

**FREE**

# The Villager

EL LICOTTVILLE • CHAUTAUQUA

## Area Events

**CELORON RIB-FEST**  
Wed/Thur/Fri/Sat, June 5-8 • 5pm  
Celoron, NY

**FIRED UP FOR SUMMER KICKOFF IN DUNKIRK**  
Thurs/Fri/Sat, June 6-8 • 6pm  
Dunkirk, NY

**MERRITT WINERY'S STRAWBERRY FEST CONCERT**  
Friday June 7 • 7pm  
Forestville, NY

**MOVIES AT THE REG DOUBLE FEATURE**  
Friday, June 7 • 6pm  
Jamestown, NY

**MERRITT WINERY'S STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**  
Sat/Sun, June 8-9 • 12pm  
Forestville, NY

**CIVIL WAR REENACTMENT**  
Fri/Sat/Sun June 7-9 • 10am  
Westfield, NY

**S.T.A.R.S. ANNUAL MODEL WAR BIRDS OVER CUBA**  
Fri/Sat/Sun, June 7-9 • 10am  
Cuba, NY

**SKY HIGH OPEN**  
Fri-Sun June 7-9 • 9am  
Ellicottville, NY

**JAMESTOWN TARP SKUNKS BASEBALL**  
Fri/Sat June 7-8 • 6:30pm  
Jamestown, NY

**DUNKIRK FLEA MARKET**  
Saturday June 8 • 8am  
Dunkirk, NY

**BOTANICAL GEL PRINTING AT PFEIFFER NATURE CENTER**  
Saturday, June 8 • 3pm  
Portville, NY

**JAMESTOWN PUBLIC MARKET**  
Saturday, June 8 • 10am  
Jamestown, NY

**FREDONIA FARMER'S MARKET**  
Saturday, June 8 • 10am  
Fredonia, NY

**CHQ CO. ANTIQUE EQUIP. ASSN. SPRING TRACTOR PULL**  
Saturday, June 8 • 9am  
Stockton, NY

**WRFA'S GREAT AMERICAN PICNIC AT THE EMPTY PINT**  
Sunday June 9 • 12pm  
Lakewood, NY

**TOM SEGURA: COME TOGETHER AT NORTHWEST ARENA**  
Thursday June 13, • 7:30pm  
Jamestown, NY

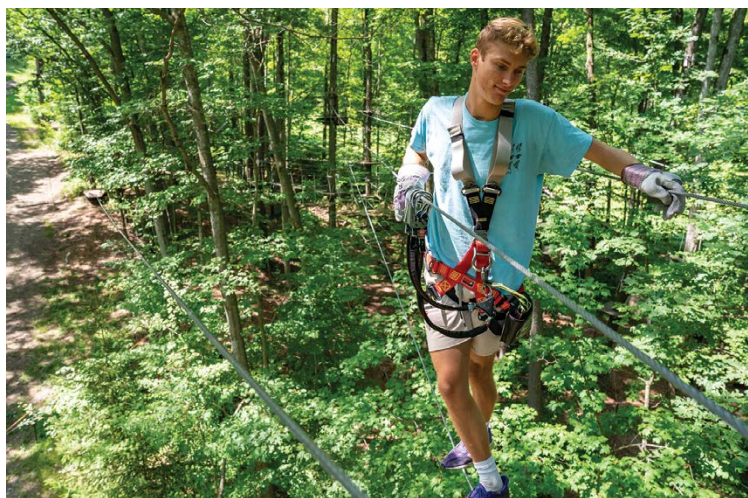
**YASSOU FESTIVAL**  
Friday, June 14 • 11am  
Jamestown, NY

**2024 HOLIDAY VALLEY MUDSLIDE**  
Saturday June 15 • 7pm  
Ellicottville, NY

[www.thevillager.com](http://www.thevillager.com)

## Sky High Adventure Park @ HV

Optimum Aerial Adventure Park Covering 5 Acres



By KATE BARTLETT

This season marks the thirteenth summer for Sky High Adventure Park. Opened in 2011, the park offers adventures for the whole family, with entry level

courses that will help you get accustomed to climbing, all the way to a double black diamond course that will challenge even the best of athletes. No matter

SEE "SKY HIGH" PG. 5

## New to National Comedy Center

Kate Welshofer - Living & Working with Humor



The National Comedy Center's new Communications and Content Strategist, Kate Welshofer is very much connected to Western New York. Welshofer was raised in Perry, NY; her grandparents lived in Jamestown, she graduated from St. Bonaventure University, and for the past twenty-seven years she has worked in broadcasting and journalism in Rochester, Albany and Buffalo. (See article "Comedy", page 9.)

## 40th Annual Yassou Festival

Celebrating History & Culture of Greek Community



This year's annual event will take place Friday, June 14 from 11am-10pm and Saturday, June 15 11am - 9pm at the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church on Francis Street in Jamestown.

By DARLENE BRACE

When it's Father's Day Weekend, Jamestown area residents look forward to attending the annual Yassou Festival that takes place at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church on Francis Street. It's a great community event for anyone that wants to celebrate Greek heritage. By attending this festival, you will be immersed in the history and culture of the

Greek community. This year's annual festival will be held Friday June 14th from 11am-10pm and Saturday June 15th from 11 am-9pm.

As you approach the festival, you will see an enormous tent set up in front of the church. When you enter the tent, you will see rows of tables and chairs that can accommodate

SEE "YASSOU" PG. 11

## Lily Dale Opens for Season

Fun Fest Next Saturday, June 15



PHOTO AND ARTICLE BY BARBARA ARNSTEIN

Lily Dale, the Spiritualist community that has been offering classes, events, workshops and readings since 1879, is having a Fun Fest next Saturday, June 15th, from 10am-8pm. Lily Dale is a beautiful place to visit at any time during its summer season, from June 21st to September 1st. The beauty of its lovely little houses, the gardens full of various kinds of flowers, the lake full of water lilies, the woods full of adorable

fairy figurines and especially the serene atmosphere of the community make it a very special place. During the Fun Fest there will be added attractions: lots of vendors, twenty-dollar mini-readings, a 50/50 raffle, and a basket raffle. (The vendor spaces are now sold out and there is a waiting list.) Admission to the Fun Fest is free. On Saturday, June 22nd, from 9:30-11:30am, Tibetan Monks will prepare and begin a Sacred Sand Mandala for

SEE "LILY DALE" PG. 7

## Sneak Peek

Inside this Issue...

Up Close: **Brooke Sza paicher-Rogers**

**Born and Raised Ellicottville Gal ... Pg. 6**



Brooke Sza paicher has lived in Ellicottville her entire life, and has held various roles in the community over the years. Married to Springville native, Mike Rogers, they are currently raising their 3-month-old daughter, Teddie, in the village, and enjoy all the area has to offer. Brooke is a local Real Estate Agent for Keller Williams and recently acquired 2-Scoops Ice Cream (with her husband) in Hamburg, NY. Brooke is also a former writer for *The Villager Newspaper*.

**Italian American Charity Golf Tournament**

**Returns to Holiday Valley this Week ... Pg. 15**

**Sunset Bay Beach Bash ... Pg. 8**

**First Ever Showcase of Local Businesses June 13**

**Online Submissions Accepted**

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## Interstate Daydream

Local Duo Playing for the Love of Music



**Margie Tucker (originally from the Bronx and raised in Mayville) and Rick Emley (originally from Olean and now residing in Portville, NY) comprise the band Interstate Daydream. The duo frequents Ellicottville and will be playing the Bemus Point Casino regularly this summer. Interstate Daydream will also be opening for Bob Seegar Tribute Touring Band at the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club this summer.**

By KATE BARTLETT

Margie Tucker and Rick Emley comprise the band Interstate Daydream and have been playing stages in Ellicottville, Chautauqua and Erie counties for over 3 years. The duo plays 'a little of everything' from classic, new hits, country, rock, oldies and crowd favorites. Both sing vocals,

SEE "DUO" PAGE 14

## Griffis Sculpture Park

5 Fun Facts About 55 Year Old Museum



By DOUG SITLER

The Griffis Sculpture Park has been capturing the imagination of visitors and artists for 55 years. There are over 250 sculptures created by Griffis and international artists, placed in the fields, forests, and ponds, in the 450-acre park located just 15 minutes outside of Ellicottville. The park is enjoyed by over 40,000 visitors each year and is believed to be the largest sculpture park in the United States.

Here are a few fun facts about the sculpture park that some people might not know.

