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The Villager

EL LICOTTVILLE • CHAUTAUQUA

Area Events

DEMO DAY HOLIDAY VALLEY
Saturday, December 17th • 9-3pm
Holiday Valley Resort, Ellicottville

SANTA EXPRESS TRAIN RIDE
Saturday, December 17th • 11-4pm
Gowanda Train Station, Gowanda

SKATING DAYS OF CHRISTMAS
Monday, December 19th • 6pm
William O Smith Rec Center, Olean

NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA
Saturday, December 31st • 8:30pm
Old Library Restaurant, Olean

NYE TORCHLIGHT PARADE
Saturday, December 31st • 9pm
Holiday Valley Resort, Ellicottville

LIQUOR MILE RUN
Saturday, December 31st • 2pm
Ellicottville Distillery, Ellicottville

CANADIAN FRIENDSHIP WEEK
January 2nd-6th • Times Vary
Holiday Valley Resort, Ellicottville

WINTER VILLAGER AT CHQ
December 16, 17 & 18 • Daily
Bestor Plaza, Chautauqua

CRYB "THE NUTCRACKER"
Saturday, December 17th • 7:30pm
Reg Lenna Arts Center, Jamestown

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, December 17th • 10-4pm
Fenton History Center, Jamestown

FESTIVE FUN ON 5TH STREET
Saturday, December 17th • 10:30am
Multiple Locations, Jamestown

ICE BUMPER CARS
Friday, December 23rd • 1-4pm
Northwest Arena, Jamestown

A BIG INLET CHRISTMAS
Friday, December 23rd • 6pm
Big Inlet Brewing, Mayville

CHRISTMAS W/THE CRITTERS
Tuesday, December 27th • 10am
Audubon Nature Center, Jamestown

LAST DAY HIKE
Saturday, December 31st • 10:30am
Audubon Nature Center, Jamestown

HOLIDAY PUBLIC SKATE
Saturday, December 31st • 12-4pm
Northwest Arena, Jamestown

NEW YEAR'S BEACH PARTY
Saturday, December 31st • 7pm
CHQ Harbor Hotel, Celoron

SHOWING OF "CALL JANE"
Wednesday, January 4th • 7-9pm
Reg Lenna Arts Center, Jamestown

For more information on this week's music, see page 11

Preparing for the Holiday

Making Memories Part of the Fun



Get out and enjoy the holiday lights and displays. Photo: EVL Village Gazebo decked out by the Alley Katz org.

By CAROL FISHER LINN

For the past month or two, we have been hustling and bustling in preparation for the "most wonderful time of the year." For many of my Jewish friends, latke are already in the freezer (here's a question about them

— applesauce or sour cream?) and loaves of braided Challah bread are baked. For Kwanzaa, those ahead of the curve have already frozen their cornbread and sweet potato pies. And yet, for some of us (ahem)

SEE "HOLIDAY" PAGE 6

EBC Little Valley

Newest Location Opens this Friday, Dec. 16 2022



With 27 years in the restaurant industry, owner Peter Kreinheider created a vision of a cozy chalet style eatery and bar with a modern twist set in the foothills of Little Valley behind their production facility. The interior has a cozy, open and comfortable feel with vaulted beamed ceilings and sweeping views.

By KATE BARTLETT

The much-anticipated opening of Ellicottville Brewing Company in Little Valley is finally upon us. Peter Kreinheider and his crew plan

to officially open the doors to their fourth location this Friday, December 16th at 4pm, with a soft opening Thursday evening. This newest location is just an

SEE "EBC" PAGE 6

New Chapter for See-Zurh House

New Owners of Iconic Restaurant will Preserve History



The building at 14 Main Street in Bemus Point was first built in 1888 as The Merritt Boarding House and still stands as the largest structure on Main Street, less than 200 feet away from Chautauqua Lake.

By, CAROL FISHER-LINN

38 years, 4 months and 8 days. That's the number of years/months/days Thom Shagla and his wife, Cheryl have

hosted guests at The See-Zurh Restaurant in celebrated Bemus Point, New York. Earning a well-deserved rest, the Shagla's are

SEE "HISTORY" PAGE 10

Big Inlet Christmas

Bill Ward Hosts Live Music Event in Mayville



John Cross (left) performing with Bill Ward at Big Inlet. Photo/Lori Stearns

By DELAINEY MUSCATO
ST. BONAVENTURE UNIVERSITY

With the holiday season swiftly approaching, Big Inlet Brewing in Mayville,

NY is preparing a wonderful Christmas party hosted by local musician, Bill Ward. Ward was born in New England and grew up in Cheney's Point on Chautauqua Lake and then moved to Mayville to raise his family. He has been playing at Big Inlet Brewery since it opened. Ward has been a part of several special events at the venue and says it is one of his favorite places to play. The event will be held Friday December 23rd at 6pm. If you would like to make sure you have a seat at the event, Ward says, "It would be a good idea to get there early".

In addition to a performance from Ward, his friends John Cross and Adam McKillip will be joining him along with some other special guests. They'll be performing some of their original work along with some classic

SEE "INLET" PAGE 11

Sneak Peek

Inside this Issue...

The Spirit of the Season in Ellicottville...

Photos from this Past Weekend.... Pages 9 & 16



Two great events went on last weekend in Ellicottville, NY. The annual Christmas Stroll and the Bob McCarthy Irish Christmas auction.

Irish Christmas Thank You... Pg 3

Bob McCarthy Foundation Extends Thanks for Great Event

Lakeside Arts & Furniture... Pg 11

Unique Shop and Creative Outlet in Bemus Point, NY

Emerald Lounge in EVL

Cannabis Products & Live Music Venue

By CHAD NEAL



Marijuana has been legalized in the State of New York, following suit from several other states that ended the almost century old prohibition of the psychedelic plant. The new status for New York has gradually been realized and is being scrutinized fully to discern the right way to regulate and obviously tax the popular leisure channel. For decades the "counter-culture", which lead the path from 'squaredom', has recognized that one day the evolving cannabis plant and its many qualities would fall off the prohibition list. Now that it has, the beginning of a new era has arrived.

A stone's throw away, in Salamanca and Killbuck on the Seneca Indian Reservation, marijuana dispensaries have popped up all over the territory. With dozens of these dispensaries on both the Cattaraugus and Allegany reservations, there is no longer any reason that a lawful adult won't be able to find some 'Mary Jane' for recreational use.

With Ellicottville being well known for its leisurely atmosphere, more of the potent smoke has been wafting in the air. There are rules that still apply to using a mind-altering substance,

SEE "LOUNGE" PAGE 14

Area Christmas Tree Farms

Local Businesses Help you Trim the Tree



By KATE BARTLETT

It's that most wonderful time of the year, and nothing brings the spirit of the holidays quite like picking out a tree with family, friends, or that special someone. As you wander down the rows of evergreens, you search for 'the one' that isn't too tall, or too short, but is just right. Long enough branches for your favorite ornaments, broad enough to shine your lights bright, and tall enough for that twinkling star atop. Once you find that perfect tree, you haul it home and spend the rest of the day decorating and making holiday memories. It's a joyous holiday tradition for many, and we've highlighted a few area farms in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties that will make it extra special.

SEE "TREE" PAGE 12



Publisher's Word

"Here's to You!"



We are approaching the new year and recounting what we have accomplished in 2022 while determining what we set forth for the year ahead. It is a time of company and family parties, a time to appreciate what we have and imagine something new. Over the past few years, we have all re-imagined our lives and so many creative opportunities have blossomed from that. After all, necessity is the mother of invention. What amazing things have you brought into fruition over the past few years? If you have an inspiring story you would like to share about you or someone you know, please drop us a line, we would love to share it with our readers. We are always looking for writers, contributed stories, and ideas; please email info@thevillager.com or call 716-699-2058. *Until next week, enjoy the read. Yours in writing, Jeanine Caprino Zimmer*

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Happy Birthday

Gretchen Mendell... December 13th • Brooke Szaicher... December 17th •
Machenzie Hoag... December 18th • Jennifer Penhollow... December 18th •
Gary Kin... December 20th • Phil Zimmer... December 21st •
Anna DiMarco... December 21st • Brooke Scharf... December 25th •
Chuck Carlson... December 26th • Carmen Vacchiarella... December 26th •
Jeanette Caprino (Jeanine's Favorite Aunt)... December 27th •

Share the Warmth

Howard Hanna Real Estate Annual Coat Drive Is Back: Howard Hanna Real Estate Services and The Villager have joined together in collecting new and/or gently used coats, hats, gloves & mittens. Donations will be accepted all winter during business hours (seven days a week!) at the Howard Hanna office located at 34 Washington St. Ellicottville, NY.

Old Fashioned Libation

Eggnog recipe: "One quart cream, one quart milk, one dozen tablespoons sugar, one pint brandy, pint rye whiskey, pint Jamaica rum, pint sherry — mix liquor first, then separate yolks and whites of 12 eggs, add sugar to beaten yolks, mix well. Add milk and cream, slowly beating. Beat whites of eggs until stiff and fold slowly into mixture. Let set in cool place for several days. Taste frequently."

