

FREE

The Villager

EL LICOTTVILLE • CHAUTAUQUA

Area Events

NIGHT LIGHTS AT GRIFFIS SCULPTURE PARK
Sat/Sun, September 28-29 • 10pm
East Otto, NY

FALCONER FARMER'S MARKET
Friday, September 27 • 12pm
Falconer, NY

ART AFTER 5 AT RTPI
Friday, September 27 • 5:30pm
Jamestown, NY

VOICES AND VOTES AT THE ROBERT H. JACKSON CENTER
Friday, September 27 • All Day
Jamestown, NY

NIGHTMARE HAYRIDES
Fri/Sat/Sun, Sept 27-29 • 7:30pm
Ellicottville, NY

FREDONIA FARMER'S MARKET
Saturday, September 28 • 9am
Fredonia, NY

JAMESTOWN PUBLIC MARKET
Saturday, August 28 • 10am
Jamestown, NY

CHERRY CREEK FALL FESTIVAL
Sat/Sun, September 28 • 11am
Cherry Creek, NY

50TH BUSTI APPLE FESTIVAL
Sat/Sun September 28-29, • 12pm
Busti, NY

WEEKEND CHAIRLIFT RIDES AT HOLIDAY VALLEY
Sat/Sun, September 28-29 • 11am
Ellicottville, NY

FALL FOLIAGE TRAIN RIDE
Fri/Sat, September 28-29 • 10am
Gowanda NY

ROOTS, ROCKS AND RIDGES
Saturday, September 29 • 10am
Ellicottville, NY

THE RESERVE PRESENTS: SUMMER NIGHTS FESTIVAL
Sunday, September 29 • 7pm
Great Valley, NY

FREE FISHING DAY IN NY!
Sunday, September 30 • All Day
All of, NY State

MOVIES AT THE REG FLY ME TO THE MOON
Wednesday, October 2 • 7pm
Jamestown, NY

CASH BASH 2024
Thursday, October 3 • 8pm
Jamestown, NY

JAMESTOWN PUBLIC MARKET
Saturday, October 5 • 10am
Jamestown, NY

SALAMANCA-SENECA FALLING LEAVES FESTIVAL
Fri-Sun, October 4-6 • 11am
Salamanca, NY

www.thevillagerny.com

Panama Rocks Foliage Festival

Celebrating Fall and the Halloween Season



Over seventy art and craft vendors including Paul Jackino who will be there with his rocket stove, pictured. Activities are planned throughout both days including a Halloween costume contest; if you plan to hike, dress accordingly.

BY DARLENE BRACE

If you ride about fifteen miles west of Jamestown, you will find Panama Rocks Scenic Park at 11 Rock Hill Road in Panama, NY. This park is known for its

enormous rocks and hiking trails. If you venture out there the first weekend of October, you will find that they are having their third annual Panama Rocks

SEE "ROCKS" PG. 6

WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway

2024 Photo Contest; Deadline, Nov. 30, 2024



2023 Second place, mobile device - "Covered Bridge" by Sherry Taber.

BY KATE BARTLETT

The Western New York Southtowns Scenic Byway recently announced their 3rd annual photography contest

running through November 30, 2024. The contest is open to everyone, all ages and ability, amateur and professional

SEE "BYWAY" PG. 4

Lakewood Fall Festival

Next Saturday, October 5 in Historic District



BY DARLENE BRACE

The changing of the seasons is now upon us. If you are looking for something fun for you and your family to do on a beautiful autumn day, just go a few minutes west of Jamestown, to the historic lakeside community of Lakewood. On October 5, the Lakewood Fall Festival will be taking place on Chautauqua Avenue in Lakewood. Portions of Chautauqua Avenue will be closed to traffic, as vendors will line the streets starting at 10am, and the festival will continue until 6pm. Some of the southern sections of Chautauqua Avenue and the adjoining side streets will be available for parking.

Many of the stores, like Pea Pod and Juniper I and II, Cotton Thistle Boutique, Good Neighbor Bookstore, Watch Shop, Bag and String Wine Merchants, Vitality Natural Health and Wellness, and most of the other village businesses will be open. You can stop in, browse, and shop. They may be having some discounts, so you will have to stop in and see.

There will also be a variety of artisan vendors along Chautauqua Avenue starting on the north end near Terrace Avenue. Some vendors will also be set up in the parking lot of the Town of Busti office

SEE "LAKEWOOD" PG. 7

Pumpkinville Fall Weekends

Building Family Traditions Since 1956



Pumpkinville grew little by little into what it has become today: a 250-acre farm and destination for families to spend the day and make memories year after year. Activities include corn maze, cow train, jumping pillow, kids fun zone, gem mining, apple blaster, paintball, carousel, Pumpkinville Express Train, hayride, petting zoo (goats, pigs, horses, chickens and more), baby chick encounters and more.

BY KATE BARTLETT

Fall is on the horizon, and Pumpkinville in Great Valley celebrated their opening weekend September 14-15th. This family owned and operated farm has been building family

traditions since 1968 and the Pawlowski's are thrilled to be back for their 56th year. It truly is the original destination for everything fall.

Before the Pawlowski's,

SEE "PUMPKINVILLE" PG. 6

Sneak Peek Inside this Edition...

Griffis Sculpture Park Illuminates

NIGHT LIGHTS Returns in E. Otto, NY ... Pg. 3



New to NIGHT LIGHTS this year will be artistic performers and artists on each night. Local musicians, painters, storytellers, LED hoopers, instrumentalists, poetry and more will be displaying their talents throughout the NIGHT LIGHTS trail system.

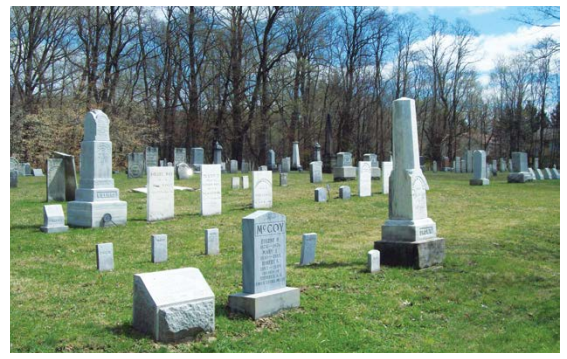
106 Years of Steppingstones ... pg. 7

Celebrating Jamestown Native, Dorothy Valone Snitger

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

Ellicottville Ghost Walk Tours

Historical Soc. Hosts Fridays through Oct.



This year's walk will take visitors into the Ellicottville Museum and the United Church and then on to the Jefferson Street Cemetery to visit a few graves with paranormal history. On your walk you will learn about the ghost investigation that took place in both of those buildings. The investigations were performed by Spirit Hunters, Inc., Paranormal Investigations, a Native American family group founded by Shane White Eagle, which does ghost investigations in a respectful way.

BY CAROL FISHER LINN

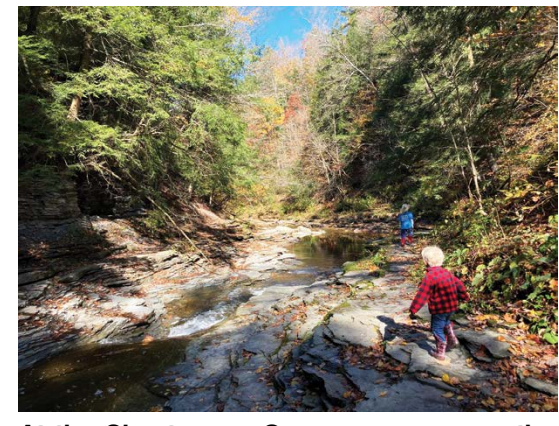
Is Ellicottville haunted? Raise your hand if you know it is - or take a ghost walk.....

For years, I have been convinced that there is at least one house in the village of Ellicottville that is haunted, as well as one on Hencoop Road. In fact, we had a male visitor in our own basement several years ago that my son had a one-way conversation with as "it" pumped the pedals of

SEE "GHOST TOUR" PAGE 5

Mysterious Chautauqua Gorge

538 Acres of State Land, Easily Accessible



At the Chautauqua Gorge, you can see the 350-million-year history of the area in exposed rock layers, earth's geological history mapped before your eyes, millennia of erosion, water flow, and natural weathering. It's a valuable and unique classroom for geologists, offering insights into the region's prehistoric past and the forces that shaped the Appalachian Plateau.

