PROMOTING YOUR PROGRAM

PETER J SCHEIBNER
ROCKLAND COUNTY ARCHIVIST
2015 NYALGRO – Lake George, NY

Knowing your Organization – Key Actors

- (County Executive, Supervisor, Legislature, Department Head)
- Departments: Personnel, Budget, Finance, Legal, Purchasing, Computer Services, Maintenance…

Responsibilities and meeting your personal mandates

- Performance Reviews
- Meeting Expectations
- Workflow Efficiencies
- Education and Networking
- Team Player
- Volunteers, Student, Summer Help, PINS

Constituents, Customers

- Understanding the needs of your clients
- Developing Relationships (GSRC, RSVP, HSRC)
- Filling a Need or Void (Favor Program)
- Community Support (contributing to functions, history days, tourism)

Program Ulster County Clerk's Records Donation Program

Ulster County Clerk's *Records Donation Program*

Records Management in Ulster County began in the seventeenth century with a locked wooden chest in a basement store room. Now, more than 320 years later, it is a state-of-the-art facility known as the Ulster County Records Center. Continuing this tradition of records management responsibility, the Honorable Nina Postupack, our 45th Clerk of Ulster County, implemented the

Records Donation Program

The Records Donation Program is designed to encourage the rightful return of official county records, especially those of historical value, and to recognize their donors. Official county records are those that were, at one time, filed or recorded by the County Clerk's Office.

Nina Postupack

Ulster County Clerk

Preserving History

To recognize the inaugural donation on May 16, 2006 by the Davis family, as well as all future donations, the County Clerk's Office has created this plaque. It is installed in a place of honor, to remember those who, like the Davis family, realize that official public records, especially those of such significant historical value, should remain in the public domain.

The [Records Donation] program encourages individuals, families and organizations to donate historic documents – "no questions asked," according to the clerk – for preservation for future generations...the availability of this program, assiduously supervised by professional archivists, is an asset for the ages.

Editorial from the Daily Freeman, Monday, May 22, 2006

For further information please contact
Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk
(845) 340-3040

www.co.ulster.ny.us/archives

Rockland County Archives

IT'S ABOUT TIME
Archival Newsletter

Issue VIII | ROCKLAND COUNTY, N.Y. | Summer 2013

Rockland County Elections: 1813-1842

The Rockland County Archives is an invaluable resource for anyone interested in local history. One of the most interesting historical records in the Archives is a book that was used in the early nineteenth century to record election results in the County. Entirely handwritten, this book provides detailed records of how voters in each of Rockland's towns chose to cast their ballots in local, state, and national elections. It provides an interesting window into how early Rockland residents felt about the major political issues of their time.

This hardcover book, *Rockland County: Record of Election Transcripts*, consists of 168 pages and includes all of the results for Rockland County elections between 1813 and 1842. For each election year, the number of votes received by candidates for various elective offices were recorded for Rockland County and its towns. All of these results were signed by the County Clerk and other local officials at the time who certified that they were accurate. It is interesting to note that this book does not mention which political party each candidate belonged to. A researcher must use other sources to find out this information.

Photo of Rockland County: Record of Election Transcripts

According to Philip Lampi of the American Antiquarian Society, counties in New York State were required to maintain election books beginning in 1799. These books were used both to preserve the historical record and as an official source for newspapers reporting election results at that time.

This book is a tremendous resource that provides a significant amount of information concerning how Rockland County fit into the early political history of this country. This article uses information from this book to gain insight into how Rockland residents may have felt about two pivotal events in American history: the construction of the Erie Canal and the rise of the Jacksonian Democrats. These two events would have been very significant to all New York residents in the early nineteenth century.

