

FREE

The Villager

EL LICOTTVILLE • CHAUTAUQUA

Area Events

FAMILY PUBLIC SKATE AT NORTHWEST ARENA
Friday, December 28 • 12pm
Jamestown, NY

ICE BUMPER CARS NORTHWEST ARENA
Sunday, December 28 • 12:30pm
Jamestown, NY

CHRISTMAS WITH THE CRITTERS AT AUDUBON
Friday December 29 • 10am
Little Valley, NY

FREDONIA FARMER'S MARKET
Saturday December 30 • 10am
Fredonia, NY

FAMILY CLAY: PINCH POT CREATURES
Saturday December 30 • 1pm
Jamestown, NY

SLEIGH RIDES AT CHAUTAUQUA
Saturday, December 30 • 1pm
Chautauqua, 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

MOVIES AT THE REG - THE HOLDOVERS
Wednesday January 3 • 7pm
Jamestown, NY

MOVIES AT THE REG - KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON
Wednesday, January 6 • 7pm
Jamestown, NY

SNOWSHOE HIKES AT ASP
Tuesday January 9 • 4:30pm
ASP Salamanca, NY

CHRISTMAS TREE BONFIRE
Saturday, January 20 • 5pm
Ellicottville, 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

BRANTLEY GILBERT AT SENECA ALLEGANY R&C
Saturday, February 10 • 7pm
Salamanca, NY

To advertise your events email:
info@thevillagerny.com
or call 716-699-2058

www.thevillagerny.com

Sneak Peek Inside this Issue...

This Year in Photos ... Photo Page Pg. 16
A Look Back at some Highlights of 2023 in WNY



Holiday Valley Update ... Pg. 5

Annual New Year's Eve Traditions at Holiday Valley

As they have for decades, Holiday Valley Ski Resort in Ellicottville is throwing its very popular family-friendly and fabulous New Year's Eve party, and they would love it if you joined in the fun! It's free to attend, no reservations are required and guests can come and go throughout the evening. "Families have been going to Holiday Valley to ring in the New Year for generations", said Dash Hegeman, Holiday Valley's Director of Marketing. "For many of them, it's a family tradition".

Online Submissions Accepted
www.thevillagerny.com or email info@thevillagerny.com

Reflecting on 2023 in WNY

Businesses Open, Grow & Celebrate Milestones



Ellicottville's Fall Fest featured the first running of the Holiday Valley's (Madi Gras) 6-pack, high speed chairlift ... while visions of groomed hills danced in riders' heads.

By CAROL FISHER-LINN

The year began with a rousing bonfire event at Ellicottville Distillery as they invited people to dispose of their Christmas trees at their annual Ellicottville Tree Burn Party. The party will

again be held January 21, 2024, with the bonfire scheduled for 6pm.

Following in his family's footsteps, Ellicottville Mayor John Burrell reignited knife

SEE "2023" PAGE 9

EVL Village Board: Proposed Dispensary

Native Offerings Farm Organic Produce Business



Native Offerings Farm is located at 8501 Maples Road in Little Valley, NY 14755. You can learn more about them online at nativeofferings.com/wp/ or you can find them on Facebook.

By JEFF MARTIN
THE VILLAGER

Stewart Ritchie of Native Offerings Farm has been highly successful in the organic produce business; now he wants to focus on bringing another cash crop to Ellicottville.

Ritchie approached village council on Dec. 19 at its regular meeting regarding his proposal

to build a cannabis dispensary within the village.

"It's a great opportunity," Ritchie said. "I know this town and the people and feel like it's a second home to me."

Ritchie, who has been growing and selling organic produce and other products on his farm since 1997, said the dispensary

"ORGANIC" Pg. 6

Holiday Movies Filmed in the Area

Buffalo, East Aurora & Ellicottville Often Sought



Filming of "A Christmas in Vermont" (2016): The title is ironically deceiving, as the movie was filmed primarily in Western New York including scenes in Buffalo, Ellicottville and East Aurora. Photo of crew filming at Holiday Valley/John Thomas.

By KATE BARTLETT

Western New York has become a popular destination for film crews, as it has hosted a variety of holiday films over the past decade. Not all have

been holiday, but the backdrop of Buffalo, East Aurora and Ellicottville have proven to be a picturesque backdrop for those perfect Hallmark-esque

SEE "MOVIES" PAGE 10

Unique Boutiques of Ellicottville

A Guide to Our Local Shops



By KATE BARTLETT

The one-of-a-kind boutiques in the heart of Ellicottville offer unique finds for the whole family. From clothing to cigars and socks and essential oils, you are bound to find something to appreciate for the New Year.

Alexandra (10 Washington Street) - A contemporary shop in the Village, Alexandra features gifts for the home, Bath & Body, candles and more. Celebrating 27 years in

business, owner Joan Ess along with her steady sidekicks Lynn Timon and Joann Duke strive for American made and pass very strict standards: "It has to be well made and beautiful to look at." Stop in to Alexandra to browse their beautifully curated selections daily from 11-5pm.

Ava Grace Fashions (22 Monroe Street) - Owner and founder Jessica Gilbert has a passion towards lifting

"SHOP" Pg. 8

Benefit Oishei Hospital

EVL Distillery Hosts 5k New Year's Eve



Join Ellicottville Distillery as they celebrate the last day of 2023 with their annual "Liquor Mile" at on Sunday December 31st. Distillery opens and registration for runners starts at 11am. Run starts at 12pm. It is \$25 a runner to enter the 5k followed by the Liquor Mile which is \$15. \$35 fee if you are planning on doing both the 5K & Liquor Mile. All proceeds will be donated to Oishei Children's hospital. After every quarter of a mile you get a miniature cocktail! 1 mile run + 4 drinks! Fiammata Pizza will also be on site! Live music with Tina Williams from 5pm-8pm. Fireworks at 8pm! For more information, contact 716-801-0086.

Runners take off at 12pm sharp!! It will not be timed and will be partially cross country, weather permitting.

For more information and to pre-register visit ellicottvilledistillery.com

Forte Officially Re-Opened

Iconic Jamestown Restaurant Returns



Seasonal creations include (left to right) winter salad with chicken, the Kobe hot dog and winter burger. The menu is ever evolving to showcase fresh ingredients and to allow for a variety of vegan and vegetarian options as well as accommodate dietary restrictions.

By ABBEY FLAHERTY

Forte Restaurant is officially re-opened and the community is delighted! Located in downtown Jamestown, New York, Forte is a hip bar and restaurant specializing in Southeast Asian street food and eclectic cocktails. The previous owner, Peggy Kaltenmeier, was devoted to creating meals designed with fresh and unique ingredients to mix up the classics. In 2020, she had to make the difficult decision to close the doors at Forte due to many uncontrollable

SEE "FORTE" PAGE 11



Publisher's Word

"Welcoming the New Year Ahead"



Good morning, afternoon or evening. I hope wherever you are, you are comfortable, safe and happy. We have highlighted some of the fun in 2023 and prepared for you a list of some events to mark on the calendar year to come. Each week we strive to fill these pages with happenings and people in our area that will motivate you to get out and inspire you to believe in your community, neighbors and small businesses. I would like to ring in the New Year with a call out to you: *The Villager* is looking for your ideas and thoughts on people and events to feature. If you would like to become a part of the art, please email info@thevillager.com and let us know; the more information we can share, the more fun to be had by all! Also, please take a thoughtful eye on each of our advertisers, it is because of them we are available to you. The more we believe in each other, the stronger we all become. Have a wonderful celebration and make the New Year the best one yet!

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Happy Birthday

Linda Opferbeck-Huffman... December 29th
Noelle Swanson... January 1st • Roslyn Johe... January 3rd
Vivian Swan... January 5th • Joe Clark... January 5th
Becky Colburn... January 8th • Nick Pircio... January 8th
Don Haglund... January 18th • Kayla Good... January 19th
Carson Hoag... January 20th • Conner Callaghan... January 21st
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 • Paul Timkey... February 3rd
Earl Johnson... February 4th • Drew Cerza "Wing King"... February 5th
• Katherine McIntosh... February 5th • Megan Merzac... February 6th • Sarah Bartz Smith... February 6th • Ryan Campbell... February 7th • Jimmy Curtis... February 7th • Sue O'Neil... February 8th

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.

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2024

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6116 Fairview Ln., Great Valley \$350,000	83 Green Valley Estates, Great Valley \$95,000
MULTIPLE LOTS 0 Rte 242, Ellicottville \$89,900-109,900	71 Kent Blvd., Salamanca \$159,000

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EVL Town Board: North Park Innovations

Local Company Hopes to Expand, Add Employment

By JEFF MARTIN
THE VILLAGER

here, good workers.”

Opened in 1980 and originally named Stride Tool, the company, located at 6442 Route 242 East, provides products for HVAC/R, as well as curriculum tools for product-related services and education. It provides design services, as well as manufacturing and shipping, customer service, as well as financial, technical and administrative services.

