

June 30 Saratoga County History Center News and Events



Saratoga County History Center

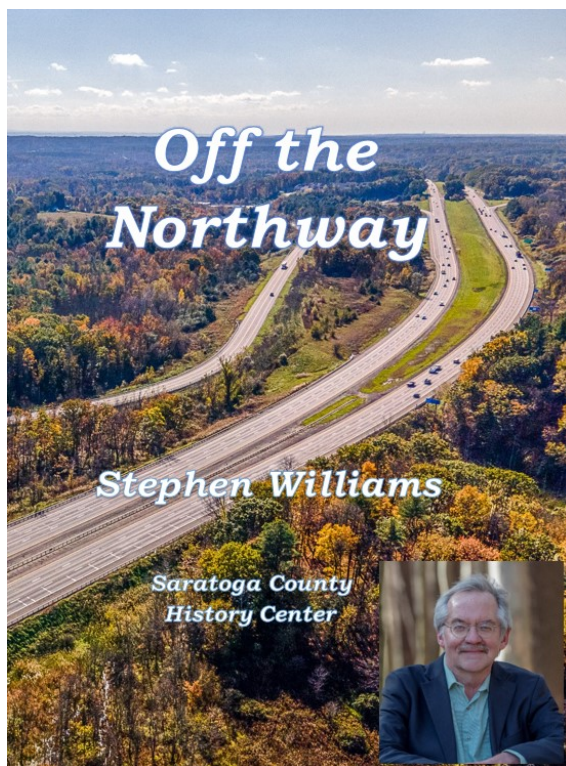
Sharing History to Promote Community
June 30, 2022



Thank you to all who attended the *Off The Northway* release party at the Brookside Museum. It was a very successful night. The entire book *Off the Northway* was a collective endeavor. For starters, of course, Steve Williams. It was through his idea and his words that this was possible. We must pay tribute to the hard work of our publications team. This is the second book in a year. These people are now working on their third book. We have great volunteers, employees, and trustees at the History Center who make that possible. But we are most grateful to you, our supporters. We hope you had a great time and we appreciate your participation in this wonderful evening. You should feel even better knowing that you helped raise funds in support of the

Saratoga County History Center.

Thank you!



The *Off the Northway* book may be ordered online through <https://brooksidemuseum.org/off-the-northway/> . The cost is \$20 including tax, plus \$5 shipping

Thank You Saratoga County Board of Supervisors

Saratoga County officials announced Tuesday that the Saratoga County History Center was awarded \$25,000 from the Saratoga County non-profit COVID relief grant fund. The Saratoga County Board of Supervisors created the fund to assist community non-profits negatively impacted by the pandemic that continue to experience challenges.

Town of Moreau Supervisor and Saratoga County Board of Supervisors Chair Theodore T. Kusnierz, Jr. said, “Our non-profits have been hit hard by the COVID pandemic and many are still feeling the effects of the statewide economic shutdown. Saratoga County understands the wide-ranging benefits the local non-profit community provide to our residents and the value of their economic impact in our County. This grant program will help them continue their important and beneficial work right here in Saratoga County.”

The Saratoga County History Center is very appreciative of the support from the Board of Supervisors. The History Center Board has identified the need for an immersive, professionally-

designed and constructed exhibit on the county's history as a priority. Work has started on the planning for the project in the form of recruiting subject matter experts who are volunteering their time to work on the script/labels for the exhibit and identifying objects, photographs and documents to include in the display. Such an exhibit is a challenge and something SCHC has never undertaken, but it's one that will have a lifespan of at least a decade. It will provide residents and visitors with an interesting orientation to the history of the county and provide a backdrop for the development of new public and school programs.

A special thanks to the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors for their continued support.



Saratoga County History Center's Events

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, along with other memorabilia to be displayed. 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 present the award along with a talk entitled "Embracing the Legacy of Solomon Northup." The event is hosted by and held at the Brookside Museum. Pre-registration is available on the SCHC website for your convenience, (we will send you a reminder)

<https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/45251-solomon-northup-scripter-award-presentation>

Pre-registration

July 12 - 7pm *New Light on Saratoga's Indigenous Past*. Professor Karim 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. The event is hosted by and held at the Brookside Museum.

