

**FREE**

# The Villager

EL LICOTTVILLE • CHAUTAUQUA

## Area Events

**WINE & TAPAS WEEKENDS**  
May 12-14 & 19-21  
Lake Erie Wine Trail

**WEEKLY BIRD WALKS**  
May 10, 17, 24, & 31 • 9am  
RTPI, Jamestown

**JAMESTOWN RIVERWALK**  
Saturday, May 6 • 10am  
Comedy Center, Jamestown

**RBG DAY**  
Saturday, May 6 • 2:30pm  
Jackson Center, Jamestown

**VERMEER EXHIBIT ONSCREEN**  
Saturday, May 6 • 1pm  
Opera House, Fredonia

**SPORTSMAN&GUN SHOW**  
Saturday, May 6 • 9am-5pm  
Chautauqua Suites, Mayville

**JAMESTOWN RIVERWALK**  
Saturday, May 6 • 10am  
Comedy Center, Jamestown

**VERMEER EXHIBIT ONSCREEN**  
Saturday, May 6 • 1pm  
Opera House, Fredonia

**LIVING VOICES**  
May 9 & 10  
Jackson Center, Jamestown

**COME TO THE TABLE AUCTION**  
Thursday, May 11 • 5-8pm  
Chautauqua Suites, Mayville

**SPRING FLING 2023**  
May 4 & 5 • 7pm  
Lakeshore Ctr for Arts, Westfield

**DUNKIRK FLEA MARKET**  
Saturday, May 6 • 8am-2pm  
Route 5 Parking Lot, Dunkirk

**KIDS FISHING CLINIC**  
Saturday, May 6 • 10am  
Johnson Estates, Westfield

**NY DUATHLON SERIES**  
Saturday, May 6 • 9am  
Randolph

**MURDER MYSTERY TRAIN**  
Saturday, May 6 • 4pm  
Gowanda Depot, Gowanda

**FINDLEY LAKE CRAFT FAIR**  
Saturday, May 6, 2023  
Fire Hall, Findley Lake

**TRIPLE D RODEO**  
Friday, May 19 • 6:30pm  
Triple D Ranch, Napoli

**SPRING THING CARNIVAL**  
Saturday, May 27, 2023  
The Camp at Findley, Clymer

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## Mental Health Awareness Month

Our Resort Towns have the Secret to Better Mental Health



"The benefits of time outside to our mental well-being are profound – but not well known. Mental Health America (MHA) is proud to join forces with outdoor retailer L.L. Bean to solve this problem, creating awareness of how spending time in nature results in greater creativity, lower stress, increased self-esteem, and reduced anxiety." (mhanational.org) (Story, "HEALTH" pg. 9)

## WNY Land Conservancy Hosts Tony Hiss

World Renowned Advocate for Land Protection



The event is part of the Land Conservancy community's efforts to save the unique Floating Fen (pictured) in Chautauqua County and create the Western New York Wildway, an ambitious long-term plan to protect and connect the largest of our region's remaining forests. Once the Floating Fen is protected, it will combine with the College Lodge Forest to form nearly 400 acres of connected forest, making it a significant addition to the Western New York Wildway. (Story, "LAND" pg. 8)

## Chautauqua Lake Association

Stewards of the Lake Since 1953



Every year, the CLA oversees the removal of over 400 truckloads of debris and weeds from the lake to make it safer and more enjoyable for everyone to use. This non-profit organization, started in 1953, also provides education programs and required scientific reports annually on lake conditions. (Story, "CLA", pg. 4)

## Celebrate the Season at The Fish

Bemus Point Restaurant Celebrates its 6th Year



By KATE BARTLETT

Tom Meyers, owner of The Fish restaurant in Bemus Point, is looking forward to another great season on the lake. With live music every

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, acoustic bands on Wednesdays, bar and menu specials and their popular Floating Bar, Tom and his team are sure to

SEE "THE FISH" PAGE 6

## Sneak Peek Inside this Issue...

**Holiday Valley: Golf Open for Season! Tips to Make the Most of Your Visit ... Pg. 5**



Holiday Valley's 18-hole par 70 "Double Black Diamond" golf course is officially open! The challenging, riveting, and extremely well-maintained course is surrounded by beautiful scenery.

## Gutierrez Exhibits in Westfield

Octagon Gallery Hosts Jamestown Painter

By MILES HILTON



Visit the Patterson Library Octagon Gallery in Westfield, NY to view from April 28- May 26, 2023.

"ART" Pg. 4

## Balloons Expands into Hornell

Landmark Nightclub & Restaurant Expands

By CHAD NEAL



Balloons East or "The Beast" will be opening in early May so maybe even by the time you're reading this. You can check on their Facebook pages Balloons Restaurant and Nightclub or Balloons East.

Balloons has been a staple in Ellicottville for over three decades and has seen it's share of changes throughout the years. The Kerns family has made the iconic establishment into one of the village's celebrated destinations. Michael and Melanie Kerns and their family run Balloons Restaurant and Nightclub and it has grown in all directions, especially east.

"BALLOONS" PAGE 7

**5/13/23**  
12:00pm-8:00pm

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# Publisher's Word

## "Spring has Sprung!"



The plants are opening, the birds are chirping, the sun is out and the snow is gone: we are off to summer things! Enjoy all there is in store for you this new season in the treasure chest of our region. You can read all about it on these pages. Please keep us in the know of what you know, we love to share all of your ideas with our readers. You can reach me directly at: info@thevillager.com or call our offices today (716) 699-2058 and visit us online: www.thevillager.com to sign up for our weekly e-newsletter. *Until next week, enjoy the read - Jeanine Caprino Zimmer*

**WRITERS WANTED: info@thevillager.com**

## "Views of The Villager" Photo Contest!

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## Looking to Sell in the Ellicottville Area??

With over 60 Units Closed in 2022 alone, The Ellicottville Team should be your next call! We would love to set up a personal tour of your property, and help you come up with a personalized plan to sell your Property Today! Don't Wait... Call Now!!

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## Happy Birthday

Jackie Moore... May 4th... Barbara Scroton... May 4th  
Wayne Weaver... May 5th Julie Sengal... May 6th  
Dean Whitcomb... May 6th Shad Nowicki... May 7th  
Julie Stanton... May 7th Greg Fitzpatrick... May 7th  
Mo Porter's Chuck... May 8th Brian Erikson... May 9th  
Julie Anderson... May 10th Linda Meister... May 13th  
Michelle Harrington... May 14th Al Wager... May 15th  
Nick Sciarra... May 17th Sherman Wilkins... May 18th  
Kim Latone... May 19th Sanda Calasina... May 21st  
Mike Steinhauser... May 22nd Jon VonderMolen... May 22nd  
Gloria Carlson... May 22nd Liz Boberg... May 25th  
Email us your birthday greetings: info@thevillager.com

## Ellicottville Summer Music Festival

### "The Players" Headline Saturday, July 1

The Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce this years Summer Music Festival Saturday performance- "The Players" featuring Grammy awarded & top former members of Chicago and Earth, Wind, & Fire. Enjoy a live performance with legendary members: Bill Champlin (Two-timed grammy winner; member of Chicago for 28 years) Keith Howland (Former guitarist of Chicago), Jeff Coffey (Former lead vocalist of Chicago), Gordon Campbell (Former drummer of Earth, Wind & Fire) with an opening act of Barracuda, a Heart tribute band! Sunday you can expect the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra followed by our annual fireworks display!

www.thevillager.com - 716-699-2058

## Southern Tier Biennial Exhibition

Tri-County Arts Council Accepting Entries; Deadline June 17

Olean - Accepted works will be exhibited September 17 through November 4 in the stunning Peg Bother Gallery at the Tri-County Arts Council in Olean.

"The Southern Tier Biennial was founded in 2003 with a bequest by Olean native, philanthropist, and art lover F. Donald Kenney, managed through the Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation, to create an opportunity for regional artists to exhibit in a professional gallery and be seen by jurors that can help further an artist's career," said Sean Huntington, STB Exhibition coordinator. "Every two years, the Southern Tier Biennial gives us a glimpse into the wonderful creative talent that this region has to offer. It's truly an incredible show. I encourage every visual artist, including those working in craft media, to apply."

In addition to the opportunity to show their work, accepted artists at the Buffalo AKG Art Museum (formerly the

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

### Southern Tier Biennial

southerntierbiennial.com

**SHOWCASING THE REGION'S BEST ARTISTS**  
**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: JUNE 17, 2023**

one of five awards totaling \$5,250 - \$3,000 to the Best of Show winner (\$1,000 cash and \$2,000 stipend towards a solo show in Fall 2024 at the TCAC); a \$750 Juror's Choice Award; and \$500 for three Honorable Mention winners. Each biennial is juried by new jurors, this year's jurors are Andrea Alvarez, PhD, assistant curator, and Tullis Johnson, curator and collections at the Burchfield Penney Art Center in Buffalo. The deadline for entering the Southern Tier Biennial is June 17. For full info and the online application, visit southerntierbiennial.com/.

