SARATOGIAN



Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Historian rediscovers 'lost' Saratoga County industries

By PAUL POST

The Saratogian

SARATOGA SPRINGS -Author Tim Starr has captured a manufactured thousands of fire piece of local history that's often overlooked in a new book, "Lost Industries of Saratoga County."

Published by The History Press, his 176-page work features a variety of long-gone companies — from the Button Fire Engine Works in Waterford to the Mount Pleasant Glass Factory in Greenfield.

"When I first moved to Saratoga County, I read a lot about the history of racing and the mineral springs," said Starr, 39, a Granville native. "This is a facet

located might know about them. but that's about it."

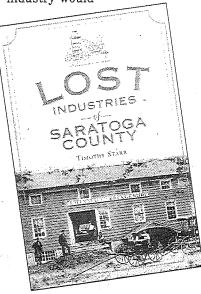
Button Fire Engine Works engines that went all over the country in the mid-1800s. Many were used throughout the greater Capital Region, including Saratoga County.

Mount Pleasant Glass Factory, also known as the Granger Glass Factory, was established in Greenfield in 1844 and made hundreds of thousands of bottles for Saratoga Springs' mineral water. The company moved to Saratoga Springs around 1865 and operated until around 1910.

Starr also writes about the of Saratoga County history that wooden ware firms in heavily hadn't been concentrated on, at forested towns such as Day, Edinleast not in-depth. People in burg and Providence that made towns where these plants were everything from barrel covers to

washboards during the 19th cen-

No book about Saratoga County industry would



be complete without referencing its many paper mills, such as the old West Virginia Pulp & Paper Co. in Mechanicville, once touted bag factory on the banks of the Schenectady. Kayaderosseras Creek, and Chase Bag Co. was a huge plant history," he said. in the Fenimore section of More-

International Paper Co.'s Hudson River Mill in Corinth is another important chapter in local history.

"Lost Industries" is Starr's 10th Society. book and took about a year to complete.

"I just went to all the local historical societies to research what plants and factories were in their respective towns," he

Starr graduated from Castleton State College in Vermont with a dual major in history and accounting. A Rock City Falls resident, as the world's largest plant of its he's employed as an accountant kind. Ballston had a large paper for Hometown Health Center in

"It's tough to make a living in

But there's no question that it's one of his deep, abiding passions. The long, painful demise of In addition to writing, he serves as a board member and treasurer of Brookside Museum, home of the Saratoga County Historical

Starr will present and sign copies of his book at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Red Fox Books, located at 28 Ridge St. in Glens Falls, adjacent to City Hall.

For more information, go to www.historyofsaratoga.com.