



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

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What's New?

Commuter Ferry Service in the Capital District

In honor of the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial, Duncan Crary Communications has partnered with [Dutch Apple Cruises](#) and the Hudson River Valley Greenway to host a [special day](#) where Capital Region residents can commute to and from work in Albany or Troy on board the Dutch Apple. This special event will take place on May 13th and will recreate the 19th and early 20th Century experience of commuting between these two cities by Hudson River passenger boat. Passengers will receive complimentary newspapers and a light breakfast offering on the morning cruise with the afternoon cruise featuring live music and complimentary finger foods. Trolley service will be available in both cities to shuttle passengers to select downtown locations, courtesy of the City of Troy and [The Albany Aqua Ducks & Trolleys](#).

For more information on departure times and locations, contact Duncan Crary at (518) 274-2723 or click [here](#).

10th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble Announced

The 10th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble will feature a larger than ever roster of events this September stretching from Saratoga and Washington Counties and the Capital Region to New York City during weekends throughout the month of September.

The Ramble is sponsored annually by the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, Hudson River Valley Greenway and the New York State DEC Hudson River Estuary Program. The Ramble offers the opportunity for participants to enjoy guided walking, hiking, kayaking and biking experiences, estuary explorations and historic site tours that highlight the significant historical, cultural and natural resources found throughout the Hudson River Valley. Events are offered for every ability level and most are free.

If you would like to have your event listed as part of the 10th Annual Hudson River Valley Ramble, contact Pat Murphy ramble@hvc.rr.com.

New York Heritage Weekend Announced

On April 20, 2009, the [Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Commission](#) announced the first ever New York Heritage Weekend, which will take place on September 12-13, 2009. Throughout the Hudson and Champlain valleys, museums, historical societies, heritage areas, historic places, parks, recreation areas, and many more will welcome visitors free of charge or at significantly reduced rates, and featuring special events. The event will partner with the Hudson River Valley Ramble, which takes place over each weekend in the month of September 2009. The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area is a sponsor of Heritage Weekend, and the main sponsor and organizer of the Ramble. An advisory committee has been formed to guide the progress of Heritage Weekend.

May is National Preservation Month

This May marks the fifth annual [National Preservation Month](#), as designated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. In honor of this designation, the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area joins others across the country in demonstrating the value and importance of preserving our nation's heritage. Preservation has significant benefits for education, quality of life, sense of place, tourism, and economic development. The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and the National Trust encourage people to take this opportunity to participate in events and explore their heritage.

10th Annual
HUDSON RIVER VALLEY
Ramble

September 5-7, 12-13,
19-20 & 26-27, 2009

A month-long celebration of the
Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area
and Hudson River Estuary.

Inaugural Exhibition at Olana to Open Memorial Day Weekend

[Glories of the Hudson: Frederic Edwin Church's Views from Olana](#), will open to the public on May 23rd and remain on view, every Thursday to Sunday through October 12th. The exhibit, primarily drawn from Olana's collection, has been conceived to highlight Church's sketches of the River from his many years on the property and will present works by Church that have never been seen by the public. For the first time, visitors will have the incredible experience of studying the sketches and paintings and then turning to look out the window at the view that inspired them. The collection will be the first to be viewed in the new Evelyn & Maurice Sharp Gallery, a new exhibition space on the second floor of the main house at Olana.

Complementing the show at Olana will be an exhibit at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site directly across the river from Olana in Catskill called "River Views of the Hudson River School." Opening on May 2nd at the Thomas Cole House, the show will run through October 31st, 2009.



Senate House State Historic Site Native American History & Culture Day

On Sunday May 3rd, the [Senate House State Historic Site](#) in Kingston will offer people of all ages a fun and engaging way to learn more about the past and present of Native American culture. The event will include dance and drum performances by the Nimham Mountain Singers, singing northern woodland songs. Visitors will enjoy displays and demonstrations of traditional and historic Native culture, including friction firestarting, flint knapping, cordage, pottery, cooking, hunting, tools and games. Hands-on activities and games will also engage youngsters. Honored guests attending this event include Darryl Stonefish, Tribal Historian of the Moravian Band Delaware Nation, a community descending from the original people of this area, now residing in Canada. For more information, call (845) 338-2786

This event is sponsored by the Ulster County Legislature, the Ulster County Quadricentennial Commission, the Friends of Senate House, the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area in partnership with the National Park Service and Congressman Maurice Hinchey, and the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial

Opening Day at Cedar Grove, the Thomas Cole National Historic Site

Saturday May 2nd marks the opening day of a new season at [Cedar Grove](#). It will feature an exhibition of oil paintings by masters of the Hudson River School of art, depicting views of the Hudson River and connecting bodies of water. Included will be artworks by Thomas Cole, Sanford Gifford, Jasper Cropsey, and twelve other 19th-century landscape painters, presented in celebration of the 400th anniversary of the 1609 voyage of Henry Hudson. The exhibition is curated by Nancy Siegel, Associate Professor in Art History at Towson University, Towson, MD, and accompanied by a catalogue with an essay by Dr. Siegel. The viewing takes place from 12 noon to 1:30pm, followed by a talk by John K. Howat, the retired curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

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 2009 [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act](#) provides a number of avenues for governments, organizations and other entities to receive funding for programs meant to create jobs and boost the economy. New York State will receive \$24.6 billion for updating our infrastructure, improving our schools and training our unemployed. To submit a proposal to receive funding, fill out the form located [here](#).

[Shaker Museum and Library Summer Workshop Scholarship Opportunities](#) is offering scholarships for a two-week, hands-on course in timber frame construction and restoration. The course will be held at the historic Mount Lebanon Shaker Village in New Lebanon. A limited number of scholarships are available through The World Monuments Fund (May 8.)

[Federal Save America's Treasures](#) offers grants for conservation work on nationally significant structures, sites, and artifacts that include documents, sculpture, and works of art. (May 22)

[Green Innovation Grant Program](#) (GIGP) offers funding for green infrastructure projects in the Hudson Valley. (May 29)

[Highway Safety Research Center](#) will fund up to ten communities or neighborhoods to pilot test the use of "[A Resident's Guide for Creating Safe and Walkable Communities](#)", a newly developed guidebook that details ways to improve pedestrian safety and the walkability of local neighborhoods. Each selected pilot site will be provided \$2,000 as well as technical assistance from pedestrian safety experts. (May 29)

[Water Environment Research Foundation](#) to encourage researchers working in wastewater, water reuse, bio-solids, stormwater, watersheds, and other areas to use their imagination, take risks, and explore new directions for addressing ongoing water quality issues. (June 1)

[The Community-Oriented Connectivity Broadband Grant Program](#) to furnish broadband service in rural, economically challenged communities where such service does not currently exist. (June 29)

[Lower Hudson Valley Smart Growth Grant program](#) offered by the NYS Department of State (DOS) is offering a total of \$500,000 for regional and municipal planning projects that revitalize communities; reduce auto dependence; fight sprawl; and address the growth and development patterns anticipated from the Tappan Zee Bridge project and the Stewart Airport expansion. (June 30)

[Conservation Fund](#), in partnership with [Eastman Kodak](#) and the [National Geographic Society](#), provides small grants to stimulate the planning and design of greenways in communities across the United States. The annual grants program is designed to help establish a national network of greenways. (June 30)

Acres for America, a partnership between [Wal-Mart Stores](#) and the [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation](#), funds projects that conserve important habitat for fish, wildlife, and plants through acquisition of interest in real property. The goal of the Acres for America program is to offset the footprint of Wal-Mart's domestic facilities through these acquisitions. (Sept. 1)

Rolling Acceptance of Grant Applications:

[The Department of Environmental Conservation \(DEC\)](#) administers state assistance programs for waste reduction, recycling and household hazardous waste (HHW) programs.



[The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation \(DEC\)](#) is accepting applications for Technical Assistance Grants to increase public awareness and understanding of remedial activities taking place in the community.

[The Dyson Foundation](#) announces guidelines for the funding of environmental programs and activities. To view guidelines for Dutchess County [click here](#). To view guidelines for Columbia, Greene, Orange, Putnam, and Ulster counties, [click here](#).

[Enterprise's Green Communities](#) offers grants to help cover the costs of planning and implementing green components of affordable housing developments, as well as tracking their costs and benefits.

[Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund \(LGRMIF\)](#) offered by the NYS Archives, offers funding to help local governments establish records management programs or develop new program components.

Upcoming Events Around the Region

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

5/1-1/3/10: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Hudson River Panorama](#): The Albany Institute explores the influence that the Hudson has had on our region. Enjoy artifacts, works of art, and rare archival documents. (518) 463-4478

5/1-12/31: [\(2009 Quad Event\) 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

5/1-9/1: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Antoni Tapies, Works from 1950's and 1960's](#): Dia Beacon and Museo nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, present this exhibition of the Spanish artist.

