

FREE

The Villager

EL LICOTTVILLE • CHAUTAUQUA

Area Events

LIVE MUSIC AT WICKED WARREN'S
Sat/Sun, February 28 • 8pm,
Jamestown, NY

RTPI GUIDED GALLERY WALK
Fridayday, February 28 • 2pm
Bookstore Chautauqua, NY

PUBLIC SKATE AT NORTHWEST ARENA
Saturday March 1,
N.W. Arena, Jamestown, NY

"MOVIES AT THE REG" "THE BRUTALIST"
Wednesday, March 1 • 1pm
Reg Lenna, Jamestown, NY

MIRANDA WILCOX LIVE AT BIG INLET BREWING
Saturday, March 1 • Big Inlet
Brewing, Mayville, NY

PUBLIC SKATE AT NORTHWEST ARENA
Saturday, March 1, • 3:30pm
Jamestown NY

ICE BUMPER CARS AT NORTHWEST ARENA
Monday, March 2 • 1:30pm
N.W.Arena, Jamestown, NY

HOLIDAY VALLEY'S BOARD-ROOM BANKED
Wednesday, March 2 • 1pm
Reg Holiday Valley, Ellicottville, NY

DARKWATER DUO AT SOUTHERN TIER DISTILLING
Friday, March 7 • 4:30pm
Ellicottville, NY

SPORTSMAN SHOW AT SENECA ALLEGANY EVENTS CENTER
Friday, March 8, • 9am
Salamanca, NY

WINTER CARNIVAL AT HOLIDAY VALLEY RESORT
Sat/Sun, March 8-9
Ellicottville, NY

MARDI GRAS WEEKEND
Saturday, March 8-9, • all-day
Ellicottville NY

CELTIC MUSIC PROGRAM
Wednesday, March 12 • 7pm
Fenton History Ctr.,
Jamestown, NY

KARAOKE FRIDAYS AT SHAWBUCKS
Friday, March 7 • 9pm
Jamestown, NY

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

Holiday Valley Ski Patrol Drive

31st Annual Food Drive Next Weekend



Look for the twenty to thirty Ski Patrol volunteers in their red jackets with white crosses on the back who will be wheeling grocery carts along the parade route to collect from generous spectators. Cash is always welcome or come prepared and bring a check may be made out to The United Church of Ellicottville (be sure to mark "Food Pantry" on the note line).

BY CAROL FISHER LINN

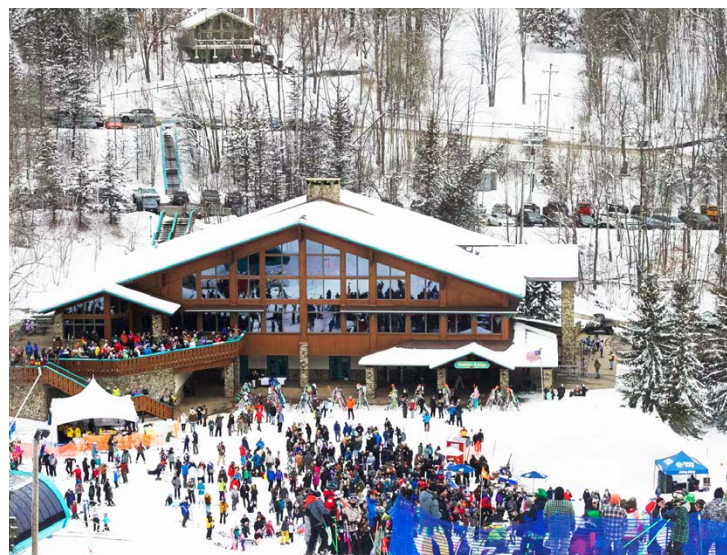
Imagine a windfall of 70-90 cases of food and pantry items and anywhere from \$3,000 and up (it's been at \$5,000!) being

delivered at one time to the Ellicottville Food Pantry at the United Church of Ellicottville. As reported by Ansley Kelly

SEE "FOOD DRIVE" PG. 5

Countdown to Mardi Gras!