## HELP WANTED

INFO@THEVILLAGERNY.COM

# Earth Day Clean-Up

## Rotary Club Partners with Local Groups for Successful Day

ELLICOTTVILLE – Despite less than perfect weather conditions, the Rotary Club of Ellicottville held its annual cleanup day this past Saturday. This was held on Earth Day and in connection to the Rotary District 7090 Great Lakes Watershed Project. This was a true partnership as clean up supplies were provided by the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce, the village of Ellicottville Department of Public Works and Holiday Valley Resort. Manpower was provided by the Rotary Club and Ellicottville Central School High School students. Finnerty's Restaurant very generously donated pizza and wings for all to enjoy after the cleanup. The task would certainly have been more challenging if not for the way Ellicottville keeps itself so tidy with the help of local restaurants and businesses, as

well as the Alley Katz organization which cleans and maintains flowers and plant beds throughout the downtown area. The Rotary Club would like to thank all who helped and is planning to do another clean up in the Fall. If you would like to be part of a fun and helpful team, please call John Weismantel at (716) 228-7288. We meet two Wednesdays a month at the American Legion on Maples Road and have social nights routinely at local restaurants.



# Apollo Canna Co. Grand Opening

Cannabis Flower Co. Celebrates Saturday, May 13, 2023

Come check us out at our Grand Opening! With Help from Uncle Ben's Remedy, EBC Taqueria, The Slush Bus, Underground Genetics, and Glass Blowing with Liquid Monkey. Event is May 13, 2023 from Noon to 8pm.



We at Apollo Canna Company offer the best cannabis flower and experience for our guest. We offer a variety of cannabis product such as flowers, pre-rolls, concentrates, edibles, and premium smoking accessories.

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# Bemus is Back in Bloom

Chautauqua Co. Resort Destination Embraces the Season



Bemus Point – Spring has sprung in Bemus Point, NY, and with it comes the much-anticipated annual event, Bemus is Back in Bloom. Scheduled for May 6-7, this village-wide open house welcomes the season with open arms and invites locals and visitors alike to celebrate the return of warmer weather and longer days.

But Bemus is Back in Bloom is more than just a shopping event. The local non-profit organizations also get involved by hosting open houses and showcasing their services to the community. This provides an opportunity for visitors to learn about the work these organizations do and how they can get involved and support their community.

specials throughout the weekend!

In addition to all the great activities, Bemus Point is known for its picturesque location on Chautauqua Lake. Visitors can take a stroll along the waterfront or rent a boat and explore the lake. The natural beauty of the area is truly breathtaking and adds to the charm of the event.

Bemus is Back in Bloom has become a tradition for the community, serving as a season kick-off for many of the village's beloved businesses. This two-day event allows businesses to showcase their new spring goods and services while also offering special food and drink menus that embrace the season's flavors.

Be sure to stop by The Lawson Center, Bemus Point Historical Society, and Bemus Point Library on Saturday!

The event is also an excellent opportunity for visitors to indulge in some seasonal cuisine. Bemus Point is home to several restaurants and cafes that will be offering special spring-themed menus during the event. From fresh salads to colorful cocktails, visitors can expect to savor the flavors of the season while enjoying the village's picturesque lakefront views.

Bemus is Back in Bloom has something for everyone, from shopping and dining to community engagement and more. The event is a testament to the community's love for the season and its commitment to supporting local businesses and non-profit organizations. It's a celebration of the coming of spring and all the joy and new beginnings it brings.

For those who enjoy shopping, Bemus Point has an array of locally owned and operated shops that will be participating in the event. Visitors can expect to find new spring-themed items, from clothing to home decor, that embody the spirit of the season. These shops will also have their doors open to welcome visitors and showcase their new offerings.

Many of the restaurants will be kicking off the event a day early, on Friday, May 5, to celebrate Cinco de Mayo. Visitors can expect to find a variety of Mexican-inspired dishes and drinks at these restaurants, entertainment, as well as

The Bemus is Back in Bloom event is a great way to welcome spring and experience the hospitality and charm of Bemus Point. With something for everyone, visitors are sure to have a great time exploring the village, trying new food and drink, and shopping for spring merchandise. So mark your calendars for May 6-7 and join us for a weekend of fun and celebration!

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## CLA

STORY FROM COVER

By PATRICIA MEASER

Spring at Chautauqua Lake brings blooming flowers, fishing, and spring hunting season. You can see boat docks going up, folks out walking or cycling, and so many other outdoor activities. You may also start seeing some unusual green or yellow machines near the lakeshore. What are they, you may wonder? Those are some of the tools that the Chautauqua Lake Association (CLA) uses to clean up the shoreline and remove hazardous debris from the water.

Every year, the CLA oversees the removal of over 400 truckloads of debris and weeds from the lake to make it safer and more enjoyable for everyone to use. This non-profit organization, started in 1953, also provides education programs and required scientific reports annually on lake conditions. They are the only organization in our area doing this work.

Heather Nolan-Caskey, CLA's Supervisor of Lake Activities, says the main goal of the CLA is "to make Chautauqua Lake usable for all types of users. This includes boaters, skiers, and fishermen. We listen to all the groups who use the lake and do our best to balance their needs. This may mean cutting away all weeds in some spots, and in others just cutting a pathway through the weeds so that there is still a habitat for the fisheries."

She says they manage all of this with only six full-time employees. The majority of the maintenance on their multi-million-dollar fleet of equipment is completed in the off-season so downtime in the summer is minimal. Then in the spring, they hire 32 temporary employees who work through Labor Day on clean-up projects. "Depending on how the season goes, we may work past Labor Day, but that also depends funding and availability of workers. Most of our temporary employees are between 16 and 18 years old, and go back to school in the fall."

The workers start in Mid-May with near-shore barges, cleaning up any



The workers start in Mid-May with near-shore barges, cleaning up any tree trunks, limbs or other large pieces that are in the way, and picking up trash.

tree trunks, limbs or other large pieces that are in the way, and picking up trash. Pontoon boats are used to get in between docks to rake up leaves and other floating debris in those smaller areas. Harvesters are then used to cut up and remove weeds. Once a harvester is full, the weeds are offloaded onto transport machines, which can connect directly to a harvester. Transporters dock at certain points around the lake, where conveyors are employed to move the waste onto trucks for offsite removal. The CLA has three conveyor sites, one each at Mayville, Long Point and Lakewood.

Heather says that they work all summer, rain or shine. Her job is to meet with the crews every morning to give them their work plans for the day, i.e., what machines they are using and what part of the lake they are each working on. She keeps three crews working in a circular pattern around the lake to ensure every area is visited at some point during the season.

"Plans can change on a daily basis, though," explains Heather. "The wind may influence where the crews are assigned on a given day. Also, if a crew is working around docks, and can't fit equipment between those docks, they may have to come back

with different equipment. And I sometimes get calls about weeds being bad in a specific spot, so I may send someone to target that spot first. Or, if there is a harmful algae bloom in an area, we'll move somewhere else."

Heather has worked at the CLA for twelve years. In the off-season, she writes grants and reports. She attends several key conferences every year, and helps manage their fundraisers. She is proud to work for the CLA, and credits former supervisor Paul Swanson, who passed away last year, with teaching her the respect she now has for her job.

When asked what she loves most about it, she responded, "It's the kids. I love teaching them about the lake and seeing the respect they show for the lake and the environment." She adds that this job is not easy to do, but they stick it out and show commitment. Some of them bring suitcases of clothes to work, because the weather on the lake may vary so much in a single day that they have to change clothes several times. "They try to have fun with it. Sometimes there are little kids on shore who want to watch, or who want to see the machines.

SEE "CLA", Pg. 15

## Art

CONT. FROM COVER

as city scenes reminiscent of the Impressionists. The exhibit will be on view until May 26th.

"Through my art, I try to capture the life and energy that surrounds us," Gutierrez writes in her artist's statement. Indeed, her urban scenes and some of her portraits of animals - such as 'Trail Camera Cardinals,' which spotlights two blurred birds in motion against a winter sky - seem to freeze not only a tableau, but its emotional effect on the artist.

"There was a story I wanted to tell," Gutierrez shares when I ask her about her choice of works. It's "the journey that I've been on, the memories that I have - a type of tree, an alleyway, a laugh, a joke". That translation of personal, emotional impression comes across especially well in her paintings of alleyways and streetscapes, some of which are titled after the moments that left such an impression on the artist.

Those are "a newer series," Gutierrez shares, and they are where the personal, 'frozen-in-time' quality of her work comes through mostly effectively. In many of them, the subject of the painting is framed by offset, broken



Gutierrez pictured center, right at opening reception. The gallery is located at 40 S. Portage Street in Westfield, NY.

circles Gutierrez says were inspired by coin-operated viewfinders. They give the pieces a "zeroed in" quality, "focused more on one part instead of a whole." They also forcefully convey the subjective quality of memory - little things standing out against a blurred backdrop of recollection.