The addition would be simple, according to Northrup, and involve extending the existing building lengthwise about 10,000 square feet.

Most importantly, the extension will allow the company to increase its workforce from 27 currently to 70 over the next three to five years.

Northrup said this is the first expansion to its current facility since 1995.

The board approved the project and it will be presented to the planning board, after which a public hearing will be held. The area in question would have to be rezoned, according to officials.

Northrup said he doesn't expect any complaints and/or concerns about the expansion.

North Park Innovations took another step forward in expanding its facility.

Lori and Bill Northrup, owners of the plant, appeared before the Ellicottville Town Board on Dec. 20 and requested that they be permitted to expand their building by approximately 10,000 ft. The request may have been a minor one, but it's significant to its owner, Bill.

“We are pretty proud of what we've done,” he said. “This is a great town and there are good people

Career Opportunities in Catt. Co.

One Stop Center for Employers, Businesses and Job Seekers



OLEAN: The schedule of workshops from the Cattaraugus One Stop Career Center for January has now been released. The schedule includes a wide range of set workshops as well as explanations of other programs that the center provides each month.

The One Stop Center's goal is to provide constructive, convenient information to employers, businesses, workers and job seekers in Cattaraugus County. “A highlight of the center is the basic skills assessment tool. Our fully trained One Stop staff offers FREE Basic Skills assessment testing (TABE test) to let you and potential employers know what areas you may

be strong in (or what areas may need brushing up),” stated Larry Knight, the center's interim manager.

Many local employers now require TABE testing prior to consideration for employment. Make sure you allow yourself at least one hour for this assessment. Please call for more information and to sign up for this valuable service.

The orientation/career planning workshops are scheduled for January 4 and 18, both from 9:30am-12pm. This workshop provides an overview of the job search and career development resources and services offered through the One Stop. In addition, it will provide you with an introduction

to the Resource Area.

A computer workshop for beginners is also planned for January 10th from 9:30-11am. You will learn the difference parts of the computer, how to turn it on and off, how to sign on, how to search the internet plus, learn about various resources that are available and much more.

Most services are offered at no cost to the job seeker. The One Stop Career Center is located at 175 North Union Street in downtown Olean with hours 8:30am-4:30pm Monday through Friday. For more information, to register for the workshop, or questions, please call 716-375-2890 or visit online at Cattco.Org/onestop.

Rotary Clubs of Ellicottville and Olean

Played Host to Governor's Official Visit at Dina's in Ellicottville



omment Lynn Westcott. Lynn Westcott spoke on the troubling progression of Alzheimer's disease and the toll this takes on family and friends. She also mentioned progress being made in research on the development of new medications. Lynn then presented Club President Weismantel with a Cutco cutting board for winning the friendly competition with the Olean Club for fundraising this past Fall leading up to the Walk to End Alzheimer's held in Olean. Sandi Chard spoke on the many great causes being performed world-

At a recent meeting held at Dina's restaurant in Ellicottville, the Rotary Clubs of Ellicottville and Olean hosted District Governor Scott Marcin, Rotary Foundation District Executive Director Sandi Chard, and Alzheimer's Association WNY Chapter Executive Director of Devel-

wide and locally from a strong Rotary Foundation and the need to continually raise funds to support these efforts. She then acknowledged Weismantel as becoming both a Paul Harris Society member and a Paul Harris Bequest Society member, as well. Governor Marcin spoke on his own “Rotary moment” leading to joining Rotary and the importance of a strong and vibrant Rotary to the community and World. He presented Olean Club President Paula Bernstein with the Citation Award for accomplishment of 2022 goals and acknowledged the Ellicottville Club for its recent membership attainment which ranked near the top in the District.

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.

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Lot A Bates Road • 7 Rod and Gun Drive #7 • 6323 Moranda Lane

113 S. 19th Street

702 W. Henly Street

18 Deer Crossing Road

206 Court Street • 6143 Route 219 S.

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Report on the Resort

“What I Learned from My Friend Larry”

BY DAN BALKIN

Grace. Humility. Kindness. Gentleness. These are the personal attributes of my long-standing Ellicottville friend Larry - Larry Robinson. Larry taught with us for many years as an instructor at HoliMont. Like most local instructors, Larry was a weekend warrior – but with an interesting twist. In the everyday world, Larry had a consulting business where he worked on enhancing corporate cultures and communication. At HoliMont, we directly benefitted from Larry’s expertise as he helped mold the teamwork and great culture of our Snowsports School.

Larry has also worked at the highest levels of Snowsports instruction. He was retained by PSIA (Professional Ski Instructors of America) to help interview candidates for the prestigious PSIA National Alpine Team – the crème de la crème of ski instructors in the United States.

Larry is a sponge for knowledge. We sometimes taught adult group ski lessons together, and I always felt that although I was one of the instructors, I always learned something interesting from Larry. One day, he told a story that still resonates with me and that I still frequently use while endeavoring to explain “balance” to my ski students.

Larry was attending an out-of-town ski clinic led by a legendary PSIA instructor named Horst Abraham. Horst may not be a household name among the public, but among instructors across the USA, Horst was a skiing demi-god. In 1983, Horst published a book called *Skiing Right*. Dated? Hardly. Here is one modern review from 2021 about the book: “Even 40 years later, this is still the leading book on teaching skiing.”

While still in the chalet, before they started skiing, Horst motioned the instructors in his group to form a circle around him. Horst then proceeded to come up randomly to each group member and, with his open hands, simultaneously pushed on the front of both sides of their shoulders. The push



Larry was retained by PSIA (Professional Ski Instructors of America) to help interview candidates for the prestigious PSIA National Alpine Team – the crème de la crème of ski instructors in the United States.

was firm but calibrated – something we ever achieve by standing in a “perfect” position. We continually adjust our balance, just like we would while walking along a gentle streambed with rocks placed at various angles under our feet. In terms of skiing, however, moving forward on a slippery, inclined slope naturally pushes us backward. What Horst was demonstrating to Larry’s clinic group, what Larry told me, and what I am what I am conveying to you is that balance on skis begins with not being pushed backwards when you move forward on the slope. Bottom Line: While skiing, imagine no one could push you backwards. Ideally, you assume the same “athletic stance” Horst achieved with the instructors by having them resist his shoulder push: Your hands out front, your knees over your toes, and your shoulders over your knees. Horst would not say this is the “perfect” balance position, but he would say it is a very helpful stance to aid your balance while skiing. Larry, my friend, thanks for sharing the Horst Abraham ski lesson – it deserves a wide (and balanced!) audience.



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HoliMont Celebrates Opening Day

Sat., Dec. 23 Members Enjoyed the Beginning of New Season



Opening the season were HoliMont members Dave Turliuk, Julia Turliuk, Sarah Kelly, and Charlotte Brandscome.

Submit Your Stories to The Villager

www.thevillager.com or info@thevillager.com

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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Holiday Valley Update

Annual New Year's Eve Traditions at Holiday Valley

BY BARBARA ARNSTEIN



As they have for decades, Holiday Valley Ski Resort in Ellicottville is throwing its very popular family-friendly and fabulous New Year's Eve party, and they would love it if you joined in the fun! It's free to attend, no reservations are required and guests can come and go throughout the evening. "Families have been going to Holiday Valley to ring in the New Year for generations", said Dash Hegeman, Holiday Valley's Director of Marketing. "For many of them, it's a family tradition".

That's no surprise, because there's so much to enjoy at the annual, exciting party! The highlights include the traditional Torchlight Parade (weather permitting), in which skiers carry glowsticks as they ski and create a stunning sight, and the impressive fireworks display forming an awesome spectacle of color and a crescendo of sound, at midnight.

"Guests twenty-one and over will be given the option to take part in a champagne toast at midnight", Hegeman continued. (Great news: the champagne is free!) DJ Campbell Dawson, who begins playing music in the Main Lodge at 9pm, will continue rocking it

until 12:30am. Earlier in the evening, the T-Bar will be open upstairs in the Main Lodge, and drinks and food specials will be available at the Mountainside Cafe and the Ullr Bar. The snacks that will be for sale will include pretzels, nachos, popcorn, cookies, brownies and chips.

The televisions in the Ullr Bar (named after a Norse god) will be turned to the famous New York City New Year's Eve countdown show, featuring the giant, illuminated ball on a building that descends in the last ten seconds before the new year. Count down with the folks at the Holiday Valley party (hundreds are expected to drop by), the happy thong in Manhattan (and the countless people out there watching the annual show on their screens) as the seconds tick down to the

end of 2023. Kiss a loved one at midnight for good luck in 2024, and wish everyone a Happy New Year. "People visit the Holiday Valley New Year's Eve party to make amazing memories", said the Director of Marketing. "New Year's Eve is the perfect time for families to make happy memories they can talk about for years. We are looking forward to ringing in the new year in style, and we hope you can join us!"

