

NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS



Sharing History to Promote Community

Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum invites 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 gift for the history lover in your life!

Join or Renew Your Membership

Our Thanks to Our New Corporate Sponsors

We are incredibly grateful to Polyset and William J. Burke & Sons / Bussing & Cunniff, Inc. Funeral Homes for their generous support of Saratoga County History Center at Brookside Museum. These new partnerships will help to sustain our work and to support our mission of connecting history and community across Saratoga County. Together, we are building a stronger community. Please join us in thanking Polyset and William J. Burke & Sons for their support.

If your organization would like to become a corporate sponsor at Saratoga County History Center, please contact us at director@brooksidemuseum.org.



WILLIAM J. BURKE & SONS

BUSSING & CUNIFF, INC.
FUNERAL HOMES

Our 4th Oral History Video Is Now Live

We are thrilled to share the 4th video from the One-Room Schoolhouse Oral History Project, now available on our YouTube channel. This episode features Joan Anderson of Ballston Spa, NY, who reflects on her time at the Clifton Park #6 Schoolhouse. Her memories offer a heartfelt 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 Clifton Park District School #6 with Joan Anderson

Calling All Volunteers!

We will begin hosting our Working Wednesdays during the month of May. On the afternoons of May 6, 13, 20 and 27, from 12-4, we will be welcoming volunteers to work on different projects drawn from our library and collections. Tea and cookies will be served during each working session. We welcome all who are able to join us and we hope that you will enjoy working together.

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

Opening Hours

Brookside Museum is open to the public on Saturday and Sunday from the hours of Noon to 4PM during the winter season. Beginning on May 8, the museum will be open from Friday-Sunday, Noon to 4 PM.

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

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 soft drinks 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. Anne Hollmuller, and installed in partnership with Field Horne.

[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.

This event is now SOLD OUT. To join the waitlist, please email info@brooksidemuseum.org.

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."

Register for 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.

Curator's Tour: Luther Forest: A Family, A Woodland, A Legacy

Saturday, May 16, 23, & 30, 2:00 PM-3:00 PM

Throughout the month of May, we are welcoming visitors to our new temporary exhibition, *Luther Forest: A Family, A Woodland, A Legacy*, with guided tours led by our director and exhibition curator, Dr. Anne Hollmuller. On May 16, May 23, and May 30, join Anne on a small group tour of our new temporary exhibition, where she will discuss the history and evolutions of Luther Forest, our Luther-Mackay family archive, and the curatorial process. Members \$0, Non-Members \$5.

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. Hollmuller, and was installed in partnership with Field Horne.

Purchase Your Tickets for Curator's Tour: Luther Forest: A Family, A Woodland, A Legacy

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

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Register for The Town of Greenfield: A Forgotten Crossroads Film

SAVE THE DATE: Spring BBQ Fundraiser

Friday, May 29

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Include Brookside Museum in your dinner plans for May 29. All those who wish to volunteer at this event should email info@brooksidemuseum.org.

Rural Lifestyle Skill: Growing Your Own Mushrooms

Saturday, May 30, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

The Milton Grange #685 is offering as part of their "Rural Lifestyle skill" classes Growing your own

mushrooms on May 30th at the Brookside Museum in Ballston Spa. The class will cover how mushrooms grow, how to use them plus a hands on section. Each student will take home their own mushroom growing log.

If you have never tasted a fresh mushroom, growing your own will open a whole new taste world for you. Fresh mushrooms are like eating a garden ripe tomato. Very different from what you can buy from the store. Join with us for a “fungi” morning. Tickets are \$25.

Purchase Your Tickets

Brookside Explorers Club: Student Art Showcase

Friday, June 5, 5:30 PM-6:30 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Join us for a First Friday event at Brookside featuring artwork created through the *Artists Inspired by Their Community* collaboration with Ballston Spa Middle School. The student pieces will be on display in the History Hunters Hangout throughout the summer.

Guests are welcome to stop in, enjoy light refreshments, and spend time viewing the artwork. In the Long Room, visitors of all ages may also take part in a relaxed, optional activity: sketching a local landmark of their own choosing on a blank postcard to take home.

This program is free, with a suggested donation of \$10 to support educational programming. Registration is strongly recommended so we can plan for materials and refreshments. Children of all ages are welcome, and parental supervision is required.

Register For Brookside Explorers Club: Student Art Showcase

History Books and Brews

Tuesday, June 10, 6:00 PM-8:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Enjoy a literary evening at Saratoga County History Center, while finding the book that's perfect for you or your loved one. At this special event, Mike Hare, Store Manager at *Northshire Books* of Saratoga Springs, will discuss why we read history, share some of his favorite history books and biographies, and offer special recommendations. Whether you're searching for summer reading, or seeking out the perfect gift for Father's Day, Mike will guide you to a great read! Sip at a soft drink or enjoy a beer while chatting with Mike and other guests about your favorite books in history, and meet some of the local authors behind your favorite history books.

Attendees will also have the chance to view a special preview of our book sale, which features rare books, pamphlets, and ephemera from Saratoga County and beyond. We will also be welcoming in a new display of the books in our gift shop, featuring favorite recommendations from our volunteers and staff. This event is brought to you with the support of Northshire Books and The Speckled Pig Brewing Co.

Tickets with a beer are \$10, Tickets with soft drinks are \$7.

Register For History Books and Brews

Save The Date: Garden Tour: Plants & History Intertwined

Saturday, June 13, 2:00 PM-3:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Delight in the highlights and history of our five historically-themed gardens on a special tour led by our volunteers. Free with registration.

Olde Time Strawberry Social

Sunday, June 14, 2:00 PM-3:30 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Treat yourself and friends to shortcake featuring homemade biscuits, fresh strawberries and real whipped cream—a classic delight. Pickup available. Our annual premier event to support the gardens at Brookside Museum. Featuring musician Bob Marcotte of the NYS Country Music Hall of Fame.

Charlie's Heroes: The Charles Siciliano Sr. WWII and Korean War Photo Collection

Thursday, June 18, 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

During World War II and again during the Korean War, an Italian American restaurant owner in Mechanicville took photographs of local service members in uniform who stopped by his popular tavern. Chris Carola tells the stories behind the collection of approximately 700 images taken by Charles Siciliano Sr. currently housed at the Mechanicville District Public Library. These photos are visual reminders of the service and sacrifice of so many of our fellow New Yorkers. Carola will also discuss the library's campaign to restore and remount the collection in museum-quality frames.

Register For Charlie's Heroes

2026 Brookside Craft and Antique Fair

Saturday, June 20, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Brookside Museum, 21 Fairground Ave

Guests will be able to shop a wide variety of locally handcrafted collectibles, antiques, and farm products. No mass-produced or commercially-made items will be permitted. This is a terrific opportunity for New Yorker's to sample and appreciate the best of upstate artisans, farmers, and culinarians. The event is free and open to the public, and will be held rain or shine.

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

Other Upcoming Saratoga County History Events:

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

Galway Preservation Society Meeting

May 4, 7:00 PM

Old Saratoga American Legion Post Schuylerville, New York

A member meeting at 7:00 will be followed by this month’s program, “The Galway Fire of 1908” presented by Arlene Rhodes. *The meeting will be held at the Galway Town Hall, 5910 Sacandaga Road, Galway.* Our programs are always open to the public, free of charge.

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](#).

Thank You to Our Corporate Sponsors



Saratoga County History Center

21 Fairground Avenue

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

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