

Walnut Grove Press

MAY 2026

The Official Newsletter of the Fenton History Center VOLUME 7, ISSUE 5

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR



by **Joni Blackman**
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Two exhibits are “blooming” at the Fenton Mansion this month. The first, “Timeless Treasures” was opened in late April. Jewelry from 1850 to 1950 are on exhibit in the front hall. The pieces are from several donors and include rings, necklaces, bracelets, hat and scarf pins and broaches. Everyone is welcome to explore how social trends and global events influence jewelry design, as well as how these factors shape our personal jewelry collections. “Timeless Treasures” will be on exhibit through Labor Day.

Please plan to come to the Fenton History Center on May 19 at 7

p.m. to hear about King Carl XVI of Sweden’s visit to Jamestown in 1976. Using information from the *Post-Journal’s* donation to Fenton’s special collections, interviews with those that were there and artifacts from the visit, you will learn about the yearlong preparations made for his visit on April 25, 1976. Following the talk, a small exhibit about the visit will be opened in the Fenton Mansion vestibule. There is no cost for this talk or to see the exhibit.

I will be attending the Museum Association of New York’s Annual Conference in Albany the second week of May. It is always a great time to learn about what is hap-

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pening in the greater museum world, greet friends from across the state and make new connections to further our work here in Jamestown. I look forward to coming back with a wealth of new ideas to make the Fenton better.

If you are a Civil War buff or just want to learn more, the 72nd New York Volunteer Infantry will be practicing drilling in our Hall House parking lot on Saturday,

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May 16. They are planning on attending the annual Gettysburg re-enactment in July and need to get ready. The public is welcome from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Also happening on May 16 is the first Genealogy Workshop

of the year. This workshop is for the beginning genealogist in the family. Classes will be taught in the dining room of the Fenton Mansion. They will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 2:00 p.m., with lunch in between. Registration is \$5 for members or \$10 for non-members. For more infor-

mation, or to register please call 716-664-6256.

I also want to remind you that our Historic Walking Tours start June 6 at 10 a.m. The first walk is the Lakeview Loop, Lakeview Ave's historic homes. The walk starts at the Christ First UM Church parking lot on Buffalo St.

HISTORIC WALKING TOURS RETURN JUNE 6

INTRODUCING THE FULL CIRCUIT HISTORY PASS

by **Andrew Kolstee**
OFFICE MANAGER

New for 2026:

Full Circuit History Pass

The Fenton History Center's Historic Walking Tours return for the 2026 season beginning Saturday, June 6 at 10 a.m., kicking off a full summer of exploring Jamestown's rich local history.

Held weekly on Saturdays, this year's tour lineup includes Lakeview Avenue, Allen Park, Jamestown's Hidden Alleys, Jamestown's Industrial Past, Ladies of Lake View, Lucy Downtown, Churches, and Military Tour at Lake View.

All tours begin at 10:00 a.m. and are primarily walking tours, giving participants an up-close look at the people, places, and stories that shaped Jamestown.

This year, we are excited to introduce the **Full Circuit History Pass**, a new way to experience the entire season of tours at a discounted rate. The pass provides access to all Historic Walking Tours throughout the summer, making it perfect for those who want to dive deeper into local history.

The cost is \$50 for members or \$80 for non-members.

Individual tours are also available at \$8 for members and \$12 for non-members.

Join Us This Summer

Whether you attend one tour or all of them, the Historic Walking

Tours are a great way to connect with Jamestown's history in a meaningful and engaging way. Tours are led by knowledgeable guides and are designed to be both informative and enjoyable for all participants.

Registration is available online, by phone, or in person at the Fenton Museum Store.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

The Fenton History Center extends its appreciation to this year's Historic Walking Tour sponsors:

Rodgers Land Surveying, Ahlstrom Schaeffer, and Weber Knapp, whose support helps make these and other programs possible.



2026 Schedule

FENTON HISTORY CENTER'S

Historic Tours

All tours are held on Saturdays at 10:00 AM.
All are walking tours, except Churches, which involves transportation between locations.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| JUN 6 | Lakeview Ave. Tour <i>(start at Christ First UMC parking lot)</i> |
| JUN 13 | Allen Park <i>(start at Allen Park Bandshell)</i> |
| JUN 20 | Jamestown's Hidden Alleys <i>(start at Fenton Mansion)</i> |
| JUN 27 | Jamestown's Industrial Past <i>(start at Fenton Mansion)</i> |
| JUL 11 | Ladies of Lake View <i>(start at cemetery office)</i> |
| JUL 18 | Lakeview Ave. Tour <i>(start at Christ First UMC parking lot)</i> |
| JUL 25 | Allen Park <i>(start at Allen Park Bandshell)</i> |
| AUG 8 | Lucy Downtown <i>(start at Fenton Mansion)</i> |
| AUG 8 | Churches <i>(start at Jamestown Free Methodist Church, 515 E. 7th St.)</i> |
| AUG 15 | Jamestown's Industrial Past <i>(start at Fenton Mansion)</i> |
| AUG 22 | Jamestown's Hidden Alleys <i>(start at Fenton Mansion)</i> |
| AUG 29 | Military Tour at Lake View <i>(start at cemetery office)</i> |

\$8 for Members \$12 for Non-Members

Full Circuit History Pass (access to all tours)

\$50 (members) \$80 (non-members)

Register online, by phone, or in-person in the Fenton Museum Store.

www.FentonHistoryCenter.org/historictours

SPONSORS:

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Fenton Historical Society, 67 Washington St., Jamestown, NY 14701

(716) 664-6256 www.FentonHistoryCenter.org

Local Trivia

Q1. Name the Jamestownner who was on the 1936 U.S. Olympic Boxing Team.