The Holiday Valley Ski Resort is located at 6557 Holiday Valley Road, Route 219, Ellicottville, NY. For more information, go to: info@holidayvalley.com or call (716) 699-2345. For information about the snow and skiing at Holiday Valley, call the Snowphone at (716) 699-2644.

Ellicottville Lights up the Village

Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce Celebrates the Season



ELLICOTTVILLE - Each year as a part of Christmas in Ellicottville, the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce lights up the village with holiday lighting on the streetside trees.

"The project, which began in 2016, has been supported by many donations and from the Chamber's operating budget, and I thought it might be a good time to provide some interesting facts," said Brian McFadden, Executive Director of the Chamber. "Since 2016, we have installed just under 30,000 feet of lights - new

and replacements, which altogether equals 57,000 light bulbs! The average annual cost, with labor, over the 8 years since we started is \$4,500. I must say that in the early years, we did a lot of experimenting with various types of lights and installation methods and we now have a solid plan in place."

McFadden expressed many thanks to the Chamber Board of Directors and sponsors for their amazing dedication to this project. "It's one of our favorites!"

Appreciation is also directed to Eric Dudek, who has spent hundreds of hours

over the years installing the holiday lights. "You've probably seen him out there in the rain, snow or shine, all hours of the day," said McFadden. "Thank you for a great job, Eric!"

As of last year, the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce also took on the additional responsibility of the Ski Tree, providing regular maintenance and care. "It's all part of keeping with the spirit of Ellicottville," said McFadden. "We're all doing our part, and we appreciate all the help we receive to keep Ellicottville joyful, especially during the holiday season."

Your Turn Women's Ski Clinic

Holiday Valley's 10th Annual Clinic, January 24 & 25 2024



Holiday Valley Snowsports School is featuring the 10th annual YOUR TURN women's clinic on Wednesday and Thursday, January 24 and 25, 2024 led by Lisa Ballard, a widely acclaimed coach and ski racer and assisted by several of Holiday Valley's finest women instructors. Intermediate skiers who can ski the blue squares through advanced skiers who want to take their skiing to the next level will benefit from this clinic. The clinic will begin at 8AM with registration and breakfast. Pre-registration is advised as attendance is limited. Questions, call 716-699-3506.





Happy Holidays

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STORY FROM COVER

is a natural business progression for him. No specific site has been determined, however, but it would be within walking distance of the Main Street corridor. The size of the store is about 1,200 square feet, he said after the meeting, and they would sell different flowering strands of various potency, gummies, vape supplies and merchandise.

What’s different, he said, will be its presentation and, most importantly, the product.

The name of the cannabis portion of his business is Rural Resurgence, LLC and unlike many dispensaries in the county, the products sold at his store will be regulated. Inspected by the state, each product will come with a QR code that, when scanned, will tell the consumer the history of the product, its exact ingredients, and its exact levels of potency. Like many, Ritchie has heard the horror stories of people purchasing product at other dispensaries, only to find the potency too much or too little – or, of more concern, product that’s been tainted. A percentage of the product will also be home grown on his farm, he said, with supplemental products being used from other regulated growers.

Ritchie, who is the only legal cannabis grower in Cattaraugus County, said the business would be for adults only. Admission will be regulated: no one under 21 years of age would be permitted to enter, not even to purchase a T-shirt. There will be a trained salesperson on site and cameras inside and out.

“We’re sensitive to what Ellicottville means to a lot



Owners Deb and Stewart of Rural Resurgence and Native Offerings Farm.

of people,” he said. We’re not going to market this to the wake and bake crowd. I think a lot of people will be surprised.”

Future plans for the business include home delivery, he said. If all stays on track, Ritchie said the business could be open by late April.

Board members were receptive to the idea and agreed to work closely with Ritchie to establish the proper zoning adherence as well as proper location.

KATHLEEN MORIARTY, INTERFAITH CAREGIVERS

In other news, Kathleen Moriarty of Interfaith Caregivers of Olean informed the board of her wish to bring an existing medical equipment loan center closer to village seniors.

Moriarty said the success of such a program is already evident in towns like Hamburg, where such a program is fully funded and operated by volunteers and caregivers. Medical durables and senior transportation is provided. Now, Moriarty wants to see that happen in Ellicottville, Great Valley and surrounding areas.

Described as a “satellite location,” the new location would be centrally located

in an unused portion of the Ellicottville Department of Works building, specifically a renovated space in front where the CEO office was. That area is separated from the back half of the building, which would still be used by the village as needed.

The plans have been in discussion for some time, she said. The interfaith board is hoping for a first quarter opening in 2024, provided all goes well.

“It would be a good location,” she told board members. “We know there is a need in Ellicottville among seniors.”

All services and supplies would be free, she said. This is made possible through donations and the Bob McCarthy Foundation.

Interfaith has handled incoming calls and equipment donations from the public in Olean, and that would not change in the Ellicottville office, she said. In fact, it would operate in much the same way – with no effort, or cost, from the village. The satellite office would start modestly, she said, with transportation added in the near future.

More information about the program and ways to volunteer and/or donate can be found online.



BY, GARY MALICKI

I think most people would agree that if you move to a new town you need to adapt and take a chance on patronizing local business. Shortly after moving to the village our son was having car trouble. We wanted to help but it was tricky for him working at Allegany State Park and living in Jamestown. He would have to borrow my vehicle for a few days and asked if I could take him to a local mechanic. I zeroed in on EVL Auto Care.

Being a smart consumer, I checked them out in Google and their reviews were excellent and learned they are a AAA approved service station. I made an appointment, ready to give them a shot.

I wasn’t writing for *The Villager* yet, but I’ve always been in tune with complimenting good customer service. I discovered the ‘I Love Ellicottville NY’ group on Facebook and raved about the experience. I was happy to see all of the positive comments that followed. I had to go back to the shop a second time and they were humbled and grateful for the good words.

No matter where I’ve lived, I have always been a fan of shopping local. You might not think about an auto repair shop fitting into that category but, why not?



The AAA approved service station & shop is run by brothers Greg and Jeremy Krause and office manager Danielle Shea.

Several months went by and, this time, I have a new car that needed an inspection. I called my friends at EVL Auto Care to make an appointment and asked if they wouldn’t mind letting me interview them to add another story to my EVL Village Life experience. They agreed to it.

The shop is run by brothers Greg and Jeremy Krause and office manager Danielle Shea. Jeremy teamed up with Greg, who owns 100% of the business, 8 years ago. Greg took over from a previous boss he was working for and found himself in a position to buy him out. He had previous experience at Emerling Ford and they both had training via BOCES. When Greg started out, he put out the word that he was in need of an office manager.

Enter Danielle. Her mom was a customer and told her about the opening and the rest is history as she rounded out the team. Danielle, a single mother with a teenage son, says she loves her job. She competently takes and organizes appointments and helps to keep the shop together. She greets you in the front office area that also serves as a waiting room

for customers. You’ll find that if you engage her chat while waiting for your car, you’ll find her to be a pleasant conversationalist.

So how did all of this come together? The brothers admit that they have always been “motor heads” and racing enthusiasts. So, this has just been in their blood.

They talked about an uncle who re-built a 1970 AMC Gremlin, remember those? They both loved that car and subsequently, Greg was able to purchase the vehicle.

Asking about their biggest challenges they both agree on two things. One is being able to procure the parts they need to do their job. The other, finding good help. They are looking to add another mechanic to the staff, so if you’re reading this and may be interested I can assure you that you would be working with a couple of really nice guys. I always felt that it’s just as important to have a good mechanic as it is to have a good doctor.

They’re located at 6357 Rt. 242 just outside of the village. EVL Auto Care... good work, no frills and another story I was eager to share as part of my EVL Village Life.

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Photo/Allegany State Park Facebook page

NEW YEAR'S EVE BIKE RIDE

New Gear's Eve Bike Ride begins at Camp Allegany on December 31, 2023 at 6pm, with the ride starting at 6:30pm. Grab your bike and some friends to join Park staff and WNYMBA members for the last ride of the year. Bring lights, wear warm and reflective gear and a helmet. Participants may be split into different paced groups, if necessary. No one will be left behind. There will be a social to follow the ride in the Mess Hall at Camp Allegany. Bring your own snacks. Questions: Call the Environmental Education Department (716) 379-6939.

SNOWSHOE HIKES THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

Join ASP every Tuesday evening at 4:30pm for a trek into the sunset at Allegany State Park. Beginning January 9, Park Naturalists will lead interpretive snowshoe treks, weather depending, or hikes if there is not enough snow. Witness a breath-taking winter sunset, visit a secret beaver pond or hike along a creek. Meeting places and hikes will vary. See schedule below. Be sure to dress for the weather, bring a flashlight, water, a snack, and a sense of adventure. Do you need snow shoes? No problem. We have several pairs to rent for FREE! Please call to reserve snowshoes

by noon the day of each hike. For more information contact the Environmental Education/Recreation Department at 716-354-6263.