[\(2009 Quad Event\) Grand Walkabout](#): Stroll along scenic and historic foot trails in Ulster, Dutchess, Orange and Putnam counties to celebrate the Quadracentennial. Track your miles earn awards.

5/1-6/27: [A Fugitive Slave Rescued: Charles Nalle Paintings at Rensselaer County Historical Society](#): Follow the story of this fugitive slave, his capture, and rescue by Trojans under the leadership of Harriet Tubman. (518) 272-7232

5/1-10/31: [Archives Alive](#): The Senate House presents rare history preserved documents from the region. (845) 338-2786

5/1: [Visual Arts Workshop at Olana](#): Adults ages 50+ are invited to workshops to see how creating a work of art can provide a personal sense of accomplishment and ownership. (518) 828-1872 x110

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

5/1-2: [\(2009 Quad Event\) The "Esopus Native American People"](#): Huguenot Street documents the 8,000 year history of the Esopus People in the Hudson Valley and will feature renowned Lenape experts. (845) 340-3415

5/2: [Living History Day](#): Spend the afternoon at the Ten Broeck Mansion where the whole family can learn about the Dutch influence on our culture as they participate in activities and enjoy live entertainment. (518) 436-9826

[\(2009 Quad Event\) A Dutch Treat](#): This event at the Hurley Heritage Society will include garden tours, plein-air paint out, plant sale, a Dutch tea and decorated doorways. (845) 338-1661

[1658 Kingston Stockade National Historic District Walking Tour](#): Enjoy a guided walk through the largest intact early Dutch settlement in New York State featuring old stone houses and historic sites. (845) 339-0720

[History Walk—Underground Railroad and Abolition](#): Learn how Troy was a hotbed of abolitionist activity in the 19th Century by viewing sites associated with the famous rescue of escaped slave Charles Nalle by thousands of Trojans and the now famous Harriet Tubman. (518) 272-7232

[Great Saunter of 2009](#): Walkers can explore Manhattan's shorelines as they visit parks and promenades, ethnic neighborhoods, centers of commerce, historic sites and famous buildings. (917) 783-6540

5/3: [Letterboxing Workshop at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum](#): Learn the basics of an exciting new treasure hunt activity for adults and children alike. (845) 534-5506 x 204

[Native American History and Culture Day](#): Experience Native American culture of the past and present through performances, demonstrations and talks at the Senate House. (845) 338-2786

5/5: [Cinco de Mayo at Olana](#): Celebrate the Fifth of May as tours discuss the 19th century beginnings of the holiday and focus on Mexican items in Olana's collection. (518) 828-0135

[\(2009 Quad Event\) 100 Voices at The Palace Theatre](#): Experience the world premiere of a major new symphony for chorus and orchestra by Daron Hagen, "The River."

5/8: [Herbal Plants and the Landscape](#): Olana presents a talk for all ages about spring from a Native American perspective and significance of the Flower Moon. Following a landscape walk make some dandelion lemonade. (518) 828-1872

[Church Tower Walk](#): Visit St. Paul's Church National Historic Site and hike up the wooden staircase in the tower, leading to the historic, 250-year-old metal bell, one of the oldest in the country.(914) 667-4116

5/8-10: [\(2009 Quad Event\) 61st Annual Albany Tulip Festival](#): Over 200,000 tulips blossom into a sea of colors just in time for Mothers Day. Events during the festival include the street scrubbing, the Tulip Queen Coronation, acoustic and nationally-acclaimed musical performances, artists, and activities.

5/9: [History Walk: Troy's Great Fire of 1862](#): Learn about the local and national impacts of this disaster that destroyed a major bridge over the Hudson and more than 500 buildings in the city. (518) 272-7232

[FrogWatch USA](#): Learn all about the frogs and toads that live in the Hudson Valley including how to identify them by their calls, then take a guided walk to the wetlands at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum(845) 534-5506 x204

[St. Paul's Historic Dinner](#): Recognize the bicentennial of the birth of Abraham Lincoln with a historic style dinner, Lincoln re-enactor, music and talks commemorating Lincoln's connection to St. Paul's. (914) 667-4116

5/10: [Mother's Day Picnic and Plant Sale](#): Bring a blanket and your favorite lunch to Olana where kids can paint a landscape painting gift for Mom and adults can learn about the art of landscape design. (518) 828-1872