BY BILL BURK

If you live in the west part of the county, you're undoubtedly familiar with the Chautauqua Gorge. It's 538 acres of state land, easily accessible from launch points from Mayville to Westfield.

For most of the other points of the compass, that natural geological Western New York wonder contains a bit of a mystery. It's a striking natural feature that has captured the attention

SEE "GORGE" PAGE 11

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Publisher's Word

"Happy National Good Neighbor Day!"

September 28 is officially "Good Neighbor Day" and I have to say, I have been blessed in so many ways by my thoughtful neighbors. Be it the people that have lived directly next

door to me for a decade, acknowledged for their or the neighbors in our neighboring counties, I have been friends with and worked with for decades, we truly live in a Tri-County of Good Neighbors. People in our area do good things and make amazing things happen. We live it, read about it and hear about it all the time. From fundraisers, scholarships, benefits, honors and awards - our area always puts appreciation in the forefront. As we always ask, if you know someone who should be

outstanding service to the community, please drop us a line, we build these pages for people like you. You can reach us at any time: info@thevillager.com, submit direct on our website: www.thevillager.com and click "General Submissions" tab, or call our offices (716) 699-2058, we look forward to hearing your good stories!
Until next week, yours in writing -
Jeanine Caprino Zimmer

Happy Birthday

Sharon Metz... September 26th · Jackson Bacon... September 26th
Robbie Knab... September 28th · Shirley Folts Lindell... September 28th
Shannon Palmetier... September 30th · Jack Little... October 2nd
Laura Flanagan... October 5th · Sean Lowes... October 6th
Email us your birthday greetings: info@thevillager.com

'25 Ellicottville Phone Directories Call Our Offices Today to Update Your Info.

If you are a resident of Ellicottville and you are not listed in the Ellicottville Phone Directory and would like to be or if you know of someone who has moved, please contact our offices today so we can update our files and keep bringing to you the must up to date information each year. 716-699-2058 · info@thevillager.com.

RocketCup Coffee Co.

Launching Third Location in Cattaraugus County



its Cattaraugus location - 18 Main Street, Cattaraugus, NY 14719.

"We're dedicated to crafting exceptional coffee and cocktails that celebrate local flavors and artisanal techniques," said Cedric Manganiello, spokesperson for RocketCup. "Our new Roastery offers a behind-the-scenes look at our roasting process, emphasizing quality and sustainability. The Speakeasy provides a unique ambiance where guests can enjoy innovative cocktails made with carefully selected ingredients."

coffee roasting process. Live demonstrations will highlight the skill and dedication behind the perfect blend.

The Speakeasy, a captivating counterpoint to the bustling cafe, provides an intimate setting for savoring meticulously crafted artisanal cocktails. This tucked-away parlor promises a unique experience where you relax with a flavorful libation.

Live music and entertainment will add to the festive atmosphere, and attendees can engage with the founder and head roaster, delving into the heart and soul of RocketCup.

The team at RocketCup invites the community to join them to celebrate this milestone.

For more information, visit <https://www.rocketcupcoffee.com>.

By Dave Parker

Cattaraugus, NY - Coffee lovers and cocktail enthusiasts, rejoice! RocketCup, the rapidly growing coffee company with cafes in Olean and Cattaraugus, is set to launch its brand-new Roastery and Speakeasy on Friday, October 4th, at 6 pm at

quality and sustainability. The Speakeasy provides a unique ambiance where guests can enjoy innovative cocktails made with carefully selected ingredients. The grand opening promises a fascinating experience with guided tours of the Roastery, showcasing the intricate

Mystery Dinner Event at Moon Brook C.C.

Kidney Donation Awareness Fundraiser, November 9

Area residents are encouraged to take part in solving an original, interactive mystery while helping a community organization raise funds for and expand awareness of the lifesaving impact of living kidney donations. The Kidney Connection will host "Mystery at Angelina and Frank's Wedding" beginning at 6pm on Saturday, November 9, at Moon Brook Country Club in Jamestown.

Jeanette Caprino, organizer of the event, co-founded the Kidney Connection in 2006. The process of helping her son receive a kidney from a stranger she met through the internet has galvanized her commitment to assisting those in need of transplants in our region to be matched with donors. According to national statistics, over 90,000 individuals are awaiting kidney transplants in the United States.

"We promote kidney donation and educate those in need on how to be proactive," Ms. Caprino said. "We also gather feedback from people who have donated a kidney and relay their experiences and feelings to those considering becoming living kidney donors." To that end, the organization created KidneyConnection.org, a



"Solve a Mystery" - Saving Lives. Pictured left to right: Nelson Garifi, Jeanette Caprino, Joe Iuculano, Nina Bell and Dennis Webster.

free site for potential living kidney donors and people in need on the waiting list to communicate. In recent years, this type of venue has been the meeting place for donors and recipients across the country. "We hope that this site will help our neighbors and friends make that connection and that more people will be able to give and receive the gift of life," Ms. Caprino said.

The November 9 mystery will feature performers who have been involved in the longest continuous mysteries in the Jamestown area. Guests will be immersed in an Italian family wedding scenario including an Italian buffet with music provided by

accordionist Joe Iuculano. Dennis Webster will serve as the chief inspector as the wedding guests try to solve a crime. Characters will be portrayed by Jade Barber, Jamie Bell, Emily Blackwood, Nelson Garifi, Ken Phillips, Tim Piazza, Lucas Rizcker, Steve Riczker, Paula Rondeau, and Sheila Webster. Admission is \$60 per person which includes the buffet. A cash bar will be available. For reservations, email Jeanette at jeanettecaprino@gmail.com or call/text 716.450.8958. Seating is limited. Additional information is available at www.kidneyconnection.org.

Griffis Sculpture Park Illuminates

NIGHT LIGHTS Returns for 12th Year in E. Otto, NY

The local artistic community will be in the spotlight, when NIGHT LIGHTS at Griffis Sculpture Park returns for its 12th consecutive autumn. The amazing sculpture park will be illuminated in colorful theatrical lighting when NIGHT LIGHTS at Griffis Sculpture Park is back for the season. A portion of the legendary park's landscape and sculptures are seen in a whole different light.

New to NIGHT LIGHTS this year will be artistic performers and artists on each night. Local musicians, painters, storytellers, LED hoopers, instrumentalists, poetry and more will be displaying their talents throughout the NIGHT LIGHTS trail system. The artist's appearances are made possible through a grant from Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation. A schedule of the appearing artists will be released shortly.

"We are very excited to feature a diverse array of artists each evening," said Nila Griffis, executive director of the Griffis Sculpture Park. "Our visitors will discover the artists on their walk



Griffis Sculpture Park is located at 6902 Mill Valley Rd, East Otto, NY 14729.

through the lights. It will provide an upclose experience with the arts and also add to the adventure of attending NIGHT LIGHTS."

NIGHT LIGHTS continues to be an annual autumn tradition in Western New York," NIGHT LIGHTS blends creative lighting, sculpture, sound, and nature to deliver an unforgettable outdoor

experience. At NIGHT LIGHTS, guests are able to venture on an unguided walk through a portion of the Mill Valley Rd site of the sculpture park, where the trails and sculptures will interact with creative lighting – creating a truly unique experience. The walk is about .7 miles and is on an up-and-back nature

SEE "GRIFFIS" PG. 5

“EV Play Place” Highlight

Silly Face Activity Panel

By KELSEY 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 activity panels, specifically the Silly Face Activity Panel. Introducing the Silly Face



ACTIVITY PANEL

Spread through the playground both freestanding and incorporated into the equipment are activity panels containing a wide variety of games, music, or other sensory activities. The Silly Face Activity Panel encompasses an approximately 2x3 foot area featuring a circle of painted animal faces making exaggerated expressions depicting a range of emotions from happy to sad to silly or scared. The bright and imaginative animal faces are centered around a round mirror to help encourage the child to try

and make a silly face too. This panel is intended for children 2-12 years of age.

BENEFITS TO OUR COMMUNITY

Understanding facial expressions is an integral part of communication and a skill that is learned throughout childhood. Thought to start as early as age 7 month and continues to 14 years of age, mastery takes time and practice. The Silly Face Activity Panel is a fun way for young children to explore and mimic facial expressions. This can be in discussion with a care taker or independently trying to copy them with a friend in the mirror. For children, play is learning. Another consideration is for those children who are hard of hearing. They rely

more heavily on visual cues for communication, these expressive faces provide opportunities for understanding emotions and social interactions without relying on spoken language.

