

June 16 Saratoga County History Center News and Events



Saratoga County History Center
Sharing History to Promote Community
 June 16, 2022

Saratoga County History Center

2022 Craft Fair

Shop a wide variety of locally handcrafted collectibles, body care, and farm products!

Saratoga County History Center at Brookside, Saturday, June 18, 10 am - 3 pm

The Saratoga County History Center is thrilled to announce a countywide craft fair! The family-friendly free event will be held at the beautiful Brookside Museum on this Saturday, June 18, 2022 from 10am to 3pm.



Saratoga County History Center's Events

June 18 - 10am-3pm 2022 Craft Fair. Shop a wide variety of locally handcrafted collectibles, and farm products. This is a terrific opportunity for shoppers to sample and appreciate the best of upstate artisans, farmers, and culinarians. This is an in-person event that will take place rain or shine at Brookside Museum.

June 28 - 7pm *Off The Northway* Release Party. A presentation and book signing by longtime local journalist Stephen Williams, who wrote *Off the Northway* is a compilation of 83 articles from the Daily Gazette in Schenectady, NY. The *Off the Northway* book will be available for purchase. The event will be held at the Brookside Museum, and you can pre-register at <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/44328-off-the-northway-book-launch-and-presentation>.

Register for the *Off The Northway* Release Party

July 9 - 2pm *Solomon Northup Scriptor Award Presentation.* In Support of the current Black History exhibit at Brookside Museum, Melissa Howell, a Solomon Northup descendant, has loaned the Scriptor Award, presented on behalf of Solomon Northup by the University of Southern California, to the Saratoga County History Center. The Award honors Northup and recognizes the work of screenwriter John Ridley, who wrote the script for the 2013 movie *12 Years a Slave*. Ms Howell will make the presentation and discuss other loaned material related to the film. This is an in-person event that will take place at Brookside Museum.

July 12 - 7pm *New Light on Saratoga's Indigenous Past.* Professor Tiro, of Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH is completing a study commissioned by the National Park Service to better understand Saratoga's Native past. He will share findings about Saratoga's origins as a fishing station and religious mission; the Oneida refugees at Wilton during the American Revolution; and Atiatoharongwen, a Saratoga-born Mohawk man of Black and Abenaki parentage whom Washington referred to as a friend. Dr. Tiro is a historian specializing in North America from the 16th through the 19th centuries. His publications include *The People of the Standing Stone: The Oneida Nation from the Revolution through the Era of Removal* and *Along the Hudson and Mohawk: The 1790 Journey of Count Paolo Andreani*. This is an in-person event that will take place at Brookside Museum.

All these programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise indicated, and donations are accepted with gratitude. The SCHC Brookside Museum is located at 6 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY 12020.

Membership Update

There are a number of exciting developments underway with the membership of the Saratoga County History Center. It's the first time we've offered a \$5,000 lifetime membership at SCHC at Brookside. This is really for the person who enjoys a sense of pride in helping to preserve the legacy of Saratoga County. We have updated some of the donor benefits and added some exciting new benefits. At the lifetime membership level you will receive behind the scenes tours, discounts at the museum shop and two free uses of event space per year.

Learn more at <https://brooksidemuseum.org/support-schs/new-individual-membership-page/>

Become a member



Saratoga County Historical Community Upcoming Events

These programs come from several organizations in Saratoga County. The event organizers are noted. These are not hosted or sponsored by SCHC.

June 16th - 7pm Historic Marker Unveiling. Saratoga County Historian Lauren Roberts in partnership with the Saratoga County Agricultural Society will unveil a new historic marker commemorating the long history of the Saratoga County Fair at its Ballston Spa location. This marker was made possible by a grant from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. If you would like to join us for this brief ceremony, please gather in front of Gate 5 on Fairground Avenue in Ballston Spa, NY 12020

June 18 - 10am-5pm "U.S. Grant's Bicentennial Birthday Celebration." It's been 200 years since former 18th President and Civil War commanding Union General Ulysses S. Grant was born. To help celebrate, the Friends of Grant Cottage invite you to a fun-filled family birthday event on the grounds at Grant Cottage! The celebration will include an open house of the cottage,

complimentary food (including birthday cake), music, a magician, games, face painting, and more. Meet General Grant (portrayed by living historian and Grant Cottage tour guide Steve Trimm) and sing Happy Birthday to the General. The popular 77th NY Regiment Balladeers will perform Civil War-era music during a one-hour concert beginning at 1:00 PM. Tom Smith and Diana O'Brien will be singing engaging songs from their Knee High Songs for Children program in period dress during the all-day event as well. Other reenactors will be on-site to share their expertise on topics such as tin-type photography, Civil War medical practices, and what it was like to be a Civil War infantry soldier. Attendees will be given small American flags as souvenirs of a memorable day at Grant Cottage. Grant Cottage is at 1000 Mt. McGregor Rd in Wilton NY 12831

June 18 - 1-3pm Canalways, an educational program exploring the history of the Erie, Champlain and Barge canals in Waterford. Admission of \$5 per person includes a guide booklet for the program, continuous tours of Lock 2, educational displays, and a chance to hear the Town Historian, Russ VanDervoort, speak on the canals. This is an outdoor program, sponsored by Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center, beginning at the Harbor Visitors Center (1 Tugboat Alley, Waterford, NY 12188) and at Lock 2.

