

# MHS NEWSLETTER

EVENTS for 2026 | Who is Adeline Curtis | Community Chat | [DONATE](#)

Macedon Historical Society (MHS)

MHS is a 501c3 non-profit Organization. We proudly undertake stewardship of preserving and keeping the vast historic moments captured from our community of Macedon relevant.

## Historic Sites owned by MHS

The Historic Macedon Academy  
1185 Macedon Center Rd.  
and the Macedon Center Meetinghouse/Macedon Grange #326  
1208 Macedon Center Rd.

## Mailing Address:

PO Box 303, Macedon, NY 14502

## Phone:

585-455-3798 leave a message

## Email:

macedonacademy@gmail.com

## Website:

macedonhistoricalsociety.org

## Facebook Page:

Macedon NY History

If you'd like to make a donation to help keep the lights on, check out our Website at [macedonhistoricalsociety.org](http://macedonhistoricalsociety.org) and click the [DONATE](#) button. This will take you to MHS's Pay Pal Charity account.

When using the website to make a donation, please check the box to share your information. MHS would like to thank you.

Or mail donations to:  
MHS, PO Box 303,  
Macedon, NY 14502

## CELEBRATE 250th Anniversary 1776

### Start with The 2026 Canal Park Concert Series:

3rd Thursday of the Summer Months 6:00–8:00:

Under the Pavillion at the Canal Park off Route 350

Bring your neighbors, chairs, blankets or a picnic  
Food is available by different Organizations each night



### Thursday, June 18th

6:00–8:00

Crossmolina

Laurie, Bill, Annie  
and Dave

Performances that  
celebrate Celtic and Folk  
Music Traditions



### Thursday, July 16th

Mike Kornrich 6:00- 6:45pm

Children's Program Happy Music

Kubick's Rubes 7:00 - 8:30pm

Kubick's Rubes has been bringing our exciting blend of bluegrass, western swing and country blues to the Rochester region for over 10 years.



### Thursday, August 20th

Merry MisChief 6:00-8:00pm

Merry Mischief an ensemble cast of talented musicians who are minstrels of mischief and each show is unique and adds personality, harmony, fun and a lot of entertainment to your next event! Together we will bring you back to a simpler time, relax you, make you tap your feet and we'll make you giggle



### Thursday, September 17th

Indigo Breeze 6:00–8:00pm

A unique collaboration of straight-ahead jazz-influenced arrangements of familiar tunes from Latin musical traditions, R&B and Pop standards.



MHS would like to thank the Boehmler Foundation for sponsoring the Concerts

## The Young Historians Guild YHG



Why Students Should Join the

### YHG

1. Enhance Academic Learning
2. Networking Opportunities
3. Develop Research Skills
4. Participate in Events and Activities
5. Strengthen College and Career Applications
6. Make a Difference in the Community

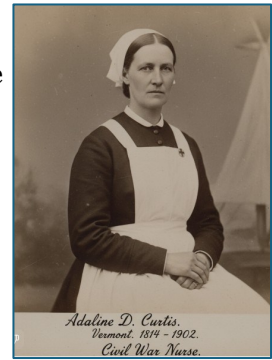
Joining a historical society is more than just an extracurricular activity—it's an investment in a student's academic journey, personal growth and future success. The connections, experiences and knowledge gained can have a lasting benefits well beyond the classroom.

**Special Student membership,** Sign up before June 1st. Students from 10 years to 22 years old. YHG starting the third Tuesday in June 2026 at the Historic Macedon Academy in Macedon Center. One Session per month on the 3rd Tuesday. Call 585-455-3798 or email [curatormhs@gmail.com](mailto:curatormhs@gmail.com)

## UNION ARMY NURSE: Adeline Curtis

Imagine the Civil War is raging; hundreds of local men and boys have enlisted in the army. They traveled far away from home. The women were left to take care of the farms, businesses and the rest of the families. One woman, who wasn't from Macedon until the end of her life made a special impact on the war efforts.