Fundraising Efforts We are actively working on fundraising. The Silly Face Active panel will cost \$1,581. 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](https://www.instagram.com/ellicottvilleplayground). Find more information at <https://unlimitedplay.org/playground/the-ellicottville-playground>

Chili Cookoff & Raffle, Sept, 28

Benefit for Rotary of EVL at Madigan's from 4-7pm

Enjoy live music, delicious chili tastings, and ice-cold beverages. Participate in the 50/50 and basket raffles to win craft products and goods from local businesses and place your bid online in the silent auction to win exclusive prizes such as a signed Buffalo Sabres jersey, a Cygaro Membership, a hand-crafted fire pit, beautiful art sculptures, and much more!

If you would like to donate to the basket raffle or be a contestant in the Chili Cookoff, send us a

message on our Facebook page, The Rotary Club of Ellicottville.

The entry fee to be a contestant in the Chili Cookoff is \$25. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners with the judging to take place live at the event.

If you would like to enter the Chili Cookoff, please either sign up, please Anderson at Madigan's or contact John Weismantel at 716-228-7288.

About the Rotary Club of Ellicottville:

The Rotary Club of Ellicottville, a volunteer-based organization, supports local initiatives such as the Ellicottville All-Inclusive Playground, scholarships for local students, and the Great Valley Food Pantry. Our efforts rely on fundraising and donations, with the Chili Cookoff & Raffle being our biggest event of the year.

You can start bidding now at <https://auctria.events/EVLRotaryOnlineAuction2024>. The Chili Tasting is \$10/person; cash and Venmo accepted.

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PROGRAM! WHY LEASE?

Shoot for the Vets, September 28

Annual Ellicottville Sportsmen's Club Fundraiser



The National Guard will be on site serving up food in their mess trailer. "We love having the National Guard come out for this. For some of us, it's reminiscent of meals when we served; some of the vets haven't seen it in over 40 years."

By KATE BARTLETT

This September marks the 4th annual Shoot for the Vets Fundraiser hosted by the Ellicottville Sportsman's Club on Saturday the 28th. The fundraiser has raised around \$3,000/year towards the Buffalo and Batavia VA Hospitals Recreation Therapy Departments. The event is open to everyone with cash prizes and trophies are awarded to select categories, and a fun time is guaranteed for all.

Stan Grochowina, Army Veteran and President of the Ellicottville Sportsman's Club, founded this event in 2021 in efforts to gather the community together for a day of trap shooting to raise funds for the VA. "It is a great opportunity for new and experienced shooters alike to gather in camaraderie and further their skills, all for a great cause," says Stan. "Trap shooting is a great sport for everyone: men, women, teenagers, even the disabled. It's now an Olympic sport too." Stan is also the Trap Shooting coach for Ellicottville High School, and enjoys training high schoolers in the sport.

The event takes place

at the scenic Ellicottville Sportsman's Club, located at 5609 Route 242 from 9am-2pm. Participants can join at any point of the day with two trap ranges. The first range features 25, 16-yard singles, the second has 25, 16-yard wobbles. Scores will be tallied at both courses with a leaderboard running throughout the day. "We attract a wide variety of shooters from various regions," says Stan. "It's a great course."

There will also be a 50/50 and basket raffles throughout the day. Entry fee is \$20 for 50 targets, with 100% of events proceeds to benefit the VA.

The Recreational Therapy Departments at the Buffalo and Batavia VA Hospitals provide a variety of programs for both inpatient and outpatient veterans and their families. They provide a sort of respite, offering recreational programs as a break from medical concerns and/or everyday difficulties including PTSD. Programs include fishing, fly-tying, horseback riding, arts and crafts, music and more.

Stan was inspired to help the Recreational Therapy Department at

the VA after a personal experience as an inpatient himself. "They run a great variety of programs that greatly help veterans and their families. People might not realize that this department does not receive any funding from the government, it's 100% donation based."

\$400 cash prize will be awarded for the high individual score, as well as \$400 1st place prize, \$300 2nd place prize, and \$200 3rd place prize for the "don't know your partner" category. "This category adds an element of excitement and evens the playing field," explains Stan. Top scores are put in one hat, and low scores are placed in another. One name is picked from each and prizes are awarded to first, second and third. "This allows everyone a better chance at taking home a prize, and makes things more interesting."

Trophies will also be awarded for Vet High Gun, Vet Runner-Up, High Lady & Lady Runner-Up, High Junior, and Junior Runner-Up. A shoot off will take place in the event of a tie from the 27-yard line.

Throughout the past three years, the event has gained momentum, growing better each year. "It's great to see the camaraderie between veterans of different branches: Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force," says Stan. "Everyone has so much fun being around each other, and it's all for a great cause, helping fellow veterans and their families."

The National Guard will be on site serving up food in their mess trailer. "We love having the National Guard come out for this. For some of us, it's reminiscent of meals when we served; some of the vets haven't seen it in

SEE "VETS" PAGE 11

Byway

CONT. FROM COVER

photographers alike, and aims at capturing the beauty of the Southtowns region. The contest was developed in 2022 in efforts to help the community appreciate the unique beauty of the southtowns, while promoting the Byway. "We adopted this contest to encourage exploration of the areas along the scenic byway," explains Bill Even, Byway Vice President. "Our mission is to promote economic development and community pride through thoughtful stewardship of the natural, scenic, cultural, historic, and recreational resources of the byway region. We feel this contest does just that."

Formed in 2008, the WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway is a series of roads and highways uniting a number of towns and villages in Erie and Cattaraugus Counties into a regional attraction for tourists and residents of the area. The Byway runs from the Town and Village of Orchard Park, Aurora, the Village of East Aurora and then southward through Boston, Colden, Concord, Springville, Ashford, and Ellicottville. Interpretive signs and WNYSSB highway markers can be seen along the routes.

The contest encourages both amateur and professional photographers to get out and capture the beauty of the areas along the byway. Images can be captured on a mobile device or standalone/dedicated camera with prizes for both categories. All ages are encouraged to enter.



The Byway runs from the Town and Village of Orchard Park, Aurora, the Village of East Aurora and then southward through Boston, Colden, Concord, Springville, Ashford, and Ellicottville. Interpretive signs and WNYSSB highway markers can be seen along the routes.

For both categories mentioned above, the first-place prize will be \$150 cash and a copy of the book Nostalgic Buffalo by William C. Even; the second-place prize will be \$100 cash; and the third-place prize will be \$50 cash. In addition, contest finalists will once again have their pictures displayed on the silver screens at the Aurora Theater in East Aurora and the Joylan Theater in Springville before movies this holiday season.

Last year, the contest had a record 120 entries with submissions ranging in ages and subject matter. "We're always impressed at how wonderfully the public captures our region. Every photo submitted is special in its own way," remarks Bill. "We have an overabundance of photo opportunities along the Byway. We also have an astounding number of truly talented, clever, and creative photographers in our area. I enjoy being one of the first people to see all of these photos together."

Last year's winners ranged in subject matter -- nature shots, local landmarks, and wildlife. Participants captured the beauty of the seasons in the southtowns and can be viewed online as guidelines and inspiration.

Participants are reminded to check the communities listed, as entries are only valid if taken in these specific areas. "We received so many beautiful photographs that we unfortunately could not use, as they were not in the towns listed," recalls Bill. He also kindly reminds photographers to name their photos, and limit entries to five total photographs per person. "We don't have many rules; we try to keep it simple but we do have to stick to the few rules we have."

For more information, to view photos and enter the contest visit <https://wnyssf.org/>. Entries are being accepted until November 30th.

Fall Scramble at Holiday Valley

Race Day Fall Festival Saturday, Oct 12

Ride the chairlift to the top of the hill for the start! - Limited entries for 2024. Race day entries may NOT be available, so sign up today at runsignup.com.

Saturday of Fall Festival! The race will be on Holiday Valley resort property with 4 and 8 mile off road option.

Ellicottville Brewing will provide after race refreshments. Might be a little early in the morning, but it is Fall Festival weekend!

