

FREE

The Villager

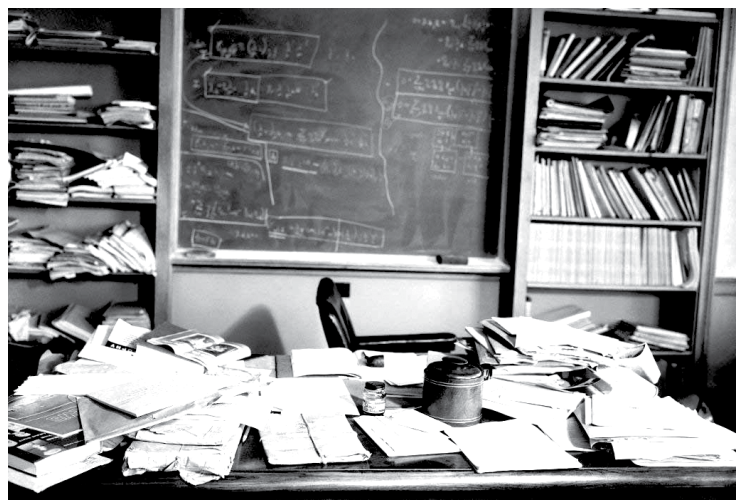
EL LICOTTVILLE • CHAUTAUQUA

Area Events

- MOVIES AT THE REG -
GLADIATOR II
Friday, January 10,
Reg Lena, Jamestown, NY
- PUBLIC SKATE AT
NORTHWEST ARENA
Sunday, January 12 • 130pm
Jamestown NY
- SNOWSHOE HIKES AT ASP
Wednesday, January 15
4:30pm @ Allegany State Park
- MOVIES AT THE REG - HERE
Sunday, January 15,
Reg Lena, Jamestown, NY
- MONTHLY FAT BIKE RIDES
Friday, January 17
Allegany State Park, Salamanca, NY
- GRILLED CHEESE BAR @
MERRITT WINERY
Friday January 17,
Forestville, NY
- PUBLIC SKATE AT
NORTHWEST ARENA
Saturday, January 18 • 130pm
Jamestown NY
- HOLIDAY VALLEY'S INTENSE
MILK RAIL JAM
Saturday, February 22 • 6pm
Ellicottville, NY
- JAYHAWKS HOCKEY AT
NORTHWEST ARENA
Monday, January 24 • 7pm
Jamestown, NY
- SNOWSHOE HIKES AT ASP
Wednesday, January 22
4:30pm @ Allegany State Park
- ART AFTER 5 AT RTPI
Friday, January 24,
RTPI, Jamestown, NY
- GRILLED CHEESE BAR @
MERRITT WINERY
Friday, February 17
Forestville, NY
- HOLIDAY VALLEY'S YOUR
TURN WOMEN'S SKI CLINIC
Monday, February 24•
Holiday Valley, Ellicottville, NY
- WINTER FESTIVAL
January 25 • All day
Bemus Point Golf Club
& Tap House
Bemus Point, NY
- WINTER MUSIC JAM
February 22-23 • All day
Ellicottville, NY

To advertise your events
• log on to
www.thevillager.com & click
"General Submissions" tab
• call (716) 699-2058
• or email
info@thevillager.com

National Clean Off Your Desk Day January 11 Invites You to Make Room for Year Ahead



Einstein's desk captured in a photo immediately following his death at Princeton in 1955.

By CAROL FISHER-LINN

For as far back as I can recall, on or about New Year's Day, I clean out a desk. Why? You might ask. If you go online you can find a national calendar for every day of the year being celebrated as national something or the other day, anything from national whipped cream (or cuddle up) day on January 6, to national bobblehead or static electricity day on January 9th. I was delighted when I found that there is, indeed, a National Clean off your Desk Day celebrated on January 11th.

SEE "NEW YEAR" PG. 4

Ellicottville Winter Blues Weekend Annual Music Festival Next Weekend, Jan. 17-19



Photo/Nadino Saviano

By KATE BARTLETT

This January 17-19 marks the 24th annual Ellicottville Winter Blues Weekend, a celebration of local musicians and the winter season. Over 20 performances will take place over three days next weekend, all within walking distance in Ellicottville's charming village. The Winter Blues Weekend was started by The Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce in 2001 as a way for the community to gather during the winter months and celebrate live, local music. "This festival is a fun and relaxing weekend in Ellicottville; an enjoyable way to gather with family and friends après ski," says Barb

SEE "BLUES" PG. 6

Rediscovering Buffalo: Explore Buffalo Tours Sacred Spaces Explores Houses of Worship



The Explore Buffalo office is actually located inside a house of worship – the First Presbyterian Church at 1 Symphony Circle, the oldest congregation in Buffalo.

By KATE BARTLETT

Tours have become a popular winter activity, providing opportunities to learn about these incredible buildings and surrounding suburbs for over 11 years. Their Sacred Spaces

SEE "EXPLORE" PG. 7

Winterfest Celebration, Jan, 25 Bemus Point Golf Club and Tap House



By DARLENE BRACE

Bemus Point Golf Club and Tap House, are excited to invite the community to celebrate winter with them at their annual Winter Festival. This festival will take place on Saturday, January 25th, at the Tap House, located at 72 Main Street in Ellicottville. Although the holiday season has passed, winter is still in full swing here in Western New York. This time of year can be quite cold and snowy, with plenty of winter festivities to enjoy. Rachael and Bryce Steffan, part owners of the

SEE "WINTERFEST" PG. 7

Sneak Peek Inside this Edition...

Sleigh Rides through Chautauqua
Saturdays & Sundays through February 23... Pg. 2



Sleigh rides, provided by Stateline Draft Horse Club, will run Saturdays and Sundays from Jan. 4 to Feb. 23, weather permitting. Rides start at 1pm, departing every half-hour from the parking lot near the Chautauqua Bookstore (10 Roberts Street, Chautauqua NY 14722), with the last ride at 3pm.

Holiday Valley Snow Making Crew Ranks
Vote in Ski Area Management Magazine Pg. 3

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

Volunteer Spotlight: Annette Ieda Sharing the Healing Gift of Music



One of Annette Ieda's proudest accomplishments is mentoring her harp student, Grace Kwagalakwe (pictured with Ieda), a junior in high school who first heard Annette's harp at an outdoor concert in Ellicottville a few years ago. Grace was so captivated by the sound of the harp that she eagerly agreed to take lessons from Annette. Now, the two share the joy of playing together at Michias' "Pines" Nursing Home.

By JEFF MARTIN, THE VILLAGER

In the quiet corners of adult day care centers and nursing homes across Western New York, the gentle sound of a harp can often be heard, thanks to the kindness and generosity of Ellicottville resident, Annette Ieda. A volunteer with a deep commitment to giving back, Annette shares her gift of music with residents at Eden Adult Day Care, Cradle Beach in Derby, and Michias' Pines Nursing Home.

SEE "IEDA" PAGE 6

WJTN Celebrates 100 Years Jmst. Radio Station Broadcasting Career



The first broadcast was made from the Hotel Jamestown in downtown Jamestown in December, 1924.