**The park's creator, Larry Griffis, Jr. was a World War II veteran and successful businessman.** Griffis, who passed away in

SEE "GRIFFIS" PAGE 5



# Publisher's Word

*"God Bless the World..."*



Flag Day is next Friday, June 14 and Independence Day (Tuesday, July 4) is just around the corner. Yes, we are indeed fortunate to live here, we have an abundance of freedoms. Some of my best friends live on the Reservation, some live in Buffalo, some Ohio, some in places I can only dream of...We are one tribe. I am a living tribute to "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you". As Ellen

would say, "Be Nice to One Another". If you have something kind to share, please send it our way, we are always happy to share the good news. We can be reached at 716-699-2058 or email me direct at info@thevillager.com. Always stay informed online; sign up for our e-newsletter: www.thevillager.com. **Until next week, yours in writing - Jeanine Caprino Zimmer**

## Happy Birthday

Jessica Clark... June 8th • Rick McIntosh... June 9th  
 Nita Widger... June 12th • Shirley Reinhardt... June 12th  
 R Mike Labelle... June 12th • Rick Meister... June 13th  
 Skylar Shroeder... June 16th • Barb Kozlowski... June 20th  
 David Thompson... June 20th • Jim Morton... June 20th  
 Sandra Jones... June 21st • John Sitzenstatter... June 24th  
 Dick Bales... June 25th • Kyle A Benish... June 27th  
 Chad Neal... June 28th • Kasey Tripodi... June 29th  
 Email us your birthday greetings: info@thevillager.com  
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## Ellicottville Village Park Highlights

**"EV Play Place" Presents: Together Glider**

By KELSSEY ADAMSON

Ellicottville Playground Committee presents "EV Play Place", a biweekly segment dedicated to key pieces of playground equipment planned for our Ellicottville Village Park update. The featured pieces each highlight the way design is used to create a spirit of inclusivity in play. With the collaboration of Little Tikes and Unlimited Play we hope to bring extra joy to all the children of our community. This week we focus on the Together Glider. Introducing the Together Glider



The Together Glider is a 70 square foot raised platform outfitted with benches, hand rails, and spaces that can accommodate multiple wheelchairs. 10 or more children can play simultaneously and by using their weight, riders can create a back-and-forth gliding motion. For the Ellicottville Playground, our glider will have a unique design of a mountain gondola reflecting the park's theme of snow sports. Children from ages 2-12 will enjoy

this fun ride. Benefits to our Community The large space of this glider encourages group play among children, building connections and friendships. Physically, the glider encourages strength, flexibility, and balance in the riders, but it also helps to foster stronger social and emotional bonds. Children of varying sizes and strengths can play together, that includes children with disabilities. The Together Glider has a low entry point making it easily accessible for children with mobility impairments or orthopedic conditions. Children with conditions such as cerebral palsy or muscular dystrophy can enjoy play alongside their peers. The rocking/ gliding motions can help maintain flexibility, prevent stiffness, and improve joint function over time. Fundraising Efforts We are actively working on fundraising. The Together Glider will cost \$21,851. If you would like to contribute to this piece of equipment or help in any fashion, please feel free to contact the Ellicottville Playground Committee at ellicottvilleplayground@gmail.com. Follow us on Instagram @ ellicottvilleplayground. Find more information at https://unlimitedplay.org/playground/the-ellicottville-playground

## Audubon's Spring Forest Mystery

**Solve the Problem Before the Deadline, Monday, June 10**



**Jamestown, N.Y.:** You have until Monday, June 10 to solve a Spring Forest Mystery at Audubon Community Nature Center. The birds need your help. One spring day, they awoken to discover all their food has been stolen. With a list of suspects in hand, detectives of all ages can take to the trails in search of witnesses and collect clues to find the culprit. This is your chance to explore the trails and solve a mystery as you help the birds discover who stole their food. Will you be able to piece together the evidence and help the birds catch the pesky burglar? The \$5 registration fee provides access to one Witness Map and Suspect Information sheet. The map and sheet can be used by an entire group. You can purchase the map and sheet at the Nature Center or register online to download by clicking through Programs and Events at AudubonCNC.org. Monday, June 10 is the final day to solve the mystery. Trails are open dawn to dusk. Once you solve the mystery, visit the reception desk to collect your reward.

## Business Builder Workshop

**Chautauqua Chamber to Host Award-Winning Filmmaker**

The Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce a special guest presenter for their next Business Builder Workshop coming up in July. Travis Carlson is an award-winning filmmaker and writer based in Buffalo. A native of Gerry, he worked for five years with the Buffalo Bills and Sabres as a cinematographer before co-founding Pan-American Film Division. Pan-Am partners with local and national businesses to help them communicate with their customers or other businesses. Their original work includes the one-shot feature film Mother's Day, as well as dozens of shorts; three of which earned screenings at the Cannes Film Festival SFC. The Business Builder Workshop will focus on Branding through Storytelling and Images and promises to be an engaging session for all local business people. It will be held Monday, July 22 from 1-3pm at the Key Auditorium at the SUNY Fredonia Science Center. The event is free for all to attend but request advance registration: 716-484-1101.

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# Ellicottville's New Parking Lot

Room for 125 Cars & 2 EV Charge Plugs on Martha Street



The land, located at 9 Mill Street, purchased partially by Cattaraugus County, is located near the DPW behind the Martha Washington building on Martha Street. Coming from 219, drive up Mill, pass Martha Street and you will see the driveway and lovely sidewalks on your right. This long-awaited lot provides room for 125 cars and thanks to National Grid's Electric Vehicle Make-Ready Program, there are four Level 2 EV charge plugs in the new lot to accommodate residents, customers of the various business in the village, and, of course, tourists.

By CAROL FISHER-LINN  
*He Says - She Says - circa mid 1990's conversation at Special\*E\*Facts newspaper: Does Ellicottville need a parking ramp?*

She ((author of this article)) the ever-gullible, wide-eyed, trusting one) Says: "Hank, If Ellicottville businesses keep drawing in tourists the way they have been since the 80's "boom" visitors will have to leave their cars outside of town and shuttle into the village. We need a parking ramp!" Hank (Dubey - Special\*E\*Facts editor/owner/musician/all around wild and crazy party of one): "Carol, Carol, Carol ... "The only ramp you need is one to jump off with your crazy, high-flying ideas for a village our size. We are, after all, only one-square mile. Heck, my size 13 "stompers" can carry me from one end to the other in 10 minutes. Carol, you are nothing more than a car-crazy city slicker without an ounce of good-ole-fashioned country girl sense!"

Those of you who remember the zany, rather irreverent column Hank Dubey and I co-wrote in his paper years ago are likely smiling. But seriously, Ellicottville has needed a parking lot for the past thirty years or more! Now, acknowledging that dreams can come true, hope continues to surface for the Route 219 Extension that we in the Southern Tier have been coveting.

Folks - pull out the bullhorns. Shout it loud and clear! Ellicottville has a PARKING LOT! The land, located at 9 Mill Street, purchased partially by Cattaraugus County, is located near the DPW behind the Martha Washington building on Martha Street. Coming from 219, drive up Mill, pass Martha Street and you will see the driveway and lovely sidewalks

on your right. This long-awaited lot provides room for 125 cars and thanks to National Grid's Electric Vehicle Make-Ready Program, there are four Level 2 EV charge plugs in the new lot to accommodate residents, customers of the various business in the village, and, of course, tourists. There are five, well placed handicapped parking spots and modern overhead lighting. Sidewalks lead you out and to Martha Street or back onto Mill, taking you in whichever direction you wish to go. The parking is free but if you have need for the chargers, they are charged at .25 per kilowatt hour - the first 30 minutes are free, with a 3-hour maximum time so others can take their turn. If you plan to shop or have lunch/dinner at one of our top-line restaurants, please time your charges and return to remove them, so someone else can hook on after you are "filled up." FYI, unrelated to this project, there are two free chargers at Ellicottville Town Center (the old Cooperative Extension property) one at HoliMont, and Holiday Valley has a Tesla charger which drivers pay to use.

Mayor John Burrell is the first to credit National Grid (and especially lead program manager Whitney Skeans for making herself available whenever needed throughout the

development of the lot) for their help in this project, and rightly so. However, kudos must go to Mayor Burrell, the determined Village Board, Brian McFadden at the Chamber of Commerce, and to Doug Bush who spearheaded the project.

Ellicottville is a wonderfully busy place, much more so than in the nineties when we first started lobbying for a parking lot. Back then, in the "mud season" and summer months, we were lucky to have a few hundred visitors - these days Ellicottville hosts more than 25,000 visitors each weekend, not to mention the special events that fill our streets and hills with 100,00 or more. Ellicottville has just added a bit of frosting on the cake with this new parking lot, after having been named in April by USA Today as boasting one of America's best Main Streets. Yahoo, Ellicottville!

A bonus for this project is National Grid's EV Make-Ready Program has also provided the village with extra funding to add more units to those already in place, allowing for future expansion. And, since this is Ellicottville, the future is eagerly at our doorstep! Many thanks go out to Amy Hayward, Ellicottville's Village Clerk, for her contributions to this article.



John and Whitney Skeans Lead Program Manager/ Electric Vehicles National Grid

## Ride the Lake Jam, July 28

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## 10 Yr. Dream of Storefront In Ellicottville Becomes a Realization



By, GARY MALICKI

**Behind Every Small Business There is a Family Praying for its Success...**

If you're following me along on my EVL Life journey, then you know how I'm always on the lookout for a local business or interesting person to feature in this little column.

A short while back on one of my village walk-a-bouts I came across a sandwich board sign on the corner of Monroe & Washington that advertised a shop called 'Wild Roamer'. I was intrigued and decided to dig a little deeper.

I checked into their Facebook page and as I scrolled through I spotted a post that read "Behind every small business is a family praying for its success".

I loved that sentiment and knew that I had to try to contact the people behind the scenes. I sent a message to the site and owner, Carrie Lynch, who responded positively. I couldn't wait to meet her.

I rarely, if ever, visit a business owner on a weekend but the upbeat Carrie invited me in on a Saturday when she would be at the store. I obliged.

Wild Roamer is located at 9 Monroe Street in Ellicottville and is filled with owner, Carrie Lynch's creations as well as nostalgic items all with a rustic outdoor theme.

It was her dream of having a store in EVL. She had already been in business for 10 years, so it was a long time coming. Working out of her home in a garage studio she developed her concepts of original artwork inspired by hiking, camping and the outdoors in general. Her business was primarily imprinting items like shirts, mugs, candles and more.

There was even a time along the way when she almost called it quits. But she trudged on and happily fulfilled that dream of the store located at 9 Monroe Street across from The Winery of Ellicottville and EVL Spirits and Wines.

During the time of Covid she was not considered an essential service and was forced to close for a while. She smartly turned that lemon into lemonade.

Carrie contacted an online marketplace and worked out some deals. The result is that she now wholesales her products to over 100

boutiques between here and Wyoming. "Items imprinted with Buffalos are really popular in Wyoming", she jokes. But it's no joke as it is a growing and important aspect of her success. Everything is shipped from the store location.

