Coming up just a week after we publish this issue of the newsletter, on Thursday, June 10th, our non-profit community is going to be a whirl of activity. The Chautauqua Region Community Foundation will partner with the Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation to bring the 4th Annual Give Big CHQ event to our area. This is a day of giving that involves around 100 non-profits, county-wide, who will each be trying to raise funds for the many meaningful projects that breathe life into our area, and keep so many of our essential services and our natural resources intact.

I certainly encourage you to come out and support the Fenton on Give Big CHQ. Donors who give between 7:16 a.m. and 7:16 p.m. on the 10th will help us earn prize money from the Community Foundations, and with a hefty matching fund established through the generosity of the Fenton Board of Directors, your donation will have double the impact. The prize money from the Foundations is based on the number of donors during that 12-hour stretch, not the amount raised, so if you have friends or family who would be willing to throw a few bucks our way, please also encourage them to do so.

After giving to the Fenton, I hope that all of our readers will also take the time to explore the pages of the other 99 or so non-profits taking part. It can be very easy to get so wrapped up in our favorite causes that we miss the diversity and breadth of other activities that are happening, and that enhance our region. The Fenton is fortunate this year to be partnering with a few other non-profits for a fun challenge – trying to get some of our donors to also donate to some other great causes. Tune in to our social media between 10 a.m. and noon on June 10th to see us sharing details on some of the other wonderful non-profits that we’d love to see supported. And check out the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation’s Facebook page at 4 p.m. that day to see which of our organizations “wins” this challenge.

I’m thankful for everyone that reads our newsletter and engages with our content. All of you support us in such wonderful ways – with your time, your curiosity, and your passion for the history of Jamestown and Chautauqua County. If you have enjoyed our content in any form this year, please consider making a donation on June 10th, to help us continue to be able to bring you the programs and the resources that help us all to understand our local and personal histories a little bit better. Thank you for everything you do for us!

Check out our event page to see some great content and make your donation on June 10th:

www.givebigchq.org/organizations/fenton-history-center
Happy Pride Month! We are excited to be joining the festivities at this year’s Jamestown Pride event. We are planning to reveal a new donation that will become part of our 2021 featured exhibit Protest and Pride: the LGBTQ+ Community in Chautauqua County. So, if you haven’t been in to see the exhibit yet, June is a great time!

We have several events coming up in June. June 9th is the second of our Virtual Brown Bag Lecture series Greg Rabb, JCC Professor of Political Science will be speaking on the LGBTQ+ community. Please join us virtually for this free lecture on Facebook or email collections@fentonhistorycenter.org for a link to view on Zoom.

On June 10th, please consider supporting the Fenton History Center in #GiveBigCHQ, our local fundraising day. Even a small donation can go a long way to continuing the programs and preserving the history of Jamestown. To donate, please visit www.givebigchq.org

June 26th marks the return of our Walking Tours! Every other Saturday through the summer, the Fenton History Center is hosting guided walking tours of the city. Tours are only $10 for adults, $5 for members, and kids 17 and under are free! We ask that you wear a mask and observe social distancing for these tours.

After the success of our first Interview with an Author with Mike Johnson, we have decided to interview another local history author. Marcia Tuttle Kleinert will be joining us on Zoom and Facebook on June 29th at 7 pm to talk about her book Kinzua Life written about her family. This event is free.

For more information about these events or to reserve a spot, please call us at 716-664-6256. You can also email collections@fentonhistorycenter.org for the Zoom links.
Walking Tours

Saturday, June 26, July 10, 24, August 7, 21, and September 4, 2021
10 AM-noon
$10 per person
$5 Fenton History Center Members
Children 17 & under: Free

Tours leave from the Fenton History Center parking lot.

*Riverwalk tour meets in front of the National Comedy Center
**Allen Park Tour meets at Allen Park Band Shell.

Masks and social distancing are heavily encouraged for these tours.

For more information or to reserve your spot call 716-664-6256
Genealogy Support Group Presents:

New England Workshops

a 6 part series

Spring sessions: March 20, April 17, May 15 2021
Fall Sessions: September 11, September 25, November 20 2021
10:30 to 12:30.
$20 per session or $100 for all 6 sessions for non-members
$10 per session or $50 for all 6 sessions for Fenton History Center
Members.
Please call the Fenton History Center to reserve your spot.
716-664-6256.
Workshops are being held both in person and on Zoom. In person
participants are asked to wear a mask during the workshops. Space
is limited.