For more information go to runsignup.com



Griffis

CONT. FROM PG. 3

trail that goes through forests and fields. Some of the Griffis Sculpture Park's favorite sculptures, such as the Praying Mantis, The Bathers, The Mushrooms and more are bathed in light.

Guests are encouraged to dress for outdoor conditions and bring flashlights for a few darker sections of the trail. NIGHT LIGHTS will close on evenings of excessive rain. Weather announcements are made on the sculpture park's Facebook and Instagram pages.

NIGHT LIGHTS occurs on 15 evenings, spread out over five weeks. The final evening

is Saturday, October 19, 2024. The event dates are:
• Week 1: Fri. September 20 to Sat. September 21, 2024

• Week 2: Thurs. September 26 to Sat. September 27, 2024

• Week 3: Thurs. October 3 to Sat. October 5, 2024

• Week 4: Thurs. October 10 to Sun. October 13, 2024

• Week 5: Thurs. October 17 to Sat. October 19, 2024

Admission will be \$14 adults, \$9 children 12 to 7, and free for six and under. Night Lights can be canceled due to heavy rain. Ticket info can be found at EventBrite.com

SitlerHQ is the creative producer of NIGHT LIGHTS at Griffis Sculpture Park. The award-winning lighting and event company also produced the NIGHT LIGHTS at the Gardens

(Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens), NIGHT LIGHTS at The Heron (Sherman, NY), and NIGHT LIGHTS at Nannen Arboretum (Ellicottville, NY). They created their first NIGHT LIGHTS show in 2009.

Over 250 sculptures reside at the 300-acre Griffis Sculpture Park, making it the United States largest sculpture park. The park is owned and operated by the Ashford Hollow Foundation, which also owns the Essex Arts Center in Buffalo, NY. The mission of the Ashford Hollow Foundation is to promote the visual and performing arts as well as construct a dynamic relationship between the arts and education in Western New York to better its young people and the greater community.

Ghost Tour

CONT. FROM COVER

the stationary bike next to him in the middle of the night. Our spectral visitor may still reside with us, which could explain why pictures fly off cabinets or strange noises come out of nowhere.

The Ellicottville Historical Society will be presenting four ghost walks around the village of Ellicottville on Friday nights in September and October: September 27, October 4, October 18, and October 25, led by Town Historian, Ellen Siriani Frank. Gather at the Gazebo at 7pm for the walk to commence at 7:30pm. Wear appropriate clothing and shoes for the two-hour event, carry a flashlight, and be sure your camera is charged in case you want to photograph mystical images or floating orbs at the cemetery. Bring along your own favorite ghost story to share as the participants gather at the Gazebo.

This year's walk will take visitors into the Ellicottville Museum and the United Church and then on to the Jefferson Street Cemetery to visit a few graves with paranormal history. On your walk you will learn about the ghost investigation that took place in both of those buildings. The investigations were performed by Spirit Hunters, Inc., Paranormal Investigations, a Native American family group founded by Shane White Eagle, which does ghost investigations in a respectful way. This, from their site - they "strive to search out and prove the existence of the paranormal. We ... bring a unique approach to paranormal investigating. We seek to validate your experiences and why they are occurring."

Ms. Frank has had many opportunities to be part of these investigations locally



Photo of Spirit Hunters, Inc., Paranormal Investigations in front of the Salamanca Railroad Museum. This Native American family group founded by Shane White Eagle, does ghost investigations in a respectful way. Pictured left to right: Ellen Frank, Chrissie Holtz, Lana White Eagle, Branda (Shane's Mother), Lisa Marie (Shane's Wife), Founder Shane White Eagle and Hunter (Shane's Son). The group will be guest speakers at the Ellicottville Historical Society meeting at the Ellicottville Library on Wednesday, October 2 at 7pm. Everyone is invited.

as well as investigations at the Bradford Library, Salamanca Train Station, Palmer House in Cuba, Little Theater in Jamestown, Machias Stone House, (circa 1868, built as an Alms House/Insane Asylum, and a solemn memorial to about 123 souls buried in the paupers field just north of the Stone House), and the American Legion in Little Valley which is said to be occupied by its previous owners who built the building as their mansion residence before it was donated to the Village of Little Valley to be used as their American Legion.

At the Ellicottville Historical Museum, while the team was set up near the display about a local physician, Dr. Leyens, it seemed that every time his name was mentioned a Victorian Music box would start to play. Many experiences happened to them while set up at the United Church on Elizabeth Street. This team uses various types of equipment which detect disturbances in electromagnetic fields and emit light as an alert (EMF Meters), high powered laser grids which emit a grid of green dots used when detecting shadows or general disturbances. Spirit-Boxes use EVP (Electronic Voice

Phenomena) to give a voice to spirits. Ms. Frank tells of an investigation where she was reading a tag on a coat in the museum and the Spirit Box warned them to "please stop touching my coat."

What I found interesting is that the spirit hunters use dowsing rods to ask questions of the spirits. Dowsing rods, historically used for finding water or lost objects, are also used to ask yes or no questions of the spirits. Ms. Frank claims she has seen true things that come from these rods. With the use of an SLS camera Ms. Frank had a spirit show up right next to her. "It looked like it was touching me."

From the Four Corners, the group will walk to Jefferson Street Cemetery to visit several residents. One is Beals Litchfield, one of the original founders of LilyDale Spiritualist Center. A few other stories from the cemetery concern an execution, a shooting, and a train accident. Join to hear more stories. Remember, this is a walk at our own risk. \$15 per person, cash or check. If you would like to learn more or sign up your party ahead of time, please contact Ellen Frank at 716-699-2276 or 716-474-8528. Many thanks to Ms. Frank for her assistance.

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Pumpkinville

CONT. FROM COVER

Pumpkinville was originally located on route 98 as a small family run farm that had been in operation since 1956. "Back then, it was just a small pumpkin display in the Halloran's yard," recalls Lisa Pawlowski, current co-owner and operator. The Pawlowski's moved the farm to its current location, 4844 Sugartown Road in Great Valley in 1996. "We had big hopes for Pumpkinville, and needed more land and room to expand. It has far exceeded our expectations and we couldn't be happier."

Pumpkinville grew little by little into what it has become today: a 250-acre farm and destination for families to spend the day and make memories year after year. Activities include corn maze, cow train, jumping pillow, kids fun zone, gem mining, apple blaster, paintball, carousel, Pumpkinville Express Train, hayride, petting zoo (goats, pigs, horses, chickens and more), baby chick encounters and more. The Candy Cannon blasts of twice/day on weekends, and delicious food and beverages are available for purchase.

Pumpkinville is introducing a few new activities this year that fit in perfectly with the farms style. The first is an original 1920's crank tractor that has been repurposed into an interactive exhibit for kids (and adults) complete with steam and perfect for photo ops. Second, the Henway Piano features giant piano keys with singing hens. Last but not least, is the corn barn,



Where memories are made: Lisa, and the rest of the Pawlowski family, loves hearing stories of families that return year after year. "I love hearing that our farm is a place of family traditions. It's why we do this; we're honored to offer a place where families can enjoy spending time together and memoirs are made, year after year."

a 4,608 square foot barn full of corn for digging, scooping and playing for all ages. Complete with digging toys and farm equipment, kids can use their imaginations to build mountains, dig ditches or make corn angels.

Also new this year, Pumpkinville is offering exclusive carving lessons with Guinness World Record Holder Eric Jones. Olean, NY native, Eric Jones is a celebrated sculptor and caricature artist. He has been featured on The Food Network's Halloween Wars, holds the 2023 Guinness World Record for carving the largest jack-o-lantern, and is the Season 3 WINNER of The Food Network's Outrageous Pumpkins. Guests will learn extravagant pumpkin carving skills from Eric Jones and take their creations home; carving and sip and carve (21+) classes are available throughout the season. *(You can read more about*

Eric in next week's edition of The Villager.)

In the early 2000s the Pawlowski's brought an antique cider press from Randolph on site to produce fresh pressed cider. The machine currently operates 3 days/week and is open for guests viewing in the cider mill. "The cider is always our most popular item, behind pumpkins of course," says Lisa. "Families love to experience the apples being pressed and watch it being made right before their eyes, the old-fashioned way." Apples are dumped straight from the crates, into the machine starting the process of cider. "The smell is fantastic and it really adds to the experience."