The store itself is loaded with not only items featuring her original work but many other things, some with an air of nostalgia. A truly unique grouping of items they carry is a line of Smokey The Bear products. Carrie talked about a man who approached her who was selling a large collection of Smokey themed items which she purchased for resale and they dedicate a large space to those products.

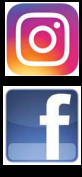
There are also many nostalgic items that conjure up memories of when families camped with old Coleman coolers

SEE "ROAMER" PAGE 14

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## Springville Art Crawl

Entertainment, Arts & More, Last Saturday, June 1



Photos/Barbara Arnstein

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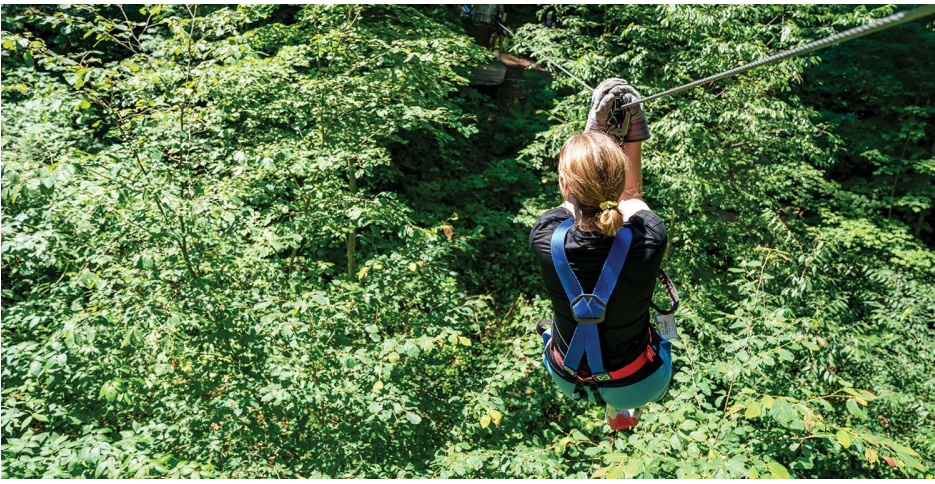
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The park isn't just about climbing either! One year after opening, the Grand Rapids zipline was added in order to bring climbers back to the base area of Tannenbaum. At 5 acres, Ski High is the largest aerial adventure park in New York State.

## Sky High

CONT. FROM COVER

how many times you visit, Sky High offers the opportunity to push your limits for a new adventure each and every time.

The park was originally comprised of High Aerial Adventure Park, along with the Sky Flyer Mountain Coaster, upon opening in 2011. The park has evolved over the years in order to provide the best experience to its clientele. That commitment to the guest experience has made the course what it is today: the optimum Aerial Adventure Park in the area. At 5 acres, Ski High is the largest aerial adventure park in New York State. The combination of features and zip lines provide a variety of thrilling challenges to conquer during the 3-hour climbing pass.

The park isn't just about climbing either! One year after opening, the Grand Rapids zipline was added in order to bring climbers back to the base area of Tannenbaum. The Black Widow course was added in 2014, giving the course a new level of challenge and excitement. Since then, the course has received some minor adjustments and general maintenance in order to keep everything running smoothly. "The great thing about Sky High is that it doesn't need substantial changes to keep it fun

and challenging," says Dash Hegeman, Director of Marketing at Holiday Valley. "Even if you've done the entire course several times, you can still get up there and challenge yourself to do it faster and more efficiently. It's a fantastic workout if you want it to be."

New this year, the Black Widow course has a new feature called the Bird Swing where climbers are required to cross from one apparatus (that looks like a bird swing) to the next. Black Widow also now has a new rope ring feature that offers a fun degree of difficulty. Minor changes were also made to the Sunshine course to provide a slightly different experience from last season. "Our team works hard to make sure that every guest walks away with a big smile on their face," says Dash.

According to Dash, there are courses for just about everyone. The three yellow courses are designed for first time climbers and provide a good feel for the overall experience. The five green courses are a bit more challenging, but still very user friendly. For those looking for a challenge, the two blue courses (Waterfall and Rip Tide), two black diamond courses (Black Storm and Black Widow), and one double black diamond (Commando), will put even the most athletic to the test. All the courses except The Commando have at least one zip line and some have multiple. Sky High also

offers options for younger climbers who aren't quite big enough for the Aerial Park. The Climbing Forest gives young climbers a controlled climb up a series of trees, similar to a rock wall setup.

If you're looking for all the fun of Sky High without paying full price, there are some nice deals to be had. On Father's Day, June 16th, Dads climbs free with the purchase of a full-priced ticket for a 3-hour climb. Call 716-699-4444 to make a reservation. June 25 is Local's Day at Sky High - anyone with a driver's license that shows residence in Cattaraugus County can purchase a 3-hour climb for just \$15.

Sky High is the perfect place to beat the summer heat with fun for a wide variety of people. For those who don't want to climb, the Sky Flyer Mountain Coaster offers a scenic ride up and a thrilling ride down through the woods. On July 27, the HillTAP Festival hits Spruce Lake. It's a great day to come to Sky High for an early climb and then head up to Spruce Lake for an afternoon of music, food, and outdoor adventure fun.

The Park is a great location for birthday parties, family reunions, corporate group outings, bachelor/bachelorette parties and more. Contact groupsales@holidayvalley.com for group rates and to inquire about hosting an event. For more information about the park visit <https://www.holidayvalley.com/sky-high/>.

## Griffis

CONT. FROM COVER

February 2000, fought in World War II, including the Battle of the Bulge. He was always an artist, even during the war. An ambulance would carry his art supplies, so Griffis could create paintings during some downtime. After the war, Griffis and his cousin owned and operated a women's nylon manufacturing facility in Buffalo. He would run the business during the day and come home and be an artist at night. At the urging of his father, Griffis was encouraged to choose being a business owner or an artist. Griffis sold his share of the business, packed up his wife and five kids and went to Italy to study art and sculpture. The rest they say, is history.

The park was originally located at nearby Kissing Bridge Ski Resort. For three years in the mid-1960s, Griffis' sculptures were placed on the hillsides of the ski resort. Visitors would either take the chair lift or hike up the hills to view the artwork. After a few years, Griffis knew that he wanted to find a location that exclusively showcased his massive sculptures. Before settling in on the Rohr Hill Road location in Ashford Hollow, Griffis reviewed several possible locations to



The park's creator, Larry Griffis, Jr. was a World War II veteran and successful businessman.

host the park - including the property that now is the home of Artpark in Lewiston. The Griffis Sculpture Park made its debut in Ashford Hollow in the autumn of 1968.

The sculpture park is located in two townships. The sculpture park is made up of two locations, which are 1.5 miles apart. The original Rohr Hill Road site is located in Ashford Hollow. The Mill Valley Road site was created in the late 1970s and is located in East Otto.

Yes, you can touch the art! Think of the Griffis Sculpture Park as an outdoor art gallery. However, unlike most art galleries, visitors can touch the art, or in some instances, climb on top or inside the artwork. While Griffis was in Italy, he had an idea. He was watching his children climb and play

on the ruins of Emperor Hadrian's villa and saw how happy and engaged his children were. This planted the seed to create an arts location where people could experience art, including touching and climbing on pieces.

Built to last. Griffis' built about 50 percent of the 250 sculptures that are displayed in the park. Many of them have resided in the same spot for 55 years. Some of the sculptures are 25 feet high and weigh almost three tons. The sculptures were made of steel manufactured at Bethlehem Steel in Lackawanna. Creating and forming the sculptures out of steel, made it a long and arduous process for each sculpture. The fact that the sculptures still stand tall and proud to this day, is a testament to Griffis' foresight and resolve.

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**THINGS TO CHECK OUT**

**SKY HIGH ADVENTURE PARK**  
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## Up Close: Brooke Szaicher-Rogers

Born and Raised Ellicottville Gal



recently acquired 2 Scoops Ice Cream in Hamburg, and this marks their first season as owners, but 18th for the shop. "It's been incredible," says Brooke. "We took ownership in March and the transition has been smooth and easy thus far. We're excited for this new endeavor and so far, it couldn't be better. The community support has been phenomenal; there's always a smiling crowd, rain or shine. People are almost always happy when they're getting ice cream!"

Brooke is involved in the Ellicottville community in many ways. She is currently a fire commissioner and has held this position for about four years. "Our volunteer fire department works so hard; it's incredible to see what happens behind the scenes and help in this capacity."

Their family takes part in the many various year-round activities in the community, including skiing and golfing. During the winter months, Brooke is manager at Boardroom Snowboard Shop, and during the summer she runs the Holiday Valley Ladies League. "We're a fun group of women who enjoy friendly competition golfing together on Monday evenings. It's open to everyone to golf and socialize."

Brooke is proud to be a part of such a tight-knit community here in Ellicottville. "The ease of living here is supreme. The convenience of walking into the village, seeing friends and neighbors on the streets and the sense of community here is unmatched. I wouldn't want to raise my family anywhere else."

Mike and Brooke recently acquired 2 Scoops Ice Cream in Hamburg, and this marks their first season as owners, but 18th for the shop.

By KATE BARTLETT

Brooke Szaicher has lived in Ellicottville her entire life, and has held various roles in the community over the years. Married to Springville native, Mike Rogers, they are currently raising their 3-month-old daughter, Teddie, in the village, and enjoy all the area has to offer. Brooke is a local Real Estate Agent for Keller Williams and recently acquired 2-Scoops Ice Cream (with her husband) in Hamburg, NY. Brooke is also a former writer for *The Villager Newspaper*.

