

FREE

The Villager

EL LICOTTVILLE • CHAUTAUQUA

Area Events

- COOKIE DECORATING AT EBC**
Thursday December 21 • 6pm
Little Valley, NY
- FAMILY PUBLIC SKATE AT NORTHWEST ARENA**
Thursday, December 21 • 12pm
Jamestown, NY
- MUSIC FOR YOUR MOUTH**
Thursday, December 21 • 6pm
Mayville, NY
- ADAM MCKILLIP LIVE AT BIG INLET BREWING**
Friday, December 22 • 6pm
Mayville, NY
- BASILICA OF ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS FREE TOUR**
Friday, December 22 • 1pm
Ellicottville, NY
- FAMILY PUBLIC SKATE AT NORTHWEST ARENA**
Friday, December 22 • 12pm
Jamestown, NY
- CLASSIC CHRISTMAS STORIES WITH MRS. CLAUS@ SHE SINGS**
Friday December 22 • 6pm
Mayville, NY
- FREDONIA FARMER'S MARKET**
Saturday December 23 • 10am
Fredonia, NY
- HANDMADE GIFTS CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP**
Saturday, December 23 • 11am
Mayville, NY
- ICE BUMPER CARS NORTHWEST ARENA**
Sunday, December 23 • 3:30pm
Jamestown, NY
- FESTIVUS PARTY AT BRAZIL**
Saturday December 23 • 7pm
Jamestown, NY
- NEW YEAR'S EVE LIQUOR MILE & 5K**
Sunday, December 31 • 12pm
Ellicottville, NY
- H. V. NYE CELEBRATION & TORCHLIGHT PARADE**
Sunday December 31 • 9pm
Ellicottville, NY
- NEW YEAR'S EVE BIKE RIDE AT ALLEGANY STATE PARK**
Sunday December 31 • 6pm
Salamanca, NY
- FIRST DAY BIKE RIDE AT ALLEGANY STATE PARK**
Sunday, January 1 • 6pm
ASP Salamanca, NY
- SNOWSHOE HIKES AT ASP**
Tuesday January 9 • 4:30pm
ASP Salamanca, NY
- CHRISTMAS TREE BONFIRE**
Saturday January 20 • 5pm
Ellicottville, NY
- HOLIDAY VALLEY'S YOUR TURN WOMEN'S SKI CLINIC**
Wednesday, January 24 • 8am
Ellicottville, NY

www.thevillager.com

A Christmas "Tail"

Extraordinary Christmas Experiences in Ellicottville



Kazoo II Holiday Widow Display/Photo Dennis Linn

By, CAROL FISHER LINN

Twos days before Christmas in Ellicottville Town; Ms. Mouse was beguiled at the joy all around. Her babies were at mouse school,

counting the days ... vacation was coming after concerts and plays. Ski slopes were open, more

SEE "CHRISTMAS" PAGE 9

Ghostfish Brewing in Westfield, NY

Unusual Grains, Legendary Taste Expand East



Ghostfish Brewing Seattle, WA taproom

Co-founder Brian Thiel was inspired to develop a gluten free craft brewery after attending the Great American Beerfest in 2012. Having a family member with Celiac's disease, he noticed a void in gluten free beer on the market at that time. Brian and his co-founder imagined it would be a small scale brewery on an artisanal level. 9 years later, Ghostfish is the largest independent producer of dedicated craft gluten free beer in the United States. (See "BREWING", page 7.)

Artist Spotlight: Amy Riolo, Chef & Author

Jamestown Native Becomes Internationally Famous



As Amy's work became more well known, she showcased her culinary expertise on numerous television and radio programs both in the United States and overseas. This included The Hallmark Channel, Nile TV, the Travel Channel, Martha Stewart Living, FOX, ABC, and Calabria Uno TV and many others. She continues as a culinary consultant and does trainings with corporations and restaurants. She is a best-selling and award-winning author, and her work is often published in newspapers and magazines internationally.

By DARLENE BRACE

You may wonder how a small-town girl from Jamestown, NY became internationally famous and an award-winning chef, author, and Mediterranean Lifestyle Ambassador. Amy

Riolo did just that. Amy lived in Jamestown until she was 12 years old, and then she and her family moved to Washington, DC. Amy grew up in an Italian family, and her passion,

SEE "RIOLO" PAGE 10

Business Spotlight: Designer Kara Fortuna

Co-Owner of Studio 4 East Designs Local Artwork

By KATE BARTLETT



Kara's artwork is becoming well-known in the area, as she recently designed the 2023 Ellicottville Fall Festival Poster. Kara purchased Studio 4 East with co-owner, Mark Riordan, from the Wintermantel brothers in January 2021. The Ellicottville Fall Festival Poster is a well-known tradition that Kara had the honor of designing this year. The Wintermantels designed the posters for many years, becoming iconic in the area as Fall Fest has become one of the area's biggest events.

Kara Fortuna is a local graphic designer and co-owner of Studio 4 East located at 103 W Main Street in Allegany, NY. Studio 4 East offers custom design, screen printing, promotional products and embroidery. Kara's artwork is becoming well-known in the area, as she recently designed the 2023 Ellicottville Fall Festival Poster.

After graduating from SUNY Fredonia with a BFA in Graphic Design, Kara worked in Rochester for a small marketing firm. Two years in, she missed her hometown and decided to move back to the area, working remotely with this agency for another 17 years. In 2016, Kara decided to change things up and joined the Zippo Art Department.

"DESIGNS" Pg. 10

Sneak Peek Inside this Issue...

Great Lake Cheese Company ... Pg. 3
Proving Unwavering Commitment to the Area



Record inflation and labor-related costs have pushed the Great Lakes Cheese company's project outside Franklinville to \$718 million. The modification request was made on Dec. 12 at the regular meeting of the Cattaraugus County Industrial Development Agency's meeting.

Streamlined Dickens: **A Christmas Carol ... Pg. 12**

The novel begins on Christmas Eve. The author, addressing the reader directly, first mentions a dead guy and then introduces his surviving business partner, Ebenezer Scrooge. Some of the words he uses to describe Scrooge are: "tight-fisted", "squeezing", and "grasping".

In case we didn't get the message, his clerk, Bob Cratchit, is trying to warm his hands over a candle.

Later, some guys drop by, hoping for a charity donation and he basically snarls, "Why should I provide for the poor when there are prisons and poorhouses?"

Compass Cycle

Bringing Fitness Classes to HoliMont



Classes at HoliMont will be offered on Saturdays and Sundays through the ski season starting the weekend of December 30th and run through Mardi Gras weekend in March. Compass will offer 2 cycle classes on Saturday mornings, a yoga après ski on Saturdays and a 9am yoga class as well on Sundays. Full schedule and booking available online.

By KATE BARTLETT

This season marks the third year for Compass Cycle at HoliMont. Sisters Ashley Biryala and Nicole Borrelli founded the Studio 7 years ago in Rochester, and decided to bring their classes to the slopes. As long-time skiers in Ellicottville, they spent many winters growing up on the slopes and saw the opportunity for a satellite location here during the ski season.

Compass Cycle focuses on mind body

SEE "CYCLE" PAGE 4

Christmas in a Barn this Sat.

Alpacaville Farm in Bemus Point Hosts



Now everyone has a chance to relax and enjoy the company of the animals there, and boost their Christmas spirit. Dan and Shau-na Anderson, farmers and owners of the Alpacaville farm in Bemus Point, are opening their farm to the community. Their mission: "We want to create a place of respite from the stress and bustle of the holiday season." This Saturday, December 23rd, at 10am, they are hosting Christmas in a Barn: an event including a brief church service, followed by the opportunity to interact with the alpacas. (See article "Alpacaville", page 11.)

Publisher's Word

"Christmas Time is Here and We have a Few Gifts for You"



Thank you for sharing some of your holiday with us. We have prepared an interesting read for you. On these pages you will find some fun holiday writings and musings. You will learn about activities to explore and new businesses that are continuing to grow. The ski areas are open and the snow has arrived to deliver to you the white Christmas you have asked for. Whether you are inside or out, we hope you are warm, safe and happy!

If you know an artisan, business or event that would be a great feature, drop us a line, we'd love to share it with our readers; call our offices (716) 699-2058 or shoot me an email, info@thevillagerny.com.

Until next week, enjoy the read and your family – Jeanine Caprino Zimmer

PS. We once again have a very special gift for you that will be on the stands this January. Keep an eye out for The Villager's Ellicottville Phone Directory, located at all the distribution points you find your paper in Cattaraugus County.

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Bonnie Koscher... January 21st • Mike Paternitti... January 22nd
Bernie Auer... January 23rd • David Johe... January 23rd
Dina DiPasquale... January 24th • Gary Peters Sr... January 25th
Linda Yates... January 27th • Michelle Chamberlain... January 29th
Karen Kemp... January 30th

Share the Warmth
Howard Hanna Real Estate Annual Coat Drive

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.

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Outdoor Holiday Safety

Before decorating outside your home, look up and around the area to identify overhead lines and other hazards. Keep yourself, ladders and tools far away from overhead lines, as well as anything that might be in contact with them. Use only outdoor-approved lights that can withstand cold temperatures and inspect them for damage. Avoid piling leaves, snow or yard debris against utility meters or furnace vents, to ensure they operate properly and can be easily accessed.

Wishing You and Your Family
A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

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Second Modification Loan Requests

Great Lakes Cheese Co. Proves Unwavering Commitment



Five hundred employees will work at the plant, with 230 coming from the Great Lakes Cheese plant in Cuba. That plant will close once the new plant begins production. Board members were unanimous in their agreement that, going forward, the plant will benefit not only the immediate area but the entire eastern seaboard, including the agriculture sector.

said it was.

