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President's Message

Happy Summer! The weather is warmer, there are leaves on the trees, flowers are blooming; and here at the Museum...we have a brand new handicapped ramp!

If you have driven by the museum recently you may have seen many outdoor project being worked on. The bushes in front of our sign have been removed for better visibility of our Museum's sign, allowing passing cars to see that we are open.

But, the largest outdoor project is the completion of our handicapped accessible ramp. Thank you to Sullivan Brothers for their hard work this spring in making our museum handicapped accessible and ADA compliant. This has been a project several years in the making and we are thrilled to finally see it come to completion.



This new ramp will make entering and exiting the museum possible (and easier) for all of our visitors and volunteers! Come try it out for yourself this summer!

Ivan Cyr President

Become A Member!

The Watertown History Museum is dedicated to highlighting significant Watertown/Oakville people, architecture, resources, and its history. Members are an essential part of the work we do bringing local history to life through online and in-person offerings including exhibits, lectures, genealogy services, tours, archives and much more.

Our current membership drive is still going strong! The membership year runs from 6/1/2022 to 5/31/2023, but we welcome new members throughout the year. Members are the first to hear about the exciting resources, exhibits and programs that tell the Watertown/Oakville story. Additionally, your annual membership includes:

- Periodic newsletter
- Members only events and programs
- Free/reduced admission to programs/events
- 10% discount in the gift shop
- Research pertaining to Watertown and Oakville

The Watertown History Museum is an independent non-profit that depends on grants and private funding. Your **tax-deductible contribution** is vital to the future of our organization. Join us today or renew your membership on our website at <u>www.watertownhistorymuseum.org</u> or complete a Membership Application and mail with your check payable to the Watertown History Museum, 401 Main Street, Watertown, CT 06795. Thank you for supporting your community.

New Exhibits Opening This Summer

The Exhibits Committee at the museum has been busily working the past few

months on completing some already installed exhibits, as well as creating two brand new ones.

The first new exhibit guests will see when they walk in is "Mary Julia's Living Room." This is a dual purpose space that will act as the museum's new lobby area while also teaching visitors about the life of Mary Julia and Paul Klimpke, who were the original owners of our new home.

The second brand new exhibit is "Watertown Artists & Authors." This exhibit examines the important history of the arts in all forms: writing, painting, sculpture, design, and much more. Come see the works of many local artists and writers, many never before seen by the public.

Summer Programming

June 11 - CT Open House Day

Just like last year, the museum will be offering a day of educational fun on the state's annual <u>CT Open House Day</u>. To entertain our visitors this year, the museum will have activities in every exhibit. You will learn how to spot enemy planes like in WWII, be the "Next Gen" of artists and writers in Watertown, and also have some fun on the farm with an ear notching activity and butter making. There will also be a "Farming Photo Booth" (weather permitting) and a "Wheel of Fun." See our brand new exhibits and enjoy these fun activities with family and friends! We hope to see you there!

July 20 - Summer Wednesday Workshop

Join retired Watertown art teacher Joann Barthelmess for a night of crafting fun!

August 20 - Watertown Block Party

Join in the fun of "A Night Out On Main Street!" The Watertown History Museum will have a booth this year to teach the town all about the museum and our town's great history. While you are strolling up and down Main Street, find our booth and come say hi!

September 17 - Fall Festival

To round out the summer and begin the journey into fall, the Watertown History Museum will once again have a booth at this year's Watertown Fall Festival. Come see what the museum is all about and maybe bring home some freebies. Also, be on the lookout for more fun programming this fall, including "Wicked Watertown Tales!"



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