



# HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY HUDSON RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA



A Monthly Newsletter from the [Hudson River Valley Greenway](#) and the [Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area](#)

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## What's New?

### "Hudson River Day" to Take Place this June!

The New York State Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Commission announced "[Hudson River Day](#)" will take place this summer and feature the Great Hudson River Flotilla. Starting the morning of June 6th, the boat and yacht clubs of Manhattan and New York City will be the first to send out vessels around the tip of Manhattan and the State of Liberty. Over the next week, the New York State heritage flagships will lead the way up river towards Albany as they retrace Henry Hudson's historic voyage of discovery. As the flotilla makes its way up the Hudson River, events will be held along the water's edge at yacht clubs, museums, and parks to provide fun and exciting activities for landlubbers of all ages.

Flagships participating in this signature event include the Onrust, Clearwater, the Woody Guthrie, the Mystic Whaler, and the Half Moon. Circle Line will be joining River Day and the United States Coast Guard will be providing escort to the flotilla. All boaters and amateur sea captains are welcome to join and participate in the journey!

**Important:** Visit [www.exploreny400.com](http://www.exploreny400.com) to sign up and view:

- Coast Guard Advisory for River Day
- Coast Guard Permit for Marine Events (All waterfront events should submit one of these simple forms ASAP!)
- Final River Day Schedule

### Greenway Board Meeting



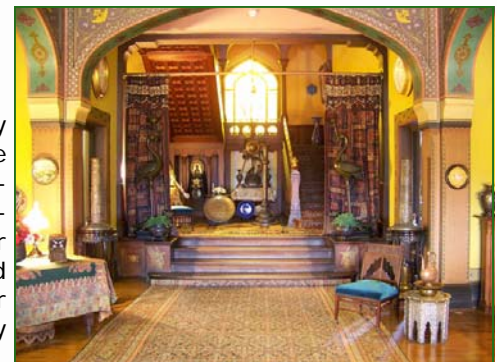
The next meeting of the Joint Boards of the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council and the Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc. will be held on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at the [Henry A. Wallace Center](#), on the grounds of the FDR Library in Hyde Park. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 10 AM. Contact the Greenway at (518) 473-3835 for further information or directions. The meeting can also be viewed on the web two hours after the starting time by visiting the link posted on the [Greenway website](#).

### Preservation League Announces "Seven to Save" Endangered Properties

In 2009, the Preservation League of New York State will use its endangered properties program, Seven to Save, to support the year-long commemoration of the voyages of Henry Hudson, Robert Fulton and Samuel de Champlain. Several of the 2009 Seven to Save are in the Hudson River Valley, including: Magdalen Island Red Hook, in Tivoli Bays, Dutchess County; Jan Van Hoesen House Claverack, Columbia County; Plumb-Bronson House Hudson, Columbia County; Burden Iron Works Museum Troy, Rensselaer County; Historic South Street Seaport New York City, New York County. The Preservation League will provide targeted support for these seven threatened historic resources throughout 2009, and will work with local groups to protect them.

### Olana has reasons to Celebrate

The Olana Partnership announced the release of a recent economic impact study which demonstrates Olana's importance to its community. According to the study, Olana contributes \$7.9 million to the local economy each year, and supports 267 jobs. Olana also announced the completion of a new project that improves the signage on the property, thanks to significant funding by Senator Stephen Saland. Additionally, Olana was nominated for a Crystal Apple Award by the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce. This award recognizes member businesses for an extraordinary contribution to economic progress, community improvement, and the quality of life in Columbia County during 2008.



Olana Interior  
(Photo Courtesy of NYSOPRHP)

## Climate Smart Communities Pledge

The Climate Smart Communities program recently released the Climate Smart Communities Pledge, to help communities develop strategies for addressing climate change. The Climate Smart Communities program is a state and local partnership to encourage climate protection. State agencies collaborating to the program include the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, the New York State Department of State and the New York State Public Service Commission. The Climate Smart Communities Pledge includes all the elements of a successful local climate program. Communities can adopt the Pledge as it appears, or may add their own legislative findings or Pledge elements. The Pledge can be accessed from the following link: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/50845.html> The website also includes information for local leaders about ways to create [climate smart communities](#). The Guide for Local Officials will be expanded and updated as new information is gathered, and will serve as an invaluable resource for communities across New York State.



## Conserving Natural Areas and Wildlife in Your Community

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's Hudson River Estuary Program is pleased to announce that 'Conserving Natural Areas and Wildlife in Your Community' is available for free download on the [DEC website](#). The publication is a project of the Hudson River Estuary Biodiversity Outreach Program and encourages municipalities to develop strategies for protecting nature by stressing the importance of nature conservation. The book is a companion to The Hudson River Estuary Wildlife and Habitat Conservation Framework, released by DEC in 2006. There are a limited number of hard copies available as well as CDs for local governments. Please contact Karen Strong at [klstrong@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:klstrong@gw.dec.state.ny.us) if you would like a copy.