**Cathleen Pritchard
Melanie Pritchard**

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 PRIME RENTAL POTENTIAL 16 MECHANIC STREET Multi-Family property in the heart of Ellicottville, 2 units with Three, 3 bedroom apartments. \$495,000 Listing Agent: David Blanchard	 COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY 56 HICKORY STREET Long established Tavern and a 3 bdrm, 1 ba home. Only 10 minutes from Holiday Valley! \$259,900 Listing Agent: Jennifer Courtney	 COUNTRY SIDE LIVING 11318 BEECH TREE ROAD 6 bedroom, 3.5 bath colonial on 2+ acres. Detached 2 car garage. Mins from Ellicottville. \$249,900 Listing Agent: Brooke Szaicher
 COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY 7734 ROUTE 219 NORTH Prime location & commercial opportunity. Only 5 mins from Evl w/ 2 upper apartments. \$249,000 Listing Agent: David Blanchard	 HOLIDAY VALLEY LIVING 317/319-1 TAMARACK Ski in/Ski out on the slopes of Holiday Valley in this 2 bdrm, 2 ba Fractional lockout. \$109,900 Listing Agent: David Blanchard	 MINUTES TO ELLICOTTVILLE 70 GREEN VALLEY ESTATES Well maintained 3 bdrm, 2 bath on a corner lot, being sold turn key. Minutes to everything. \$69,900 Listing Agent: Jennifer Courtney

Photo Credit: Greg Spako

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Ellicottville Chamber Makes Donation



Jackie Church, Office Coordinator with the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce presented Val Germain of the Ellicottville Food Pantry with a donation of just under \$500 as well as non-perishable food items donated at the Breakfast with Santa event during Christmas in Ellicottville. A big thank you goes out to Villaggio and Finnerty's for hosting both events and to all those who donated.

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Irish Christmas Success

The Bob McCarthy Foundation Extends Its Thanks for Great Event

By EVL ELF

Bob McCarthy's Irish Christmas this past Friday night at EBC was by far the best ever. After a two-year hiatus from the live event a large crowd came out to celebrate the 16th annual Fundraiser. A brief comment by Mayor Burrell preceded the live auction hosted by Brooks LeFeber of Brookslifebeerauctions.com and at a frantic pace the bids started to soar.



donating the proceeds from special beer and wine sales to the fund. Brew Master Dan Minner's tribute to Bob, "McCarthy Irish Red" was being to the delight of many in the crowd. Laura Kohler & Mike Rogers expertise made staging this party easy and fun for the committee while EBC's spacious new Beer Hall and their friendly staff were the perfect hosts.

As is always the case our great local publications, Ellicottville NOW & The Villager provided promotion of the event both online and in print, helping us greatly. The Chamber of Commerce on line promotion featured with The Stroll weekend was also greatly appreciated

A special thanks to Cupcaked, Dina's, EBC, Katy's, Madigan's, The Silver Fox & Villaggio who brought "A Taste of Ireland" back to the live event. The food was fabulous and the crowd enjoyed the interaction with the restaurant owners. Ellicottville's home bakers (too many to thank) whose special desserts are done as a tribute to their friend Bob and this tradition. We also thank the many local businesses who supported the basket raffle with their generous gifts. Many friends of Bob McCarthy helped make Friday night a success, you know who you are and we thank you all.

When asked how this started, McCarthy would answer "It started with a little magic". To be sure the magic came in the form of Ellicottville's residents, both permanent and part timers who bid or donated to the cause. The real magic is that this event is helping a number of local families have a better Christmas through Santa's Workshop & the Sheriff's Santa program. Bob, we all miss you but we will continue your tradition of giving. The Bob McCarthy Foundation (www.bobmccarthyfoundation.com) wishes all of you a great holiday season - Thank you Ellicottville.

Incredibly, bids for a great EVL Themed Stainless Steel Fire Pit created and donated by Barrett Price of Bear Metal Works in Buffalo, skyrocketed. As usual many came to donate via generously bidding on Live auction. The custom Fire Pit saw rapid fire bidding back and forth, finally being won by Tina Dillon, who is always a generous supporter while a second themed Fire Pit sold to Lynn Mayer. Bob's original creations were sprinkled in throughout with his Irish Cabinet selling to Erin Cornelius. Ed Frederickson, once again used his creative genius and woodworking skills to put together an array of hand-made gems in the Bob tradition. His beautiful Cedar Chest sold to Dan Minner and his unique birdhouses were very popular. The Traditional Irish Whiskey Basket donated by Cynthia & Mike, sold to a very thirsty family. The auction was limited to 15 items so it was complimented with an Irish basket raffle with a great assortment of Christmas gifts. This basket raffle organized by Erin Cornelius, Brooke Szpaicher & Mila Clauss was a great addition and will be back next year.

It was obvious that many of our benefactors opened up their hearts and wallets to support The Bob McCarthy Foundation's Santa's workshop & the Sheriff Santa program. The auction by far surpassed all prior ones setting a new record \$15,000.00! A very special donation of \$1,500.00 was made during the event by Trey Clauss on behalf of Sean Lowes & The City Garage. This was a result of their Film fundraiser at The Depot this fall. Additionally, a number of generous people chose to donate directly to the Foundation. As these donations normally continue through the end of the year, we anticipate surpassing previous years highs by over 25% in the current economy, that is truly amazing.

PandaGoat Media, that is Brenda Perks and Meghan Lucarelli did a great job on the artwork and promotional material. Heather Sullivan of Heather J Sullivan Consulting worked her magic with the Website and Facebook. Brooks LeFeber hosting the auction, as always made it both entertaining and successful with a local's flair.

Anywhere from Here Screening at HBC



Local Ellicottville and Hamburg NY residents gathered at the Hamburg Brewing Company on Tuesday, Dec 6th for a screening of "Anywhere From Here" a new ski film from Matchstick Productions

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HoliMont Opens This Weekend



Holimont will be opening for the season this Saturday, to members and invited guests with lifts running from 8:30am - 4:20pm. They have limited terrain available at this time, but they're continuing to make snow so they can open more slopes in the near future! They will be open to the public on Monday, December 19th. See you on the slopes! Photo/Mike Basher photography

HoliMont Will Host Your Holidays



Did you know that you can reserve a room for a special group or gathering with HoliMont Resort this winter? Contact them to inquire about having your next team outing or family reunion at HoliMont by visiting holimont.com

Candlelight Christmas Service

Longtime Tradition at United Church of Ellicottville, December 24th, 9pm

The United Church of Ellicottville has a longtime tradition of a candlelight service on Christmas Eve to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. This tradition is one of the oldest traditions in Ellicottville's history. The United Church of Ellicottville would like to welcome everyone to attend the candlelight service on Christmas Eve at 9:00 PM located at 53 Elizabeth St. All are welcome! Please call phone number: (716)244-8792 if you have any questions.



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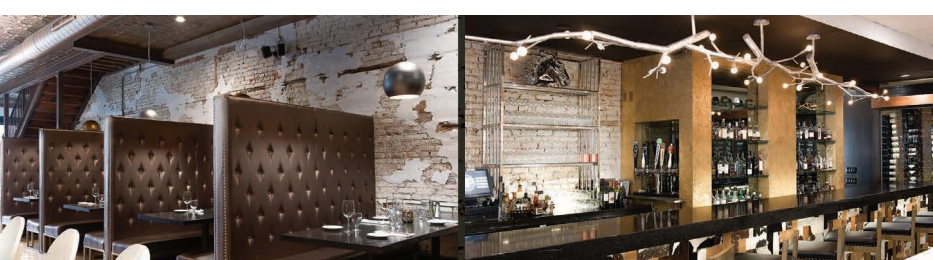
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Thanks from Ellicottville Central



It has been a busy month of holiday traditions at ECS, including the Chorus Concert and Family Fun Night with Santa! Thank you to all that have volunteered, attended and supported these activities for their students and families!

Views from Around the Village



Reader Submission Photo/ Jay Karassik. Send your photo submissions to info@thevillager.com.

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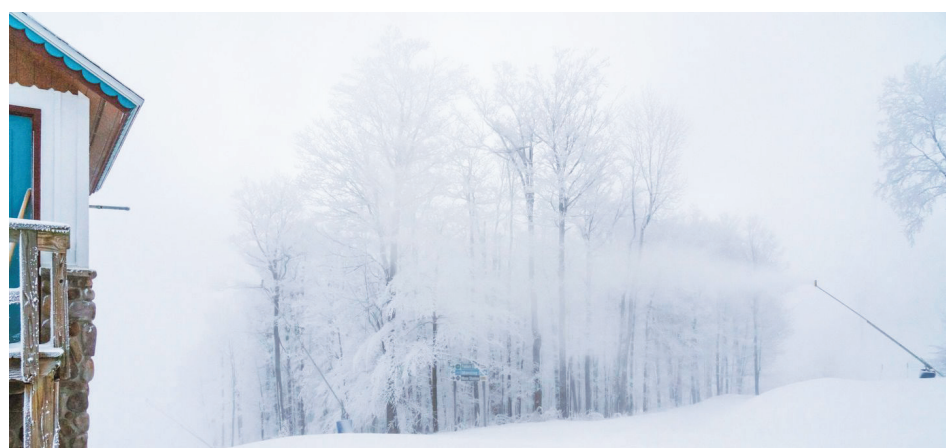


Holiday Valley Plans for the Weekend



Holiday Valley Resort's plans for the next few days is to get as much snowmaking done as possible so they are cutting down on lifts (Mardi Gras and Yodeler will be running), giving you access to 7 slopes. If the forecast holds, this should allow them to open more terrain next weekend. Lift tickets are discounted by \$20 for the next few days. For more details, head to www.holidayvalley.com/winter/conditions-report/

Snow Making in Full Swing @ HV



It's full speed ahead out there as the Holiday Valley Snowmaking Team works to get more terrain open as soon as possible! Stay tuned to www.holidayvalley.com/winter/conditions-report/ later in the week for their announcement on what else will be open this weekend.