Q2. When was the trolley system converted to electricity?

Q3. Where was the original home of WKSN-WHUG radio?

Q4. What is the nickname of the Third Ward?

Q5. Where was Roosevelt Theater located?

See page 26 for answers.



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50th
Anniversary

1976
-
2026

The Visit of Carl XVI Gustaf, King of Sweden



**Exhibit
Opens
May 19
at
7:00 PM**

**at the Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion
67 Washington Street, Jamestown, NY 14701**

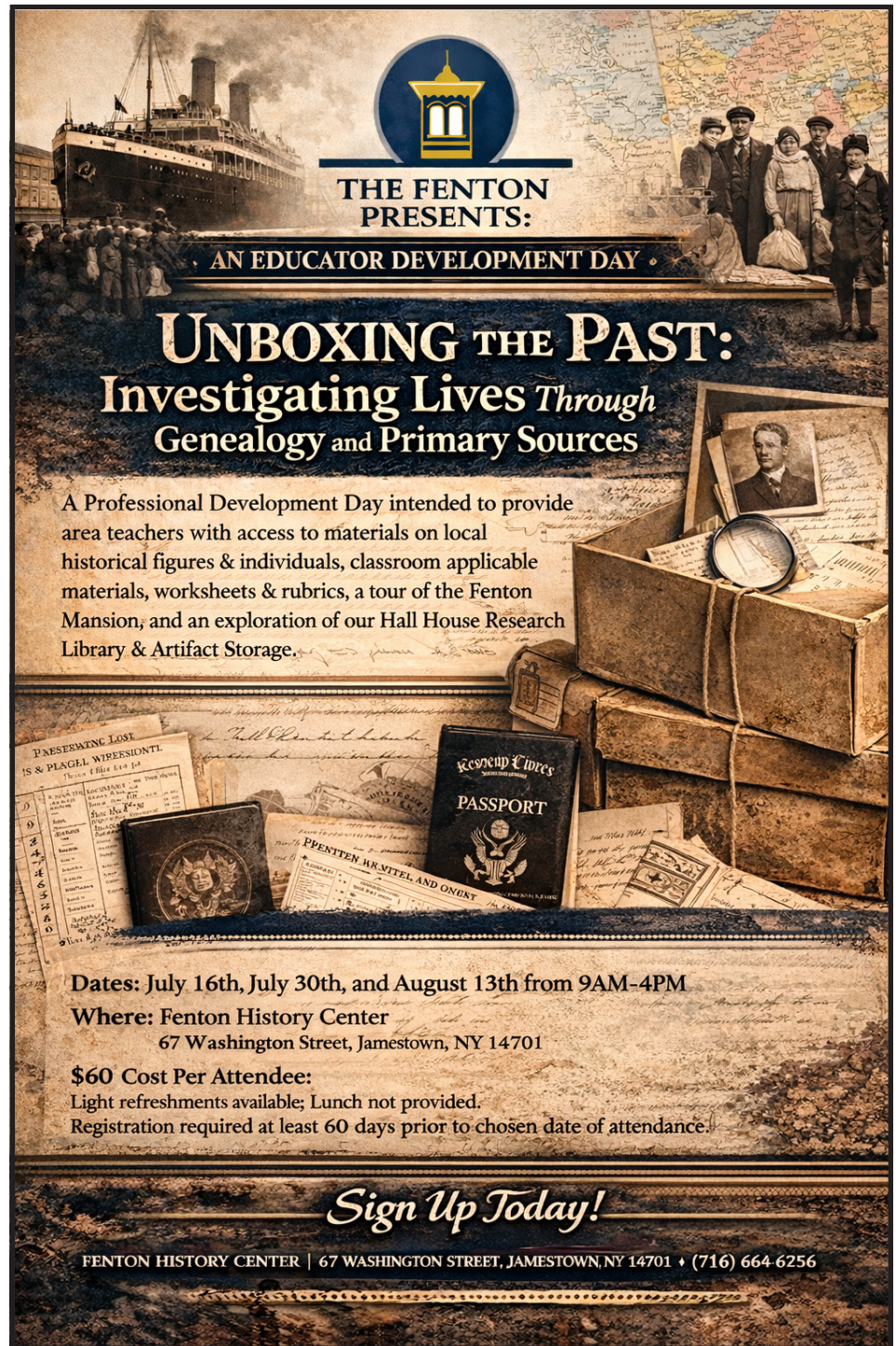
ED-VENTURES AT THE MUSEUM

by Elizabeth Gabalski
EDUCATION COORDINATOR

So two months in, I'm sure you're all wondering what exactly I've been doing with my time (aside from hiding from mannequins and avoiding the Mourning Room - a story for another time!). The short answer is that much of it thus far has been spent connecting with literally anyone and everyone I can!