Lisa reports the pumpkin crop is excellent this year, with an early variety of colored pumpkins. "We had plenty of rain this year, helping us yield a great harvest. We have plenty of pumpkins, in all shapes

"PUMPKINVILLE" Pg. 10



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Rocks

CONT. FROM COVER

Foliage Festival on October 5th-6th from 10am-5pm. Admission to the Foliage Festival and street parking are free, but parking in the field lot is \$5 per vehicle. The rock area hiking trails and axe throwing are still available at their usual admission prices.

This year they will be having over seventy art and craft vendors. You can browse through a variety of artisan vendors selling artworks, seasonal and home decor, candles, jewelry, clothing, accessories, and much more. There is also a farmers' market loaded with seasonal items.

One of the fun features of this festival is watching some of the unique demonstrations that they have included. You can observe chainsaw carvings with Lisa Barr, as she creates unique works of art. Blacksmithing will be demonstrated by John Stow, and there will be a glass blowing demonstration by Grant Robinson. Paul Jackino will be there with his rocket stove, and there will be quilting demonstration by the Harmony Historic Society. These demonstrations are ongoing throughout the festival, and they are informative yet entertaining for everyone that attends them.

There will be live music to entertain the crowd on both Saturday and Sunday. The talented duo, Davis & Eng will perform their unique style of tunes at 10:30am and then again at 3pm both days. Drew & Lena will also perform on Saturday at 12:30pm. On Sunday afternoon, another talented duo called SON will perform their bluesy rock renditions of familiar tunes.

There are going to be plenty of choices when you and your group have worked up an appetite. The Lab Press Co. will have some of their favorite soups and sandwiches. Ramsey's Food Truck will be serving cheese steaks, sausage, fries, and funnel cakes. The Best of Buffalo by Byron will serve WNY favorites like wings, beef on wick and more. CamaradERIE BBQ will be tempting you with their delicious BBQ.

If you are hoping to find some treats for you and your family, you will find a nice assortment at this festival. Included will be taffy and candy apples by Fowler's, ice cream by Everyday's a Sundae, baked goods by Killa Cookies & Kream, and a variety of fudges by Wow Fudge. There will also be vendors selling specialty items like cheese from Eden Valley Creamery, Italian ice by Gelati's Italian Ice, sauces from Burning Asphalt, and honey from the Panama Bee Farm.

Are you ready to get into

the Halloween spirit? If so, then figure out what this year's costume will be and join the fun for what is probably the first costume contest of the season. The contests will take place on both days. The children's contest is for anyone 12 yrs. old and younger and will take place on the Main Stage at 2:15pm. Anyone 13yrs. and older can take part in the adult costume contest at 2:30pm. The winners will receive their choice of a 2025 Season Pass or a Panama Rocks t-shirt. (If you plan to hike, please dress accordingly.) Children can continue with the Halloween spirit by going trick or treating from vendor to vendor. Also, for children, there will be face painting, make your own stuffed animal, and horse drawn wagon rides (11am-3pm, weather permitting)

If you would like more information about the Panama Rocks Scenic Park, their Foliage Festival, or any other details, you can look at their Facebook page, go to panamarocks.com, or call 716-703-0021.

This is a great community event celebrating fall in Western New York as well as the beginning of the Halloween season. Come check it out and see all the great vendors, listen to the live music, and eat some delicious food and treats. After all, that's what festivals are all about.



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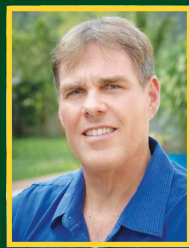
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Lakewood

CONT. FROM COVER

building. These artisan vendors will be selling a variety of items such as artworks, candles, jewelry, home décor, clothing, accessories, seasonal and specialty items, and a whole lot more.

To entertain your children, there will be some fun activities for them to do. When you arrive, look for a bright yellow tent. The bright yellow tent will have eighty children's books that will be given away for free to the first eighty children. These children's books are written by DeeJay McKay, and she will be there to sign the books and provide a corresponding coloring sheet.

Nearby, Scott Farms will be selling pumpkins of various sizes. You can take your purchased pumpkins to the Lakewood Tent to paint them for free. Your kids can enjoy free face painting provided at the Lakewood Library booth, and it will be available from 11am-11:45am and from 1pm-1:45pm.

In connection with National Fire Prevention Week, The Lakewood Fire Department will be near the Lakeside Park. They will have firetrucks and equipment for children to explore, and the firemen can answer questions. Also, the Lakewood K9 Unit will be giving a demonstration at 10am.

As a fundraiser for the Lakewood Fire Department, Lakewood Fall Festival tote bags will be available for a small donation. Many



There is also be will live music near Ryder's Cup. Charity Nuse and Jeremy Bunce will perform from 12pm-3pm. They play a fun mix of originals and cover music, ranging from country, Americana, blues, folk, and rock. Come and enjoy listening to these talented musicians and maybe they will even get you moving to the beat in the street.

of the festival vendors are also donating some of their proceeds to the Lakewood Fire Department and other Lakewood First Responders.

For more entertainment, there will be live music near Ryder's Cup. Charity Nuse and Jeremy Bunce will perform from 12pm-3pm. They play a fun mix of originals and cover music, ranging from country, Americana, blues, folk, and rock. Come and enjoy listening to these talented musicians and maybe they will even get you moving to the beat in the street.

When you are looking for refreshments, Ryders Cup will be open first thing in the morning at 7am, and they will be open all day until 4pm. Ryder's Cup is a coffee shop that has a wide variety of hot and cold beverages. They also sell breakfast sandwiches and homemade scones and muffins. Later that day, if you have worked up an appetite, Group Ther will be serving food from their delicious menu

starting at 11am. Stella's Kitchen and Bar will also be open at 5pm.

Besides the village restaurants, there will also be plenty of food vendors for you and your family to choose from. Mystic Smoke BBQ will be serving barbeque foods, Bear Ridge Farms will provide a variety of tasty items, and Wanderlust Seafood from Westfield will be there with their lobster rolls and other delicious seafood. To satisfy that sweet tooth, you will likely find kettle corn, ice cream, homemade pies and baked goods, and other treats to choose from. Yum, Yum! (It should be noted that many of the vendors are cash only, but there are ATMs nearby.)

So come to the beautiful lakeside community of Lakewood on October 5th. Join in the fun with the Lakewood community for their Fall Festival celebration. There will be plenty of food, vendors, music, and activities for the whole family to enjoy on a beautiful fall day. See you there.

106 Years of Steppingstones

Celebrating Jamestown Native, Dorothy Valone Snitger



BY DOTTIE MAITLAND

This story beautifully captures Dorothy Valone Snitger's rich and inspiring life. Dorothy Valone Snitger is a remarkable woman who celebrates her 106th birthday on October 16th. With a smile that lights up a room and a quick wit, she reflects on the steppingstones along her life's journey.

Born at WCA Hospital in Jamestown, NY, Dorothy arrived at noon, weighing 6 lbs. Her father, Dr. James Valone, a prominent Jamestown doctor, and her mother, Olga Stover Valone, a nurse, cherished and protected her like a fragile gem, as documented in Dorothy's baby book. Her mother noted that Dorothy's first outing was to Niagara Falls, and she took her first steps on October 19, 1919, at one year old. Even as a child, she had adventures, from visiting the Barnum & Bailey Circus to seeing Babe Ruth in Celoron—sparking a lifelong love of baseball.

Dorothy recalls a childhood surrounded by loving family members. Her uncles, all hardworking

professionals, were a significant part of her world, which still centers around family today. Her mother, Olga, kept beautiful gardens, including a row of hollyhocks lining the driveway. Dorothy fondly remembers picking the blossoms to make hollyhock dolls with her good friend—a creative act her mother didn't quite appreciate!

Dorothy's home today also boasts beautiful gardens. As a child, she loved playing games at home, especially "I Doubt It" and Monopoly, with a special fondness for the Boardwalk in Atlantic City.

Family vacations were cherished breaks from her father's demanding medical career. They traveled often to Atlantic City, NJ, where Dorothy remembers her father carefully placing a towel on the sand, allowing only 15 minutes in the sun to avoid burns. One of her fondest memories is of watching saltwater taffy being made along the Boardwalk. The smell alone, she says, could make anyone's mouth water. The family also vacationed at Lake George and in Florida.