Her name was Adeline Curtis. We don't know a whole lot about her because she was from Wilbraham, MA. She does however exemplify the courage of many women. Serving far away from home under very dangerous circumstances. Adeline will be one of the few women remembered in the Macedon NY Hometown Heroes Banner project this spring.



Her obituary read *Mrs. Adeline Curtis died at her home in Macedon on Friday of last week, aged 88. Deceased had resided in Macedon six years, having moved to that place from Wilbraham, Mass. She served as a nurse on Devil's Island (Fort Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas, 70 miles west of Key West, Florida) during the Civil War and had drawn a nurse's pension for a number of years. She leaves one daughter, Mrs. Wellington Smith of Macedon with whom she resided. 1900 census records indicate Adaline Curtis age 86 was living with her daughter Marana Smith and son-in-law. The Palmyra Courier February 28, 1902.*

*Adeline Curtis served in Fort Jefferson, in what was known as the Dry Tortugas. It played an active role in the defense of our country. Today it is a National Park in Florida and is a very popular historic destination. <https://www.nps.gov/drto/learn/historyculture/fort-jefferson.htm>*



It was used as a federal prison. One of its most famous prisoners was Samuel Mudd, the doctor who set the broken leg of John Wilkes Booth, Lincoln's assassin.

Adeline is buried in the renamed *Erie Street Cemetery*. Her marker is especially unique. Made from zinc, these markers never wear out.

The Monumental Bronze Company of Bridgeport, CT produced sand cast zinc grave markers (sold as "White Bronze") from 1874 to 1914. People would select different features of the marker



and would bolt them together. If you want to add to the marker, you simply swap out a plate for another! Their historic catalog is available at this Smithsonian link: <https://library.si.edu/digital-library/book/whitebronzemonu00omonu>

You'll notice these markers from a long distance away. They have a bluish tinge and look very

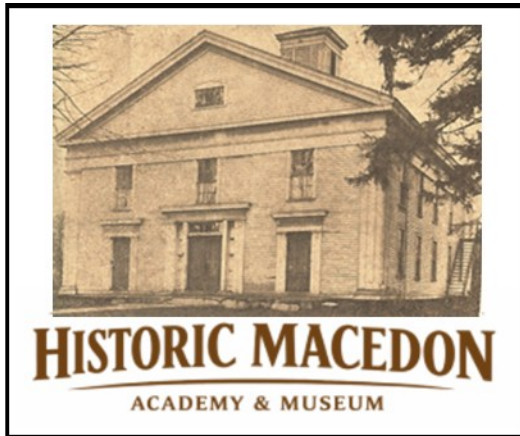
new.



An article was recently published in the Wayne Times (3/22/2026 A5) about her. I direct your attention to it for more details on this historic woman. Special thanks to George & Deborah McGraw and Deanne and Erika Newcombe for all of their efforts in preserving our past and educating the future. If you wish to be part of the preservation of Macedon and it's residents, please check out the Macedon Historical Society at [macedonhistoricalsociety.org](http://macedonhistoricalsociety.org) or on Facebook: Macedon NY History

*Note: There are several spellings of Adeline. This is the most consistently used.*

Written by: Linda Braun, Macedon Town Historian and MHS Secretary 3/30/2026



**SUMMER OPEN HOUSE Schedule**

Sunday April 25th, June 28th, July 26th, September 27th, October 25th, 2026  
 2:00pm – 4:00pm  
 at the Historic Macedon Academy & Museum  
 1185 Macedon Center Rd.  
 Free – Refreshments Provided

**Our Mission Statement**

To promote and encourage historical research and preservation regarding the community of Macedon NY and to disseminate that information.

**Membership Update Meeting**

Quarterly

**Board of Directors Meetings**

*(all members are welcome)*

**Membership Meetings & Community Chat**

May 12th, August, 11th, November 10th

**Membership**

All Members are encouraged to partake in contributing suggestions, insight, guidance etc. in support of the continued efforts of MHS.

Membership dues:

Individuals	\$25
Family	\$30

Dues and donations are used to maintain the buildings. MHS applies for grants for projects, such as painting the buildings, shoring up foundations, ADA Bathrooms, etc.