Ellicottville's Epic Party, March 8-9, 2025



Start saying goodbye to winter in true Mardi Gras style! Join Ellicottville for a weekend of slopes, celebration, and community fun—sponsored by Labatt. From festive costumes on the slopes to the legendary Mardi Gras parade through the village (find out how you can join in the parade fun, page 3), there's something for everyone. Whether you're dressing up or just going to enjoy the fun, this is one winter send-off you won't want to miss! (See full Mardi Gras & Winter Carnival schedule, page 6.)

Blast from the Past : Who Remembers Gladys?

The "Lady" in Pink (Give Skip a Wink)



The story goes that the 1955 pink Cadillac was once owned by none other than --- The King, himself, Elvis! The "story" goes that Elvis heard about a new ski area called Holiday Valley.

BY CAROL FISHER LINN

In the earlier days, when Ellicottville was getting her legs under her some of our inhabitants and even our businesspeople marched to a very different drummer. Some of

you old timers may remember the dry-docked old boat that sat in the parking lot of the old Telemark (now Pour Tap Room and Lincoln Boutique

SEE "CADILLAC" PG. 6

RocketCup Coffee Bonnies Blend

Specialty Roast to Benefit St. Bonaventure Univ.



Co-owner and co-founder Tom Cullen (pictured) believes strongly in the power of community. Their recent collaboration with St Bonaventure holds true to fostering this mission.

BY KATE BARTLETT

RocketCup Coffee recently launched a new premium roast coffee to benefit St. Bonaventure University. A portion of the proceeds of each Bonnies Blend coffee bag goes directly to the University as

an effort to give back to the University that has played a major role in the founding of this business.

With headquarters in the village of Cattaraugus and their second café location

SEE "ROCKETCUP" PG. 6

Sneak Peek

Inside this Edition...

Last Weekend's Winter Music Jam in E'Ville

Check Out Photos from Your Favorite Events . pg. 12



History of Cutlery in Little Valley ... Pg. 11

Second Annual Village of Knives Celebration Planned

"The Village of Knives Celebration" will be showcased at the Cattaraugus County Fairgrounds in Little Valley, a town that produced a great product as their world-renowned Case Knives, among others. The event is July 11-12, 2025 and the cutlery world is excited.

New York & Lake Erie Railroad

History and Events of Unique Station



BY KATE BARTLETT

The New York & Lake Erie Railroad has been in operation since 1978, offering some of the most unique railroad features in the area. What was once a freight train line is now operating as a passenger train railroad for events and unique experiences with 92 events this year alone.

This branch of the New York and Lake Erie Railroad was founded 47 years ago operating as a freight train line with stops in Gowanda, Cattaraugus, Waterboro near Kennedy and Salamanca. Over the years, portions of the railroad were sold off as it became less operational. The Little Valley to Salamanca line became the Pat McGee Trail while other areas fell into disrepair. "The railroad went through many transitions," explains Mel Shaw, Customer Relations Specialist for the Railroad. "It was once very

SEE "TRAIN" PAGE 10

Lake Life Café in Bemus Point

Second Location: Lake Life Restaurant



Lake Life Café is located at 22 Main St in Bemus Point, NY. The owners recently opened a second location, Lake Life Restaurant on West Fairmount Avenue in Lakewood, NY.

BY DARLENE BRACE

Lake Life- It's Your Time....Bemus Point Café Owners Open Second Restaurant in Lakewood.

Amy Martis, her husband Marc, and three children live in Buffalo. They fell in love with

SEE "LAKE LIFE" PAGE 7

Publisher's Word

"And the Beat Goes On..."



I have been fortunate enough to work with this community for over 25 years now. Many of you may not know this, but before The Villager Newspapers, I published a monthly arts journal – "ar'te-fakt". That publication took me through all the stomping grounds of WNY, PA and OH; it was a lot of fun but choosing to stay here was my heart's decision. The Villager is now in its 20th year and we have all of you, our readers, advertisers, friends and

families to thank for that. I'm sure by now you know we don't use AI at all (LOL!) and we are perfectly happy with some of life's imperfections; it is as natural and as beautiful as any of us. Thank you for enjoying your time exactly where you are, doing exactly what you are doing. I know, I sure am. Until next week, enjoy the read and the ride...

