

# September 21 Saratoga County History Center News and Events



## Saratoga County History Center

### *Sharing History to Promote Community*

September 21, 2022



Thanks for all your support. Last week we had a very busy History Center. We got a lot of support

for our Drive-thru Miller's Backyard BBQ Chicken and Pulled Pork Dinner To Go. On Saturday, there were more than 20 attendees at our walking tour of Vischer Ferry led by Clifton Park Town historian John Scherer. Our membership team is actively engaged in processing renewals. We also had five volunteers working to deliver our second membership reminder. We installed four new windows in Brookside as part of a project to replace windows. The timber is in preparation for our new front porch project. The museum also received more than 20 visitors. All of these activities take place with members such as yourself. The time is right to renew your membership by going to our [membership page](#).

Become a member



# Saratoga County History Center's Events

**September 29 – 1pm Historians' Walking Tour - The Champlain Canal, Waterford. *Sold Out***  
This walk will begin at Lock 2 Park in Waterford. Lock 2 Park is located off Broad St. which is on Rt. 32 and the main thoroughfare in downtown Waterford. Parking available at Lock 2 Park and other nearby streets.

**September 29 – 7pm *Theas Few Lines" The Civil War Letters of Private Alonzo D. Bump.*** David Handy, author of the recently released book *Theas Few Lines: The Civil War Letters of Private Alonzo D. Bump, 77th New York State Voluntary Infantry* will present the Civil War experiences of Alonzo Bump as expressed in his letters home to his wife Mary and other family members. David will touch on many aspects of Alonzo's life as a soldier, including camp life, poor rations, disease, marching, combat, desertion, commanding officers, the enemy, military pay, and other topics. Books will be available for signing. To register, <https://brooksidemuseum.networkforgood.com/events/47692-alonzo-bump> This is an in-person event at SCHC's Brookside Museum, at 21 Fairground Avenue, Ballston Spa.

## Sign Up for Private Alonzo D. Bump Talk

**October 7 – 10:30am *Off The Northway Presentation and Book Signing at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library.*** Local journalist Stephen Williams 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 from 2005 through 2020 for the *Daily Gazette* in Schenectady, NY. The book will be available for purchase for \$20 and is published by the Saratoga County History Center. The Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library is located at 475 Moe Road in Clifton Park NY 12065.

**October 17 – 9:30am Surrender Day Commemoration in Recognition of the 245th Anniversary of the American Victory at the Battles of Saratoga, America's Turning Point.**

Join the community and school children for the 244th anniversary of the Battles of Saratoga surrender with cannons, patriotic speeches, wreath laying, reenactments and the traditional a13 toasts. State Historian Devin Lander will be the keynote speaker. Fort Hardy Beach Park along the Hudson River, Ferry Street - Route 29, Schuylerville, NY 12871/

**October 22 11am - *Off The Northway* Presentation and Book Signing at the Galway Public Library.** Local journalist Stephen Williams 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 from 2005 through 2020 for the *Daily Gazette* in Schenectady, NY. The book will be available for purchase for \$20 and is published by the Saratoga County History Center. The Galway Public Library is 2112 East Street, Galway, NY 12074.

**November 2 7pm Saratoga County History Center Annual Meeting including "History Favorites - Trustee's Choice."** The trustees' offers a 'show & tell' featuring a few of their favorite items from the SCHC's collection, a preview of upcoming exhibitions, alongside their vision for the future. This is an in-person event at SCHC's Brookside Museum, at 21 Fairground Avenue, Ballston Spa.

**November 13 – 2–5pm “More Saratoga County Stories”** Meet the contributing authors and the editorial team of *More Saratoga County Stories*, a collection of essays and articles from local historians, the book is aimed at the general public, and will delight readers of all ages with snapshots of the past and true tales of crime, heroism, and colorful personalities. Purchase copies of the book and have their editions signed at Brookside Museum. This is an in-person event at SCHC's Brookside Museum, at 21 Fairground Avenue, Ballston Spa.