If you'd like to donate or become a member you can mail a check to: Macedon Historical Society PO Box 303, Macedon, NY 14502

Or use the donation/membership buttons on our website .

[macedonhistoricalsociety.org](http://macedonhistoricalsociety.org) and click the donation button, or drop down menu to membership.

**Phone Number for MHS at the Academy has been canceled**

**315-538-0051**

**You can call**

**585-455-3798**

**for information**

**WESTERN WAYNE ART GROUP PRESENTS ITS 51st Spring Art Show & Sale**




**Dates & Times**  
 Thursday 4/23  
 6PM - 8PM  
 Friday & Saturday  
 4/24 & 4/25  
 10AM - 6PM  
 Sunday 4/26  
 10AM - 4PM

**Location**  
 Macedon Center Meetinghouse  
 1208 Macedon Center Rd,  
 Macedon, NY

The Spring Art Show is judged in the following categories: Oil, Acrylic, Drawing, Fiber, 3D, Watercolor, Photography, Misc. Media & Wayne County Subject

Cash or Check only for purchases

● FREE ENTRY TO THE SHOW ●



Friday, July 3rd, 2026,  
 7:00pm  
 At the Canal Park Off  
 Route 350  
 Hosted by the Macedon  
 Historical Society  
 sponsored by Macedon  
 Public Library  
 Free admission

**Eastside Scottish Dancers**



Dancing classes each Tuesday from 7:00 - 9:00  
 Macedon Center Meetinghouse

1208 Macedon Center Rd., Macedon NY 14502 (for GPS)

RSCDS certified Scot Graham-Raad leads beginner classes  
 Singles and couples welcome Kick up your heels and have fun

Requested donation \$5.00 per dancer per evening to cover the cost of the hall. For more Information contact

Psb@rochester.rr.com Email psb@rochester.rr.com to keep informed if classes have been cancelled. A/C & Plenty of parking.



2026 America is celebrating 250 years . Watch for events posted on MHS Facebook; Macedon NY History and macedonhistoricalsociety.org

Events hosted by the Wayne County Historical Society

**Happy History Hour**

The Road to Revolution: The Fur Trade and Colonial Rivalry in NY 1614-1774

Presented by Tom Sawtell Thursday, April 23, 2026

6:00—7:00pm

WC Historical Society 21 Butternut St., Lyons NY For more information contact [WayneHistory.org](http://WayneHistory.org)

Revolutionary Movie "Mary Silliman's War"

Wed, May 20 Historic Ohmann Theatre Lyons, NY

In partnership with Wayne County Historical Society and in commemoration of America 250, the local Col. William Prescott Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presents this lesser known but contemporary movie about early Revolutionary history.

RSVP

**Dr. Michael Oberg Presents:**

# Stolen Ground

## The American Revolution and Indigenous Dispossession in New York State



Governor William Burnet of New York meets with Native American leaders in 1721. [Wikimedia Commons](#)

### A Lecture and Discussion with Dr. Michael Oberg

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 6:30pm - 8:30pm  
Gates Hall, 4107 Lake Road, Pultneyville



Join the conversation with historian and distinguished professor, Dr. Michael Oberg from SUNY Geneseo as he shares his unique perspective on America 250. Based on a quarter-century of Native American research, he will focus on the often overlooked aspects of the Declaration of Independence regarding the depiction and treatment of Indigenous people and the systematic dispossession of Indigenous land, including the Phelps-Gorham purchase and military tract in Wayne County.



**FREE EVENT. MUST RSVP.**

**[WayneHistory.org/events](http://WayneHistory.org/events)**

**[CLICK to register](#)**



**Jim Byron**

In February MHS invited Jim Byron, a resident who grew up in Macedon to share his story. It was held at the Town Hall and over 30 people attended. Lots of stories were shared.

[COMMUNITY CHAT featuring Jim Byron](#) (click)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR **TUESDAY, MAY 12th, 2026 - 6:30** at the Historic Macedon Academy for the Denniston and Camp Families to share their stories. Previous Chats are on the website.

