February 8
GILDED AGE TEA & TALK SERIES -- Enjoy tea and refreshments in the formal dining room while listening to talks about different aspects of Gilded Age history.
Famous Love Stories of the Gilded Age 1PM
Enjoy a Valentine tea plus a chocolate treat and listen to stories of true love and devotion, researched by Staatsburgh curator Maria Reynolds.
COST: $35/PERSON, $30/FRIENDS OF MILLS.
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.

February 9
GILDED AGE TEA & TALK SERIES -- Enjoy tea and refreshments in the formal dining room while listening to talks about different aspects of Gilded Age history.
Famous Love Stories of the Gilded Age 1PM
Enjoy a Valentine tea plus a chocolate treat and listen to stories of true love and devotion, researched by Staatsburgh curator Maria Reynolds.
COST: $35/PERSON, $30/FRIENDS OF MILLS.
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.
February 15
America’s Elite in the *Downton Abbey* Era Theme Tour  11:00AM
Highlighting Staatsburgh’s real-life counterparts of the Downton Abbey characters, this tour of the mansion, led by a costumed interpreter, will explore how the servants prepared for a busy weekend of entertaining….and how the Mills’ daughter, like *Downton Abbey*’s Cora, married into the British aristocracy.
Cost: $10/PERSON, $8/SENIORS & STUDENTS, $6/FRIENDS OF MILLS. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

February 22
**GILDED AGE TEA & TALK SERIES**
Enjoy tea and refreshments in the formal dining room while listening to talks about different aspects of Gilded Age history.

**Art on Ice: Gilded Age Figure Skating  1PM**
Staatsburgh’s curator and professional figure skater, Maria Reynolds, will explore the popularity of skating during the many winters of the Gilded Age. Ruth Mills was an avid skater and this talk will explore some of the moves she performed.
COST: $35/PERSON, $30/FRIENDS OF MILLS. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.

February 29 – America’s Elite in the *Downton Abbey* Era Theme Tour  11:00AM
Highlighting Staatsburgh’s real-life counterparts of the Downton Abbey characters, this tour of the mansion, led by a costumed interpreter, will explore how the servants prepared for a busy weekend of entertaining….and how the Mills’ daughter, like *Downton Abbey*’s Cora, married into the British aristocracy.
Cost: $10/PERSON, $8/SENIORS & STUDENTS, $6/FRIENDS OF MILLS. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

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**WALKWAY OVER THE HUDSON STATE HISTORIC PARK //845.834.2867**

**Flag Changing Ceremony**
February 16 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
The American Legion Post 739 organize and present monthly Flag Changing Ceremonies on the Walkway to honor our region’s veterans and their service to our country. These events, organized and presented by these local veterans’ organizations, are open to all who wish to attend.
Contact: Ross Hartlipp with American Legion Post 739 for information and updates.
Location: Center Overlook of the Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park

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**JOHN JAY HOMESTEAD, Katonah, NY 10536 // 914.232.5651**

**Thematic Tour: Slavery & Abolition**
Thursday through Saturday, throughout the month of February 2:00pm
The story of the Jay family, their slaves, and the way the generations of the Jays acted in response to slavery is complex. Glimpses of the past these stories give are enlightening, and in many cases, surprising. Most of all, they can be a springboard toward developing a deeper understanding of the people who are part of this story: The Jays, the slaves, and the many people who strived to end slavery in America. Regular admission fees. **Advance purchase of tickets is suggested as space is limited.**
Historic House Tour for Families
Saturdays throughout the month of January
11:30am
What was life like 200 years ago? Compare your everyday life with the way the Jay family lived in the early 1800s. This 25-minute tour of the historic house, designed for families with children 10 and under, will focus on the lack of modern conveniences and its impact on everyday life through examining objects such as chamber pots and open-hearth toasters. Children must be accompanied by an adult; adults must be accompanied by a child. Free admission. Advance reservation of tickets is suggested as space is limited.