July 14 - 7pm *Off The Northway* Presentation and Book Signing. Local journalist Stephen William will talk about the long rollercoaster history of the dream, design, negotiations for, and construction of the \$15 billion GlobalFoundries semiconductor facility in Malta. He will also sign copies of *Off the Northway*, a compilation of 83 articles written by Steve from 2005 through 2020 for the Daily Gazette in Schenectady, NY. The *Off the Northway* book will be available for purchase at \$20. The event is sponsored by and proceeds to benefit the Saratoga County History Center. The event will be held at the David R. Meager Malta Community Center at 1 Bayberry Dr, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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.

Historians Walking Tours Sponsored by the Saratoga County History Center

2022 Historian’s Walking Tours Saratoga County History Center



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|--|----------------|
| 1 Ballston Spa Walkabout | July 18 |
| 2 Schuylers’s Saratoga | Aug 4 |
| 3 Zim Smith Trail – Round Lake | Aug 15 |
| 4 Forest Park – Ballston Lake | Aug 31 |
| 5 Vischer Ferry Historic District | Sept 17 |
| 6 Old Champlain Canal | Sept 29 |

*For more information please contact Brookside Museum
info@brooksidemuseum.org or call 518-885-4000*



The Saratoga County History Center will host a series of guided walking tours led by local historians during the summer and fall months throughout Saratoga County. The tours will be offered bi-weekly from mid-July through the end of September on various days and times.

“The tours will offer a unique opportunity to interact with several historians with a deep knowledge of the history of their communities,” said Jim Richmond, tour coordinator for the History Center. “The tours are designed to explore little-known areas of Saratoga County often overlooked by both residents and visitors.”

Six visits are currently scheduled. Registration for the tours can be made two weeks in advance at the History Center website <https://brooksidemuseum.org/> A suggested donation of \$10 per registration (individuals, couples, or families) will support the programs of the History Center or a not-for-profit organization chosen by the tour leaders.

Monday, July 18, 2pm – Exploring the Old Hotels of Ballston Spa. Ann Clothier, History Center, and Dave Waite, local historian. Meet at Brookside Museum in Ballston Spa. Distance under a mile.

Thursday, August 4, 4pm – Schuyler’s Saratoga. Sean Kelleher, Saratoga Town Historian. Meet at Schuylerville Veterans Memorial Park. US 4 and NY 32 adjacent to Fish Creek. Distance 1 mile.

Monday, August 15, 10am– Zim Smith Trail in Round Lake. Lauren Roberts, Saratoga County Historian. Meet at the Zim Smith parking lot at 3 Curry Road in Round Lake. Distance under a mile.

Wednesday, August 31, 10am – Forest Park Amusement Park. Rick Reynolds, Ballston Town Historian. Meet at 62 West Side Drive, Ballston Lake. Distance 1 mile.

Saturday, September 17, 10am – Vischer Ferry Historic District. John Scherer, Clifton Park Town Historian. Meet at parking area at the end of Ferry Drive, Vischer Ferry. Distance 1.5 miles.

Thursday, September 29, 1 pm – The Champlain Canal, Waterford. Russ VanDervoort, Waterford Town Historian. Meet at Lock 2 Park in Waterford. Distance 1.5 miles.

Detailed information on individual visits, directions and parking will be available on the website and community event calendars prior to each visit. To accommodate walkers of all capacities, guided tours are planned over distances of 1 to 1.5 miles, mostly in flat terrain.

To find out more, contact the History Center at info@brooksidemuseum.org or 518-885-4000.

Membership Update

There are a number of exciting developments underway with the membership of the Saratoga County History Center. "In 2021, we added five new exhibits, made great strides in our collection, raised more than \$31,000 to improve our building and saw 240% growth in our membership," explained Trustee Andrew Collier, chairman of the Membership Committee. "We are delighted to announce changes to SHSC members!"

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 8 - 6:30pm "The Capital Region's Role in the U.S.S. Monitor." The Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center is offering another outdoor lecture. Historian Michael Barrett will be presenting a fun and educational lecture on "The Capital Region's Role in the U.S.S. Monitor." Two Capital District industrialists are credited with convincing the Navy to take on John Ericsson's idea of an iron clad floating battery as an answer to the rumored Confederate ironclad warship. Troy and Schenectady foundries made most of the iron for the Monitor, and a Troy man served on board during the world famous first-ever clash of iron warships. Lectures are picnic-style programs. They are bring-your-own-chair and bring-your-own-refreshments to enjoy out on the museum's front lawn. Lecture starts at 6:30pm. Admission: \$10 a person
Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center at 2 Museum Lane, Waterford, NY 12188.