The cityscapes are one of two distinct sets of paintings in the exhibit, the other being portraits of animals. Crows, moths, butterflies, and birds fill Gutierrez's canvasses, all painted with vibrant colors and strong lines. Gutierrez uses "mostly a palette knife," giving her paintings an almost sculptural quality. The exhibit may be titled

Paintings, but her work is truly multi-media. Many of her pieces are painted over a collage of recycled paper, including old maps, some of which reference the very places she paints in her work.

Gutierrez is also an art educator, teaching art and organizing artistic programs at The Resource Center. A proud member of the local artistic community, she sits on the board of the North Shore Arts Alliance and will be part of this year's NSAA Art Trail Hub Crawl, which takes place over Memorial and Labor Day weekends. She can be found on Facebook and Instagram, or susanjgutierrez@outlook.com.



## Holiday Valley Golf Course Open Tips to Make the Most of Your Visit

By **ABBY KREINHEDER**



**The greens are perfectly manicured for a true putting surface that will keep you on your toes. With a length of 6500 yards, the course is longer than it seems, thanks to the challenging fairways and varied terrain. So, get ready for an unforgettable day at Holiday Valley, where every shot is a new adventure!**

But the real excitement starts on the back nine, which winds its way through the mountains and offers breathtaking views. You'll need to bring your A-game, though, as the narrow fairways and challenging terrain will put your skills to the test.

Hole 10 is a short Par 3 with a sloped green and two large bunkers. E'ville Corner (Holes 11-13) consists of beautiful tee locations, creeks, ravines, elevations, split fairways, and undulating greens.

You'll be standing sideways for hole 14 and once again challenged with avoiding a water hazard. You'll then shoot downhill with a 100-yard drop for hole 15. Next up is a beastly Par 4 for hole 16 followed by the redesigned hole 17 that goes uphill. Finally, hole 18 which follows the woods down the hill on the other

side. The greens are perfectly manicured for a true putting surface that will keep you on your toes. With a length of 6500 yards, the course is longer than it seems, thanks to the challenging fairways and varied terrain. So, get ready for an unforgettable day at Holiday Valley, where every shot is a new adventure!

"Grab a buddy come out and have some fun," Kyle said. Golf lessons are available from Kyle Benish which can be booked online. Check out the Holiday Valley website for more detailed information about the course, booking tee times, or to get in contact with any other questions. Rates vary but average between \$40-80 a day depending on day, time, front 9, back 9, or a swing at all 18 holes.

## Up Close and Personal: Jim Curtis Maintenance Expert at Holiday Valley

He landed his current role as Mountain Operations Manager over 19 years ago and thoroughly enjoys the day-to-day action it offers. "Every day, every season is different. I love being outside every day, no matter the weather. You never know what the day is going to bring winter, spring, summer or fall and I have met so many great people along the way."

During his time at The Valley, Jim has seen the resort undergo many changes. "It's nothing like it was 48 years ago. Everything has totally changed. It was a small resort with 2 chairlifts and 3 T-bars. Everyone knew each other and it was a tight knit group back then. We've grown exponentially to become of the largest and sought after ski resorts in the state, and even the country, offering 13 lifts and 58 slopes to be discovered. Holiday Valley is now a world class four-season resort."

Jim and his crew are always changing and updating the trails, providing year-round maintenance to the terrain. Currently, he is overseeing his 22nd lift removal with the taking down of the Mardi Gras lift and installing a new high speed 6 passenger lift. The process of removing a lift is quite involved, due to its sheer size in intricacy.

Additionally, Holiday Valley sends most of their old lifts to be repurposed at other ski resorts all over the world. The Mardi Gras lift will be sent to Chili to be used at Centro de Ski Corralco Resort. Jim has spent much of his time recently coordinating not only the removal, but also the transport of the lift and explaining the lift to the 2 Centro de Ski Corralco employees (with the help of a Spanish translator) that spent a week here. Holiday Valley lifts can be found on resorts all over the country, from West Virginia to New Hampshire to Wisconsin and one at Kissing Bridge. The old Yodeler lift is now at Catamount Mountain Ski Resort in Hillsdale, New York.

Holiday Valley is one of the few resorts in the country that installs lifts with their own labor crew. Most other resorts hire Lift companies to install, and simply 'turn the key' to operate. "Since we install them ourselves. We know these lifts inside and out. The process is lengthy, but it's worthwhile and fulfilling."

Through the winter months, Jim oversees the lift operators, lift maintenance, parking as well as the shuttles. He manages 100+ employees and works 9-10 hour days

SEE "SKILLS", PG. 15

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## Goodwill Good Skills in CHQ. Co. Training for Manufacturing Jobs



Goodskills has partnered with the local manufacturer, Jamestown Advanced Products, to offer hands-on work experience to the participants of the class. Following the experience of hands-on work, participants will receive a graduation ceremony and a guide for how to proceed after the class.

By VICTORIA PAVLOCK

A new program has recently been introduced to Chautauqua County within 2023. Goodwill Good Skills Career Building is a fifteen-day class that focuses on certifying people in the community in numerous subjects. The program has shown great success within Erie and Niagara County over the past few years and has recently found its way to Chautauqua County. There are many different opportunities to apply to join this class. The next class starts on May 15th, 2023 and requires no payment!

Skill assessment, goal setting, and basic technology training are just the beginning of this program. Students enrolled will also receive OSHA Training and Forklift Training, Career Fundamentals Training along with actual hands-on work experience.

The purpose of this four-week class is to give participants an opportunity to connect with employers that offer higher paying, advanced manufacturing and technology jobs. Goodskills has partnered with the local manufacturer, Jamestown Advanced Products, to offer hands-on work experience to the

participants of the class. Following the experience of hands-on work, participants will receive a graduation ceremony and a guide for how to proceed after the class. "Following the graduation, we have set up a job fair that will include seven manufacturers and interviews for the graduates of the program"-Valerie Johnson, career coach and team member. The job fair will give the participants the chance to receive connections to employers and manufacturers in their local area. The Goodskills program also provides all of their students with a career coach for up to three years after their graduation. The purpose of the coach is to assist the student in their future career. They can help anywhere from finding job opportunities to simply aiding their students in finding a direction for their career.

The only requirements for this class are an age minimum of eighteen and a high school diploma or GED. According to Valerie Johnson, a Goodskills team member, there has been a wide age range of participants and participants that come from so many different types of backgrounds. The class is not subjected to one specific group and could be beneficial to anyone.

The Goodskills team offers many services to this community along with the incoming participants. Doing what they can to support participants in need is a major priority for the Goodskills team. The program wants this experience to be as beneficial and simple as possible.

Valerie Johnson states, "We have seen great success with finding careers for our participants. Those who are still looking for work after graduating and attending the job fair are also able to come back to future job fairs". Goodskills Career Building has shown tremendous success for not only the participants, but for the local area as well. Since providing their service in the beginning of February, Goodskills has been shown great support from their community. Their partnerships with Jamestown Community College and Jamestown Advanced Products have helped the program become the success that it is within the Chautauqua County area. The Goodskills group has been able to see so many changed lives come from the classes. "This has all been so well received. Participants are so excited and proud of themselves on

SEE "SKILLS", Pg. 8



The Fish is located at 61 Lakeside Drive in Bemus Point, NY 14712. They can be reached at (716) 386-1210, on Facebook or at [www.bemuspointfish.club](http://www.bemuspointfish.club).

## The Fish

### STORY FROM COVER

make it their best summer ever.

The Fish is perfectly situated on Chautauqua Lake in the heart of Bemus Point at 61 Lakeside Drive offering casual dining with unforgettable views of the lake for lunch, dinner and drinks. Their street level dining room and bar offer full menu, as well as their more casual lower bar and deck. The Tank Bar, also known as the Floating Bar, serves cocktails and crafty creations with a twist.

The Fish is celebrating its Birthday on June 3, with live music from Welcome Distraction and

free cake and champagne. "We're so excited to be celebrating our 6<sup>th</sup> season at The Fish," says owner Tom Meyers. "We love putting together a season full of fun activities to provide quality entertainment and good food to the Bemus Point community."

Summer kickoff begins Memorial Day weekend with a weekend of live music and menu specials. Throughout the summer, The Fish will offer Monday night all-you-can-eat wings for \$15.99, \$5 margarita and frozen drink specials with Tuesdays, and all-you-can-eat snow crab legs on Thursdays for \$49.99. They've also added a new seafood boil to the menu. Other summer events include the Drag Show on June 10 and August 19, Pirate Days on August 7-8, and Tailgate party on September 9. Tom is also excited to announce hosting Nerds Gone Wild on August 13 and Seismic Urge & ESCAPE, Journey Tribute band on Labor Day weekend, September 2. Full schedule of events can be found online at <https://bemuspointfish.club/events/> and follow on Facebook for updates. "The deck is open and the dock is ready to entertain! Stop live acoustic music on waterfront with great food, drinks and quality entertainment all season. Memories at The Fish are what summers are made for!"

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## History: Stockton Hotel

### Restaurant in Stockton, NY with a Long History



Lily Dale, a large spiritual community, is just three miles down the road from the restaurant. Stockton Hotel sees a lot of business from this community as well as a lot of people from Chautauqua Institution in the summer.