After graduating from Ellicottville High School, Brooke attended St Bonaventure University obtaining her Bachelor's Degree in Education. She moved to San Diego for 2 years for a change

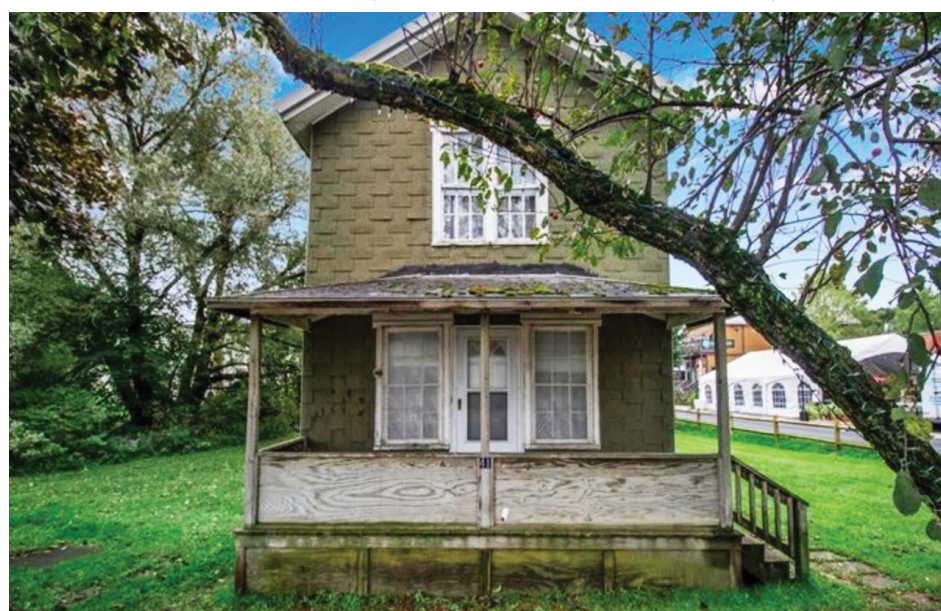
of pace, but came back to Ellicottville in 2015 in order to be closer to family. Brooke married Mike Rogers in summer of 2023 and they're proud parents to 3-month-old Teddie, and delighted to be raising their family here in the village.

Brooke has been a Real Estate Agent with Keller Williams for 6 years, based out of the Ellicottville office. She enjoys showing potential clients the charm of Ellicottville and helping them find the property that best fits their needs. "It's incredible to be able to show people the town that I love so much as potential members of the community," says Brooke. "It's exciting being a part of their new chapter, whether locals or visitors buying a second home, it's an honor to be a part of it."

Mike and Brooke

## Old Building Razed... New Building Rising

The Historic Eyesore Will See Better Days



Long-time advocate of Ellicottville, Scott Croce, purchased the building with plans to develop something new and necessary for the village. He has taken all the steps necessary to secure the rights to build a two-story building at 41 Washington St. across from Madigan's. The lot the old house was on and the small lot between it and Elk Creek are the new foundations for a five-apartment edifice with a large retail frontage to keep the village growing in the right direction. Rumors about what stores or businesses will be have been circulating and Croce is looking into a medical unit for the suite entered from the sidewalk. The Villager caught up with Croce and got some information about the new build and plans for the spot.

By CHAD NEAL

**Building Being Razed; New Building Rising. After Long-Time Residence Razed. Will it be Missed? The story behind 41 Washington Street in Ellicottville...**

Washington Street has changed once again and for the better. Alas many sights we are used to seeing as a daily routine can cause a consternation to those who were used to it being there. The old green house the little old lady lived in for years has been taken down in a bid for new digs to be built. The new structure will house residences and a store front. It sat adjacent to Balloons parking lot and was the last hold out in that part of the village and now the lot it sat on is bare and surrounded by a fence, giving the impression of more change to come. There are probably some

stories and memories that go with the old two-story home, but this is about the new owner and his plans for the property. A fellow that has enjoyed Ellicottville for quite some time, Scott Croce, purchased it with plans to develop something new and necessary for the village.

Croce has taken all the steps necessary to secure the rights to build a two-story building at 41 Washington St. across from Madigan's. The lot the old house was on and the small lot between it and Elk Creek are the new foundations for a five-apartment edifice with a large retail frontage to keep the village growing in the right direction. Rumors about what stores or businesses will be have been circulating and Croce is looking into a medical unit for the suite entered from the sidewalk. *The Villager* caught up with

Croce and got some information about the new build and plans for the spot.

**The Villager(V):** When did you decide you wanted the property?

**Scott Croce(SC):** I decided to purchase the property after speaking with Caitlyn (Croft) who was the real estate agent for the sellers. She did a great job marketing the property to me.

**V:** Do you have partners?

**SC:** I do not have a partner.

**V:** What inspired the purchase and the plans?

**SC:** I have been looking at Ellicottville for a couple years. It seems it's not just a ski town, but a year-round destination. The location was ideal.

**V:** Five apartments, a retail front, parking in the back and there's rumors

SEE "BUILD" PAGE 11

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## 2 Area Businesses Host Event

Summer Spectacle of Fashion for a Cause, June 12



### Art Cloth & Craft

# truffle honey

Mayville NY: Art Cloth & Craft is thrilled to announce its upcoming fashion show, set to dazzle attendees with the latest summer looks while supporting a noble cause. Hosted at the exquisite Truffle Honey Eatery, located at 3943 Route 394, Mayville, NY 14757, the event will take place on June 12th, 2024, from 7-9pm.

The fashion show, a celebration of summer style, will spotlight the vibrant and chic collections available at Art Cloth & Craft Boutique. Attendees can expect to be inspired by a diverse array of designs, from casual beachwear to elegant evening ensembles, curated to capture the essence of the season.

Tickets to this exclusive event are priced at \$60 each, with all proceeds benefiting Arise Chautauqua Charity. Arise Chautauqua, a volunteer-led nonprofit based in Jamestown, is committed to empowering girls aged 11-18 to envision a bright future for themselves.

Through Arise Circles (peer groups), Life-Skills Classes, a counseling partnership with the Child Advocacy Program, and events like Arise Celebrations, they offer essential support and connections to help girls grow towards a healthy, whole future. Arise is also the site of The Closet which provides vital resources including clothing, shoes, hygiene products, school supplies and more. Arise programming is offered at the Arise House and throughout Chautauqua County. Arise is dedicated to loving, celebrating, equipping, encouraging and empowering all girls!

By attending this fashion show, guests not only indulge in an evening of glamour, but also contribute to this meaningful cause. In addition to the

runway showcase, ticket holders will receive a luxurious swag bag. Upon arrival, guests will be greeted with a glass of champagne to toast the festivities & delectable hors d'oeuvres will also be served throughout the evening, courtesy of Truffle Honey Eatery.

Tickets for the Art Cloth & Craft fashion show can be purchased online at [www.trufflehoneychq.com](http://www.trufflehoneychq.com) (<http://www.trufflehoneychq.com/>) under the Events section. With limited availability, attendees are encouraged to secure their tickets early to guarantee their spot to this glamorous affair.

You are invited to participate in this evening of fashion, philanthropy, and spirit of giving back on June 12th.

**Don't Forget to Visit Our Facebook Page!!**  
Or Our Website: [www.thevillager.com](http://www.thevillager.com)

## Villager Photo Contest

[www.thevillager.com](http://www.thevillager.com) or email [info@thevillager.com](mailto:info@thevillager.com)

The Villager is looking for your great photos. Snap a few pics of your family, friends or yourself enjoying reading The Villager wherever you are and send it in. If your photo is chosen, we will place it in our next edition. Email [info@thevillager.com](mailto:info@thevillager.com) or call 716-699-2058. Can't wait to see what you send in!!

## Lily Dale

### STORY FROM COVER

the opening ceremony to officially launch Lily Dale's summer season. Admission for this event is \$50.

Just before the season's official start, on Sunday, June 16th, Lily Dale will begin its "Pre-Season Conference: Mystical Medley". Visitors will be able to learn about mental and physical mediumship and its phenomena. The conference will be led by Susan Barnes, Patricia Best, Lisa Klee and Anthony Mikolajesk and others. The special guests are Julie Adreani and Mychael Shane (yes, he does spell his name with a "y"). From June 16th to June 20th, each day of events will stretch from 9am-9pm.

On June 17th, the workshops will focus on divination tools, past lives and aura work. The evening event will involve several types of readings, including tea readings. The cost for each day of activities will be \$125. On June 18th, the topics

will include "Meet Your Guides", "Mediumship" and "Connecting with Spirit". The evening event will be a mediumship demonstration. On June 19th, the focus will be on evidential mediumship, trance healing and more. The evening event will involve a trance demonstration. On June 20th, the focus will be on automatic writing, (using planchettes and slates), energy work and more. The evening event will be about spoon bending and table tipping.

On June 22nd, in the Octagon Building, Brenda Reading will conduct a day of interactive activities entitled "Beginning Your Mediumship". Her focus will be on the mechanics of receiving and giving spirit messages. The exercises she conducts will enable her audience to practice, share and benefit from her instructions.

For two consecutive days, July 5th & 6th, Chautauqua County residents (with proof of county residence) will be allowed free gate entry. Visitors at that time can experience the outdoor services, book a reading and visit the food and retail

shops. There will be more events throughout the summer. Every Tuesday from June 25th to August 27th, there will be an event entitled "Adventures in Mediumship", from 7-8pm, in the Octagon Building. On June 21st, there will be a Butterfly Release ceremony, symbolizing the transition if the soul. On July 27th & July 28th, Grammy-award-winning musician and songwriter Barry Goldstein, who creates healing music, will present day and evening sessions involving his musical knowledge.

On September 14th, a special event, the "Classic Car Cruise", will include music, a cookout lunch, vendors, a 50/50 raffle and more. The ten-dollar car registration is due by August 25th. Each vendor space is \$40 and it involves a six-foot table and two chairs in the auditorium, or a 10 x 10 spot outside. A gift card will be awarded to the car voted the favorite of Lily Dale residents.

