first migrant labor camp in Suffolk County to house farmworkers from Jamaica. Over the next twenty years, more than one hundred camps of various sizes would be built throughout the region. Thousands of migrant workers from different backgrounds - lured by promises of good wages and decent housing - flocked to Eastern Long Island, where they were often cheated out of pay and housed in deadly slum-like conditions. Preyed on by corrupt camp operators and entrapped in a feudal system that left them mired in debt, laborers struggled in the shadow of New York's affluence. Author Mark A. Torres illuminates the history of Long Island's migrant labor camps from their inception to their peak in 1960 and why they steadily declined in the following decades.

Tuesday, March 30
4-5:30pm

Register in advance for this Zoom event [HERE](https://example.com/register).

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

About the Author
Mark A. Torres is the author of two fictional crime novels, titled A Stirring in the North Fork (2015) and Adeline (2019). He is also a labor and employment attorney who represents thousands of unionized workers and their families throughout the Greater New York area. Mark has a law degree from Fordham University School of Law and a bachelor's degree in history from NYU. Mark achieved his academic milestones while working full time as a refrigeration engineer at New York University and attending class in the evenings.