By DARLENE BRACE

During the last week of 2024, WJTN radio station in Jamestown celebrated its 100th anniversary of broadcasting. This momentous occasion marked its beginnings, which occurred on December 31, 1924. An Ashville, New York resident named Archibald E. Newton, who was an amateur radio enthusiast, applied for a license from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The FCC issued him a permanent license, and the first broadcast was made from the Hotel Jamestown in downtown Jamestown. The initial broadcasts were very successful, and with significant community support, Newton decided to broadcast regularly on Wednesday evenings, Saturday evenings, and Sundays. The station was originally called WOCL (We're On Chautauqua Lake). This led to the

SEE "WJTN" PAGE 10

Publisher's Word

"Winter is a Continuous Holiday Season"



It seems there is always reason to celebrate in the winter in WNY. Besides the obvious holidays that are celebrated throughout the country in winter (and there

certainly are a lot packed in), in WNY and especially in our resort areas, we always find a festival lined up, a party to go to, horse and carriage rides to be taken, polar plunges to delve into, ice fishing competitions to watch or participate in, carnivals to enjoy, light ceremonies to relish, skiing expos, demos, races and clinics to enjoy. If I've said it once, I've said it a thousand times – We certainly are lucky to live in this place and to appreciate the natural bounty that surrounds us along with our good neighbors who understand exactly how

special this place is that we call home. We have again lined these pages with interesting things to do and people and causes to become acquainted with. If you have an event or person you believe would be of interest to our readership, please send the information our way; we are always eager to spread a good word. It's easy! Simply log on to www.thevillager.com and click the "General Submissions" tab and we will get right back to you. Until next week, enjoy the read and the ride!

Yours in writing, Jeanine Caprino Zimmer

Happy Birthday

Dan Haglund... January 18th • Kayla Good... January 19th
 Carson Hoag... January 20th • Conner Callaghan... January 21st
 Bonnie Koscher... January 21st • Mike Paternitti... January 22nd
 Bernie Auer... January 23rd • David Johne... January 23rd
 Dina DiPasquale... January 24th • Gary Peters Sr... January 25th
 Linda Yates... January 27th • Michelle Chamberlain... January 29th
 Karen Kemp... January 30th • Paul Timkey... February 3rd
 Email us your birthday greetings: info@thevillager.com

Fighting Childhood Hunger

Local Organization 5 Loaves & 2 Fish Ministry



recurring donation—no matter the amount—can create a lasting impact.

- \$10 provides a weekend's worth of food for a child.
- \$100 supports a child for 10 weeks.
- Recurring gifts provide stability, ensuring children don't go without food in future months.

The ministry also welcomes new volunteers to join their efforts at any of their pack sites. "Volunteers are the backbone of our work," said Heiser. "From packing bags to organizing logistics, there's a role for everyone who wants to help."

Local volunteers from French Creek Christian Homeschool at the Clymer Warehouse! They volunteered to help us set-up, move boxes and breakdown all the cardboard.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT URGENTLY NEEDED - CLYMER, NY – In the heart of Chautauqua County, an inspiring grassroots effort is addressing one of the most vulnerable populations in our community: hungry children. 5 Loaves & 2 Fish Ministry, a fully volunteer-driven organization, provides critical food support to over 600 school-aged children each week across local schools, including Clymer, Sherman, Bemus Point, Panama, Hewes Center, Maple Avenue Academy, CHQ BOCES, and Randolph Academy Union Free School District.

Each week, these children take home a bag of food to help sustain them through the weekend—when school meals are unavailable. However, without increased community support, this vital service is at risk of falling short.

Unlike many programs, 5 Loaves & 2 Fish Ministry operates solely through the generosity of local individuals, businesses, and organizations to provide the 26,000 bags they pack each school year. Every penny raised stays in the community, directly funding meals for local children. The program receives no government funding and relies entirely on donations and volunteer support.

"Our mission is simple but critical: ensure that no child goes hungry," said Jen Heiser, president of the ministry. "These are children who live in our communities, attend our schools, and rely on us to provide the nourishment they need. Without additional donations, we face a shortfall this year and may not be able to begin the next school year with the resources required."

With rising costs and increasing demand, 5 Loaves & 2 Fish Ministry needs the community's help more than ever. A

How YOU CAN HELP Local residents and businesses are encouraged to make a difference:

1. Donate: Visit www.5and2ministry.com/volunteer or www.facebook.com/5and2ministry to make a one-time or recurring donation.
2. Volunteer: Sign up to help at a local pack site.
3. Spread the Word: Share this story with others who may want to get involved.

ABOUT 5 LOAVES & 2 FISH MINISTRY

Inspired by the biblical story of generosity and abundance, 5 Loaves & 2 Fish Ministry is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to fighting childhood hunger in Chautauqua County. Since its inception, the ministry has provided thousands of meals to local children in need, thanks to the generosity of the community it serves.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/5and2ministry or contact Jen Heiser, 5and2ministry@gmail.com.

Sleigh Rides at Chautauqua

Saturdays & Sundays through February 23

Sleigh rides, provided by Stateline Draft Horse Club, will run Saturdays and Sundays from Jan. 4 to Feb. 23, weather permitting. Rides start at 1pm, departing every half-hour from the parking lot near the Chautauqua Bookstore (10 Roberts Street, Chautauqua NY 14722), with the last ride at 3pm. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children, available at the Bookstore after noon on the day of the ride. Wagons are uncovered, so dress for the weather.



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Ski Area Management Magazine

Ranks Holiday Valley in the Top Snow Making Crews

"The I AM a Snowmaker contest"—sponsored by HKD Snowmakers—highlights the hard work, determination and camaraderie of snowmakers, and recognizes their critical contributions to the alpine, Nordic, snowboard, and winter tubing industry. I AM a Snowmaker was launched in 2013, and has highlighted the expertise and character of a wide variety of snowmaking teams across North America. Six teams have been selected for the 2025 I AM a Snowmaker contest. The teams from Big Sky, Mont.; Bolton Valley, Vt.; Holiday Valley, NY; Horseshoe Valley, Ont.; Jackson XC, NH; and Mount Sima, Yukon will create a video that captures the heart of their snowmaking operation, and the people behind it, and compete for bragging rights and a grand prize from HKD Snowmakers. The final videos will be released in January 2025 and fans will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite video and crew at <https://www.saminfo.com/i-am-a-snowmaker>. Congratulations to the competing resorts:





Tina J. Dillon
Lic. Real Estate Salesperson

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Where Do You Want To Be In the New Year? I Will Help You Get There.

Smilo & the Ghost

Springville Center for the Arts Presents, January 25

Smilo & the Ghost are bringing their unique blend of Bluegrass, indie, rock, and a touch of twang to Art's Cafe on Saturday, January 25th for a concert. With songs written by Tyler Smilo, their music is a heartfelt expression of the belief that art inspires change and fosters growth.



Their albums have been voted among Erie Reader's top albums, and they have opened for national acts like Grammy Award Winning country duo Dan + Shay and alt-rock legends 10,000 Maniacs.

The band is made up of four members: Tyler Smilo (guitar, vocals), Adam McKillip (mandolin, vocals), Jassen Wilber (bass guitar), and Dominick DeCecco (banjo, vocals). Their albums have been voted among Erie Reader's top albums, and they have opened for national acts like Grammy Award Winning country duo Dan + Shay and alt-rock legends 10,000 Maniacs.

The album provides a "lush window into our own battles and victories through the poetic transparency of Tyler Smilo's lyrics and rich voice." Their compositions are complex, and perfectly showcases the band's "gifted musicianship" (Erie Reader).

on Saturday, January 25th at 7pm. Located at 5 East Main Street, Springville NY, Art's Cafe hosts a performance space, workshop, artist residence and green roof centered around a bakery-cafe. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Purchase online at SpringvilleArts.org, or save the fees by calling 716.592.9038.

They have released 4 albums with their latest being Twang & Fire, receiving a 5 star rating from Erie Reader in 2024.

Springville Center for the Arts will present Smilo & the Ghost at Art's Cafe

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Art After 5 at RTPI

Kick Off 2025 Season, Friday Jan. 24 with The Assembly!



