Saratoga County History Events and News - May 5

Saratoga County: Our Home!

Exhibit Opening

SCHC Members Only
Event

May 19
5-8pm

Saratoga County: Our Home!
New Exhibit Opens May 20
Members of the Saratoga County History Center have the opportunity to view the new exhibit, "Saratoga County: Our Home!" a day early on May 19 from 5pm to 8pm at Brookside Museum. The exhibit will officially be open to the public on May 20. From the First Nations who lived here before European settlement to the new tech-centered economy, this exhibit offers guests a rich time-travel experience that will instill awe and respect for the county’s evolution.

Joining as a member is the best way to ensure you have access to all the exclusive events, exhibits, and programs that the History Center offers. "A greater Saratoga starts here" when you become a part of the SCHC community. Don't miss out on this opportunity to connect with fellow history enthusiasts and support the preservation of Saratoga County's unique history.

Join Now
These programs come from several organizations in Saratoga County. The event organizers are noted.

"Waterford Framed" Opening Reception
May 5 – 6pm
Waterford Museum and Cultural Center, 2 Museum Lane Waterford, NY 12188
Photographs, newspaper clippings, postcards, certificates, paintings…. There are a variety of items that get framed for display or to preserve a moment. This exhibit is a series of small displays based on items that frame a portion of Waterford’s history. From the canals, the community, and everyday items from days past, "Waterford Framed" will show artifacts from the museum collection that haven’t been frequently pulled out of storage. Opening reception will include light refreshment. The reception is free and open to the public.
Women in War Symposium
May 5: 1pm-5pm at Fort Hardy Park
May 6: 9am-3pm at Town of Saratoga Town Hall
Trolley Tour: $60 | Symposium: $50
Registration is now open for the 2nd Annual Women in War Symposium. The two-day event features a historical trolley tour and a speakers’ symposium focusing on the roles women played during the American Revolution. The trolley tour, titled “Through the Baroness’ Eyes,” traces the route traveled by the Baroness Frederika von Riedesel and her three young daughters as they followed the British Army during the Saratoga Campaign. It is being led by Saratoga Battlefield Licensed Guide Pat Niles. The tour is offered on Friday, May 5, 2023, leaving at 1PM from Fort Hardy Park (Reds Road, Schuylerville, NY), and returning at 5PM. Registration for the trolley tour is $60. The Symposium takes place on Saturday, May 6, 2023, from 9AM to 3PM at the Town of Saratoga Town Hall (12 Spring Street, Schuylerville, NY). It includes five dynamic speakers and is being emceed by Dr. Bruce Venter. Registration for the Symposium is $50 and includes morning refreshments and lunch. Space is limited for both the symposium and the tour. Those interested can register for either event by clicking below or at www.saratoga250.com

Sheep to Shawl Community Day
May 13 – 1pm-4pm
Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave Ballston Spa, NY 12020
The long-running interactive “Sheep to Shawl” program at Brookside Museum returns to the Saratoga County History Center. Sheep, lambs, farmers, herdsmen, and shearsers, including the famous Fred the Shearer, and the Rock Day Spinning Guild will assemble on Brookside Museum’s front lawn to demonstrate every facet of sheep raising, shearing, and spinning to produce the wool clothing that was so ubiquitous in early America. Sheep to Shawl is a hands-on, family-friendly event. Young and the young-at-heart will have fun petting the sheep, meeting farmers, and participating in demonstrations. A terrific opportunity to enjoy the spring weather, learn about Saratoga County's agricultural past, and enjoy some quality family time. We are grateful to Stewarts' Shops Holiday Match program for their generous support of this educational opportunity.

Fridays in the Herb Garden – Pungent Perfection: Garlic and Rosemary
May 19 – 2pm-3pm
Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave Ballston Spa, NY 12020
Kathleen Royka and Marilyn Stephenson will talk about Pungent Perfection: Garlic and Rosemary. This program will take place outside, in the beautiful gardens of Brookside Museum, weather permitting. As ever, questions and discussions about any aspect of gardening, historic
or otherwise, will be welcome. Programs are free, and open, though registration and donations are appreciated.

Register for Fridays in the Herb Garden

Opening of New Exhibit – "Saratoga County: Our Home!"

May 19 – SCHC Members Only – 5pm-8pm
May 20 – Opening for General Public – 1pm-5pm
Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave Ballston Spa, NY 12020

This brand new exhibit takes guests on an immersive, artifact-rich journey spanning four centuries of Saratoga life, business, and nature. The exhibit fills three large rooms in the historic Brookside Museum, itself a cherished relic of local history from the early years of Saratoga resort life. From the First Nations who lived here before European settlement to the new tech-centered economy, “Saratoga County: Our Home!” offers guests a rich time-travel experience that will instill awe and respect for the county’s evolution.

Clifton Park Historic Preservation Commission Presents: Sue Thompson

May 21 – 1pm
Grooms Tavern, Corner of Grooms and Sugar Hill Roads Clifton Park, NY 12065

Sue Thompson, an amateur archeologist, will be presenting on the history of her home on English Road near Round Lake. The home is on the Clifton Park Register of Historic Places. She will speak to the interesting artifacts she has discovered that connects the builder of her house to a Loyalist during the American Revolution. The presentation will be followed by tours of the Tavern and the opening of the Clifton Park Historic Homes Art Show. You might even get to meet and talk to James Groom himself! Refreshments will be provided by Friends of the Historic Grooms Tavern.

A Call to Duty: Saratoga County Veterans in WW2

May 24 – 7pm-8:30pm
Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Former Albany-based Associated Press reporter Christopher Carola tells the stories of the many Saratoga County residents who served in the military during the Second World War. Using local archives, wartime articles from The Saratogian and his own interviews with WWII veterans, Carola talks about the experiences of dozens of men and women who answered their nation’s call to duty. This talk is in-person and is free, though donations are always appreciated.

Register for A Call to Duty

Heritage Hunters: An Ancestor Mystery Solved Through DNA, Presented by Tobi
Kirschmann
June 17 – 1pm
Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street Schuylerville, NY

An Ancestor Mystery Solved Through DNA will be the theme of Tobi Kirschmann’s presentation for Heritage Hunters on June 17th, at 1 p.m. in the Saratoga Town Hall, at 12 Spring Street in Schuylerville. In August 2021, an adoptee reached out to DNA Investigations, Tobi’s business, for help identifying his biological father. The adoptee was curious to know about his Jewish heritage and to learn if he had any cousins. Tobi and her team identified the adoptee’s father and a fleet of half-siblings. She will take us on a detailed tour of this case to show how genetic genealogy was used to place the many family members. Tobi Kirschmann is a veteran DNA Analyst from the California Department of Justice DNA laboratory. She started DNA Investigations in Saratoga Springs in 2020 to bring genetic genealogy education and services to law enforcement and the community. As part of the fleet of personnel who worked on the Golden State Killer case, Tobi was moved by the success of the leads generated through genetic genealogy. She is adamant about the power of genetic genealogy and has aligned DNA Investigations to help law enforcement solve cases. Her company website is: DNAinvestigations.com.

Programs are free unless otherwise indicated. Submit events to bsilvestri@brooksidemuseum.org. SCHC Events and News 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 SCHC Events and News are available on our website.
Brookside Museum welcomed 55 people to a showing of Bacon *Hill: A Forgotten Crossroads* on April 29. The film, which showcases the rich history and future plans of the Bacon Hill farming community through the eyes of three generations of residents, was enjoyed by all who came.