Five hundred employees will work at the plant, with 230 coming from the Great Lakes Cheese plant in Cuba. That plant will close once the new plant begins production. Board members were unanimous in their agreement that, going forward, the plant will benefit not only the immediate area but the entire eastern seaboard, including the agriculture sector.

Wiktor said the company is seeing increased interest in applicants. The company is also visiting local schools and giving presentations about employment at the facility.

A public hearing will be scheduled for the future in Farmersville regarding the modification. The IDA board will then vote on the matter.

In other news from the meeting:

The Microtel Inn & Suites, Route 417 in Allegany, will get what owners call a much-needed upgrade. The 50-room property will see \$1.7 million in improvements, including a complete interior renovation to the drywall, as well as furniture throughout the property.

The renovations are tentatively scheduled to begin in January and completed by mid-May just in time for St. Bonaventure University graduation.

The Allegany hotel opened in 2004. The company operates 13 similar properties.

By JEFF MARTIN
THE VILLAGER

Record inflation and labor-related costs have pushed the Great Lakes Cheese company's project outside Franklinville to \$718 million.

The modification request was made on Dec. 12 at the regular meeting of the Cattaraugus County Industrial Development Agency's meeting. The approximate \$97 million request, \$50 million of which is subject to sales tax and \$4 million in sales tax exemptions, was the second modification of 2023. The first was in April, when the Ohio-based company requested a \$121 million increase for the same reasons.

Corey Wiktor, executive director of the agency, said during the meeting

that the request was not at all surprising.

"This project has had a bit of a floating number," he said. "If there's any question as to their commitment to this region, I think this modification galvanizes it. It's unwavering."

Wiktor said the company plans to start packaging operations on Feb. 24, with the rest of the facility following in late 2024 and early 2025. The majority of the jobs will be located in the packaging portion of the facility, according to plant officials. The processing areas, which will take raw cows' milk and process it into product, are more systems controlled and will not require as many employees.

IDA board member Brent Driscoll asked if this modification is enough to finish the project. Wiktor

Holy Name of Mary Church in Ellicottville Holds Blessing

Blessings of skiers and snowboarders, December 30-31, 2023 at the Holy Name of Mary Church in Ellicottville. Weekend masses; Saturday, 5:30pm, Sunday, 9:45am.

Supporting the Outdoor Trail System

Good Soles: Chautauqua Rails to Trails Namesakes and Trailblazers

Wendy Lewellen is offering her book, Good Soles: Chautauqua Rails to Trails Namesakes and Trailblazers as a novel holiday gift idea for people who are interested in supporting an outdoor recreational trail system, in Chautauqua County history, and in railroads. 100% of the proceeds go to Chautauqua Rails to Trails, which is an entirely volunteer nonprofit organization.

As chair of the signage improvement committee in 2021, Lewellen found herself repainting signs battered by weather, woodpeckers, and vandals. Many of the trail segments are named after human beings, and she often wondered about their stories. She began to ponder the possibility of researching these individuals and giving them attention and credit. Every story turned

out to be riveting in unique ways.

Another impetus was to highlight the local trailblazers who worked so incredibly hard in the early 90s and beyond to advance the concept of converting abandoned railroad corridors to recreational trails for all to enjoy, free of charge. The vision was seen as a supplement to the county trail system already in existence, which was a very different type of trail—narrow, hilly, and winding. Chautauqua Rails to Trails saw the desirability of the kind of trail necessitated by trains—wide, and relatively level and straight.

A donation toward the book project can be made in several ways. By contacting the author at wslewellen@gmail.com or 716-485-6677, the donation is \$27.95 with check or cash. Credit card payment can be uti-



lized through the organization's website, chaurtt.org on the Donate page. Credit card fees will be applied, and shipping and handling will be added.

Local brick-and-mortar locations which are supporting the project by offering the book with no financial benefit to themselves, are: Webb's Candies and Gifts and Truffle Honey Market in Mayville, and Loud Performance in Maple Springs/Bemus Point. General memberships are welcomed and can be obtained on the website.

"Views of The Villager" Photo Contest!

Send in Your Best Shot of you with The Villager



Above: "Everyone wants to read The Villager!" Photo of Helen Herman and some of her adorable Alpacas at Sugartown Farms in Ellicottville, NY. Read more about them in this week's View from My Deck by Gary Malicki, page 6.

Left: The Villager's Jon Elder takes a photo op. at the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce Christmas Party last week at Villaggio. Send in your photos to info@thevillager.com.

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HOLIMONT

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Report on the Resort

Angled Slopes Require Activated Ankles

By DAN BALKIN

Being observant, you have probably noticed that ski slopes are angled - they have various pitches. An example of local steeper slopes would be The Wall at Holiday Valley or Greer Hill at HoliMont. How is skiing different from walking? We generally walk on flatter surfaces and ski on inclined pitches - for the snowy incline compliments the gravitational forces that propel us down a ski slope. The steeper the slope, the more the gravitational forces are magnified.

But there is a minor complication: Moving forward with our skis on a slippery pitch naturally pushes us backward. Every experienced skier has felt it - our skis suddenly jut out in front and our legs are pushed to the back of our ski boots. Our hips and entire upper body are pushed back and, until we regain our balance, we are riding on the tails of our skis.

Quite simply, we can hear and try to implement the greatest ski tips in the world, but if our ankles are not "flexed" we can never be in balance on our skis. It is the key to resisting the forces pushing us back. Flexing one's ankles is ski instructor jargon, so let's look at a few simple examples of what it means to flex. If you were standing on a garden ledge about 8 inches tall and jumped down onto the ground, your ankles would naturally "flex" to absorb the minor impact. Likewise, picture a football linebacker or a basketball player playing defense, and they have their ankles flexed so that they can spring into action. Put yet one other way, when we flex our ankles, our knees move over our



toes. Due to the warmer temps, many skiers in our region who have not ventured to New England or out West, will be skiing for the first-time during Christmas week. If you are among those skiers, do yourself a favor and as you head down the hill for the first time - concentrate on always keeping some flex in your ankles. I am trying to skirt all the skiing technical mumbo-jumbo, but your ankles will naturally flex a bit more as a turn progresses. The key, especially as you are transitioning between turns, is to always keep some "flex" and tension in your ankles so you are not tossed back. One easy way to accomplish this is to simply tighten the muscles a bit in your shins, which will move your knees forward and help keep your hips over your feet.

If we look at the photo, the man has never achieved or has momentarily lost his ankle flexion. Look where his hips are - way back. He is supporting his body weight mainly with his thighs, which would be rapidly exhausting. Let us never confuse, however, one's ski technique with one's character. What was this good man doing on the night of December

17th? I would like to think he was high fiving his wife each time the Bills scored during their 31-10 drubbing of The Cowboys. Sometimes life is good - very good!!

The woman, on the other hand, has her ankles flexed. This allows her to remain perpendicular to the ski slope, a prerequisite for balance on a ski slopes slippery incline. Huh? Think of it this way, as you walk into your favorite bar, restaurant, or shop in Ellicottville, you stay in balance by being perpendicular to the ground. You don't try to tilt your entire body way forward or backward as you walk - you remain centered and perpendicular to the ground. In the 1980s, American Olympic medalist and skiing World Cup sensation Phil Mahre said that "Good skiing is good walking." In other words, we should always rely on our natural sense of balance - even while skiing. Do we walk like peg-legged pirates? No, our ankles naturally flex as we walk, and they should naturally flex while we ski. Have a great - ankle flexing - season!



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HoliMont Opens for Season

Opening Day this Saturday, December 23, 2023

HoliMont's opening date is this Saturday, December 23rd. 8:30-4:20, Sunday they will be 8:30-4:20 and then Monday they are open from 12-4pm for Christmas. They will then return back to normal seasonal hours after that. They will be members and invited guests only from the 23rd -31st and then on Jan 1st, they will be open to the public Monday-Friday.

Cycle

CONT. FROM COVER

balance and will offer both spin and yoga classes at HoliMont. Classes are open to everyone, the experienced and novice alike. "Everyone is welcome here: men and women of all ages, level and ability," says Ashley. "We offer a fun welcoming atmosphere to get a good sweat in. Compass is a supportive community, and we're grateful to have been so well received in our past 2 seasons in Ellicottville. We're looking forward to another great season!"

Classes will be offered on Saturdays and Sundays through the ski season starting the weekend of December 30th and run through Mardi Gras weekend in March. Compass will offer 2 cycle classes on Saturday mornings, a yoga après ski on Saturdays and a 9am yoga class as well on Sundays. Full schedule and booking available online. Guests can either

buy a single, drop-in class, or a package deal. Guests do not need to be members of HoliMont to attend classes.

Their flagship location in Rochester opened in 2016 as a boutique fitness studio. Compass Cycle took off, and they expanded their 30 bike studio to include power Vinyasa yoga 2 years later, adding the "Flow" to their name. All classes are led by certified instructors with the core belief in the power of mind body connection. Compass welcomes all levels of fitness and the sisters have worked hard to ensure every instructor embodies a non-judgmental culture.

Compass Cycle continues to offer private/pop-up events for both yoga and spin with a fleet of 18 bikes. They've hosted several birthday parties, bachelorette parties, "Bride Rides" and other private events. "It's such a great way to celebrate together," says Ashley. "The energy is awesome and it's a great way to connect with your friends and family." Compass can take the fleet

just about anywhere and the sisters love new ideas for events.