By DELAINEY MUSCATO  
— ST. BONAVENTURE  
UNIVERSITY

Stockton Hotel in Stockton, New York is one of the most unique features the town has to offer. This hotel turned restaurant has a long history that only adds to its charm and character. I spoke with Ginger Bulger, General Manager, about

what Stockton Hotel is like now. She also shared the history of the hotel with me.

The town of Stockton was originally known as Delanti. Its main industries were agriculture and forestry. It was renamed Stockton after U.S. Navy Commodore, Robert Stockton. He was also a signer of the Declaration of Independence. In

1812, Abel Thompson purchased 178 acres of land, including the land where the current Stockton Hotel resides. He built a log cabin. Some of this original infrastructure is still part of the building standing today. The building changed hands twice more until Levi V.

“STOCKTON”, Pg. 11

Formerly Club 57 in Hornell NY. Balloons Restaurant EAST is coming to Hornell NY this Spring 2023!

## Balloons

### STORY FROM COVER

Opening soon in Hornell New York is Balloons East! *The Villager* caught up with the Kerns wanting to learn more. Here's what they shared:

**Villager (V)**- Let's get a little history on Balloons restaurant and Nightclub, when did your Dad and Mom start Balloons?

**Mike Kerns (MK)**- My parents, Micheal Kerns and Cheryl Kane began their restaurant journey as owners of the Rusty Nail in Jamestown and seized the opportunity to bring their experiences back to their hometown of Ellicottville in 1987 just a couple of doors down from our current location before opening Balloons as we know it in 1990.

**V**- After his passing you took over Balloons from your Dad, how was that transition?

**MK**- Having worked around our family businesses for my entire life, from sorting beer bottles in the basement, washing dishes,

helping behind the line, bartending and eventually managing our family-owned establishments in Jamestown and Ellicottville, the transition was a natural one. While the timing and circumstances surrounding my eventual ownership were not anticipated and heartbreaking, I had already begun transitioning into Balloons and had started managing the business months prior. The sudden loss of my father was significant and overwhelming, it occurred within weeks of the birth of my daughter, but it was a tandem event that culminated into new beginnings that I hope brings pride to both of my parents.

**V**- Its growth has been truly awesome, and now you're opening in Hornell, how did this come to be? How did you find Hornell?

**MK**- Hornell found us!! A second location had been on our minds for quite some time. Over the last couple of years, we have had a few different proposals, and this one just felt right... the location, the timing, the people!

Hornell feels like

home. While it is a bigger community than Ellicottville, it still offers a hometown feel that immediately brought a sense of comfort and excitement.

**V**- What kind of place will it be?

**MK**- Awesome! Cool! Fun!

We will maintain our home base vibe offering an eclectic mix of Balloons favorites, combined with some amazing specialty entrees... Balloons is for EVERYONE, it is our goal to make it a comfortable and inclusive space for all to enjoy. It is important to us to maintain that atmosphere in every location.

**V**- "Balloons East" is the name?

**MK**- It was a family decision explored at our dinner table. I couldn't be happier that my kids take pride in our business and they really pushed to keep the businesses connected in name and practice. Our staff have affectionately dubbed it "The Beast" (play off Balloons East ya'll).

**V**- How big is it?

SEE "BALLOONS", RIGHT

## Balloons

### STORY FROM LEFT

**MK**- We will have seating for 225 people with a couple of different dining room options in addition to a defined bar area. We will be able to provide some opportunities for private catering events.

**V**- Will there be anything special about the new joint?

**MK**- Everything! Inside people will find special items contributing to the development of the space

by many of my local friends and artists! Come take a peek for yourself! I think people who know Balloons will find immediate comfort, and people new to our space will hopefully fall in love with the eclectic flair!

Balloons East or "The Beast" will be opening in early May so maybe even by the time you're reading this. You can check on their Facebook pages Balloons Restaurant and Nightclub or Balloons East.

*The Villager* asked if he wanted to add anything and Kerns wrote:

"We want to thank

our Balloons staff and management team for jumping head first into the shallow end with us. When my wife and I shared the idea with them, I told them we couldn't do it without them, and boom, they helped us make this crazy endeavor a reality. Thanks team! Additionally, we have been overwhelmed by the kindness and enthusiasm that we have been greeted by within the Hornell community, and we just can't wait to spread our mantra to the East. 'Always Amongst Friends!'"

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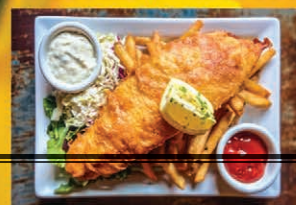
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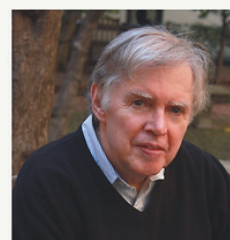
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# WNY Land Conservancy Hosts Tony Hiss

## World Renowned Advocate for Land Protection



An Evening with  
**Tony Hiss**

May 25 at 7:00 pm  
Montante Cultural Center  
Canisius College  
2001 Main St. Buffalo, NY  
*This event will also be livestreamed.*



Pictured: (above, left) Black Swallowtail visiting Blue Flag Iris; (above, right) Beaver pond teeming with wildlife.

### Land

#### STORY FROM COVER

By Kate Bartlett

On Thursday, May 25, the Western New York Land Conservancy will host world-renowned author Tony Hiss, one of the strongest advocates for land protection in the United States. Tony will discuss his influential book *Rescuing the Planet: Protecting Half the Land to Heal the Earth*. The free event will be held at 7pm at the Montante Cultural Center at Canisius College. It will also be livestreamed, but

registration is required. The event is part of the Land Conservancy community's efforts to save the unique Floating Fen in Chautauqua County and create the Western New York Wildway, an ambitious long-term plan to protect and connect the largest of our region's remaining forests. Once the Floating Fen is protected, it will combine with the College Lodge Forest to form nearly 400 acres of connected forest, making it a significant addition to the Western New York Wildway.

"The floating fen property is at the heart of one of the most spectacular wetland complexes in the region," says the Land

Conservancy's Stewardship Coordinator and naturalist, Erik Danielson. "Even there, its sphagnum fen covered in irises and carnivorous sundews is unique in its beauty and ecology."

Western New York is a wonderful place to live. It's home to a vast amount of fresh water, our forests teem with incredible wildlife, and we are the stewards of some of the world's most fertile soils. But the region has also witnessed tremendous sprawl over the past fifty years, resulting in the development of large stretches of land.

Thankfully, communities are beginning to recognize the critical importance of saving our forests,

meadows, wetlands, lakes, and rivers for the health and wellbeing of every living creature. Copies of *Rescuing the Planet* can be purchased at Talking Leaves Books in Buffalo, or wherever books are sold. Tony Hiss is the author of fifteen books, including the award-winning *The Experience of Place*. He was a staff writer at *The New Yorker* for more than thirty years, a visiting scholar at New York University for twenty-five years, and has lectured around the world. He lives in New York with his wife, young-adult writer Lois Metzger.

"Tony Hiss lays out what can—indeed must—be done to slow the tide of extinction. *Rescuing the*

*"Thankfully, communities are beginning to recognize the critical importance of saving our forests, meadows, wetlands, lakes, and rivers for the health and wellbeing of every living creature. Copies of Rescuing the Planet can be purchased at Talking Leaves Books in Buffalo, or wherever books are sold. Tony Hiss is the author of fifteen books, including the award-winning The Experience of Place. He was a staff writer at The New Yorker for more than thirty years, a visiting scholar at New York University for twenty-five years, and has lectured around the world. He lives in New York with his wife, young-adult writer Lois Metzger."*

Planet is at once sobering and joyful—a celebration of life and the many people working to save it." — Elizabeth Kolbert, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Under a White Sky*

For more information, visit <https://www.wnyc.org/tonyhiss> for in person registration, or for livestream registration visit <https://www.wnyc.org/tonyhisslivestream>.

### Skills

#### STORY FROM PG. 6

receiving the credentials to work and make a positive impact on their lives and community" - Valerie Johnson.

The Goodskills Career Building program is a four-week long process that includes fifteen classes that take around

an hour/hour and a half. Within this time, students will learn and become certified in many different types of manufacturing and technology subjects.

The idea that there is a program that can easily change someone's entire life in such a positive way is so promising for our community. Goodskills has taken on the task to reach out to the Western New

York community and do what they can to improve the wellbeing of humanity. If you or someone you know is in a place where they are in need of steady employment, Goodskills Career Building is a great place to connect with to learn and train for a career in manufacturing. To find out more or start your journey on specialized training, visit: [Goodskillswny.org](http://Goodskillswny.org).

## Submit Your Ideas & Win

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](mailto:info@thevillagerny.com) or [jessica@thevillagerny.com](mailto:jessica@thevillagerny.com) or call 716-699-2058. Good Luck!!