June 18 – 1pm “Archeology and Genealogy Mix.” Daniel Mazeau and Aaron Gore, archaeologists with Beverwyck Archaeology in Delmar, promise to mix archaeology and genealogy research in their Heritage Hunters presentation on June 18th, 1pm, at the Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street in Schuylerville. They will treat us to a look at one of their digs: either a late 18th-century mansion in Glenville once owned by a Governor, or a private residence in Bethlehem.

June 18 – 2pm “Juneteenth.” Learn how the abolition of slavery became the overriding aim of the Civil War; and the genesis, meaning and lasting importance of Juneteenth, our newest federal holiday. The presenter is Robert C. (Bob) Conner, a former journalist, is the author of the biography *James Montgomery: Abolitionist Warrior*. The event is at the New York State Military Museum 61 Lake Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

June 23 - 12pm "Noble Boys! The 77th New York at the Second Battle of Fredericksburg." Join David Handy for stories of the NY 77th Infantry's participation in the Second Battle of Fredericksburg, including first person accounts of the 77th charging Telegraph Hill, adjoining the sunken road on Marye's Heights just below the city of Fredericksburg, VA. David Handy is the author of two books about the NY Bemis Heights Civil War regiment: *McKean's Sunday School Boys Go to War: The Story of the 77th Bemis Heights Battalion in the Great Rebellion*, and a new book coming out this spring, *Theas Few Lines: The Civil War Letters of Private Alonzo D. Bump, 77th New York Volunteer Infantry*. The Saratoga Springs Public Library is located at 49 Henry Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-3271. Reservations are required.

<https://sspl.libcal.com/event/9177599>

June 23 - 7pm "Tour of Fairmount Cemetery." Join the Old Saratoga Historical Association for a guided walk of the Fairmount Cemetery on the corner at County Route 69 and Casey Roads in the Town of Saratoga (Schuylerville.)

Programs are free unless otherwise indicated. Submit events to sean@brooksidemuseum.org. SCHC News and Events is a collaborative effort. We count on the contributions of the historic community of Saratoga County and others for the entire content of this page.

The Saratoga County History Center announces the forthcoming publication of a new book on local history.



Off the Northway

By Stephen Williams, former *Daily Gazette* columnist

Join SCHC at a release party with a presentation and signing by the author on Tuesday, June 28, 7 PM at Brookside Museum, 6 Charlton St., Ballston Spa.

Pre-registration for this event can be made at <https://brooksidemuseum.org/> There is no charge to attend.

After June 28, the book will be available at the Brookside Museum store and website, local bookstores, additional book signing sessions to be announced, and at amazon.com.

The Saratoga County History Center is dedicated to preserving and sharing the diverse histories of Saratoga County. In addition to Brookside Museum, the History Center offers a variety of innovative, exciting, and educational programming. Please visit the website (www.brooksidemuseum.org) and social media accounts (@SaratogaCoHistory) for news and announcements.



Register for the *Off The Northway* Release Party

News from the Colonial Herb Garden...



Comfrey like so many herbs arrived in North America in the 1600s with the earliest colonists. Today's pharmaceuticals were long in the future so a colonist's "medicine chest" consisted of the herbs they grew. Comfrey was one of the herbs. Comfrey's common name, bone knit, suggests why it was a staple in colonial gardens. Colonists used a poultice of leaves and roots to treat broken bones, sprains, and bruises and to help heal burns. Modern research has shown that comfrey contains chemicals that can cause liver and lung disease and cancer so it is no longer taken internally. But bumblebees are unconcerned about how comfrey effects humans.





Comfrey's nectar and pollen are a beacon for bumblebees. Bumblebees buzz from one flower to the next of comfrey's clusters of delicate bell-shaped flowers! In the herb garden there often are ten or more bumblebees moving from flower to flower. They are late risers, but when the day has warmed, they are up and feeding. Proceed with utmost caution. I learned the hard way these calm-appearing pollinators have a sting that punishes the victim for days.

Next week: Fragrance in the garden.

Become a Member of the SCHC this Month!

Did you Know? SCHC Members receive newsletters, access to special events, free museum and library admission, reduced prices for events, and so much more.

Visit the link to explore our different membership levels: <https://brooksidemuseum.org/support-schs/new-individual-membership-page/>

[Become a member](#)

ALL local history class concludes at the Brookside Museum

A five week course on local history sponsored by the Saratoga County History Center for the Academy of Lifelong Learning (ALL) concluded this week with the exploration of the Museum's gardens and a walking tour of the village along Front Street in Ballston Spa. Previous sessions focused on the story of the Museum, our current exhibits and collections, and the resources available for those researching genealogy and local history through our library. The course was well received and we hope to continue our partnership with ALL in the future.