Roger Tory Peterson Institute kicks off 2025 by welcoming back local favorites The Assembly! This talented group effortlessly navigates a diverse blend of blues, funk, pop, bossa, and swing tunes spanning years of musical history. Their mission is to present standards and songbook charts of the past in modern language, to infuse music of today with some of that old magic, and to create new music in the process.

Exhibitions on view this month include Walking in Antarctica: The Art of Helen Glazer and Chautauqua County en Plein Air.

Included with each Art After 5 ticket is full access to the museum, along with a complimentary beverage from the RTPI bar, light bites, and two hours of live music. The RTPI bar features wine, beer, cider, and non-alcoholic beverages.

The event is located at The Lodge at RTPI, 311 Curtis Street in Jamestown, NY 14701. Presale Tickets are \$16 for members and \$18 for non-members; at the door tickets are \$18 for members and \$20 for non-members.



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HoliMont's Report on the Resort

Let it Snowmax!

Snowmax Revs Up Snowmaking Output by ~ 20%

BY DAN BALKIN

There are 660,000 thousand gallons of water in an Olympic size swimming pool. That is but a drop in our snowmaking bucket. When snowmaking at near capacity, HoliMont can pump 300,000 gallons of water per hour. Translation: In slightly over two hours with ideal snowmaking conditions, HoliMont can pump enough water into the snowmaking system to fill an Olympic size swimming pool. Two hours – Olympic pool – HoliMont: Who would have ever thought such words would be strung together? Dan Steinbar and Mark Burkhard did. They are longstanding and vital members of our Mountain Operations team. Dan and Mark inform us that an ideal snowmaking day in our region consists of temps between 10-15 degrees Fahrenheit and 50-60% humidity. When all the snowmaking stars align, hundreds of thousands of gallons of water per hour pass through HoliMont's

snowmaking system in a 24-hour day – enough to fill 11 Olympic size swimming pools! The result? The majestic snow on HoliMont's slopes.

It gets better. There is a product that HoliMont (and many ski areas) use called Snowmax. Its business model is simple and brilliant: Snowmax, under most snowmaking conditions, revs up snowmaking output by roughly 20%. Dan Steinbar, the man in the photos, was gracious enough to show us one of the three pumphouses where Snowmax is fed into our snowmaking system, and to explain how it works. Dan said that dust particles in the air form the nucleus around which natural snowflakes form. Snowmax cleverly imitates this natural process when we make artificial snow. Snowmax is essentially an anaerobic bacterium that is alive in the packet when it arrives, but as it passes through the snowmaking system, it turns inert, and the "skeletons" of the bacterium form a nucleus



Package of Snowmax: Mother Nature forms snowflakes, snow guns with Snowmax form more snow pellets. Snowflakes are more beautiful, but snow pellets are more durable, allowing us to ski into April.

allowing the water in our snow guns to form more snow pellets. Mother Nature forms snowflakes, snow guns with Snowmax form more snow pellets. Snowflakes are more beautiful, but snow pellets are more durable, allowing us to ski into April. The pictures and captions tell the rest of this winter's tale...



Dan Steinbar entering pump house with box of Snowmax – 10 packages per box.



Dan placing Snowmax into machine where it is mixed.



Mixing Snowmax with water.



Mechanism where Snowmax enters HoliMont's high pressure water pipes for snowmaking.

When all the snowmaking stars align, hundreds of thousands of gallons of water per hour pass through HoliMont's snowmaking system in a 24-hour day – enough to fill 11 Olympic size swimming pools! The result? The majestic snow on HoliMont's slopes.

New Year

CONT. FROM COVER

Now, the task off cleaning off a desk may seem simple enough if you housekeep on a daily or weekly basis. Or it may be spectacularly daunting, if the top of your desk looks like Einstein's desk which was captured in a photo immediately following his death at Princeton in 1955.

For me, a fun way to attack the project is to consider it a treasure hunt. Who knows what you will find at the bottom of a pile, or tucked into a corner of a drawer? In fact, one year, while cleaning out a small drawer in my own project, I found a business card from someone I did not know, stuck upright into the edge of the back of the drawer. I forget now what the handwritten message said, but I searched my memory and did remember finding it stuck into the screen door off the front porch of my house in the village sometime in the past. Apparently, I had casually met the gentlemen whose card it was and he found where I lived, leaving a note saying he would like us to meet again. It was the late 80's, people were not scary suspicious or I was more trusting. Regardless, I thought it was charming and called him. He was one of our Canadian ski-loving

brethren and although much time had passed, he indeed remembered leaving that note for me. The phone call turned into a very pleasant relationship with not only him but with his entire tribe of Canadian friends whom I fell to love and enjoyed spending time with even long after our relationship had ended.

I asked our editor what long lost item she might have found in a desk. Her find made me smile wide and filled me with nostalgia. It was Hank Dubey's recorded tape, Top 'O The Hill. Readers who have been around Ellicottville for over twenty years will surely remember Hank, who filled any room with his outsized Texan presence. He was editor of the newspaper Special* E*Fects. Hank made us all laugh at his antics in print and in town. Remember He Says She Says? He famously often got the final word and the best laugh. This silly, happy memory, all because of desk cleaning.

Now, while a clean space inspires us, helps us be more efficient and gives us the benefit of improved productivity, it has the bonus of giving us unexpected serenity. An octogenarian friend and his wife moved to Michigan this December. For the past year they went through the process of cleaning and getting rid of superfluous items. Funny thing about desks – it was

one of the last pieces to be totally emptied. In it sat, for decades, two doctoral theses (his and hers) that they never could part with. There they were – taunting him on that almost empty desk – drawers open like big empty yawns. Perceived "keepsakes" are like that sometimes. They almost dare us to send them to the dump. Undeterred, my friend bravely did exactly that. Not without pause, trepidation, or second and third thoughts ... but finally, out they went. Here's the interesting thing that happened afterward. Totally unexpectedly, he was suddenly filled with an overwhelming feeling of relief! The fifty-year-old relics had turned into a fifty-pound albatross; they had originally promised luck and good fortune but after fifty-some years they were feeling like something very heavy around their necks. Ahhhh!

So, yes, I encourage you toward a fresh start, a clean surface, and organized drawers. Be systematic – remove, clean, replace, shred, toss. Send forgotten photos to their subjects with a short note. You never know whose life will get a lift from something in your drawers. Take down the old calendar and replace with 2025 as you smile at the year of possibilities ahead of you.

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Holiday Valley 2025 Season Update

Great Snow Conditions Compliment Great Line Up



For those seeking winter fun off the main slopes, the Holiday Valley Tubing Park, located just a few miles from the resort, has also had a strong start to the season. With well-groomed lanes and plenty of snow, it's an easy choice for family outings or group activities. The Tubing Park is located at 5673 Bryant Hill Rd #9729, Ellicottville, NY 14731.

By JEFF MARTIN
THE VILLAGER

Holiday Valley has opened the winter season with strong skiing conditions and a lineup of events and promotions for visitors. This year's natural snowfall has been heavier than last season, and the slopes are in great shape, with the snowmaking and grooming teams working hard behind the scenes to maintain quality across the resort.

From January 6-10, Canadian Friendship Week will give Canadian guests 30% off lift tickets and equipment rentals, making it an ideal time to visit while the conditions remain excellent. Night skiers can also take advantage

of the Intense Milk BOGO deal, available Monday through Wednesday nights. By bringing an Intense Milk bottle wrapper, guests can buy one night lift ticket and receive a second ticket free, a perfect way to share the slopes with a friend.

Edna's at the Tamarack Club has introduced a Wednesday Date Night Prix Fixe Menu. For \$70, couples can enjoy a wood-fired pizza starter, two entrées, and a dessert to share. It's a simple but thoughtful way to unwind after a day on the slopes.