Beautifully Decorated for the Season



Alley Katz of Ellicottville helped make beautiful editions to the Ellicottville gazebo. A beautiful layer of snow helps too. Get out and see it in person!!

2022 New Year's Eve Gala

The Old Library, Olean NY, December 31st, 8:30pm till January 1st, 12:30am

The Old Library in Olean, NY is proud to announce their 2022 New Year's Eve Gala! Happening December 31st at 8:30pm till Sunday, January 1st 12:30am. Music and Entertainment will be by DJ Mad Maxx. Semi-formal Dress is Required. Individual Tickets are \$100 per guest. Your ticket will include: NYE Party Favors & Noise Makers, 2 Well Cocktails, Beer, or Wine to get the evening started, Sweet & Savory Hors D'oeuvre Stations, Photo Booth w/Props Balloon Drop & Champagne Tower & Toast Cake...because



without it, it's only a their tickets (LIMIT 8 meeting. Non-Stop Music, GUESTS PER TABLE). Dancing & Entertainment. It's time to party Gatsby Style! Call 716-372-2226 You can reserve a group table by designating a "Table Host" in your group to purchase your tickets. For more information on this event please visit <https://www.facebook.com/theoldlibraryofolean/>

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EBC

CONT. FROM LEFT

it, and it's going to play an integral role in perfecting our pizzas. There's really nothing like the Neapolitan pizza; the way it's thin crust melds with all the flavors and slightly oven charred finish. You really have to taste it to understand. Nothing compares!"

Following the opening on Friday December 16th, the Little Valley location will regularly be open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 12-9, and Thursdays 4-9. Check their website <https://www.ellicottvillebrewing.com/location/ebc-little-valley/> for updated hours and follow them on Facebook and Instagram. Come check out this amazing space and raise a glass to celebrate an Ellicottville icon.



EBC

CONT. FROM COVER



"The indoor vibe is very posh with large murals wrapping the walls, a floor-to-ceiling fireplace, and amazing views from every angle. The fine art murals were created by Sara Corsi Staley, EBC Graphic Artist and Marketing Director. The vision was to create an elegant & ageless space that celebrates imagination, productivity, creation and craft", says Topper, Restaurant Manager."

8-minute drive outside of the village of Ellicottville nestled in the hills of Little Valley, a perfect retreat.

"Company Owner Peter believes in Ellicottville as a destination can continue to build itself up as a 'culinary tourism' hot spot. Peter continues to contribute to that vision by expanding operations and company growth." Says Sara Corsi, EBC Graphic Designer and Marketing Lead. "The community here is like none other," says Peter. "So many restaurant and business owners all pitch in and help each other out. We've got Josh McDowell as our head chef, but Brad Rowell from West Rose has been helping us wholeheartedly as we aim to perfect our pizza dough."

This project has been in the works for quite some time. With 27 years in the restaurant industry, Peter created a vision of a cozy chalet style eatery and bar with a modern twist set in the foothills of Little Valley. "It's truly a stunning location in every season" says Topper Clemons, Restaurant Manager. The space is located behind their production facility in Little Valley and is much larger than their other locations. "It's absolutely breathtaking. The location is fantastic, situated along the Pat McGee hiking trail

with a public pond area, it's a great little escape.

The interior has a cozy, open and comfortable feel with vaulted beamed ceilings and sweeping views of the valley. "It's such an incredible space" says Topper. "Peter has really thought of everything to make this space so unique and it really suits the location." The indoor vibe is very posh with murals wrapping the walls, a large fireplace along the back, and amazing views from every angle. The back wall features a mural painted by Sara herself. "The vision was to create the visual thought process a brewer has while dreaming up a new recipe. It completes the cozy atmosphere among fireplaces and amazing views.

With huge sliding glass doors and large garage doors that open to a heated back patio, the venue is ideal for hosting large parties and weddings. "The space is uniquely designed in hopes of hosting a variety of private functions throughout the seasons. We hope that people will enjoy the venue we've created for their special occasions. It's the perfect setting for any event from weddings and showers to corporate meetings and family gatherings. The space is absolutely breathtaking,

and our staff will make sure you and your guests are fully attended to."

Peter's inspiration for the Little Valley menu came from his passion for pizza. His vision is for it to be a craft pizza experience with simple, quality ingredients. "It's an art and craft," says Peter. He has traveled the globe exploring his passion for food, and has discovered the difference that quality ingredients play. The ingredients for the Neapolitan pizza are simple, and the flour imported from Italy. Guests will have the opportunity to build-their-own-pizza with unique ingredients, like honey and mushrooms. The menu will also include a roasted pineapple pizza and unique salad combinations. The bar features 12 EBC beer on draft as well as a complete bar menu.

"Pizza is all about the ingredients, timing, and temperature" which is where the pizza oven comes into the picture. Peter hand selected the pizza oven for this location and had it imported from Italy. It is 100% electric, yet it operates as a wood fire dome oven and can reach up to 900 degrees. "We can control the temperature and fine tune it as needed. It's been fun to experiment with

SEE "EBC", RIGHT

Holiday

CONT. FROM COVER

cookies are not yet baked, last minute packages are begging to be sent, and a stack of cards sits waiting for notes and stamps.

The festival celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, Christmas 2022, will be here in 10 days. The eight-day festival called Hanukkah begins on Sunday, December 18, at sundown. Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights, is a Jewish holiday that celebrates the ancient Jews' reclamation of their temple in Jerusalem after occupation by the Syrian-Greek empire. As the story goes, the Jewish Maccabees reentered the temple and found only a tiny bit of oil—barely enough to burn their lamps for one day. Instead, the oil burned for eight days—a Hanukkah miracle.

Kwanzaa is a week-long holiday held annually from December 26 to January 1. It celebrates family, culture, community, and the harvest. Kwanzaa focuses on seven essential principles, known as the Nguzo Saba, which are each represented by one day of the seven-day celebration. These principles are unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith. (Wikipedia)

It's hard to believe that in the blink of an eye, it will be all over. Here are some ideas to stretch the joyful season. If you are physically able, get out and enjoy the holiday lights and displays. There are the huge public, pay-for displays, but you'd be surprised how many beautiful ones you will find on back country roads, like the musical one on the Franklinville side of Bryant Hill Road. You'll

find these tucked away all over Cattaraugus, Erie, and Chautauqua Counties. Take a ride and be de-"lighted" with your holiday discoveries. Most village squares are lit providing great photo ops, like the Ski tree in Ellicottville. Make memories. Offer to take family or friends/neighbors who might not have anyone to show them the sights. Dress in holiday pj's and gather up your family for a night of festivity. Build a blanket fort, make popcorn balls, eat snacks, break out the eggnog and movies. Cheer for downtrodden George Bailey and his angel guide Clarence, who is trying to earn his wings in It's a Wonderful life, (listen for the bell). On the lighter side, tune in to Home Alone, Elf, or cheer on Ralphie Parker (A Christmas Story) as he tries to convince his

SEE "HOLIDAY", PG 10

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Local Distillery Hosts Fun Run New Year's Eve

By JESSICA SCHULTZ



beverages available? If yes, what kind?

RS: "Yes, Carson's BBQ will be there with their famous chicken dinners. Typically, the dinners include the chicken quarter, salt potatoes, mac salad and a dinner roll, but sides vary due to availability. For beverages, you can always grab yourself a delicious cocktail or spirit inside the distillery and water will also be available."

V: Will there be live entertainment after the event?

RS: "Kody & Herron will be playing 5-8pm. Based in Springville, New York, Kody & Heren are multi-instrumentalists, performing on guitar, violin, harmonica, mandolin, and more. Nick and Lydia's original material is inspired heavily by roots music and their duets provide a strong chemistry on stage. Vocal harmonies and the overall dynamics of a song are very important to them, and they aim to entertain an audience."

And then to round out a fabulous day, at 8pm we'll set off our fireworks!"

V: Does the distillery have anything else in the works for the Holiday season?

RS: "In January we'll have our annual Christmas Tree funeral... People donate their old Christmas trees and we have a huge bonfire! Perfect way to close out the Holiday season and clean up your place at the same time."

V: Anything else you would like to add?

RS: "We greatly look forward to hosting everyone on December 31st for our Liquor Run. It's a great event and all the proceeds, like most events we host, will be going to Oishei Children's Hospital. So come out and run, have some nice cocktails, have a good time and support a wonderful cause."

Thank you, Renee, for taking the time to speak with us and for bringing our attention to such an interesting event.

