

City of Newburgh

Press Release

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For Immediate Release
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Celebrate Newburgh Beacon Bay Quadricentennial In the City of Newburgh with Two Weekends of Events in June

After five years of preparation for a celebration of 400 years of history, the Hudson Fulton Champlain Newburgh Beacon Bay 2009 Quadricentennial Committee has unveiled a full schedule of events for the first two weekends of June.

Sunday, June 7 is River Day, and residents and visitors can enjoy a variety of venues while waiting for the NYS Quadricentennial flotilla and dignitaries to arrive from New York Harbor at approximately 5 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to travel by train, take the ferry, ride the trolleys!

Captain Henry Hudson and his first mate, Robert Juet will be docking the replica 1609 Half Moon in Newburgh for the second time this century, along with the replica 1614 Dutch vessel Onrust, the tug Governor Cleveland, and the John J. Harvey fireboat, a first responder on September 11, 2001. The Clearwater, Mystic Whaler and Woody Guthrie will tie up in Beacon. A host of pleasure boats and other small craft are expected to accompany the heritage vessels from New York Harbor.

The ferry between Newburgh and Beacon will be running between 12:30 p.m. and 8:45 p.m., through an agreement with MTA Metro-North and New York State DOT. Ferries will depart from Metro-North's Newburgh and Beacon ferry docks approximately every 20–30 minutes throughout the day. Ferry fare will be \$1 each way. Free trolleys will circulate around the City of Newburgh to all of the venues.

The following is the list of events for River Day:

- River Art Walk - (expanded vendors, artists & artisans) noon-dusk
- Hannaford promotional tent - coupons, samples & merchandise give-aways
- Medieval & Renaissance Kingdom 609AD-1609AD – noon to 8 p.m. near ferry
- Walden Elementary School Quadricentennial Quilt - display in performance tent
- Walden Elementary Quadricentennial film – at Downing Film Center during day
- Come dressed in styles from 4 centuries (1609 – 2009) for photo opportunities in the evening with notables & dignitaries
- Liberty Street corridor businesses and restaurants will offer specials
- Trolleys will circulate to parking lots at Liberty & Ann Streets, Grand & Second Streets (Library), and at Mount Saint Mary College

- Performances noon-dusk next to Columbus statue at waterfront including “Nail”, Dutch singers/storytellers Anke & Nanne, and local band “The Morning After”
- Washington’s Headquarters Quad lecture on “The Hudson Highlands” author, William Thompson Howell 2 p.m. , call 562-1195 for more information
- Art at the Headquarters - works by local artists on display on the fence at Washington’s Headquarters, 84 Liberty Street
- 34th Annual “Artists on Campus” at Mount Saint Mary College 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- A History of Ragtime in Newburgh - City Winds Trio, 3 p.m. Newburgh Free Library, 124 Grand Street
- Newburgh Rowing Club Open House 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.
- Yellow Bird Gallery - Quadricentennial “4 Centuries of Fashion” exhibit all day
- Orange County Choppers - you must register to ride at their 17K location before 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 7 - or you can’t ride with them to the waterfront. The ride begins at 3 p.m. on 17K at their Headquarters - they will be set up on Rev. Dr. MLK Blvd Drive, together with other specialty & antique motorcycles. **THE ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM COLDEN ST. TO WASHINGTON STREET**
- **Beacon:** Scenic Hudson Riverfront Festival 2 p.m.-7p.m.

Monday, June 8:

- The flotilla of heritage vessels will remain in Newburgh Beacon Bay.
- A concert by the West Point Band will be held from 6:30-8 p.m. at Newburgh Waterfront by the Trestle Mural. Bring your own chair. **FRONT STREET WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 3rd & 4th STREETS.**

Sunday, June 14 (Flag Day)

- River Art Walk – expanded - noon-dusk
- “Heirloom Gardening” at Historical Society of Newburgh Bay and Highlands
- Book Sale Newburgh Free Library, 124 Grand St- 10-4
- **Blending of the Waters at Newburgh Waterfront, 2 P.M.-** A Celebration of the many nations who settled Newburgh Beacon Bay
 - Ceremony on top deck of Coast Guard Cutter ‘Sturgeon Bay’ with 7th grade (vessel to be confirmed). Global Studies students, officials, and representatives of the United Nations, including Press Consul Dr. Heirich Neuman, of the Office of the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany
 - Dramatic performance by Global Studies students
 - Spray-show by retired fireboat John J. Harvey, first responder on Sept. 11, 2001
 - PT 728, one of the few surviving wooden PT boats, on waterfront
- **Beacon:** Beacon Sloop Club’s Riverfront Strawberry Festival - noon-5pm

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The Cities of Newburgh and Beacon are also celebrating their 300th anniversaries; Newburgh having been settled by the German Palatines in 1709, and Beacon by the Dutch.

Mayor Nicholas Valentine commented, “The Hudson Fulton Champlain Newburgh Beacon Bay Quadricentennial Committee, a regional group of dedicated volunteers, has worked for the last five years to put together a truly outstanding year-long commemoration of the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson’s voyage. Despite tough economic times, through sheer determination and perseverance, they have succeeded. I hope that everyone will come to the River in Newburgh and Beacon, and all along the Hudson to enjoy the flotilla and all the events surrounding these fantastic weekends in June. I would especially like to thank Betsy McKean and Mary McTamaney, Quadricentennial Committee Co-Chairs, for all they have done to make this year memorable.”

For more information, please visit www.cityofnewburgh-ny.gov or www.Exploreny400.com.