Rockland County Archives

acknowledges Rockland County's development of collaborative relationships with other local governments and organizations to help promote its archival holdings. The award certificate was presented at a luncheon on October 21, 2014 in Albany. Receiving the award (in photo, left to right) were Paul Piperato, Rockland County Clerk, Thomas J. Ruller, Peter Scheibner, Rockland County Archivist, and Roger Tilles, Chair, Cultural Education Committee, New York State Board of Regents. *(Photo by Harvey Vlahos, Altamont Manor Photography)*

Newsletter Recognized for Excellence

Greater Hudson Heritage Network (GHHN; www.greaterhudson.org) recognized the Rockland County Archives with a 2014 Awards for Excellence for the Summer 2013 issue of *It's About Time* and its article on Rockland County Elections: 1813 to 1842. GHHN is a regional service organization located in Elmsford, NY, that was formed to advance and advocate the preservation and interpretation of the area's historical, ethnic and cultural heritages.

(Photo: Rockland County Archivist Peter Scheibner and Jason Schachter, editor of the Summer 2013 issue of It's About Time.) ■

Rockland County Archives

Happy Holidays

From Your Friends at the Archives,

Pete, Henry, Fran, Marie, Sandy, Bob, Peggy, Joan, Gail, Dick, Bob, Sue, & Brian

2014

Rockland County Fire Training Center Museum

Rockland County Fire Training Center Museum

Rockland County Fire Training Center Museum

Ulster County Clerk

Nina Postupack
Ulster County Clerk
***invites* you to...**

Explore
Ulster County's
Dutch Records,
circa 1658-1712...
Online!

Visit
http//ulstercountyny.gov/archives/dutchsearchscreen.html

Discover Ulster County's Dutch Colonial History

The Ulster County Clerk's Office invites you to journey back in time via an on-line, word-searchable database of the English Translations of Ulster County's Dutch Court Records and Secretary's Papers, circa 1658-1712.

Presented by
Nina Postupack
Ulster County Clerk

Ulster County Clerk's Office	Ulster County Records Center
244 Fair Street, 2nd Floor PO Box 1800 Kingston, NY 12402 (845) 340-3040 http://ulstercountyny.gov/countyclerk/	300 Foxhall Avenue Kingston, NY 12401 (845) 340-3415 http://ulstercountyny.gov/archives/index.html

Ulster County Clerk

Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk
Cordially Invites You to Attend an Exhibition

A Prelude to Peace

Life in Wiltwyck and Kingston Before October 7, 1665

This year, we are commemorating the 350th Anniversary of the signing of the *Peace Treaty between Richard Nicholls and the People called the Sopes Indyans made 7th October 1665*. This commemoration will happen through two exhibits. The first exhibit (the current exhibit on display) will give you the background for the peace treaty, and focuses on the years starting with the founding of Wiltwyck in 1652 right up to October 1665 on the eve of the signing of the treaty. Come back this summer for the second part of this year long exhibit! The symbol on the front is the acronym for the Dutch West India Company that oversaw New Netherlands (the initials GWC stand for Geoctroyeerde Westindische Compagnie in Dutch). Within just a short amount of time, from 1652 until 1665, many events would happen to these settlers. They would experience two wars, a takeover by another nation, and yet they would continue to shape a culture that is still alive and vibrant to this day. We hope you enjoy the exhibit and thank you for visiting.

The exhibit is on display at:
The Ulster County Clerk's Office
244 Fair Street, 2nd Floor Archives Gallery
Kingston, New York
January ~ June 2015

For more information please call Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk at (845) 340-3040 or visit our website at www.co.ulster.ny.us/archives

Ulster County ClerK

Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk
Announces A New Archives Exhibit

DIVIDING LINES:
EARLY MAPS OF THE
ULSTER COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

An exhibit from the Ulster County Clerk's Map Index Number 1 filed between 1797 and 1956. and representing the variety of maps found in the index, the Ashokan Reservoir, and every township in the county.

Please stop in to the gallery anytime! We're always happy to give a tour!

Nina Postupack

The exhibit will be on display at:
The Ulster County Clerk's Office
244 Fair Street, 2nd Floor Archives Gallery, Kingston
January -- April 2010
For more information please call (845) 340-3040

Ulster County Clerk

Matthewis Persen House
Museum & Cultural Heritage Center

Keeping Ulster County History Alive!

2015
Tour Season Schedule & Special Events

Tours, Exhibits, Events & More!