**November 26-December 24 – Artisan's Market at Brookside Museum.** Shop a wide selection of hand-crafted products created by local artisans, including: soaps & lotions, ornaments, jewelry, spices & syrups, cutting boards, home decor and much more! Thursdays 12pm – 5pm, Fridays 11am – 6pm, Saturdays and Sundays 11am – 5pm

*All these programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise indicated, and donations are accepted with gratitude. The SCHC's Brookside Museum is located at 21 Fairground Avenue in Ballston Spa, NY 12020.*



Thank you for continuing to support the Saratoga County History Center. As our last letter noted, it's time to renew your membership.

This year, we revamped our membership benefits. Memberships go as low as \$25 for senior citizens and educators and as high as \$5,000 for a lifetime membership. Each membership level includes new benefits including discounts at our museum shop, free guided “behind-the-scenes” tours of the museum, access to free space for your next meeting or conference, and membership to the North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM), which gives you free access to hundreds of museums across the United States. You can view the new membership levels and benefits by visiting our website [www.brooksidemuseum.org](http://www.brooksidemuseum.org) and locating “Individual Memberships” on the “Support SCHC” tab.

Here at the SCHC, we're happy to report strong growth, more exhibits, and even more programs for our membership. Enclosed you will find a return envelope if you should choose to join via mail. If you prefer to renew your membership online, you can visit [www.brooksidemuseum.org](http://www.brooksidemuseum.org) and follow the “Become a Member” prompt in the top left corner.

When renewing, you can also select an option for a recurring membership, which will provide a monthly donation.

We hope you will join us for another exciting year at SCHC as we seek to raise enough funds to hire a full-time executive director to make the museum experience better. Join today at the Brookside Contributor level for \$100. You'll receive a complimentary welcome packet, NARM membership, membership card, SCHC postcards, and a 10% discount at the museum shop throughout the year.

Thank you again for your continued support, and we hope you will join us for another exciting year at the Saratoga County History Center.

**Become a member**

# SURRENDER DAY CEREMONY



245th anniversary of the Battles of Saratoga, America's Turning Point



Date

October 17, 2022

Time 9:30 am

Place

Fort Hardy Beach along the Hudson River Route 29 Schuylerville, NY

Bring your own chair



Presented by the town of Saratoga, the village of Schuylerville, Saratoga County 250th American Revolution Commission, and Saratoga County History Center

## Surrender Day In Saratoga!

Schuylerville, NY- The 245th anniversary of the Battles of Saratoga, America's Turning Point, will be commemorated on Surrender Day Monday, October 17, 9:30 am in Schuylerville's Fort Hardy park along the Hudson River with artillery firings, sword surrender ceremony, and music.

Surrender Day commemorates the victory of the American army of General Horatio Gates over British forces commanded by General John Burgoyne at Saratoga, New York, on October 17, 1777. Surrender day is a partnership of the town of Saratoga, the village of Schuylerville, Saratoga County 250th American Revolution Commission, and Saratoga County History Center. The



ceremony is at Fort Hardy Park, the historical ground where the British forces surrendered and laid down their arms on October 17, 1777, bringing the Battles of Saratoga to an end.

The 45-minute event will feature British and American re-enactors, cannon salutes, musical entertainment, and "13 Toasts" to the Victory at Saratoga. The celebration will be attended by students from Schuylerville elementary schools, who will present essays about the "turning point" of the American Revolution. State historian Devin Lander will deliver the keynote speech. In case of inclement weather, this event will be canceled. The general public is encouraged to attend. Please bring your own chair and wear patriotic attire.

"Historians have always pointed to America's Turning Point as being the most significant in the world's history, as there a transfer of a territory so vast, and the influences were so far-reaching," explains Saratoga Town Historian Sean Kelleher. "The Surrender at Saratoga launched two centuries of revolution elsewhere. It ushered in the end of the British Empire and brought the United States of America to life. It is important that our community continue to recognize this important day in global history."