Lily Dale is located at 5 Melrose Place in Lily Dale, NY. For more information, go to [lilydaleassembly.org](http://lilydaleassembly.org) or call (716) 595-8721.

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## Street Closure During Friday Summertime Event



**Westfield NY:** First Fridays in Westfield will once again spill into the street in Westfield as the Chamber of Commerce has secured a permit from the New York State Department of Transportation to close Route 20 in the village during the event. This is the second year for the expansion of the event, which allows for additional vendor participation and makes the experience safer and more walkable for all guests. Route 20 (East Main Street) will be temporarily closed to all traffic from Portage (Route 394) to Union Street, with limited traffic from Union to Pearl Street. The closure will be in effect from 4-8pm during First Friday June 7, and subsequent First Fridays on July 12 (Reunion Weekend), August 2, and September 6. The Chamber thanks the Village of Westfield, Westfield Development Corporation, and Chautauqua County Emergency Services for their assistance and support during this permitting process. To help cover the additional costs associated with the street closure, there is a small \$20 fee for business vendors that want to sell merchandise during First Fridays. Nonprofits with vendor (sales) tables pay just \$10, or for nonprofits with information-only tables there is no charge. All vendors are required to register in advance through the Chamber calendar. The June 7 First Friday is sponsored by AHN Westfield Memorial Hospital, Brooks-TLC Hospital System, Westfield Boatworks, Community Bank, and Wanderlust Custard.

# Sunset Bay Beach Bash

First Ever Showcase of Local Businesses June 13



**Hanover NY:** The Chamber's Hanover Committee is hard at working planning the first ever Beach Bash Showcase from 6-8pm, Thursday, June 13 at the Sunset Bay Beach Club. This will be an opportunity for many local businesses to connect in a fun and inviting atmosphere. A number of Hanover area businesses will have displays available so you can see what products and services they offer. There will be acoustic music, opportunities for networking, food, half-priced drinks, and a basket raffle. This event will help to raise funds for scholarships for graduating seniors from Silver Creek and Forestville Central Schools. The Beach Bash Showcase is sponsored by Farrell Roofing, Financial Trust Federal Credit Union, M&T Bank, ADD Lumber True Value, and Brooks-TLC Hospital System. Tickets are \$12 per person for Chamber members or \$15 for nonmembers. You can sign up online now through the Chamber's web calendar or pay at the door.

# Hit the Trails & Win: Rails to Trails in Chq. Encourages Participation



**Mayville NY:** Chautauqua County and the Health Department encourage residents to take in the beautiful natural scenery and wildlife areas throughout the County in a fun and active way. As an added bonus, residents will have a chance to win free groceries. We have all heard about the many health and wellness benefits of physical activity and exercise. Health experts recommend adults get 150 minutes of moderate physical activity each

week, but that can sound overwhelming or difficult to do. There are many fun and "gym-alternative" ways to be more physically active, including the fun of hiking our local trails. A 30 minute hike on 5 trails in a week fulfills all 150 recommended minutes of activity. Program details Sponsored by Wegmans and the Chautauqua County Health Department, The Wegmans Hit the Trail Passport is an interactive and immersive

local hiking experience. Participants will enjoy nature trails in Chautauqua County as mapped out in the Passport. Complete trails, or segments, listed in the Passport booklet at your own pace throughout the year. Find and capture the distinctive seal for each trail segment in the frames indicated in the Passport. Upon completion of the Passport participants can earn free Wegmans reusable shopping bags and will be entered to win a \$250 Wegmans gift card

exclusive to Chautauqua County participants. Gift card drawings take place in December. "National Trails Day is celebrated annually on June 1st and serves as a reminder to get out there and explore our beautiful county," states Lacey Wilson, Chautauqua County Public Health Director. "It is a day of service for hometown trails and a chance to celebrate

SEE "TRAILS" PAGE 12

# 40th Annual

# YASSOV

# FESTIVAL

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church  
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Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup> • 11am - 10pm

Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> • 11am - 9pm

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FULL FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES

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<p style="color: #0070C0; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">7PM - 7:45PM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Ten Cent Howl</p>	<p style="color: #0070C0; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">12PM - 3PM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Tacoma Meltdown</p>	<p style="color: #0070C0; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">12PM - 3PM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Red Rain</p>
<p style="color: #0070C0; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">8PM - 10PM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">UNCLE BEN'S REMEDY</p>	<p style="color: #0070C0; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">3:30PM - 6:30PM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Black Widow</p> <p style="color: #0070C0; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">7PM - 10PM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">UNCOVERED</p>	<p style="color: #0070C0; font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">3:30PM - 6:30PM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">PARTY MCFLY</p>

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Kate worked as a news anchor and creator of *Most Buffalo* for the past four years. She is an award-winning journalist and broadcaster. Some of the interviews she conducted during *Most Buffalo* included: (left) Alan Zweibel is a television writer, author, playwright, and screenwriter whom *The New York Times* says has “earned a place in the pantheon of American pop culture.” An original *Saturday Night Live* writer, Zweibel has won five Emmy Awards and two Writers Guild of America Awards for his work in television, which includes *It’s Garry Shandling’s Show* (co-creator and producer) and *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. (Center, top) Amy Poehler is an actor/comedian known for her work on *Saturday Night Live* and countless movies with Tina Fey including: *Mean Girls*, *Baby Momma*, and *Wine County*. Poehler and Fey hosted the Golden Globes together four times. (Center, bottom) Paul Reiser is an actor/comedian and writer best known for his roles in sitcoms, *Mad about You*, and *My Two Dads*, and more recently the Netflix series *Stranger Things*. (Right) Chris Kattan is known for his classic roles on *Saturday Night Live* and movies such as *Night at the Roxbury*. (wikipedia.org)

## Comedy

### STORY FROM COVER



BY DARLENE BRACE

The National Comedy Center in Jamestown recently welcomed Kate Welshofer to their staff as their Communications and Content Strategist. Before starting this position in early May, Kate had worked in broadcasting

and journalism for twenty-seven years. For years she worked in Rochester and Albany as a news anchor for Spectrum and Time Warner, hosting the nightly news. More recently she worked as a news anchor and creator of *Most Buffalo* for the past four years. She is an award-winning journalist and broadcaster. She won the National Edward R. Murrow Award in both 2020 & 2021 for outstanding broadcast and digital journalism from the Radio Television Digital News Association. Kate is well known in her field and has quite a following, so readers may wonder how and why she is now working in Jamestown?

Kate is very much connected to Western New York. She grew up in a small village called Perry, New York, which is located just north of Letchworth State Park. Her grandparents

lived in Jamestown many years ago. As a girl she often spent summers at a family camp near Sherman, and she enjoyed spending some of her time on Chautauqua Lake. She later went to St. Bonaventure, where she graduated with a bachelor’s degree in journalism communication. She has lived and worked for years in larger cities but, now she has returned to her roots in Perry.

While Kate had been working as a news broadcaster, she had also enjoyed broadcasting You Tube broadcasts on what she called *One Cup Monday* and *One Cup with Kate*. These were humorous broadcasts and she felt that it was a creative outlet. It was something she enjoyed doing, not something she had to do. It was actually these videos that landed her the job at *Most Buffalo*. Someone in Buffalo at

WGRZ had seen her You Tube broadcasts and liked her unique ways of telling stories with humor. She was hired and helped create *Most Buffalo* and hosted it as the news anchor. She used humor to tell the news in a more fun and uplifting way, compared to how most news is told, that is often depressing. It is a fun news show.

Kate worked at WGRZ for six years, and four were with *Most Buffalo*. She really enjoyed it for quite some time, but toward the end of her contract there, she started feeling discouraged for some reason, and it just wasn’t as fun as it had been previously. Her personal life had gone through some changes, and she was no longer feeling fulfilled at work. She decided that her position at *Most Buffalo* was no longer a good fit. Kate decided not to renew her contract when it

ended, and she left there in December 2023.

At this point, Kate wasn’t sure what she was going to do next, so she took some time to figure that out. She actually moved back to her childhood home in Perry, where she is currently living. When the word got out that she had left *Most Buffalo*, she was approached about the open position at the National Comedy Center in Jamestown. Previously she had sometimes come to Jamestown to do a story on the comedy center, and she was very intrigued by the center. Kate was hired by the comedy center and is now the new Communications and Content Strategist. When she was asked exactly when that title means, Kate said, “I will be an ambassador for the National Comedy Center, helping people understand

what the comedy center is and what it has to offer. I hope to show local residents and visitors alike, what a cool place it is to visit and that it offers a unique experience like no other. I’d like to use media and different platforms so that the National Comedy Center gets more exposure and help raise its profile.”

Right now, Kate is working for the comedy center remotely as well as at the comedy center. It’s only been a few weeks that she has worked at the comedy center, but she feels that it is a good fit for her now. Kate stated, “Humor is part of who I am, and I appreciate being part of an organization that respects comedy as a craft and art form. It’s an honor to be part of their mission.”

Let’s all welcome Kate to Jamestown and the National Comedy Center.