Business: Katy's Cafe, Katy's Fly-In

Two Comfortable Places to Enjoy Freshly Made Food



Breakfast menu items include French toast with berries and nuts, various breakfast sandwiches and burritos, and classics like eggs, toast, and breakfast meat. The lunch selection includes wraps, salads, and paninis.

By KATE SCHULTZ

Katy's Café in Ellicottville, owned by Katy Arena, is a perfect spot for a coffee, breakfast, or lunch date – as described by one customer, Katy's is a cozy and inviting space, with coffee, tea, and smoothies, as well as breakfast and lunch dishes.

Currently, Katy's is decked out in holiday cheer, with Christmas ornaments suspended from the ceilings and hanging in the windows, and Christmas tree garland strung along the wall behind the counter as well as around the borders of the shop's windows. During the warmer months, patrons can enjoy the nice weather out on Katy's spacious patio.

Inside the shop, high-top two-seater tables border the right side, with regular-height tables in the center. Counter seating is also available. The left

side of the shop contains additional tables, as well as a fireplace and selection of merchandise such as ornaments, décor, and handmade earrings. There is also a small free library, so those who are stopping by solo can peruse a book while enjoying a coffee or meal. Breakfast menu items include French toast with berries and nuts, various breakfast sandwiches and burritos, and classics like eggs, toast, and breakfast meat. The lunch selection includes wraps, salads, and paninis. For the newcomer, Katy Arena, the owner, suggests a panini with soup for lunch, or from breakfast, one of the different types of burritos on the menu. And don't forget to check out the display case of baked goods such as muffins and cookies! Customers who pay with cash receive a 4% discount.

Windows line the perimeter of Katy's Café, so there is plenty of natural

light. Shop décor includes photographic artwork of the area, such as a ski lift; a fall landscape full of trees with vibrant orange, yellow, and golden leaves; as well as a missile underneath a bright blue sky. The missile brings to mind

Katy's other venture: Katy's Fly-In, which is a full-service restaurant that's located in the former Eddy's restaurant on US 219 in Great Valley. The restaurant is across from a private landing strip, which means that not only do residents of the Ellicottville area frequent Katy's Fly-In, but pilots as well. Katy's Fly-In offers American fare such as pizza, seafood, and pasta.

Visit Katy's Café at 38 E. Washington Street in Ellicottville 8am-5pm Sund and Fri, and 7am-5pm Mon-Thurs and Sat. Katy's Fly-In, at 4836 US-219 in Great Valley, is open 7-8pm Wed-Mon, and closed on Tuesdays.

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Fairgrounds Festival of Lights

Annual Tradition in Hamburg, NY December 16-23

By KATE BARTLETT

This year marks the 18th year for the Fairgrounds Festival of Lights in Hamburg, NY. This has become a holiday tradition for couples, families and groups of all ages who take in the spectacular drive-through light displays and enjoy the many activities in the walk around area on 42nd Street after the drive. Come experience the festival to brighten up your holiday season December 16-23 from 5-10pm.



Guests enter the new Festival entrance for the drive through on McKinley Parkway and follow the route that includes over 70 variations of festive holiday-themed light displays, arches and lighted tunnels. The festival is proud to boast the largest lit tree in New York State (excluding Manhattan). At 76 feet tall, the tree shines bright with over 10,000 twinkling lights.

After parking the car, be sure to make your way to the walk around area on 42nd Street. This year's Festival has several new additions including an Illuminated Pixel Show choreographed to music and an all-new Santa's Christmas Express Train Ride. Experience the all-new interactive holiday maze based on 'Twas the Night Before Christmas movie and get your groove on at Frosty's Dance Party. As in years past, your carload admission also includes a visit with Santa, live reindeer, and plenty of photo opportunities around the village. Indoor kiddie rides are also available (extra charge) as well as food and shopping vendors

at the outdoor European Market.

Holly Smyczynski, Marketing Manager with Erie County Agricultural Society, has been involved with the Festival since its inception 18 years ago. "We are thrilled to bring back the walk-through experience at Santa's Village. We've added a lot of fun new elements to the festival this year, making it even better than before. It's great to be able to provide the expanded event that has become a tradition for families over the year."

The festival has been running weekends in December since the 2nd, with special events including a toy drive for the News' Neediest Fund, Armor Volunteer Fire Company Boot Drive, and Shine a Light on Hunger Food Drive for FeedMore WNY.

Each year, the festival helps raise awareness of driving while under the influence with their Drive Safe Tree and Forest. "The trees in this area are decorated with thousands

of artistic ornaments from children and festival goers. Each ornament represents a child's wish that adults refrain from driving while impaired by alcohol, prescription medications, or any other drugs this holiday season. As you drive through the Festival of Lights displays, look for our Drive Safe Forest display and re-member to refrain from driving while under the influence." Kids are able to color their own ornament at the festival in the Expo Building and hang it on the Drive Safe Tree, or download the ornament at home and hang on their own tree or community tree to help spread the message.

Tickets are \$30 per car, so pack the car with family and friends! Available for purchase online only at www.FairgroundsHoliday.com. Please note the new entrance for the drive through is located at 5600 McKinley Parkway near Clark Street. Visit their website for more info and full event schedule, follow on Facebook or call (716) 649-3900 x 6404.

This Time of Year is Perfect to Challenge Your Brain



Recent research compared web-based crossword puzzles to web-based cognitive games, and the findings were unexpected. The group working on the crossword puzzles showed significant improvement over those playing the online brain games.

By CARA BIRRITTERI
AUTHOR,
FREELANCE WRITER,
SCIENCE TEACHER,
CHQ COUNTY RESIDENT,
FORMER: LAKEWOOD MAYOR,
BOSTON TV REPORTER

Now that winter weather is setting in and everyone is spending more time indoors, it's a perfect time to work on your memory. Regardless of age, challenging your brain now could pay off later. New studies continue to show evidence that indoor activities such as playing certain games, and learning something new daily can keep your memory sharp.

Recent research compared web-based crossword puzzles to web-based cognitive games, and the findings were unexpected. The group working on the crossword puzzles showed significant improvement over those playing the online brain games. The randomized controlled

study published in the New England Journal of Medicine Evidence revealed that crossword puzzles have an advantage over computer memory games in older adults with mild cognitive impairment (MCI).

To conduct their study, researchers at Columbia and Duke Universities randomly assigned 107 participants, age 71 on average, diagnosed with MCI, at the two different sites, to either crossword puzzle training or cognitive games training. The intensive program was conducted for 12 weeks followed by booster sessions for up to 78 weeks. Researchers monitored both groups weekly for compliance. All involved were surprised at their findings. In a press release from Columbia, Dr. D.P. Devanand, who oversees brain aging and mental health research

said, "This is the first study to document both short-term and longer-term benefits for doing home-based crossword puzzles compared to another intervention." Participants also underwent brain MRI imaging, and results showed less brain shrinkage in the crossword puzzle group at 78 weeks, indicating to Devanand that the crossword effect is potentially "clinically meaningful." Researchers are now looking at an even larger trial to confirm results; they also plan to create an online home-based crossword series as a therapeutic for those with MCI.

Others are studying so-called "SuperAgers," people who are in their 80's or older who have little or no perceivable cognitive

decline. These studies look in reverse at what sets these people apart to ascertain how they have been able to keep cognitive function sharp. Longevity researchers have long known that human brains age at different rates, their goal is to understand why, and find effective ways to slow or prevent age related memory loss, and help people maintain high daily functioning well into old age.

Last year a study in the Netherlands followed 33 of these SuperAgers, who were at least 100 years old, for 18 months. More than half of the participants lived independently, and most of them had good vision and hearing. The results published in JAMA Network showed invariably that they all had one variable in common: they never stop learning new things.

Neuroscience researcher, and author of The Age-Proof Brain, Marc Milstein, Ph.D. says as we age behavior has a lot to do with our brain health. He suggests in an article for CNBC that our brains are like bank accounts, and like making deposits, learning makes new connections between our brain cells. The more deposits we make, the greater the connections over our lifetime. Naturally, as we age some of these connections will fade, but the greater our cognitive balance, the less these annual "withdrawals" matter.