Visita a la Casa Histórica en Español
Sábado 1 de Febrero
12:00pm
Los visitantes del sitio histórico estatal John Jay Homestead están invitados a hacer un visita guiada por docentes de la casa Bedford de John Jay. El interior de la casa histórica ha sido restaurado para reflejar su apariencia durante la vida de John Jay. Más del 50% de los muebles son originales de John Jay y su familia. $ 10 adultos, $ 7 estudiantes / personas mayores, niños menores de 12 años son gratis. Se sugiere la compra anticipada de boletos ya que el espacio es limitado. Este tour se ofrece Español en el primer y tercer sábado de cada mes.

Scholars Lecture: Dissent in Our Democracy — Steve Luxenberg, Separate: The Story of Plessy v. Ferguson, and America’s Journey from Slavery to Segregation
Tuesday, February 11
6:30pm
Separate traces the careful building in 1896 of a test case to establish freedom from race-based segregation in public accommodations. The strategy backfired badly in Plessy v. Ferguson, when the Supreme Court ruled “separate but equal” did not violate the Constitution. Justice John Marshall Harlan was the sole dissenter, declaring that “the Constitution is color-blind’ and it would take 60 years to reverse the precedent, in Brown v. Board of Education. Luxenberg is an associate editor at The Washington Post, and winner of two Pulitzer prizes. 7:00pm lecture (registration and refreshments starting at 6:30pm), followed by a book signing. Reservations are recommended. $25; $20 for members.

Visita a la Casa Histórica en Español
Sábado 15 de Febrero
12:00pm
Los visitantes del sitio histórico estatal John Jay Homestead están invitados a hacer un visita guiada por docentes de la casa Bedford de John Jay. El interior de la casa histórica ha sido restaurado para reflejar su apariencia durante la vida de John Jay. Más del 50% de los muebles son originales de John Jay y su familia. $ 10 adultos, $ 7 estudiantes / personas mayores, niños menores de 12 años son gratis. Se sugiere la compra anticipada de boletos ya que el espacio es limitado. Este tour se ofrece Español en el primer y tercer sábado de cada mes.
WALKS & TOURS & MORE

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Walks & Tours & More are free. Due to winter weather, many of them require prior registration (unless otherwise noted) so that we can effectively notify people in case of weather-related cancellation. Events are organized/led by the Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct. See aqueduct.org for more information about the Aqueduct. Check with the contact for the event for any updates on schedule, weather, etc. and bring water and snacks. We will try to post cancellations on our website, aqueduct.org in “Upcoming Events,” but we may be unable to do so. General questions about Walks & Tours: Co-chair Sara Kelsey, 646-303-1448, saraakelsey@gmail.com. General questions about the Friends: President Mavis Cain, 914-693-0529 or mavisbird500@gmail.com.

February 2, Sunday at 11 am -- Croton Reservoir & Dam Hike – Easy 2-mile (total) hike north along the Aqueduct and atop the beautiful Croton Dam. Meet near the restrooms at the parking lot at Croton Gorge Park, Rte. 129, Cortlandt, NY 10567. The leader of the hike will discuss the history and construction of the Old Croton Aqueduct and the features of the Croton Dam, the trailhead of the Aqueduct Trail. The Aqueduct was completed in 1842 to supply water to a thirsty New York City. (From Metro-North Hudson Line Croton-Harmon Train Station: 15-minute taxi.) BY RESERVATION ONLY: Contact: Aram Aslanian-Persico, aram.dap@gmail.com or call/text 949-258-7016.

February 16, Sunday, at 1 pm – Legendary Ladies along the Aqueduct – Meet at the Keeper House’s, 15 Walnut Street, Dobbs Ferry (walking distance from the MTA Dobbs Ferry Train Station). We will walk north, and discuss the Aqueduct as well as the Sisters of Mercy, Helen Gould and Madam C.J. Walker. At your option, this walk ends at Main Street, Irvington (one-way; walking distance from the MTA Irvington Train Station) or back at the Keeper’s House (loop) for a walk of 2 or 4 miles. BY RESERVATION ONLY: Contact Sara Kelsey, saraakelsey@gmail.com or call/text 646-303-1448.