The terrain park will take center stage on February 22 with the return of the Tell a Friend Tour. Pro freeriders will be on hand to session the park, film with guests, and create a lively atmosphere for freestyle

skiing fans.

For those seeking winter fun off the main slopes, the Holiday Valley Tubing Park, located just a few miles from the resort, has also had a strong start to the season. With well-groomed lanes and plenty of snow, it's an easy choice for family outings or group activities.

Lodging at Holiday Valley continues to see improvements as well. Both the Tamarack Club and The Inn at Holiday Valley are in the second year of a three-year renovation project. Many rooms have already been upgraded, with the final phase set to finish next summer, enhancing comfort for future guests.

With solid snowfall, busy slopes, and a full calendar of events, Holiday Valley is set for a memorable winter season.

"In all honesty, it's been a fantastic start to the season," Dash Hegeman, spokesperson for Holiday Valley, said. "The snowmakers and the groomers are always the behind the scenes stars of what we do here but this year. Mother Nature has been much kinder to us and delivered a lot more natural snow than we had at this time last year."

For more information on upcoming activities and current promotions, visit holidayvalley.com/events.

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Live Music Fridays at Edna's

Reinvented Restaurant Offers Great Cuisine, Views & Music

By KATE BARTLETT

This season, Edna's at the Tamarack is introducing live music most Fridays throughout the ski season. Ever since its rebrand opening last winter, Edna's has always been the go-to dining destination with its ideal location at Holiday Valley and unmatched views of the slopes, and now offers a refreshed menu and a continued emphasis on quality customer service.

According to Dash Hegeman, Director of Marketing at Holiday Valley, Edna's decided to bring music to the scene as a fun way to kick off the weekend. "We've had some live music here for events and the team at Edna's felt that it would create a nice atmosphere for the guests," explains Dash.

Featured bands include primarily solo acts, with a couple of exceptions and include: Kody and Herren, Jay McDonnell, Sweet Degenerates, Campfire Junkie, Jamie Smith (from Porcelain Bus Drivers) and LeRoy & Loretta. All bands are local talent, and offer the opportunity to relax and enjoy music in a cozy après ski atmosphere. Dash explains "the music will fit the vibe of Edna's nicely and not be overwhelming to anyone who is dining that evening."

Kody and Herren play roots style originals and



Campfire Junkie plays country, southern rock and alternative covers and originals, and recently played at Edna's on January 3.

covers, and frequent the Ellicottville music scene. Campfire Junkie plays country, southern rock and alternative covers and originals, and recently played at Edna's on January 3. Jay McDonnell plays acoustic rock covers, like Jackson Browne, Tom Petty and more (January 24 & 28). Sweet Degenerates (playing January 10) are a multi-instrumental trio brining a unique style ranging from folk, indie, blues, 90's alternative, jazz, jam and bluegrass. Jamie Smith from Porcelain Bus Drivers will play acoustic solos on January 17 & 21 and LeRoy & Loretta of Blue Velvet Band will play on February 7. All bands play from 4-7PM, February 14 TBA.

Dash describes Edna's as a quality, relaxed dining experience with the best

dining views in the area. "The menu offers a lot of local flavors and seasonal ingredients that will leave you wanting to come back to try more. There's something for everyone, for any occasion. The panoramic views of the ski slopes make for a great scene while you're dining; especially when the slopes are lit up at night."

Edna's is also offering a new Wednesday Date Night Prix Fixe Menu for \$70/person with a generous amount of food. "It's a great excuse to get out of the house midweek and treat a loved one to a delicious meal."

For more information and full schedule visit holidayvalley.com/dining/ednas and check upcoming events on The Villager Events Page @ www.thevillager.com

Holiday Valley



FRIDAY APRÉS LIVE MUSIC

This winter, Edna's at the Tamarack Club will have live music on Friday evenings from 4-7PM. Stop by for a great meal and listen to some fun tunes. It's the perfect way to kick off your weekend.

Learn more at holidayvalley.com/events

THINGS TO CHECK OUT

EDNA'S AT THE TAMARACK WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRIX FIXE MENU

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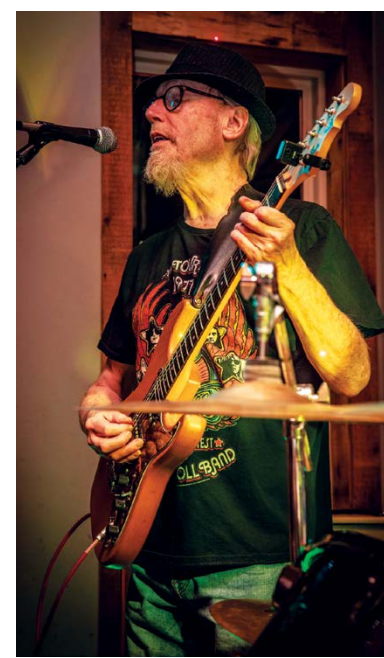
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Over 10 venues in the village of Ellicottville will host over 20 bands of mainly local talent. (Full schedule soon to be released). While some bands embrace the Blues theme, others play what they know best. It's a wide variety of music that showcases some of the local talent in the area. *Photos/Nadine Saviano*

Blues

STORY FROM COVER

Pump, Executive Director for the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce. "It was started by the chamber as something to do during the winter months to complement the snow sports, and it's really been embraced by the community.

Over 10 venues in the village of Ellicottville will host over 20 bands of mainly local talent. (Full schedule soon to be released). While some bands embrace the Blues theme, others play what

they know best. "It's a wide variety of music," says Barb. "It's a great opportunity to showcase some of the local talent in the area."

The Winter Blues Weekend is a smaller, more intimate festival than many other music festivals in Ellicottville. "The focus is on the winter/ski season, but it's also a celebration of community," explains Barb. "We're a four-seasons resort town, but winter has always been special here. There's something special about gathering with family and friends with live music. The vibe is just different; it's just relaxing and a great escape from the everyday."

Many shops and restaurants will run specials during the festival weekend, welcoming visitors and locals alike to their establishments. "Our town really shines during the winter," says Barb. "We invite everyone to come out and enjoy all we have to offer. From the eclectic dining to the shops and boutiques, Ellicottville has something for everyone. Come discover why we say, "Doesn't this place feel great?"

For more information and a full schedule, visit ellicottvilleny.com and follow in The Villager for up close articles on local artists.



In addition to her work at the Symphony, Annette has built a loyal following through her involvement with the Cantata, a local choral group. Over the past 12 years, she has helped lead seven weekly sessions culminating in two concerts, all while raising funds for a local food pantry. "We have a group of dedicated singers, many of whom have enjoyed this experience for the first time since high school or college," she says. "They love the music, I love the music, and the audience loves it. It's a win-win all around."

Ieda

STORY FROM COVER

Home. For Annette, her musical contributions are not just performances but a way of returning the support she once received during some of her life's toughest moments.

"I believe it's important to give back to the community," Annette said. "My husband attended weekly respite services run by local churches. These four-hour periods gave me a much-needed break to keep my sanity, whether I was shopping or hiking. It was a free service, and now I'm giving back to the places that helped us during such a difficult time."

Annette's husband, who was diagnosed with Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD), passed away after their 47th year of marriage. Her dedication to volunteering, especially in nursing homes and hospices, stems from a personal desire to repay the community that supported her when she was a full-time caregiver.

For Annette, music became not just a passion, but also a path toward healing.

One of her proudest accomplishments is mentoring her harp student, Grace Kwagalakwe, a junior in high school who first heard Annette's harp at an outdoor concert in Ellicottville a few years ago. Grace was so captivated by the sound of the harp that she eagerly agreed to take lessons from Annette. Now, the two share the joy of playing together at Michias' "Pines" Nursing Home.