The commemoration is made possible by a supportive partnership that includes the 2nd Continental Artillery, Daughters of the American Revolution, Hudson Crossing Park, Old Saratoga Historical Association, Saratoga National Historical Park, Schuylerville Central Schools, and the Sons of the American Revolution.



## 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.

**September 22 - 7pm "General Schuyler's Enslaved."** Join the Old Saratoga Historical Association for a program meeting as Heidi Hill from Schuyler Mansion shares recent research on the people enslaved by General Schuyler. Town of Saratoga's Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, on the corner of routes 29 and 4 in Schuylerville, NY 12871.

**September 24 - 12pm "The Fife & Drums of Fort Ticonderoga."** Saratoga National Historical Park welcomes The Fife & Drums of Fort Ticonderoga for a performance. This program is made possible by support from the Friends of Saratoga Battlefield. Program is at the Saratoga National Historical Park's Visitor Center 648 Route 32, Stillwater, NY 12170. For more information (518) 670-2985, [www.nps.gov/sara](http://www.nps.gov/sara), or find the park on Facebook.

**September 24 - 3pm "50 Years Ago: Filming in Ballston Spa of The Way We Were."** In September 1972, Hollywood came to Ballston Spa when a production crew took over Front Street to film some scenes for the movie "The Way We Were," which was set in the 1930s. Robert Redford and Barbra Streisand--and some local residents ("extras")--were here in person for the moviemaking. Learn about this event and the excitement it generated. How did it impact the community, and why was Ballston Spa chosen as a filming location? David Fiske will talk about the time--50 years ago--that Hollywood came to town. After the talk, take a walk up to Front Street to see and hear about the two locations that appeared on screen. Held at The Real McCoy Beer Company, located at 28 Washington Street, Ballston Spa.

**September 27 - 7pm "Everyone Went to the Festa!: The Feast of St. Michael in Saratoga Springs."** Saratoga Springs City Historian Mary Ann Fitzgerald presents the Feast of St. Michael was celebrated in late September in Saratoga Springs' Dublin neighborhood, now known as the Beekman Street Arts District. As the statue of Saint Michael was paraded down Beekman Street, people pinned money to him, which benefited the Principessa Elena Society, a community resource for newly arrived Americans that still exists today. The "Festa" grew into a widely beloved celebration that embraced live music, plentiful cuisine, and even fireworks. Held at Saratoga Springs History Museum at Canfield Casino in Congress Park, 1 East Congress Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

**September 29 - 12pm "They Wore What!?: Historical Heroines Kicking @\$\$, in a Corset."** Have you ever wondered how your favorite historical women from book and screen could go about their adventures while wearing all those layers, plus a corset? Weren't they hot? How could they breathe!? Librarian and experienced old-timey-clothes-wearer, Caitlin Sheldon will demonstrate with props and diagrams. The Saratoga Springs Public Library is located at 49 Henry Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-3271. Reservations are required.

<https://sspl.libcal.com/event/9175472>

**October 3 -7pm "250th Anniversary of the Fulton County Court House".** Join Samantha Hill-Saladino, Fulton County Historian, to give a presentation on the history of the Fulton County Court House at the monthly meeting of the Galway Preservation Society. The meeting will be held at the Galway Town Hall, 5910 Sacandaga Rd., Galway, NY 12074.

**October 15 – 10am - 3:30pm "Heritage Hunters All-Day Genealogy Conference."** Heritage Hunters of Saratoga County will offer a series of 4 genealogy talks in one day, featuring certified genealogist Nancy Loe, via Zoom. They are: Beyond Ancestry: Essential Portals for Genealogy, Successful Genealogy Sources and Citations, Discovering European Immigrant Ancestors, and Picture This: Cataloging Digital Photos. In addition to appearing on PBS's *American Experience*, Loe has presented for all experience levels at National Genealogical Society, Rootstech, Legacy Family Tree and genealogy conferences in the U.S., Canada, and Australia. The cost of the conference is \$20 for members, \$35 for non-members, which includes new membership. A registration form should be completed and sent, along with a check, to Ginny Humphrey, 5166 Fairground Ave., Ballston Spa, N.Y. 12020 by Oct. 11. Members can find the

form in the October-November newsletter issue. Non-members can receive it by snail mail or email by calling Ginny Humphrey, 518-885-9309