August 4 - 12pm "Iron-Hearted: The 115th NYS Vol. Regiment in the Civil War." During the Civil War, Colonel Simeon Sammons received authority to recruit a regiment in the counties of

Fulton, Hamilton, Montgomery, and Saratoga, with headquarters at Fonda. On August 26, 1862, it mustered into the service of the United States for three years. Join local historian David Brooks in an exploration of the history of the “Iron-Hearted Regiment.” Journey along with them from Upstate NY to the Deep South and back. Discover the battles they faced on the front line and those experienced from within. This event will be held outdoors, weather permitting, on the library's "porch." In case of rain, we will convene in the Community Room on the main floor. David Brooks is the Education Director at Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site in Fort Hunter, N.Y. – but also sits on the board of the Fulton County Historical Society, based out of the Fulton County Museum in Gloversville, NY. As a native of that County, growing up, he heard tales of local history and how his own ancestors fought to preserve the Union during the tumultuous Civil War. The Saratoga Springs Public Library is located at 49 Henry Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-3271. Reservations are required. <https://sspl.libcal.com/event/8965174>

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.



Melissa Howell, a Solomon Northup descendant, is loaning the prestigious Scriptor Award, presented on behalf of Solomon Northup by the University of Southern California, to the Saratoga County History Center's Brookside Museum, along with other memorabilia. 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 present the award along with a talk entitled “Embracing the Legacy of Solomon Northup” on Saturday, July 9 at 2 pm at Brookside Museum in Ballston Spa. The award and memorabilia display are new additions to the "Black Experiences in Saratoga

County, 1750-1950" exhibit. Pre-registration is available on the SCHC website for your convenience, (we will send you a reminder)

<https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/45251-solomon-northup-scripter-award-presentation>

Pre-registration

News from the herb garden...

Knowing Saturday was going to be steamy, I arrived at the garden early. Task one: water the recently transplanted morning glories. Hose in hand, I aimed for the base of the arbor. The tendrils that had started to climb the lattice were now leafless stalks three-inch-high. Was the culprit the cottontail who had sprinted across the lawn as I rounded the corner of the museum or the deer whose footprints make clear they come for a nightly inspection? The "Court of Online Research" identify the rabbit as guilty. But the deer don't get off scot-free; they are responsible for "pruning the roses," blossoms, prickly stems, and all. These challenges are mere inconveniences, reminders that nature still reigns.



Gardening challenges were more serious for our ancestors. From the time the first colonists arrived in America to the beginning of market gardening in the mid-1800s, a family's well-being, even their very existence, depended on bountiful harvests from the garden. Enough produce had to be gathered in to sustain them through the long stretch from fall into late spring when early crops again could be harvested. Success depended on nature's whims—weather, plant diseases, insect infestations, and foraging animals. So I'm not complaining about the cottontail and the deer. I'll wait until the Japanese beetles appear.



This week's star of the garden is an evening primrose named "sundrops." Long ago this easy-to-grow native "wildling" was adopted for cultivation in the garden. The plant attracts a variety of pollinators, especially bees and butterflies. Hummingbirds come for nectar and goldfinches devour the seeds. The pure, bright yellow blossoms glisten like miniature summer suns in the north-facing border of the fragrance bed. The woad, now in second bloom, echos the sundrops glow in the dyer bed. Yes, I think you would agree, the garden's rewards outnumber the setbacks.



Become a Member of the SCHC this Month!

Become a member of the History Center today at the Brookside Benefactor level (\$1,000) and receive access to exclusive behind-the-scenes tours of our upcoming History of the Potato Chip exhibit.

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

[Become a member](#)





SCHC
Saratoga County History Center
@ Brookside Museum



Off The Northway release party at the Brookside Museum was a very successful night. Here are some pictures captured by our volunteer photographer David Waite, The *Off the Northway* book may be ordered online through <https://brooksidemuseum.org/off-the-northway/>. The cost is \$20 including tax, plus \$5 shipping

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!

We are looking to increase the number of volunteers.

Roles include:

- General Volunteers
- Museum Assistants
- Building and Grounds Assistants

You can also sign up to volunteer through our website. <https://brooksidemuseum.org/support-schs/volunteer/>

Volunteer At Brookside



The Saratoga County History Center is proud to be a Blue Star Museum

The Blue Star Museums program is a collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense and more than 2,000 museums across America.

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.



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.



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, 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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