Dorothy's love for travel continued into her adult life, with visits to Hawaii, Germany, Austria, and Italy. Though she never made it to France or Spain, she keeps those destinations on her bucket list.

Educated in the Jamestown School system, Dorothy graduated in 1923. Her initial college choice was rejected by her father, who insisted on an all-women's college, Ashville Women's College—a decision Dorothy didn't enjoy. She eventually transferred to Penn Hall in Chambersburg, PA, where she majored in music. Her talent extended beyond piano; her operatic voice was discovered, and she excelled in challenging pieces like "Faust."

After college, Dorothy continued to travel with her family, including trips to Florida, where she indulged her passion for baseball during Spring Training. It was during one of these trips that she met Bob Snitger, an Army soldier, and they began a correspondence that led to their marriage. They moved to Philadelphia, where Bob managed the family business, and Dorothy quickly made friends, actively participating in the DAR and attending many social events.

The most recent pre-birthday celebration was hosted by Harriet Sessler, owner of HatTea's Tea Room in Lakewood, who brought a mobile tea party to Dorothy's

SEE "DOROTHY" PG. 10

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Musical #10: "Aladdin"

By BARBARA ARNSTEIN

The chance to have wishes granted by a genie, who must grant three to anyone who rubs the lamp its spirit inhabits between wishes. Naturally, he uses his first one to try to impress her. Even though he is helped by his wishes, the genie and the magic carpet, in the end Aladdin overcomes the challenges he faces and wows the princess with his courage and quick thinking. The genie was unforgettably voiced in the cartoon by Robin Williams, and the actor who originated the role on Broadway, James Monroe Iglehart, won a Tony.

In Jasmine's song "Speechless" in the live-action movie, she speaks her mind about the sexism of her culture, saying, "Written in stone, every rule, every word./Centuries old and unbending./Stay in your place, better seen and not heard./Well, now that story is ending." The story of Aladdin is from the collection "Arabian Nights", within a framework involving a woman, Scheherazade (pronounced "Sheh-hera-zod") who tells stories night after night for a thousand nights, to save her life. "Aladdin" pays tribute to the collection with the title of its first song, "Arabian Nights", and Scheherazade is mentioned in the song "A Friend Like Me". The ending of the live-action movie pays tribute to storytelling in general, when the entire movie turns out to be a story told by a

father to his two children. It's clear at the end that he put himself into his story as the genie, who's able to marry after Aladdin uses his last wish to set him free and change him back into a man. We see that, in reality, fate granted him and his wife "the three wishes" they most wanted: a happy marriage, the boat they're living on, and best of all, the children he's talking to. Finally, it's safe to assume he told the story to inspire his son and daughter to be as heroic as Aladdin and Jasmine.

In the story, after Aladdin gets to make two wishes, Jafar unfortunately gets his hands on the lamp. His first wish is to become the sultan, the ruler of the country, but not satisfied with that, he then wishes to become a powerful sorcerer. Just after that, when he tries to intimidate Aladdin by transforming himself into a gigantic cobra, the teen cleverly "pushes his buttons" by reminding him the genie wields more power than he does, causing him to immediately wish to become one. As soon as he does, he's defeated, because he's automatically imprisoned in a lamp. The princess becomes the sultan, as she does in the original folktale. Fortunately for the country, Jafar's limitless greed for power is his fatal flaw, and turning himself into a giant cobra doesn't change that. In brief: he experiences the worst case ever of reptile dysfunction.

Family Fun Festivals and Live Music

By DARLENE BRACE

Can you believe it's already the last week of September? Wow! As they say, time flies when you're having fun!! Head out to see what fun is happening in Chautauqua County this weekend.

Friday September 27 - The Southern Tier Distillery in Lakewood is having a **Pumkingfest Eve Jeep Event** starting at 3pm. There will be Jeep-inspired cocktails, great food from Mystic Smoke BBQ, and live music covers from **The Big Sauce Trio** from 6pm-9pm.

Big Inlet Brewing welcomes back **Michael Gerholdt**. He will start performing at 6pm. Bring your family and friends and enjoy listening to Michael play some classic rock and folk music while sipping on your favorite beverage.

Customer Appreciation Night continues in Westfield at **Five and 20 Spirits and Brewing**. There will be drink specials and live music by the talented **Nick Slagle**. He sings Americana/folk originals and some selected covers starting at 5pm.

The Roger Tony Peterson Institute continues their **Art After Five** events this Friday from 5:30pm-7:30pm. **Talented duo OsbornNash** will be performing their eclectic music to entertain the crowd. Included in your admission ticket are light bites provided by **Elegant Edibles**, a complimentary beer, and access to all the current exhibitions.

Saturday September 28 - **Southern Tier**

Brewing in Lakewood invites you to join them at their **Pumkingfest 2024**, from 11am-9pm. They will be featuring their Pumking varieties of beer as well as other Southern Tier favorites. It will be a full day of fun for the whole family including face painting, balloon artists, and pumpkin bowling. Underdog BBQ Food Truck will be there providing an assortment of delicious food. Live music will kick off the day with the **talented trio Apple Jack** at 11am, followed by the **Tim Britt Band**. Popular WNY band **Black Widow** will rock the night away with their rock and pop tunes from 6pm-10pm. Across the street at the **Southern Tier Distillery**, **Afraid of Human** will get the afternoon rocking from 2pm-5pm, followed by a performance by **Darkwater Duo** from 6pm-9pm. This will be an exciting event that you don't want to miss.

In Portland, **21 Brix Winery** is having a **Fall Festival**. There will be food trucks and vendors selling a variety of delicious food as well as festival treats. Artisan vendors will be selling their crafts and specialty items. Live music will begin with **White Bronco** from 1pm-4pm, singing rock and alternative music. **The Porcelain Busdrivers** will entertain the crowd with their eclectic music list starting at 5pm.

The **Second Annual Fall Festival** is taking place in **Cherry Creek**. A parade will start at 11am, followed by a car show from 1pm to 4pm. **DJ Carmelo** will be playing tunes throughout the day. There will food and craft vendors as well as a beer and wine tent. **Pedro and the Smooth Cats** will perform from 4pm to 7pm. Fireworks will conclude this festival at 7:30pm. If you are still looking for more, the nearby **Trillium Lodge** will have music by **Wasted Whiskey** from 8pm-11pm.

At **Peek n Peak Resort** in **Clymer**, **Acoustic Jukebox** will be performing. This talented Erie duo will play a variety of music in the **Bistro 210** starting at 9:30pm.

Friday and Saturday - In Westfield, an **Elvis impersonator** contest called **Reflections of The King** will take place at the **Westfield Moose** and is open to the public. This is the 20th year of this event, and this year they are also including a patriotic performance as a salute to the military. For more information, go to **Reflections of the King** on Facebook.

Sunday September 29- Come to **Big Inlet Brewing** for another fun **Sunday** afternoon with **Bill Ward**. He will be playing some of your favorite tunes starting at 2pm. It's always a fun time with **Bill Ward**, and sometimes he has special guests, so you will have to check it out to see.

With festivals and lots of live music, this is sure to be a fantastic weekend. Check out next week's issue to see what fun things are happening the first weekend of October.

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What's Shakin' in EVL

Whether Outside or In, Live Music is Always Available

By: MOUTH SAY TONGUE

Fall is in the air and it's the most beautiful time to visit our area. Like always there's music everywhere so let's see who's playing where.

THURSDAY

Our seven day weekend starts on Thursday at Balloons for Burger and Brew Night from 4-10pm. \$15 gets your choice of any burger and any beer plus house made chips. The musical host this week is Interstate Daydream from 6-9pm. This duo plays a rock/pop/blues/country set of covers featuring some soulful vocals.

The Gin Mill hosts The Chillbillys, Thursday, from 8-11pm. This husband and wife act plays a rock/pop/folk/country set of covers and originals with some smooth guitar riffs and sweet vocal harmonies.

FRIDAY

Balloons is back with Welcome Distraction from 6:30-10pm. This Buffalo band plays a classic rock/r&b/pop/country set of covers. The back bar hosts Samantha Taylor from 10-1am. She plays acoustic pop and country covers. Dj Lyfe will lay down a groove so you can bust-a-move on the two dance floors from 10-2am.