"I've watched Grace grow so much," Annette reflects. "She's blossomed into a talented young musician, and it's wonderful to see her join me in sharing music with the residents."

The power of music to uplift spirits is something Annette has witnessed firsthand. At the nursing homes and adult day care centers where she volunteers, the soothing strains of her harp bring joy not only to the residents but also

to the staff who often express their gratitude. These performances, which have now led to paid gigs, also provide valuable exposure and experience for Annette as a musician.

"I've learned so much from playing in these settings," she explains. "Every performance is a reminder of why I do this – it's a win, win, win. The residents are happy, the staff is happy, and I gain experience that has led to paid opportunities. It's a beautiful cycle of giving and receiving."

Annette's dedication to music extends beyond her volunteer work. She has been a long-time member of the Orchard Park Symphony, a volunteer-based orchestra where she and her fellow musicians perform for the pure love of music. "It was my 52nd year with the orchestra this year," Annette says with pride. "We don't get paid, but we don't need to. We just bring our experience, practice, and dedication

"IEDA", Pg. 11

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Outside you'll find a wonderful range of vendors. Treat yourself to some delicious specialty snacks like kettle corn and taffy. Another highlight of this Winer Festival will be the live music taking place from 1:30-5:30pm. Award-winning band Black Widow will return to the Tap House, and they will be rocking it outside on the deck.

Winterfest

CONT, FROM COVER

Bemus Point. Join them and the community for a full afternoon of live music and activities for you and your family to enjoy, from 12-6pm.

Bring your family and friends to enjoy a delicious meal from the Tap House menu. Their usual menu will be available, which includes things like gourmet burgers, pizza, wings, artisan sandwiches, salads, and more. There will also be a variety of food specials, along with some specials on beer and cocktails. For your convenience, a beer trailer will also be available outside so you can purchase beverages while enjoying the activities outdoors.

In the past, this festival served as a fundraiser to support local snowmobile clubs. However, this year's festival will not be a fundraiser, so there are some small changes to the event. There won't be a Chinese auction or fireworks this time around, but if the weather cooperates with some snow on the ground, the festival will offer some fun winter activities. You can look forward to building a giant snow pile and having some fun sledding on the hill at hole #3 of the

golf course. Snowmobilers are still invited to join the event just like in previous years. Also, The Ellery Sno-Cruisers will have a tent set up where you can participate in some exciting fundraising activities. Stop by their tent to enter raffles and check out some of their awesome merchandise.

Outside you'll find a wonderful range of vendors. Treat yourself to some delicious specialty snacks like kettle corn and taffy. Make sure you check out the other vendors that will feature crafts and homemade treasures that the creative vendors will have to offer. There is still time to sign up to be a vendor at the Winter Festival, as they are still accepting nonfood-related vendors at this time. If

you are interested in being a vendor, you can call Rachael at 716-386-2893.

As in years past, there will be the annual Christmas tree bonfire, and this year it will begin in the early afternoon. Area residents are encouraged to drop off their Christmas trees at the Tap House. This bonfire has become a beloved tradition that the community eagerly anticipates, and it is one of the highlights of the winter festival. It's a great way to stay warm while you are outdoors enjoying the music and other festivities. The bonfire illuminates the grounds, creating a beautiful sight, especially when there is snow on the ground.

"WINTERFEST" Pg. 11



As in years past, there will be the annual Christmas tree bonfire, and this year it will begin in the early afternoon. Area residents are encouraged to drop off their Christmas trees at the Tap House. This bonfire has become a beloved tradition that the community eagerly anticipates, and it is one of the highlights of the winter festival. It's a great way to stay warm while you are outdoors enjoying the music and other festivities.



The Unitarian Universalist Church Tour on Elmwood Avenue offers a glimpse into Buffalo's rich history as it was designed by renowned architects William and Edward Kent. The exterior is English-Village Gothic style while the interior is a mix of Gothic and the Arts and Crafts styles, blending two beautiful styles of this time period. An interesting piece of Buffalo history also lies in this church, as architect Edward Austin Kent was the only Buffalo native to set sail on the Titanic, where he tragically died in its sinking.

Explore

CONT, FROM COVER

their significance to Buffalo while staying warm on an indoor tour.

Explore Buffalo was founded in 2013 with the mission of promoting Buffalo and Western New York history, architecture, and neighborhoods. They offer a variety of tours, over 120 in total at this time, in Buffalo and its surrounding suburbs. Explore Buffalo has been growing steadily since its inception, adding new tours and new opportunities to explore this great city each and every year.

While the Sacred Spaces Tours are available year-round, they've become a popular winter activity. These tours are mostly indoor and provide a unique opportunity to get out and explore a dozen houses of worship during the colder months. The tours are docent led, and range from 60-90 minutes providing interesting facts and information about each building and its time period.

According to Brad Hahn, Executive Director of Explore Buffalo, the 12 houses of worship featured in the Sacred Spaces Tours

are interesting in their own regard. "These buildings were mostly constructed within a 20-30-year time span during the late 1800's-early 1900's when Buffalo was at its peak. Every community, from the wealthy to the working class, put significant contributions into building houses of worship; they were the cornerstones of their communities. They hired architects and stained-glass artists to build these incredible spaces. These buildings are a great representation of the time, and provide a glimpse into the past, ultimately helping us better understand these moments in time."

The Explore Buffalo office is actually located inside a house of worship - the First Presbyterian Church at 1 Symphony Circle, the oldest congregation in Buffalo. "Our office is in such a unique location, and we don't take that for granted," says Brad. "We're fortunate to have our office in the building where Theodore Roosevelt attended worship after President William McKinley was shot at the Pan-American Exposition in 1901. I walk these halls daily, and that's just incredible."

Houses of worship included in the Sacred

Spaces tours include a variety of churches in downtown Buffalo and on Buffalo's East Side. Newly added this year is Saint Adalbert Basilica, one of the largest churches in Buffalo and the first Basilica in the United States. Located on Buffalo's East Side near the Broadway Market, this space is a popular tour; a building with a great story. The interior of St. Adalbert's features stained glass windows from Germany and murals by Buffalo artist Josef Mazur, completed in 1924.

The Unitarian Universalist Church Tour on Elmwood Avenue offers a glimpse into Buffalo's rich history as it was designed by renowned architects William and Edward Kent. The exterior is English-Village Gothic style while the interior is a mix of Gothic and the Arts and Crafts styles, blending two beautiful styles of this time period. An interesting piece of Buffalo history also lies in this church, as architect Edward Austin Kent was the only Buffalo native to set sail on the Titanic, where he tragically died

SEE "EXPLORE" Pg. 11

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Ring in the New Year with You Friends in Style

BY DARLENE BRACE

the big winners.

We are now in the middle of winter in Western New York. There are still plenty of activities to do during this winter season. Read on to see what's happening in Chautauqua County this weekend.

Thursday January 9th - The **Open Jam Sessions** are continuing at the **Wine Cellar** in downtown

Jamestown. Bring your instrument and/or get ready to sing or showcase any other talent. You can perform solo or with a group. Whether you want to join in the fun or simply watch as a spectator, it promises to be an entertaining night. The event will be hosted by Shamus and Lacey of Old Fish, starting at 10pm.

Friday January 10th - **The Reg Lenna** begins their 2025 movie series this week. On Friday night, the **Gladiator** sequel, **Gladiator 2** will start at 7pm. **Gladiator 2** is an epic saga taking place in ancient Rome starring Paul Mescal and Denzel Washington. You can get your tickets on reglenna.com.

If you're looking for something a little different to do and you don't mind driving out a bit, **Tara Graves**, the talented lead singer of the local band **Ion Sky**, is performing in **Silent Legacy**. **Silent Legacy** is the best **Melissa Etheridge** tribute band in Western New York. They will be performing at **The Cave** in Buffalo. The doors open at 7pm, and the show starts at 8pm.

