

HRVI

Hudson River Valley Institute

YOUR GATEWAY TO THE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY



Holidays at the Clermont Estate

The Clermont Estate, established in 1728, has been home to the Livingston family for over 230 years. Seven generations of the Livingston family developed this estate into a remarkable historical site full of astonishing architecture, landscape, and ambiance. Perhaps the most distinguished resident, Robert R. Livingston, Jr. (1746-1813), was a part of the Committee of Five who drafted the Declaration of Independence, the first United States Minister of Foreign Affairs, gave the oath of office to George

Washington, and Thomas Jefferson's Minister to France. As a United States National Historic Landmark, the Clermont estate still maintains the ambiance of the politically and socially revered Livingston family and is a beautiful and sought out travel destination for many.

The Clermont estate, located at One Clermont Avenue, Germantown, NY, hosts several entertaining and enjoyable holiday events for all ages. The first holiday event, the Friends of Clermont Holiday Reception, will be held on Sat-

urday, December 11 between 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and is free to all members and only \$10 for guests. The following day, on Sunday, December 12 between the hours of 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., the Clermont State Historic Site will entertain guests with a Candlelight Tour of Clermont. Starting at 3:00 p.m. the crackling fire will be lit, but tours will continue to run until 6:00 pm. Children under the age of 12 receive free admission, and the price of admission for

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Special points of interest:

- *Clermont Estate*
- *Locust Grove*
- *Foodstock 3*
- *FDR Lecture Series*

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Foodstock 3

On Saturday November 20th, The Chance Theater in Poughkeepsie was home once again to the Foodstock Charity Concert. This annual concert, created by Turning Point Entertainment, has been held since 2008 to benefit the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley. It's organized around Thanksgiving time each year when the Food Bank needs assistance the most. Admission to the concert was \$10, with the proceeds going directly to the food bank and charities involved. Concert goers were also encouraged to bring canned goods, which were donated to the food bank as well. This year's concert featured such bands as Sirsy, Red Rooster, Snaphammer,

Kinney & Storms, and Subconscious Prophet.

The driving forces behind this event are Ryan Michael and Lorenzo Angelino, the founders of Turning Point Entertainment. Inspired by the success of their "Rock to Rebuild" concert in 2005 which was held to benefit the relief efforts of Hurricane Katrina, Ryan and Lorenzo created Foodstock in 2008 in order to assist the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley. The past two events, Foodstock and Foodstock 2, have managed to raise over \$12,000. This year's event was equally as successful, raising \$ 4,500 which translates to 18,000 meals. A DVD of this year's concert is set to be released

sometime in the future and will cost \$10, with the proceeds also going to the Food Bank. Details will be released shortly by Turning Point Entertainment.

By Sean Vitti



FDR New Deal Lecture Series: Arts and History

1935

AND
THE **ENDURING
NEW DEAL**

For the past few months The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Library and Museum and the Roosevelt Institute have hosted a series of lectures pertaining to the Presidents New Deal Program titled "1935 and the Enduring New Deal." The series coincides with the 75th anniversary of the passage of the Social Security Act, Works Progress Administration, National

Labor Relations Act, and Rural Electrification Act. The three lectures held in September, October and November were "The Social Security Act and National Labor Relations Act", "The Works Progress Administration and the Rural Electrification Administration", and finally "The Arts and History Programs", respectively. Each lecture was formatted the same way; a discussion moderator with a groups of five panelists.

November's event as mentioned focused specifically on the Arts and History programs of the New Deal. The lecture featured a distinguished group of panelists. This included Joe Donahue, Nick Taylor, Peggy Bulger, David A. Taylor, Susan Quinn, and Cynthia M. Koch, three of which wrote books pertaining to the WPA.

When the program was first put into effect it was success. According to statistics, 475,000 works of public art were produced, 225,000 public music performances were given, and theatre productions were seen by 30 million Americans.

The panel focused on the overall impact of the programs created by the Arts and History aspect of the New Deal and whether a similar program would work in possible in the United States today. For a complete list of upcoming events at the FDR Library and Museum please consult their calendar: <http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu/publicprograms/calendar.html>.

By Sean Vitti

Holidays at Locust Grove

The holiday season is nearly upon us, and with it comes the yearly activities in our local area. Locust Grove, the Samuel Morse historic site in Poughkeepsie, New York, has its own calendar of exciting events.

Similar to the guided tours available year round, special tours with the Morse Mansion will be offered Thanksgiving Weekend, Friday Nov. 26 to Sunday Nov. 28, the Saturdays in December and the week after Christmas. Tours start at 10 am and last until 5 pm, with the last tour at 3:15 pm. In the spirit of the season, the rooms of the

mansions will be decorated in the theme of the "Twelve Days of Christmas". The cost of for the event is \$10.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children. Hungry for a Thanksgiving feast? On Saturday, December 4th, Locust Grove will offer a twilight holiday tour and historic four course dinner. Lasting from 5:30 to 9:30 pm, a candlelight tour of the grounds will be followed by a dinner with historically inspired dishes. The all inclusive cost is \$110 per person, \$800.00 for a table of 8.