Mission 1 was our local schools. This has been tough with some, and while we've been fortunate enough to be given a lot of time from a few districts, we're still struggling to reach the right folks in others. However, we have been contacted directly by many individuals, a few homeschool groups, and even a young man who wants to hold a Revolutionary War Birthday Party with us, the planning of which has been an absolute riot! Keep your eyes peeled for a future feature on that!

Mission 2 was to work on lesson planning options for our school groups. Unfortunately, most schools had already planned their year-end lessons and booked all of their field trips for the 2025-26 school year. However, it was requested by both school administrators and teachers that we host continuing education opportunities for educators. This was a new challenge for me, as my own experience in lesson planning and teaching has been



THE FENTON PRESENTS:
AN EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT DAY

UNBOXING THE PAST: Investigating Lives Through Genealogy and Primary Sources

A Professional Development Day intended to provide area teachers with access to materials on local historical figures & individuals, classroom applicable materials, worksheets & rubrics, a tour of the Fenton Mansion, and an exploration of our Hall House Research Library & Artifact Storage.

Dates: July 16th, July 30th, and August 13th from 9AM-4PM
Where: Fenton History Center
67 Washington Street, Jamestown, NY 14701

\$60 Cost Per Attendee:
Light refreshments available; Lunch not provided.
Registration required at least 60 days prior to chosen date of attendance.

Sign Up Today!

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more for youths than adults, but it was a challenge I was ready to accept!

The result? A program I call "Unboxing the Past: Investigating Lives Through Genealogy and

Primary Sources" This Professional Development Day is intended to introduce area teachers to Fenton-provided materials on local historical figures and indi-

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viduals, worksheets, and rubrics that can be directly applied to their classroom settings, in addition to a tour of the Mansion and Hall House Research Library, scavenger hunt, and more. These workshops will be held on 3 separate days this summer - July 16th, July 30th, and August 13th. Registration is required 60 days prior to the chosen date. Registration forms have been mailed to area schools, and can also be requested via email to education@fentonhistorycenter.org.

And since all of this wasn't quite enough to keep me busy, Mission 3 was to make sure my name and reactivated role were out in the community. Every week, I've had at least one meeting with neighboring businesses and programs

geared towards supporting local business and tourism. Additionally, we've been so fortunate that area publications beyond our monthly newsletter have helped to spread the word on my behalf, including an article in the *Chautauqua Gazette*, and a front page article in the *Post-Journal*. Furthermore, I've tried to make connections to a few other area Historical Societies, as we all have so much to share with everyone across Chautauqua County, and I believe that the more we share with each other about what we have and do, the better we can create well-rounded experiences for all of our guests. Add to all of that our two in-house volunteer meetings in April, our presence on social media, countless calls and emails back and forth to folks interested in visits

or having us bring materials to their events, and so much more, I've met so many new community and history friends in just a few short weeks!

And, of course, I'm continuing to learn something new every single day. My work with the New York State Education Standards has me discovering what we have in our archives and artifacts that would best represent our local historical connections at every grade level. The staff and volunteers in both the Mansion and Hall House have been so helpful in sharing with me all they do and the exciting things they're working on. I'm so enjoying everything about my position and I can't wait to see what comes in month 3.

TIKTOK: TIME TO SOCIALIZE!

by **Elizabeth Gabalski**
EDUCATION COORDINATOR

April saw a lot of exposure to our social media pages, and brand new outreach through a platform we haven't otherwise breached - TikTok. We've seen tens of thousands of views in just a few short weeks, and the attention has brought about some incredible comments from the community, including fond memories of childhood school visits, favorite exhibits, and hopes to return soon!

When much of our visitors, mem-

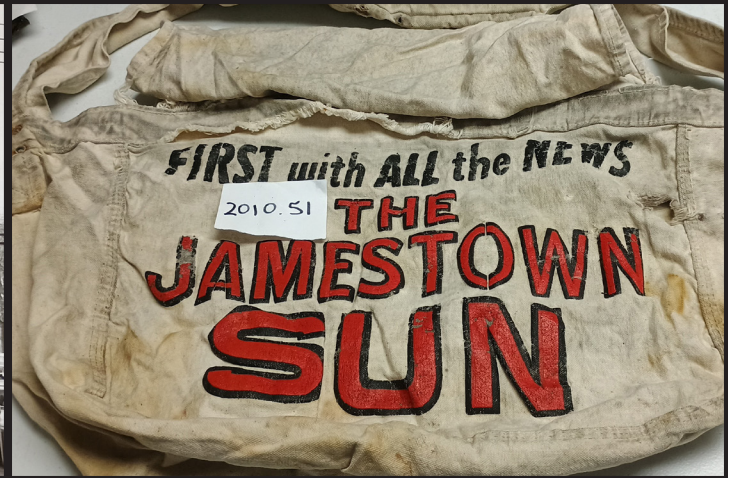
bers, and other social media following comes from folks in their golden years, our new TikTok presence primarily has an audience of 25 to 45-year-olds. We've also seen an increase in visitation in recent weeks, especially on the weekends, and we can't help but wonder if this is coming from these few-seconds long videos hitting an all new demographic.