We return to The Gin Mill for Hintz of Thunder from 6-12am. This band plays a country/rock/ pop set of covers. Check out the latest kitchen in town

open till 10pm sun-thurs and 11pm fri-sat. Open for breakfast 9-11:30am sat-sun.

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

SATURDAY

The Gin Mill is the early bird with Brian Rick from 2-5pm. Brian plays a rock/pop/country/folk set of covers while you do a little day drinking. West takes the stage from 8-12am. This band plays a rock/pop/blues/country set of covers. Try some of the 37 beers that are always on tap.

We're back at Balloons for Tommy Z from 6:30-10pm. Tomm has traveled the world playing blues and rock originals and covers. The back bar will host Tina Williams from 10-1am. Tina plays a rock/folk/country/alt set of covers and originals. Dj Kage will lay down the sauce so you can dance like a boss from 10-2am.

Madigans is back with Dj Persia providing the thumpin for the bumpin from 9-2am. Check out the dart board and pool tables for some competition.

SUNDAY

The Gin Mill is first up again with the return of The Chillbillys from 2-5pm. Listen to some great music and sip some world famous Bloody Mary's.

Villaggio hosts its weekly AYCE Pasta and Prime

Rib Special from 5-9pm. Pasta made fresh to order with the toppings of your choice or savory prime rib made the way you like it. Chris Maloney is the host from 5:30-8:30pm. Chris plays a rock/pop/ alt/folk set of covers.

MONDAY

Monday is Strings and Wings at Balloons from 4-10pm. 50cent wings and a nice selection of craft beer to wash them down makes for a locals favorite. This weeks musical host is Brian Hanna and Friends. He plays a pop/folk/rock set of covers.

The Gin Mill's Monday night residency is hosted by Drew Vics from 7-10pm. Drew plays a folk/pop/country set of covers. Don't forget those 37 beers on tap.

TUESDAY

The Gin Mill hosts The Hick Ups, Tuesday, from 7-10pm. This collection of seasoned local musicians from various bands plays an eclectic set of bluegrass and country covers.

WEDNESDAY

We've ended the 7-day weekend the same for 40 years at The Gin Mill for Wing, Wednesday from 7-10pm. Brian Rick is your host. Brian plays a rock/pop/country/alt set of covers.

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

Beat on the Street:

"What Kind of Science do You Use the Most?"

By Chad Neal

Everything we do involves some sort of science, or has a scientific explanation. Waking up involves a different chemical flowing through our brain as a change in stimuli. In turn that has caused that to spark synapses and non-stop chain reaction that keeps us going throughout the day. Life is science. Using tools is a discipline that involves science. There is a faction of individuals who misunderstand the notion of this branch of knowledge and that ideal has no stance really in the reality we live in. Just using the thought processes to argue against the body of facts is ...science. Working to make money to buy food is a form and eating that food involves biology, another form. We all use it, everyday. What kind of science do you use the most?



Greg M.- If you're talking social sciences, then psychology and sociology as I interact and try to understand my primate brethren on a daily basis. Hard sciences would be math, it's what brings home the bacon.

Jessica G.- I talk about physics all the time because I do permanent jewelry at the store- just because it's permanent doesn't mean it's magic...physics is real!!

Lori S.- Meteorology...I live in NW Florida, hurricane central.



Amy M.- Chemistry- being a mixologist, making wine, and boiling syrup. Biology foraging and keeping my bees.

Doug A.- Weird Science!

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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!**

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

Last Week's Puzzle:

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

Pumpkinville

CONT. FROM PG. 6

and sizes, squash, gourds and apples for purchase." Pumpkinville also offers a variety of specialty gift shops, which are open to the general public and do not require admission tickets. Food stands are also open to the public, so everyone can enjoy their specialty BBQs, kettle corn, apple pie and pumpkin muffins.

Not only does Pumpkinville offer entertainment for all ages, but it's a family-run business. "We're here every day, working hard and having fun. Our family is here to help your family make memories year after year." Lisa, along with her mom (Diane), dad (Dan), brother (Jim) and their spouses and children are hands-on and working at Pumpkinville throughout the season, ensuring everything runs smoothly. Last but not least, you can't beat the location. "Our location, just outside of



Pumpkinville is introducing a few new activities this year that fit in perfectly with the farms style. The first is an original 1920's crank tractor that has been repurposed into an interactive exhibit for kids (and adults) complete with steam and perfect for photo ops.

Ellicottville, is just perfect. The views of the foliage in the valley are phenomenal and the sunsets can't be beat. We get those cool fall mornings and evenings; it's the ideal fall feeling." Lisa, and the rest of the Pawlowski family, loves hearing stories of families that return year after year. "I love hearing that our farm is a place of family traditions. It's why we do this; we're honored to offer

a place where families can enjoy spending time together and memories are made, year after year." Pumpkinville is open through Halloween 9am-7pm with weekend and weekday pricing and season passes available: <https://pumpkinville.com/>. Tickets for Eric Jones events can be purchased online. For updates follow on social media @Pumpkinville.

Dorothy

CONT. FROM PG. 7

home. Dorothy's joy at the surprise was evident, and her delight in all the delectable, handmade treats was unforgettable.

During the tea, friends asked about Dorothy's memories of history, spanning decades of change. She fondly remembered the 1950s as the best years and spoke highly of President Dwight Eisenhower. She cherished her friends for their intelligence, talents, and loyalty. Dorothy was also dedicated to teaching four-year-old children, using simple yet profound lessons, such as comparing the veins of fallen leaves to the veins in our bodies, illustrating life's interconnectedness.

After Bob's passing, Dorothy returned to



The most recent pre-birthday celebration was hosted by Harriet Sessler, owner of HatTea's Tea Room in Lakewood, who brought a mobile tea party to Dorothy's home. HatTea's is located at 125 Fairmount Avenue in Lakewood, NY. They are open Tuesday - Saturday with advance reservations only. They can be contacted by calling (716) 969-2075 and you can find them online at hatteas.com.

Jamestown, living each year on her birthday have created a beautiful pathway for others to follow. Let's wish Dorothy Valone Snitger a very happy 106th birthday by making someone smile today, just as she has done for everyone she meets.

Correction: Defining WETLANDS

The byline on "Defining WETLANDS," the page 11 story in the Sept. 19-25, 2024, edition, was incorrect. The byline should have been only "Paul Johnson and Jim Wehrfritz." The Villager regrets this error.

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A man and his beloved donkey, circa 1910

Gorge

CONT. FROM COVER

of geologists, hikers, and nature lovers, with its rugged beauty, unique geological features, and tranquil atmosphere.

Chautauqua County has an exposed geological record dating back about 370 million years. Chautauqua Gorge is a product of millions of years of geological activity, most of the architecture coming from the forces of glaciation and erosion, continuously sculpted by the flowing waters of Chautauqua Creek, which isn't done with the mosaic; that estuary continues to erode the underlying layers of sedimentary rock (shale, sandstone, and limestone). These rock deposits were layered in ancient seas over. You can see the 350-million-year history of the area in exposed rock layers, earth's geological history mapped before your eyes, millennia of erosion, water flow, and natural weathering. It's a valuable and unique classroom for geologists, offering insights into the region's prehistoric past and the forces that shaped the Appalachian Plateau.

That geological history also informs an ecological treasure trove, a feature of the gorge. The gorge and the surrounding watershed support a cornucopia of flora and fauna. The cool, damp environment creates a microclimate that is ideal for several species of plants, including ferns, mosses, and wildflowers. The dense vegetation along the creek provides a rich habitat for wildlife, including deer, fox, and a variety of bird species, from warblers to raptors (it's a vital corridor for migratory species, providing shelter and food). The creek itself is



home to various aquatic species, including brook trout, which thrive in the cold, clear waters. The biodiversity of the gorge adds to its ecological significance, making it a crucial area for conservation efforts.

The gorge is an amusement park for outdoor activities. A short trail leads to an impressive swimming hole, complete with waterfalls that cascade crystal clear (chilly!) water into collecting ponds, with fossils embedded in the shale that frame the creek. There are several trails winding through the gorge, offering varying levels of difficulty for both casual hikers and more seasoned adventurers. Trails are regularly maintained to reduce the impact of human activity on the environment. One of the most popular routes is the Chautauqua Gorge Trail, which follows the creek and provides stunning views of the cliffs and waterfalls.