**October 27 - 7pm "Campaign to Saratoga"** Join the Old Saratoga Historical Association for a program meeting as Eric Schnitzer, the historian at Saratoga NHP, discusses his recent book, Campaign to Saratoga, he co-authored with Don Troiani. Town of Saratoga's Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, on the corner of routes 29 and 4 in Schuylerville, NY 12871.

Programs are free unless otherwise indicated. Submit events to [sean@brooksidemuseum.org](mailto: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.

DAVID ALLEN HANDY

*Theas Few Lines*

The Civil War Letters of Private Alonzo D. Bump,  
77th New York State Volunteer Infantry

Battles Participated in by the Seventh

**Alonzo Bump**

**The Story of a Private in  
The 77<sup>th</sup> New York**

**Presentation by David Handy**

**Saratoga County History Center  
At Brookside Museum  
Thursday, September 29 7pm**

**Sign Up for Private Alonzo D. Bump Talk**



## Project Leaders wanted!

We are looking for two project leaders!!! One for a fall cleaning, One for the storage movement of old articles in an old apartment that is renovated. . If you want to help, please contact Matt at (518) 885-4000. John will call you back.

---

## Volunteer At Brookside

---

### News from the Herb Garden...

Dividing overgrown perennials is a September priority as they have time to establish before the ground freezes. The betony in the medicinal bed was first on our list. Although the plant had grown undisturbed for too many years, I thought it would be a simple lift, separate, and replant. It wasn't. The task became a divide and conquer. As I stood on my small spade and sliced into the plant, a large toad leaped from under the plant and sprinted into the spearmint. Thank goodness, he wasn't hurt. Toads are a gift to a garden. According to Birds' Blooms, here's why:

*“Toads are strictly carnivorous. They feed on beetles, slugs, crickets, flies, ants, and other invertebrates. Larger toad species even eat small rodents and snakes... When it comes to natural pest control, you can't do much better than a healthy toad population on your property.”*

After breathing a sigh of relief that the toad was okay, I dug the rest of the plant wrestling with a snake nest of betony roots. Finally, success. The old growth was discarded. I spaded the soil removing roots that had been cut, added compost, and popped a young plant back in the same spot. I'm hoping it will blossom next summer as it's one of the most frequently visited pollinator plants in the garden. But now, it's on to the betony plant in the dyer bed. Wish me luck!



The bed of dye plants has garnered special interest this year. We introduced madder and weld and replanted dyer's chamomile aka golden marguerite. We're adding tiny coreopsis plants and crossing our fingers that they'll make it through the winter.

When the Rock Day Spinners grace the museum's front porch next August for their annual Spin Till You Dye event, they will use plant material from the dyer bed to make dye. Once they decide which plants they'll use, we will ensure there are enough available to meet their needs. Woad may be one choice after they test the process on plants that are now available in the garden. Woad is a good choice because it grows quickly and only first-year leaves are needed for dying. Calendula will also be available in abundance should they choose to demonstrate two different dyes. On the day of the event, the Thymly Herb Group will also be offering tours of the herb garden. A collaboration to bring the past alive!





Fewer monarch butterflies have visited the garden than in most years. I wondered why. Research revealed that the IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature, a membership union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organizations, has named the monarch to its Endangered Red List.

*“Gland, Switzerland, 21 July 2022 (IUCN) – The migratory monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus plexippus), known for its spectacular annual journey of up to 4,000 kilometres across the Americas, has entered the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species as Endangered, threatened by habitat destruction and climate change.”*





Years ago I saw a documentary about monarch butterflies. They are amazing creatures! Monarchs gather into a group to make the long journey from the Northeast to their winter home in southwestern Mexico. The monarchs that leave the Northeast fly the entire 3,000- mile route. The spring trip back north spans several generations. Each generation must find milkweed along the route north because the caterpillar solely relies on milkweed for food before becoming a chrysalis and then, emerging as a butterfly. They are one of the wonders of our natural world!