One study found that older adults with higher levels of education scored better on memory tests. However, another study found education level didn't

SEE "WORK", PAGE 15



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Holly Jolly Christmas Camp

CHQ Safety Village Hosts Holiday Fun, December 17th, 8:45am



More Holiday fun comes to the Chautauqua Safety Village on December 17th from 8:45am till 12pm during the Holly Jolly Christmas Camp. In this holly jolly Christmas day camp, little ones will play

loads of holiday inspired games, hear the story of Olaf's Night Before Christmas told by Olaf HIMSELF, and enjoy hot cocoa Polar Express style. Kiddos will also decorate cookies with a very special

guest...MRS. CLAUS! After we will find Santa's missing bell of Christmas and of course have a blustery indoor snowball fight with Mr. Grinch. All merry campers who bring a letter for Santa and place it in the Santa Express mailbox, will receive a personalized letter from Santa in return. Please make sure return address is on child's letter. Cost: \$45 per child, \$40 per child for members. Registration required. Visit Chautauquasafetyvillage.com

Horse Drawn Carriage Rides

Chautauqua's Winter Village on the CHQ Institution Grounds, Dec. 16-18th

Take a horse-drawn carriage ride at Chautauqua's Winter Village celebration! Bundle up and experience a bit of old-timey holiday charm as you trot through CHQ's picturesque streets and winter scenery. Rides will be available Dec. 16-18 from 12 p.m.-4 p.m., with the last ride departing at 3:30 p.m. each day. Each carriage holds 8 people and will leave every half hour starting at Noon from the parking lot next to the Chautauqua Bookstore. Tickets are available for purchase at the bookstore (\$6 for



adults; \$4 for children). Each ride is approximately 25 minutes. After your carriage ride, warm up with the new holiday menu from Afterwords Café featuring a variety of indulgent items like

peppermint hot chocolate, fresh pastries, gourmet sandwiches and winter salads sure to put you in the festive spirit. See you there. https://www.chq.org/schedule/events/?_search_events=horse

History

CONT. FROM COVER

hanging up their aprons and turning over the keys of this iconic building for the next generation to make their mark on the continuing legend of Bemus Point. Last Thursday the purchase of the building at 14 Main Street closed to the new owners Bruce Scroton of Bemus Point, NY and his nephew Andrew Haney who is a chef in Pittsburgh, PA. They will keep the See-Zurh House name and look forward to continuing the long-standing traditions; bringing the community the same great service and atmosphere they have grown to love under the well-established name along with some fresh ideas including a coal fired oven for pizzas and wings, extending the downstairs bar and adding overhead doors to the porch area. The new owners plan to open the upstairs bar & kitchen mid to late February, 2023

while renovations are being done to the bathrooms, kitchen and bar in the See-Zurh House. The treasured history will be on display throughout the building in vintage photos and memorabilia from the years gone by.

The building, first built in 1888 as The Merritt Boarding House still stands as the largest structure on Main Street, less than 200 feet away from Chautauqua Lake.

Having changed hands a few times since 1888, the original See-Zurh House (pronounced see-zer) was opened in 1960. It was so named using the owners, Don See and Zurh Faulkner's names. In 1984, seasoned restaurateur, military veteran and world traveler, Thom Shagla purchased The See-Zurh. Not being large enough to accommodate the growing number of patrons even with the original front porch for company to enjoy, The Shagla's remodeled the upstairs bedrooms (it was, after all, a boarding house

originally) into Shaggy's which added seating for another 45 guests. It turned out to be a perfect spot to accommodate large groups. Maintaining some of the vintage look, the Shagla's retained the original wooden floors and added a solid oak J-shaped bar. Thom shared some history with me including the ghost "man and his dog" who have been seen wandering the building. It is speculated that it might be old man Merritt from the Merritt Boarding House who just can't seem to leave his original namesake building. He wondered if the new owners will shag him out or set him up in private quarters where he and his little dog can feel at home and stay put.

Stay tuned for a sequel to this article which will give readers more information about this fascinating, historic Bemus Point building, business and a glimpse of the newest owners' plans. It promises to be great!

Holiday

CONT. FROM PG. 6

parents that he wants a Red Ryder BB gun, even though Santa himself tells him he'll shoot his eye out. Remember the pink bunny suit Aunt Clara made for him? Poor Ralphia.

Go outdoors and make snow angels and a festive holiday snowperson. Bake your cookies or breads as a family project. Find a rink (Allegany State Park, SNI Cattaraugus Community Center, Irving). There are 10 rinks in Chautauqua

County where you can go iceskating. Attend a Christmas concert or a play. Make eggnog and have a Christmas game or puzzle night. Pull out grandmother's old cookbook to create a Christmas meal. And, of course, if you haven't done it yet, trim the tree.

I close with a story to a time when my children were 7, 9, and 11. A friend asked to take me into town for dinner, so he bought a rather expensive real tree and set it up, thinking to give the kids something to do while we were gone. Lights and ornaments were

brought down from the attic, tree was watered, and we left three kids excited to "trim the tree." We arrived home to find them all asleep. Went into the living room, and, gasp, there was the tree ... trimmed.

The saw was nearby, the trimmed branches were in a pile on the front porch. I am certain that was the very first kid-designed, pathetic Charlie Brown tree. I laughed. My friend did not. Ahhh well.

Life is filled with quirky surprises that last over the years. Aren't the holidays wonderful?

Holiday Kaleidoscope Performance

Infinity Arts Cafe, Jamestown NY, December 16th, 7-8:30pm

Come relax at the season on December 16th at 300 E. Third Street in Jamestown, NY, with a nice hot cup of cocoa, and great holiday music to kick off your holiday

performances from Infinity students and ensembles: The Infinettes, The Beat Downs, Duos and Trios, Rising Stars, Olivia O, Alex

J, Isaac S and Aly D and Jolee S. This event is free and open to the public. The Infinity Arts Café entrance is located on 3rd St. Just look for the signs and the blue neon guitar!

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Lakeside Arts & Furniture

Unique Shop and Creative Outlet in Bemus Point, NY



LINDA KATHERINE YATES

Looking for creative ways to have fun indoors for the winter months? Our quaint and scenic town of Bemus Point on Chautauqua Lake is the home of LAKESIDE ARTS & FURNITURE, a totally unique shop offering regional art, refurbished and hand-painted furniture as well as select home decor items. On top of the retail aspect, this spacious shop offers a variety of art classes for all, including PAINT 'n SIP classes and Birthday Parties for children. The focus is on fun and creativity, where anyone of any age can experience the joy of being an Artist!

Owner, Amy Reed, after retiring from over 30 years of teaching art, with a Masters of Education degree from Penn State and from a family of educators, (four generations which now also includes her daughter), decided that she really missed the art room. With teaching being



forever in her blood, she made Bemus Point her permanent home after 20 years of summering here, found the perfect location for her new venture on Alburus Avenue by the Muskie Mall and brought her concept of making art accessible, easy and totally fun for all ages to fruition.

Her classes include watercolor, acrylics and pastels, and she will also be happy to accommodate what individuals would

like to learn. The ever-popular Paint 'n Sip experience varies with each group, whether it is two participants or up to twenty in the shop. Subject matter is discussed with the client and projects are usually predawn on canvases. Amy walks you through the painting process making certain everyone can put their own unique twist to each work and give

SEE "ARTS", PG 14



Big Inlet Brewing is located at 6169 Elm Flat Road in Mayville, NY.

Inlet

CONT. FROM COVER

Christmas tunes. Ward is encouraging audience participation at the event as well. "It will be a true variety show" he said. Ward has performed at Big Inlet Brewing several times, doing all sorts of things. He told me that he usually likes to host at least one hometown holiday event per year. In past years, he's done radio shows, concerts, and reunion shows. As for the refreshments, Big Inlet Brewing will be unveiling some new products this month in addition to their regular menu.

Singing with his friends is something Ward always enjoys. He said, "having a bunch of Western New York neighbors and friends on hand is near and dear to my heart". Ward is a huge fan of reunion shows in his hometown so performing with friends is always a fun endeavor.

For him personally, the Big Inlet Christmas event is about playing with his friends and having fun. For the community, Ward is excited for how it will unite the crowd and community in Mayville. "Well, I hope it is a chance for everybody to get together in this cool gathering place", he said. Big Inlet Brewing's rustic interior creates the perfect atmosphere for an intimate performance. It will create unique space for a memorable Christmas production. He remarked that a lot of people will be back in town for the holidays, so this event is a great way to generate some Christmas spirit. Ward told me, "I think it gives us the opportunity to get together in a way that we might not [usually] be able to".

This event is a must see. Ward and his friends are professionals and according to Ward, they "don't need no stinking practice". Ward is no stranger to holiday performances as he enjoys holding at least one or two a year, so he knows what he's doing. He'll even be

performing some of his own original Christmas music. In addition to his live performances, Ward also records his own music and teaches workshops. His own music is reflective of his Christian faith and his love and understanding of the importance of family. Ward recently performed some of his material, new and old, at the Jamestown Wine Cellar at his event entitled Wine Cellar Holiday Holler. He and his friends will also be featured Thursday December 15th on WRFA's Arts of Fire - Live! This event will be live streamed on WRFA's Facebook page, YouTube, and broadcast on 107.9 FM.

While this event is sure to be a lot of fun, it cannot compete with the live and in person performance at Big Inlet Brewing. This event is always a success and is sure to inspire a lot of holiday spirit. Ward said, "I think having a community event and a place like this during the holidays is important for folks who want to slow down a bit and breathe in the Christmas season".

Villager Photo Contest

The Villager is looking for your great photos. Snap a few pics of your family, friends or yourself enjoying reading The Villager wherever you are and send it in. We will place it in our next edition and be sure to credit you for jessica@thevillager.com or call 716-699-2058. Can't wait to see what you send in!!

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The Pulse: Backlog

Powerhouse Trio Takes Stage at The Goodtime Saloon this Saturday

SUE PORTER OTTAWAY,



The unique story of how one new popular local cover band came to be.

Backlog, a powerhouse trio from Jamestown and Warren, will play at The Goodtime Saloon on Fairmount Ave. in Jamestown Friday, December 16th, from 9-1. Specializing in many different types of rock and roll cover music, Backlog's members are Jim Sturdevant - drums and vocals, Dave Ahlquist - guitar and vocals and Gavin Paterniti - bass and vocals.