February 22, Saturday, at 10 am – High Bridge Tour – Meet at the front gates of the Morris-Jumel Mansion, 65 Jumel Terrace, NYC. Directions to the Mansion, with transportation/parking suggestions, can be found at: www.morrisjumel.org. (The closest subway stops on the #1 are 168th St. (reopened) or 157th St. There is also on-street parking.) We will walk to the High Bridge along the Aqueduct trail, beginning at W. 158th x Edgecombe Avenue. Take in panoramic views of the Harlem River, The Bronx and Manhattan. Marvel at the engineering feat completed in 1848. Learn about the origin of NYC’s water system. Optional side trip up the stairs on the Manhattan side of the bridge to view the tower and the former site of the reservoir. You may wish to take a self-led tour of the Morris-Jumel Mansion (Manhattan’s oldest house – admission $10/$8) after the walk. Without optional side trips, the walk from the Mansion to the High Bridge and back is approximately.
Old Croton Aqueduct continued...

2 miles. Bring water & snacks & wear sturdy shoes. BY RESERVATION ONLY: Contact Aram Aslanian-Persico, RSVP via email or text required: aram.dap@gmail.com or text 949-258-7016.

KEEPER’S HOUSE VISITOR & EDUCATION CENTER: Open every Saturday and Sunday, 1-4 pm. (In case of bad weather, you can call 914-693-4117 to double check if there is a closure message.) The Keeper’s House has received a Greater Hudson Heritage Network Award for Excellence for its interactive permanent exhibit about the history of the Croton System and the NYC water supply. Located at 15 Walnut Street, Dobbs Ferry, between the Aqueduct Trail and Broadway.

Now on exhibit: HOW NEW YORK BECAME THE EMPIRE CITY.
The exhibit includes architectural drawings, illustrations, maps and photographs illustrating how the Old Croton Aqueduct, completed in 1842, made this transformation possible. Docents are available to answer questions, provide information about walks & tours & more and to sell NYC and Westchester Aqueduct maps, shirts and caps. (From Metro-North Dobbs Ferry Train Station, a 5-10-minute uphill walk).

GO THE EXTRA MILE! The Friends will recognize walkers/runners who complete the Westchester portion or the entire Old Croton Aqueduct with a 26- or 41-mile certificate and patch (free to members). Details and recognition forms are available on the website and at walks and tours. Inquiries: Sara Kelsey, saraakelsey@gmail.com.

PHILIPSE MANOR HALL STATE HISTORIC SITE // 914.965.4027

Saturday’s 11:00AM-12:15PM. Yoga and Meditation Class
Simple chair yoga and meditation practices can help us release stress, relax, feel healthier and calmer. It helps us sleep better, and can ultimately help shift our perspective, enabling us to feel more in charge of our lives, and have a more compassionate, inclusive and empowered view of the world. Class takes place inside the Gothic Chamber and walk ins welcomed. No mats. $10 per class, no reservations needed. 11:00am-12:15pm | Location: Yonkers | $10 | Ages: All Ages
Saturday, February 8th, 3:30PM: Rivertown String Quartet
Join the Rivertown String Quartet for a Valentines Season Concert with Candy, Crafts and Canoodling!
The Rivertown String Quartet seeks to make timeless music accessible to local communities with concerts, stories, and sometimes snacks! Accompanying the music, historical backgrounds and contexts will be given on the creation of the pieces. This free performance will take place from 3:30-4:30. For more information, please visit www.rivertownstringquartet.org
3:30PM-4:30pm | Location: Yonkers | Free | Ages: All Ages