Yours in writing -
Jeanine Zimmer
Caprino

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 Peter Sullivan... March 13th • Cynthia K Moore... March 15th
 Bill Ward... March 18th • Andree McRae... March 20th
 Bart Frank... March 20th • Katie Burke... March 21st
 Dan Kowsky... March 21st • Paul Quiter... March 21st
 Brookes LeFeber... March 22nd • Dana Whitcomb... March 22nd
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Dining in the Dark

13th Annual Fundraiser for CBA, April 4 at Harbor Hotel in Celoron

Chautauqua Blind Association (CBA) Vision Rehabilitation Services invites you to a unique and exciting dining experience. Dining in the Dark will be held Friday, April 4 at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel in Celoron, NY. Doors open at 5pm with a cash bar. Enjoy silent and live auctions, a 50/50, and blind wine pull. Seating begins promptly at 6:15pm with dinner at 6:45 pm.



Once blindfolded, you will be guided to your table by a trained sighted guide. You will have the opportunity to experience the tastes, smells, and textures of your meal in an extraordinary way. All proceeds from the dinner support

essential CBA programs in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties, assisting visually impaired individuals of all ages, as well as the Youth Vision Screening Program. For more information on CBA programs, visit www.cbavision.org

Interested in being a business sponsor? Email director@cbavision.org for more information. Sponsorships include dinner reservations. Reservations are required by March 21. <https://tinyurl.com/dtz6sybe>

EVGV Trail Enters Design Phase

Trail Experts Give Exciting Updates on Community

A Public Forum is being held on the Ellicottville-Great Valley Trail on Thursday, February 27 at the Ellicottville Town Center, 28 Parkside Drive in Ellicottville, NY 14731 from 6-8pm.

The proposed 80-mi Southern Tier Trail, which encompasses the planned EVGV Trail, will connect tourists and residents of more than 20 WNY towns, cities, and villages including Ellicottville and Great Valley and will run approximately 52 miles through Cattaraugus County's scenic destinations. The Trail begins with a connection to the Shoreline Trail in Buffalo, the Southern Tier Trail adjoining with the 90-mi Genesee Valley Greenway which forms a regional loop with the Empire State Trail. Join us on February 27th, to hear from Trail experts describing the positive impact the trail will have in terms of health and wellness, tourism and safety in our community, and economic development opportunities. This is a very exciting step in a long planning process of the EVGV Trail. We are thrilled to share the developments!

SPEAKERS:
Kate O' Stricker – Senior Development Specialist, Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning, and Tourism. In her role as Senior Development Specialist,



Kate has worked closely with both the EVGV Trail, Trail advocates and Government Leaders to secure Federal Funding to complete the Design and Alignment of the Southern Tier Trail. She will discuss the positive Economic and Tourism impacts of the Trail in our community.

Justin Booth- GoBIKE Justin as served Director of GoBike which is an organization dedicated to bike and pedestrian safety and access in communities. He and his team has a proven track record of success in our neighboring communities creating safe walking and biking spaces. Justin is a strong advocate of both the Southern Tier Trail and the EVGV Trail along with contracting with Cattaraugus County as the public engagement contractor for the Southern Tier Trail.

President of the Friends of the Genesee Valley Greenway he initiated an effort to strengthen relationships between the trail organization and the adjacent towns, villages and counties, and leveraged these partnerships to develop a program focused on economic activity while preserving the unique character and cultural heritage of the Genesee Valley Region. Through the lens of a "Trail Towns" model, FoGVG implemented practical strategies to foster partnerships within the region to boost visitation, enhance user experience, stimulate local economies, and enhance the overall quality of life. Carl will share his experience and economic development statistics to assist our

Carl Schoenthal: As "TRAIL" Pg. 5

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Mardi Gras Parade Applications

Send in Your Submission for Floats and Walking Groups



ELLCOTTVILLE - Pull out the masks and break out the beads, the wildest weekend you'll ever experience is just around the corner! Mardi Gras and Winter Carnival Weekend in Ellicottville delivers a New Orleans style celebration with a ski town twist. Mark your calendars for March 8th-9th and make plans to share in all the zany fun with your friends and family! From themed activities on the slopes to a full schedule of entertainment downtown, Ellicottville comes alive with plenty of colorful costumes and high-energy vibes.