Michael P. Hein, Ulster County Executive
Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk

About the House

The Matthewis Persen House is one of Ulster County's oldest, most significant buildings.

Named after its longest residing owner, Matthewis Persen (1739-1819), the House is located within Kingston's Stockade National Historic District. Its earliest portions date from c.1661 and it is one of four landmark buildings on each corner of John and Crown Streets. This is the only known intersection in the United States with pre-revolutionary stone houses on all four corners.

The Persen House has been the home of doctors, tailors, innkeepers, druggists, grocers, and Ulster County government. It was burned at least twice, saw wars and revolution, and survived to tell its tale. To walk through this remarkable building is to walk through Ulster County's rich local history!

The Persen House functions as Ulster County's Heritage Gateway. Cultural heritage groups from throughout the county guest host at the House each weekend and share their treasure troves of history & culture with visitors. In the 2010 through 2014 tour seasons, the Persen House hosted over 12,500 visitors, including 359 international visitors from 31 different countries.

We look forward to a fun and educational tour season in 2015. Come visit us soon!

Want to know more about the Matthewis Persen House? Simply scan this QR code!

http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/clerk/matthewispersenhouse.html

Come Visit Us!

74 John Street
Kingston, New York

From the NYS Thruway (I-87): Take exit 19 toward Kingston/Rhinecliff. Enter roundabout and take 2nd exit onto Washington Ave. After a half mile, turn left onto N. Front St. Take the 2nd right onto Crown St. The house is one block down, on the corner of Crown & John Streets.

From the North via 9W or Rt. 32: Take Ulster/Albany Ave heading southwest past the Rt. 587 intersection. Turn right onto Clinton Ave. Bear left onto N. Front St. Turn left on Crown St. The house is one block down, on the corner of Crown & John Streets.

From the South via Rt. 32: Take Wall St. heading north. After about one mile, turn left onto North Front St. Turn left onto Crown St. The house is one block down, on the corner of Crown & John Streets.

Parking: Metered on-street parking is available throughout the uptown Kingston area. The Ulster County Courthouse on Wall Street has limited availability during the week, but is completely available on the weekends. The Ulster County Office Building on the corner of Main & Fair Streets offers free weekend parking. There is also free parking at the Kingston Plaza every day, less than a half mile walk from the house.

Summer

June 13 Slabsides and John Burroughs Nature Sanctuary—Join John Burroughs Association members to discover literary naturalist John Burroughs, learn about his 1895 cabin Slabsides and the trails in the surrounding nature sanctuary, and see plans for the John Burroughs Black Creek Preservational Trail Corridor. The morning will also include a video of John Burroughs and President Theodore Roosevelt at Yellowstone. Descendent Joan Burroughs will be on hand to answer questions. Come awaken your inner naturalist!

June 20 The Wittenberg Center for Alternative Resources presents *Astral Astronomy and Native American Planting Practices*—Rev. Jim Davis from the Center will share information about the Summer Solstice and other astronomical events and their effect on Native American planting and farming. Jim Davis is always a wealth of information. Make sure not to miss this fascinating event!

June 27 Save Native Sites—Join Save Native Sites for a day of excellent programming. Local indigenous history will be discussed regarding the Munsee way of life and the differences of cultures when the Dutch and English colonists came to Atharfaetan (now Kingston) in the 1600's.

July 4 Closed in Observance of Independence Day

July 11 Ellenville Public Library & Museum presents *Early Days of the Ulster County Fair*. Ellenville Public Library & Museum (EPLM) houses an extensive local history collection including a treasure trove of images and ephemera from the early days of the Ulster County Fair which was originally held in Ellenville. Join the EPLM staff as they share this unique and wonderful time in Ulster County's history through their collection of images and memorabilia.

July 18 Gomez Mill House—Gomez Mill House is the oldest extant Jewish-built dwelling in North America and oldest continually occupied house in Orange County on the National Register of Historic Places. Luis Gomez utilized it as a trading post and shelter when he supervised his lumber harvesting and lime quarrying operations. Using our holland owners as examples we teach the children about community, equality, diversity and responsibility.