All classes in Rochester and Ellicottville, spin and yoga, are led in a dark candle-lit studio with no lights, no windows, and no screens. Riders unplug from the outside world and sweat to the beat of an upbeat playlist. They offer rhythmic riding and our classes are musically driven, riding to the beat of the music led by energetic, motivating instructors.

"We invite everyone to come out and try a class. Our instructors have designed their classes to be adaptable for any fitness level. We're here to meet you wherever you are on your fitness journey."

Visit <https://www.compasscyclestudio.com/about> to reserve or purchase online and follow on social media @compasscyclestudio and Compass Cycle Studio on FB. Contact Ashley and Nicole directly regarding private events nicole@compasscyclestudio.com.

Experience the Holidays In One of Ellicottville's Most Iconic Churches



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St. John's Episcopal Church of Ellicottville

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Rebranding of John Harvard's

Celebrating the Opening of Edna's at the Tamarack



Photos by Jeanine Zimmer



Warrior Fitness Opens Second Gym

E'Ville Gym Expands with Additional Little Valley Location



The new spot is located at 214 Main Street in Little Valley. It sits back along the Pat McGee Trail. The building itself is 14,000 square feet, but I'm occupying 3,000 square feet of that. It used to be the DPW building years ago. It has overhead garage doors that can open in the spring and summer months which will be awesome to utilize when it's warmer. It will really give it that garage style gym feel.

BY CHAD NEAL

Brad Poole is a homegrown in Cattaraugus County and he is a go getter! An inspiration to very many people - Poole is also an entrepreneur as he has taken his life's misfortune and turned it around to give himself a better quality of life and sharing his passion for it with anyone who needs that motivating force. Poole has defied odds as his battle with Cystic Fibrosis from a young age gave him a grim outlook when he found out, and he is using his model to encourage others to take care of themselves through exercise and well-being. He opened Warrior Fitness in Ellicottville not too long ago and saw that it was popular for area residents and decided he wants to build more gyms in the county and his plan is forthcoming as his second Warrior Fitness is ready to go with the grand opening on December 30th. The Villager caught up with Poole and inquired about his endeavor:

The Villager (V): Tell us about your new Warrior Fitness in Little Valley?

Brad Poole (BP): The new spot is located at 214 Main Street in Little Valley. It sits back along the Pat McGee Trail. The building itself is 14,000 square feet, but I'm occupying 3,000 square feet of that. It used to be the DPW building years ago. It has overhead garage doors that can open in the spring and summer months which will be awesome to utilize when it's warmer. It will really give it that garage style gym feel. Inside we made it a rustic look. We took metal/ tin off an old hog barn in Randolph and that is being used as the walls within the facility. The ceiling is all grey metal/ tin, so it looks super sharp and amazing.

V: When did you decide on the second gym?

BP: I decide on a second gym last spring. I want to eventually own a handful of gyms throughout Cattaraugus County. I chose Little Valley because it's an up and coming town and I feel it needed something like this. You have LV, Cattaraugus, Napoli, the Ottos, Randolph, Salamanca and other small surrounding towns that can

utilize the facility. We will be able to attract a whole different group of people. Our Ellicottville location is primarily made up of Ellicottville, Salamanca, and Great Valley residents. And of course people who come from Canada, Ohio and other states. My mission is to create as many healthy people (Warriors) as we can throughout our county. I want everyone (those who choose to) to be able to live life to their fullest potential and it starts with a healthy body and mind. At Warrior Fitness we can help you achieve that!

V: When did you find it and start the journey?

BP: The landlord of the building I occupy in Ellicottville, Mike Stang, also owns the one in Little Valley. So, I sat down and had a talk with him one day last spring and told him what I wanted to do. He was on board so we started putting everything together and made it happen.

V: What will it have?

BP: We will have everything from strength machines to cardio machines, to free weights, long turf for a tire and sled and other miscellaneous things. Everything that you can think of in a gym, we will have.

V: Classes and stuff?

BP: We will have classes. I believe we are only starting off with 2-3 evening classes. You can find those on our StudioBookings app. You can sign up, pay for and book all classes right on that. There will also be personal training. We will have a couple certified trainers who are ready to

SEE "GYM" PAGE 14

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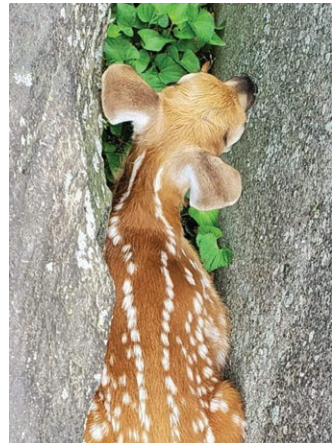
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WNY Scenic Byways Photo Contest

2023 Photos Taken with Standalone Cameras & Mobile Devices



Amateur and professional photographers with their cameras focused on the southtowns – southern Erie and Cattaraugus counties – captured some stunning scenes of bucolic beauty in 2023. They have been rewarded with cash prizes by the WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway organization.

Professional photographers from The Buffalo News, Bee Newspapers, and Buffalo Spree judged the 2nd annual contest out of 120 submissions culled by the board of the Byway group.

Pictured, right; A fawn with its tawny coat stippled with white lounging on a spurt of ivy was submitted by Springville's Jim Blesy, garnering third place and a \$50 award in the mobile device category. Blesy entitled it "Hiding."

Pictured, left: Town of Boston resident Judy Griffin's "Road" with its frosty stalks of tree trunks converging to a azure sky of fluffy clouds netted her \$150 and the #1 prize, also in the "mobile device" category. She also received a signed copy of Orchard Park author William K. Even's Nostalgic Buffalo.

"A Visit to Sugartown Farms is a Must"



BY, GARY MALICKI

Here's a question for you. According to Google Maps, what is 18 minutes away by walking, 6 minutes away by bike and only a 3-minute car ride away from my front porch? Answer...the Alpacas of Ellicottville & clothing store at Sugartown Farms. I always ask people I interview if they have any ideas about who I should seek out next for an interesting story. Someone I interviewed recently told me about the wonderful experience she had there so I checked it out.

Helen & Timm Herman live on the property and have worked the business for twenty years. Helen is the one immersed in the work of the daily care of these beautiful animals. She is aided by Donna Meyer, a self-proclaimed EVL historian, who was busy at work in the barn.

They started with three and the enterprise has blossomed into 48 alpacas of many colors and sizes and they all have their own individual names. Helen was inspired by her desire to use the land and barn and had aspirations of making clothing. The couple taught me so many things including the fact that their pelts are hypoallergenic, a true advantage.

Helen also told me that one of the main things that drew her to working with

these docile animals was "the cute factor", as she described it. I had a total understanding of what she meant when she opened the pen and invited me to walk among them.

Helen gently approached one of the younger cuties, picked up the animal and asked me to feel its fleece. Cashmere or a soft wool was the best way to describe the sensation. I was surprised to see the ease with which she was able to pick up the juvenile alpaca. Timm said one that size weighs about 30 pounds. He further clarified, "without the fur they look like a wet cat". He has quite a keen sense of humor.

They said fall is their busy time and the animals are sheared once per year. The fur is sent to various co-ops which are actually the mills where it's turned into comfy clothing.

Part of the routine maintenance is having to trim their toenails, the pads on their feet and also their teeth trimmed. In their natural harsher environment these things are taken care of on their own.

Another interesting fact was how they came to be. The llama and the vicuna were cross-bred and the alpaca was born and subsequently used

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for the fur. The clothing produced is a favorite of hunters. Timm said that the socks they produce naturally wick moisture away from the skin. As an experienced camper I can attest to how important that is.

The alpaca was brought to the United States in the late 80's and 90's and are no longer imported. Both Helen and Timm agreed that the greatest challenge of the business is the price of hay and vet expenses.

They also enter the animals in shows around the country. There are 30 alpaca judges in the world. While Helen is focused on the farm, Timm, with an engineering background, owns an industrial firm in Salamanca. Having technical experience, he catalogs the fleece quality and characteristics for the shows they enter, winning many awards.

They are a wonderful couple who also run an alpaca clothing store with a large selection of items. I was very appreciative of a most unique tour and impressed by their warmth and knowledge of their business.

You can visit them at 6277 Sugartown Rd. in Ellicottville. Their store is open Friday, Saturday

"SUGARTOWN", Pg. 14



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STORY FROM COVER

By KATE BARTLETT

Ghostfish Brewing Company has been crafting quality gluten free beers in Seattle, WA, since 2015. Ghostfish selects quality ingredients paying tribute to classic styles while expanding the expectation of what gluten free beer can be. The brand recently opened it's second location here in Westfield, NY; it's first and only location on the East Coast.

Co-founder Brian Thiel was inspired to develop a gluten free craft brewery after attending the Great American Beerfest in 2012. Having a family member with Celiac's disease, he noticed a void in gluten free beer on the market at that time. "We couldn't believe how much of a lack in gluten free beer there was at this national Beerfest. I saw the opportunity and had the epiphany on the flight home that we should focus on gluten free craft brewing."

Brian and his co-founder imagined it would be a small-scale brewery on an artisanal level. They became a designated gluten free facility and embraced this bold change with integrity. "Our ingredients are selected with the utmost care. We hand select naturally gluten free grains, yeast strains and Pacific Northwest hops that lead to boundary pushing craft beers."