## Upcoming Grant Opportunities

### *Greenway Grant Opportunities:*

[Hudson River Valley Greenway Grants](#) provide financial and technical assistance to municipalities located within the designated Greenway Area who share the Greenway goals and objectives. [Greenway Communities Grant](#), [Greenway Compact Grants](#), and [Greenway Water Trail Grant](#) applications are available online or by contacting the Greenway office. (May 8)

### *Other Grant Opportunities:*

[The William T. Grant Foundation](#) supports nonprofit community based organizations in the New York metropolitan area working to improve the quality of services they provide to young people. (March 11)

[National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Bronx River Watershed Initiative](#) for storm water retrofit and Low Impact Development projects that address causes of pollution from storm water outfalls and improve water quality and river ecology. (March 13)

[US Environmental Protection Agency](#) for eligible entities to help their communities form collaborative partnerships, develop an understanding of the many local sources of risk from toxic pollutants and environmental concerns, set priorities, and identify and carry out projects to reduce risks through collaborative action at the local level. (March 16)

[The Institute of Museum and Library Services](#) to museums and universities for projects designed to enhance the professional development of museum staff. The 21st Century Museum Professionals grants are intended to support projects involving core management skills such as planning, leadership, finance, program design, partnership, and evaluation. (March 16)

[Hudson River Fish Advisory Outreach Project](#): For school programs to teach English as a second language students about the dangers associated with eating certain species of fish from the Hudson River. (March 18)

[The Captain Planet Foundation](#) to fund and support hands-on, environmental projects for children and youths. Proposals must promote understanding of environmental issues, focus on hands-on involvement and involve children and young adults. Proposals must also include adult supervision and commit to follow-up. (March 31)

[The Job Access Reverse Commute \(JARC\)](#) grant program funds eligible projects in the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council district, which includes New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley. Projects will improve access to transportation services that connect to employment sites and employment related activities. (March 27)

[The Preservation League of New York State](#) encourages projects that advance the preservation of architecture, preserving historic bridges and transportation corridors including rural roads, canals, and related structures. Projects should focus on preserving and continuing to use historic municipal buildings and supporting Main Street revitalization. (May 4)

[Save Our History](#) will be awarding \$250,000 to history organizations that partner with schools or youth groups on preservation projects that engage students in learning about, documenting, and preserving the history of their communities (June 5)

[Tony Hawk Foundation](#) announces Skatepark Grants to promote high-quality, public skateparks in low-income areas. Grants will encourage and facilitate the development, construction, and operation of new skateboard parks and facilities. (October 1)






Events identified as "2009 Quad Event" denote "2009 Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Events." For additional information about the Quadricentennial, visit the online website at [exploreny400.com](http://exploreny400.com).

3/1-12/31: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Horseshoes & Waterwheels: NY's Tech Valley 1800s](#): Visitors to the Children's Museum can explore the importance of the Hudson River to the region and our nation. (518) 235-2120


3/1-31: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Antoni Tapies, Works from 1950's and 1960's](#): Dia Beacon and Museo nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, present this exhibition that positions the Spanish artist's paintings in ways that reveal affinities with certain works by artists in Dia's collection.

 [\(2009 Quad Event\) Hudson River Panorama: 400 Years of History, Art and Culture](#): The Albany Institute of History and Art explores the influence that the Hudson has had on our region. Artifacts, works of art, and rare archival documents that will help tell the stories of the river. (518) 463-4478

[\(2009 Quad Event\) Beneath the City - Archaeological Perspectives](#): Explore Albany's archeological discoveries and their meaning at the State Museum. Learn about the early settlement, a colonial rum distillery, the city's expansion, and the daily life of past residents. (518) 474-5877

[\(2009 Quad Event\) Grand Walkabout](#): Stroll along scenic and historic foot trails in Ulster, Dutchess, Orange and Putnam counties to celebrate the Quadricentennial. Track your miles and trails traveled through September 2009 and earn awards for your accomplishments. Register your participation at [trailwalker@grandwalkabout.com](mailto:trailwalker@grandwalkabout.com).

3/1-4/5: [\(2009 Quad Event\) American Waters: A Celebration of the NY 400th](#): The National Academy Museum & School of Fine Arts offers this exhibition of American landscape paintings whose subject is American waterways. The exhibition will have a focus on the waterways of the Northeast including some works by the Hudson River School artists.