July 25 The Cook Family—Katie Cook and her daughters return to Persen House to guide visitors through the House and share their wealth of knowledge on local restaurants, museums and happenings. Join the Cooks as they guide you through the House and see history through the eyes of our young citizens!

Aug 1 Hurley Heritage Society presents *Hurley Harvest...By Hand and By Horse*—Please join the Hurley Heritage Society as they share their museum's current exhibit on local farms and farming equipment. View a video about the exhibit and see a few items from their collection of 19th century farming equipment.

Aug 8 Plattekill Historical Society presents *Old Ulster County Maps & Roads*—Join members of the Plattekill Historical Society as they discuss and exhibit information on historic Ulster County maps and roads. These maps offer a unique view of the development of Ulster County through our roadways.

Aug 15 Friends of Historic Kingston—Please join volunteers from the Friends of Historic Kingston as they give special tours of the house. The "Friends" will also share their vast knowledge regarding Uptown, the Stockade National Historic District, and Downtown, the Rondout National Historic District and the Fred J. Johnston House tours. It is always a treat to visit the House when the "Friends" are hosting! You will learn so much and have some fun too!

Aug 22 Ulster County Historical Society—The Ulster County Historical Society, founded in 1859, will be hosting at the Persen House and sharing with guests many historical items from their collections. Please come visit the Persen House, and learn about the many historical services available through Ulster County Historical Society. For more information about the day's events please call (845)338-5614 or find the society on Facebook.

Aug 29 Kingston Land Trust—The Kingston Land Trust is a non-profit organization committed to the protection and preservation of open space historic sites, wetlands, scenic areas, and forests in the City of Kingston and the surrounding region to include the Town of Ulster and the Town of Kingston. Come in and find out about new rail trails in Kingston. It's sure to be an exciting day!

Fall

Sept 5 Ulster County Historical Society—The Ulster County Historical Society, founded in 1859, will be hosting at the Persen House and sharing with guests many historical items from their collections. Please come visit the Persen House, and learn about the many historical services available through Ulster County Historical Society. For more information about the day's events please call (845)338-5614 or find the society on Facebook.

Sept 12 1st Ulster Militia—The original 1st Regiment, Ulster County Militia was composed of citizen soldiers from the area now within the boundaries of Kingston, Saugerties and Woodstock. Members promote the education of the public as to military and social life in the colonial and Revolutionary War eras through demonstrations of everyday crafts and skills and the typical life of the militiaman. So join the 1st Ulster Militia as they bring history alive!

Sept 19 Red Feather Drummers, Members of the Association of Native Americans of the Middle Hudson Valley—The Red Feather Drummers invite children of all ages to join them at the House. The group will share Native American storytelling, singing, dancing, crafts & drumming. Come listen to traditional stories that teach respect for others, animals, nature and the earth.

Sept 26 Senate House State Historic Site—Dressed in 18th century clothing staff from Senate House State Historic Site will demonstrate hands-on activities of dipping candles, making dried apple wreaths, and churning butter. It's sure to be fun for the whole family!

Oct 3 The British Brigade / 16th Queen's Light Dragoons—The 16th Queen's Light Dragoon British re-enactors will stage a British Occupation of the Persen House. Red Coats will be everywhere and they will be seeking recruits for the King! There will be musket demonstrations, a recruiting officer and some 18 uniforms of the American Revolution. They will also be exhibiting homespun women's clothing! This exhibit will feature many handmade dresses and the ever important accessories such as hats, gloves and shoes worn by the women in the 18th century at the time of the Revolution.

Oct 10 Ulster County Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee presents *Mustering Out: The End of the War 1865-2015 150 years*—Please join members of the committee as they present a new, month-long exhibit commemorating the end of the Civil War. There will be a special program featuring various speakers. Be sure not to miss this special closing event for the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

Oct 16th-18th Burning of Kingston Historic Re-enactment Weekend—On October 16, 1777, the British fleet, under the command of General Vaughn, set fire to Kingston, then capital of New York. Join us for historic re-enactments of events leading up to and through the burning. See below for the exciting events planned at the Persen House this weekend.