The autumnal equinox is here—equal light and darkness—signaling the end of the gardening season is almost here. Unlike Emily Brontë, I don't celebrate the coming of winter now. I'll wait until the first snow falls.

#### Fall, Leaves, Fall by Emily Brontë

Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;  
Lengthen night and shorten day;  
Every leaf speaks bliss to me  
Fluttering from the autumn tree.  
I shall smile when wreaths of snow  
Blossom where the rose should grow;



I shall sing when night's decay  
Ushers in a drearier day.

From *A Poem for Every Night of the Year*

All the gardens at Brookside rely on volunteers. No experience is needed! If you have a few hours to spare and would like to help, leave a message with Matt at (518) 885-4000. Kathleen or Maureen will return your call.



# Off The Northway

By Stephen Williams

Presentation and Book Signing Event

Friday October 7 10:30 am

475 Moe Road, Clifton Park, NY



## Become a Lifetime Member of the SCHC this Month!

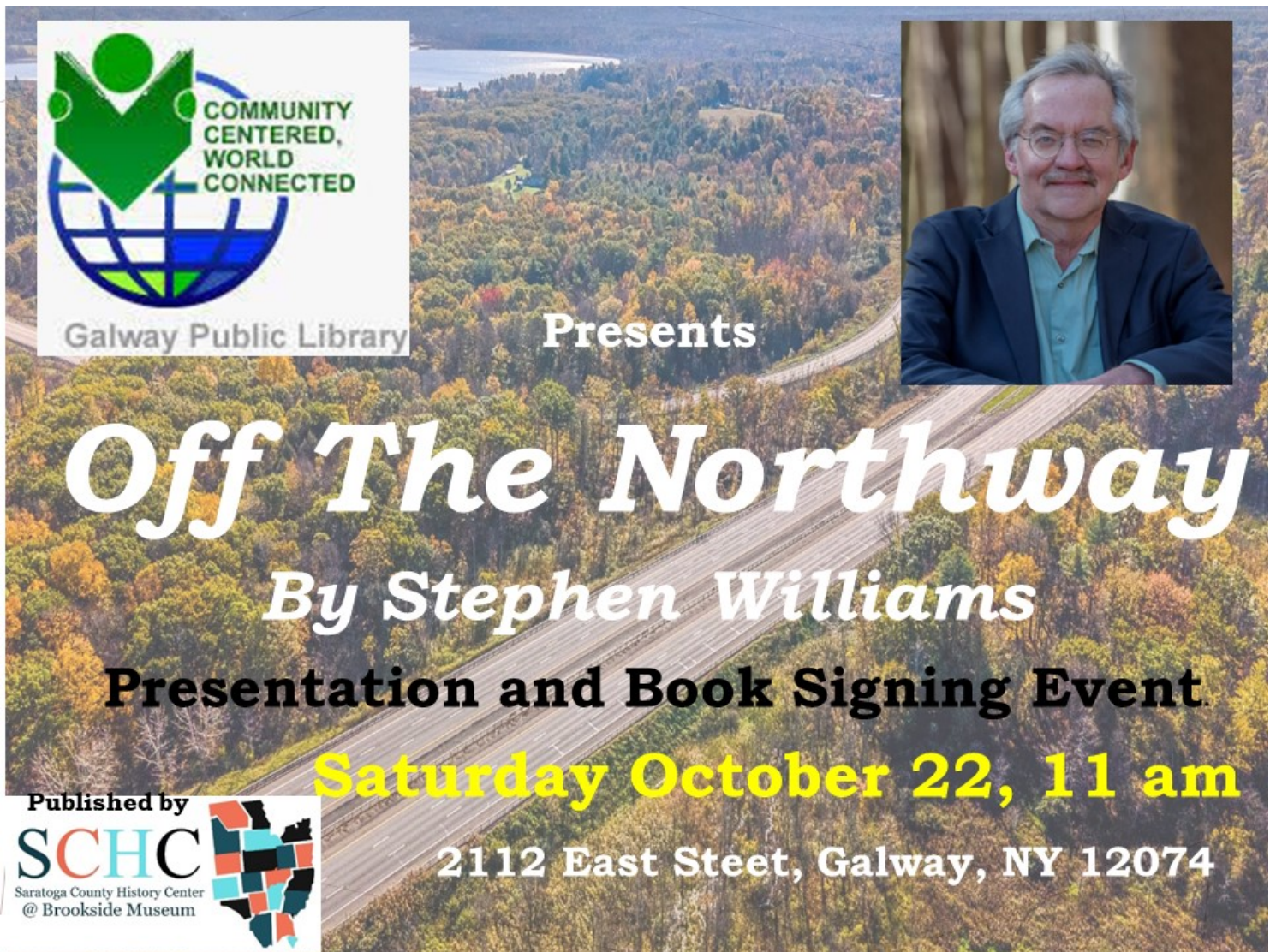
Become a member of the History Center today at the Brookside Lifetime Member with a \$5000 donation. You will receive SCHC's newsletter, access to special events, free museum and library admission, a window sticker, and reduced prices for events. In addition, Contributors receive a welcome packet, a membership card with NARM membership, and a 10% discount at the museum shop. In addition, a copy of *The First Respectable House: Brookside and the Growth of Ballston Spa*, a personal behind-the-scenes tour of the museum by the President, the first look at new