It's **Pop Culture Trivia Night** at **Southern Tier's Empty Bottle**. Gather up your team, put your heads together, and show what you know about pop culture. If you answer the questions correctly, maybe you and your team will be

known for being a college bar. But this weekend, **Sunny's** is having a **30-Plus Night**. They will be playing fun music from the past, so if you are over 30 years old, come and get your groove on between 7pm and 12am at **Sunny's** in Fredonia.

Afraid of Human will be performing at the **Another Round Bar and Grill** in Cherry Creek. Be ready to hear them jam as they play hard rock originals and covers that will entertain the crowd starting at 8pm.

Lenny and the Landshark Group returns to **Ther-Happy** in Lakewood. Enjoy a yummy appetizer like their gigantic pretzel or a delicious entree from their menu while you listen to this talented duo. They perform a mix of genres spanning generations of music, and they will start at 8pm.

The **River Bar** inside the **Seneca Allegheny Casino** has a fun lineup of entertainment this weekend. On Friday night, **Osborn Nash** will entertain the crowd with their eclectic music list that spans generations and genres. Then, on Saturday night, Western New York's premier tribute band **Eaglez** will be performing all the classic favorite Eagles tunes. The music starts at 7pm each night.

Sunday January 12th - At 3pm, **Sunday Funday** continues at the **Busti Tap House** as **Dark Water Duo** returns. They play eclectic music sets, so there is sure to be something to please everyone.

For the middle of January, that was a fun-filled winter weekend of entertainment. Make sure that you check out next week's issue of **The Villager** to see what's happening in Chautauqua County.

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in Brief

Musical #22: "Grease"

BY BARBARA ARNSTEIN

"The Boy in the Plastic Bubble").

Travolta was cast in "Grease" because he'd played a similar swaggering character on the TV show "Welcome Back, Kotter", Vinnie Barbarino. One morning in 1976, he appeared on the Manhattan morning talk show, AM New York (hosted by Stanley Siegel). Earlier that week, I'd spotted a sign on a bulletin board at my college in Queens, urging students to attend the show's live tapings, and so I was at the studio that morning. When I learned he was there, I wandered into the room where guests waited to go on, and found him sitting on a couch holding his sister Ellen's hand. As he signed some autographs, he nervously commented that he was worried about being mobbed when he left by the group of girls waiting outside the studio, so I helpfully told him there was a back door (which I'd just noticed) that he could use to exit, and he thanked me.

Over the years, the original, raunchy content in "Grease" was revised and censored. Characters were changed, and songs were removed and added. One example of the changes: in a version of the script sometimes performed in schools, lyrics in the song "Summer Nights" were changed from "We made out under the dock" to "We told jokes under the dock". The ending, however, has

always stayed the same: ridiculous. Although, throughout the plot, Sandy is very demure, and fends off Danny's advances at a drive-in, at the very end she suddenly appears wearing a skintight leather outfit and dances around seductively with him. Perhaps it's his fantasy? The ending of the movie is definitely pure fantasy, as the two of them get into a car together and fly off into the sky.

The lyrics of the song, "Look At Me, I'm Sandra Dee" originally referenced actor Sal Mineo, but after he was murdered, his name was removed, and replaced with Elvis Presley's. Eerily, Elvis died the day the song was recorded for the movie. One of the hit songs from the movie, "Hopelessly Devoted to You", which was written for it, was actually recorded after the rest of it had been completed, to fulfill the requirement in Newton-John's contract that she sing a solo. The other major song hit from the movie, "You're the One That I Want", was also written by the songwriter who wrote the first, John Farrar.

"Grease" returned to Broadway in 1994 and 2007. It was made into a live TV presentation in 2016, and in 2023, a show briefly appeared on Paramount-plus entitled "Grease: Rise of the Pink Ladies", a prequel to the action in the 1978 movie involving the members of a girl gang.

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By, MOUTH SAY TONGUE

We're back at The Gin Mill for Live-n-Kickin from 8-12am. This band plays rock/pop/oldies covers that'll have to on your feet. Check out the latest kitchen in town open till 9pm sun-wed and 10pm thurs-sat. Open for breakfast 9-11:30am sat-sun.

Madigans keeps the party rockin with Dj Persia from 9-2am playin the juice so you can really cut loose in the window on Washington.

SATURDAY

The Gin Mill is the early bird with the very talented Chillbillys from 2-5pm. This husband and wife act play a rock/country /pop/folk/blues set of covers and originals featuring some tasty guitar licks and sweet vocal harmonies. West works the second shift from 8-12am. This band plays a rock/pop/blues/country set of covers. Try the Carriage House Sidebar for some craft cocktails made with high end spirits.

Madigans is back and so is Dj Persia from 9-2am playin some crunk so you can shake your junk on the dance floor. Check out the dart board and pool tables for some competition.

SUNDAY

The Gin Mill hosts a brunch set with Davey "O" from 10-1pm. Get your game face on for the Bills Super Bowl run and then celebrate the victory.

Villaggio hosts its weekly AYCE Pasta and Prime Rib Special from 12:30-9pm. Watch the game on the big screen while you eat some

of the southern tiers finest fare. The post victory celebration will be provided by Grace Lougan from 5:30-8:30pm. One of Buffalo's premier entertainers she plays a pop/rock/alt/folk set of covers and originals.

MONDAY

Monday is Strings and Wings at Balloons from 4-10pm. 50 cent wings and a nice selection of craft beers to wash them down with makes for a locals favorite. This week's entertainment is provided by The Chillbillys from 6-9pm.

The Gin Mill hosts Michael David, Monday, from 7-10pm. He plays a rock/country/bluegrass/grunge set of covers. Don't forget those 37 beers on tap.

TUESDAY

Tuesday The Gin Mill hosts the Marty Peters Duo from 7-10pm. This Buffalo Music HOF'er plays blues and folk covers from the 60-70's and is joined by different musicians.

WEDNESDAY

Well, it's Wing, Wednesday and for the last 40+ years The Gin Mill has hosted. Joe Wagner was the musical guest for those 40 years but now Brian Rick provides the entertainment from 7-10pm. Brian plays a rock/folk/country/pop set of covers.

We hope you enjoyed your time in Evl and return often with friends and family but wherever you are PLEASE, ALWAYS SUPPORT LIVE MUSIC!!!!!!!

Beat on the Street:

"What's a Ridiculous Request You Got at Work?"

BY CHAD NEAL

Working with people is usually how jobs get done. Business is usually some sort of transaction between two or more entities, and sometimes it can be abnormal. A higher up or customer may have an idea about your job that is just a bit irregular to your title. Sometimes arrogant folks misemploy workers and sometimes ignorant bodies will solicit a job that befuddles said worker. None of us are completely innocent from asking peculiar questions of unwitting staff or colleagues. A lot of times new hires are subject to a hierarchy that hazes or pranks the newbie too, by demanding they do something out of the ordinary, but unbeknownst to the recently hired. It's a great water cooler conversation though regaling the "idiocies" of those who require such nonsense. What's a ridiculous request you got at work?



Kyle B.- I worked at a hotel that had jacuzzis in the rooms and a guest called down to the front desk and asked where the hose was to fill the tub. I had to go up to the room and show them how to turn on the tub faucet.



Tara L.- When I was working at Citytv in the programming department, we had the rights to Oprah. On her Birthday a woman called the programming department and asked me if I could take a Birthday note down to Oprah. I told her that she wasn't here, that she was in Chicago. Well she wasn't having it. She told me she was watching her on Citytv in Toronto, that she didn't get Chicago television channels and would I just please go down to the studio on my lunch break even, it would mean the world to her! Realizing there was no way I could explain syndication to her or change her mind, I told her sure.