Saturday, February 15th, 12:00-3:00 P.M. • Presidents’ Day
Presidents George Washington and Franklin Delano Roosevelt both visited Philipse Manor Hall, and this Presidents’ Day, you can too Celebrate the Manor Hall’s historic civic role and its presidential portrait collection with a day of crafts, scavenger hunts, quizzes, and more! Event is free thanks to Friends of Philipse Manor Hall. 12:00PM-3:00pm | Location: Yonkers | Free | Ages: All Ages

Saturday, February 29th, 3:00PM: Saturday Family Movie: The Nut Job
The winter series of Saturday Family Movie continues with a story about a park and a problem in the Nut Job!
When food is becoming scarce at the end of the season, animals in a local park are forced to enlist the help of a renegade squirrel to secure their food source. Will everything go according to plan? Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket and refreshments. Each movie will take place at 3pm inside the Gothic Chamber of Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site. 3:00PM-4:30pm | Location: Yonkers | Free | Ages: All Ages

February 2 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Sunday Morning Winter Photo Walk with Fine Art Photographer Heidi Fuhrman
The Preserve is pleased to have Heidi rejoin us to guide a free Winter Photo Walk – continuing a tradition of her one-per-season photo walks at the Preserve. Heidi’s photowalks, which she began offering in 2017, have proven very popular in the past and space will be limited this year.
More at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sunday-morning-winter-photo-walk-tickets-88537579283. Any camera, even a cell phone, is ok.
Please dress according to weather conditions. Please bring water. Dogs welcome.
Walk begins outside the Preserve’s main office at 10 am sharp, so please arrive early.
In case of bad conditions, event may be cancelled, please watch for notices from Eventbrite.com.
Pre-registration required. Please register this event at: www.rockefellerstateparkpreserve.eventbrite.com
Cost: FREE

February 5 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm | Jean’s Jaunt
Join Jean for a jaunty walk through the Preserve!
Do you like hiking with an experienced hike guide who knows the terrain and all the stories behind them? Then you’ll love joining Jean for her jaunts through Rockefeller because no one knows these roads like Jean!
Please dress according to weather conditions. Please bring water. Dogs welcome.
Meet park office courtyard. We leave promptly at scheduled times.
In case of bad conditions, event may be cancelled, please watch for notices from Eventbrite.com.
Please register this event at www.rockefellerstateparkpreserve.eventbrite.com
Cost: FREE
February 8 | 9:00 am | Hike with Mike
Swan Lake: Upstairs – Downstairs
No matter how familiar you think you are with a landscape or landmark, it may look very different if you view it from a different direction, a different time of day and so on. You’ll have an opportunity to experience this during the hike.
Please dress according to weather conditions. Please bring water.
Approx length: 4-6 miles. Approx time: 2-3 hrs
Not recommended for children under 5. Dogs welcome.
Meet park office courtyard. We leave promptly at scheduled times.
In case of bad conditions, event may be cancelled, please watch for notices from Eventbrite.
Please register this event at www.rockefellerstateparkpreserve.eventbrite.com Cost: FREE

February 9 | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM | Full Moon Hike
Every month we give hikers an opportunity to experience the Preserve after dark in our "Full Moon Hike" series. Please join us for this very popular and special event. Please bring a flashlight or headlamp.
Please dress according to weather conditions. Please bring water. Dogs welcome.
Meet park office courtyard.
IMPORTANT: We leave promptly at scheduled times. This is a night hike, after the park has officially closed.
Late-comers will not be allowed to enter the park after the group has departed.
In case of bad conditions, event may be cancelled, please watch for notices from Eventbrite.
PLEASE NOTE: We must limit attendance at this event to 40 people maximum. Tickets are free and are on a first come first serve basis. If you do not get tickets this time, please sign up for the wait list as we almost always have cancellations. If you reserve tickets and then must cancel, please go to Eventbrite and cancel so those tickets will be shown as available to others who are wait listed. Thank you. Thank you for your cooperation.
****TICKETS AVAILABLE AFTER Feb 1, 2020****
Please register this event at www.rockefellerstateparkpreserve.eventbrite.com Cost: FREE