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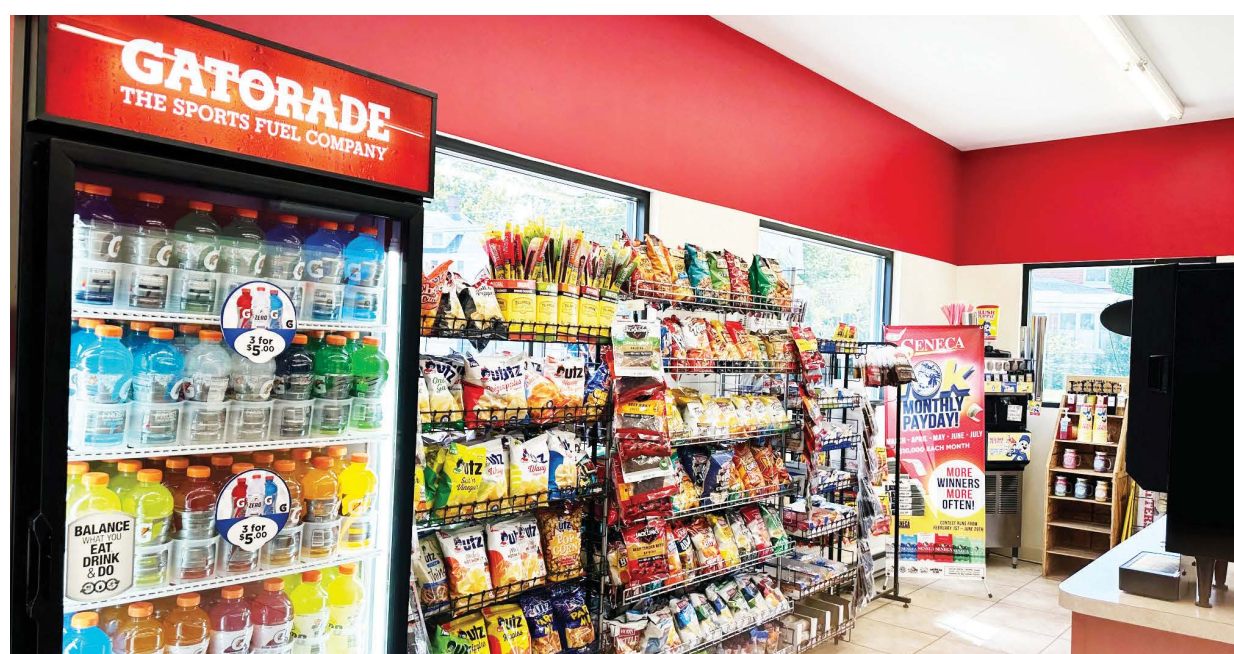
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# Yassou

## STORY FROM COVER

hundreds of people. You will also see food stations that house the delicious Greek cuisine that is the highlight of the festival. All the food is authentic homemade Greek food made by the local Greek community members. There is a variety of food to choose such as lamb shank dinners, souvlaki on a stick, gyro sandwiches, spanakopita, Greek hotdogs, Greek salad and much more. Make sure you leave room for some baklava, Rizogalo, cookies, and sweet breads for dessert.

At the far end of the big tent, there's a large space left open for the music and dancing performances. The Greek dances have history and meaning behind them and are entertaining as well. This year the dancers will be dancing to live Bouzouki music by The Aegeans at 5pm and 8pm on Friday evening and Saturday at 1pm, 5pm, and 8pm.

Under the big tent there is also a Greek boutique that has a variety of Greek and religious items. There will be t-shirts and other clothing, jewelry, Greek flags, scarves, and souvenirs. Be sure to stop and check out the unique

items this boutique has to offer.

Outside the large tent there is a smaller tent. This is a beer tent where adults can socialize and enjoy adult beverages. Available this year will be a selection of wine, beer, and seltzers.

The whole event takes place on the church grounds. This year the church will be open for church tours on Friday and Saturday at 2pm and 4 pm. Feel free to go inside at the designated times to see this amazing church.

This festival first started in 1982 under the leadership of Father Nicholas Rafael. He was instrumental in organizing the first Yassou festival along with other community members that helped organize it. It has been an ongoing annual festival since then, (except for 2 years during the Covid pandemic).

Currently, Alexis (Theofilactidis) Singleton is now the chairperson of the event. As a young girl, Alexis participated in helping her parents, family members, and church members organize and operate this event. She worked hand in hand with them, and through the years she learned how to plan, organize, operate this event. In 2022, Alexis took over as chairperson and now works side by side with her husband Todd who is a chef and certified safe food manager.

Alexis said, "We look

forward to welcoming the entire community to a big, fat Greek party in our front yard! This event gives our parish the opportunity to share our cultural heritage and our faith while supporting the work of St. Nicholas. We aim to capture the Greek Spirit of joy and hospitality under the tent, and we hope that people leave feeling eager for next year's event. Our children are involved in many different ways, and we look to them to carry on the tradition of Yassou in the future." She also said that she wants to thank the volunteers who help with the festival each year, and that it's a team effort in bringing the festival all together.

Admission to the festival is \$3 per person, and children under 12 get in free. Wait times to get in and to get food are shorter and more efficient than in the past. All food is available to-go. For a complete menu and for more information, you can go to Yassou Festival on Facebook or go to [www.yassoufestival.com](http://www.yassoufestival.com).

This year's festival promises to be a great community event and enjoyable for everyone. You will want to partake in some of the authentic Greek food, enjoy listening to the music, and watching the Greek dancers. You don't have to be Greek to participate in the festival and are encouraged to come and be Greek for the day!



# Build

## CONT. FROM PG. 6

floating around that the retail will be an Urgent Care, is there truth behind that? If so, any information on which company and if not do you know what will reside in the retail?  
**SC:** Chad, I tried to get an acute care center, but Ellicottville's population was less than what they desire in a location. I own an office building in Amherst which WellNow is a tenant, so I contacted them and several others and minimal population is 25 thousand residents. I am still actively looking

for a medical/ dental tenant.  
**V:** Will the apartments be full time residential or are you planning short term?  
**SC:** I am undetermined on short term versus long term. I will probably do a mix of both leaning toward more long term to stabilize the building.

**V:** Who will manage the building?  
**SC:** I have a management team in Buffalo that will probably manage the property, but I am open to a local management team.

Croce also added that "Tundo Construction is the General Contractor and is excited to expand his footprint in Ellicottville. Additionally, I would like to add that Caitlyn made the sale extremely seamless as

did the sellers family. They went above and beyond to give me the history of the house and the stories about their Great Aunt. Their kindness was infectious! I hope the building will honor their Aunt!"

The old house was a sort of soup kitchen for the stray cats in the village as the porch was where they were fed by locals who help keep them well. And the view from across the street will forever be different as those who have always known the old green dwelling and the folks seen living there become a memory. But the excitement of the new place getting erected soon will take its place as we watch Ellicottville grow even more.

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# Streamlined Shakespeare

*“The Tragedy of King Richard the Third”*



WEEKLY SYNOPSIS  
By BARBARA ARNSTEIN

Richard the Third (known in the early part of the play as the Duke of Gloucester) does a lot of horrible things to take over the throne of England, including lots of lying, betraying his brothers and his best buddy and having people killed. But the play itself has a very interesting connection to a romantic comedy. In the 1977 movie, “The Goodbye Girl”, Richard Dreyfuss plays an actor who’s cast as the lead in an off-off Broadway production of it. For playing the part of an actor playing a part, Dreyfuss won an Oscar for Best Actor, and at that time, at age thirty, he was the youngest actor ever to win it. The film also gathered Golden Globes for Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Screenplay and Best Motion Picture.

Speaking of popular

culture, did you ever watch the sitcom “How I Met Your Mother”? One of the running gags connected with the woman-chasing character Barney involved people saying to him, “I bet you can’t pick up a girl while...”, followed by various ridiculous things such as “...talking like a dolphin”. No matter how ridiculous they were, he would always enthusiastically respond, “Challenge accepted!”. Well, Richard the Third tackles not just one, but two, of what could be called unbelievably outrageous Barney-type challenges. In each challenge, Richard is not just trying to get a date, he’s trying to interest a woman in marriage. The major obstacle, in regard to the first woman he approaches, is that she hates his guts because he killed her husband! On top of that, Shakespeare ramps up the difficulty level by having him approach her while she’s mourning, right in front of her husband’s corpse! What can he possibly say to woo her?

He starts with a lot of flattery, praising her beauty, and saying he adores her, but it doesn’t go over very well. How can he tell? She

spits in his face. He then hands her his sword, and says if she wants to kill him, he’s fine with it. When she refuses, he says if she wants, he’ll kill himself. This softens her up a bit. Finally he pretends he’s very sorry about what he’s done, says he’s going to cry at her husband’s funeral, and asks if he can see her after that. She says okay. That’s not a good move, because to him, she’s only a stepping-stone to the throne.

The second outrageous “challenge” involves a conversation with the mother of the next woman he wants to marry. This time around, he’s talking to a woman he widowed, and whose sons he killed, who makes it very clear to him that she does not want him to marry her daughter. Yet he tries various tactics, such as promising she will have grandchildren to “replace” her sons, to get her to try and talk her daughter into accepting his proposal. She agrees (or so he thinks). In the end, Richard gets what’s coming to him. A battle begins, his army is defeated, he’s killed and someone better becomes the king.

# Happenings in Chautauqua County this Weekend

By DARLENE BRACE

This weekend, there are some great annual festivals as well as other live music to attend. Let’s see what’s happening in Chautauqua County this weekend.

**Thursday June 6 - The City of Dunkirk’s Music on the Pier Summer Concert Series** will begin this Thursday and will take place every Thursday, June 6-Aug. 22. Opening acts will start at 5:30pm and the headlining bands will perform at 6:45pm. Bring your own chairs and enjoy each Thursday with a variety of music on the shores of beautiful Lake Erie! This Thursday, 90’s cover band **Grungebox** will start at 5:30pm. **Walk of Shame** will begin at 6:45pm, playing a variety of classic rock, pop and country tunes.

**Jamie Smith** will perform at the **Busti Tap House** at 6:30pm. Enjoy listening to this talented musician while enjoying a great meal and drinks. Maybe you can enjoy the outdoor patio, weather permitting.

**Karl and Marks Revolution** will perform at the **Good Time Saloon**. Come listen to Karl and Mark play some of your favorite tunes. You can play pool, darts, or Quick Draw while listening to this talented duo.

**Friday June 7 - Music on the Stoop** continues in downtown **Jamestown at Brazil**. This week, Adam Gould will be performing his acoustic tunes starting at 6pm.