exhibits with reception, two free use of the event space per year, and 15% discount at the museum shop, Please note that family memberships are determined by each participating institution. While NARM does not have a standard area of restriction, some institutions do restrict benefits. See the member map for details.

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

## Become a member





**Presents**


*Off The Northway*  
*By Stephen Williams*

**Presentation and Book Signing Event**

**Saturday October 22, 11 am**

2112 East Steet, Galway, NY 12074

**Published by**  
**SCHC**  
Saratoga County History Center  
@ Brookside Museum



SCHC's Brookside Museum is open Thursday through Sunday from 1pm to 5pm and is located at 21 Fairground Avenue in Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Admission to this museum is free and donations are welcome. [www.brooksidemuseum.org](http://www.brooksidemuseum.org)

### Current Exhibits



*In the Saratoga Style: Potato Chips and Their Regional Folklore through December 23*  
*Black Experiences in Saratoga County, 1750-1950 through November 6*  
*A Century of Ice Cream, a centennial of the Dake family and Stewart's Shops through December 23*  
*County Life in Photographs through November 13*

SCHC's Brookside Museum lists all closings at <https://www.facebook.com/brooksidemuseum/>

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](http://www.brooksidemuseum.org)) and social media accounts (@SaratogaCoHistory) for news and announcements.

*Brookside Museum*  
**EXHIBITIONS**



21 FAIRGROUND AVENUE, BALLSTON SPA  
[WWW.BROOKSIDEMUSEUM.ORG](http://WWW.BROOKSIDEMUSEUM.ORG)

# 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.



# Black Experiences in Saratoga County 1750 - 1950



This exhibit explores the diversity of the lives of African Americans in Saratoga County over 200 years of our history 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.

New additions to the exhibit include The prestigious Scripser Award, awarded by the University of Southern California and other artifacts related to Solomon Northup,



The Brookside Museum is open Thursday to Sunday from 1pm to 5pm. You will find it at 6 Charlton Street in Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Entry is free and donations are acceptable.

# *In the Saratoga Style: Potato Chips and Their Regional Folklore*

**Thursday -  
Sunday  
1 PM - 5PM**



**AT BROOKSIDE MUSEUM**



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](mailto: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**

21 Fairground Avenue

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Email not displaying correctly?

[View it in your browser](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

---