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MAY 20

## Walter's World

Photo Picks From "The Rittman Show"



Kangaroo Boxing actually became pretty popular in the late 1800s. In both Europe and the United States, clowns and professional boxers alike would square off against these marsupials in front of frenzied crowds.

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# Mental Health Awareness Month: Appreciating Our Outdoors



## Health

### STORY FROM COVER

BY CAROL FISHER-LINN

“The benefits of time outside to our mental well-being are profound – but not well known. Mental Health America (MHA) is proud to join forces with outdoor retailer L.L. Bean to solve this problem, creating awareness of how spending time in nature results in greater creativity, lower stress, increased self-esteem, and reduced anxiety.” (mhanational.org)

Now, before I tell you more about the L.L. Bean challenge, I can’t help but toot the horn of our surrounding communities that offer opportunities for mental and physical well-being. Snowmobiling, skiing, and snowboarding in the winter; walking these beautiful hills year-round. There is hiking and biking, working out at our health clubs/gyms, yoga, Pilates, golf, swimming, Sky High Adventure Park, boarding, and fishing. Walk through the Nannen Arboretum and make it a tree identification walk for a little mental challenge. Visit Allegany State Park, Zoar Valley, Griffis

Sculpture Park, Rock City Park, and Pfeiffer Nature Center in Portville. Take a hike on the old logging roads that run through the state lands across the Enchanted Mountains. In Chautauqua County, “a robust trail system and ample parks provide year-round opportunities for nature adventures on some of the best hiking trails in NY. Discover magnificent views and undisturbed landscapes while hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, bird watching or snowmobiling the area’s network of multi-use trails.” (tourchautauqua.com)

There is boating in the Chautauqua region and plenty of walking tourism opportunities throughout. The Southern Tier offers as many things as your imagination will call you to do. We are in our own little oasis when it comes to having so many physical well-being activities at our fingertips. Do I dare say “Nirvana?”

Mental health is nothing to joke about. Likewise, it is nothing to avoid discussing. We have all had our occasional mental health challenges, from the simple “blues” to deep depression, and everything in between. We shake

ourselves out of it, we seek help, or sadly, many simply hide it, because society has for so long made it a taboo subject. Thankfully, it is being talked about more openly today. Let’s look at a few famous celebrities who have talked about their battle with mental illness and have risen above it. Let’s start with “The Rock” Dwayne Johnson, who has been very open about his issues with depression and anxiety. Stars like Lady Gaga, Ryan Reynolds and Demi Lovato have talked publicly about their battles with mental illness. Some might give advice, like seeking counseling and medication, which Selena Gomez has done. Kristin Bell admitted how her husband’s mental difficulties impacted their marriage, but how treatment helped them get through it. Prince Harry and Meghan Markle have used their status to raise awareness. Lena Dunham encourages those stricken with mental disease to exercise to improve both their physical and mental health. Mariah Carey, Chrissy Tiegen, Leonardo DiCaprio, Angelina Jolie, Britney Spears, Brad Pitt, Gwyneth Paltrow, Beyoncé, Kendall Jenner, Daniel Radcliffe, Adele, Ellen, Miley Cyrus, Nicki Minaj, and Bruce

Springsteen all make the list. Michael Phelps struggled with mental health issues from childhood (ADHD). In 2018 he teamed up with Talkspace, launching a campaign to inspire others to speak out about their mental health struggles, using his influence to give others hope. Bottom line: If you, or someone you love, are struggling with mental health issues, reach out, speak up, find help. You are not alone. Learn from Michael. Go to <https://www.talkspace.com/michael> and <https://www.talkspace.com/online-therapy/>

There are many ways to get involved in mental health advocacy and awareness, including donating to mental health organizations (<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/connect-with-nimh/donate-to-mental-health-research>), volunteering, sharing your own story and participating in the L.L.Bean Feel-Good Challenge.

“In recognition of Mental Health Month and the feel-good benefits of time outside, L.L. Bean invites you to work together with other participants towards a combined goal of 500,000 hours outside during the month of May. L.L. Bean is donating \$25,000 to Mental

SEE “HEALTH”, PAGE 14

*Now, before I tell you more about the L.L. Bean challenge, I can’t help but toot the horn of our surrounding communities that offer opportunities for mental and physical well-being. Snowmobiling, skiing, and snowboarding in the winter; walking these beautiful hills year-round. There is hiking and biking, working out at our health clubs/gyms, yoga, Pilates, golf, swimming, Sky High Adventure Park, boarding, and fishing. Walk through the Nannen Arboretum and make it a tree identification walk for a little mental challenge. Visit Allegany State Park, Zoar Valley, Griffis Sculpture Park, Rock City Park, and Pfeiffer Nature Center in Portville. Take a hike on the old logging roads that run through the state lands across the Enchanted Mountains. In Chautauqua County, “a robust trail system and ample parks provide year-round opportunities for nature adventures on some of the best hiking trails in NY. Discover magnificent views and undisturbed landscapes while hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, bird watching or snowmobiling the area’s network of multi-use trails.” (tourchautauqua.com)*

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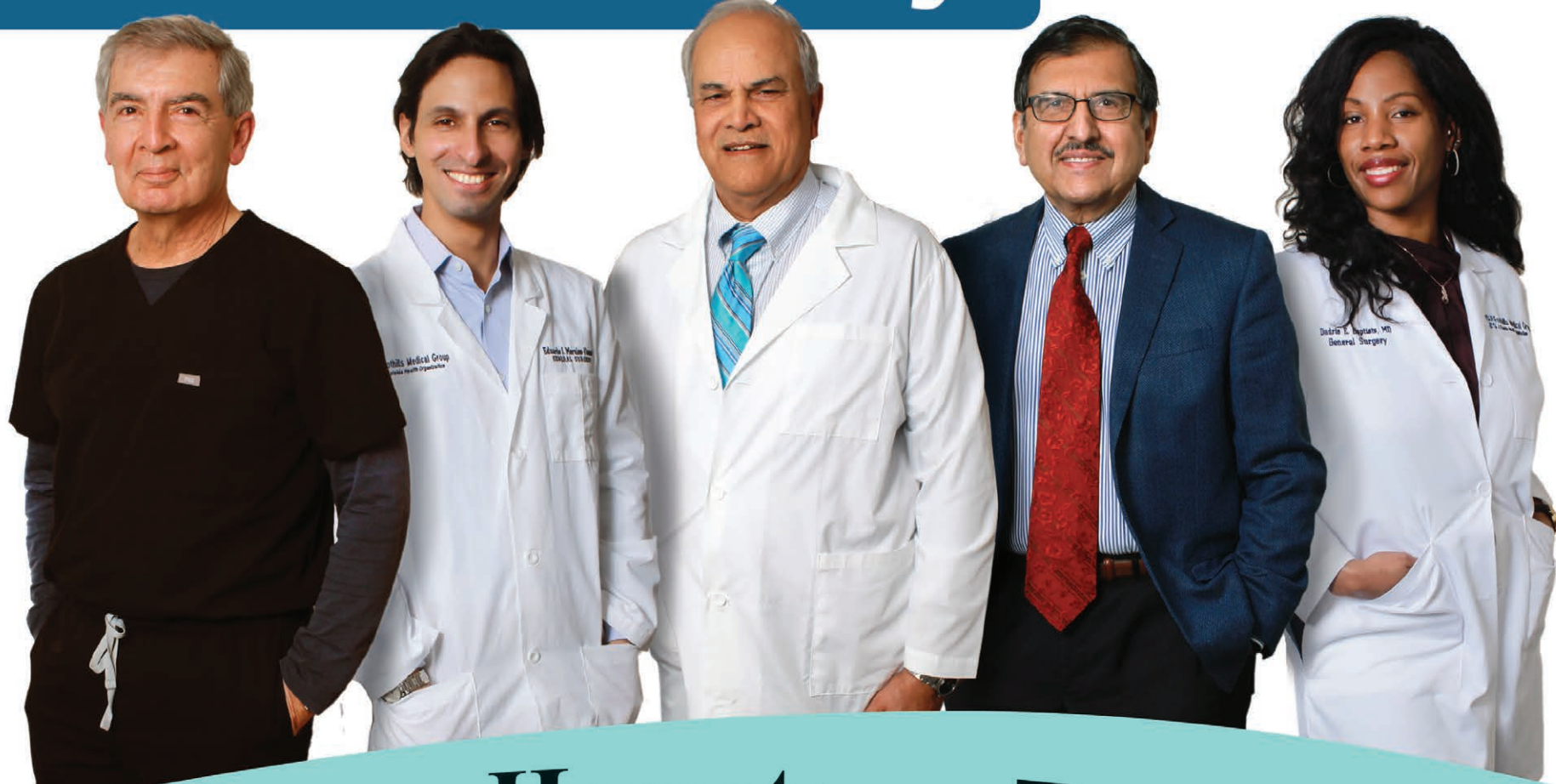
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# Up Close and Personal: Emily Ponti

## Tiny Homes with a Heart - Several Local Air B&B



Emily, her husband, Rob, and their two children, Preston & Paige. Emily grows and propagates plants, some of which can be purchased at Lake Life Cafe in Bemus Point.