This year Locust Grove is offering a holiday event special for children on Sundays in

December. A "Hunt for the Twelve Days of Christmas" will happen in the mansion: can you find the three French hens, two turtle dove, and the partridge in a pear tree? The day will also include a holiday story-telling performance by Lorraine Hartin-Gelardi at the museum pavilion. The cost is \$10/adult and \$8/child. For directions and more information about these specific holiday events, or about Locust Grove, visit <http://www.lgny.org/index.html>, call 845-454-4500, or e-mail info@lgny.org.
By Samantha McNerney

HRVI Civil War Sesquicentennial

On October 22nd, the Hudson River Valley Institute held an event at the Payne Mansion to kick off the celebration of the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War. At the event the 5th New York Volunteer Infantry and the 6th New York Independent Battery performed drills and demonstrations for those assembled.

Colonel James Johnson introduced Private Bill Wieneke of the 5th New York to provide detailed commentary on the proceedings. The 5th New York demonstrated the manual of arms, a bayonet drill, and firing

formations and techniques, accurate to the late 19th century.

The 6th New York loaded and fired a Parrott rifle, a muzzle loading rifled artillery weapon commonly used in the Civil War.

Together, both units fired a three round salute and presented arms to the guests, signaling the beginning of the Sesquicentennial.

After the demonstration, Colonel Johnson, Marist College President Dennis J. Murray, Senator Steve Saland, and Admiral Bob Tunney reviewed the troops and

thanked the reenactors.

Both units also had small camps set up on the highland grounds overlooking the Hudson.

By Gail Goldsmith

Holidays at the Clermont Estate continued...

adults is \$6 and \$5 for seniors.

Lastly, in preparation for Christmas Day, Clermont is hosting the Christmas at Clermont Open House on Saturday, December 18 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. As admission is free to all, this is the perfect opportunity for guests to spend enjoyable and quality time with their family and get into the holiday spirit. For more information, please visit

<http://www.friendsofclermont.org>
or call (518) 537-4240

By Andrew Loveland



Special Message from HRVI

*Happy
Holidays*

Contact Us

The Hudson River Valley Institute
Marist College
3399 North Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601-1387

Phone: 845-575-3052
Fax: 845-575-3176
E-mail: hvri@marist.edu

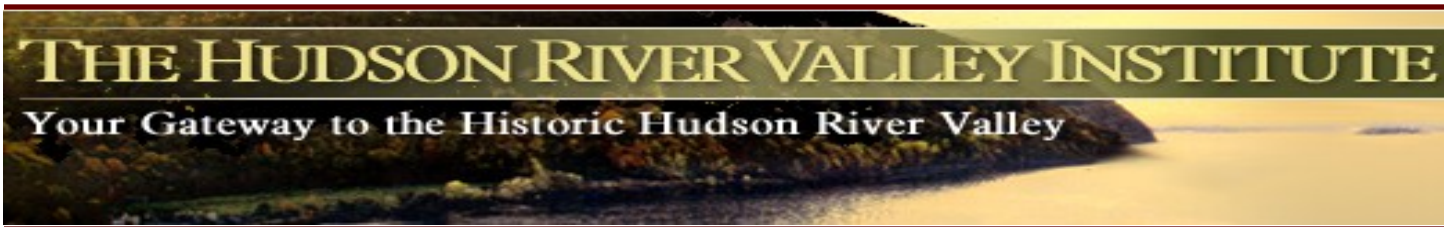
***The Hudson River Valley :
"The Landscape that Defined America"***

The Hudson River Valley is one of only 37 congressionally designated National Heritage Areas in the United States. As one of the most important regions in the United States, it is the fountainhead of a truly American identity. Recognizing the area's national value, Congress formed the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area in 1996 to recognize, preserve, protect, and interpret the nationally-significant history and resources of the valley for the benefit of the nation.

The Hudson River Valley Institute (HRVI) is the academic arm of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. Its mission is to study and promote the Hudson River Valley and to provide educational resources for heritage tourists, scholars, elementary school educators, environmental organizations, the business community, and the general public. Its many projects include the publication of *The Hudson River Valley Review* and the management of a dynamic digital library and leading regional portal site.

As the center for the study of the Hudson River Valley, the Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College is the central hub for information about the region that Congress called "the Landscape that defined America."

www.hudsonrivervalley.org



Staff

Dr. Thomas Wermuth, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty, Director, Hudson River Valley Institute

Dr. Colonel James M. Johnson (U.S. Army, ret.), Executive Director, Hudson River Valley Institute

Christopher Pryslopski, Program Director

Jason Schaaf, Educational Supervisor

Andy Villani, Coordinator

Contributors to the Issue:

Sean Vitti, Editor-in-Chief/Intern

Jason Schaaf, Staff Editor

Christopher Pryslopski, Staff

Andy Villani, Staff

Andrew Loveland, Intern

Gail Goldsmith, Intern

Samantha McNerney, Intern