Backlog was originally formed in 2015 after Jim and Gavin started attending an open mic Dave was hosting in Jamestown. Before that time, Jim and Gavin had already been playing together in a band called The Elektra Kings, a Surf Rock project. After jamming with Dave at those open mics, it became apparent that Gavin and Jim had very good chemistry with Dave as far as his playing style. They were also impressed with Dave's strong lead vocals/front man ability.

They decided to form a trio and played about a dozen shows until it became necessary, due to the other band commitments they all had, Backlog had to be put on the back burner. I asked them what made it possible for them to be able to regroup and start booking and playing Backlog shows again. They explained, when COVID-19 restrictions came down in 2020, a lot of their gigging

opportunities practically evaporated. All three were in multiple separate bands at that time. One of the few shows that was booked was for one of Jim's bands but it ended up falling through at the last minute. Wanting to keep the date scheduled Jim reached out to Gavin and Dave to see if they'd like to play their old Backlog set. It went so well, what was originally intended to be a one-off reunion gig ended up becoming the reforming of the group.

Bass player Gavin has been in bands since he was 13. Too many to list them all, he stated the ones he's most proud of are his old high school group, Guitarmageddon, Cold Lazarus, The Elektra Kings and Joint Effort, which his dad had been a member of in the 80s and 90s and also featured Jamestown musician Karl Lydell. He also currently plays with Deep Fried and Dipped in Honey. Dave

was previously a member of Pressure Sensitive, Good Eyed Ear and a variety of other groups. Jim has been in too many bands over the years to list them all.

Asked what they attribute Backlog's current success to, Jim's response was, "Hard work equals success." Gavin went on to add, "By the end of this year we will have played about 70 gigs since we reformed."

I asked how Backlog's setlists differ from their previous music projects. Gavin answered, "I've been fortunate to play in the worlds of both original and cover bands. Obviously, as a cover band Backlog is a different kind of atmosphere than what I've experienced with my original projects; but as far as my previous cover bands I particularly enjoy Backlog because we have started adding more con-temporary 90s and beyond, kinds of songs that

SEE "PULSE", RIGHT

Tree

CONT FROM COVER

Santa Klahns - 6503 Woodard Road, Little Valley - Atop Fish Hill Road, just outside of Ellicottville is this family run farm started by Reggie and Mary Klahn over 35 years ago. The Klahns love watching the excitement from kids and families as they pick out 'the right tree.' Several Blue Spruce are currently available with a few varieties of Fir Trees to come in the next few years. All trees are 'cut your own' with saws available, or staff can assist in cutting for a 'you point, we cut' experience. Shop the garage of gifts with both indoor and outdoor arrangements, including antique sleds. A variety of handmade wreaths are available in several sizes including 16, 24, 30 and 36 inches, as well as thick and thin garland. Call ahead and follow them on Facebook for updates on availability (716) 801-5842.

4 C Tree Farm - 239 Rt 322, South Dayton - Chad, Chase, Courtney and Carlye Winship, along with their mom Barbara, are the 4Cs that are the keeper of

the Trees at this family run farm in South Dayton. Offering Concolor, Balsam, Fraser and Canaan Fir as well as Blue Spruce and Norway Spruce in the fields available for cutting. They also have pre-cut trees on the lot along with a variety of wreaths, garlands, kissing balls and tabletops for sale. They offer wagon rides on the weekends and have a fully stocked gift shop with many ornaments and other Christmas decorations. Their beautifully designed custom wreaths will be sure to make a statement in any home or business. Call (716) 988-5570 for updated information and follow them on Facebook.

Hills Christmas Tree Farm - 13214 Belscher Road, Springville - family owned and operated "Choose and Cut" tree farm offering a variety of trees including Canaan Fir, Concolor Fir, Fraser Fir, Grand Fir, Colorado Blue Spruce and Black Hills Spruce. Their on-site Cut Tree Barn protects pre-cut trees from inclement weather. They also have potted trees, wreaths, centerpieces, mantlepieces/table runners, and door/wall swags in a variety of sizes. Browse The

Main Barn Gift Shop for ornaments, place mats, homemade hats, baked goods and more. Open weekends 9-5 until sell out call (716) 592-5096 for updates.

Bear Lake Christmas Tree Farm - 8021 Bear Lake Road, Stockton - Currently owned and operate by The Masiker Family, this well-established family-owned tree farm has been growing since the 1960's. The farm was started by the late Frank Straight, and the Masiker family keeps it running in his honor. Families drive from great distances for their 16-18-foot trees but they also have 5-7 foot available to be cut. Frasier, Concolor and Blue Spruce are available as well as wreaths, garland and firewood. "Tree stands are great, but this is an experience." Call (716) 680-2157

Coan's Dusty Acres Tree Farm - 1199 Frew Run Road, Frewsburg - Annually offering pre-cut trees, John and Mallory have been expanding their family run tree farm every year. They have over 10,000 trees on the

SEE "TREE", PG. 15

Pulse

CONT. FROM LEFT

I've never had the chance to play. Up until Backlog, I was firmly rooted in classic rock covers, and while we still play a good amount of those songs it has been enjoyable to play songs that came around within my lifetime. (Gavin is the youngest in the band.) He added, "The reason we're called Backlog is because we all look at this band as an out-let to play songs that none of us have ever tried.

We want to be unique in the local cover band scene by playing songs that people will recognize but have never or have only rarely heard from a live band.

You can follow Backlog on their Facebook page to keep up with all their upcoming events. To book Backlog click on the Book Now tab on their Facebook page.

The Goodtime Saloon located at 590 E. Fairmount Ave. Jamestown was established in 1984 by owners Tim and Bella Ruch and now managed by their daughter Sheila Ruch.

They now have open mics every Wednesday night hosted by Derek Davis, every other Thursday night from 7-10 they host the popular duo of The Karl and Mark Revolution, plus they have live bands on Friday nights.

Known for being a popular place to gather with friends for dinner and a drink, their Friday night live bands include them in helping to grow Jamestown's live music scene. If you'd like to book your band at The Goodtime Saloon, call Shiela there at (716)664-9718.

Additional area live music for this weekend:
Friday, December 16, 2022:
 Salamanca: Seneca/Allegany Casino River Bar, High Horse, 7-11 pm.
 Mayville: Big Inlet, Jason Mirek, 6 pm
Saturday, December 17, 2022:
 Lakewood: Southern Tier Distillery, Buffalo Back Room Jazz Band, 4-7 pm.
 Clymer: Peek N Peak, Midnight Recovery 9-1

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BY: MOUTH SAY TONGUE

More and more slopes open every day as the temps fall but the music scene is just warming up. Let's see who's playing where.

Our seven-day weekend starts on Thursday at Balloons with Burger and Brew night from 4-10pm. This week's musical host is Molly Conrad from 6-9pm. Molly plays a folk/indie/pop set of originals and covers. \$12 gets your choice of any burger and any beer on the menu with house made chips.

At the corner of Monroe and Washington, The Gin Mill will host Tyler and Jim Thursday from 8-11pm. This duo plays rock classics from the 60's till today along with some originals inspired by the British Invasion of the 60's.

FRIDAY: We return to Balloons main stage for The Abruptors from 6:30-10pm. This Buffalo band plays a ska/reggae/soul set of originals and covers that are high energy and danceable. DJ KT Stylez will follow in the sound booth with some jams to keep the party going till 2am.

Finnerty's joins the fun with Brian Ash from 7:30-11pm. Brian plays a folk/rock/pop/country set covers. Get competitive on the dart board, pool

table and Birdie King video game. With all the TVs this is Bills Mafia headquarters.

We're back at The Gin Mill for Two Guys Drinking Beer from 8-12am. They play a rock/pop/folk/blues set of covers that are fun to dance to. Check out EVL's latest kitchen open till 12am Fri-Sat and 10pm the rest of the week. They open at 10am Sat, Sun for breakfast.

Madigan's will be rockin the sound booth with DJ One Ten from 9-2am. Cozy up to the only wood burning stove in town or shake your booty in the window.

SATURDAY: Balloons is first up again with High Noon from 6:30-10pm. This group of area musicians play a set of country/bluegrass covers that includes some nice harmonies and mean fiddlin. DJ Kage will follow in the sound booth till 2am with some thumpin for the bumpin on the two dance floors.

The Gin Mill has no late evening band because of the bills game. But they do have Henry's Summer Kitchen for the Bill's Pre-game Party from 4-8pm. Try the Carriage House Sidebar if you like craft cocktails made from high end spirits.

Madigan's closes things out with DJ SI puttin the funk in the trunk from

9-2am in the sound booth. Let the A-Team whip up a specialty shot or one of those drinks with the umbrella in it.

SUNDAY: Villaggio hosts its AYCE Pasta and Prime Rib Night from 5-9pm featuring Tui Osborne as your musical host from 5:30-8:30pm. Tui plays a reggae/ska/pop set of covers to accompany the southern tiers finest Italian cuisine.

Strings and Wings is Balloons Monday night special featuring 50 cent wings and live music. This week's hosts are Owen Eichensehr and Pat Harrington from 6-9. These are 2 of Buffalo's fines guitarists and songwriters and play a set of folk/rock/blues/roots covers and originals.

The Gin Mill hosts The Hick Ups Tuesday from 7-10pm. This is a pick-up band from several local bands that plays a country/bluegrass/roots set of covers.