FAT BIKE RIDES

Meet other fat bike enthusiasts at these Friday night fun rides. Fridays, January 19, February 16, and March 15 at 6:30pm, with the rides starting at 6:45pm. Bring warm clothes, a helmet, a head light, and sense of adventure. Check in will be at Camp Allegany in January and February and the Red House Administration Building on March 15th.

For more information on all events visit the Allegany State Park Facebook site.



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Pictured (l to r): Alexandra, Ava Grace Fashions, Daff Dry Goods, Gado Gado - below, (l to r): GI Threads, Kazoo II, Natures Remedy, Purple Doorknob

Shop

CONT. FROM COVER

up women and a commitment towards bringing customers a friendly experience and stylish clothing at affordable prices. Ava Grace Fashions customers enjoy the hands-on-experience based products now available in-store including permanent and custom jewelry. Make a necklace or token with your word using a hammer to imprint your intention or sit at the Make-It-Station to create a custom jewelry or drinkware item. Sit the kids at the craft station where affordable crafts are available to keep the kiddos busy while parents shop. Lastly, check out the formula of the month at the Essential Oil table; supplies & recipes for sprays and rollers to enjoy

fragrance and be creative are set up for a true hands-on experience. With a large online shop, Jessica actively posts new styles on IG, Facebook and has a VIP Gals Facebook group. Ava Grace also offers drop off/pick up laundry services call to start that process and an Air B&B onsite.

Daff Dry Goods (17 Washington Street) – Established in 1997, owner Laura Solly combines her love for the outdoors and casual living with top brand merchandise with a western flair. Brands include Patagonia, Pendleton, Brighton, True Grit, Blundstone and more. They offer a range of apparel for men, women and children as well as home good and jewelry. At Daff, they strive to be the perfect post-adventure shopping destination for any outdoor enthusiast.

Gado Gado (26 Monroe Street) – A women's boutique

beautiful and unique finds for the upbeat, fearless and global woman seeking her individualized style. Suzanne Roberts opened this shop 26 years ago in order to make globally diverse style accessible to the everyday women. The shop offers women's clothing, accessories and a unique selection of gifts that are purchased through small businesses and fair trade as often as possible.

GI Threads (20 Washington Street) – Recently opened in 2020, GI Threads is a women's clothing and gift boutique that offers effortless and trendy pieces for everyone. Favorite brands include Free People, Barefoot Dreams, Z supply, Dolce Vita, Steve Madden, Nordic Beach, Dr. Squatch Soap and many more. Stop in for a fresh, fun shopping experience and leave with a trendy new piece.

Good for the Spirit Gifts (11 Martha Street)

– Ellicottville's spiritual gem, Good for the Spirit Gifts is a spiritual gift shop opened by international presenter, energy healer, and astrologer Suzy Woo in 2020. Inventory includes everything for spiritual wellness such as crystals, crystal carvings, divination tools including oracle and tarot cards, books, sound healing tools, artisan soaps, intention candles, essential oils, crystal jewelry and more. Suzy is also available for energy healing and readings in her private practice attached to the shop. Explore their extensive online collections, WooHoo Wednesday sales on FB and IG to discover a spiritual side of yourself.

Kazoo II (21 Washington Street) – Located in the heart of the Village, Kazoo II carries a beautiful selection of eclectic gifts, home décor, folk art, books, jewelry, Americana and American

Southwest items and a back room filled with timeless toys and treasures. Owner Arlene Solly intentionally and mindfully selects every item in her store, and collects pieces for her shop in her travels. Most unique are her authentic selections of turquoise jewelry from Native American villages in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Nature's Remedy (26 Monroe Street) – This natural market and wellness center offers a full line of foods and natural healing products including herbs, vitamins, minerals, books, teas, aromatherapy and more. Owner Gretchen Mendell is committed to providing the highest quality natural and organic whole foods and supplements available. Since 1994, the shop strives to empower individuals to sustained wellness through a holistic approach. Their Holistic Center offers certified herbalists and wellness coaches offering

detox foot spas, chi machine, whole body cleansing reflexology and more.

Purple Doorknob (11 Washington Street) – A whimsical, vibrant sock shop with something for everyone! From fun, spirited socks to reflect your style, to athletic socks for competitive athletes, The Purple Doorknob has over 2,000 different sock designs. You'll be greeted by their famously purple building, friendly staff and an organized curation of socks from floor to ceiling men, women, children, holiday, athletics. Shop online and in store daily.

She Shed, He Shed (22 Washington Street) – Stocked with carefully selected pieces to complete an escape for men and women alike. Owner Susan Barzya's mission is to create a unique

SEE "SHOP", Pg. 14



Pictured (l to r): GI Threads, Kazoo II, Nature's Remedy, Purple Doorknob, She Shed, He Shed

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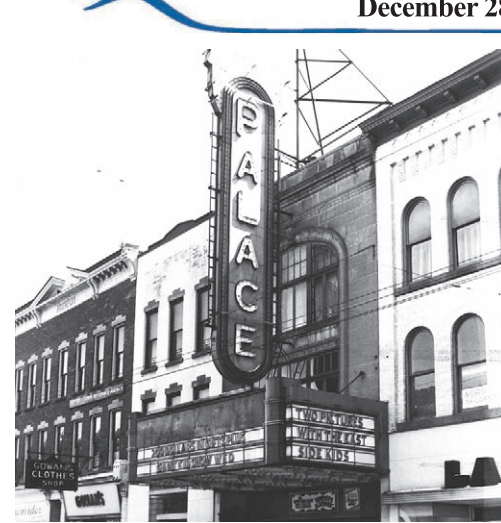



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Pictured (l to r): John Burrell in his shop on Maybee Alley, Basecamp Tiny Cabins, The Reg Lenna Civic Center celebrates 100 year anniversary, Ellicottville's Mardi Gras celebrated 32nd year

2023

CONT. FROM COVER

making in his little shop on Maybee Alley. He calls it Top Flight Early American Cutlery in recognition of a trademark obtained by his grandparents for straightedged razors in 1940. This was the year they started their business after first working to help the Case family expand their own knife business.

So bitty. So convenient. Almost like a fairy tale setting. Basecamp Tiny Cabins opened for guests at the base of HoliMont, a short walk to the village and minutes from Holiday Valley. It is simply an enchanting place to stay in our beautiful story-book village.

The Reg Lenna Civic Center in Jamestown

began celebrating its 100th year anniversary. The theater was first opened on February 5, 1923 as the Palace Theatre, a "High Class Vaudeville" house. When the last movie was shown in 1981 folks thought the building was done for. But, in 1990 it was renamed and restored. Reg Lenna Civic Center is now a state-of-the-art performance space; which retains all of the unique design qualities it originally had.

The Mardi Gras parade celebrated its 32nd year on the streets of Ellicottville. Who ever thought that a nighttime, winter parade on a main street could be a success? Punxsutawney Phil must because he shows up often to serve as Master of ceremonies!

The See-Zuhr House restaurant at Bemus Point re-opened under new ownership. Balloons

Restaurant expanded their brand into Hornell, NY. Ellicottville's Madigan's got a facelift.

A traditional longhouse of the Iroquois Confederacy was built and dedicated at the Seneca Iroquois National Museum in Salamanca. The longhouse was the center of life for Seneca families and its clans for centuries, and now visitors can experience it first-hand.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church joyously celebrated its 100th year anniversary with events throughout the year. This summer they gave themselves and the community a lovely, covered gazebo on the church grounds as an anniversary gift.

An ice cream shop came to Ashford Junction in the old Ashford Junction Country Store and Diner. Bonus: They have an ice cream truck to rent out for

special occasions. In Great Valley, Twists and Scoops has Perry's ice cream in a skazillion flavors, plus, surprise, it's a restaurant offering a home-made menu.

At HoliMont, you will find WNY's first outdoor area to offer lift-access mountain biking and hiking throughout the warmer months. The Good Climb, a Mind and Body 5-Hour endurance challenge returned to HoliMont in late summer. The private ski club has turned into a year-round adventure park.

Randolph's 12,000+ year old Mammoth tusks and head finally returned to be kept indefinitely in the Randolph library. The Woolly Mammoth was unearthed in 1934 when workers were clearing earth for the Randolph fish hatchery. Since then, it has travelled to various museums until finally

coming home to stay.

EVGV Recreation Trail going north to Springville and south to Great Valley/Salamanca is moving forward. The EVGV Trail Committee is dedicated to building a system of walking, biking and cross-country trails linking Ellicottville and Great Valley totaling 15 miles. Can't wait!