The creek itself is a draw for anglers, especially those interested in fly fishing. The brook trout population makes Chautauqua Creek a prized fishing spot, particularly in the spring and fall when water levels are higher. In addition to fishing and hiking, visitors can enjoy picnicking, birdwatching, and photography. During the winter months, the gorge becomes a peaceful retreat for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.

In addition to its recreational value,

Chautauqua Gorge has significant educational and cultural importance. The area's rich geological history makes it an excellent outdoor classroom for students and researchers studying earth sciences. Field trips to the gorge offer hands-on learning opportunities about rock formations, erosion, and watershed ecology. Educators from local schools and universities often bring students to the gorge to study its unique features and to observe the interactions between the natural environment and the wildlife that inhabits it.

Local environmental groups, in collaboration with state agencies, have taken steps to protect the gorge and its surrounding watershed. Efforts to maintain the health of the creek and prevent erosion are ongoing, with projects aimed at stabilizing the banks and removing invasive species that threaten native plants and wildlife.

The beauty and ecological significance of Chautauqua Gorge make conservation efforts essential for its preservation. Visitors to the gorge are encouraged to follow "Leave No Trace" principles, ensuring that the area remains pristine for future generations. By fostering a sense of environmental responsibility, conservation organizations hope to preserve the natural beauty of Chautauqua Gorge while allowing people to continue enjoying its many offerings.

Vets

CONT. FROM PG. 4

over 40 years."

Stan is grateful this event has been so well received by the community, and hopes it continues to grow bigger and better every year. "We're incredibly thankful for all the donations, and for the opportunity to host this great event for such a worthy cause."

For more information contact Stan (716) 801-1744, or stop down to the event on Saturday, September 28, 9am-2pm at the Ellicottville Sportsmen's Club, 5609 Route 242, to experience and learn the great sport of trap shooting.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE - A PUBLIC HEARING SHALL BE HELD ON THE 15TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2024 AT 7:00 PM AT THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD TOWN HALL AT 7691 TOAD HOLLOW ROAD, LITTLE VALLEY, NY. The Town Board of the Town of Mansfield shall be present as will the Little Valley Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners and the Town Board of the Town of Little Valley. The hearing shall hear all persons interested in the extension of the Little Valley Fire District into the Mansfield Fire Protection District, and entertain public comment and discussion on whether to extend the Little Valley Fire District into a portion of the Town of Mansfield. The object and purposes for which the expansion of the Little Valley Fire District (ie: the effect) is proposed is to ease the burden on the town of contracting for fire protection for the fire protection district, to consolidate limited fire protection resources, to save financial resources, and to increase the efficiency of fire protection provided throughout the affected portion of the town of Mansfield.

The territory in the town of Mansfield in which the Little Valley Fire District will be expanded may be examined on the town's website and in the office of the town clerk in both the town of Mansfield and the town of Little Valley.

A special meeting of the town of Little Valley town board, Little Valley Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners and town of Mansfield town board will be held immediately following the conclusion of the public hearing(s).

NOTICE FOR THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD - A PUBLIC HEARING SHALL BE HELD ON THE 15TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2024 AT 7:00PM AT THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD TOWN HALL AT 7691 TOAD HOLLOW ROAD, LITTLE VALLEY, NY. The Town Board of the Town of Mansfield shall be present as will the Ellicottville Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners and the Town Board of the Town of Ellicottville. The hearing shall hear all persons interested in the extension of the Ellicottville Fire District into the Mansfield Fire Protection District, and entertain public comment and discussion on whether to extend the Ellicottville Fire District into a portion of the Town of Mansfield. The object and purposes for which the expansion of the Ellicottville Fire District (ie: the effect) is proposed is to ease the burden on the town of contracting for fire protection for the fire protection district, to consolidate limited fire protection resources, to save financial resources, and to increase the efficiency of fire protection provided throughout the affected portion of the town of Mansfield. Please note that the properties located within the town of Mansfield's expanded territory will become the sponsor of a Length of Service Award Program already maintained by the Ellicottville Fire District. The estimated annual cost of the service award program sponsored by the Ellicottville Fire District is \$8,000. All persons interested may be heard.

The territory in the town of Mansfield in which the Ellicottville Fire District will be expanded may be examined on the town's website and in the office of the town clerk in both the town of Mansfield and the town of Ellicottville. Only those registered voters owning property in the affected territory within the town of Mansfield may vote on the above proposition.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - Please take notice that on the 15th day October, 2024, at the Town of Mansfield town Hall, located at 7691 Toad Hollow Road, Little Valley, NY, the town board of the Town of Mansfield will hold a public hearing which shall commence at 7:00pm to consider the following resolution: **THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD PROPOSES TO DISSOLVE THE MANSFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AS REQUIRED FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE ELLICOTTVILLE FIRE DISTRICT AND THE LITTLE VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT INTO ALL OF THE (FORMER) MANSFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.** The proposed dissolution shall become effective upon the effective date of the expansions of the above two districts after the conclusion of the public hearing. Two additional public hearings will be held taking comment on expansion of the two fire districts into the Town of Mansfield. The Town Board may meet immediately following the public hearing to vote on the dissolution.

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY OF DISSOLUTION PLAN- The Town Board proposes to dissolve the Mansfield Fire Protection District as part of the process of expanding the Ellicottville Fire District and the Little Valley Fire District into the entire portion of the (former) Mansfield Fire Protection District, which will protect the residents of the Fire Protection district. The Fire Protection District has no assets, liabilities or employees and there are no costs related to the dissolution other than attorney's fees of up to \$9,500. The dissolution will only happen if the town expands the above fire districts into the (former) fire protection district. The residents of the Mansfield Fire Protection District Area will continue to be provided fire protection by the Little Valley and Ellicottville Fire Departments. The Town of Mansfield will hold a public hearing on the proposed plan on the 15th day of October, 2024, at the Mansfield Town Hall, located at 7691 Toad Hollow Road, Little Valley, NY which shall commence at 7:00PM to take comment from interested persons and the proposed dissolution to become effective at the same time that the fire district expansions become effective. The proposed dissolution plan may be examined at the Town of Mansfield Town Hall at 7691 Toad Hollow Road, Little Valley NY

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JOB OPENING: TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT LABORER, COMMERCIAL DRIVER, & HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR - The Town of Ellicottville, NY is seeking to hire a Highway Department Laborer, Commercial Driver, Heavy Equipment Operator to fill a full-time position with the Highway Department. The position involves operating equipment and performing manual labor with regards to maintenance and oversight of the town roads. Applicants with a High School Diploma (or GED) and a NYS Commercial Driver License (Class B) will be considered.

The Town is accepting cover letters and resumes. Send to the attention of Scot Brumagin, PO Box 600, Ellicottville, NY 14731 or by email Scot.brumagin@evlengineering.com. The full job description is available at: www.ellicottvillegov.com.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR A FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE. When applying applicants must have a CDL Class B License, Dirt Work and Plowing Snow experience. Applications may be obtained by contacting Highway Superintendent Jeff Williams at Mansfield Highway Garage 7629 Maples Road, Little Valley 14755. Superintendent Williams can be reached by calling 716-699-2225 or Mobile Phone number: 716- 801-2454. Preference to be given to a Town of Mansfield resident if equally qualified. By Order of Highway Superintendent Jeff Williams, Betty Jane Horning, Town Clerk Dated: September 23, 2024.

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Play weekly for FREE in this fun instructional tournament for a chance at prizes up to \$1,000 CASH!
30 Minute Sessions.

TOP DAILY SCORES!

1st Place	\$1,000 CASH
2nd Place	\$500 Free Table Bet
3rd Place	\$200 Free Table Bet

\$50,000 Fall Into FOOTBALL SWEEPSTAKES

WIN YOUR SHARE OF \$50,000 CASH!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
CASH Drawings • 1 PM – 9 PM

1 PM - 4 PM	\$1,000 CASH	5 winners
5 PM	\$3,000 CASH	2 winners
6 PM	\$4,000 CASH	1 winner
7 PM - 8 PM	\$5,000 CASH	1 winner
9 PM	\$10,000 CASH	1 winner

Earn entries September 1 – 21



GEORGE THOROGOOD AND THE DESTROYERS



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 • 7 PM

Seneca Allegany Event Center

Scan here for tickets.