As part of their Summer Music Series, **Southern Tier Brewing Company** will be having live music starting at 6pm by the **Riff Riders**. The Riff Riders play a bluesy rock kind of music. Come enjoy the music while sipping on



**The Merritt Strawberry Festival** is taking place in **Forestville** this weekend. There will be a variety of vendors, a cruise-in, and kid’s activities along with delicious food and drinks. All weekend there will be live music. **Friday night** features **Uncle Ben’s Remedy**, with special guest **Ten Cent Howl** from 7pm-10pm.

your favorite Southern Tier beverage.

**Big Inlet** will be hosting **Sarah James** starting at 6pm. Sarah plays originals and a wide variety of covers. Bring your family and friends with you to listen to this talented musician.

**Miranda Wilcox** will perform at **EBC in Little Valley** starting at 6pm. She plays a variety of music from many genres including decades of music. Come check it out. She also is playing at the **Busti Tap House**. from 1:30pm to 4:30pm as part of their **Sunday Funday**. Enjoy the patio and some of their delicious food.

**Saturday, June 8th - Nick Slagle** will be performing five decades of covers and originals of folk/Americana music at the **Cooler Bar and Grill in Sherman**. His performance starts at 8pm.

Popular local band **Black Widow** will be performing at the **Bemus Point Casino**. They will be rocking the point with their classic rock and pop set lists from 9:30pm to 1:30am.

In nearby **Cattaraugus County**, **Afraid of Human** will be performing at **The Hideaway in Steamburg** from 6:30pm-9:30pm. They play a variety of originals as well as some selective covers. Come and listen to their unique sound while having a great meal from The Hideaway’s delicious menu.

**The Fish in Bemus Point** will be rocking it out this weekend. On **Friday Seismic Urge**, which is a rock cover band, will be performing starting at 6:30. On **Saturday** night, classic rock party band **NY2LA** will be playing at 6:30pm. On **Sunday, Dark Water Duo** will play from 3:30pm-7pm.

**EBC in Bemus Point** will have entertainment all weekend. On **Friday night, Brown Dog Acoustic** will be performing its energetic acoustic rock and country music from 7pm-10pm. On **Saturday afternoon, Jenuine Cello** will be strumming instrumental music from 2pm-4pm.

SEE “EVENTS”, Pg. 15

# Trails

CONT. FROM PG. 8

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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 2011 as part of Jamestown Area Medical Associates. Dr. Woloszyn is currently affiliated with Olean General Hospital. He takes a personalized approach seeing every patient with exceptional individualized care in a professional and welcoming environment. Combining the newest technology with extensive knowledge, skills, and passion for his patients, he takes a comprehensive approach to diagnosis and treatment with a firm belief that proper care requires a high level of doctor patient communication. He spends time with each patient explaining their options, answering questions, and addressing concerns. His medical practice offers ready patient access, same day appointments, state of the art facility, and newest medical technology.

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## Whether Outside or In, Live Music is Always Available

**By MouthSay Tongue**  
Don't hold your breath but the weatherman says we might get two sunny days in a row. While we're waiting there's plenty of music to enjoy so let's see who's playing where.

Weekends start on Thursday around here and Balloons is first up with Burger and Brew Night from 4-10pm. \$15 gets your choice of any burger and any beer with house made chips. This week's musical host is Aaron Ziolkowski from 6-9pm. He plays acoustic and blues-based rock.

The Gin Mill hosts Kody and Herren from 8-11pm. This couple plays a rock/ folk/roots/ country set of covers and originals. Try some of the 37 beers that are always on tap.

**FRIDAY**  
Balloons is back with The Diggin Roots Band from 6:30-10pm. This band plays a roots/blues/ funk/rock set of originals and covers. Out in the tent David Froese will play country covers and the occasional original from 10-1am. Dj Andre the Giant Redhead will provide the sauce so you can do the floss on the two dance floors from 10-2am.

We return to The Gin Mill for Two Guys Drinking Beer from 8-12am. Ron and Terry play a rock/pop/folk/blues set of cover you'll know the words to. Try the latest kitchen in town open till

10 sun-thurs and 11pm fri-sat. Open for breakfast 9-11am sat-sun.

Madigans is a player with Dj Exposure from 9-2am playin some funk so you can shake your junk in the window on Washington.

**SATURDAY**  
The Gin Mill is the early bird with Meet the Bacons from 2-5pm. This couple plays an Americana/folk/ country/rock set of covers and originals. Wasted Whiskey takes the stage from 8-12am. This band plays music that pushes the boundary between country and rock.

Balloons is back with Backlog from 6:30-10pm. This band plays top 40 covers from the 70's till today. The back bar will host Michael Nowak from 10-1am. Michael plays a rock/pop/country/ alt set 9of covers. Dj KT Stylez will play some jams so you can shake your gams from 10-2am.

The Taqueria joins the party with Jenuine Cello from 7-9pm. This very talented lady utilizes a looping device to accompany herself on cello and vocals playing some originals and cover music.

We're back at Madigans for Dj Kage from 9-2am playin some thumpin for the bumpin.

**SUNDAY**  
The Gin Mill is back with The Chillbillys from 2-5pm. This husband and wife act play a rock/pop/country/ blues/folk set of covers and originals. Check out the

Carriage House Sidebar for some craft cocktails made with high end spirits.

Villakkio hosts its AYCE Pasta Night and Prime Rib Special from 5-9pm. Fresh made pasta with the toppings of your choice or savory prime cooked the way you like it. Chris Maloney resumes his summer residency from 5:30-8:30pm. Chris plays a rock/pop/folk/ alt set of covers to accompany your meal.

Monday is Strings and Wings at Balloons from 4-10pm. 50 sent wings and a fine selection of craft beers accompanied by your musical hosts The Chillbillys from 6-9pm. This is a locals favorite.

The Gin Mills Monday musical guest is Michael David from 8-11pm. Michael plays an acoustic multi genre set I covers. Don't forget those 37 beers on tap.

The Gin Mill hosts Marty Peters Duo from 7-10pm Tuesday. Marty plays a blues/folk set of covers from the 70-90's.

Wing, Wednesday at The Gin Mill is how we've ended our weekends for the last 40 years \$1 wings with music provided by Brian Rick from 7-10pm. Brian plays a rock/pop/folk/ country set of covers. This is another locals favorite.

We hope you had a magnificent time in our village and that you continue to return but wherever you are PLEASE, ALWAYS SUPPORT LIVE MUSIC!!!!

## Beat on the Street:

"What Would be a Good New Way to Start Small Talk?"

By Chad Neal



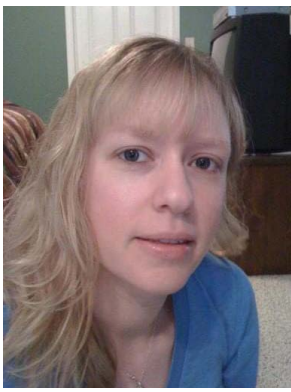
The menial accounts of the day involve talking to other people who you know and to keep from awkward silence being the room tone while being close enough to communicate nicely - we say unvaried things. These are everyday repetitive words that don't mean anything, except the silence has been broken. Many times though the small talk leads to more engrossing conversations and laughter and wonder may ensue, but those typical moments waiting in line or sitting on a bus or barstool next to someone you kind of know may not be the situation you want at the moment, but to keep from seeming distant or stuck up we talk about the weather, the sports teams, the news of the day. And sometimes too, those can lead to unnerving discussion about matters that will never resolved, but opinions are uttered and ignoring them is difficult sometimes. The use of our language is a wonderful thing though and finding a way to make idle talk more interesting should be something we all try. What would be a good new way to start small talk?



Israel M.- Open with a compliment Like nice shoes...

Candice C.- Crouch down and whisper.

Beth N.- Hi! What's your favorite dinosaur?



Maria P.- Wow, your energy is radiating!

Sara G.- How much does a polar bear weigh? Enough to break the ice.. Hi.

Carolyn B.- Hi! I'm fascinated with serial killers. You?

Do You Have a Suggested Question For Beat on the Street? Send it in! [www.thevillagerny.com](http://www.thevillagerny.com) "General Submissions"

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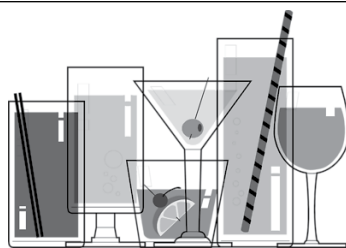
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## ★ ★ Sudoku Challenge ★ ★

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!**

Last Week's Puzzle:

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

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

## Duo

CONT. FROM COVER

and Rick plays guitar with Margie on tambourine. The reason they play is simple – they love music and enjoy playing together.

Rick is the youngest of 5 siblings, and he grew up with music as his father was a musician playing lead guitar in the band Milk and Cookies. His band cut a record in Olean and traveled to Los Angeles in hopes of making it in the music industry. "Music was always a part of my life," says Rick. "We supported my dad's music career; it was a big part of my childhood."

Rick moved to Las Vegas, where he, inspired by his musician friends along with his musical upbringing, finally decided to learn to play guitar at age 19. "My friends were all in bands, so I finally asked my roommate to teach me how to play." Rick learned mostly by listening, and caught on quickly. His dad was thrilled, and encouraged him to play various genres of music. "Once my dad discovered I'd learned how to play, he wanted me to play everything."

When Rick moved back to Portville, he played alongside his dad and learned as much as he could from his expertise. Along the way, Rick also learned drums and bass, and filled in with other bands playing casual shows in the area. He eventually learned vocals when he started playing solo gigs.

Margie was born in the Bronx and grew up in Mayville, NY. She was always interested in music, and participated in school musicals and taught herself to play keyboard and piano. Margie dubs herself

as the "Karaoke Queen", frequently performing, and winning several karaoke contests in the area. She won the Texaco County Showdown in WNY twice, and competed in the national competition in Las Vegas.