9 years later, Ghostfish is the largest independent producer of dedicated craft gluten free beer in the United States. Their full-service gluten free brewery and tap room offers light fare along with a variety of year-round, seasonal and limited beer releases in Seattle, WA. None of their



Ghostfish currently distributes to 19 states across the US with a large amount of customers in the North East, Massachusetts being the largest.

products contain the gluten protein, as their facility is 100% gluten free. "We are proud to be a strong brand in the craft beer market, shipping our products all over the country. Ghostfish offers quality taste, flavor and aroma, appealing to the average beer drinker while being 100% gluten free."

With the growth and demand of their products, the Ghostfish brand has decided to brand out and open a second production brewery, their first on the East Coast, here in Westfield, NY. The brewery held a ribbon cutting ceremony in October, and is currently producing Ghostfish products. "We are excited about the growth of our company, and to be able to make our products more accessible coast to coast. We're in the process of qualifying our core products, making the same quality products available to this area."

Ghostfish currently distributes to 19 states

across the US with a large amount of customers in the North East, Massachusetts being the largest. "We recognize the potential for Ghostfish to thrive East of the Mississippi," says Brian. Once the plant is producing on a routine basis, the team will further explore options for a full taproom and gluten free restaurant in the area.

As for the name, it was derived from a phantom 'ghostfish' Brian and his friend saw while at his beach property in Seattle. "We were in the process of thinking of a name for our brewery, when my friend saw a flash of something in the water. We dubbed it the ghostfish, and subsequently decided it was a good fit for our brand name. It's somewhat serendipitous that GF stands for Ghostfish and Gluten Free, we're one and the same."

For more info visit <https://ghostfishbrewing.com/> and follow on social media for updates.

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Views from E'Ville: Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce Holiday Party Good Friends and Merriment for all Hosted by Villaggio, December 18



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Christmas

CONT. FROM COVER

snow's on the way. Ellicottville's always the best place to play. With so much to do and so much to see, Ms. Mouse scampered first to the top of Ski Tree. From the middle of town she had a great view; she rested and she wondered what first should she do?

This month's Stroll with the reindogs and sheep, made her remember why it's Christmas we keep. The Holy Family with their baby so sweet, filled our hearts with love for all that we meet.

To stay in that spirit, she sped down each ski,

then ran to Holy Name, the Nativity to see. From there the Gazebo looked cheery and bright, so she scooped up the stairs with all of her might. The view down our main street made her sparkling eyes pop; she knew she must somehow check out every shop. The window displays created fantasy lands with ribbons and wreaths and streaming garlands.

She launched down the street, to see all the sights. The smell of hot chocolate filled her heart with delight. The windows invited her to see all the wares, there were reindeer and puppies and fat teddy bears. She waved at the gnomes, and admired the trees ... the clothing, the shoes and a pause for a ...

sneeze! Was she getting a cold at this holiday season? Mom mice can't get sick - her kids are the reason.

This Adventure was Bound to tire her it's true. She rested on a lift chair as precious minutes flew. The clothing in windows looked cozy you know, with so many duds that were best for the snow. So much to consider as she ran down Monroe - a massage, Noni's meatballs and spirits to go. She crossed the main road finding cupcakes and beers, clothing and health foods to add to her years. Sponge candy from Watson's topped her long list, yet she was worried there was something she missed. With toys on her mind, she rushed to Kazoo - the windows were filled

with a Jellycats Zoo. Next door she went Daffy to see the hats and the shoes and saw purple when gazing at socks for her crew.

The aromas from Dinas made her hungry for lunch, she snatched a tidbit from CLAWS cats for a nourishing crunch. She heard about the Skatepark and ran there to see; it was icy - she slid down squealing with glee. Scampering to the Arboretum she rested in awe; the peace and the silence was the gift that she sought.

Getting her wind, she took a long run to see the alpacas and join in their fun. Hitching a ride on a truck she hopped off at The Valley - found people skiing and laughing and

being quite jolly. She smiled remembering Edna, a lady so fine, who can be remembered when at The Valley you dine. She heard that HoliMont was opening soon, in time for the skiers, boarders and snowshoers, too!

Looking at the clock in the middle of town, she knew her adventure was soon winding down. Scampering through main street she stopped and she beamed. The lights in the village made everything gleam. It looked like a fairy tale straight out of Grimm. The only thing missing was a visit from HIM!

She ran home in a hurry to fed her hungry crew - helped with homework, read stories and baked cookies too. Before they

realized, the magical night had arrived, and the wee house was filled with squeals and fun vibes. Joining the community, they headed to church to celebrate Christmas and to sing of Christ's birth.

Soon, tucked in their beds, the mouse kids pretended to sleep; in hopes that a vision of Santa they'd peek. And then, it did happen, or so I am told, the mouse kids heard Santa outside in the cold. They ran to the window and indeed it was true, they watched the sleigh and the reindeer as off the rooftop they flew. And (I quote) they heard him exclaim as he flew out of sight, "Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night."



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as Fall Fest has become one of the area's biggest events. "I wanted to highlight something different this year, a landmark I've always loved: the ski tree." Kara used fun fall colors to make the ski tree pop as the main focal point and added a subtle mountainous background to capture the essence of Ellicottville. "I have always been so impressed with the creativity of the Wintermantel designs and look forward to Studio 4 East having the opportunity to carry on their tradition of creating these posters in the coming years."

Business at Studio 4 East continues to be steady. "We're blessed to be consistently busy with many returning customers from the Wintermantels, and several new ventures." Studio 4 East is slowly expanding their new in-house embroidery and continues to grow their screen printing business. They've partnered with the EVL Chamber of Commerce for Fall Fest and have been the festivals official apparel vendor for the last 3 years. Studio 4 East also offers custom online stores and specialize in large orders for businesses, teams and group events. Studio 4 East has their storefront and retail at 103 W Main Street in Allegany and houses a variety of t-shirts and other apparel, including licensed St. Bonaventure gear.

For more information visit <https://studio4east.com/> and follow them on social media. To contact Kara directly email sales@studio4east.com or visit Kara and Mark during regular business hours at the shop.

Studio 4 East has their storefront and retail at 103 W Main Street in Allegany and houses a variety of t-shirts and other apparel, including licensed St. Bonaventure gear. For more information visit <https://studio4east.com/> and follow them on social media.

Designs

CONT. FROM COVER

Kara purchased Studio 4 East with co-owner, Mark Riordan, from the Wintermantel brothers in January 2021. Mikel, Dan and Peter started the business in 1979 in their grandparents basement at 4E Main Street. The Wintermantels are iconic in Allegany for their art and design work, and ran a strong business for over 40 years. Mark and Kara decided to combine forces and seized the opportunity to carry on the empire they created.

Mark's experience with sales and marketing merged well with Kara's experience in graphic design. "We're a great team and we work well together. It's our pleasure to serve customers year after year, and watch their

businesses grow. We're honored to carry on the Wintermantels business, and feel fortunate to serve the community in this way."

Kara enjoys creating a wide variety of designs from logos, to posters and custom designs for apparel. Kara listens to what each customer is looking for and creates pieces that best suits their individual styles. She is inspired to find the best design for each and every customer, that speaks to their own distinct brand. "Some customers come in with specific ideas, others come in with a blank slate. Either way, we work together to find a style tailored to their needs."

The Ellicottville Fall Festival Poster is a well-known tradition that Kara had the honor of designing this year. The Wintermantels designed the posters for many years, becoming iconic in the area



Amy took a trip to Italy to visit relatives. When she arrived, she noticed that the relatives in Italy were much healthier than her relatives in the United States. She realized that this was due to their healthier lifestyle and diet that was more of a Mediterranean type of diet. She did a lot of reading and research. She engrossed herself into their history, culture, and foods. She hoped that she could help her relatives in the United States become healthier.

Amy Riolo (right) and her cousin Angela Riolo at Tenute Cristiano in Calabria where Amy Riolo Selections extra-virgin olive oil is made.

Riolo

CONT. FROM COVER

curiosity, and love for food was instilled in her at a very young age. She recalls cooking meatballs, sauce, and other homemade Italian food in the kitchen of her maternal grandmother and other family members. This gave her the passion and background knowledge of cooking that she would perfect later as part of her career.

Amy's other passion was fashion. She attended Cornell University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Apparel and Textile Management. After working in that field for a time, she went to Italy to visit relatives. When she arrived, she noticed that the relatives in Italy were much healthier than her relatives in the United States. She realized that this was due to their healthier lifestyle and diet that was more of a Mediterranean type of diet. She did a lot of reading and research. She engrossed herself into their history, culture, and foods. She hoped that she could help her relatives in the United States become healthier.

Amy realized that even though she majored in a different field in college, she wanted to pursue a career in writing and cooking. She wanted to share all she had learned, and she started writing about foods and cooking. Living in Washington, DC presented a multitude of opportunities for Amy. Initially she worked at whatever kinds of jobs should find in this field. She worked teaching cooking classes, did restaurant consultations, and joined many culinary and cultural organizations. She also worked on developing her author's platform. She gave presentations and was a guest speaker at events in the United States and overseas. Amy also created and appeared in weekly cooking videos called Culture of Cuisine, which was shown across the United States.

In 2008, she published her first book called Arabian Delights. Since then, she has published a total of 16 books. A few of the book's titles are Diabetes for Dummies, Diabetes Cookbook, Italian Recipes for Dummies, and Quick and Easy Mediterranean Recipes. As Amy's work

became more well known, she showcased her culinary expertise on numerous television and radio programs both in the United States and overseas. This included The Hallmark Channel, Nile TV, the Travel Channel, Martha Stewart Living, FOX, ABC, and Calabria Uno TV and many others. She continues as a culinary consultant and does trainings with corporations and restaurants. She is a best-selling and award-winning author, and her work is often published in newspapers and magazines internationally.

