

## A Manchester Minute: The Two Museums in Manchester



*The Foster Cottage Museum*



*Lehigh Valley Railroad Museum*

The Town of Manchester has two fantastic museums. Here is a brief description of each one:

**The Foster Cottage Museum:** this museum is located in an elegant white house on Main St in Clifton Springs. This house was once the home of Henry Foster, who came to Clifton Springs from Vermont, in search of a water cure, which was popular form of medical therapy in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Dr Foster was the founder of the famous water cure sanitarium which has grown into Clifton Springs Hospital and Clinic. Because this water was rich in sulfur, it provided many therapeutic properties for healing arthritis, gout, and other afflictions. The house was built in 1854. The museum opened in 2000.

The current museum holds many treasures related to Dr Foster and the village. The profession of Occupational Therapy, which was begun in Clifton Springs in 1918, is also on display in the museum.

Since Dr Foster was a firm believer in holistic healing, check out the majestic fresco (Tiffany Mosaic) in the chapel at the far end of the Sanitarium Apartments just east of the museum. The Foster Cottage is truly worth a visit—and there is no charge! There is a link to the Foster Cottage website on this page.

**Lehigh Valley Railroad Museum.** This museum is located at 8 E. High St in Shortsville. The museum is housed inside a wooden NY Central Railroad freight station that was built around 1900. The museum contains many railroad artifacts from the heyday of the Lehigh Valley RR in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Manchester was a huge railroad town in that era, due to the famous roundhouse turntable that was, at one time, the largest in the country, if not the world. This museum hosts an open-house once each month, and, is open on special occasions as well. Check their website which is linked to the one on this page.