Part 1: Formation and Settlement of New England

Part 2: Migration out of New England

Part 3: Local Resources for New England Research

Part 4: Online Resources for New England Research

Part 5: Using Town Records for New England Research

Part 6: Resources of the New England Historic Genealogical Society
The Fenton History Center’s Genealogy Support Group serves as a support to both experienced and amateur researchers by acting as an educational offering our members. Meetings feature invaluable lectures, discussions and are an excellent way to become familiar with the Fenton History Center’s impressive collection of resources.

The Support Group typically meets on the last Wednesday of each month at the Fenton History Center in the historic Hall House building, located at 73 Forest Avenue in Jamestown, New York. Doors open at 6, and the meeting begins at 6:30 with a brief business meeting followed by a program. Program topics and speakers are subject to change. Meetings are also often held via Zoom.

*The upcoming New England Workshop is the fourth in a series of six on the topic.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, June 30, 2021 @ 6:30 PM
Clymer Records and Dutch Research
presented by Rodney Beckerink

Wednesday, July 28, 2021 @ 6:30 PM
Chautauqua County Poor Farm
presented by Michelle Henry

Wednesday, August 25, 2021 @ 6:30 PM
Holland Land Company Records
presented by Karen Livsey

Saturday, September 11, 2021 @ 10:30 AM
New England Workshop IV: Online Resources*
presented by Janet Wahlberg
VIRTUAL BROWN BAG LECTURES
Please join us for another exciting year of interesting local history topics!

This year's lectures focus on underserved and under recognized populations in and around Jamestown and Chautauqua County.

**May 12:** Michelle Henry, Chautauqua County Historian, on local poor relief

**June 9th:** Greg Rabb, JCC Professor of Political Science, on the LGBTQ+ community

**July 14th:** Joni Blackman, Executive Director of the Chautauqua Blind Association, on the history of the Chautauqua Blind Association

**August 11th:** Noah Goodling, Executive Director of the Fenton History Center, on George Lawn and the Original Human Rights Commission

**September 8th:** Deb Long, President of the Jamestown/Warren Deaf Club, on the history of the local deaf community, and advocacy for it

**October 13th:** Tom Greer, Fenton Archaeology Director, on the 2021 archaeological dig results

**STARTING MAY 12, 2021 | THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH 12 NOON VIA ZOOM AND FACEBOOK LIVE**
Fenton History Center is the local history museum for Jamestown and southern Chautauqua County. Three of those words: local history museum, are key to our mission and our activities. We are different from private collectors and from antique dealers. For one thing, the story with the artifact is the thing for us. We are not interested in objects just because they are old, or pretty, or rare, or valuable. We save things that help preserve and tell the story of the local area and local people.

One big problem, and big heartache, for us and all similar museums is unidentified photographs. Usually if a photo is unidentified in terms of who, where, and when, there is nothing we can do with it. A local photographer’s stamp or trademark on the card or folder is usually only minimally helpful. Often we get a batch of photos or an album and only a few, if any, have anything written on or next to them.

There is a cliché that became the title of a country song in the 1950’s: I Overlooked an Orchid While Searching For a Rose. We habitually search for hand written names on photos and dismiss the familiar photo studio names already well represented in our collection. Recently a volunteer was going over a pile of old genealogical queries and answers. One folder had a dozen photos, cabinet cards and tintypes, inside along with a page of notes about the Hambleton and Gillette families. One cabinet card photo has “To Marion From Aunt Mabel” written on the back – not enough for us to identify it. However, one card was a little different. Barely visible at the bottom was the photographer’s embossed logo and address. It was also printed on the back: Loucks, 12 East 3rd Street, Jamestown. But the card had been overprinted before the photographic paper was glued on. Over the Loucks name was printed “T. H. Black” and under it “SUCCESSOR.” Here we have a self-portrait of long serving Jamestown photographer, T. Henry Black, at the start of his career even before he had his own supplies printed up. That was 1893. Black suffered a stroke in his studio in September, 1928 and died a few days later at age 60.

Black was born in Canada November 27, 1867. His family came to Chautauqua County from Titusville, Pa. in 1875. Black was a skilled artist, a poet and good businessman. He was also interested in history. He wrote a chapter about the steamboats in Down’s 1921 History of Chautauqua County and Its People. He copied and duplicated old photos and he kept diaries for 35 years. Where are they now? Late in 1914 Black “ventured into the motion picture business” says Down’s. The business was short lived but wouldn’t we like to see those films?