In 2019, Amy launched a private label called Amy Riolo Selections, that are made in and imported from Italy. Currently she has a balsamic vinegar, extra virgin olive oil, organic pasta, and a pesto sauce. Amy loves sharing these high-quality artisan products with her followers and readers.

When Amy was asked what she thought was most important for readers to understand, Amy said, "I learned about the love of food and the basics of

SEE "RIOLO", PG. 14

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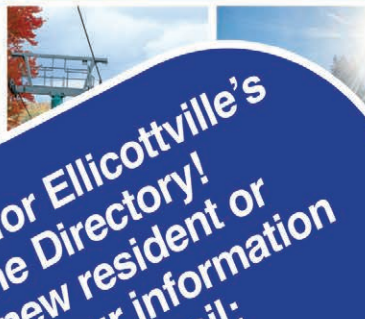

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Alpacaville

STORY FROM COVER

BY BARBARA ARNSTEIN

Shauna Anderson has a certification in animal therapy, which she puts to good use at the Alpacaville farm in Bemus Point. There, she helps clients relax, recover, socialize and thrive, as they experience sessions with alpacas, pigs and chickens. Alpacas resemble llamas, but they are smaller. Alpacas and llamas are both related to camels.

"I can lead groups through activities and educational interventions towards a specific goal," she said, "We have groups from schools, home schools, mental health groups, nursing homes, the autistic club and many more. I am not a therapist but sometimes a therapist comes with a client and we handle the animals. We have families that bring their children with brain trauma, autism, ADHD, etc. and we have them interact with the alpacas (or pigs or chickens) in a way that gets them to talk or socialize or sometimes just relax, in the non-judgmental presence of the animals."

"We allow the animals to come and go as they wish," she continued, "which makes it very special when one comes over to be petted, for example".

Now everyone has a chance to relax and enjoy the company of the animals there, and boost their Christmas spirit. Dan and Shauna Anderson, farmers and owners of the Alpacaville farm in Bemus Point, are opening their farm to the community. Their mission: "We want to create a place of respite

from the stress and bustle of the holiday season." This Saturday, December 23rd, at 10am, they are hosting Christmas in a Barn: an event including a brief church service, followed by the opportunity to interact with the alpacas. Hot cocoa and snacks are provided, as well as the opportunity to visit the Alpacaville store to buy last-minute Christmas presents. The items available there include: nice, warm shawls, socks, sweaters, gloves, boot liners and lined alpaca hats, plus finger puppets, pig mugs and other items.

"There's so much stress in the world these days – and the busyness and pressures of the holiday season are no exception," said the Rev. Jessica Frederick, Minister for Children, Youth, and Families at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. "I am a former farmer who believes in the healing power of connecting with the natural world, and Christmas in a Barn is an event that combines my passions. In the Christmas story, we celebrate God coming into the world in the most unexpected of ways: as a baby in a barn. It is also an

invitation to slow down, to 'expect the unexpected' as we experience peace and joy with the animal world. They have so much to teach us."

The Andersons also view their farm as an opportunity for people to connect with the healing nature of alpacas and become more tranquil. "Many people have commented over the years that while visiting the farm and the animals, they feel a spiritual sense of peace and calm," said Shauna Anderson. "We also often hear them comment that they find themselves relaxing in a way that is hard to describe. People often return and bring their friends and other family members so they can enjoy the experience as well."

For more information, contact Shauna Anderson at Alpacaville (716-664-0663) or Jessica Frederick at St. Luke's Episcopal Church (716-483-6405). Alpacaville is located at 4463 Mahanna Rd in the beautiful rolling hills of Bemus Point, NY, near Chautauqua Lake. To shop online, go to alpacaville.com Between January 15th and April 15th, visits are available by appointment, weather permitting.



Celebrating Kwanzaa

Understanding the Reason for the Season, Dec. 26-Jan. 1

BY CAROL FISHER-LINN

"It's beginning to look a lot like Kwanzaa... 'Habari Gano'"

What do the 6-day, August 1965 Watts Riots in L.A. have to do with Kwanzaa? Quite a bit. The aftermath of the riots was the catalyst for the creation of Kwanzaa as a way of uniting and empowering the African American community after those deadly attacks (34 deaths - \$40M damages in 1965 dollars). Modeling it after traditional African harvest festivals, creator Maulana Karenga took the name from a Swahili phrase "matunda ya kwanza" meaning "first fruits."

A cultural and spiritual holiday, some think of Kwanzaa as a substitute for celebrating Christmas. It is not. In fact, many people celebrate both: Christmas on the 25th, then Kwanzaa is on the 26th to January 1st. Best of both worlds.

Kwanzaa is celebrated by Africans of all faiths and traditions, as well as non-Blacks. One can liken it to all peoples celebrating Cinco de Mayo even though it is a traditional Mexican holiday and celebration of Mexican historical events (a yearly celebration held on May 5 to celebrate Mexico's victory over the Second French Empire at the Battle of Puebla in 1862).

The University of Pennsylvania's African Studies Center informs us that "Karenga designed the seven principles of Kwanzaa, known as Nguza Saba, to connect Black Americans to their African roots by uplifting the community through recognizing and honoring traditional African family values." Hence, the



The foundation of Kwanzaa is built on the following concepts: Unity, Self-determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity and Faith. A central part of the celebration is the nightly lighting of the kinara, a special candelabra. The kinara holds seven candles, one for each foundational concept.

foundation of Kwanzaa is built on the following concepts: Unity, Self-determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity and Faith. Although not a National holiday, it is recognized as an official holiday in the U.S.

A central part of the celebration is the nightly lighting of the kinara, a special candelabra. The kinara holds seven candles, one for each foundational concept—three red candles on the left, three green candles on the right, and one black candle in the center—these colors have deep symbolism: black is for the African people, red reminds of their struggles, and green celebrates their hope for the future. This grouping of candles is known as mishumaa saba. The kinara is reminiscent of the Jewish menorah, used earlier this month (7th through 15th) to celebrate Hanukkah, whose seven arms also have deep meaning for the Jewish people. Incidentally, a menorah generally refers to EITHER the seven-branched golden candelabra that is lit every DAY in the holy Tabernacle and then the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, or the eight-flamed lamp that is lit in homes on the eight nights of the Jewish holiday of Chanukah. Interestingly, the menorah is the oldest continuously used religious symbol of the West, whereas the kinara is one of the newest cultural symbols. Yet, they both share a similar purpose. Traditionally, Kwanzaa is celebrated in homes, SEE "KWANZAA", Pg. 15



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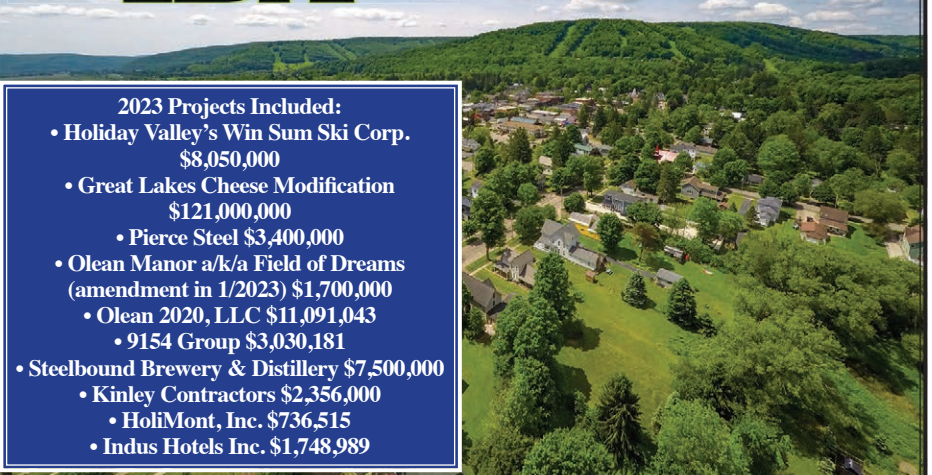
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 - Indus Hotels Inc. \$1,748,989

The Cattaraugus County IDA offers assistance in the forms of incentives including tax abatements, low interest loans, and bond financing. Those who are interested in investing in the growth of the area are encouraged to contact the Cattaraugus County IDA to see what forms of assistance may be available. Additionally, economic growth enhances the opportunities for job creation and retention, ultimately investing in the overall growth of the area.



The Cattaraugus County Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA) has been facilitating economic growth to the area for over 52 years. Authorized and empowered by the State of New York, the organization aims to "retain, promote and assist business development thereby advancing job opportunities and economic welfare to the people of Cattaraugus County."

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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 since in 2011 as part of Jamestown Area Medical Associates. Dr. Woloszyn is currently affiliated with Olean General Hospital.

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“A Christmas Carol”



WEEKLY SYNOPSIS
By BARBARA ARNSTEIN

that and you're fired!"
So much for their office party.
Cratchit goes home to his wife and six children and Scrooge goes home to his empty apartment, the only one in an industrial area. But soon he's not alone after all, because he has a surprise visitor: his dead partner.

His partner tells him that as part of his after-life punishment he was sent back to warn him not to be as selfish and greedy as he was. He shows him other spirits who never cared about others while they lived, and are tormented by being unable to help anyone after they died.

Just when Scrooge is hoping he'll go away, he tells him he'll be visited by three more spirits.