3/3-3/28: [Up River: Man-Made Sites of Interest on the Hudson from the Battery to Troy](#): The Rensselaer County Historical Society presents dramatic aerial photographs of man-made sites rarely seen by those who travel along the Hudson's banks. (518) 272-7232 

3/4-4/5: [\(2009 Quad Event\) American Waters: A Celebration of the 400th Anniversary](#): The National Academy Museum offers this exhibition of American landscape paintings whose subject is American waterways. (212) 369 4880 x 223


3/5: [Information Session for Adult Workshop Series: Reducing Energy Consumption](#): The Hudson Highlands Nature Museum presents an informational session about the upcoming Workshop. (845) 534-5506, ext 204.

[Insect Investigations](#): Visit the Children's Museum to explore insects from top to bottom. Learn about bugs and create a bug craft to take home. Ages 2-5. Pre-registration required. (518) 235-2120

3/6: [Albany First Friday](#): Visit Center Square and Downtown arts venues for exhibition openings, receptions, and events.

3/7: [From Sloops to Steamboats: Early Travel on the Hudson](#): The 19th century Hudson River comes alive for children through images and accounts of adventure and shipwreck at the Rensselaer Public Library. (518) 272-7232

[Working With Animals at the Children's Museum](#): A day long exploration of careers that involve working with animals. Meet special guests and enjoy presentations based on what they do at their job. (518) 235-2120

 [Family Tour at Olana](#): Enjoy a house tour specifically geared toward children and families. Registration required. (518) 828- 0135

[Outdoor Evening Astronomy at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum](#): Join the Orange County Astronomical Association for star gazing and planetary discovery. (845) 534-5506 x204

3/7-8: [Maple Sugar Tours](#): Get a taste of maple sugaring at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum with a walk through the forest, stopping at to learn aspects of making maple sugar. All ages are welcome. (845) 534-5506 x204

3/10: [Homeschool Program - Alternative Energy Investigations](#): The Children's Museum investigates alternative energy and the science behind solar and wind energy. Visitors build model turbine propellers. Pre-registration. (518) 235-2120

3/13: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Hudson River Quadricentennial Concert](#): The Tribeca Performing Arts Center presents a performance by three diverse contemporary composer / musicians to celebrate our region's rich cultural history.

3/14: [\(2009 Quad Event\) The Hudson River Quadricentennial Concert](#): The Paramount Center for the Arts presents music inspired by the Hudson River Valley's past, present and future.

[Family Tour at Olana](#): Enjoy a house tour specifically geared toward children and families. Registration required. (518) 828- 0135

- 3/14-15: [Maple Sugar Tours](#): Get a taste of maple sugaring at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum with a walk through the forest, stopping at to learn aspects of making maple sugar. All ages are welcome. (845) 534-5506 x204
- 3/15: [Float Your Boat at the Children's Museum](#): How does a boat float? Participants will learn about boat construction and create aluminum foils boats of their own to test out and take home. Pre-registration required. (518) 235-2120
- 3/19: [Adult Workshop: Reducing Energy Consumption](#): The Hudson Highlands Nature Museum presents a workshop following the book "Low Carbon Diet." (845) 534-5506, ext 204
- [W is for Water](#): Join the Children's Museum in this introduction to water and get your hands wet with experiments! Pre-registration required. (518) 235-2120
- 3/20: [First Day of Spring Hike at Olana](#): Celebrate the first day of spring (and the Vernal Equinox) by getting outside for a little fresh air; families welcome! Pre-registration required. (518) 828-0135
- 3/21: [Family Tour at Olana](#): Enjoy a house tour specifically geared toward children and families. Registration required. (518) 828- 0135 
- 3/21-22: [Maple Sugar Tours](#): Get a taste of maple sugaring at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum with a walk through the forest, stopping at to learn aspects of making maple sugar. All ages are welcome. (845) 534-5506 x204
- 3/22: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Irish Music of the Hudson Valley with Robert Hunt!](#): The Kiersted House presents this Irish Harp player who will talk about the history of local Irish immigrants in the Hudson Valley. (845) 594-4412
-  [May the "Force" Be With You](#): Join the Children's Museum for experiments with magnets. Learn to classify materials by attraction, everyday uses of magnets, and the "invisible force" behind them. Pre-registration. (518) 235-2120
- 3/26: Greenway Joint Board Meeting, Henry A. Wallace Center, FDR Library, Hyde Park, New York**
- 3/27: [Troy Night Out](#): Visit the City of Troy for an evening of arts and culture with live music, food, shopping and gallery exhibitions.
- 3/28: [Family Tour at Olana](#): Enjoy a house tour specifically geared toward children and families. Registration required. (518) 828- 0135 
- [NanoDays Activities at the Children's Museum](#): Enjoy presentations, experiments and demonstrations throughout the day that explore different topics and concepts in Nanotechnology. (518) 235-2120
- [\(2009 Quad Event\) Chocolate World Expo](#): West Nyack hosts a celebration of everything that is chocolate including tastings and sales from great chocolatiers, bakeries, specialty food makers, farms and wineries.

