



Accessible agriculture in Bedford, New York

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RAINBEAU RIDGE SHEEP SHEARING AT JOHN JAY HOMESTEAD

MAY 1ST, 1-4PM

Sheep-shearing in Westchester County? Yes! Join us for this fun annual event which will take place at John Jay Homestead State Historic Site in Katonah, NY on Sunday, May 1st, from 1-4pm.

Our event's new location and partnership with John Jay Homestead will provide an even greater opportunity for people to participate and to take advantage of the combined historic and farming resources of these two great organizations.

All are welcome to come watch our rare-breed sheep have their wool sheared. There will be many fun activities for the whole family.

- Sheep shearing throughout the afternoon (last shearing at 3:30pm)
- Hands-on fiber activities and projects and fiber demonstrations
- Fiber washing . . . touch and feel real sheep fiber
- See all the steps fiber goes through to get from sheep to shawl
- Special craft projects for all ages to participate
- Group weaving project in the woods
- Enjoy John Jay Homestead's beautiful historic property and learn about the new Carriage Barn project
- See original farm equipment and fiber tools that are more than 100 years old
- Delight in music through the course of the afternoon
- and more . . .

The fee is \$30 per car with no pre-registration; \$25 for Friends of John Jay Homestead with pre-registration. All event activities included; food available for purchase. The historic house museum will be open for guided tours for the normal admission charge of \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors and students, and free for children up to age 12 and Friends' members.

At the John Jay Homestead: 400 Jay Street (Route 22) in Katonah, NY, 1-4pm

More info, including pictures from last year's event: www.rainbeauridge.com.

More John Jay Homestead information: www.johnjayhomestead.org.

*Jacob Sheep,
being sheared*

*Karen Sabath
photo*



Jacob Sheep, before and after

Karen Sabath photo

ABOUT RAINBEAU RIDGE

Since its inception in 2002, Rainbeau Ridge has been committed to proving that local farming and appreciation for nature can once again be an important cornerstone of community life and is *making sustainable living second nature*TM.

Rainbeau Ridge is a local resource for sustainable living and accessible agriculture, offering a wide range of activities, programs and products for families and individuals to incrementally integrate nature into their lives. We help people make choices which lead to a healthier and nature-enriched lifestyle. Rainbeau Ridge's programs and products are important parts of the social, cultural, educational and commercial activities that tie a community together.

Rainbeau Ridge farmstead goat milk cheese is available in fine retail stores and restaurants throughout Westchester and the Hudson Valley. The goat cheese won awards at the 2010, 2009 and 2008 American Cheese Society competitions and was recognized by Westchester Magazine in July 2008 as Best of Westchester. Its critically acclaimed book, *Over the Rainbeau: Living the Dream of Sustainable Farming*, is available through its web-site and local retailers and is the winner of a Gold Medal from the Independent Publishers Book Awards.

New adult and children's programs are being added all the time, including Roots, Buds and Sprouts, *In Lisa's Kitchen* cooking classes and Accessible Agriculture workshops. To learn more or to join the mailing list, please visit the website at www.rainbeauridge.com.

ABOUT JOHN JAY HOMESTEAD

John Jay Homestead State Historic Site is both a local gem and national treasure. It is one of only a handful of historic farms in the country once owned by a Founding Father, and open to the public. It is where John Jay, after a lifetime of public service, chose to retire in 1801 and live out his life in the company of his children and grandchildren. Jay's many public roles included principal negotiator of the Treaty of Paris, which ended the Revolutionary War, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the United States, first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and second Governor of New York State.

Jay's descendants continued to live in the house until the 1950s when the house and a portion of the original acreage were purchased by Westchester County thanks to the help of local citizens. It was later transferred to New York State and declared a State Historic Site in 1958. Since then, the historic house's interiors have been restored in the style of John Jay's lifetime. A visit to John Jay Homestead today is an opportunity to increase one's knowledge and enthusiasm for history, to contemplate the principles upon which America was founded, and to learn about farm life in the 19th century. In addition, the Homestead's 62-acre grounds include historic outbuildings, four formal gardens, open fields, a pond and wooded trails – supporting a wide range of outdoor activity. For more information, please visit the website at www.johnjayhomestead.org.

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