

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



Sharing History to Promote Community

All of us here at the Saratoga County History Center invite you to join our institution through membership. Members make our goal of educating the community and preserving its rich history a reality. Follow the link below to learn more. Membership at \$100 or above brings NARM membership, which gives free admission to almost 1,500 museums locally and around the country. It's the perfect holiday gift for the history lover in your life!

[Register for or Renew Membership Here](#)

A New Senior Membership Option

Thanks to the support of a generous donor, active members of the Saratoga Springs Senior Center can now join the Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum at a discounted rate. With this special \$15 Senior Membership, you will receive all of the benefits of membership at Brookside, including our quarterly newsletter, exclusive, members-only tours and programs, advance notification of events, and bi-weekly articles focused on historical topics. This opportunity is exclusively available to active members of the Saratoga Springs Senior Center. Become a member today!

[Join Today](#)

Our Third Oral History Video Is Now Live

We are thrilled to share the third video from the One-Room Schoolhouse Oral History Project, now available on our YouTube channel. This episode features Bob Marcotte of Corinth, NY, who reflects on his time at Corinth #6 Kendall Schoolhouse. His memories offer a sincere and insightful look into the daily life of students in a one-room schoolhouse and the community that shaped them.

This interview was conducted by Charlene DuBuque, with videography by Dave Waite. Background music: *Ice Cream* by Scott Buckley (CC-BY 4.0).

You can watch the full video at the link below.

This project marks the beginning of a growing collection of stories that preserve and celebrate the history of education in our region. We look forward to sharing many more interviews in the months ahead.

If you would like to help support or sponsor the One-Room Schoolhouse Oral History Project, please contact Charlene at charlene@brooksidemuseum.org. Your support helps us continue documenting and preserving these important community memories.

Watch Memories of Kendall District School #6 with Bob Marcotte

Winter Hours

Brookside Museum is open to the public Saturday and Sunday from the hours of Noon to 4PM during the winter season.

Online Shop Now Open

No time to shop at Brookside Museum, or live too far away? Then check out our online shop. Browse a variety of gifts, publications and movies all available on site at Brookside Museum and now for the first time available online. Online purchases may either be picked up at Brookside, or, for a small fee, shipped through USPS. Follow the link below to start shopping now!

[View the Online Shop Here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Visit an 18th Century Millinery Shop

April 24, 2026, 6:30-8:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave, Ballston Spa

Join us for an immersive and educational shopping experience to learn about clothing and accessories of the 1770s. Speak with milliners to find out what life was like for women in this trade, how the most fashionable designs were shared, and where the supplies were sourced. Learn who in this region might have owned similar items during the time of the American Revolution. This event is open to the public, free to attend, and registration is not required. Presented in partnership with Saratoga 250.

[More Information on Visit an 18th Century Millinery Shop](#)

John Brown in New York, with Author Sandra Weber

Saturday, April 25, 6:00-7:00PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Historian and author Sandra Weber presents a compelling talk about her newest book, *John Brown in*

New York: The Man, His Family, and the Adirondack Landscape. Weber offers a fresh and intimate look at the famed abolitionist, focusing on the years of the Brown family's connection with North Elba, Essex County (1848–1863). The intertwining story of sublime Adirondack scenery, farm life, and racial justice explores John Brown not only as a national figure but as a husband, father, neighbor, and man of moral fiber. Weber's insightful narrative bridges the myth and the man, revealing the tender and tragic heart of the Brown family story.

Sandra Weber has authored several books about the Adirondack region, including *Breaking Trail: Remarkable Women of the Adirondacks* (co-author, Peggy Lynn), *Mount Marcy, The Finest Square Mile*, and *Adirondack Roots*. Her articles have been published in *Civil War Times*, *NYS Conservationist*, *Adirondack Life*, *Adirondack Explorer*, *Christian Science Monitor*, and *Highlights for Children*. In addition to her writings, Weber is also well-known for her dramatic portrayals of Mary Brown in "Times of Trouble" and of Jeanne Robert Foster, Kate Field, and other women in "Remarkable Women of the Adirondacks." Weber is a graduate of Clarkson University (Math/CS, '83) and Temple University (MBA, '90). She lives in a log cabin near Elizabethtown, NY, and is an Adirondack 46er.