Oct 24 Reher Center for Immigrant Culture and History—Join us again this season as the Reher Center presents the latest version of Lynn Woods and Stephen Discovery groundbreaking documentary Lost Rondout: A Story of Urban Renewal, revised to reflect a year's worth of additional interviews and research, followed by a discussion with Stephen and Lynn and several other participants in the project. Additionally, trace a brief history of Rondout with a guided tour of the Reher Center's exhibit on display at the Persen House, *Rondout Revisited*, featuring a revised section on urban renewal, while touring the entire interior of this historic stone house which dates back to the 1690's.

Oct 31 TRANSART presents *African Americans and the Hudson Valley Before the 13th Amendment*—Learn about life and living in the Hudson Valley and New York State prior to the 1865 adoption of the 13th amendment which abolished slavery. Experience the music, the food and the history of the era. This is sure to be an exciting and educational event!

Nov 7 The Wittenberg Center for Alternative Resources presents *Fall Harvest Practices of the Local Native Peoples*—Rev. Jim Davis from the Wittenberg Center will share the harvesting practices of the local native peoples, which has been passed on to him by his Grandfather Dada. The talk will include the importance of preserving food for winter and the origins of the Iroquoian Jack-o-Lantern! Weather permitting, a demonstration of smoking fish and game may be done as well. This event has become a Persen House tradition! Please join Jim as he shares Native American traditions through this event.

Nov 14 Bosone of Paris—Join members of the Bosone of Paris as they re-enact what Dutch life in the 1600s would have looked like. Members will be wearing period dress and demonstrating elements of domestic life. The Bosone are full of wonderful information. Be sure not to miss this event!

Nov 21 Persen House Museum Staff—Take a self guided tour or a staff tour and learn about the five phases of this House and how the happenings in this house reveal Kingston's and Ulster County's rich local history.

October 16th-18th Special Event—*Burning of Kingston* Re-Enactment

Friday, October 16—At 7:00 pm, view an historic re-enactment of the Committee of Safety as they meet by candlelight to plan the evacuation of Kingston residents on the eve of the British attack. Militia leaders and local government officials meet to discuss the pending attack and plan a strategy to save the townspeople and the important government documents. Be sure to come back Saturday as the militia puts their plans in action to keep the British from taking the Persen House! Go to www.burningofkingston.com for a schedule of events.

Saturday, October 17—**The British are Coming!! The British are Coming!!** – Make sure you're at the Persen House at 2:00 pm during the re-enactment of the 1777 Burning of Kingston as there will be a MAJOR battle at and around the House between the British and the local militia. The British just might ask you "To whom is your allegiance?" Will you be ready to answer? Will you say the King?? Will you support the Revolution? Be sure to get your loyalty papers before the siege begins!

Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk will be hosting Colonial Game Day at the Persen House where you can participate in games that were popular in the Colonial era. Each game offers a unique history and skill set, whether it is pure entertainment, the Jacob's ladder or a test of dexterity like Game of Graces. Fun for children of all ages!

Many Burning of Kingston related activities and events will be available throughout Kingston. Make sure to check the schedule online!

Sunday, October 18—As the Burning of Kingston events wrap up, be sure to visit the Persen House which will be open special hours from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm today. Play colonial games and take a tour of the house. You can also view the exhibit *Whispers of Revolution: Matthewis Persen's Tavern and the Burning of Kingston* and learn about the role taverns played during the Revolution. View burn marks from the 1777 burning of Kingston by the British and see how this event affected the residents of Kingston. Don't miss out on this unique exhibit as we close the 238th anniversary weekend!

Matthewis Persen House
Museum & Cultural Heritage Center

Keeping Ulster County History Alive!

Hours of Operation

May 23 – September 6:
Tuesday through Friday 9am–4:30pm
& Saturdays 9am–3pm

September 12 – November 21:
Saturdays Only 10am–2pm
or by Appointment

Take a self-guided tour or join one of our knowledgeable museum docents for a personal tour.

The Persen House can also accommodate large groups. Please call to schedule a special group tour!