Soon, the first one appears, and introduces himself as "The Ghost of Christmas Past". He magically takes the two of them to invisibly observe various times in Scrooge's life. They first visit the time when he was all alone in a boarding school over the Christmas holidays but felt befriended by characters in the books he was reading, and he remembers the joy he felt. Strangely, the characters include brothers from a nine-hundred-year-old story who get information from a mechanical device that can answer any question put to it. (*Dickens doesn't mention the Alex-like device, but I thought you inhabitants of the 21st-Century would like to know about it.*) He also revisits the time his younger sister got their father to bring him home from the awful boarding school, and he remembers how much he loved her.

After that, Scrooge is shown an office Christmas party he enjoyed when he

was an apprentice, and he realizes how much it meant to the employees that his boss was so nice. Next he unhappily revisits the time his fiancée dumped him, and told him she'd realized he loved money more than he did her.

The second spirit, "The Ghost of Christmas Present", allows him to see a vision of the Cratchits' having their Christmas dinner. Their food is so scanty that their dinner party is maybe one mashed potato away from becoming the Donne party. Their youngest son is lame, feeble and angelic.

He then gets to see his nephew's Christmas dinner party and finds that when the guests play "Twenty Questions", his nephew makes him the subject to be guessed, using clues like "an animal that growls" to describe him.

The third spirit, shows him images of his possible future, which includes scavengers taking his possessions when he dies, including the shirt he's supposed to be buried in, and the bed curtains from his bed, and he sees a vision in which his clerk is distraught because his youngest son has died. His entire emotional journey is torture to him, but the next morning, when he finds it's Christmas, he's giddy with happiness.

The first thing he does is send the Cratchit family a tremendous turkey, and later he goes to his nephew's house, where he's warmly welcomed.

The following day, he gives his clerk a raise, promises to help his family from then on (and keeps his word), and ultimately

"DICKENS", CONT. PG. 13

Another Week Full of Holiday Events & Entertainment

By DARLENE BRACE

Are you all ready for Christmas? Well, the holiday week is here whether you're ready or not. Here is what's happening across Chautauqua County to entertain you during the holiday week.

December 22 - Bill Ward will be performing his annual Christmas show in downtown Jamestown at the Wine Cellar's Holiday Holler. Starting at 6pm, he will be singing some old songs, some of his new songs, and some holiday tunes. There will also be a special guest appearance.

Pearl City Hops in Jamestown will be having A Grinchy Dinner Affair from 5pm-9pm. Included in your admission price, there will be a dinner buffet and hot chocolate bar. It will also include face painting, arts & crafts, and a meet and greet with photo opportunities with the Grinch. Call 716-488-7227 for pricing and reservations.

Are you good at trivia? You may want to check out a very special Holiday Trivia Night with DJ K Fit at Southern Tier Distillery. This free all ages event will begin at 6pm. Bring your team and put your heads together to answer as many questions correctly as you can. Who knows, maybe you will be the winner.

In Westfield, NY, the Five and 20 Spirits & Brewing is having a customer appreciation night starting at 5 pm. There will be specials on beer and other drinks. You can sit inside or sit

outside in the covered patio around the fire pit.

Adam McKillip is performing at Big Inlet Brewing on Friday starting at 6 pm. Hang out with your friends and listen to Adam's renditions of favorite tunes while exploring the variety of beverages that they have to offer.

At Peek and Peak Resort in Clymer NY, Ion Sky will be performing. It will begin in the main lodge at 9:30pm in Bistro 210. Ion Sky plays an entertaining mix of popular rock and pop covers, that will surely get you moving to the beat.

In Lakewood, Group Ther-Happy is having two events this holiday weekend. On December 22, the entertainment will be a duo called Pollywood Nights, which starts at 8pm. They play a mix of covers of classic oldies but goodies. On December 23, they will be hosting a Buffalo Bills Watch Party. Join your friends and family to cheer on the Buffalo Bill's while watching the game on several TV's and enjoying some of that night's food and drink specials.

Over in Bemus Point, 14 Main at the See Zurh House is hosting an Ugly Sweater Party complete with door prizes and giveaways! The fun starts as soon as you show up and they are open from noon-10pm.

December 23rd - Head on out to the Bemus Point Golf Club and Tap House for their Ugly Christmas Sweater Party starting at 7pm. DJ Campbell will be playing a variety of tunes from holiday classics to popular favorites. There will be prizes and twenty craft beers on tap.

Big Inlet Brewing is having a very Big Inlet Christmas event starting at 5:30pm. Come listen and celebrate the Christmas season with entertainment performed by Bill Ward. There will be special guests joining the fun, so come and check it out.

In Lakewood, the Southern Tier Brewery will be celebrating Christmas with an Ugly Sweater Party starting around noon. You can enjoy a tasty beverage while listening live entertainment. Be ready to listen to the unique sound of Charity Nuse, Kallie Williams, and Kayla Lowe starting at 5pm.

Just down the street, the Southern Tier Distilling Company will be having their Tom and Jerry Cocktail Party. It starts at 1pm, and they will be serving Tom and Jerry's all day. There will be plenty of other beverages to choose from, as you listen to holiday music from the Back Room Jazz Band starting at 4pm.

December 27th- Continue enjoying the holiday season at the Christmas concert at the Hurlburt Community Church in Chautauqua Institution starting at 6pm.

December 28th, Brown Dog Acoustics will be playing at the Empty Pint at the Southern Tier Brewery. Check out the tasting room and sip on delicious craft beer while listening to the music starting at 5pm.

There is still plenty of entertainment across the county to entertain you this holiday week. Whatever you are doing for the holidays, The Villager wishes you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a safe holiday season.

Beat on the Street:

“What Conspiracy Theory Do You Think is True?”

BY CHAD NEAL

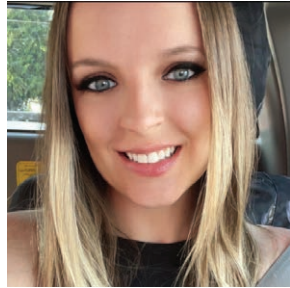
When a couple or more persons get together to plan a way to manipulate a populace for their own gain it is a conspiracy. These things have happened in the past and many believe some in power do it more often, and the masses are shrouded by a layer of deceit. Theories of cabals are tossed around all over the internet and can seem true to certain factions of people who are also easily manipulated. Some may be true and we'll never know as cover ups and distractions are so rampant in this age of information that deniability is completely plausible. Some conspiracies may be at the heart of the people such as a plot to rob the rich and give to the poor, but that is a hard thing to do as the law usually sides with the one having more assets. Some theories though have a deep rooted and evil conspiratorial plan to take over the world. What conspiracy theory do you think is true?



Rachel B.- That they don't care about what's in our food, water, products because we have a for profit healthcare system.



Matt M.- There are several that just simply would not surprise me if they were true. Rigged election, JFK assassination, 911, Q-anon, and Epstein not being dead. I don't think I really believe any of them, but if they were to end up true I would not be surprised.



Jen H.- That the investors that funded the Titanic were all the founders of the First National Bank that conspired to kill the billionaire tycoons aboard the ship because they negated the vote for the upcoming bank system. So they sunk the Titanic to win the vote and collect the insurance money.



Jesse D.- The moon landing was fake!



Kara M.- Tupac is still alive. You cant change my mind.



Jeremy R.- The election was stolen!

Do You Have a Suggested Question for Beat on the Street?
Be a part of the art! Submit your ideas to info@thevillager.com

What's Shaking in EVL

Whether Outside or In, Live Music is Always Available

BY, MOUTH SAY TONGUE

It's Christmas week so the number of bands is a little smaller than usual but there's still plenty of music so let's see who's playing where.

We start our weekend on Thursday at Balloons for Burger and Brew Night from 4-10pm. \$15 gets your choice of any and any beer with house made chips. This weeks music is provided by Interstate Daydream from 6-9pm. This duo plays a rock/pop/folk/blues/country set of covers with some soulful vocals.

The Gin Mill hosts Kody and Herren, Thursday, from 8-11pm. This couple plays a rock/folk/roots set of covers and originals with some nice guitar and fiddle accompaniment. Check out the latest kitchen in town open till 10pm sun-thurs and 11pm fri-sat. Open for breakfast 9-11am sat-sun.

FRIDAY

We return to Balloons for The Chillbillys from 6:30-10pm. This husband and wife team plays a rock/pop/blues/folk/

roots set of covers featuring smooth guitar riffs and sweet vocal harmonies. The back bar will host Spencer Easton from 10-1am. Spencer plays mostly country with a Little Rock thrown in. Dj Lyfe will rock the sound booth with some funk so you can shake your junk on the two dance floors.

The Gin Mill will host the ever popular Two Guys Drinking Beer from 8-12am. Terry and Ton play a rock/pop/folk/country/blues set of covers that you'll know the words to. Check out the Carriage House Sidebar for some craft cocktails made with high end spirits made by certified mixologists.

Madigans keeps the party going with Dj SI from 9-2am. He'll provide the thumpin for the bulmpin in the window. Check out the dart board and pool tables.

SATURDAY

The Gin Mill is the early bird with Davey "O" from 2-5pm. Davey plays a folk/rock/Americana set of covers and originals. Barnstorm takes the stage from 8-12am. They play classic and modern coun-

try Try some of the 37 beers they always have on tap.

Balloons is back with The Groove Bros from 6:30-10pm. This duo plays a blues/rock/soul/jazz set of covers. Because of the holiday there will be no back bar band or Dj.

Madigans hosts their annual Christmas Party. Dj Persia will spin the tunes from 8-2am. Free food and drink specials makes for a great party every year.