“Day by day, what you choose, what you think, and what you do is who you become.”– Heraclitus
Various scenes captured by our volunteer photographer David Waite at Brookside Museum, an important part of the Saratoga County History Center.

Saratoga County History Center

with Skidmore College Department of History

Presents

County Life in Photographs



See the exhibit at Brookside Museum. Open Thursday through Sunday from 1 pm to 5 pm.

Volunteer wanted!

The wonderful Brookside Museum is in search of volunteers for the weekend visitor experience! You will help visitors appreciate their experience and time in the museum. Can you give me a hand? A 4-hour shift or two, each month? You can also sign up to volunteer through our website.

<https://brooksidemuseum.org/support-schs/volunteer/>

Volunteer At Brookside

A CENTURY OF ICE CREAM, A CENTENNIAL OF THE DAKE FAMILY AND STEWART'S SHOPS

Few things are as beloved and iconic in upstate New York as Stewart's shops. The exhibit is made possible through the generosity of Stewart's Shops/Dake Family.



Brookside Museum Saturdays and Sundays from Noon to 4 pm The SCHC Brookside Museum is located on 6 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Admission to this museum is free and donations are welcome.



Perky Pak gal
The model is showing off an innovation, pre-packaged portions of ice cream.
The Stewart Story, September 1954

Father's Day

The PICTURE OF THE MONTH from the Saratoga County History Center comes from the large image library of the Brookside Museum. We had our intern, Clifton Park's Grace LaFleche, a rising sophomore at Connecticut College write about Father's Day



Father standing in the Corn
from the Armer Family Collection
Catalog Number 1990.069.0006.

In the image, a man stands tall under the shade of corn stalks rising from above him. He is identified as a father, and we may suppose that he is the farmer responsible for this abundant corn.

The challenge of this image is that it does not have a date. What can be identified is taken from other sources. Corn was important in the war effort on the home front, with the Karo brand advertising corn syrup as the "Great American Syrup", able to replace sugar in the kitchen. The New York Tribune notes August as having the best produce of peaches and corn. The article includes a sample weekly schedule with corn in each meal: corn soup, corn omelettes, corn oysters, plus corn. Corn dominated the kitchens, but who provided this basic ingredient? .

In 1922, the New York Herald regarded corn as the "Great American Crop", used to feed 110,000,000 growing populations of hungry mouths. The price of corn rose from 40 to 60 a bushel. But for the shoulders carrying the 70-pound packages, the slight increase was not felt by its producers. The Herald asks, "consider corn, consider the man who raises it when he goes out to spend some of the coins he gets for it". There was not much excess spending for the American, even the successful corn farmer.

As we remember today to reach out to the fathers in our life, reflect on the ideas of manhood celebrated in the 1919 Tribune. That every man is really two men, who he is and who he wants to be. The farmer works through the day as not just a laborer, but a businessman. Not burdened by constant work, but a family man, and a friend. The Farm and Farmside column remind us of these dreams of the farmer, dreams that belong as much to farmers as they do to men themselves.

Be thankful for the fathers who stood proudly in the cornfields, knowing both sides of themselves are what built America. .

Happy Father's Day!

Interested in learning more about image collections at SCHC? Visit <https://brookside.pastperfectonline.com/> to peruse our extensive collection. Our collection is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The Brookside Museum is open Thursday through Sunday from 1pm to 5pm. SCHC Brookside Museum lists all closings at <https://www.facebook.com/brooksidemuseum/>

The SCHC Brookside Museum is located at 6 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Admission to this museum is free and donations are welcome. The current exhibits are *Black Experiences in Saratoga County, 1750-1950*, *A Century of Ice Cream*, *a centennial of the Dake family and Stewart's Shops*, and *County Life in Photographs*.

The Saratoga County History Center is dedicated to the preservation and sharing of the diverse histories of Saratoga County. In addition to the Brookside Museum, the History Center offers a variety of innovative, exciting and educational programs online and in person throughout the county. Please visit the website (www.brooksidemuseum.org) and social media accounts (@SaratogaCoHistory) for news and announcements.

BLACK EXPERIENCES IN SARATOGA COUNTY 1750 – 1950

Explore the diversity of the lives of African Americans in Saratoga County over 200 years from the colonial period to the mid-20th century. It is a panorama of the struggles and hardships they faced, but also of their persistence and success.



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Contribute to Saratoga County History Center News and Events. Submit events, stories, job changes, promotions or news about Saratoga County history to sean@brooksidemuseum.org. SCHC News and Events is a collaborative effort. We count on the contributions of the historic community of Saratoga County and others for the entire content of this page. Producer Sean Kelleher and Editor Donna Dardaris coordinate the creation of the email with the help of many contributors, including Anne Clothier, Andrew Collier, Isobel Connell, Cindy Corbett, Jim Richmond, Kathleen Rebmann Royka, Beth Silvestri, and David Waite.

The SCHC News and Events are available on our [website](#).

Saratoga County History Center
6 Charlton Street
Ballston Spa, NY 12020
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