The three-year fundraising and construction project of the Ellicottville Skatepark Committee finally had its grand opening in June. Now known as the New Car Dealers of WNY Ellicottville Skatepark located in the Ellicottville Town Park, it is free and open to the public.

Chad Neal built a scaled down version of a golf course - Bigfoot Park - (destined to have 18-holes) in the meadow next to the Ellicottville Distillery.

Plans are afoot for an all-

inclusive playground in Ellicottville at the Town Park. Stay tuned for future announcements.

Summer and fall months of summer events and festivals: Marathons and half-marathons, Rock 'n Roll Festival (25th) Farmer's Markets, Music, Arts, Comedy, Food, Celtic, Bluegrass, Wing, Wild America, Griffis Park Festival, Ellicottville's Summer Festival, and a rare chance to see The Gooseneck Waterfowl Sanctuary in Delevan during their annual open house.

The Gin Mill's regular entertainer for over forty years, Joe Wagner, retired. He will be missed. Lily Dale, The World's Largest Center for the Science, Philosophy and the Religion of Spiritualism" opened this past season

SEE "2023", Pg. 15



Pictured (l to r): HoliMont Began to Offer Lift Access to Mountain Biking, Randolph's 12,000+ year old Mammoth tusks and head returned, The Gin Mill's regular entertainer for over 40 years, Joe Wagner retired, Bigfoot Park Golf Course opens at Ellicottville Distillery

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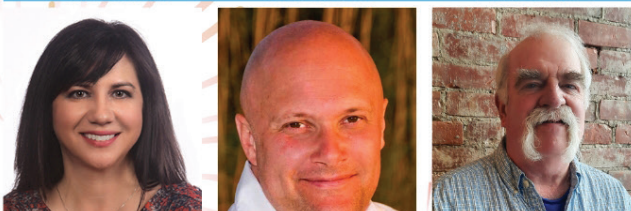
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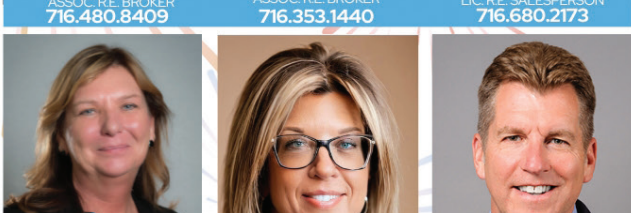
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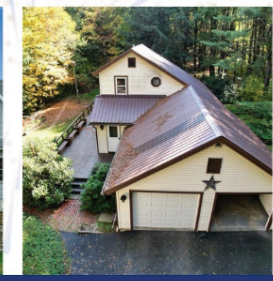
6856 LESLIE RD
CATHY PRITCHARD | \$1,995,000



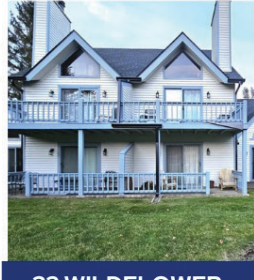
5033 ROSCYK HILL
GREG SPAKO | \$1,220,000



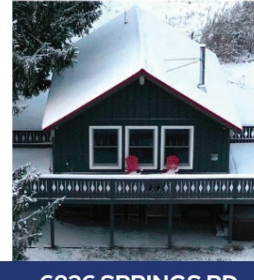
4488 COURTNEY HIGHLAND DR
ANJANETTE NICOLAZZO | \$589,900



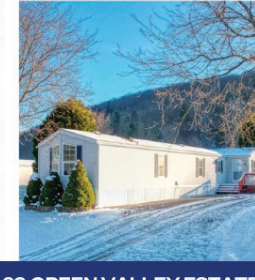
6116 FAIRVIEW LN
AMY DETINE | \$350,000



32 WILDFLOWER
CATHY PRITCHARD | \$234,900



6826 SPRINGS RD
MELANIE PRITCHARD | \$450,000



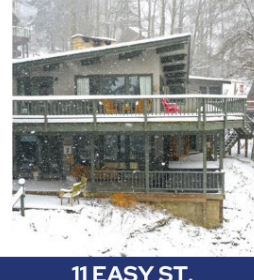
83 GREEN VALLEY ESTATES
AMY DETINE | \$95,000



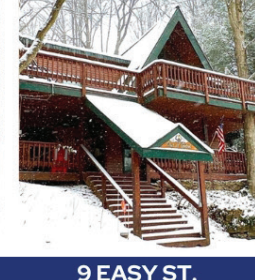
26 GLEN BURN
MELANIE PRITCHARD | \$600,000



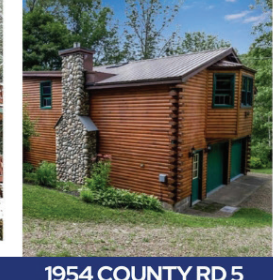
71 KENT BLVD.
AMY DETINE | \$159,000



11 EASY ST.
CATHY PRITCHARD | \$995,000



9 EASY ST.
CATHY PRITCHARD | \$1,285,000



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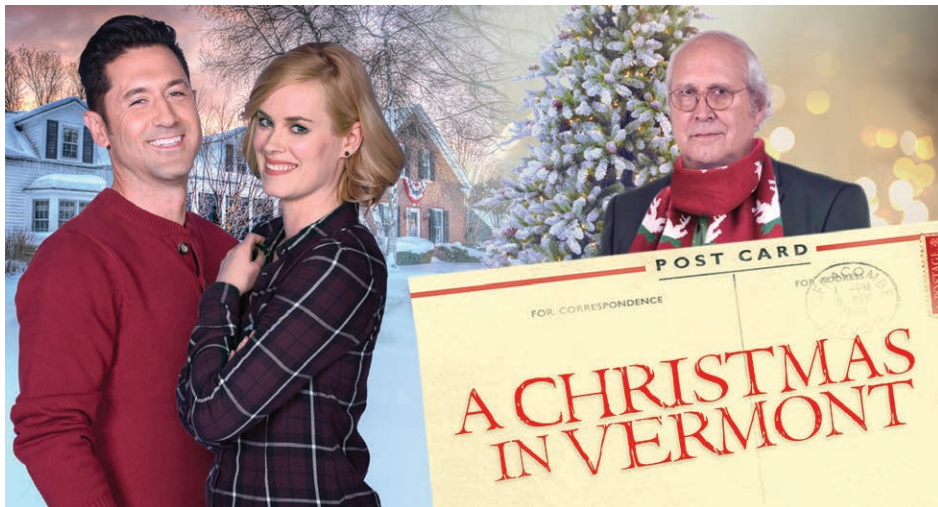
Mayville NY Embraces the Season

Mayville Winter Festival Preparations Underway for February

The annual Mayville Winter Festival is scheduled for Presidents Day Weekend, February 16-18, 2024, and there's room for all to participate! This year the organizing committee is working to create a unique vendor experience that will enhance the event for both vendors and attendees. All of the vendors will be in one easy to find location under a large heated tent, so visitors will be more likely to see all the merchandise in one place rather than having it spread out in several locations across the wide expanse of Lakeside Park. Weather permitting, the Mayville Winter Festival is headlined by the construction of a large ice castle since there was not enough ice on the lake, but some years there was no castle at all due to the weather conditions. As a result, the committee is working to create some energy around the festival regardless of the weather. This new way to promote local vendors is part of that effort.



All who are interested in being a vendor, food provider, or sponsor for the 2024 Mayville Winter Festival can sign up online through the Chamber's web calendar. If you have questions, please reach out to Coordinator Shannon Biekarck at (716) 484-1101 ext. 208 or email her at sbiekarck@chqchamber.org. The next planning session for the Mayville Winter Festival will be held at 6:30pm, January 3 in the Carlson Community Center at Lakeside Park. Volunteers are encouraged to participate.



"A Christmas in Vermont", partially filmed in Ellicottville premiered on ION TV. They were in Ellicottville filming and they used The Jefferson Inn as well as the Village for some outside scenes.

Movies

CONT. FROM COVER

movies. So, sit back, relax, and enjoy these WNY based movies.

"A Christmas in Vermont" (2016): The title is ironically deceiving, as the movie was filmed primarily in Western New York including scenes in Buffalo, Ellicottville and East Aurora. The movie features Chevy Chase as an executive who must liquidate a small-town clothing store at Christmastime. Featured locations include Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, Holiday Valley, and Main Street in East Aurora. In the trailer you can spot a clock that says "Ellicottville" and the main shops in East Aurora.

"A Christmas Princess" (2011): Filming locations include downtown Buffalo and East Aurora. In the trailer, you can see glimpses of the old Mighty Taco on Chippewa in Buffalo, Hotel Lafayette, The Black Sheep and the Brisbane Building. The main character, Jessica, is a struggling chef living in a trendy New York borough, but if you look closely you

just might find some other buffalo landmarks!