As we continue to grow, we hope that more Friends of the Fenton will follow us on all of our social media platforms - not only our new TikTok page, but Facebook,



Instagram, X and Threads as well.

TALES FROM THE TEXTILE ROOM: JAMESTOWN SUN



by **Cindy Dustin**
VOLUNTEER

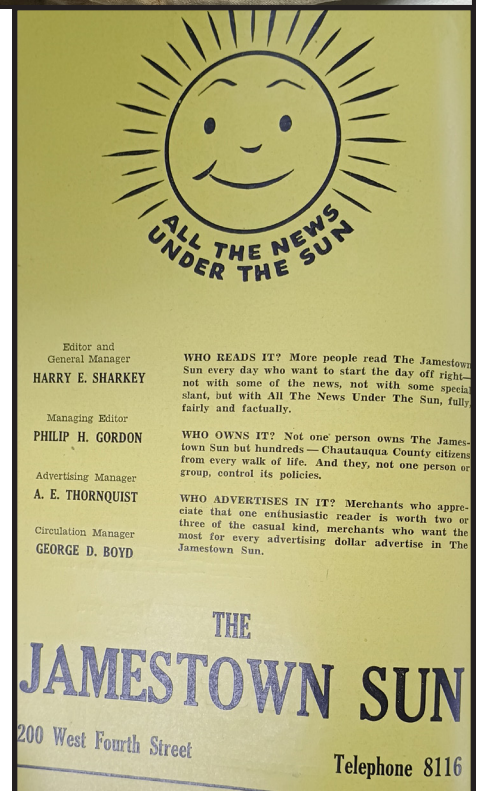
In 2010, the Fenton History Center received a donation from Russ Cusimano of his *Jamestown Sun* newspaper bag. He used the bag to deliver the morning newspaper in 1958-1959 in the Curtis Street area.

The *Jamestown Sun* began publishing a morning newspaper in April 1949. At that time, *The Post-Journal* was an afternoon newspaper. The *Sun's* offices and plant were located at 200 W. 4th Street, on the corner of Fourth and Washington, just steps away from *The Post-Journal* plant at 311 Washington Street. On the *Sun's* first day of publication, the paper reported a “hearty response” to the first edition, with “a large crowd gathered at the

Washington Street side of the plant at 4 a.m. to witness the birth of the first morning newspaper in Chautauqua County in nearly eight years.”

The paper also thanked the school districts in the circulation area “in excusing numerous carrier boys for being tardy while they completed delivery of the paper on their routes.”

The *Sun* was owned by Unitypo, Inc., a subsidiary of the International Typographical Union. On Dec. 31, 1959, it was reported that the *Sun* publisher Edward J. Byrne and Mr. and Mrs. Constantino Poulos of Colorado Springs, had purchased the majority interest in the paper. Mr. Poulos was managing editor of the Colorado Springs *Free Press*. The *Sun* continued publication until



June 30, 1962, when it closed, its owners citing rising costs and financial losses.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are always looking for volunteers for different tasks and projects.
Below are three major needs for volunteers.

Contact us at (716) 664-6256, info@fentonhistorycenter.org, or stop in
and fill out a volunteer form.

LIST OF VOLUNTEER NEEDS

GIFT SHOP RECEPTION

We need reception coverage on certain days.
This involves starting tours and selling
merchandise in the gift shop.



SCAN LAB

We are in need of volunteers to help with digitization
projects in the Scan Lab. No experience necessary.

MOWING

We are also in need of volunteers to help
mow the lawn at the Research Center.



GARDEN

We need volunteers to help maintain
the Blue Star Memorial Garden.

DOCENTS/MUSEUM EDUCATORS

We need volunteers to help
in our education department.

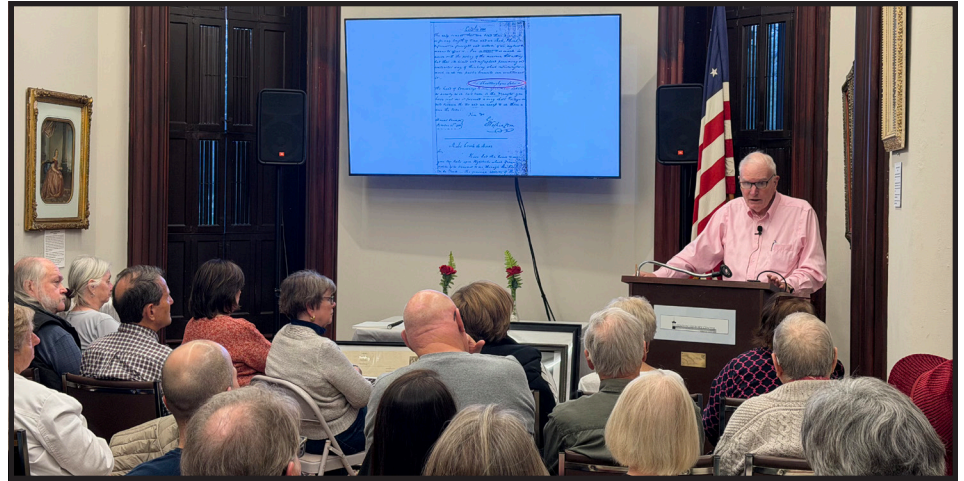


COUNTY HISTORIAN NORMAN CARLSON TALKS ABOUT LOCAL CONNECTIONS TO GEORGE WASHINGTON

by Andrew Kolstee
OFFICE MANAGER

The Fenton History Center Lecture Series opened on Tuesday, April 21 at 7 p.m. in the dining room of the Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion with a presentation by Chautauqua County Historian Norman Carlson on George Washington and his connections to the region.