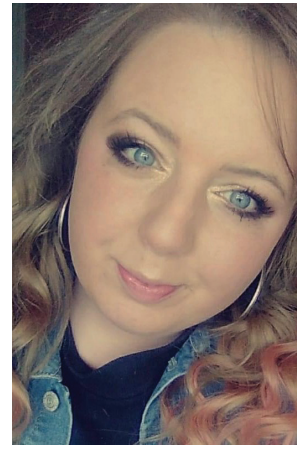
We end our weekend the way we have the last 39 years at The Gin Mill for Joe Wagner and Company, and Wing Wednesday from 7-10pm. Joe plays a folk/country rock/blues/pop set of covers that you'll know.

We hope you come back to our village often with friends and family but whoever you are PLEASE, ALWAYS SUPPORT LIVE MUSIC!!!!!!!

Beat on the Street:

What's the Strangest Present You've Ever Received?

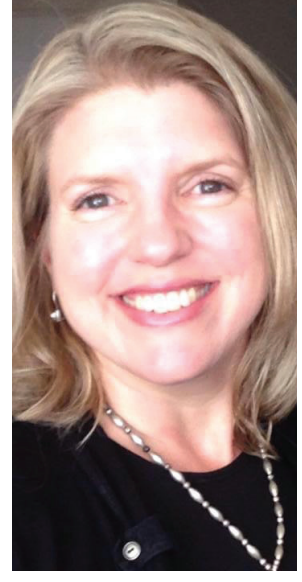
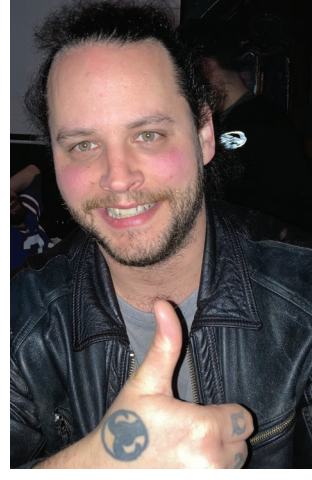
BY CHAD NEAL



Kiel B. - One Christmas we pranked my nephew Owen and gave him like 12 presents but they were all my little ponies. He would say "Ooooo present" and then throw it once he saw it was a pony. He did that for every single one.

Brad H. - My mother got me a blanket last Christmas ...a fart blanket...came with a card to tell you multiple ways to use the blanket in case of a fart.

Veronica W. - I received (kinky) beads at my work Christmas party!



Brad P. - Man thong for Christmas.

Michael B. - My brother got me a crystal that's made of arsenic.

Bonnie K. - Professional level packing tape dispenser.

Meeting Writers Wanted

The Villager Newspaper is actively looking for motivated individuals to join our freelance writing team to cover Town and Village Meetings in Cattaraugus County. We offer pay for time attended and article written. Please send in a copy of your full resume and two writing samples if interested. We can be reached at 716-699-2058 or e-mail Jeanine at info@thevillagerny.com or e-mail Jessica at jessica@thevillagerny.com

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★ ★ Sudoku Challenge ★ ★

This Week's Difficulty Level:
★★★★☆

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, place a number into each box so that each row across, each column down, and each small 9 box square within the larger diagram (there are 9 of these) will contain every number from 1 through 9. In other words, no number will appear more than once in any row, column, or smaller 9 box square. Working with the numbers already given as a guide, complete each diagram with the missing numbers that will lead to the correct solution....**Good luck!**

Last Week's Puzzle:

9	2	4	8	3	6	5	7	1
7	1	6	5	4	2	8	9	3
5	8	3	7	9	1	4	2	6
4	3	2	6	7	5	1	8	9
6	7	1	2	8	9	3	5	4
8	9	5	4	1	3	7	6	2
1	5	9	3	6	7	2	4	8
3	4	7	9	2	8	6	1	5
2	6	8	1	5	4	9	3	7

Arts

CONT. FROM PG. 8

each person confidence in their personal painting experience.

Amy has also collaborated with a Jamestown restaurant for a fund raiser for the Bemus Point Historical Society, painting with a group of forty people. She is also willing to personalize the event in the comfort of your home as well.

Kids classes are available after school and during mornings in the summer. Projects include painting, mixed media, paper construction and crafts. Children's birthday parties have become quite popular. Parents love having a place for the kids to celebrate their special day without the fuss or muss of having a party in their own home. Parties include drawing projects in the studio on the large art tables, paintings on canvas, opening their gifts and decorating a birthday cake provided free of charge. Most parties last 2 hours.

Lakeside Arts & Furniture is located at 8 Alburton Avenue in Bemus Point, NY.

Amy seems to have a boundless energy and a gift for sharing her unselfish love of art, art education, children, and adults who want to learn how to express themselves through art. She is looking forward to growing her business, offering art classes and a unique retail experience. She will also work individually with anyone who would like to schedule personal instruction sessions.

Stop into LAKESIDE ARTS & FURNITURE to meet Amy Reed and perhaps make a reservation for something incredibly special and FUN! Her motto is: 'Come in ~ Relax ~ Create' See more details on the website: bemuslakesidearts.com or on Facebook: Lakeside Arts & Furniture.

Lounge

CONT. FROM COVER

The main one being do not drive after using, while others include do not smoke it around others in a crowd, do not sell it without an official license and don't smoke it in a car, parked or otherwise.

The dispensary owners set up lounges in their respective stores for customers and are able to bring the mellow smoke to Ellicottville without breaking the rules. It works similarly to a wine tasting in sampling the products offered. The Villager found the Emerald Lounge in Ellicottville upstairs in the building that previously housed an old local favorite - Tips Up Cafe.

The Villager met up with Christian Monroe, head of marketing at Emerald Lounge and wanted to know more about this new venture that is catching hold in Ellicottville and asked him some questions.

The Villager (V): How do you explain the Emerald Lounge, how did the concept get conceived?

Christian Monroe (CM): The Emerald Lounge's concept began when we opened our dispensaries. Our budtenders started educating customers about the different types of strains and their effects. The social interaction between the budtender and the customer created a social experience, similar to when you go to a brewery or distillery. So, in a sense the Emerald Lounge is a place where people can enjoy our best cannabis products with friends while listening to local live music. We wanted to bring the cannabis culture to the community and have a safe enjoyable venue to experience it.

V: What is the law concerning it?

CM: First and foremost, we are in compliance with all laws to consume cannabis products as a private club to anyone over the age of 21. Our customers are aware not to smoke and drive while consuming cannabis. As with any other substance like alcohol, we are ensuring our customers are consuming our products in a safe and comfortable environment.

The dispensaries that provide the products at the Emerald Lounge are the 888 Cannabis Company, Top Leaf and Budz on the Seneca Reservation. Emerald Lounge is available for private parties as well. The restaurant space on the first floor, that for decades was Tips Up, is also available to lease and would be a great location in the village for a new eatery right below the appetite inducing lounge.

The Emerald Lounge offers patrons, who pay a membership fee, pre-rolled marijuana joints, usually conical in shape and local artisan made edibles for free. They also offer handblown glassware for sale. They are also a venue for live music and private events. Monroe added "Also, in the future we will be catering foods from Ellicottville restaurants for our members."

For more information, booking events or to lease the restaurant below Emerald Lounge, email Christian Monroe at christianm@topleaf716.com or shoot him a text at 716-548-2686.

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Walter's World

Photo Picks From "The Rittman Show"

Santa Grabbing a Cup of Coffee

Tree

CONT. FROM PG. 12

farm including Frasiere, Balsams, Concolor and Spruces, which will be ready in upcoming years. Although they are sold out for this year,

their craft store remains open and fully stocked with a wide variety of all handmade goods, including handknit hats and other items, baked goods, candle products and decorations. Santa and Mrs. Clause are on site during certain hours and even the Grinch can

be seen roaming the farm. They also offer a free Christmas light show that runs from 5:30 pm to 10 pm every evening until January 1st. Tune your radio station to 105.5 and enjoy from the warmth of your car! Call ahead for more information (716) 338-3374.

Work

CONT. FROM PG. 8

matter as long as adults kept reading, writing, and taking advantage of learning opportunities, their scores remained similar to adults with more education. The latest evidence shows learning new information or skills will have the

greatest impact over time. Milstein adds that this kind of learning should be challenging, and it should "cross-train" your brain, that is use different parts of your brain, just as you would use different muscles to cross-train your body. Milstein suggests switching it up: one day do crossword puzzles; another listen to a podcast, or take an online course;

the next day take a dance or yoga class; and add a social engagement to the week, which is also considered new learning.

The opportunities are limitless, and rather than lamenting inclement weather, it's a good time to start making lots of deposits to your lifetime brain account. This evidence shows you have nothing to lose.

Winter Weather Notice

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Winter weather may cause hazardous road conditions such as high winds, icy roadways, slush and lower visibility. Be cautious while traveling and consider packing emergency resources such as bottled water, energy bars and spare blankets in your vehicle. Please respect the law and the well being of the other motorists who may be your neighbors and friends, who may have difficulty driving in these conditions. Thank you!

OBITUARIES

~ Clifford R Hogan, 2/23/52-12/11/22 ~

On December 11, 2022 at 11:11 pm, after watching one more Bills win with his loving family and loyal friend, the angels came to help Clifford R. Hogan, 70, of Kill Buck, NY, travel to his new eternal home in heaven.