The original Air B&B, The Nest Egg, is located on their property in Ohio and offers a unique farm stay experience. Her second property is "The Greenhouse," located in Westfield, NY. Emily's most recent build, Scandinavian Escape located in Portland, NY (pictured). The family now has four Air B&B properties in the area.

BY KATE BARTLETT

Emily Ponti has always felt connected to the great outdoors. When her mother passed away from cancer, she poured herself into renovating the shed in their backyard in Geauga County, Ohio, into a tiny home. She felt drawn to the creek and the energy at the forest here, and found it therapeutic fixing up the space. She transformed her backyard shed into a rustic-chic tiny home and listed as her first Air B&B as "The Nest Egg" in 2020.

Since then, she has opened 3 more Air B&B experiences, and is planning her 4th. Emily found her niche building these tiny homes where the space is the attraction. "I design spaces to be experiences. It's more than just a room or a bed for the night, it's a space for families and friends to make memories and have life experiences they'll probably never forget. Life is about making memories and having new experiences. I strive to create spaces to provide these experience stays,

while connecting with nature and one another."

Emily lives in Geauga County, Ohio, with her husband, and two children, Preston (9) and Paige (6). She loves connecting with her family in nature, and frequently holds 'brainstorming sessions' with her children to get ideas on what other tiny homes they could build. The original Air B&B, The Nest Egg, is located on their property and offers a unique farm stay experience. Guests are welcome to walk an alpaca, collect eggs from chickens, feed the goats, and listen to the creek which runs alongside the property. "This property is near and dear to my heart. Not only does it embody how I love connecting in nature, but it was incredibly therapeutic for me after my mother's passing. I love being able to share this special space with our guests."

Her second property is "The Greenhouse," located in Westfield, NY. This glamping experience offers guests an agritourism experience as their stay is

permitted by the New York Department of Agriculture & Markets where Emily grows and propagates plants, some of which can be purchased at Lake Life Cafe in Bemus Point. Emily was inspired to create this tiny home by her mother's love for plants and gardening. Guests are invited to participate in a planting experience to bring home, and tour the Greenhouse during their stay, which is filled with 100+ plants.

Her third property, "Midnight Stargazer," is located in Clymer. "My kids actually came up with the idea for this space while looking at the stars at the Greenhouse property." This glamping experience offers guests an off-the-grid opportunity to discover the night sky in a celestial themed tiny home. The site runs on solar power and is equipped with telescope, fun celestial games and astronomy books. "We absolutely love this location. Not only are guests close to

SEE "B&B", RIGHT

# Stockton

STORY. FROM PG. 7

Miller rebuilt the hotel to include twelve guest rooms, a parlor, a dining room, and a kitchen. This is the Stockton Hotel of today, with a few modifications to now function as a restaurant.

Today, Stockton Hotel hosts many different events and serves many different customers. Bulger said, "We cater to all walks". She also mentioned that while their menu does not change much throughout the year, the majority of their menu is made from scratch. As they are open year-round, they incorporate a few dishes to accommodate each season or holiday. In the past they have had special menus for holidays like St. Patrick's Day and New Years Eve. They also refresh their menu once a year. Stockton Hotel has a very versatile menu with options ranging from Chicken Fingers to Honey Bourbon Shrimp and Scallops. One of their most popular menu items

is their Beef on Weck. Another popular dish is their Buffalo sampler which includes Beef on Weck sliders, fresh cut French Fries, and hot wings. Stockton Hotel is also well-known for their beer-battered fish fry and delicious seafood options.

Stockton isn't great just for their food. With their renovated upstairs area, Stockton is able to host large groups of people for banquets or other events. Bulger told me about some of the events held in their banquet, "Most events were weddings, bridal showers, baby showers, Christmas parties, Bikers yearly breakfast buffet, Mother's Day and Father's Day, and annual Sheriff's retirement dinners". In addition to these bigger events, they also have live entertainment twice a month, themed event nights, or karaoke. Past live entertainment has included acoustic acts or small bands. Their most recent themed night was 90's night.

Stockton Hotel is unique to other restaurants in the area because of its rich history and the role it has played in shaping the town.

Bulger also spoke on Stockton Hotel's family friendly atmosphere that seeks to welcome anyone and everyone who walks through the door. She said, "We have built a great clientele. Most of our business is word of mouth that travels from here to Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Ohio, etc.". This word of mouth includes comments of the friendly staff, the inviting atmosphere, and the great food. Lily Dale, a large spiritual community, is just three miles down the road from the restaurant. Stockton Hotel sees a lot of business from this community as well as a lot of people from Chautauqua Institution in the summer.

So, whether you're looking for a place to eat good food or a historical setting to enjoy, Stockton Hotel has more than enough to offer anyone. You can visit their website for their full menu and join their mailing list to get more information about their events. Their Instagram page also displays pictures of their incredible food and any special event menus. Be sure to check it out!

# B&B

STORY. FROM LEFT

amazing local hiking trails like Panama Rocks and Hill Higher State Forest, but Clymer has been so incredibly welcoming."

The last property, "Scandinavian Escape," which is located in Portland, NY, she recently built for a client and manages. Emily described the property as one of her favorite concepts to date. Guests rent the entire wooded property which is comprised of a larger modern communal cabin,

hot tub, and 3 smaller colorful sleeping cabins which mimic colored cabins in Scandinavian countries, offers a private space for guests. "My client was thrilled with the end result. We added all the bells and whistles onto this project for him and he has been getting a lot of bookings!"

Emily has found her true passion hosting guests in experiential stays. "I absolutely love creating these spaces for guests to make lasting memories and have life experiences. I love reading guest reviews and hearing their back stories. I try to connect

with every guest and make their stay as personal as possible. It's so incredible to make a difference in peoples' lives, and loving what I do."

Emily plans to keep creating spaces for guests to enjoy, and is already working on her next concept. To learn more about Emily's story and explore her Air B&B properties, visit [www.hyggehomeandgarden.com](http://www.hyggehomeandgarden.com) and follow on social media IG @hygge\_home\_and\_garden; @midnight.stargazer.ny @greenhousegetawayny @the.nest.egg @scandiescape

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Dr. Woloszyn grew up in Poland where he graduated from the Medical University of Gdansk in 2002. He completed his internal medicine residency at St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Far Rockaway, New York. He has been proudly practicing since in 2011 as part of Jamestown Area Medical Associates. Dr. Woloszyn is currently affiliated with Olean General Hospital.

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**Spring & Seasonal Allergies Arrive Early**

**Study Finds Pollen Levels Are on the Rise**

By CARA BIRRIERTI,  
AUTHOR,  
FREELANCE WRITER,  
SCIENCE TEACHER,  
CHQ COUNTY RESIDENT



*In fact, a study out of the University of Michigan predicted that toward the end of this century, pollen counts could increase 200% if climate change trends continue, thanks to warmer temperatures and especially carbon dioxide emissions. The Michigan study, which ran various simulations, predicts that pollen emissions could start 40 days earlier and last 19 days longer than today.*

Given such early first leaf and first bloom arrivals, those who are prone to seasonal allergies have likely felt their allergies kick in early as well, and such timing could mean the allergy season 2023 may be worse, and longer than usual. Of course, it's the pollen that causes the allergic reaction, and pollen is key to the life cycles of all the flora we love so much in spring.

In fact, a study out of the University of Michigan predicted that toward the end of this century, pollen counts could increase 200% if climate change trends continue, thanks to warmer temperatures and especially carbon dioxide emissions. The Michigan study, which ran various simulations, predicts that pollen emissions could start 40 days earlier and last 19 days longer than

today. Pollen consists of tiny grains that contain the genetic material for plants to reproduce. These tiny grains are carried by air seeking plants of the same species to pollinate, and are inhaled easily. Many of us have an immune response to these intruders, kicking off a cascade of events inside our bodies. The immune system releases antibodies to attack the allergen/pollen, then histamines are released into the blood, which then triggers all your allergy symptoms: runny nose, sneezing, itchy eyes, etc.

Scientists believe how much pollen is released by grasses, trees, etc., depends on how well

SEE "POLLEN", Pg. 14

**'Rover Make-Over': A Canine's Best Friend on Elizabeth Street**



By GARY MALICKI

I was thinking about how I grew up with dogs and reminisced about those wonderful animals of my youth. My mom especially loved them. There was 'Topsy', a small mixed breed and then 'Daisy', the Pomeranian. They were followed by 'Trixie', the German Shepard. Finally, I recall the poodles, 'Zsa Zsa', 'Cocoa' and 'Mitzi'.

These memories came to mind as I visited the house on 16 Elizabeth Street, the site of 'Rover Make-Over' professional dog grooming, lovingly run by Teresa Wagner, her daughter Calla and friend of the family, Hannah Gerwitz, whom Teresa refers to as her "right hand".