Carlson explored how Washington never actually visited Chautauqua County, but came within about a dozen miles during his 1753 mission to Fort Le Boeuf. He highlighted how the region appeared—often imperfectly—on maps Washington used and created, and how it factored into early military movements and later plans for national transportation routes. The talk also touched on Washington's indirect connections to the area



through Native American diplomacy, Revolutionary War strategy, and correspondence that referenced the Chautauqua portage.

The lecture concluded with a look at local reactions to Washington's death and the many ways his legacy was remembered in the region, while also dispelling the long-standing myth that he ever visited or "slept" in Chautauqua County.

The event was free and open to the public, with donations encouraged to support the Fenton History Center's mission. Those who missed the lecture can watch it on the Fenton's YouTube channel.

The next lecture in the series will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, when Joni Blackman will present on the 1976 visit of the King of Sweden to the area.

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FENTON HISTORY CENTER 2026 LECTURE SERIES

FREE and open to the public!

All Lectures Held at on the Third Tuesday at 7:00 PM

APR 21 George Washington's Connections to Chautauqua Co.
presented by *Norman Carlson*

MAY 19 50th Anniversary of The King of Sweden's Visit
presented by *Joni Blackman*

JUN 16 Appreciating the Architecture of First Presbyterian Church at 100
presented by *John Smagner*

JUL 21 Four Wars, Four Branches:
The Extraordinary Service of Lloyd Peters
presented by *Barb Cessna*

AUG 18 Corry-Jamestown Corp.
presented by *Karen Livsey and Sam Genco*

SEPT 15 Lucille M. Wright Museum
presented by *Dennis Webster*

OCT 20 A Real Witch Hunt and Other Ghostly Delights
presented by *Rick DeKay*

About the Lecture Series:

The 2026 Fenton History Center Lecture Series features evening lectures held between April and October. These events are free and open to the public. Lectures are held in the dining room at the Gov. Reuben Fenton mansion. They are also streamed via Facebook. Donations are appreciated to support the Fenton History Center's mission to preserve local history and provide educational opportunities.

Thanks to our sponsor: Rodgers Land Surveying

67 Washington St., Jamestown, NY
(716) 664-6256 www.FentonHistoryCenter.org

2026 CHURCHES TOUR SET FOR AUGUST 8



by **Cindy Dustin**
VOLUNTEER

Three historic Jamestown churches have been confirmed for the annual Fenton Church Tour on Saturday, August 8.

The Free Methodist Church, also known as Joy Fellowship, is at 515 E. 7th Street. The church was organized in 1871, and the current building was built in 1884.

The former First Congregation-

al Church at 317 E. Third Street, now The Spire Theater of Jamestown, was the home of Jamestown's oldest organized church. The Congregationalist community began meeting shortly after Jamestown was settled in 1811. The Gothic style building on Third Street was begun in 1867, and the church was finished and dedicated in the summer of 1869. Several years ago, the congregation merged with Pilgrim Memorial UCC on Forest Avenue, and

The Spire Theater of Jamestown was opened by Angelo and Ylsa Guiffre. The Spire Theater hosts a number of theater and musical events throughout the year and is available for rental.

We will celebrate with the First Presbyterian Church in marking the present church building's 100th anniversary. The Presbyterian church was organized in Jamestown in 1834. The

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church building at 509 Prendergast Avenue was opened in 1926 after their former church at West Third and Cherry Street, was dismantled when the prime real estate was sold for the building of the Hotel Jamestown.

The tour will begin at 10 a.m., meeting at the Free Methodist Church at 515 E. 7th Street. We will all learn many more fascinating facts as we tour these beautiful churches that are woven into the faith history of our City.

More information on reservations for this and other summer Saturday tours is now available at the Fenton History Center's website fentonhistorycenter.org.

More information on these churches and others in James-



town can be found in The Goodwill with photos by Chad Churches of Jamestown, New York, written by Thomas J. Ecklof. It is sold in the Fenton History Center bookstore.