Tuesday The Gin Mill will host The Marty Peters Duo from 7-10pm. Marty is a Buffalo Music HOF'er and plays blues and folk music from the 60-70's.

We close out the seven day weekend, as we have for the last 40 years, at The Gin Mill for Wing, Wednesday from 7-11pm. Brian Rick will provide the music. Brian plays a rock/folk/pop/ country set of covers.

If you enjoyed your stay in our village tell your friends and family and return often, but wherever you are PLEASE, ALWAYS SUPPORT LIVE MUSIC!!!!!!!

Dickens

CONT. FROM PG. 12

ensures that his youngest son lives. In the end, as Dickens put it, "he became as good a friend, as good a man, as the good old city

knew, or any other good old city, town or borough!"

"A Christmas Carol", written in 1843, is more than just another Christmas story because it popularized the phrase "Merry Christmas"! It also revived many traditions that were discouraged in

the early Victorian era, and encouraged the idea that Christmas should be a time for family reunions, special meals, and generosity. Umpteen movies, plays, television shows and cartoons have been made with variations of the basic plot.

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 or call 716-699-2058.

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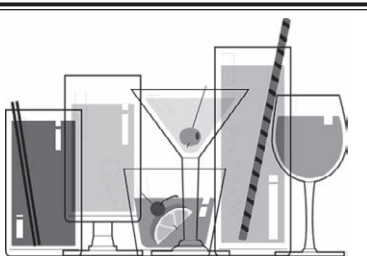
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★ ★ Sudoku Challenge ★ ★

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!**

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

Last Week's Puzzle:

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

Gym

CONT. FROM PG. 5

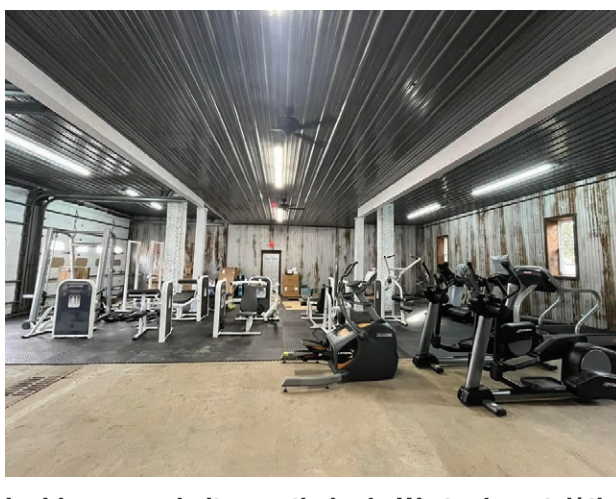
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V: What will the Grand Opening consist of?

BP: At the Grand Opening we will be doing a ribbon cutting and a champagne toast. We will invite people inside our facility. We will also have all information on display such as: classes, memberships, bootcamps and personal training.

V: How many are memberships and how can you get them?

BP: Memberships: Yearly \$45/ month on auto payments, 6 month: \$290 or a 3 month: \$165. There is a 15% discount for students, seniors, military and first responders. 1 month trial of \$50, 1 month couples trial \$80, 1 month family trial (5 members) \$100. Family Plans: Yearly options 3 members



Inside we made it a rustic look. We took metal/ tin off an old hog barn in Randolph and that is being used as the walls within the facility. The ceiling is all grey metal/ tin, so it looks super sharp and amazing.

out to us via Facebook or instagram. Shoot us a message and let us know what you're looking for and we can help!

Poole also said "Come check us out! See what Warrior Fitness is all about and the movement we are creating. We are changing people's lives for the better and it's so awesome to see."

Sugartown

CONT. FROM PG. 6

and Sunday from 10am-5pm. I was reminded that being a family business people should call ahead in the event they have to be at a family event. Call them at 716-699-2902 and check them out on Facebook & Instagram.

When I got home I presented my wife with a cozy pair of alpaca socks. I couldn't help myself and she loves them.

(Caption photo, right) Helen & Timm Herman live on the property and have worked the business for twenty years. They are a wonderful couple who also run an alpaca clothing store with a large selection of items.



Riolo

CONT. FROM PG. 10

cooking with my family while growing up. What I love the most, is the power of food and recipes, and how it connects us to other people of other times and places. Many of my recipes were handed down from generations long ago. Food is an instrument of culture that outlasts everything else."

Amy is currently working on writing her 7th book, yet she is often found mentoring culinary and writing students, young and old. If you want to find out more information about Amy, her books, and all her accomplishments, you can visit her website at amyriolo.com. You can also look at her pages on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Pinterest.

As you can see this small-town girl has

Mediterranean Lifestyle

for dummies

Achieve optimal health and live longer
Explore Mediterranean traditions including siestas and exercise
Enjoy more than 30 authentic recipes

Amy Riolo
Bestselling Author, Chef, Mediterranean Lifestyle Ambassador

Retro Images

Photo Picks From Days Gone By



Mobile Changing Hut circa 1893
This Peculiar wagon know as the Bathing Machine was popular in the 19th Century, becoming a popular feature on the waterfront.

Classified

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE - 206 FOX RIDGE, LLC
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE ABOVE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (E LC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY ("SSNY") on 11/09/2023. Office located in the County of Cattaraugus. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against shall be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any such process served to: 0 Fox Ridge LLC, 0 Deer Crossing - Fox Ridge Road, Ellicottville, New York 14731. Purpose: any lawful act. - Uber Law Office, P.C., Jamestown, NY 14701

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FORTUNATO'S SHACK LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Art. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 08/03/23. 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, 11056 ROUTE 16 DELEVAN, NY, 14042. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION PETERSON ROOFING, LLC filed Art. of Org. with the Sec'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/27/2023. Office: Cattaraugus County. SSNY has been designated as agent for the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: Peterson Roofing, LLC, 375 New Holland Drive, Suite B, Belleville, PA 17004. Purpose: any lawful act.

(NOTICE AND SUMMARY OF BOND RESOLUTION FOR PUBLICATION)

The resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on November 21, 2023, and an abstract thereof has been published and posted as required by law and the period of time has elapsed for the submission and filing of a petition for a permissive referendum and a valid petition has not been submitted and filed. The validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Village of Ellicottville, in the County of Cattaraugus, New York, is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of the notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

Mary Klahn Village Clerk

BOND RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF ELLICOTTVILLE, NEW YORK, ADOPTED NOVEMBER 21, 2023, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000 TO FINANCE THE VILLAGE'S SHARE OF THE COST OF CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DOWNTOWN PARKING LOT, STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$1,000,000, APPROPRIATING VILLAGE FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000 FOR THE VILLAGE'S SHARE OF SAID COST, AND STATING THAT THE \$800,000 BALANCE OF SAID COST SHALL BE FUNDED BY THE CATTARAUGUS COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The object or purpose for which the bonds are authorized is the construction of a new downtown parking lot at the estimated maximum cost of \$1,000,000, with \$800,000 of said cost to be funded by the Cattaraugus County Industrial Development.

The period of usefulness is ten (10) years.

The maximum amount of obligations authorized to be issued is \$200,000.

A complete copy of the Bond Resolution summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the Village Clerk, Village of Ellicottville, Village Hall, One West Washington Street, Ellicottville, New York.

(NOTICE AND SUMMARY OF BOND RESOLUTION FOR PUBLICATION)

The resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on November 21, 2023, and an abstract thereof has been published and posted as required by law and the period of time has elapsed for the submission and filing of a petition for a permissive referendum and a valid petition has not been submitted and filed. The validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Village of Ellicottville, in the County of Cattaraugus, New York, is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of the notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

Mary Klahn Village Clerk

BOND RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF ELLICOTTVILLE, NEW YORK, ADOPTED NOVEMBER 21, 2023, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,800,000 TO FINANCE THE RECONSTRUCTION AND PAVING OF ELIZABETH STREET IN THE VILLAGE, STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$3,800,000 AND APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT FOR SUCH PURPOSE

The object or purpose for which the bonds are authorized is the reconstruction and paving of Elizabeth Street in the Village. Any CHIPS funds received, or any funds from other sources, are authorized to be used to pay all or part of the cost of the project described herein or to pay debt service on any bonds or notes issued pursuant to this resolution.

The period of usefulness is fifteen (15) years.

The maximum amount of obligations authorized to be issued is \$3,800,000.

A complete copy of the Bond Resolution summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the Village Clerk, Village of Ellicottville, Village Hall, One West Washington Street, Ellicottville, New York.

SERVICES/BUSINESSES

FURNITURE REPAIR - Cosmetic and structural repairs for wood, upholstery and mechanisms. On-site or in-shop. Pumpkin Hollow Furniture can be found on FB for before and after pictures. Call 716-604-6426.

HELP WANTED

KAZOO II: Looking for someone to join the Kazoo II team. Year-round, part-time position, weekends a must. Drop off your resume to apply: 21 Washington Street, Ellicottville NY 14731 or call 716-699-4484.

HELP WANTED- THE SILVER FOX STEAKHOUSE is looking for experienced **BARTENDERS, SERVERS.** Mail resume to P.O. Box 146, Ellicottville, NY 14731 or email silverfoxeville@aol.com

FOR SALE

FOR SALE - FIRE WOOD, SEASONAL HARDWOOD. \$125/face cord delivered. \$150/face cord all cherry. Call 716-378-4223.

FOR SALE: 4 UNIROYAL WINTER TIRES, size 225/60/R16. Only used one winter. \$200 for all four tires. Call 716-699-2167.