Black’s father, Thomas, was a top level landscape architect and gardener. The family came to Chautauqua County when Thomas was employed by immensely rich Henry “Pipe Line” Harley at his Long Point estate. Harley made a fortune in the oil fields by building the first pipelines. He also owned the Chautauqua Lake Navigation Company/Chautauqua Lake Transit Company, also known as the Red Stack (steamboat) Line. For icing on the cake, Thomas also managed the grounds and estate of Governor Fenton.
Vets Finding Vets is excited to announce the first of two Hero Tours to be held at Lake View Cemetery which is specifically for Veterans and their guests, at no charge.

The first is coming up on Saturday, June 12, at 1 pm, when Hugh Golden will highlight a few of the 1700 Veterans who lie at rest in Soldier’s Circle. This honored and beautiful area, designated for Veterans who served and lost their lives during WWI, was later opened up to include Veterans who served from WWI through more recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The many flags fluttering in the breeze will touch your heart with the reverence which the words of the large monument in the very center of the circle were intended to produce.

“Erected in honor of those from Jamestown who answered the call of their country and gave their lives in the World War in defense of the liberties of mankind”.

We will meet at Soldier’s Circle, which can be easily accessed from the gate on Lake View Avenue. We can socially distance from each other in this open area.

Stay tuned, the next Hero Tour will take place on Saturday, July 10th, at 1 pm and will highlight Veterans who were buried in the first Veteran burial area known as Monument Hill.
Tuesday June 29, 7pm
Live on Zoom and Facebook
Join us for a fun, live virtual interview with author Marcia Tuttle Kleinert about her new book Kinzua Life: The Story of Ray Tuttle’s Family and the People of the Village of Kinzua, Pennsylvania from its Beginning to its End. What inspired her to write it, and more! There will be a question and answer time at the end of the interview.

This event is FREE and open to the public. For more details visit our website www.fentonhistorycenter.org, call us at (716)664-6256 or find us on Facebook.
Our biography this month is our Intern, Karlie Blodien. She was with us for her spring semester and during that time she created a Virtual Tour of the mansion that featured our Military Displays. It is always so great to find young people that love and appreciate history. We certainly hope that she will return next year for another internship. And now, Karlie’s story in her own words.

by Karlie Blodien
FENTON INTERN

Hello, my name is Karlie Blodien, and I was the Fenton intern from February to April 30th. A little about me. My family is from Sweden and England. I have not traced back my family origins very far. My great-great grandparents migrated to America in the early 1900’s or at least that is what I have been told by family members. I do not know much about my Swedish family and hopefully will learn more.

My interest in history began in 8th grade with a required “Scrapbook” project where I had to create a character from 1900-1930 and make them migrate to America. I loved this project so much. I found out so much about early life in New York. I got a great grade on that project, but it was not only that project that made me like history, but it was also my teacher who made it fun for me. I am so grateful he did, because I went home and told my family I wanted to do history at the young age of 12. My family put me off and because I was young my decisions changed there was a time when I thought history was not in my future. But then in 11th grade I regained my love for it and made the decision to pursue it because my teacher was amazing. Mr. Twinam at JHS made me love history more and made me want to pursue a life in this field. So, to him I say thank you for making my life change for the better.

I told my professor who set me up with this internship that I wanted something different. When she told me, I could come to the Fenton. I was overjoyed. At first, I thought this is going to be fun, little did I know that this would spark a new and profound love for history. The Fenton made me realize my true passion in life to teach others the about the past we leave behind, and the stories of people from these times. I am incredibly happy to have had this experience and glad that they allowed me to come in and do things. I love history and the Fenton is now a place I will definitely recommend to others who want something fun to do or who like history. When I am up close and personal with artifacts and able to look at them my mind starts to ask questions about things that may not have an answer. But that does not matter because when I walk around a museum I go into this creative and cool place where I try to imagine and think about what someone’s daily life was like even if I do not know much information about them or their lives.

Anyone who gets the chance should come to The Fenton. It is a wonderful place and I think many people would like it a lot.
PROTEST AND PRIDE: THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY IN CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

Introducing the 2021 feature exhibit. Learn about the history of the LGBTQIA+ community in Chautauqua County and hear stories from community members about their experiences in Jamestown and Chautauqua County.

Exhibit opens March 31st 2021 and runs through October of 2021

Visit us Monday through Saturday 10-4
Admission $10 adults
Members and Children 17 & under free!

Fenton History Center
67 Washington St
Jamestown NY 14701
www.fentonhistorycenter.org
One of the ways you can support the Fenton History Center is through our Amazon Wishlist. Of course we accept gifts purchased in other places, or monetary donations too!

www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1PU3BVS0HQ5E0