With twenty-one years of grooming experience,



'Rover Make-Over' is located at 16 Elizabeth Street in Ellicottville, NY. It is a professional dog grooming service, lovingly run by Teresa Wagner (above left), her daughter Calla and friend of the family, Hannah Gerwitz (above, right), whom Teresa refers to as her "right hand".

you can feel how this trio loves the animals they service. "I've been obsessed with my love of dogs since I was a little girl", happily boasts Teresa, and it's displayed in the warmth she shows to her own dog and cat that freely roam through the house.

I asked her about some of the challenges faced in the course of her work day.

*"I asked about what they felt was most rewarding about their work and they passionately responded about their affinity for working on Rescue Dogs. They talked about how some of them come in kind of sad in a way but, after the grooming, their spirits are lifted as they prance around as though the animal has a real sense of appreciation. That is truly special."*

She said there are times they are unfamiliar with a dog they're working on but, after the grooming, they're able to latch on to the dog to get a true sense of their individual personality. There's one furry client that they somehow discovered they need to sing to as they clip her nails. They all agreed that patience is one of the keys to their success.

I shared a little humorous story with them as well as it was related to what they do for a living. We all live in a unique place that even features an area with a street sign showing the way to 'Elmer's Dog Park'. A comment was related to me by a gentleman on social media. He talked

SEE "ROVER", Pg. 14

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By MOUTH SAY TONGUE

12 Gates of Evl joins the party with Jason Wedlock from 7-10pm. Jason plays a rock/folk/blue grass/blues set of covers. Try the Po'boy sandwich, my fave.

We close it out at Madigans who put an addition on the front of the building. They have Dj SI burning down the house sound from 9-1am with a groove so you can bust a move in the second story window.

**SATURDAY**  
The Gin Mill gets an early start with Joe Wagner and Company from 2-5pm. Whether it's a late lunch or early dinner Joe has you covered. Live & Kickin takes the stage from 8-12am. They play a multi genre set of covers. Try the Carriage House Sidebar for some high-end craft cocktails.

Balloons is back with Tommy Z from 6:30-10pm. Tommy is a traveling musician playing blues and rock originals and covers around the world. Dj KT Stylez will follow in the sound booth with some jams so so can shake your gams till 2am.

Once again we're back at Madigan with Dj SI providing the thumpin' for the bumpin' from 9-1am. Check out the foosball or pool tables for some friendly competitors.

**SUNDAY**  
Villaggio hosts its weekly AYCE Pasts and Rime Rib

Night from 5-9pm. Fresh pasta with the toppings of your choice and succulent prime rib made to your liking. This week's musical guest is Michael Skowronski from 5:30-8:30pm. Michael says he plays everything from The Beatles to The Eagles to Chris Stapleton, from the 60's -today.

Monday is String and Wings at Balloons from 4-10pm. If 50 cent wings and a nice craft beer selection isn't enough, this week's musical guest is The Chillbillys from 6-9pm. This is the acoustic version of Friday's show.

The Gin Mill returns with Red Gray from 7-10pm. Red plays classic and outlaw country and classic and southern rock covers and originals. Try the latest kitchen in town open, till 10pm Sunday-Thursday and 11pm Friday-Saturday.

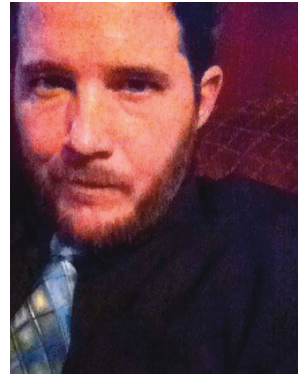
We've been ending the week the same for 39 years at The Gin Mill with Joe Wagner and Company, Wing Wednesday from 7-11pm. Joe plays a folk/country rock/pop/blues/country set of covers that are like musical comfort food. \$1 wings and \$1 off all domestics seals the deal.

If you enjoyed your time here tell family and friends and come on back, but wherever you are PLEASE, ALWAYS SUPPORT LIVE MUSIC!!!!!!!

Beat on the Street

"What is the First Thing You Learned in College?"

By CHAD NEAL



Shawn S.- Eyes ahead. Shut my mouth. Do what I was told. Don't question Jack!!!! Longest 13 weeks of college ever. University of Parris Island.

After graduation from high school, most of us felt like we were on top of the world, that is until we stepped on that college campus, or that boot camp. So many things slapped us in the face and showed us that we have a lot to learn, and not just about academics. The transition to a new type of living was a shock for a lot of kids. And that wasn't even the beginning of the real world. Meeting new people and learning new towns and cities was a big part of it, and if you were in the military you learned with fervor. The new life was fun as all the new stuff came at us daily. Finding customs from new friends and different ways to do our routines all made for building blocks in the person we have become. Some didn't go to college at all, and some didn't even leave home, but that is definitely a point in our lives that was significant. What was one of the first things you learned when you moved to college?



Meg O.- How to buy groceries and not just snacks.



Mat S.- To stick dryer sheets in paper towel rolls, and it's easier to bring a keg through the window than the front door?



Melissa B.- Lock your door.



Jonah H.- That a bong hit would set off the smoke detector in the dorm.



Joe D.- Laundry does not do itself.

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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!**

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

**Last Week's Puzzle:**

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


**Health**

CONT. FROM PG 9

Health America – and will donate \$50,000 if the challenge is met.”

Since this is a combined challenge, you only need to spend the time that’s right for you, whether that’s hours or minutes. Even a small amount of time outside can make a big impact on one’s mental well-being. Through your joint efforts, you’ll raise awareness of the importance time outside has on mental health and help ensure this awareness

is shared with everyone who needs it. Plus, you’ll have a wonderful time outdoors doing the things you love – or maybe even trying something new. Here’s where you find out more and sign up: <https://www.strava.com/challenges/3708>



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**Pollen**

CONT. FROM PG 12

the plant grows. Many plants will grow more briskly with warmer temperatures, but plants also need carbon dioxide to thrive. Carbon dioxide powers photosynthesis, which produces the food and energy for the plant. The more access to carbon dioxide, the better plants will grow.

The Michigan researchers found that carbon dioxide may impact the levels of pollen even more than temperatures. Of course, excess carbon dioxide from carbon emissions of all sorts is what powers the greenhouse effect, and leads to rising temperatures. However, scientists admit they have no way to predict how plants will react to a tremendous rise in carbon dioxide.

Another 2021 study found that pollen levels have already risen substantially. Researchers at University of Wisconsin documented data from 1990 to 2018, which revealed that pollen season is about 20 days longer now, and actual pollen load is up 21%. If all this is giving you a headache and making you feel stuffed up, there is a bit of good news. Scientists are hopeful that keeping a much closer watch on climate, the springtime indexes, and pollen will provide much better accuracy for predicting pollen waves for allergy sufferers. Better predictions could help the roughly 30% of the population that are affected by pollen take cover, and start immediate treatment.

The Mayo Clinic says it’s best to keep a watch on weather reports, and stay indoors if pollen counts are high, avoid doing any kind of yard work, and if you go outside, wear a mask, then wash all clothes when you come in. Best of luck to everyone this season!

Check here for more info: <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/hay-fever/in-depth/seasonal-allergies>

**Rover**

CONT. FROM PG 12

about going there to walk his dog and it seemed that he can recall the names of other dogs being walked rather than the names of their owners. I asked them if it was as easy to work with dog owners in general. They basically said that the owners are pretty much set in their ways, knowing exactly what they want. The Rover Make-Over team is very flexible and happy to honor any request. After all they are working on a member of their family.

I asked about what they felt was most rewarding about their work and they passionately responded about their affinity for working on Rescue Dogs. They talked about how some of them come in kind of sad in a way but, after the grooming, their spirits are lifted as they prance around as though the animal has a real sense of appreciation. That is truly special.

They also offer custom trims by request such as Mohawks and Beatle cuts depending on the particular breed. Prior to entering the business, they all took classes and were trained before taking on this unique profession.

One of the best parts about all of this is that they all have local roots. Teresa has lived in the house where they work all of her life as her parents did before her and Hannah is from Ellicottville as well. They work by appointment as they strive to work on one dog at a time to give their full attention to each. Their number is 716-364-2302 and they work Tuesday through Saturday. I thanked them for their hospitality and giving me a great perspective on a business with which I was previously unfamiliar. You can honestly feel their love of the clientele. In another place and time, I would have trusted all of the dogs of my youth to these wonderful people.

**Help Wanted: Creative Manager**


**ELICOTTVILLE:** Strong organizational skills a must as well as ability to work in a fast-paced environment. Must be proficient in Microsoft Office and Adobe Suite. Email [info@thevillager.com](mailto:info@thevillager.com) or call 716-699-2058.

**SALES:** The Villager Newspaper is looking for Sales Representatives in Chautauqua & Cattaraugus Counties. Hours are flexible. Email: [info@thevillager.com](mailto:info@thevillager.com) Call: 716-699-2058.

**Tell Us About It!!**

Nominate your favorite small business owner. (One entry per person please) and if your recommendation is chosen, we will feature that small business owner in a special feature article on the cover of our publication. All nominations can be made via e-mail to [info@thevillager.com](mailto:info@thevillager.com) or by calling into the office at 716-699-2058. Vote and support your favorite businesses today!!