"A Prince for Christmas" (2015): Under the direction of Fred Olen Ray, the movie features Vidler's 5 & 10 in East Aurora as well as many other WNY attractions including the Park Country Club, Attica and Arcade Railroad, Old Orchard Inn, Elma Meadows and other locations around East Aurora. The plot of this movie features a European prince who is attempting to escape an arranged marriage. He flees to the United States where he meets a struggling young waitress who just might be his one true love.

"A Royal Christmas Holiday" premiered on The Great American Family Channel on December 23, 2023. It was filmed entirely in Buffalo, NY, and viewers will recognize several area landmarks, including the USS The Sullivans. The plot follows the paths of a determined journalist in search of a significant breakthrough and a spontaneous prince assigned to New York City. They meet unexpectedly during the Holidays, and discover that love matters the most on Christmas Eve.

"A Royal Christmas On Ice" (2022) – One of the

most recent movies to be filmed in East Aurora and features many scenes at Vidler's 5 & 10, including Don Vidler himself. The plot follows a dashing prince looking to escape his Royal life. He flees to the United States to start a business in a small town in upstate New York, and winds up falling for a former Olympic Ice Skater.

"A Royal Christmas Engagement" (2020)- Also filmed in East Aurora directed by Fred Olen Ray. In this made-for-television movie, a hard-working advertising executive falls for a consultant, who is actually a prince disguised as a commoner.

Fred Olen Ray enjoys filming in Western New York, and appreciates the offerings here that you cannot find in Los Angeles, where he lives for most of the year. He has returned to film in Buffalo again and again, relying on many in the Buffalo-area film production professionals.

As you stroll the streets of Buffalo, East Aurora, Ellicottville and the like, don't forget that these streets may have been, or soon will be, on the big screen. Our local streets have a lot to offer, so be sure to appreciate their charm.

Doors Open Jamestown

Doors Open Jamestown set for February 3, 2024



Doors Open Jamestown will return February 3, 2024, with a number of Jamestown area museums and attractions participating. The list of venues is not complete yet, but will be finalized in early January. In the meantime, save the date for Saturday, February 3 and be prepared for a terrific FREE day at numerous local attractions.

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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CHQ. Chamber Spotlight: Music for Your Mouth

Farm to Table Ingredients, Homemade Recipes from Scratch

By Darlene Brace

"A Dining Experience that will Make your Taste Buds Sing...."

This week's Chamber Spotlight is a restaurant called Music for your Mouth. This restaurant is owned by Karen and Al Simmons and is located at 21 S. Erie Street in Mayville. Karen Simmons is originally from Pennsylvania and is a musician. She plays the violin and gives music lessons. Her husband, Al Simmons, has been in the military, and he likes to cook, and he often cooked for his platoon while stationed in Iraq. Karen often thought about owning a coffee shop and incorporating her music there, as she thought it would be a unique business opportunity. After a coffee shop opportunity fell through, together Karen and Al decided they wanted to open a restaurant.

One day while in Mayville, the area reminded Karen of her hometown. They decided that Mayville would be a great place for their new business adventure. In March of 2022, Karen and Al opened their restaurant and named it Music for your Mouth. At first, the restaurant was a breakfast and lunch place, that included a high-end coffee shop. It was very successful, and soon customers, family, and friends encouraged Al and Karen to expand their business. They decided to become a full-service restaurant that serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner along with a full bar.

Karen and Al decided to buy supplies they needed from other local area small



Along with their incredible menu, Music for your Mouth often has a variety of live music that performs at various times throughout the week. Often, solo artists or duos come and play their instruments and sing during the dinner hours.

businesses. All their food is from farm to table, and it is all homemade from scratch. They decided to hire a professional chef to join Al in preparing the food. Their chef's name is Erik Alicea. Erik is a certified culinary chef. Previously Erik had worked as a chef for the Pittsburgh Steelers. Karen said, "Together Chef Erik and Al make magic happen in the kitchen."

This magic comes together in the food they prepare and offer on their menu. They have created a diverse menu of food that is sure to please your palate throughout the day. You can start your morning off with a made to order breakfast or omelet. For lunch they have artisan sandwiches, wraps, signature flatbread pizzas as well as soups and salads. The dinner menu includes a variety of delicious entrees including beef, chicken, seafood, pastas and more. They also have many gluten free and vegan options.

Along with their incredible menu, Music for your

Mouth often has a variety of live music that performs at various times throughout the week. Often, solo artists or duos come and play their instruments and sing during the dinner hours. Sometimes Karen's friends, colleagues, or students come in to play. If you are lucky, Karen may even accompany them.

When Karen was asked to describe their restaurant, she said, "Our restaurant is a comfortable space for the community to gather, to share great food, and to visit. It's not just the food, it's a dining experience. You could say our logo is that we offer a dining experience to make your taste buds sing. We pride ourselves in that people come in as customers and leave as friends."

As a special event this weekend, Music for your Mouth will be hosting a New Year's Eve Party. There will be a seven-course gourmet dinner,

"MAYVILLE", CONT. Rt.

Forte

STORY FROM COVER

situations. In time, she was ready to approach new owners and sought after the talent of those that ran the 2 Ames restaurant at Chautauqua Institution.

Danny Borg-Sundstrom and Greg Alpert took over Forte, seeing the restaurant as an extension of 2 Ames that would be open year-round. In taking over the space they updated the decor to provide a fun and innovative food and beverage culinary experience. The menu is ever evolving to showcase fresh ingredients and to allow for a variety of vegan and vegetarian options as well as accommodate dietary restrictions. In addition to their full menu, sushi will be back every Wednesday and Tuesdays are for tacos featuring a menu that will change slightly each week. Most recently featured



New owners of Forte, Danny Borg-Sundstrom (right) and Greg Alpert see the restaurant as an extension of their restaurant in The Chautauqua Institution, 2 Ames, that would be open year-round.

have been the shrimp and cabbage, steak tenderloin and vegetable tacos. In addition to the amazing cuisine, the bar has a plethora of craft cocktails, an extensive wine and beer list, and many innovative mocktails.

What an exciting restaurant to choose for your New Year's Eve celebration! Forte will be featuring a tasting

event with sushi by Kyle, seafood, and A-5 Wagyu. There will be two seatings at 5pm and 8pm and tickets are \$75. Reservations can be made online at: www.exploretock.com/forte-jamestown.

Contact information for Forte restaurant is located at 114 East 3rd Street in Jamestown, New York 14701, and can be reached by calling 716-489-8284.

Mayville

CONT. FROM LEFT

with wine pairing from 6pm-10pm and a dinner reservation is required. Following dinner, there will be an after-dinner party, but reservations are not required. There will be music by Mike Gerholdt starting at 8pm and a champagne toast at midnight. For reservations call 716-224-1035.

Music for your Mouth has been hosting a once a month Travel the World dinner series. At this dinner series, the restaurant features the cuisine of different locations around the world. In the past, they have featured food from Japan, Germany, India, France, Italy, and Scandinavia to name a few.



Music for your Mouth has been hosting a once a month Travel the World dinner series.

In the future, they're hoping to continue the Travel the World dinners as well as a Traveling Around the USA series.

Music for your Mouth is currently open for winter hours, Monday - Saturday, 9am-2pm for breakfast and lunch, and 4pm-7:30pm

for dinner and closed on Sundays. For their menu and more information go to music4yourmouth.com and their Facebook page. The Simmons invite you to come in and check out their restaurant with its high-quality food and unique atmosphere.



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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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“The Winter’s Tale”



WEEKLY SYNOPSIS
By BARBARA ARNSTEIN

kingdom where his former buddy rules. The girl is abandoned but soon found and adopted by a shepherd and his son. They find with her a container of gold and a note about her background. They’re thrilled about the treasure, and they hang onto the note, but neither of them can read.

The king puts his wife on trial. Even though the Oracle’s response («Your wife’s loyal, your friend and former helper are blameless and you’re nuts»), arrives during the trial, he refuses to accept it. The last part of the message is: unless his daughter returns, there will be no heir to your kingdom. At the trial, the king and queen learn their son has died and the queen collapses. She’s carried out, and he’s told she’s died, too. He thinks Apollo’s furious at him for not accepting the message, and this jolts him into sanity. But he can’t retrieve his daughter because the guy who took her away was eaten by a bear, and the ship he sailed in, sank. The king goes into mourning.

The second act takes place sixteen years later. The princess, who doesn’t know she’s a princess, is being courted by a shepherd, who does know he’s a prince, at the springtime sheep-shearing festival, where there’s lots of singing and dancing. He proposes, and everything seems terrific until the prince’s dad (the king who fled back to his country), who’s been sneaking around in disguise at the festival, suddenly reveals himself. He tells his son if he marries a non-princess, he’ll disinherit him! After he leaves, someone suggests the newly-engaged couple head for

the neighboring kingdom (where she was born), where they’ll be royally received if the prince says he was sent with greetings from his father. They do, he does and they are.