February 10 | 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM | Bird Walk with Saw Mill River Audubon
Come birding with us! Walk begins 8:30am at the main parking lot of Rockefeller State Park Preserve.
http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/events.html Cost: FREE
February 12 | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm | Sensory Hike with “RangerSu”
In our sensory hike series, talking is kept to a minimum. We walk in presence through the woods, stopping at times to explore what we are seeing, hearing, smelling and feeling. Through observance of nature, we seek to become more centered and connected with the world around us.
Please dress according to weather conditions. Please bring water. Dogs welcome.
Meet park office courtyard. We leave promptly at scheduled times.
In case of bad conditions, event may be cancelled, please watch for notices from Eventbrite.com.
Please register this event at www.rockefellerstateparkpreserve.eventbrite.com  Cost: FREE

February 17 | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm | Sensory Hike with “RangerSu”
In our sensory hike series, talking is kept to a minimum. We walk in presence through the woods, stopping at times to explore what we are seeing, hearing, smelling and feeling. Through observance of nature, we seek to become more centered and connected with the world around us.
Please dress according to weather conditions. Please bring water. Dogs welcome.
Meet park office courtyard. We leave promptly at scheduled times.
In case of bad conditions, event may be cancelled, please watch for notices from Eventbrite.com.
Please register this event at www.rockefellerstateparkpreserve.eventbrite.com  Cost: FREE

February 20 | 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm | Tree ID Walk with Kim Castaldo
Learn how to identify trees across the Preserve with our resident tree tracking expert, Kim Castaldo.
Please dress according to weather conditions. Please bring water. Dogs welcome.
Meet park office courtyard. We leave promptly at scheduled times.
In case of bad conditions, event may be cancelled, please watch for notices from Eventbrite.com.
Please register this event at www.rockefellerstateparkpreserve.eventbrite.com  Cost: FREE

February 25 | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm | Sensory Hike with “RangerSu”
In our sensory hike series, talking is kept to a minimum. We walk in presence through the woods, stopping at times to explore what we are seeing, hearing, smelling and feeling. Through observance of nature, we seek to become more centered and connected with the world around us.
Please dress according to weather conditions. Please bring water. Dogs welcome. Meet park office courtyard. We leave promptly at scheduled times.
In case of bad conditions, event may be cancelled, please watch for notices from Eventbrite.com.
Please register this event at www.rockefellerstateparkpreserve.eventbrite.com  Cost: FREE
February 28 | 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm | Special Leap Year Sunset Hike
Come join us for a Sunset Hike on the last day of February - or is it?? Let's see if the energies of the sun are any different as it sets on this special day. Or let's just have a nice walk.
Please dress according to weather conditions. Please bring water. Dogs welcome.
Meet park office courtyard. We leave promptly at scheduled times.
In case of bad conditions, event may be cancelled, please watch for notices from Eventbrite.com.
Please register this event at www.rockefellerstateparkpreserve.eventbrite.com  Cost: FREE

COLUMBIA COUNTY

LAKE TAGHKANIC STATE PARK // 518.851.3631
Fri., Feb.21: Mid-Hudson Astronomical Association Monthly Star Party, 5:00 PM. The Mid-Hudson Astronomical Association hosts a monthly stargazing party in the West Beach parking lot. Bring your own telescopes and binoculars or use those provided by our members. RSVP is required at least one day beforehand. You will be asked to provide your license plate number and make/model car so Park Management and Police have a record of who will be in park after hours. More info at https://www.meetup.com/mhastro. Registration: Required

OLANA STATE HISTORIC SITE // 518.751.0344

TOURS OF OLANA INDOORS + OUT ALL WINTER

Olana has launched tours of the Main House and Historic Landscape. Tours are offered Friday through Sunday 11 AM to 3 PM. Historic Landscape Tours are weather dependent. Please check the online calendar for availability. The Olana Museum Store is open Friday through Sunday 10 AM to 4 PM. The landscape is free and open daily 8:30 AM to sunset. Snowshoeing and cross-country skiing are welcomed. To learn more and purchase tickets visit OLANAOrg. Photo by Melanie Hasbrook

