

May 24, 2011

After consultation with Mr. Bentley, Chair of the history department, and Mr. Hayes, I am pleased to offer an additional summer project for interested students. It involves our local history and the Battle of Saratoga. The student will be required to read a book on the battle and compose a research essay from some topics provided. In addition, the students will be able to take a guided tour of the battlefield in September.

The book is "Saratoga" by Richard Ketchum. The topics for research are included in this mailing. The details of the tour during school hours are to be announced.

This will be mandatory for AP history juniors 2011-12 however I welcome any history buff in the high school willing to do the required reading and research.

Richard L. Hughto

Summer Reading

American History/English Option

Research Paper choices:

1. What is the difference between 'strategy' and 'tactics' and how are they used during the Campaign of 1777? (This can be from either the British perspective or the American perspective.)
2. Define a hero. Is Benedict Arnold a hero at Saratoga? Why or why not?
3. The battles of Saratoga are part of what has been described as a world conflict. Why? (Start with identifying the many different nationalities among the soldiers and describing why they are there.)
4. The Campaign of 1777 is often described as reflecting a larger civil war going on in the United States. Why? (Start with researching Philip Skeene's participation in the campaign.)