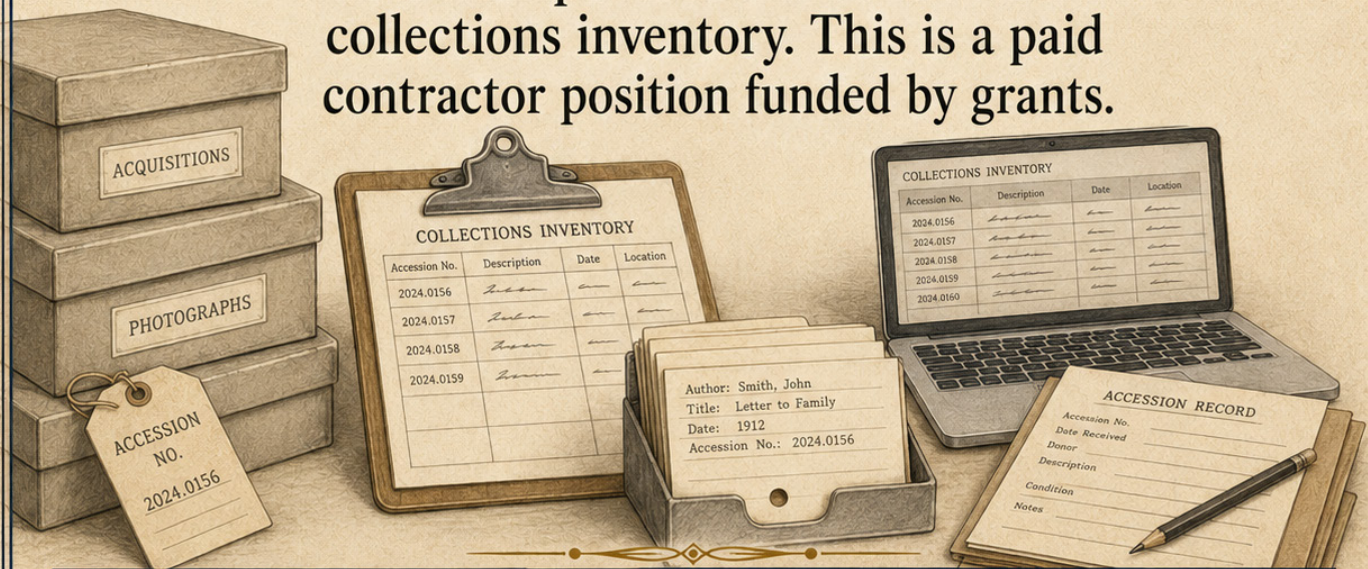
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(716) 664-5336**

Fenton Seeking Collections Assistant

Individual available for up to 10 months, 35 hours per week to assist with collections inventory. This is a paid contractor position funded by grants.



Contact Joni Blackman at 716-664-6256



or director@fentonhistorycenter.org
for more information.

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FENTON
HISTORY CENTER



As a Blue Star Museum, free admission is available to active-duty military personnel, including the National Guard and Reserves, and their families.

FREE ADMISSION
SAT., MAY 16, 2026 - MON., SEPT. 7, 2026
ARMED FORCES DAY LABOR DAY

On May 16, 2026 at noon, visitors are welcome to watch the 72nd New York Volunteer Reenactors practice their drills in the Hall House parking lot.

FENTON HISTORY CENTER | 67 WASHINGTON ST. | JAMESTOWN, NY 14701



GENEALOGY SUPPORT GROUP

HELD AT THE HALL HOUSE RESEARCH CENTER
73 Forest Avenue, Jamestown, New York 14701 Phone: (716) 664-6256

2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat., January 10, 2026	12 PM - 10 PM	Library Lock-In
Wed., January 28, 2026	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., February 25, 2026	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Thurs., March 26, 2026	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., April 29, 2026	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., May 27, 2026	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., June 24, 2026	4 PM	Field Trip

*Tour of Records at the Court House in Mayville**

Contact us if you want to go!

Wed., July 29, 2026	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., August 26, 2026	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., September 30, 2026	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., October 28, 2026	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., November 18, 2026	4 PM - 8 PM	Brick Walls
Wed., December 30, 2026	4 PM - 8 PM	Christmas Party

About the Genealogy Support Group

The Fenton's Genealogy Support Group serves to support both experienced and amateur researchers. We offer lectures, workshops, discussions, and research nights. These events are an excellent way to become familiar with the Fenton History Center's impressive collection of resources. Our Research Night expands the hours of operation of our research center to one evening per month.

LEARN MORE:

www.FentonHistoryCenter.org

GENEALOGY SUPPORT GROUP

2026 WORKSHOPS

Beginning Genealogy Workshops

*For people very new at research.
We will start with the basics—one step at a time.*

**ALL WORKSHOPS
HELD 10 AM - 2 PM
At the Mansion
*includes lunch***

- 🌿 Part I - Sat., May 16, 2026
- 🌿 Part II - Sat., Jul. 18, 2026
- 🌿 Part III - Sat., Nov. 7, 2026

\$5
for members
\$10
for non members



Call us or
come in to register.



Register online at
[fentonhistorycenter.org/
workshops](https://fentonhistorycenter.org/workshops)

Sponsored by
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Gov. Reuben E. Fenton Mansion

67 Washington Street | Jamestown, NY 14701
716-664-6256 | www.FentonHistoryCenter.org



ATTENTION VETERANS!