Taconic Region
GEOCACHE 2020 WINTER CHALLENGE
Now thru APRIL 17
Participating Parks in the Winter Series: Mill-Norrie, FDR, and Rockefeller. For information on participating please visit https://www.geocaching.com/
Greetings! I’m Peter Iskenderian and I am the manager of the Rockefeller State Park Preserve. Born and raised in the Hudson Valley, I consider this the most beautiful region of the country. Growing up here and spending all my time playing out in the woods, I knew from a young age that I wanted a career that celebrated nature and the outdoors. After receiving my bachelor’s degree in Recreation and Leisure Studies from the California State University at Long Beach, I began my Park’s career at Tallman Mountain State Park in the Palisades Region. As new job positions became available in the parks service, I became a Park Manager at Old Croton Aqueduct and, at the same time, the Assistant Manager at the Rockefeller Preserve.

What an experience it was running two exceptional facilities, so different but uniquely connected. I really learned a lot about life, people and myself in this position. I loved working at the Preserve so much that I knew one day I’d come back and be the manager. But first, another opportunity presented itself when I accepted a Manager position at Moreau Lake State Park in the Saratoga/Capital District.

For 12 years, I enjoyed working and living in the Adirondacks. Who wouldn't? I achieved all the goals I set for myself at Moreau Lake and I was ready for a new challenge. When the Rockefeller Preserve manager position opened up in 2019, I knew this was the opportunity I’ve been waiting for... If I didn’t go for it now, I would regret it forever. The rest is history.
Please contact the park/site for information regarding fees and availability.

**STATE PARKS**

Clarence Fahnestock Memorial
   Carmel (845) 225-7207

Fahnestock Winter Park
   Administration (845) 225-7207
   Snow conditions (845) 225-3998

Franklin D. Roosevelt
   Yorktown Heights (914) 245-4434

Hudson Highlands
   Poughkeepsie to Beacon (845) 225-7207

James Baird
   Pleasant Valley (845) 452-1489

Lake Taghkanic
   Ancram (518) 851-3631

Margaret Lewis Norrie/Ogden Mills & Ruth Livingston Mills (Mills-Norrie)
   Staatsburg (845) 889-4646

Rockefeller Preserve
   Pleasantville (914) 631-1470

Taconic/Copake Falls
   Copake Falls (518) 329-3993

Taconic/Rudd Pond
   Millerton (518) 789-3059

Wonder Lake
   Kent/Patterson (845) 225-7207

**STATE GOLF COURSES**

Dinsmore
   Staatsburg (845) 889-4071

James Baird
   Pleasant Valley (845) 452-1489

**STATE HISTORIC SITES**

Clermont
   Germantown (518) 537-4240

John Jay Homestead
   Katonah (914) 232-5651

Olana
   Hudson (518) 828-0135

Philipse Manor Hall
   Yonkers (914) 965-4027

Staatsburgh
   Staatsburg (845) 889-8851

**EDUCATION/NATURE CENTERS**

Taconic Outdoor Education Center (OPRHP)
   (By Group Reservations Only)
   Cold Spring (845) 265-3773

Norrie Point Environmental Center (DEC)
   Staatsburg (845) 889-4745

**STATE HISTORIC PARKS**

Old Croton Aqueduct
   Dobbs Ferry (Park Office) (914) 693-5259

Walkway Over the Hudson
   Highland/Poughkeepsie (845) 834-2867

**PROPERTIES OWNED BY NYSOPRHP AND MANAGED BY NON-PROFITS**

Bannerman Island
   Beacon, (845) 831-6346

Clinton House State Historic Site
   Poughkeepsie, (845) 471-1630

Jay Heritage Center
   Rye, (914) 698-9275