## Community Spotlight

### [Town of Amenia](#)

Amenia is derived from the Latin word amoena, meaning "pleasing to the eye."

This Dutchess County Town also boasts ready access to one of the best rail trails in the north east, the [Harlem Valley Rail Trail](#). Located in the Harlem Valley, the Town of Amenia includes the Historic Hamlets of Amenia, Wassaic, Amenia Union, South Amenia & Smithfield.

The Amenia hamlet of "Wassaic" grew up around the Gridley Iron Works and along the new Harlem division of the New York Central Railroad in the early 1800's. In 1861 Gail Borden opened the world's first factory for producing a milk that would not need refrigeration. Known today as Borden's Eagle Brand Condensed Milk, it was a revolutionary product. Made right here in the "Milky Way" and shipped by train throughout the country, it made possible the growth of the local dairy industry, replacing the sheep and grain farming of earlier times. This area was also a major transportation route. During the Revolutionary War General Washington marched his troops through Wassaic on the way to Connecticut.

During the early 20th century, enlightened thinkers and philosophers like W.E.B. DuBois and Lewis Mumford gathered at Spingarn estate (now [Troutbeck Estate and Resort](#)). The organization we know today as the NAACP was established there.

Amenia has a number of local churches with historic architecture. For example, in Amenia Union is a Gothic Episcopal Church (designed by Richard Upjohn) with Tiffany stained glass windows." More information about the historic character of the community can be found through the [Harlem Valley Chamber of Commerce](#). The Town of Amenia is a Greenway Compact Community and has been a partner with Dutchess County and the Greenway in realizing the regional vision outlined in Dutchess County's Greenway Compact [Greenway Connections](#).



## Green Tip of the Month



This month, Wash clothes in cold water rather than hot. Each month would reduce your carbon footprint by about 42lbs of CO2. Over the year that comes to a savings of about 504lbs!

All information courtesy of National Geographic's [Green Guide](#)

## Heritage Spotlight



### [Burden Iron Works Museum](#)

An exhibit on Greater Troy's industrial history is housed in the former office of the Burden Iron Works. Constructed 1881-2, the distinguished brick Romanesque Revival building contains examples of objects manufactured in the city throughout the 19th century, when the factories of the Burden Iron Works produced parts of the U.S.S. Monitor, the replacement for the Liberty Bell, and some of the world's most innovative products, including stoves, mass-produced horseshoes and railroad spikes, detachable shirt collars, fire hydrants, and surveying equipment. Like California's Silicon Valley, Troy has been referred to as the "Silicon Valley of the 19th Century" for its use of cutting-edge technology - much of it developed at the city's Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute - to maintain a competitive advantage throughout the Industrial Revolution.



Photo Courtesy of Sid Brown

The museum, recently identified one of the "Seven to Save" by the Preservation League of New York State, is operated by the Hudson Mohawk Industrial Gateway, which also maintains downtown Troy's RiverSpark Visitor Center. The Visitors Center works in partnership with the Burden Iron Works Museum and offers additional exhibits about the city's history and a series of tours, the most popular of which focuses on Troy's large concentration of Tiffany windows. Self-guided walking tours of the city's large collection of 19th-century buildings are also available there.

*The Burden Iron Works Museum, located at One East Industrial Parkway in Troy, is open by appointment only. Guided tours. Admission fee. (518) 274-5267.*

## Did You Know...



Did you know the Hudson River Valley has its own wicked witch?

While many know her for her portrayal of the Wicked Witch of the West in the 1939 film "The Wizard of Oz," many do not know that Margaret Hamilton was a resident of the Hudson Valley.

In the years before she became a full-time actress and threatened little girls from Kansas, Hamilton was employed as a kindergarten teacher at the Rye Country Day School in Rye, New York. In later years, Margaret Hamilton lived in New York City and regularly appeared on local public service announcements promoting the welfare of "companion animals" (sorry...no "winged monkeys" included).



Photos Courtesy of Wikipedia and Bucks Co. Playhouse

Following her death in 1985, Hamilton was cremated at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery. Her ashes were later scattered along the countryside in the Town of Amenia.

The Hudson River Valley Greenway / Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area E-Newsletter is published monthly And emailed to friends of the Hudson River Valley.

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And the National Heritage Website at [www.hudsonrivervalley.com](http://www.hudsonrivervalley.com)