The shepherd and his son also get there when they do, bringing the proof she’s the princess, thanks to an improbable plot twist, one of many in the play. Her father is ecstatic that she’s alive, and so is the other king, who’s there when he gets the news because he pursued his son. The two friends reconcile, and rejoice that their children are engaged. The men who raised her are rewarded. The woman who brought the king his baby tells them she’s just had a statue made of the deceased queen and they all go to see it. It turns out «when the statue comes to life» that the queen’s somehow survived all those years, and her husband, daughter and about-to-be son-in-law joyously greet one another.

Shakespeare gives no explanation about how she faked her death and where exactly she’s been hiding all that time (but we can guess). The best explanation for his lack of explaining comes from the days when magazines serialized chapters of novels. One time, readers of a magazine were scandalized when one chapter ended with the hero and heroine having supper together, and the next one began with them eating breakfast together. When outraged readers wrote in to complain this implied they’d spent the night together, the editor simply responded, “We are not responsible for what characters do between installments”.

Chautauqua County Weekly Calendar

Ring in 2024 in Chautauqua County

By DARLENE BRACE

Enjoy the champagne and dance into 2024.

In Mayville, NY get ready for the New Year’s Eve Party at Chautauqua Suites in the Bellini Lounge. There will be dinner specials from 4pm-9pm. Then Miranda and the Line will be entertaining you from 9:30pm-12:30am. Call 716-269-7829 for dinner pricing and reservations, as well as overnight accommodations.

The Celeron Legion is having its New Year’s Eve Celebration starting at 9pm. They will be having a prime rib buffet for 35\$ per person. Come listen to rock and country music by Chaotic Smoke, which includes former members from local bands Total Chaos and Smokehouse.

Peek ‘n Peak in Clymer, NY will ring in the new year with a variety of activities and entertainment starting at 1pm. From 5pm-9:30pm there will be a prime rib buffet in their Bistro 210. Then enjoy your evening waiting for the ball to drop with music by DJ Sound Investment starting at 9pm. There will be a complimentary champagne toast at midnight. Call 716-355-4141 for information on all the activities as well as pricing for dinner and/or overnight accommodations.

The Chautauqua Harbor Hotel in Celeron, NY will be having a New Year’s Eve Disco Party for overnight guests. Guests attending this event will be spoiled with a package that will include your room accommodations

and a bottle of champagne in your room. It will include a cocktail reception from 7pm-8pm, followed by an exquisite dinner at 8pm. After dinner there will be music and dancing from 8:30pm-12:30am. Also included in your package will be four additional hours of open bar, a champagne toast at midnight, and hats and noise makers. In the morning a huge breakfast buffet is also included. For more information or to make reservations call 716-489-2800.

The Spot on the Lake Bar and Grill in Dunkirk will be having its New Year’s Eve Party. It will start at 9pm and the bar will stay open until 4am. There will be drink specials and food by Arly & Izzy. Join in the fun and enjoy the music played by DJ KT Stylez late into the night.

Ring in the New Year at Music for your Mouth in Mayville, NY (see story, page X). There will be a seven-course gourmet dinner, with wine pairing from 6pm-10pm. This seven-course dinner is \$100 per person and dinner reservations are required. The after party continues from 10pm to 1am with live music by Mike Gerholdt starting at 8pm. No reservation needed for the after party and it will have a cash bar. There will be a champagne toast at midnight. Call (716) 224-1035 for reservations.

Whatever you decide to do for New Years Eve, stay safe and have a nice evening ringing in the New Year. May 2024 bring you all that you are hoping for.

If you want to get an early start on ringing in 2024, go to Lakewood to Group Ther-Happy’s New Year’s Eve Party on December 30. They will have a prime rib dinner served with langostino pasta and a glass of prosecco for \$59 per person. Enjoy musical entertainment by Tyler McClain from 8pm-11pm. Call 716-526-1067 for reservations.

NEW YEAR’S EVE EVENTS

If you are looking for a fun and unique way to ring in the new year, go to the Crystal Ballroom in Jamestown for the Countdown to 24 Masquerade Party. It starts at 9pm, and it is a 21 and older only event. Dress for this event is business casual to semi formal. It is 29\$ per person and there will be a cash bar. Hors d’oeuvres will be included with admission. There will be a photo backdrop and a 50/50 drawing. DJ Payne will be playing the tunes and maybe you will dance the night away. Be ready to watch the ball drop with your friends and family, as this event is open to the public. Don’t forget your mask to keep everyone guessing who you are. Purchase tickets at <https://bit.ly/nyemasquerade24>.

In Silver Creek, NY there will be a New Year’s Eve Party at the Silver Creek Fireman’s Club. The party starts at 8pm. Rockabilly Steve and BR3 will perform.

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By, MOUTH SAY TONGUE

The Stones to The Clash. Try the Carriage House Sidebar for some craft cocktails made with high end spirits.

FTR keeps the party going with Fritz the Kat from 8-11pm. Fritz plays a folk/swing/pop set of songs and tells a few jokes to entertain.

Last but not least, Madigans hosts Dj SI from 9-2am. He'll provide the thumpin for the bumpin in the window on Washington.

SATURDAY

First out of the gate is The Gin Mill with the return of The Chillbillys from 2-5pm. The late band is Marshmallow Overcoat from 8-12am. This band plays covers and originals reflecting the British sound of the 60's and 70's. Try some of the 37 beer that are always on tap.

Balloons is back with Jeff Fetterman from 6:30-10pm. This Erie band tours nationally and plays blues/rock covers and originals. The back bar will host Tina Williams from 10-1am. She plays a rock/pop/blues/folk/alt set of covers and originals. Dj KT Stylez will play some funk so you can shake your junk from 10-2am.

Madigans brings back Dj SI who will provide the groove so you bust a move from 9-2 am. Let The A-Team serve up one of those cocktails with the little umbrellas on top.

SUNDAY

Balloons is back with a full night of music starting with We R 3 from 6:30-10pm. This trio plays a rock/pop/alt/blues/folk set of covers. Nico Zarcone

returns to the back bar from 10-1am. Dj Kage will rock the sound booth and count down the New Year from 10-2am.

The Gin Mill hosts West from 8-12am. This band plays a rock/blues/pop/country set of covers. Ring in the New Year with those 37 beers on tap.

FTR is back with Iron Eyes Experience from 9-12:30am. This band plays blues/rock covers with some slick guitar solos.

Monday is String and Wings at Balloons from 4-10pm. 50 cent wings with a fine selection of craft beer to wash them down. This weeks host is Jim Ronan from 6-9pm. Jim plays a rock/pop/jazz/soul set of covers.

The Gin Mill hosts Joe Wagner and Company, Monday, from 7-11pm. Joe plays all your folk/pop/blues songs that you know the words to.

Tuesday The Gin Mill returns for The Hick Ups from 7-10 pm. This group of seasoned musicians from several local bands have been playing roots music together for over 10 years.

The Gin Mill is where we've ended the seven day weekend for the last 40 years on Wing, Wednesday from 7-10pm. Brian Rick is your host for the evening. He plays a rock/folk/roots/pop set of covers

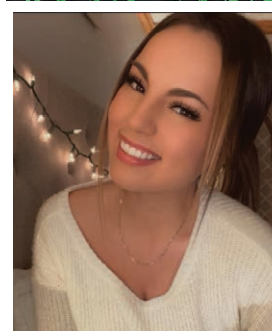
We hope you enjoyed your time in our village and you spread the word and return often but whenever you are PLEASE, ALWAYS SUPPORT LIVE MUSIC!!!!!!

Beat on the Street:

“What Do You Think was the Most Memorable Thing About 2023?”

By CHAD NEAL

It is that calendar time of year again where we celebrate the addition of a number to the year we just completed. It is always a joyful time of year as well and we find ourselves celebrating a lot. The media and pop culture tittle-tattle from the previous 365 days let's us know what happened in the world of news and fame, but we have our own stories for the past revolution around the sun. We notice our own life's nuances and local lore as we are also inundated with the world's prattle as well, especially when the calendar is culminating, the time we hang up a new one and prepare to toss the old paper one. Baby New Year has grown old once again and will reincarnate anew as we discuss the year we just finished. What do you think was the most memorable thing about 2023?



Kayli A.- Starting my Saged Grey business!



Michaela P.- I mean personally I would say my cute little accidental daughter, but in the real world, there has literally been something chaotic every single month of the year how are we supposed to pick just one?!



Noehah K.- Joining my Madigan's fam!



Marra S.- Losing 75 lbs in 2023!



Joe L.- The Canadian smoke!



Jared H.- Cali sober 2023... almost 8 1/2 months!

Do You Have a Suggested Question for Beat on the Street?