Register for John Brown in New York, with Author Sandra Weber

Experts Next Door: I Ride to Win: Isaac Murphy and Civil War America

Wednesday, April 29, 7:00-8:00PM

Live on Zoom

Isaac Murphy won three Kentucky Derbys and every other major American stakes race of the nineteenth century. He was among the jockeys inducted into the National Museum of Racing's Hall of Fame in its inaugural class. He was also born enslaved in 1861, the son of a Civil War widow, and he lived through the violent conflicts of Reconstruction to become the first true superstar Black athlete in the United States. This talk examines Murphy's life and career and the light it sheds on his sport and the history of his country.

Katherine Mooney is James P. Jones Professor of U.S. History at Florida State University and the author of *Isaac Murphy: The Rise and Fall of a Black Jockey*

Register for Experts Next Door: I Ride to Win: Isaac Murphy and Civil War America

Luther Forest: A Family, A Woodland, A Legacy: Exhibition Opening Celebration

Saturday, May 2, 4:00-6:00 PM

Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum invites you to celebrate the opening of our new exhibition, *Luther Forest: A Family, A Woodland*, focusing on the history and evolutions of the private forest in Malta and Stillwater. Come and enjoy light bites and sparkling water and be among the first to view our new show.

At the turn of the twentieth century, Thomas Clements Luther, the owner of a popular resort hotel on Saratoga Lake, began building the forest that would bear his name. Ultimately encompassing 7,000 acres in Malta and Stillwater, Luther Forest was the largest private reforestation project in New York. Despite the challenges of growing development and government intervention, five generations of the Luther-Mackay family have worked to cultivate and conserve Luther Forest, leaving a treasured legacy for future residents of Saratoga County.

This exhibition forms a part of our *Spotlight on Malta History* series, which was generously supported by a grant from the *GlobalFoundries/Town of Malta Foundation*. This exhibition was curated by Dr. A.L. Hollmuller, and installed in partnership with Field Horne and Marianne Bez.

Register for Luther Forest: A Family, A Woodland, A Legacy: Exhibition Opening Celebration

SCHC Reads: Founding Martyr: The Life and Death of Dr. Joseph Warren, the American Revolution's Lost Hero

Wednesday, May 6, 6:00-7:15PM

Saratoga County History Center

Join us for the second meeting of our new history Book Club at the Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum. This year, in honor of America's 250th, we will be reading books that explore the unfolding and impact of the American Revolution.

Each meeting will take place in the historic Long Room at Saratoga County History Center, and tea and cookies will be served. All featured books will be available for sale at Northshire Books. Mention that you are a part of the SCHC book club, and you will receive a 20% discount on your purchase.

Our second meeting will be held on **May 6, 2026 at 6 PM**, where we will be discussing *Founding Martyr: The Life and Death of Dr. Joseph Warren, the American Revolution's Lost Hero* by Christian Di Spigna.

Register for SCHC Reads: SCHC Reads: Founding Martyr

The Town of Greenfield: A Forgotten Crossroads Film

Thursday, May 7, 7:00-8:00PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

The Saratoga County History Center is pleased to announce the release of the fourth film in our Forgotten Crossroads series. The Town of Greenfield highlights the history, memories and aspirations of the community as brought to life through engaging conversations with twenty local residents. By focusing on the largest town in Saratoga County the film highlights the diversity of the resident's experiences and expectations which are captured in the Town's motto "Better TOgether."

The Town of Greenfield: A Forgotten Crossroads Film

Sheep To Shawl Community Day

Saturday, May 9, 1:00-4:00PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

The long-running interactive "Sheep to Shawl" program returns to the Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum on **May 9, 2026**, beginning at **1:00 P.M.** Sheep, lambs, farmers, herders, 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 embrace the spring weather, learn about Saratoga County's agricultural past, and enjoy some quality family time. We are grateful to the Stewarts' Shops Holiday

Match program for their generous support of this educational opportunity. This event is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

Suye and Her Nieces: WWII on Mt. McGregor with Jackie Pardon

Saturday, May 16, 7:00-8:00PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Japanese-born Suye [SEE-yay] Narita (1901-1984) was the live-in caretaker of Grant Cottage, Wilton, NY, for many decades. During WWII, Narita was declared an "enemy alien" and placed under house arrest at the Cottage. After her sister died in a U.S. internment camp in Arizona, her nieces Frances and Nancy came to join her on Mt. McGregor. Will include a reading of an account of this time written by her niece Frances Ogasawara.

Jackie Pardon has worked in a variety of media since receiving her BFA from Alfred University. She has exhibited photos and videos at venues in the U.S. and abroad. While programming the experimental video series, Video on Video, for the Saratoga Springs Public Library, she curated art and video exhibits in the Adirondack/Saratoga region. Pardon is currently working on a children's book about Suye Narita.