"The highlight of the weekend is the annual Mardi Gras Parade down Washington Street," said Barb Pump, Executive Director of the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce, which produces the event. "Many of our local businesses and

organizations spend numerous hours getting creative and putting together marching groups and floats to enter into the parade. It's always exciting to see what everyone comes up with!"

Gather your ski buddies, co-workers or just yourself and start planning your very own Mardi Gras Parade theme. Parade applications are now available at ellicottvillenyc.com. The best part: It's FREE! The parade, which will take place Saturday, March 8th at 6:30pm, will make its way from Katy's Cafe to the Gazebo in front of Town Hall.

"Mardi Gras Weekend always brings a great crowd of families, friends, locals and visitors," said Pump. "And this year won't be any different!" Past parades have seen quite an eclectic mix of fun and creativity - from Old Man Winter and snow angels to minions and playing cards,

we even had a group dressed in life size solo cups...how creative can YOU get?

The Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce reminds everyone that the Mardi Gras Parade is a family-friendly event. As a reminder, no alcohol is permitted in the parade, and while candy and trinkets such as bead necklaces can be handed out to spectators, marchers are asked not to throw items into the crowd.

For even more fun, keep an eye out for Holiday Valley's Winter Carnival schedule, which coincides with Mardi Gras Weekend and will surely keep the young and young at heart busy during the daytime hours.

Need more details? Head to ellicottvillenyc.com or follow the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce on Facebook, @visitellicottville on Instagram and keep tabs on the latest leading up to the biggest party of ski season!

Art Night: Women as Artist & Subject

Springville Center for the Arts Presents at Art's Cafe



Pictured left to right: Ellen Owens, Heather Gring, Biljana Petreska, and Tami Fuller will be curating and sharing their take on the modern context of feminism in art.

Learn about female artists throughout history, women as represented in art, and the intersection of women as both Muse and Master at the "Women as Artist & Subject Art Night" presented by Springville Center for the Arts. Ellen Owens, Heather Gring, Biljana Petreska, and Tami Fuller will be curating and sharing their take on the modern context of feminism in art.

Ellen Owens is an Adjunct Professor at Niagara University and Director of the Castellani Art Museum. Currently, Owens teaches Museum Studies at Niagara and sits on the Executive Committees for The Print Center / Citizens for the Arts in Pennsylvania. She graduated with honors from Penn State University, earning a B.A. in Art Education and a B.F.A. in Painting / Drawing. She holds an M.A. in Museum Education from the University of the Arts

and Executive Leadership certificates from the Getty Leadership Institute, University of Pennsylvania, and Bryn Mawr College.

Heather Gring is an Archivist of Rare Books at Buffalo + Erie Co Public Library and the Burchfield Penney Art Center. In addition to conducting traditional archival projects, Gring worked on the Center's Arts Legacy Project, focusing on increasing the documentation of, and access to, the artistic legacy of Western New York. Her focus is in historic preservation, specifically in communities like Buffalo with notable structures.

Biljana Petreska is a Roycroft Artisan in Photography, specializing in alternative photography and female identity centered self-portraiture. Her art emerges from a synthesis of personal experiences and exploration of techniques. Often featuring herself as the subject, her artistic focus is conceptual imagery illuminating the power of

vulnerability, inviting the viewer to a dialogue about perspectives and shared narratives.

Tami Fuller is the Executive Director for the Roycrofters-at-Large Association, and a weaver/fiber artist using traditional women's textile work as a medium to explore the female experience. She uses her work to explore female focused trauma. Born and raised on a working fiber farm, Tami's choice to use traditional women's textile work as a medium to explore the female experience is a natural extension of her own personal growth. She is self-taught and works in abstract fiber, woven tapestry, felt and soft sculpture to communicate.