Carrie H.- When I was working at a vet clinic years ago, a dog was in being neutered and the owner requested the testicles.



Dee D.- As a housekeeper at The Inn at Holiday Valley, a gentleman asked me if he could give me \$10 for my uniform shirt to play a prank on his sleeping buddy... its housekeeping... want me to fluff your pillows... and yes I gave him my shirt.



Matt H.- Spring 09' was a senior in HS, started a new job at a local country club. Second day on the job I find out I am the only person on staff that can fill out the Easter Bunny costume and Sunday is HERE. I had to wear that thing for Easter Sunday brunch on a full catering, double shift booking with and goddammit did I wear it right!



Todd P.- Can you check on the Dead Guy?!

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Log on to www.thevillager.ny.com and click the "General Submissions Tab"

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Birthday Parties



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Please help us collect non-perishable food items for the Great Valley - Ellicottville food pantries. This helps serve many families within our community. Thank you for all your help!

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Please stop inside Howard Hanna's Ellicottville office to drop off any non-perishable food item!



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The Villager is looking for writers who are interested in weekly assignments. We cover local businesses, people and events. If you're interested, please submit your résumé and writing samples to:
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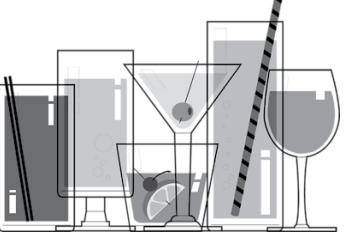
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The Villager

EL LICOTTVILLE • CHAUTAUGUA

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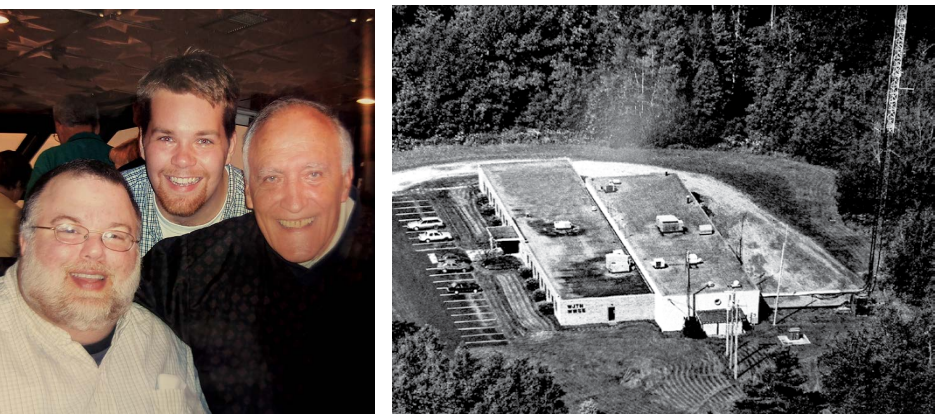
★★ Sudoku Challenge ★★

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:

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



Throughout the years, WJTN has served the community well, and some of its most popular programming has been attributed to Jim Roselle, right, pictured with other long term on air talent, Lee Jon, left, and Andrew Hill, center. The radio station's broadcasting offices and studios moved several times to other local locations during the next decade after its initial broadcast at the Hotek Jamestown. In 1938, the radio station returned to the Hotel Jamestown, where it remained for decades. In 1971, WJTN moved to Orchard Road in West Ellicott, where it has been ever since.

WJTN

CONT. FROM COVER

Jim Roselle began working for WJTN in 1953 and continued his service to the station for over 60 years. For decades, he was the voice of the station, known for his contributions to programming which included local broadcasts of community news and events as well as interviews with locals and celebrities. He won several awards, and his broadcasts are considered an integral part of the history and success of the station. Jim Roselle passed away in 2016, but he will always be a significant part of WJTN's legacy.

Dennis Webster is another key figure in this legacy as he worked for the station for 54 years. He provided valuable news and entertainment. He had a close connection to the local school programs and sports, as he was always dedicating his service to the local community. He retired in August 2024, but continues to contribute his service. In fact, on January 8, 2025, the Bemus Point Historical Society welcomed him as a guest speaker at the Bemus Point Town Hall to discuss the 100th anniversary of WJTN, including his 54-year career with the station.

Since 2002, WJTN has been a prominent member of the Media One group. It currently has a talented local on-air team that includes Andrew Hill, Terry Frank, Dan Warren, Lee John, and others who have made their mark in WJTN's broadcasting. The station currently provides a blend of contemporary music alongside national and local news, entertainment information, weather forecasts, and sports reports.

As part of the 100th year anniversary, WJTN's year-long celebration will include a broadcast of one hundred of the greatest moments in the radio station's history, with some of them being narrated by former WJTN announcer Dennis Webster. They are also planning to run some past high school sports championship broadcasts and feature some of the favorite interviews Jim Roselle conducted at Chautauqua Institution over the years. There will be a special broadcast of the 75th Anniversary, which will include past employees telling stories about the history of the station. Other celebratory events may yet be planned, so stay tuned for more information.

For over a hundred years, WJTN has demonstrated a strong commitment to serving the Chautauqua County community, establishing itself as a leader in local broadcasting. From its beginnings a century ago, WJTN has dedicated its service to broadcasting music and reporting local news as well as national information, keeping the community informed and connected. Tune in to WJTN for great music and news broadcasting that will entertain and inform you, just as it has for the past 100 years. Happy 100th Anniversary to WJTN!

WNY Hi-Octane Dueling Pianos

EBC Little Valley Presents, Friday, Feb. 21



A night of great music, comedy, and entertainment!
Fri. February 21, 2025
Doors open at 6pm
202 2nd St. Little Valley NY

Embark on an extraordinary night of entertainment at Ellicottville Brewing Company in Little Valley, NY, as WNY High Octane Dueling Pianos takes center stage!

You are invited to a thrilling 3-hour show, commencing at 7pm, filled with laughter, comedy, and an electrifying musical experience. Kick off the evening early as doors open at 6pm. The atmosphere will be charged with infectious energy as the dueling pianists engage in a friendly musical battle, playing your favorite tunes and taking requests. Whether you're a music enthusiast or just seeking a lively night out, this event promises to be an absolute blast.

Bring your friends, family, and a spirit of celebration to Ellicottville Brewing Company – the perfect setting for an unforgettable night of camaraderie, great food, and unparalleled entertainment. Don't miss out on this unique blend of comedy, music, and fun – it's an experience you won't want to end!

This event is an 18 and over event only! Seating will be assigned, if you would like to be sat together, please try your best to purchase tickets under the same name. If that is not a possibility, please email info@ellicottvillebrewing.com for questions and seating arrangements.

Online Submissions Accepted

Simply go online to: www.thevillagerny.com and click the "General Submissions" tab.

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Winterfest

CONT. FROM PG. 7

Another highlight of this Winter Festival will be the live music taking place from 1:30-5:30pm. Award-winning band Black Widow will return to the Tap House, and they will be rocking it outside on the deck. They play an energetic mix of rock, pop, and country music, and they have acquired quite a following. Lead singer Lana uses her amazing and powerful voice to captivate the audience. She and the rest of the band will have you moving and groovin' to the beat with familiar and favorite cover tunes. This incredibly talented band consistently puts on a great show.



Even though this year's festival is different from those in the past, Rachael Steffan said, "We still wanted to have the festival, even though it's a little different this year. It's still going to be a great winter event that offers something fun for people to do on a winter day. It's a wonderful way to bring the community together for some outdoor fun."