Register for Suye and Her Nieces: WWII on Mt. McGregor

Refashioning Saratoga, with Caitlin Sheldon

Wednesday, May 20, 7:00-8:00PM

For anyone who has ever wondered what it would look like if the dresses in historical photographs came to life, this program explains how one such photograph of Saratoga Springs inspired a months-long recreation project. Covering the design and construction process, and revealing the finished garment and how it's worn, this program on Victorian clothing will appeal to makers, history buffs, and fashion enthusiasts alike.

Caitlin Sheldon is a full time librarian who studies and makes historical clothing in her spare time for both fun and profit. Her costume adventures have taken her from the 14th Century to the 20th, from Los Angeles to Leicester and beyond, though she makes her home in Saratoga Springs with her partner and their dog. She can be found most places online as *The Victorian Archivist*.

Register for Refashioning Saratoga, with Caitlin Sheldon

The Town of Greenfield: A Forgotten Crossroads Film

Wednesday, May 20, 7:00-8:00PM

Greenfield No. 1 Firehouse, 13 S Greenfield Rd, Greenfield Center, NY 12833

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The Town of Greenfield: A Forgotten Crossroads Film

Don't forget to check our website for the latest updates on our event schedule!

Other Upcoming Saratoga County History Events:

Heritage Hunters April Meeting

April 18 at 1 PM

Town of Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring St. Schuylerville, NY

Heritage Hunters will meet on Saturday, April 18th, at 1 pm at the Town of Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring St. in Schuylerville. “The Knox Train” will be presented by David Peck, president of Heritage Hunters. Enjoy a trip to all the markers for Colonel Henry Knox’s 1776 artillery train from Ticonderoga toward Boston. Colonel Knox’s efforts doubled the weapons available to the Continental Army, made the victory at Dorchester Heights possible, and helped force the British out of Boston. Dave photographed all of it and recorded points of interest. Free and open to the public. Info at 518-885-9309.

The Town of Greenfield Historical Society Meeting

April 21 at 7 PM

Community Center, 25 Wilton Rd, Greenfield Center, NY

The Town of Greenfield Historical Society will host its next meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 7 PM. The evening's speaker will be Stephen Williams with a presentation titled “Fixing Things -- Arnold Rothstein in Saratoga.” Stephen will talk about Arnold Rothstein, reputed to have fixed the 1919 World Series and 1921 Travers Stakes, and owner of Brook Casino, a known mobster hangout in Saratoga. Please join us, all are welcome – admission is free.

5th Annual Turning Point & Women in War Symposium

May 2, 8:15 AM-3:30 PM

Old Saratoga American Legion Post Schuylerville, New York

Immerse yourself in a full day of education and discovery featuring renowned authors and historians sharing insights into one of the most pivotal moments in American history. *Presented thanks to the generous support of the Dash Family*

Register for Women in War

Guided Bus Tour: “War on the Middleline: The 1780 Raid on Ballston”

May 3, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Join us May 3rd for our popular spring guided bus tour. Led by Author of the book with the same title, historian James Richmond. Extend your experience with an immersive Sunday field exploration that traces the actual route of the 1780 Ballston Raid. We invite you to join our popular guided tour through the historic Kayaderosseras Patent, where we will walk the ground where local history and the Revolution collided. By placing history directly on the landscape, this tour offers deeper insight into the region’s revolutionary past and its impact across Saratoga County on more communities affected by America’s War for Independence.

More Information on Guided Bus Tour: War on the Middleline

Ballston Spa Random Acts of Poetry Events

Saturday, April 18, Ballston Spa Public Library

Poetry workshops led by Marilyn McCabe and Elaine Handley
10:00-11:30 AM Poking at Poems: A Playful Way into Reading Poetry
1:00-2:30 PM Playing with Words: A Poetry Writing Workshop

Thursday, April 30 at 6:00 PM at Back Barn Brewing Company
Poetry Open Mic Night hosted by Steven Guilfoyle

Saratoga 250 Reflections

The latest in a series of historical articles focusing on the beginnings of the American Revolution in Albany County in 1776 has been released. Written by local historian Jim Richmond. The first installment of this new series, focusing on The First Year of Independence, is now available on the America's Turning Point Saratoga 250 website.

Read the latest Saratoga 250 Reflections

Programs are free unless otherwise indicated. Submit events to press@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](#).

Saratoga County History Center

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Ballston Spa, NY 12020
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