Women As Artist & Subject Art Night will be held on Friday, March 7th from 6:30-8pm at Art's Cafe in Springville, NY. This is a free event presented by Springville Center for the Arts. For more info, visit SpringvilleArts.org or call 716.592.9038.

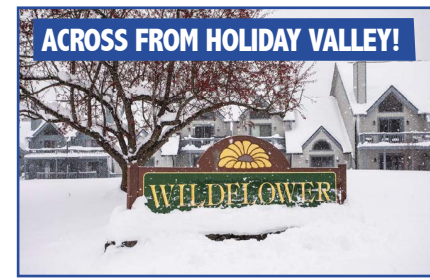
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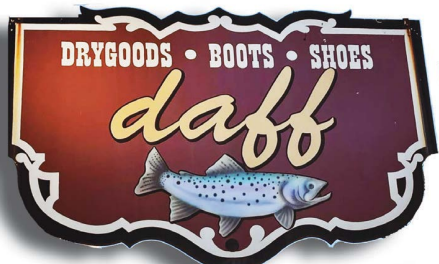
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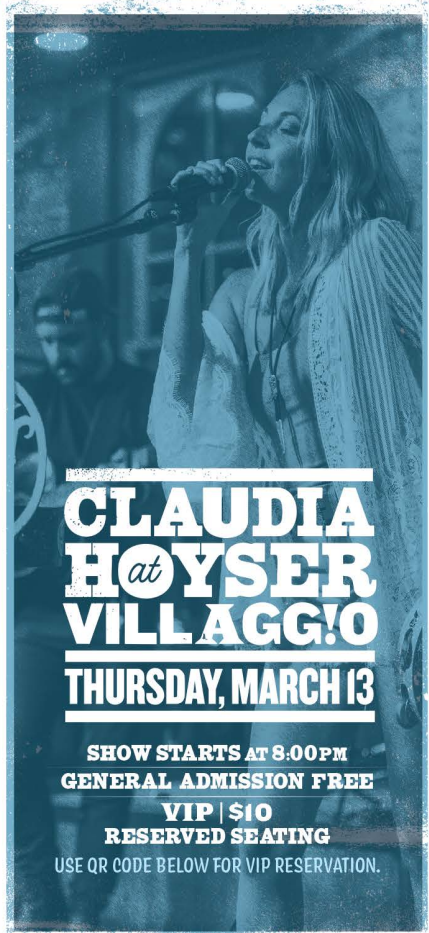


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HoliMont's Report from the Resort

HoliMont Patrol's Kindness Ascended 17,780 Feet



The peak of Mt. Kilimanjaro can be seen in the background. It is the highest peak in Africa.

BY DAN BALKIN

Geography is ever fascinating. The peak of Africa's highest mountain, Mount Kilimanjaro, summits at 19,340 feet; the base of HoliMont, where our main patrol room sits, is 1,560 feet. That means there are 17,780 feet of elevation separating our Patrol room from the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro – but that geographical tidbit does not measure the depth or breadth of an act of human kindness. A few years ago, the Ski Patrol received new jackets. An idea was hatched by then Patrol leader Tom Tobias to collect their old jackets in our Patrol room and ship them to the happy-go-lucky but poorly clad Sherpa's who guide climbers up Mount Kilimanjaro. In 2012, Tom and his son Taylor journeyed to Tanzania to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro. It requires intense physical and mental training to successfully make the climb. While training, they would often hike up and down HoliMont or Kissing Bridge ten or twelve times over the course of a day. From base camp, it takes seven days to summit. There are no cabins with roaring fires. The climbers sleep each night in tents, and as one ascends, both the oxygen found in the air and the temperature plummets. At 18,000 feet, the elevation