For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk at (845) 340-3040

Special Exhibits—All Season

Nina Postupack, Ulster County Clerk presents *Whispers of Revolution: Matthewis Persen's Tavern and the Burning of Kingston*. This year marks the 238th Anniversary of the Burning of Kingston. In conjunction with this anniversary the County Clerk's Office will present an exhibit focused on Matthewis Persen's tavern and the role taverns played in the early days of the Revolution. Many artifacts will be on display that date to the days of Matthewis's tavern. What was life like in this tumultuous time? What did they talk about at the tavern? Visit the exhibit to find out!

The Reher Center for Immigrant Culture and History presents *Rondout Revisited* an exhibit that highlights the three stages in the history of the Rondout in Kingston, New York. This exhibit is located upstairs in the Persen House and is sure to please all. There are many photographs to see! The Reher Center highlights the social and mercantile history of the 19th and early 20th century in the Rondout, Kingston's waterfront.

Special Exhibit—October Only

Ulster County Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee – *For the 8th year of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War, the Sesquicentennial Committee present a special exhibit titled **Mustering Out: The End of the War 1865-2015 150 years**.* The exhibit traces Civil War veterans through muster roll abstracts, pension records and Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) membership. It also focuses on finding the wounded, missing in action and deceased through the use of Civil War records.

(Exhibit photo courtesy of Jami Anson.)

Early Summer

May 23 Grand Opening of the 2015 Persen House Season with the D&H Canal Historical Society—Established in 1966 the Society's mission is to preserve, protect and perpetuate the unique history of the Delaware & Hudson Canal. As part of fulfilling its mission the Society operates their museum in High Falls and maintains the Five Lock Walk, a National Historic Landmark. At the Persen House today, you can meet the society's president, Bill Merchant, and trustee Dave Kime and learn about the fascinating history of the D&H Canal through photographs from their archives and other interesting items from their collections!

May 30 Klyne Esopus Historical Society Museum—The Klyne Esopus Museum has a mission to preserve, interpret and disseminate the history of the Town of Esopus. Join members as they distribute materials, answer questions about their mission and discuss activities planned throughout the season. View items of interest from their collection, including various Native American artifacts found in the town and examples of some local industries from the past.

June 6 Historic Huguenot Street—Join HHS and discover the rich history behind the founding of New Paltz. Interact with costumed interpreters from the Colonial and Gilded Ages, explore objects from their personal collection, and be drawn in by their new Stories from Stones project. Chat with our staff and find out about the exciting events and innovative programming coming your way in 2015!

Chautauqua County

- Hi Pete,
- Good to talk with you the other day. As promised, here are some materials relating to historical research projects using the County Archives. Hope they are helpful.
- I put some material in the mail to you, today, too.
- Here's a link to my website where we post underground railroad research: http://www.co.chautauqua.ny.us/179/Underground-Railroad-in-Chautauqua-County.
- Pam said that she spoke with you and was going to send some information, so hopefully you'll get the link to the Lost Neighborhood project, etc. It's really great.
- Michelle

Chautauqua County

- Bicentennial History Fair Celebration

Chautauqua County

Farming for the War – WW1 Students help run farms written by Pam Brown

FARMING FOR THE WAR

BY PAM BROWN

In 1917 and 1918, as America mobilized to fight World War I, some western New York high school students found more than a summer job: they got out of school early to help run farms.

BOYS! SERVE YOUR COUNTRY ON THE FARMS

Join the U.S. Boys War Food Reserve

Apply

The compulsory school attendance law [was suspended] to permit children "to be employed in the cultivation, production and care of food products upon farms and gardens within the State."

Farm Work 101

All students joining the corps will receive Regents' credits in all subjects which they are now pursuing without further study or examinations. In order, however, to secure this credit the work of the student must be satisfactory.

Young men who heed this call to service on the farms are doing as noble and as patriotic a service as the soldier boys, and with their help this mighty nation, "of the people, by the people, and for the people," shall not suffer disgrace, nor defeat, but shall uphold her honor and place among the nations of the world.