5/13: [Commuter Ferry Service Day in the Capital District](#): Commute between Troy and Albany aboard the Dutch Apple while enjoying food and entertainment along with spectacular views. (518) 274-2723

5/16: [History Walk with the Rensselaer County Historical Society](#): Enjoy an introduction to Troy history and architecture as you learn how this 1789 village became a city known around the world. (518) 272-7232



[A Day In the Garden: Wildflower & Heirloom Vegetable Seedling Sale](#): Celebrate the garden at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum. Also enjoy special classes and a guided Nature Walk. (845) 534-5506, ext 204

5/17: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Drums Along the Hudson: A Native American Festival](#): Enjoy exhibitions of world dance and drumming traditions as well as Native American crafts and international cuisines at Inwood Hill Park. 212-627-1076

[Pinkster Festival](#): Participate in the African-American colonial celebration of spring with music, dance, food, and revelry. (914) 631-3992

5/20: [Exhibition Opening - Historians in Training](#): View this exhibit which focuses on the research efforts of Troy high school students. Learn about the newly-discovered history behind objects in the County's collection. 518-272-7232

5/20-27: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Fleet Week](#): New York City honors the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps with military demonstrations and tours of visiting ships. Highlights include musical performances and a military aircraft fly over.

5/21: [American Red Cross Blood Drive at The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor](#): Celebrate the birthday of the American Red Cross at the Hall of Honor. (845) 561-1765

5/22: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Sunset Jazz Soiree](#): Boscobel invites guests to enjoy the smooth sounds of jazz while strolling through the Rose Garden, taking in the view from the great lawn and sampling wine. (845) 265-3638

[Church Tower Walk](#): Visit St. Paul's Church National Historic Site and hike up the wooden staircase in the tower, leading to the historic, 250-year-old metal bell, one of the oldest in the country.(914) 667-4116

- 5/23: [Weekend Nature Program: Wonderful World of Worms](#): Learn all about worms and build a mini worm composter to take home at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum. (845) 534-5506 x204
- 5/23-25: [Animals & Acrobats](#): Enjoy an early American traveling circus at Van Cortlandt Manor featuring raptor demonstrations, larger-than-life puppets, tumbling acrobats, tightrope walkers, jugglers, magicians, fortune-tellers, mimes, storytellers, horse-drawn wagon rides, music, and more! (914) 271-8981
- 5/23-10/12: [Exhibit: Glories of the Hudson: Frederic Edwin Church's Views from Olana](#): Olana opens the Evelyn & Maurice Sharp Gallery for this inaugural exhibit focusing on Church's sketches of the River from the property. (518) 828-0135
- 5/24: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Tappan Zee Bridge Exhibit](#): Learn how the bridge evolved Rockland from a rural farming community into a suburb of NY City and opened the County to tourists, immigrants, and suburbanites. 845-634-9629
- 5/25: [\(2009 Quad Event\) Memorial Day Commemoration aboard the U.S.S Slater](#): Visit the only WWII Destroyer Escort still afloat in the United States for this special commemoration. 518-431-1943
- 5/29: [Troy Night Out](#): The City of Troy presents an evening of arts and culture with live music, food, shopping and gallery exhibitions.
- [ONE NIGHT WONDERS](#): the Rensselaer County Historical Society celebrates Troy's public servants with a one-night-only exhibition of police and fire related objects from the collection. 518-272-7232
- 5/30: [HISTORY WALK - "To Protect and Serve"](#): Firehouses, church bells, and night constables with a dash of murder and mayhem are offered on this walking tour of Troy's municipal police and fire departments. 518-272-7232
-  [Weekend Nature Program: Wildflower Wanderings](#): Learn how to identify wildflowers and enjoy a guided walk at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum. (845) 534-5506 x204
- [Rondout National Historic District Walking Tour](#): Enjoy a guided walk of Kingston's waterfront area that rose as a prosperous maritime village in the 19th century. (845) 339-0720
- [\(2009 Quad Event\) Dutch Heritage Days](#): The Poughkeepsie Plaza commemorates Henry Hudson's voyage with Dutch cooking, period costumes, Colonial games, music and an exact replica of Henry Hudson's ship (845) 471-4265
- [The Dutch Influence on the American Kitchen](#): Food historian Peter G. Rose explores foods brought to America by the Dutch more than three centuries ago, and the way these were adapted to new circumstances. (914) 377-1900

Heritage Spotlight

[Martin Van Buren National Historic Site](#)