### Donations Make the Displays Come Alive

You will be amazed at the items at the Academy. The Museum side is rich in artifacts, pictures, tools and businesses of years gone by. Donna Hill-Herenden donated 12 boxes of pictures of the Allen, Hoag, Herenden families that have a connection to Macedon and Farmington



In documenting your legacy, remember to identify your photos.



One of the most popular displays in the Academy on the Museum side is of Macedon High School . There are pictures, scrapbooks and year books to glance through.

Would you recognize any of the names?



### New Members

John & Kimberly Garlock  
Bruce Bradley  
Maurina Schmidt  
Membership is the backbone of MHS.

The Programs count on our members to attend to help set up and be docents to the Historic Macedon Academy and Museum

Members displaying  
**IN—KIND SERVICE**  
Grace & John Mullard  
Judy Longyear  
Sandy Pagano  
Linda Braun  
Jeff & Noah Orsburn  
Dave Gardner  
*(In-Kind Service is a reflection of dedication to preserving our heritage)*

### LET's MEET AT THE MEETINGHOUSE



Looking for a place to hold your event. The Meetinghouse in Macedon Center is your location . Convenient, Parking , AC, Kitchen large - main floor

[\*\*Click for Information\*\*](#)



**MHS OFFICERS**

President

Sandy Pagano  
585-455-3798

Vice President

David W. Taber

Treasurer

David Gardner

Secretary

Linda Braun

Trustees

Kathy Murphy  
Jeff Henley  
Judy Longyear  
Grace Mullard

Building & Maintenance

Kathy Murphy  
Dave Gardner  
John Mullard

Archivist - Archeologist

Stephanie Petty

Co - Curators

Grace Mullard - Tari Orsburn

Co -IT Coordinators

Noah & Jeff Orsburn

Special Events

Coordinators

Linda Braun  
Sandy Pagano

Newsletter Content

Sandy Pagano  
Linda Braun

Macedon Town Historian

Linda Braun

**Macedon linking - Abolitionists and Freedom**



April 24, 1841 the Hollister tavern in Macedon Center was purchased by Jonathan Ramsdell, Daniel T. Burton and Durfee Osband for a cost of \$1,150, they were Quakers.

The Academy was founded by adherents of the doctrine of the Society of Friends, and for more than half century had a powerful influence in guiding the morals and elevating the standard of education in this section of Western New York. Plain and unpretentious in its outward appearance, its curriculum gov-

erned by strict rules, sometimes locally termed "Blue Laws", fostered by the Board of Regents of the State, it had ever maintained an enviable prestige and flourished while many similar institutions succumbed to the changing times.

Macedon and its residents in the period covered by (1823-1852) ....were active players in the movement to abolish slavery and promote citizenry among all Americans regardless of color. The Erie Canal brought farmers and nurserymen to the town with its fulfilled promise of affordable transportation of goods and services. Crops, fruits, and manufactured goods made their way to Albany and beyond. It was a time of growth and optimism in which religion played a major role.

Macedon was in what came to be known as the 'burnt over region' for the large number of proselytizing religious groups that lived there. Among them were the Quakers who allied themselves with the increasingly activist and vocal anti-slavery movement.

The Quaker emphasis was on education, improving responsive and responsible local government, and a political end to slavery. Their chief supporter in all these efforts in Macedon was Gerrit Smith who brought his Liberty Party Convention to Macedon in

June of 1847, and [Frederick Douglass](#), the former slave from Maryland who moved to Rochester the following December. In Macedon, Gerrit Smith was allied with Asa Smith and his son William R. Smith, who lived across from each other on what is now the Victor Road.

Home of William R. Smith, a School in his home for runaway slaves



With backing from Gerrit Smith and personal visits from Frederick Douglass, William R. Smith opened a school in his home for runaway slaves and former slaves to aid them on their way to freedom in Canada and to prepare some who

remained for the Abolitionist lecture circuit, part of the 7,000 sought by the Liberty Party as teachers and civil activists. William R. Smith would later be the unsuccessful Liberty Party candidate for governor of New York, and would fall victim to the stringent Fugitive Slave Law that came in 1850. (The **Fugitive Slave Law of 1850** was a federal law passed as part of the **Compromise of 1850**, and it became one of the most controversial pro-slavery laws in U.S. history. Its purpose was to strengthen the earlier 1793 fugitive slave law and make it far easier for enslavers to recapture people who had escaped to free states).