She joined the karaoke band Rich and Famous performing at area resorts and local events. Margie also sang vocals for Buffalo and Jamestown based bands, but began to scale back as her kids grew older. "I've always loved performing, and being a part of a band was exhilarating, but I decided to step back take a different role."

Margie and Rick first met by chance at a show Rick was playing in Randolph, NY. "A friend of mine encouraged me to sing on stage," recalls Margie. "I sang a few songs with Rick and we had a blast. We decided to play more shows together and we really enjoyed ourselves. Everything happened naturally from there."

The name Interstate Daydream was inspired by a song Rick heard on the radio. "Margie and I were looking for a name for our duo, when I heard a song on the radio with the lyrics Interstate Daydream. I can't remember the song, but I definitely remember those lyrics. It was catchy and it worked."

Interstate Daydream has been playing shows in the area for about 3 years. "We get along so well," says Margie. "It's not just singing; we have such a good time together on stage and it makes for a great show. We love interacting with the crowd, telling jokes and doing sing-along songs. We want everyone to have a good time and enjoy themselves at our shows. Rick does a great job reading the room and creating the set list as we

go along. We love crowd involvement and are always learning new songs to keep up with the times, keeping our music fresh. I can't imagine playing with anyone else," says Margie. "It's incredible being on stage, watching the crowd sing along and have a great time makes it all worth it."

The duo frequents Ellicottville (Gin Mill and Balloons) and will be playing the Bemus Point Casino regularly this summer. They recently signed with an agent, Sandy Raynor, who is helping them broaden their reach and play different venues. Interstate Daydream will be opening for Bob Seegar Tribute Touring Band at the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club this summer. "We're really excited for this show; it's like nothing we've ever done before. We love Bob and it's an honor to open for him."

The duo frequents Ellicottville (Gin Mill and Balloons) and will be playing the Bemus Point Casino regularly this summer. They recently signed with an agent, Sandy Raynor, who is helping them broaden their reach and play different venues. Interstate Daydream will be opening for Bob Seegar Tribute Touring Band at the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club this summer. "We're looking forward to playing different venues and furthering our experience together. There're so many unique locations in the area. We're fortunate to live in an area with such a vibrant music scene."

For more information, follow Interstate Daydream on Facebook, website to be launched soon. View upcoming shows on The Villager Events Calendar <https://thevillagerny.com/new-events-calendar/>

## Roamer

CONT. FROM PG. 4

and other items that have long gone by the wayside. You may run into some of those things when you visit the shop. Carries partner, Dani Creno serves as her marketing manager and vintage curator. I had the opportunity to meet Dani the week before Carrie's interview and found her to be just as delightful. Dani attends estate sales and scours the internet for antique items for resale in the shop.

Meanwhile Carrie's life is quite full. She's a busy single mom sharing joint custody to three children.

She earned a degree in public relations and now works full time for BOCES in that capacity.

They utilize all three floors of the location. Her original artwork items are surrounded by an array of other things inspired by the outdoors. The basement is used for screen printing and shipping.

In her spare time Carrie enjoys hiking and especially enjoyed discovering the Grand Tetons and the Adirondacks. Her greatest challenge is how this is a learning year for her. She says she needs to learn the trends of being open after the busy skiing season to help guide her decision making.

You can contact her by her website <https://wildroamer.shop>

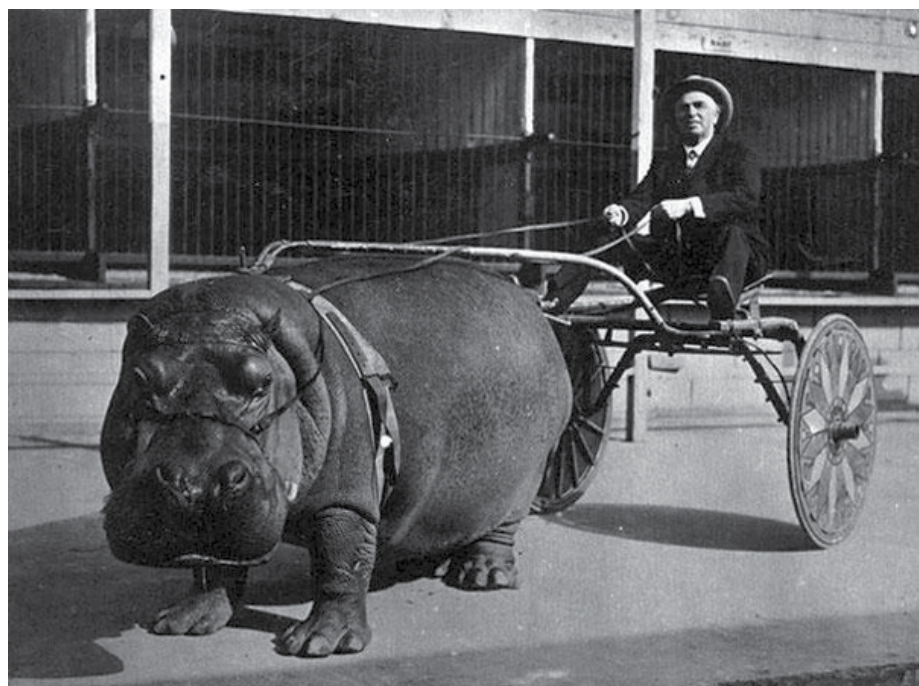


wildroamer.shop and also Facebook and Instagram (@wildroamer.shop). Also email [wildroamershop@gmail.com](mailto:wildroamershop@gmail.com).

Thank you Carrie, for your time and marvelous energy and sense of humor. You have become a pleasant addition to my EVL Village Life.

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## From Bryan's Brain



Circus Hippo pulling a cart to promote the circus 1924

# Italian-American Charity Tournament

Annual Fundraiser at Holiday Valley Returns this Week

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## Born in June



**Michael J. Fox : June 9, 1968**  
Birthplace: Edmonton Canada. Age: 62

## Retro Images

Photo Picks From Days Gone By



**Princess Diana meets Mr Bean (Rowan Atkinson 1984**



Photos/ Jon Elder, 2023

### FLASH BACK ARTICLE BY BROOKE SZPAICHER, 2022

The Italian-American Charity Golf Association started in 1971 by thirteen original committed men. This year marks the 53rd anniversary of bringing together family and friends from all over, over a common bond. "This tournament is one that always brings back fond memories when my

dad was alive and used to play with Frank Vassalo. Every year, my dad would look forward to the competition, but most importantly the friendships he had made over the years by participating in this event. I still remember how proud my dad would be to bring my mom and my sisters up to "show us off!", says current Chairman of the Italian American Golf Association, David

Munella. I was fortunate enough to catch up with Munella, who remembers my dad (Eddie Szpaicher of Ellicottville)! (Munella's father was on the original committee in 1971!) See full article: <https://thevillagerny.com/italian-american-charity-golftournament-returns-to-holiday-valley-june-9-11/>

## Events

CONT. FROM PG. 12

Later that night, **DJ Queen of the Beats** will be spinning your favorite tunes from 8pm-12am. On **Sunday** there will be a brunch from 12pm-3pm and a talented duo named **SON** will entertain the crowd.

**Celeron Ribfest** will be taking place and features live music every evening. On **Wednesday night**, **Taylor Remaid** will kick off the festival by performing from 6pm-9pm. **Thursday evening**, **Backlog** will perform rock and roll from 6pm-9pm. On **Friday**, the **Derek Davis Trio** will

play a variety of genres from 5pm-7:30 followed by country/rock band **Bucked Up** that will perform from 8pm-11 pm. The live music continues **Saturday** afternoon with **The Untouchables** playing decades of favorite tunes from 4:30pm-7:30pm. Concluding the festival is **Smokin' 45**, playing "country music with a little bit of rock at 8pm.

**The Merritt Strawberry Festival** is taking place in Forestville this weekend. There will be a variety of vendors, a cruise-in, and kid's activities along with delicious food and drinks. All weekend there will be live music. **Friday** night features **Uncle Ben's Remedy**, with special

guest **Ten Cent Howl** from 7pm-10pm. On **Saturday afternoon**, **Tacoma Meltdown** play from 12pm-3pm, playing hits from the 70s-today. **Black Widow** will take the stage from 3:30pm-6:30pm to perform classic rock and pop hits. Rounding out the evening is headliner, **Uncovered**, playing popular party band covers. On **Sunday**, **Red Rain** performs decades of tunes from 12pm-3pm, followed by party band **Party McFly** from 3:30pm-6:30pm.

Great live music, ribs, and strawberry shortcake, all in the same weekend!! Yum, Yum!! Look for the next Villager issue to see what's happening in Chautauqua County next weekend.

## Walter's World

Photo Picks From "The Rittman Show"



**Black Bear Crossing Lake Chautauqua June 2, 2024**

## Womens History Images

Photos of Women in History



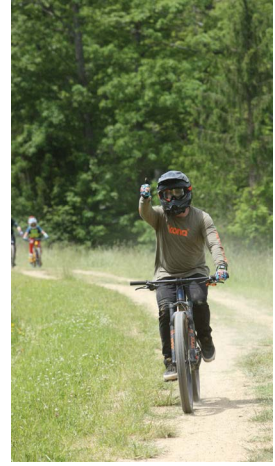
**Dr. Mary Edwards Walker 1832-1919**  
As a surgeon, women's rights advocate, abolitionist, and spy, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker became the first female U.S. Army surgeon during the Civil War. She championed women's suffrage and advocated for "dress reform." She is also the only woman to have received the Medal of Honor in U.S. History.

Views From Ellicottville, NY: 1st Annual Ellicottville Health Fair June 1st at Nannen Arboretum

Photos: Jon Elder



HoliMont Bike Park Rolling Out the Fun this Summer



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