Vets Finding Vets is a free program for Chautauqua County veterans at the Fenton History Center.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ **Research Services.** We provide family genealogy and local history research services, helping veterans discover their roots and also connect with those in which they have served.
- ★ **Fenton Canteen.** A monthly gathering for veterans to enjoy coffee, cookies, and camaraderie. Held the second Saturday each month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the dining room at the Fenton.
- ★ **Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight.** We help facilitate the application process for veterans wishing to participate in the Honor Flight to see the war monuments in Washington, D.C.
- ★ **Quilts of Valor.** Family members can nominate veterans to receive a handmade quilt through this program.
- ★ **News and Events:** We share information about veteran-related events and happenings in the community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Barb Cessna, Vets Finding Vets Project Coordinator
(716) 664-6256 | veterans@fentonhistorycenter.org
Fenton History Center | 67 Washington Street | Jamestown, NY 14701

VISION 2030

— ENGAGE • BUILD • SUSTAIN —

GOAL: \$5,000

**in recurring donations
per month by the end of 2030**

Current: \$335 monthly donations from 13 donors

May 2026 Goal: \$416.67 in monthly donations

donate here: fentonhistorycenter.org/monthly

APRIL 2026 HONOR FLIGHT



Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight Mission 22

by Barbara Cessna
VETS FINDING VETS COORDINATOR

Three Chautauqua County Veterans recently participated in an Honor Flight to Washington, DC. To prepare for the trip, Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight hosted a continental breakfast/meeting in Williamsville on April 11, filling the Veterans and their travel

buddies in on the many things to be aware of prior to their flight, one week later.

Bright and early on April 11, Joe Martin and son Jim and Phil Lindsey and his daughter Elizabeth Anderson met me at the Fenton Mansion to board the TEAM bus to Buffalo. Bob Asel and his son Josh drove up the eve-

ning before, as all out-of-towners had that option. Occasionally, the Chautauqua County Veterans van is not available, and you may remember the fundraising campaign of late 2024 and early 2025. We wanted to be sure we could easily have funds available for transportation when needed,

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Elizabeth Lindsey Anderson, Air Force Veteran, accompanying her father, Phil.



Phil Lindsey and Honor Flight Medical Supervisor

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20
as we did this time.

We are so grateful to all who donated to that fund – **Chautauqua County Joint Veterans Council, Cassadaga American Legion Aux 1280, Westfield American Legion Aux. 327, Brocton SAL Squadron 434, Fredonia SAL Squadron 59, Chautauqua Lake Memorial VFW Aux 8647, Silver Creek Amvets Riders 6472, Blue Star Mothers Lake Erie NY Chapter 4.**

Chautauqua Lake Region AACA, R.J. Loomis Enterprises, TEAM Services (Discount), Three Sixty Graphics. Patriotic Bingo Nov. 30 2024 participants: Fluvanna VFD (venue), Fluvanna VFD Aux. and Caller Mike, generous Bingo players & Raffle Basket Donors, Veteran Owned Businesses who sponsored monetary game prizes: Bella Bounce Lounge, I-86 Truck & Auto Service, Range Ranch, U-Take The Cake, West Main Mercantile. Individual donors: Barbara Ellis, Steven Cramer family (includ-

ing Mays and Tramante), Cessna family, Maury Spillane, Janet Wahlberg.

Miraculously, this fund amounted for over \$5,000 and is designated to Honor Flight transportation. The October Patriotic Bingo will be aimed at replenishing this flight transportation and possibly June and October as well.

Enjoy the photos of these Vets enjoying their flight during the 250th Anniversary of America!



Bob Asel, Jamestown, Army, Vietnam.



Joe Martin, Falconer, Army, Vietnam.



Phil Lindsey, Jamestown, Air Force, Vietnam.



Bob Asel signing the vest of a Patriot Guard, and son Josh.



Joe Martin and his son Jim at the World War II Memorial.



★ VETS FINDING VETS ★

FENTON CANTEEN

★ VETERANS OF ALL AGES ARE INVITED ★

ON THE
SECOND SATURDAY
OF EACH MONTH
FROM 10 AM TO 12 PM

★ ★ ★
AT THE FENTON HISTORY CENTER
AT 67 WASHINGTON STREET
JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK



THIS LOCATION IS
HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE



SERVICE DOGS
ARE WELCOME

★ ★ ★
The mission of the Fenton Canteen is to
PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ESTABLISH
CAMARADERIE AMONG
VETERANS OF ALL AGES

★ 2026 DATES ★	
SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH	
★ JAN 10	★ JUL 11
★ FEB 14	★ AUG 8
★ MAR 14	★ SEP 12
★ APR 11	★ OCT 10
★ MAY 9	★ NOV 14
★ JUN 13	★ DEC 12



★ For more information ★



CALL US AT
716-664-6256



EMAIL BARB CESSNA AT
veterans@fentonhistorycenter.org



Timeless Treasures

The exhibit shows examples of jewelry from the Fenton collection dating from the 1840s to the 1940s. Rings, bracelets, lockets, necklaces and watches from the early Victorian period (1837-1860) through World War II trench art, are all represented.

EXHIBIT OPEN THROUGH SEPTEMBER 5, 2026

Fenton History Center | 67 Washington Street | Jamestown, NY 14701

In Memoriam

Barbara Washburg 1948–2026

The Fenton History Center remembers Barbara June Courtney Washburg, who passed away on April 7, 2026, at the age of 78.