Lindenwald, The Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, was the home and farm of Martin Van Buren, 8th President of the United States (1837-1841), from 1839 to his death in 1862. Van Buren moved permanently to Lindenwald in 1840 after his defeat for a second term as President. Van Buren's influential career as architect of the two-party system and key strategist of Jacksonian democracy assured him status as a national figure well beyond his presidential years. Lindenwald became a political hub, accommodating a steady stream of visits and correspondence from politicians and dignitaries, as well as family and friends. It was from Lindenwald that Van Buren would pursue the hotly contested Democratic nomination for president in 1844, and run for president again in 1848 as the Free Soil candidate. As the nation moved inexorably toward Civil War, an aging Van Buren retired to what he called his "last and happiest days" as a farmer in his native Kinderhook.

When Van Buren returned to Kinderhook, Lindenwald became his elegant country seat worthy of a former President. The house retained its most impressive design elements - the Palladian window above the front door and carved woodwork on the first floor - and adding others, such as the Zuber wallpaper in the main hallway. In 1849, Van Buren hired Richard Upjohn to design a major addition. He is responsible for the Tuscan-style tower, as well as the front porch, which combines elements of Gothic and Romanesque design. Van Buren also turned Lindenwald into a thriving farm, replete with orchards, ponds, meadows, and formal garden elements typical of the mid-nineteenth century Hudson Valley estates.

Lindenwald has been restored by the National Park Service to reflect the grand lifestyle Van Buren led there. Reproductions of the Brussels carpets he purchased for the house complement Empire furniture (much of which belonged to him), as well as china and original French wallpaper. Visitors also tour restored servants' rooms and learn how the house kept running.

The Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, at 1013 Old Post Road in Kinderhook is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily. May through October. Admission Fee. (518) 758-9689

[City of Hudson](#)



The City of Hudson has been making history long before it was named one of the Top Ten Coolest Small Towns in the USA by Frommer's Budget Travel Magazine.

In the 19th century, the City was a bustling whaling and sealing port. With the rise of the railroads and the decline in demand for sperm whale oil, Hudson fell into decline during the mid 1800s. However, with the rise of the rail roads and steamboats beginning to ply the Hudson River, the City was reinvented as a small industrial city. While there had been gristmills, foundries and tanneries before, the railroads and steam ships allowed the development of new industries. Brickyards and textile mills grew and added to the business boom of the city during this period.

During the City's second rebirth in the 1990s, Hudson emerged as a premier antiques center, with the City's main street, Warren St., lined with antique shops and boutiques. In fact, the City's urban landscape is like an antique because so much of the original architecture has been preserved.

Today the City has become a center for relocated urbanites seeking a unique, low-key and eclectic place to live. Warren St. features a vibrant mix of shops, and restaurants in historic buildings. In addition, after two century's of heavy industry, the City is currently in the process of reclaiming its waterfront and has built a new park with a gazebo and other facilities. Future plans for the riverfront include a mix of shops and restaurants and an expanded park to improve access to the River.

Green Tip of the Month

This month, dry half your clothes on the clothes line or drying rack. Each month would reduce your carbon footprint by about 60lbs of CO2. Over the year that comes to a savings of about 720lbs!

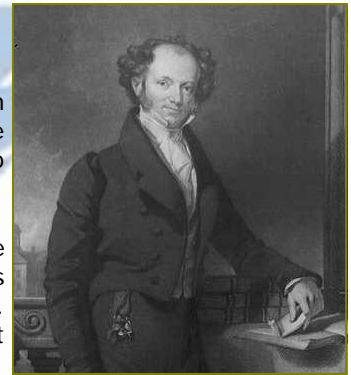
All information courtesy of National Geographic's [Green Guide](#)

Did You Know...?

Did you know the first American President was from the Hudson Valley?

Although Martin Van Buren was the 8th President of the United States, he was the first "American President." Van Buren was born in Kinderhook, New York in 1782. His birth was six years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, therefore making him an "American Citizen." Prior to Van Buren, all United States Presidents had been born before the revolution.

Martin Van Buren also had a number of other "firsts" as United States President. Van Buren was the first president not born of British or Irish ancestry but rather of Dutch lineage. In fact, Van Buren is the only president who did not speak English as his primary language (he grew up speaking Dutch). Additionally, Van Buren was the first president to grant an exclusive interview to a reporter. That interview was given in 1839 to James Gordon Bennett, Sr. of the New York Herald.



President Martin Van Buren (1839 by Henry Inman)

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And the National Heritage Website at www.hudsonrivervalley.com