Excerpts from; the First Volume of the Town Records of Macedon, New York (1823-1851) and its Maryland Connections by Dr. Edward C. Papenfuse Maryland State Archivist and Commissioner of Land Patents

## Making Macedon Great

Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> 2:00 – 4:00 Historic Macedon Academy/  
Museum



Tours of the Museum  
and a presentation  
by Marj Perez

Safe Haven Within the Circle  
of Farmington Friends: Three  
Freedom Seeking Families, 1800 - 1865. The Farmington Quaker Com-  
munity was an integral hub in the network created to assist Freedom  
Seekers on the journey out of slavery. The journeys of Aaron and Bet-  
sey Brister; Anna Riggs Woodlin and her five children; and the family  
Hanson and Eliza Waples illustrate the important role played by this cir-  
cle of Friends in the Underground Railroad.

## Heritage Builders

2025-2026



Crossmolina



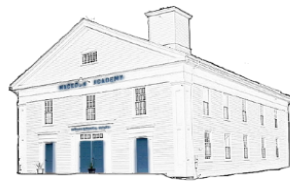
To become a  
HERITAGE BUILDER  
sponsors  
donate over \$1000  
financially or with  
in-kind service during  
MHS's fiscal year.  
MHS appreciates all  
types of donations.



Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> 10:00AM at the Erie Street Cemetery  
remember those that gave their all for our country  
Hosted by the Phillip Steager Post 496 American Legion, Sons of  
the Legion and the Auxilliary



KEEP UP TO DATE with the Macedon Historical Society  
[macedonhistoricalsociety.org](http://macedonhistoricalsociety.org) or  
Facebook: [Macedon NY History](https://www.facebook.com/MacedonNYHistory).



Macedon Historical Society  
PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF MACEDON, NY

**Macedon Academy Alma Mater**

*"May the wreath you have won never wither, nor the star of your glory dim.*

*Published in the 1841-1891  
Academy History*

Remember to check on "Share my name" so MHS can match it to the payment.

To confirm your donation/or membership email curatormhs@gmail.com



**SCAN ME**

**Macedon Historical Society**  
P O Box 303  
1185 Macedon Center Rd.  
Macedon, NY 14502

585-455-3798  
macedonhistoricalsociety.org  
FB: Macedon NY History

# Brewing Conflicts

Coffeehouse Conversations in honor of America 250 (1776 - 2026)



A public program that perfectly percolates a blend of history, hilarity and brewed beverages.

**Sunday, May 3, 2026 2pm - 4pm**

Sponsored by

**Macedon Historical Society  
at the Macedon Center Meetinghouse**

Travel back in time, 250 years or more, to the coffeehouses of colonial America, where these venues were hotspots for intense discussions among colonists. Guests will engage in conversations with historical characters to explore the brewing conflicts of the era and discover the early popularity of tea, coffee, and hot cocoa. Conversation, trivia, and local historical content will add flavor to the controversies. Everyone will be asked to "choose a side".

**FREE EVENT. MUST RSVP.**

**[WayneHistory.org/events](http://WayneHistory.org/events)**

**CLICK to register**

Beverage Sponsors



## THE NEWS GATHERER

**LUMBER.  
DOBBIN & MOORE**

Have a full Assortment of

**Pine and Hemlock  
Lumber,**

**SHINGLE, LATH POSTS &C.**

If in want of any call on

**W.D. Herendeen, Agt.**

At the old stand,

**MACEDON, N. Y.**

### 1891 SOCIAL MEDIA

The News Gatherer, 12 December 1891

Frank Ramsdell, who owns and occupies the Ramsdell homestead west of **Macedon** centre, has recently built the largest barn in town. It is reported that he will remodel the house next spring.