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EL LICOTTVILLE • CHAUTAUQUA

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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!**

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

Last Week's Puzzle:

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

Shop

CONT. FROM PG. 8

shopping experience with items for self-care, gifts, pampering and fun that complement the many unique experiences here in Ellicottville. Curated items include lotions, blankets, drinkware, jewelry, booze infusions, and the areas only Cigar Shop with complimentary new cigar smoking lounge, "Cygaro" at 32 Washington Street. Susan loves Ellicottville, and wants to help shoppers

elevate their experience here through items in her shop.

The Old West Co. (18 Washington Street) – A fashion forward western shop geared towards modern-day style for women and men. Fashions include cowboy boots for women, a smaller selection for men, in addition to western-style shorts, skirts, t-shirts, dresses and more. The shop features a hat bar that allows shoppers to personalize their own cowboy hat with different accessories including bands, features, dried

flowers and branding irons to imprint initials of different symbol brands Old West is slowly adding jewelry, wallets, and other accessories to their inventory.

Watson's Chocolates (27 Washington Street) – Chocolatiers to the slopes since 1946, family owned and operated Watson's carries classic gifts for any sweet tooth. Best known for their sponge candy, Watson's also carries truffles, turtles, fudge and gift box chocolates. Stop in to satisfy your chocolate craving!

United Way Community Impact Manager

United Way of Southern Chautauqua Makes New Hire

United Way of Southern Chautauqua County is pleased to announce the hiring of Eric Rinaldo as its new Community Impact Manager.

"We are thrilled that Eric has joined our team here at United Way," said Amy Rohler, UWSCC Executive Director. "His leadership experience and technical expertise make him an excellent fit for this position. As Community Impact Manager, he will address key priorities for our organization and partner agencies, as well as drive collective community outcomes."

Each year, United Way of Southern Chautauqua County invests in the community by distributing funds to 29 local agencies which facilitate 42 programs. The Community Impact Manager provides administrative oversight of those funds as well as the allocations process which determines how donor dollars are distributed each funding cycle.

As Community Impact Manager, Rinaldo will engage with United Way's community partners, volunteers, key stakeholders and others invested in the process and work of making Southern Chautauqua County a place where everyone can live and thrive.

When asked about his new role, Rinaldo said, "I am very excited to help foster the important work being done by the team at United Way. I look forward to learning about and helping advance the missions of the many groups which it funds, as well as working to uplift and create a positive impact in our community."

Rinaldo joins United Way of Southern Chautauqua County with nonprofit experience, having worked for five years in Colorado at the John McConnell Math and Science Center. During that time, he collaborated with district leaders to curate and create detailed curriculum for students, wrote grants and worked training college intern teachers each year.

He joins United Way having recently put his data analysis skills and leadership abilities to use as a team leader at both Target and Wegmans.

Rinaldo is originally from Jamestown and graduated from Southwestern. He now makes Bemus Point his home here in Southern Chautauqua County.

About United Way of Southern Chautauqua County United Way of Southern Chautauqua County works to mobilize the community to take action through volunteerism, advocacy and donorship in order to improve the lives of local residents. In doing this, it is our goal to create long-term social change which produces well-educated, financially stable, and healthy individuals and families. Our efforts are focused on four strategic areas: Academic Success, Health & Independence, A Ready Workforce, and Self Sufficiency. Through our contributors each year, United Way of Southern Chautauqua County is able to invest \$1.4 million in 29 local agencies administering 42 local programs which create sustainable solutions to the challenges facing our community.




Eric Rinaldo, New Community Impact Manager

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Call Our Offices Today! 716-699-2058

Retro Images

Photo Picks From Days Gone By



The Statue of Liberty
Towering over Paris before disassembly and delivery to the United States in 1886

Classified

PUBLIC NOTICES

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.

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.

FOR SALE

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

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email info@thevillager.com

online: www.thevillager.com "Submit Materials"

Meeting Writers Wanted

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

Womens History Images

Photos of Women in History



Coco Chanel: 1883 - 1971

From science to one of the most iconic brands in the fashion world. She led the way in luxury fashion and today her brand - led by its creative director Karl Lagerfeld - sells clothes, perfume, handbags and watches. Almost 100 years after it was first created, Chanel No 5 is still probably the world's most famous perfume!



Pictured (l to r): Sean and Elizabeth Lowes turn over the keys after owning the store since 1999. City Garage new owners –long-time manager, Trey Claus and his wife Mila.

2023

CONT. FROM PG. 9

for the 144th time!

City Garage has new owners – the long-time manager, Trey Claus and his wife Mila. Sean Lowes retires after owning the store since 1999 and a total of 46 years of selling skis and catering to the local ski crowd. The Claus' have a tough act to follow: The shop has been nationally recognized by Skiing Business Magazine as "Best Vibe Shop" at the National Trade Show in Denver, CO. The City Garage won this award for 3 years in a row as voted by industry peers and leaders. Congratulations to Sean, Elizabeth, Trey and Mila.

Jamestown native, Greg Peterson was named Chautauqua County Chamber Person of the Year. He is co-founder of the Supreme Court Justice Robert J. Jackson Center in 2001, he co-founded Jamestown Community Baseball, and acted as general counsel to the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development agency for 35 years.

Thanks to the Frank Pitillo Fund and the generosity of this community, the night lights shine brightly on

the ECS sports field. Their goal of \$250,000 helped them to "honor the past, enjoy the present and secure the future." Kudos.

Heather Sullivan's son and ECS grad, Gabriel Snyder, headed off the Europe for 10 months abroad to study Theater and Art History.

Azalea Park Décor and Alice's Tea Room joined Porky's groceries and other fledgling businesses, adding to the continuing growth in the village of Cattaraugus.

Brad Poole opened his second Warrior Fitness location on 214 Main Street Little Valley (old DPW garage).

Ellicottville now has its own Cygaro Cigar Club and Lounge thanks to Susan Baryza, owner of She Shed He Shed.

In fall, after years of hard work with their renovations, Springville Center for the Arts was able to once again welcome guests into the Harold L. Olmsted Gallery during its official reopening on Sept. 14. It is in the former circa 1869 Baptist Church on 37 No. Buffalo Street.

Ellicottville's Fall Fest featured the first running of the Holiday Valley's (Madi Gras) 6-pack, high speed chairlift ... while visions of groomed hills danced in riders' heads.

Sunshine Pilates by Rae (Rachele Dove) began offering Pilates to help

winter enthusiasts make the most of their time on the slopes.

Cattaraugus Gives raised a whopping \$32,192 in 24 hours on Giving Tuesday, supporting nonprofits in Cattaraugus County. The Bob McCarthy Foundation earned \$1000. Bob would like that.

Ellicottville said goodbye to our long serving Town Historian Mary Elizabeth Dunbar who recently passed, and welcomed Ellen Siriani Frank who was appointed to fill that position.

Ellicottville bought in 2023 with a roaring bonfire at Ellicottville Distillery and sends it off with a Groomers torchlight parade on Cindy's Run at 11:30pm followed by fireworks at 11:45. A wonderful show to watch as the calendar pages turn.

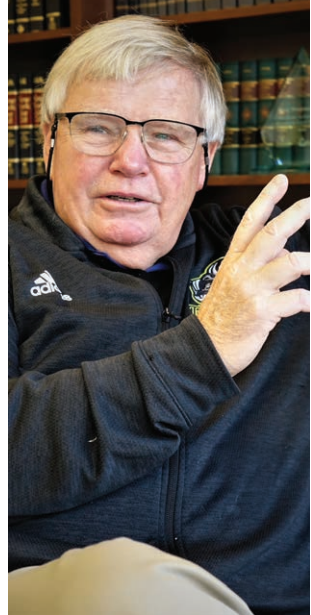
And finally, Holiday Valley's John Harvard's Restaurant appropriately rebranded itself as Edna's, honoring a beloved community member and one of the founders of Holiday Valley, Edna Northrup. Come to think of it, it is people like those mentioned here, and especially like Edna and her family who laid and continue to lay the foundation for this sweet little town we are all so privileged to live, work and play in. Happy Holidays and only the very best for 2024.

These are our Friday Night Lights.

We did this. Together! OVER \$105,000 RAISED IN 9 MONTHS



Join us as we flip the switch and officially fire up the new lights on the Ellicottville Central School football field. Friday, September 22 at 6:45 pm.



Pictured (l to r): Thanks to the Frank Pitillo Fund and the generosity of the community, the Night Lights shine brightly on the ECS Sports Field. Jamestown native, Greg Peterson was named Chautauqua County Chamber Person of the Year.

Walter's World

Photo Picks From "The Rittman Show"



Bus "Center of Gravity" Test circa 1930

From Bryan's Brain



Headphones can increase the bacteria in your ears.

Wearing headphones for just an hour could increase the bacteria in your ears by 700 times

Views From 2023: Highlights From the Past Year



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), Vitrification 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