

May 24, 2024

Dear Patron and Friend :

The buds are popping on the trees at the writing of this letter, and even though it did snow just a bit today, we are confident that greener days are on their way. The town is buzzing with the anticipation of pleasure boats once again on the River and the Lake as we look forward to celebrating another glorious summer here in Morristown.

Since our last letter, we celebrated our community collaborations with a Pig Roast at the farm in August. We hosted the 2nd annual Spooky Trails in October and then invited the community back in February for our 1st Ice Skating Party. The weather gods favored us with frozen ponds on a nice crisp day, and the new Gazebo was the perfect place to lace up and warm up with hot chocolate and cookies. Outside, we had the fire pits going for roasted hot dogs and donations for the MCS Junior class were accepted by our Junior Board member, Kinsey Wurzburg.

For the upcoming May Arts Festival, this year local students will be working with Deb Monteith to create art with rock cairns and visitors to the Farm House will enjoy a new exhibit, "The Stone Houses of Morristown: Eight Historic Properties of the National Register". If you miss the Stone Houses in May, be sure to view them afterwards in the Museum, as one of our rotating exhibits.

The Museum opens June 29th with a presentation by Rick Johnson, "Morristown and Brockville Ferry Company 1908 – 1952" on July 1st. Our Lecture Series will also include talks by Jay Carter of the Black Lake Association and author John Clark, and we're very pleased to be hosting a Larry Vilhauer presentation at the Black Lake Fish & Game Club. Larry will show some of his game specimens and give a talk on his craft.

The July 4th weekend MGM Mini Golf Tournament continues, thanks to the generous support of local businesses and families who underwrite and lend their creativity to the family friendly event each summer. If you've got great ideas for a mini golf hole and would like to get involved, don't be shy. We'd love to have your participation.

The Concert Series kicks off this year on July 8th with Annie in the Water, and we're thrilled to add Dok Yukon to the Series, the latter made possible by an unsolicited sponsorship from Leslie LaMacchia. Leslie's generous spirit encouraged us to look for additional sponsorships, with the Iron Horse Grill, Latham Auto Sales & two families having already answered the call. Crowd pleasers coming back include the Frank Sacci Big Band, Double Axel and the 10th Mountain Division Rock Band for our finale. Last summer we had great attendance and we know this line up will bring people even farther afield from Morristown.

Finally, we're very excited to be at work on what we hope will become our third permanent exhibit, "Morristown's Historic Past: Commerce and Industry in the Colorful Patent Medicine Era". With generous contributions from the Northern New York Community and Sweetgrass Foundations we'll digitize the Morristown diorama in the center of the 1st floor to allow visitors to use URL codes to access historical details on each location.

We've got more on our plate each year and can't make it happen without your help. Last summer we were especially grateful for the exceptional generosity of Charlie Gore, who jumped in and lent a hand to help us mow the Preserve lawns each week. We were also blessed with youth volunteers. Kinsey, joined by Adelaide Hentschel and Muriel Ellis, spent many mornings helping to clean and organize the Museum. If you also have young family members who are looking for something to do, please let us know! Looking for a less formal involvement? Consider joining us on Volunteer Day at the Preserve on June 15th..

Along with all of the wonderful developments this year, we have also suffered some great losses. Our hearts have hurt this season as we said goodbye to great friends and steadfast supporters of our organization. We will be laying new bricks at the Museum entrance to honor Carol Beckner, Phyllis Cosler, Jane Martinovich, Robert Shelato and Robert Swift.

Please consider joining us as a volunteer or through financial support to help us continue to provide the programs and events detailed above. You can make your tax-deductible contribution by mail - make your check payable to "Gateway Museum" and send it to Gateway Museum/PO Box 231/Morristown, NY 13664; or, give by credit card or PayPal - go to www.morristowngatewaymuseum.org and scroll down to the "Donate" button.

Thank you for your valued support in 2023. Please renew your support in 2024!

Sincerely,

Ellen Magee Place, President

MORRISTOWN GATEWAY MUSEUM 2024 EVENTS

SATURDAY MAY 25th 10AM-3PM 4th Annual Spring Arts Festival at Red Barn Preserve

SATURDAY JUNE 15th 10AM-2PM Volunteer Day at Red Barn Preserve

SATURDAY JUNE 29th 1PM-4PM Museum Opens for the season

MONDAY JULY 1st 6:30PM PRESENTATION: Rick Johnson “Morristown and Brockville Ferry Company 1908 to 1952”

MONDAY JULY 1st 6:30PM Bill Hess Bird Carvings Opening

SATURDAY JULY 6th 9AM MGM Mini Golf Tournament

MONDAY JULY 8th 6:30PM CONCERT: Annie in the Water - Acoustic

SATURDAY JULY 13th 6:30PM CONCERT: Doc Yudon

MONDAY JULY 15th 6:30PM CONCERT: Frank Sacci Big Band

MONDAY JULY 22nd 6:30PM CONCERT: Gwen Tracy Blues Band

MONDAY JULY 29th 6:30PM CONCERT: Another Fine Mess

SATURDAY AUGUST 5th PRESENTATION: John Clark “A Journey to Daybreak”

SATURDAY AUGUST 10th 6:30PM CONCERT: Double Axel

MONDAY AUGUST 12th 6:30 PM CONCERT: Chippewa Breeze

SATURDAY AUGUST 17TH 4PM PRESENTATION: Larry Vilhauer Taxidermy at The Black Lake Fish and Game Club

MONDAY AUGUST 19th 6:30PM CONCERT: Northbound

MONDAY AUGUST 26th 6:30PM CONCERT: The Non-Committals

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7th 4PM Black Lake Association Presentation: “Tackling the Invasive Water Chestnut in our Waterways”

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14th 6:30PM CONCERT: 10TH Mountain Division Rock Band

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29th Museum Final Day

*The MGM Concert Series is made possible with funds from The New York State Council on the Arts with the support of The Office Of The Governor and the New York State Legislature. Thanks to the Town of Morristown for their annual support of the Concert Series.