

THE LANDMARK

PUBLICATION OF THE BLACKSTONE VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. 65

August 2023

No. 1

Continuing the Tradition ~ Preserving Our History

bvhsri.org + 1873 Old Louisquisset Pike (Rte 246) + PO Box 125, Lincoln RI, 02865

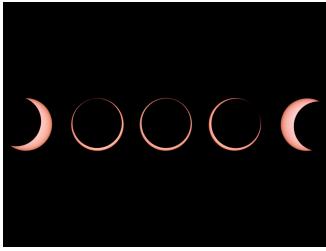
Learn About Upcoming Back-to-Back Solar Eclipses

By Francine Jackson

Within the next few months, the U.S. will have two solar eclipses within its boundaries: an annular solar eclipse in October and a total eclipse next April. Although their paths will not pass through the Blackstone Valley, the sun will be partially blocked here during both.

The annular solar eclipse will take place on Saturday, October 14. The 2024 total solar eclipse will take place on Monday, April 8. The path of the total eclipse will arc north of Rhode Island in New England, and will be fully visible in parts of northern Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

On September 13, BVHS Board Member and astronomer Francine Jackson of Lincoln will explain how and why eclipses occur and what to do during them. This set



Annular Eclipse, 1994 Credit: Rick Fienberg / Sky & Telescope, https://eclipse.aas.org/resources/images-videos

of eclipses is very important, as there will not be another occurring in the country for over two decades.

Solar eclipses are one of nature's most beautiful phenomena. Astronomers, both professional and amateur, often travel around the world to witness them. On occasion eclipses have played an important part in history. Come learn how they have caused changes in both the scientific and political worlds. In addition, Jackson will describe sites in Rhode Island where you can be with others who enjoy safely watching the sun be partially blocked during the eclipse. She will also share sites where the eclipses will be live-streamed.

7:00 pm, Wednesday September 13 Downstairs at BVHS 1873 Old Louisquisset Pike, Lincoln

About the photograph

On May 10, 1994, an annular eclipse swept across the U.S. from the Southwest to New England. This sequence from shortly before annularity, to shortly afterward was captured from Ogunquit, Maine. The sequence runs from right to left; that is, the Moon moved across the Sun from right to left.

Annular Eclipse

An annular eclipse is an eclipse of the sun in which a portion of the sun's surface is visible as a ring around the dark moon. The moon passes between the sun and the earth when it is at its farthest point from the earth, and thus appears smaller and does not completely block the sun, as in a total eclipse.

Upcoming Events

7:00 pm, Wednesday, September 13: Francine Jackson will give a talk on the upcoming eclipses. Free.

11:00 am to 4:00 pm, Saturday, September 23: Great Road Open House Day. Many of the historic properties on Great Road, including the Saylesville Friends Meeting House, the Eleazer Arnold House, and <u>Hearthside House</u> will be open at no charge. Northgate and the Bakery will be open. See the upcoming issue for details.

2:00 pm, Sunday, October 15: Dave Lawlor, Run of the Mill, will show his presentation on the Ann and Hope. Run of the Mill is dedicated to preserving the story of iconic buildings by aerial drone photography. Free.