Born in Jamestown on September 15, 1948, she earned her MBA from St. Bonaventure University and later worked for the United States Postal Service prior to her retirement.

Barbara served as Office Manager at the Fenton History Center from the summer of 1995 through May 6, 1998. Her responsibilities included overseeing the office, managing reception, and assisting with the day-to-day operations of the organization during a period when research materials and public spaces were arranged differently than they are today.

She is remembered for her welcoming manner and for assisting visitors and volunteers with a wide range of questions. She was a consistent point of contact in the office and was known for helping others navigate requests and inquiries as they arose.

Frank E. Stow, Jr. 1950–2026



The Fenton History Center remembers member Frank E. Stow, Jr., of Stow, New York, who passed away on April 11, 2026, at the age of 75.

Frank had a strong interest in local history, genealogy, and community heritage. He was a member of the Fenton History Center, Harmony-North Harmony Historical Society, Chautauqua County Genealogical Society, and the Sons of the American Revolution. He enjoyed tracing family roots, exploring cemeteries, and preserving the stories connected to local families and places.

Frank also served on the North Harmony Town Board, including a period as Town Supervisor, and served on the town's cemetery board. He was instrumental in the development of the North Harmony Veterans Park.

RODGER'S

LAND SURVEYING

WANTED: A Table from the Maddox Table Company



Any size and any version. We do not have one in our collection, and would like one for our Furniture Exhibit.

FENTON HISTORY CENTER MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Your membership is vital for keeping the museum and research center running!
- Memberships run January - December. Memberships purchased between September 1 and December 31 are good through December 31 of the following year.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Unlimited complimentary admission to the Governor Reuben Fenton Mansion.
- Unlimited access to the Hall House Research Center.
- Reduced fee for Fenton events and programs unless specified.
- A 10% discount to the museum gift shop.
- Members only e-mail updates.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- Student \$15
- Senior (age 62+) \$30
- Veteran \$30
- Individual (under age 62) \$40
- Family \$75. Includes 2 adults. All children in the household under 18 are included.

SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- Supporting \$120. Includes 4 complimentary admission passes for guests.
- Friend of Fenton \$250. Includes 6 complimentary admission passes for guests.
- Representative's Circle \$360. Includes 8 complimentary admission passes for guests.
- Senator's Circle \$500. Includes 16 complimentary admissions for guests, lunch with Executive Director, and a behind the scenes tour of the Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion for up to four people, a free book from our gift shop, and a Fenton branded t-shirt.
- Governor's Circle \$1,000. Includes unlimited complimentary admissions for guests, lunch with Executive Director, a behind the scenes tour of Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion for up to four people, a behind the scenes tour of Hall House Research Center for four people, a free book from our gift shop, and a Fenton branded t-shirt.

You can also process your membership payment online and have the option to set your membership to automatically renew each year. Thank you for your support!

FENTONHISTORYCENTER.ORG/MEMBERSHIP

Trivia answers from page 4.

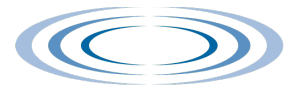
(A1) Jimmy Clark (A2) 1891 (A3) West 4th Street
(A4) Chadakoin Ward (A5) N.E. corner of Harrison and S. Main

Thank You to Our Supporters!

Ralph **SHELDON** *Foundation, Inc.*



RALPH C. WILSON, JR.
FOUNDATION



Community Foundation
for Greater Buffalo

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR GENEROSITY

Support the Fenton through recycling!

Bring your plastic and aluminum beverage containers to Southside Redemption Center in the name of the Fenton History Center. Proceeds will directly benefit the Fenton History Center. Plastic and aluminum must be separated. Just drop them off in the name of the Fenton and that's it!



Southside Redemption Center

1752 Foote Avenue
Jamestown, NY 14701

Mon-Wed 9 AM to 5 PM
Thursday 9 AM to 2 PM
Friday 9 AM to 5 PM
Saturday 10 AM to 4 PM



FENTON HISTORY CENTER

STAFF MEMBERS

Joni Blackman Executive Director
Andrew Kolstee Office Manager
Barbara Cessna Hall House Manager, Vets Finding Vets Coordinator
Matthew Tsitso Collections Manager
Elizabeth Gabalski Education Coordinator

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LEARN MORE

Fenton History Center Museum
67 Washington Street
Jamestown, New York 14701
Hours: Mon. - Sat. 10 AM - 4 PM
Hall House Research Center
73 Forest Avenue
Jamestown, NY 14701
Hours: Mon. - Fri. 10 AM - 4 PM
(716) 664-6256
www.fentonhistorycenter.org



Fenton History Center's amazon

Wishlist

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

Admission Prices

Includes entry to Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion & Museum and William Hall House Research Center
Members.....FREE
Adults (18+)..... \$10
Children (under 18)FREE
Veterans (with military ID) \$8
Seniors (62+, first Tuesdays only) \$5
Active Military and Family (May 16-Sept. 7, 2026).....FREE

Become a member today and your admission to the museum and research center is free!