of the final camp before the push to the summit, the oxygen level is 50% of what it is at sea level. When Tom and his son landed in Tanzania they were immediately struck by the omnipresent poverty. They had a guide named Protus, who was an orphan and a native Tanzanian, but now lives in the USA. A number of years ago, an American couple on the Kilimanjaro hike adopted Protus, brought him back to the U.S., and even gave him the opportunity to earn a university degree. Protus now has a company where he leads groups of hikers on the Kilimanjaro journey. Tom said that as he and his group of roughly 25 hikers were ascending the mountain, they were shocked by the poverty of the sherpas. Each sherpa would carry 80-100 pounds of supplies to each succeeding camp as the climbers ascended. Many of them were wearing only sandals, shorts, and lightweight windbreakers to hike up this formidable mountain. After his party summited and descended, Tom said that they gave much of the equipment they brought on the climb to the sherpas: heavier jackets, hiking boots, backpacks, gloves etc. Upon returning home, Tom kept up an email friendship with Protus and his son Taylor remained in contact with another sherpa. When it

was time for new Patrol jackets, Tom thought of the poorly clad sherpas and how they would treasure the warm jackets at higher altitudes. The jackets were collected in the Patrol room, and many Patrollers added extra items such as ski pants, hats, gloves etc. Two other Patrollers, Ralph Salerno and Dave Hawkes, contributed their time getting the jackets boxed for shipment. Tom, Ralph and Dave agreed to split the cost of shipping the jackets and other gear to California. California? Yes, this is where the guide Protus now lives. Sadly, Protus informed Tom Tobias that if they shipped the jackets directly to Tanzania, the endemic poverty and corresponding corruption would almost certainly cause the jackets to be confiscated before they reached the intended recipients – the sherpas. Fortunately, as mentioned earlier, Protus is a frequent flyer to Tanzania for his Kilimanjaro guiding business. He said he could stuff about four to six jackets and other collected gear in his personal luggage and hand deliver the cargo, trip by trip, to the needy sherpas. Tom was grateful that so many of his fellow patrollers stepped up to help the sherpas.

He also reflected that many of the used jackets would have wound up in dark closets or rarely used drawers, but now they were being repurposed in a meaningful way. On seeing the abject poverty, Tom said "It doesn't take much to enhance someone's life." Yes, there are also people in our own back yard that sometimes need a helping hand, but as Mark Twain famously said, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness." There are sherpa's in Tanzania, having met American friends, who would agree.



Son Taylor (left) and Patroller Tom Tobias on threesummit of Mount Kilimanjaro when they first went in 2012.

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HV Ski Patrollers Level Up Skills

Take Home Senior Outdoor Emergency Care Certification



Big congratulations to Holiday Valley patrollers Scott, Pat, Michele, and Zak for passing their Senior Outdoor Emergency Care certification! After weeks of intense training, their hard work and dedication have paid off—way to go!

The Senior Program challenges ski patrollers to level up their skills in Outdoor Emergency Care, Outdoor Emergency Transportation, and more. We're beyond proud of our team's commitment to providing top-notch care on the slopes.

Props to the successful candidates from HoliMont and @pknpkresort as well! Huge thank you to the Eastern Division of the National Ski Patrol teaching staff who made this incredible program possible.

Food Drive

CONT. FROM COVER

who generously co-chairs the event every year with Rebecca Mansell, this amount of money and food has regularly been collected by the Holiday Valley Ski Patrol during the Mardi Gras Parade. Fortunately for the Food Pantry, the Ski Patrol has faithfully been on duty since almost the very first parade in 1992.

Just stop a moment and give that some thought. The Mardi Gras parade appears to be a playful end-of-winter event to give celebrators another fun thing to participate in. Yet, if one looks more closely, it is so much more than that and it's all because merry marchers/floaters and observers do participate. Everyone one of you is an important part of the event. Frankly, the Holiday Valley food drive is one very good reason to show up and donate, either during the parade or at Tops in Ellicottville. Tops, as it does every year, has generously allowed the Ski Patrol to set up a table outside by the door on Friday and Saturday afternoons before the parade. The ability to share from your own abundance for others who don't have enough is truly a gift that we sometimes take for granted. With eggs over \$7 a dozen and canned yellow beans at \$2.79 a can, those of us who have been granted much may feel the urge to share some of that abundance. Hey, why not stick a can of beans or a package of beans in your coat pocket and drop it into their carts as they walk by? Surely, you don't have to be reminded that people with limited resources are having a tough time, today more than ever.