**Retro Images**  
 Photo Picks From CATT and CHQ Counties



HARMONY, N. Y. Checkered School House

**Checkered School House**  
 Stoneledge Road - Ashville, New York  
 Built 1846 - Photo Taken 1914

# Skills

Valley for 48+ years, he knows the resort like his own backyard. He's found his niche, and enjoys the every day excitement the job offers. While Jim oversees projects and daily operations; he couldn't do it without the hard work from his team. "We have a solid labor crew at Holiday Valley, and I'd be lost without them. They're the ones out there doing most of the manual labor, and they do an amazing job."

The new Mardi Gras lift is anticipated to be completed in time for the 2023 ski season. Follow Holiday Valley on social media for updates and visit their website for more information on the upcoming lift, as well as other projects at <https://www.holidayvalley.com/>. Be sure to think of Jim and his hard-working maintenance crew next time you're on the slopes, winter spring, summer and fall!

# Classified

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORMATION:** Alterity Regenerative Ranching, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 3/16/2023. 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: Alterity Regenerative Ranching, LLC, PO Box 295, Portville, NY 14770. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD RESIDENTS - BULKY TRASH PICKUP MONDAY MAY 8, 2023**  
PLEASE HAVE ALL TRASH ITEMS READY BY **MAY 7, 2023**  
**EACH ROAD WILL BE PICKED UP ONCE LIMIT 10 ITEMS**  
WILL PICK UP: • Dry paint in cans • Appliances with the exception of refrigerators, freezers, or air conditioners • Furniture • Bulky items  
WILL **NOT** PICK UP: Garbage • Batteries • Tires • Used Oil • Brush • Barbed Wire • Chemicals • Hazardous Waste Automobiles • Dead Animals or Animal Waste • Construction Waste • Propane Cylinders  
People putting out trash for Town pickup that is brought in from outside the Town of Mansfield may be subject to prosecution.

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People putting out trash for Town pickup that is brought in from outside the Town of Mansfield may be subject to prosecution.

**NOTICE OF TOWN PLANNING BOARD OF THE TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE** - Please take notice that the Town of Ellicottville Planning Board will be holding a special meeting Monday, May 15, 2023 at 6pm at the Town Center on 28 Parkside Drive.

**BEMUS POINT SCHOOL DISTRICT** residents: a proposition for sustainable library funding for the Bemus Point and Fluvanna Free Libraries will be on the ballot at Maple Grove Jr./Sr. High School on Tuesday, May 16. The Bemus Point and Fluvanna Free Libraries will be hosting public forums to give information and answer any questions about the vote. They will be held at the Bemus Point Library on Tuesday, May 9 from 6:30-7:30 pm, and at the Fluvanna Free Library on Wednesday, May 10 from 5-7 pm. Our Boards of Trustees look forward to sharing and hearing from you. Phone Number: 7164858052

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**HELP WANTED- THE SILVER FOX STEAKHOUSE** is looking for experienced **Kitchen Staff**. Mail resume to P.O. Box 146, Ellicottville, NY 14731 or email [silverfoxeville@aol.com](mailto:silverfoxeville@aol.com)

**HELP WANTED: THE SEE ZURH HOUSE & 14 MAIN UPSTAIRS** is currently looking for candidates in all positions. Anyone interested in working at The SEE ZURH HOUSE should send resume with contact information to our email: [theszbpt@gmail.com](mailto:theszbpt@gmail.com) or call today: 716-386-2695.

**HELP WANTED:** Looking for **CARPENTERS** with 3 yrs. or more of experience. Apply to G.M. Nickolson Construction, Inc. 42 Mill Street Ellicottville, NY 14731 or email: [gmnickolson@aol.com](mailto:gmnickolson@aol.com).

## HELP WANTED: TOWN OF GREAT VALLEY YOUTH PROGRAM DIRECTOR

The Town of Great Valley is accepting resumes for the position of Youth Program Director for the six-week summer Youth Program. The successful candidate will work less than 25 hours per week at \$15.00 per hour. Please submit a resume and letter of intent to: Town Clerk's Office, PO Box 427, Great Valley, NY 14741 Or, submit by email to: [tevens168@gmail.com](mailto:tevens168@gmail.com)

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email [info@thevillager.com](mailto:info@thevillager.com)  
online: [www.thevillager.com](http://www.thevillager.com) "Submit Materials"

## CONT. FROM PG. 5

to keep everything staffed and running smoothly for the customers. Over the summer months, his focus switches gears to trail and grounds maintenance, including lights and lifts.

His favorite thing about his job is being outside every day. After working at Holiday

## ~ Ann Seward Reading ~ 1935 - 2023

Jamestown, Bemus Point, Lakewood, NY



Ann Seward Reading of Jamestown, Bemus Point and Lakewood, NY and more recently of Longwood at Oakmont in Pittsburgh, PA passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 30, 2023, at the age of 87.

Born October 23, 1935, in Fitzgerald, GA, she was the daughter of Corinne W. and Albert N. Seward, who preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death in 1999 by her beloved husband of nearly 42 years, Richard Persell Reading, who was President of Quality Markets, Inc. for many years.

Ann spent her early years in Tallahassee, FL and Butler, PA before moving to Jamestown in 1951. She was a graduate of Jamestown High School, Bradford College and The Katharine Gibbs School in Boston, MA. She met her husband at Winter Carnival at Dartmouth College.

She worked for the Berke Moore Company in Boston before marrying Dick in 1957 and moving to Panama City, FL, where he was stationed at Tyndall Air Force Base. They returned to Jamestown in 1958, where her primary focus was on raising their growing family.

Ann was a member of the United Church of Ellicottville, NY, where she had a home for many years. Ann was an avid skier and member of the Ellicottville Ski Club. During the summers, she enjoyed lectures, operas and musicals at Chautauqua Institution. Active at Jamestown's WCA Hospital and serving on the Creche and Agnes Home Boards, over the years Ann also volunteered for the Cub Scouts, PTA and Jamestown's First United Methodist Church, where she was a member.

In addition to snow skiing, Ann enjoyed golf at Moon Brook Country Club, playing bridge and spending time at Chautauqua Lake Yacht Club and Lakewood Rod and Gun Club. She and her husband also spent many years traveling across the United States and Europe, enjoying numerous ski trips. They loved showing their passports between Switzerland and Italy on skis! Ann truly loved life and more than anything, loved being with her family.

Survivors include William (Catherine) Reading of Charlotte, NC, Molly (Tom) Saeli of Bloomfield Hills, MI and Thomas (Tracey) Reading of Pittsburgh, PA; eight grandchildren, Tyler (Kate) Saeli, Erin (Jon) Ray, Brent Saeli, Rachel Reading, Sarah (Dixon) Mallory, Blake (Carla) Reading, Spencer (Allie) Reading, and Connor Saeli as well as four great-grandchildren, Jackson Ray, Isabelle "Izzy" Saeli, Kennedy Ray and Olive "Liv" Saeli.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Chautauqua Lake Yacht Club on Friday, May 5th, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Chautauqua Lake Association, 429 East Terrace Avenue, Lakewood, NY 14750-1538 or Lounsbury Adaptive Ski Program, Holiday Valley Resort, PO Box 370, Ellicottville, NY 14731. You may leave words of condolence at [www.lindfuneralhome.com](http://www.lindfuneralhome.com).

## CLA

clear."

All the work and equipment is funded through donations, grants and fundraisers. A popular fundraiser is the Dragon Boat Race, which is back this year after being on hiatus during the pandemic. Dragon boats are large rowing vessels that are brought down from Canada for the event. Each vessel will have a team of 10-20 people, including a drummer, and they race from Celeron

Park. "It's a fun family day," says Heather. There are multiple races, and an award ceremony at the end. "The most popular award is usually the one given to the drummer with the best costume." Heather invites everyone to come down and join in the fun!

For more information on the CLA, their work, events and fundraisers, you can visit their website at [chautauqualakeassociation.org](http://chautauqualakeassociation.org), or find them on Facebook.

The crews try to get in close enough to let them see what they are doing." Heather cautions that boaters should be wary of getting close to the equipment when they are operating, though. "The machines cannot stop on a dime, so other watercraft should steer

## CONT. FROM PG 4

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## 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@thevillager.com](mailto:info@thevillager.com) or call 716-699-2058.

Place Your Classified: [info@thevillager.com](mailto:info@thevillager.com)

## Womens History Images

Photos of Women in History



**Kathrine Switzer Was The First Woman To Run The Boston Marathon (1967).**  
When organizer Jock Semple realized a woman was running he tried to tackle her



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Views From Jamestown NY: **Ace Frehley Live in Concert @ The Reg Lena**



Photos by Jon Elder

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## MOTHER'S DAY FEATURE MENUS

SUNDAY, MAY 14



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5 PM – 9 PM

THE SENECA CAFE

**Seneca Café**

11 AM – 10 PM



**Thunder Mountain Buffet**

NOON – 8 PM

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