So, if you are looking for something fun to do

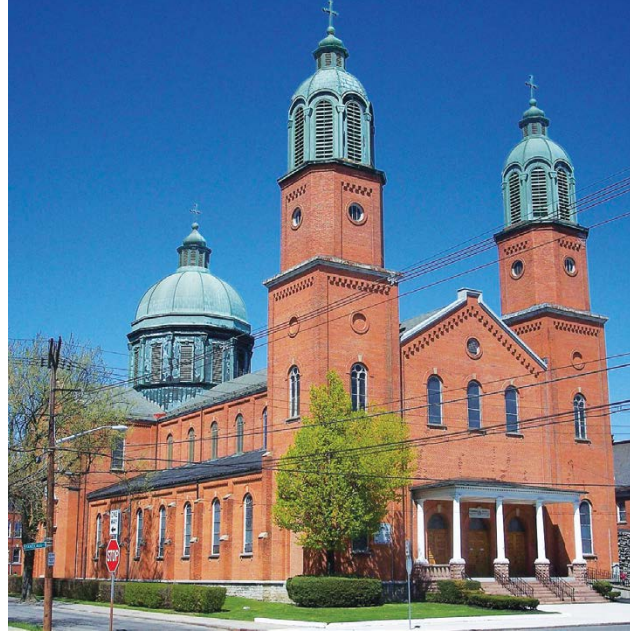
on a winter afternoon, head on out to Bemus Point Golf Club and Tap House on January 25th. The Tap House is not a private club, so it's open to the public year-round. Join them for their annual Winter Festival, which will feature tasty food, exciting activities, vendors, and amazing live entertainment that will keep everyone entertained all afternoon at this great community event.

Explore

CONT. FROM PG. 7

The Sacred Spaces tours allow guests to take a moment to learn about different cultures and religions. "Not only do guests have the opportunity to have a glimpse into the past, but they're offered the opportunity to learn about a different way of life. They can learn about different traditions, ask questions that spark their curiosity in a comfortable, learning atmosphere."

Each tour is available for single visit purchase, but Explore Buffalo also offers an Explorer Pass membership which allows unlimited walking, bike, and Sacred Spaces tours for just \$65/person or \$100/dual. "For the price of just 4 tours, guests can



Newly added this year is Saint Adalbert Basilica, one of the largest churches in Buffalo and the first Basilica in the United States.

enjoy unlimited tours for an entire year. We offer a variety of tours, year-round, so essentially guests could take a new tour every week."

For more information

and a full list of tours, visit explorebuffalo.org/sacredspaces, call (716) 245-3032 and follow on social media (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) @ExploreBuffalo.

Ieda

CONT. FROM PG. 6

to produce beautiful concerts. It's something I can continue doing for the rest of my life."

In addition to her work at the Symphony, Annette has built a loyal following through her involvement with the Cantata, a local choral group. Over the past 12 years, she has helped lead seven weekly sessions culminating in two concerts, all while raising funds for a local food pantry. "We have a group of dedicated singers, many of whom have enjoyed this experience for the first time since high school or college," she says. "They love the music, I love the music, and the audience loves it. It's a win-win all around."

For Annette, each note she plays, each volunteer gig she participates in, and every concert she organizes, is more than just an act of kindness. It is a chance to make a meaningful impact on the lives of others, while creating connections and memories that will last a lifetime. Through her music, Annette Ieda exemplifies the power of giving and the enduring joy of sharing one's gifts with the world.

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giving and the enduring joy of sharing one's gifts with the world.

In a world where it can sometimes feel like time slips away too quickly, Annette's legacy as a volunteer and musician is a reminder of how music, generosity, and community can come together to make life just a little bit brighter for everyone.

Retro Images



Lady Liberty 1573

Classified

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS- TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE, NEW YORK: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to Article 9 of the Town of Ellicottville Zoning Local Law, and pursuant to a resolution of the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Ellicottville, adopted January 2, 2025, the said Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Ellicottville Town Center, 28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, NY 14731 on the 6 day of February, 2025 at 6:00 P.M., to hear all interested parties regarding an application by Weppeler Properties LLC, requesting a Area Variances to allow the removal and reconstruction of decks, patios and retaining walls less than the minimum setback requirements, located at 10 Easy Street (SBL 55.011-2-29).

The application is available for review at the Engineering Department, 28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, New York 14731. Prior to the meeting, documents may also be viewed on the Town website at www.ellicottvillegov.com. Persons wishing to do so may submit comments prior to the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the Town of Ellicottville Zoning Board of Appeals, 1 Washington Street, P.O. Box 600, Ellicottville, New York 14731, dropped off in person to the same address, or emailed to greg.keyser@evlengineering.com.

BY ORDER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS OF THE TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF MANSFIELD TOWN BOARD LEGAL NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Town of Mansfield Zoning Law, the Town Board will hold a public hearing at the Town Hall, 7691 Toad Hollow Road, Little Valley, NY 14755 on the 20th day of January, 2025, at 7:00 P.M., to hear all interested parties regarding an application by Jake Creeley to rezone a portion of the property located at 7060 NYS Route 242 to Planned Unit Development (PUD). - *Mansfield Supervisor Carl Calarco*

FOR RENT

HOME FOR RENT ACROSS FROM HOLIDAY VALLEY: 407 Deer Crossing, Ellicottville, NY..... \$800/night. Accommodates up to 8 guests for the ski season. Living room and fireplace overlooking wonderful view of the slopes. 2 full bath, 3 bedrooms, laundry, full kitchen, parking, short walk to village. Contact: meganbyers4903@outlook.com. (SEE AD, PAGE 7.)

APARTMENT FOR RENT: 2 bed apt in village on Elizabeth \$1300.00/mo utilities inc. Washer/Dryer & off street parking 716-432-8882.

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT: 520 square feet of Office space at 39 Mill Street available for rent starting in August. Rent is \$600 a month plus gas, electric, water and snowplowing. Must sign 3 year commercial lease. Please call for details 716-699-4516 or 716-397-9527

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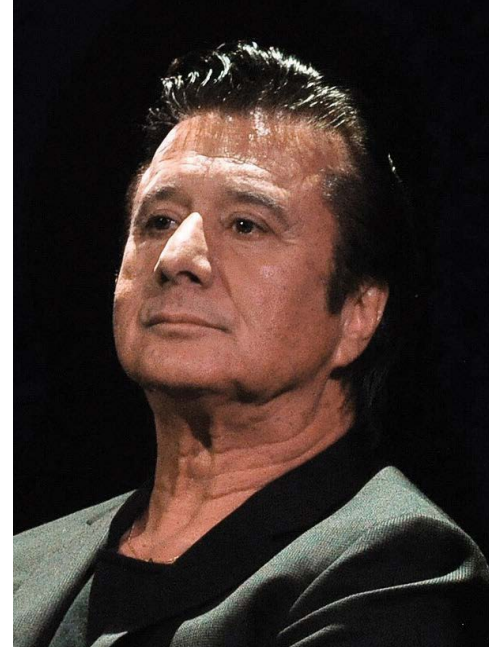
FURNITURE REPAIR - Cosmetic and structural repairs for wood, upholstery and mechanisms. On-site or in-shop. Pumpkin Hollow Furniture can be reached by calling 716-604-6426.

HELP WANTED

ELLICOTTVILLE BAKE SHOP opened in Spring 2024 and has quickly become a local favorite, known for its fresh, delicious offerings and welcoming atmosphere. As we continue to grow and expand operations, we are seeking enthusiastic and dedicated individuals to join our team. If you have a passion for baking, customer service, or food service, we'd love to hear from you! Full-time and part-time positions at competitive pay are available. Flexibility to work varied shifts, including mornings, weekends, and holidays, as required. Send resume to hr@ellicottvillebakeshop.com

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Birthplace: Hanford, CA, USA.

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