Cliff was born on February 23, 1952 in Salamanca, NY to the late James and Madge (Birmingham) Hogan. After growing up on East State Street in Salamanca, he married his beautiful, devoted high school sweetheart and best friend, Pamela Lynne Bolton, on August 2, 1975.

Cliff was a graduate and athlete of Salamanca High School, Class of 1970, then earned his bachelor's degree in education from JCC and Brockport State College.

Mr. Hogan was a loyal employee, as both a high school and elementary physical education teacher and coach, for Portville Central School District for 33 years, retiring in 2007.

Cliff enjoyed life so much and made the best of every situation! He was an extremely hard worker and loved working outdoors around the beautiful country home he built 42 years ago. He loved splitting and stacking firewood, mowing his perfect lawn, brush hogging his fields and working on his hobby farm raising cows, pigs and horses. In retirement, he loved golfing with so many awesome buddies, spending time with his family in the Hollow,

watching football and traveling to St. Augustine every spring to get "fried" in the hot Florida sun! He will be remembered for his loving and quiet charisma and his handsome Irish dimples while drinking a Busch Light with his MANY MANY wonderful friends! Cliff's family would like to publicly thank so many amazingly supportive neighbors, friends, family and especially beautiful nurses, (Nancy Peters and Joy McClure) who loyally visited him over the many years that we all watched him decline from ALS. A special thanks to his "Thirsty Thursday" Crew (you know who you are)! You showed up every week, through this ugly illness, to make him laugh and be patient & kind with him and that will never be forgotten. You all carried him (and all of us!) through, helping his spirit stay so strong for many years past most, with this devastating disease. We are also very grateful to so many who took the time to send him text messages, photos and of course jokes throughout these past few years. Without his voice, his phone was his lifeline to communication and we're so grateful we have record of his words and thoughts even though we could no longer hear his voice. We are looking forward to celebrating his beautiful legacy with all of you! Carrying on his legacy along with his selfless, care-taking wife of 47 years, are three daughters,

Maureen (Reid) Smith, Colleen (Brandon) Walters, both of Randolph, NY, Kathleen O'Neil of Ellicottville, NY; a son, Thomas (Dawn) Hogan of Randolph, NY, nine adored grandchildren, Sara, Stella, Reid and Serena Smith, Connor, Colton and Delany Walters, and Aubrey and Emmarie Hogan. He is also survived by his beautiful mother-in-law, Sara (Smith) Bolton and many devoted and loving nieces and nephews.

Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his brother, Thomas Hogan of Albany, NY and his father-in-law, John Bolton.

There will be no visitation, but a memorial service will take place on Friday, December 30, 2022 at 1:11 pm at Our Lady of Peace RC Parish in Salamanca, NY followed by a Celebration of Life at the Great Valley Clubhouse (6035 Depot St. Great Valley, NY). Please wear your favorite red, blue or Buffalo Bills apparel to help celebrate! Cheers! He would want it no other way! In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting support sent to either Homecare & Hospice of Cattaraugus County or The ALS Association Upstate NY Chapter. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of O'Rourke & O'Rourke Inc Funeral Home, 25 River Street, Salamanca, NY. E-condolences can be sent to orourke.orourkefh@gmail.com or posted to facebook.com/onofh.

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Classified

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION of ALLEGANY CROSSINGS LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/03/21. Office in Cattaraugus County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 3864 NYS Route 417 Allegany, NY, 14706. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Horn & Hammer LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/17/22. Office: Cattaraugus County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 3059 W Five Mile Rd, Allegany, NY 14706. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE REQUEST FOR BIDS: The Town of Ellicottville is accepting bids for a new 2023 F150 4x4 pickup truck. Specs and information can be obtained from the Engineering Department by calling 716-699-9005. Sealed bids will be received by the Town of Ellicottville located at 1 West Washington St, P.O. Box 600 Ellicottville, NY 14731, until 10:00 a.m. Wednesday December 21, 2022, and then at that time and place opened and read aloud. The Town reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, and to accept the bid, which, in their opinion, meets the intent of the specifications and deemed most advantageous to the Town. BY ORDER OF THE TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE TOWN BOARD

JOB OPENING - Town of Ellicottville: Engineering Department - Engineer Technician: The Town of Ellicottville is seeking to fill the full-time position of Engineer Technician in the Engineering Department. The Engineer Technician will work under the direction of the Engineer and have experience in drafting and construction layout. A full job description with qualifications can be seen at the Town of Ellicottville web site <http://www.ellicottvillegov.com/>. Letters of interest including a resume explaining experience and qualifications will be received until 4 PM January 6, 2023 at the Office of the Town Clerk, 1 W. Washington St., PO Box 600, Ellicottville, NY 14731.

JOB OPENING - Town of Ellicottville: Engineering Department - Assistant Code Enforcement Officer: The Town of Ellicottville is seeking to fill the full-time position of Assistant Code Enforcement Officer in the Engineering Department. The Assistant Code Enforcement Officer will work under the direction of the Code Enforcement Officer and have experience. A full job description with qualifications can be seen at the Town of Ellicottville web site <http://www.ellicottvillegov.com/>. Letters of interest including a resume explaining experience and qualifications will be received until 4 PM January 6, 2023 at the Office of the Town Clerk, 1 W. Washington St., PO Box 600, Ellicottville, NY 14731.

TOWN OF MANSFIELD: TOWN BOARD MEETING: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, the next meeting of the Mansfield Town Board is scheduled for December 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. to be held at the Mansfield Town Hall in Eddyville, 7691 Toad Hollow Road. By Order of Town Supervisor Carl Calarco and Betty Jane Homing, Town Clerk

SERVICES/BUSINESSES

DEEP FREEZE CLEANING: Carefully cleaning in WNY since 2007! We are licensed, insured, and have stellar references. Please contact Jen for your home or office cleaning needs at 716-257-0722.

FOR SALE

TAMARACK CLUB FRACTION FOR SALE: Studio unit, valley side, lobby level, sleeps 4. Amenities include: owner locker room, valet parking, heated pool, fitness center. Call or text (716)-258-0109.

FOR SALE: Like new, men's Spyder insulated ski jacket, sherpa liner, pants, medium size gloves. Price: \$375 for everything. Call 716-720-1287, mornings (am) please.

WANTED

SILVER FOX STEAKHOUSE: Looking for a bartender and dishwasher. Must be able to work nights and weekends. Stop by 23 Hughey Alley, Ellicottville, NY 14731 or email resume to silverfoxeville@aol.com.

NOW HIRING Executive Assistant for immediate opening, Cattaraugus County Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA) is seeking a full-time person with well-rounded skills. Skills to include bookkeeping, payroll knowledge, computer literate, pleasant personality, secretarial skills, self-starter. Please send Resumes with salary history by December 15, 2022 to CCIDA-Executive Director, PO Box 1749, Ellicottville, NY 14731.

Place Your Ads With Us!!
Obituaries/Classified/Want Ads!
Contact: 716-699-2058
E-mail jessica@thevillagerny.com
or info@thevillagerny.com

Submit Your Stories to The Villager

The Villager is looking for your story ideas. What's new in your neighborhood? Is there a business you'd like to see us feature or an event that would be great to highlight; we'd like to know. If your idea is chosen, we will place it in our next edition and be sure to credit you with bringing it to our attention. Be a part of the art! Submit your ideas to info@thevillagerny.com or jessica@thevillagerny.com or call 716-699-2058.

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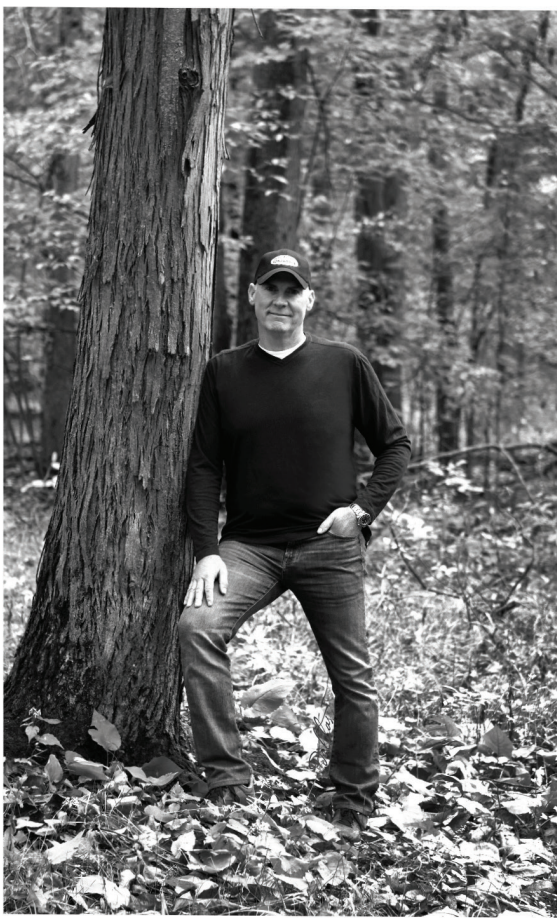
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Views from Ellicottville NY: Christmas Stroll Event Last Weekend



Photos by Jon Elder

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