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Interested in Advertising with The Villager?

Give us a call today to help set up the best plan to suit your individual needs. We can help you create and implement a successful advertising campaign at an affordable budget. Your ad will be in print and online each week. Each display ad will directly link the client to your website online. Contact us today: 716-699-2058 - info@thevillager.com

Kwanzaa

CONT. FROM PG. 11

schools or large venues which provide greater spaces for African musicians and dancers and performances by children. Not to mention a huge outlay of foods to enjoy. At home, according to the official Kwanzaa website, folks are reminded to gather respectfully, to celebrate only Kwanzaa, having removed any items of Christmas if it was celebrated, and to choose the best and most beautiful items and foods to celebrate Kwanzaa. In

gentle quietude, at home, families gather to discuss the principles and to light a candle each day.

Besides the celebration of the principle of Kuumba (creativity), the sixth night also features the Kwanzaa feast. Homes are decorated with flags, Kwanzaa decorations and Pan-African décor. There is music and readings and plays, but first all guests drink from a Unity cup giving recognition to their ancestors. It is a time to celebrate friends, family and the cultural ties that bring them together.

Traditional foods feature the inclusion of French, Spanish, and African ingredients and preparation. One might

find salt fish, guava, red beans, and pigeon peas on the table — all of which have been influenced by the foods on the Caribbean Islands. Southern soul cooking, influenced by French cooking include garden-grown ingredients like okra, collards, and tomatoes, as well as seafood like oysters, crabs, and shrimp.

At the end of the feast, the eldest member reads the Tamshi La Tutaonana — a farewell statement to the year and the closing of the Karamu (the feast). An appropriate Kwanzaa greeting is "Habari Gano," meaning "what is the news?" in Swahili. Here's wishing you a joyous and blessed Kwanzaa!

Place Your Classifieds Here! Call 716-699-2058

email info@thevillager.com

online: www.thevillager.com "Submit Materials"

Womens History Images

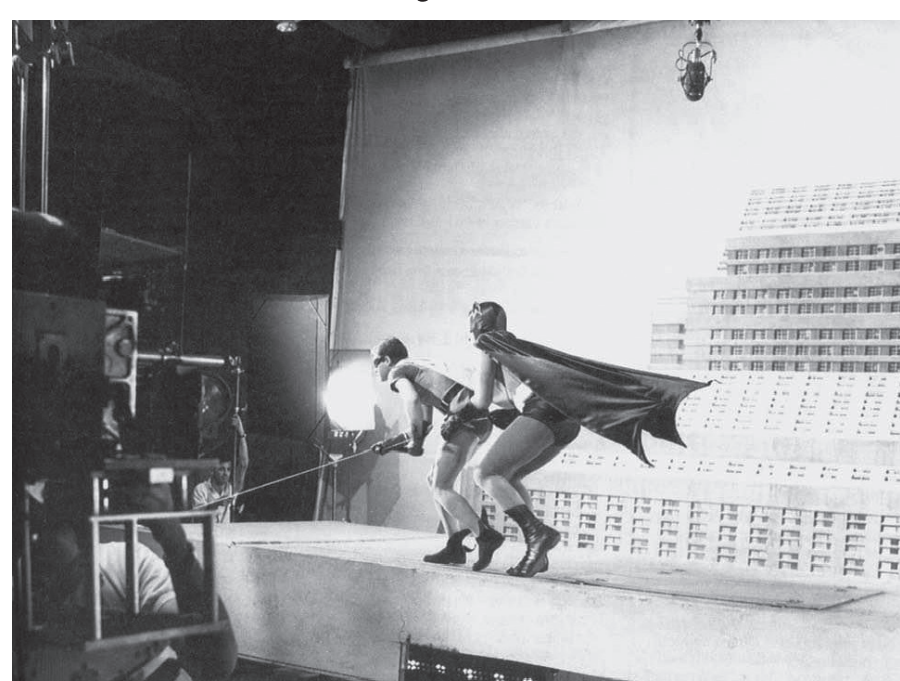
Photos of Women in History



Amelia Earhart - 1897-1937

She never reached her fortieth birthday, but in her brief life, Amelia Earhart became a record-breaking female aviator whose international fame improved public acceptance of aviation and paved the way for other women in commercial flight.

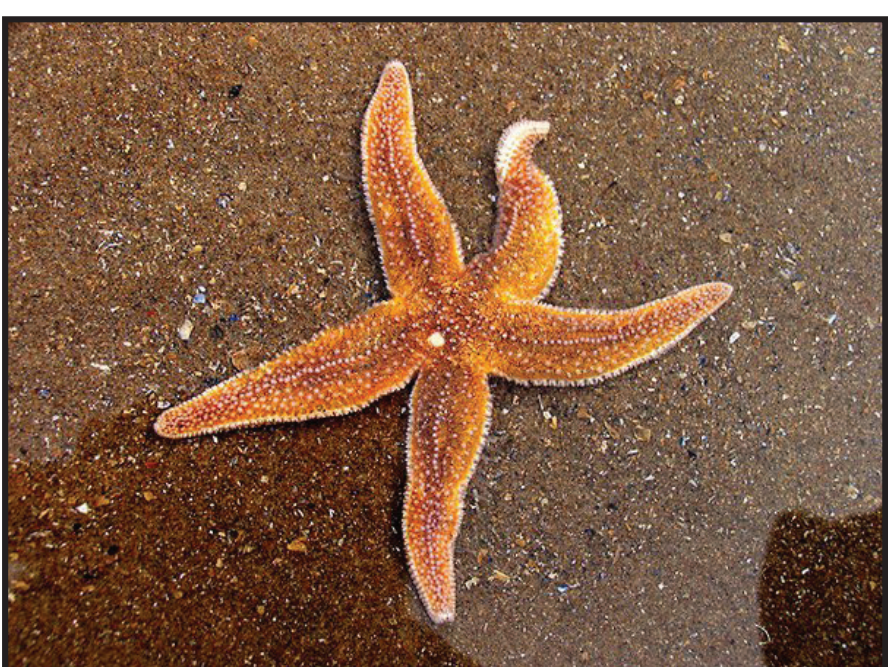
From Bryan's Brain



Batman (Adam West) and Robin (Burt Ward) filming a wall climbing scene for the Original TV series in 1967

Walter's World

Photo Picks From "The Rittman Show"



Starfish can re-grow their arms. In fact, a single arm can regenerate a whole body.

Views From Chautauqua NY: Winter Village at Chautauqua 12/16



Photos by Jon Elder



Attention All Business Owners & Contractors

Are You Interested in Working with the West Valley Demonstration Project Phase 1B Remediation Contract?

We'd like to meet you!

You are invited to a Meet and Greet, Informational Session

Wednesday, January 24, 2024 from 2-6pm at the West Valley Hose Co. Fire Hall, 9081 Route 240 in West Valley, NY 14171, 0049. Sponsored by www.AmericanDND.com

American DND Invites you to take advantage of a casual, informational session to learn about the Project and meet with American DND Representatives. We are reaching out to local, WNY based businesses to help everyone learn about the project and discuss opportunities for being part of the future work onsite.



Business Opportunity: This next prime contract being bid by the US-DOE Environmental Cleanup Program for Phase 1B at the WVDP is estimated to be used for up to 10 years with an estimated budget between \$1B-\$3B depending on final scope and funding allocations.

The next contract affords the opportunity to generate local business opportunities and jobs to sustain economic development in our communities.



The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is seeking a contractor for the continuation of Phase 1B Deactivation and Demolition (D&D) and Soil Remediation activities to be performed at the DOE West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) Site in western New York state. The major elements of scope include, but are not limited to: Removal of the below-grade portion of the Main Plant Process Building (MPPB), Vitriification Facility (VF), Ancillary Support Building, and the remediation of soils within Waste Management Area (WMA)-1; Removal of the Radioactive Waste Water Treatment System, including the lagoons, and remediation of the soils within WMA-2; maintenance of the Remote Handled Waste Facility (RHWF); operation and maintenance (O&M) of the of Reservoir, Spillway & Rail Line; management of the Permeable Treatment Wall (PTW); management of the High Level Waste Canister Interim Storage Facility; management of the Waste Tank Farm; management of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Licensed Disposal Area; Waste Management and handling of nuclear materials; Safeguards and Security (S&S); Environmental, Safety, Health, and Quality Assurance (ESH&QA) requirements and business administration; and day-to-day operations, maintenance, and repair of designated facilities, systems, and equipment. For more information visit: <https://www.emcbc.doe.gov/SEB/WVDP/PHASE1B>.

The West Valley Demonstration Project is a unique operation within the Department of Energy. It came into being through the West Valley Demonstration Project Act of 1980. The Act requires that the Department is responsible for solidifying the high-level waste, disposing of waste created by the solidification, and decommissioning the facilities used in the process. The land and facilities are not owned by the Department. Rather, the project premises are the property of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and represents only 200 acres of the larger Western New York Service Center, which is approximately 3,300 acres, also owned by NYSERDA. After DOE's responsibilities under the Act are complete, the Act requires that the premises be returned to New York State. Until that time, the Act requires New York State to pay 10 percent of the Project costs, and the Department pays the remaining 90 percent.

American DND does not represent the US-DOE. We are simply an existing Contractor onsite who will be participating in the next Solicitation and are looking to ensure the WNY Business Community is aware of the opportunity and the ability to participate in the next Solicitation.

American Demolition and Nuclear Decommissioning Inc. • 866-699-5515 • ADND@AmericanDND.com