Several years ago,



a group of out-of-town businessmen generously gathered their mutual resources and literally filled to the brim a cart of groceries to donate. Wouldn't it be fun to consider this a challenge to more groups to have a competition to see who can donate more by seeing whose cart is fullest? In the month of January alone, The Ellicottville Food Pantry provided food and pantry needs to 75 households (170 individuals) and served 1530 meals. In speaking to Val, the woman who hates the spotlight but faithfully has run the pantry for many years, she said these are the average numbers for every month over the course of a year. You do the math.

Over and over our village guests show us their generosity and their love of all-things-Ellicottville. In return, we are grateful for those who call Ellicottville their home-away-from-home or their favorite place to visit. We truly have a wonderful, long-established symbiotic relationship.

It is no secret that the Mardi Gras parade benefits the businesses in the village. In fact, as the person who started the parade, (yes, that's me) that was one of the reasons for the event. You see, Arlene Solly wanted to have a grand opening of her store, Kazoo II. I was helping her and needed to find a way to get skiers off the hills and into town. Of course, isn't the solution for most dilemmas a full-fledged

winter, night-time parade on a state highway? It's a result of those famous last words, "Hey, why don't we?" A story for another time.

Several years into the parade, along came HV Patroller, Bob Barbu (now retired). Bob Barbu recognized the need and started the annual event involving the Holiday Valley Ski Patrollers. It turned out to be a win-win. Food for the needy and active involvement in the community, which the Patrollers always like to do when they are not saving skiers from disaster on the hills.

As they have every year, Ski Patrollers will be collecting non-perishables, canned goods, allergy friendly/gluten-free foods, toiletries, and paper goods. Diapers and personal care items are always high on the list. Cash/checks can be donated on Fri-day, March 7th in front of Tops Markets during the hours of 5-9pm, on Saturday, March 8th again at Tops from 10am-6pm and finally, during the Mardi Gras parade itself. Look for the twenty to thirty Ski Patrol volunteers in their red jackets with white crosses on the back who will be wheeling grocery carts along the parade route to collect from generous spectators. Cash is always welcome or come prepared and bring a check may be made out to The United Church of Ellicottville (be sure to mark "Food Pantry" on the note line).

Trail

CONT. FROM PG. 2

community as we build the trail.

Paula Jones: Paula Jones represents the Parks & Trails New York which created the Empire State Trail Town Program. The Trail Town Program recognizes and supports

New York's trailside communities. She is an expert in understanding the transformative experience of trails accessible to all New Yorkers. Experienced the positive impact of trail already complete throughout NYS.

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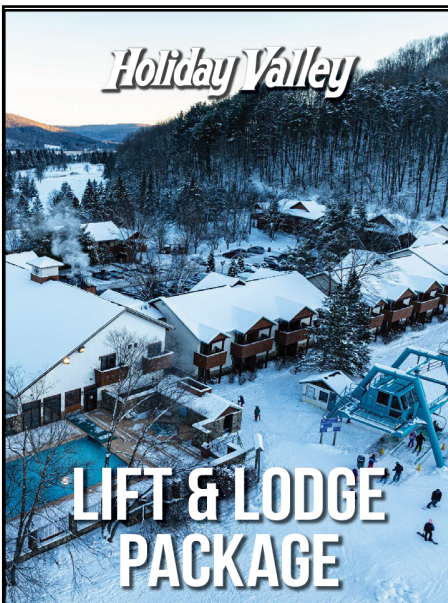
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RocketCup also offers roastery tours at the Cattaraugus location (18 N Main St, Cattaraugus, NY 14719), giving the unique opportunity to observe and partake in the coffee roasting experience. The tour starts with an introduction of each coffee bean, taste testing, hands on roasting, and then allows each guest to blend their own unique blend to take home. Roastery experiences are currently available on Saturdays and Sundays and can be booked on their website.

Rocketcup

STORY FROM COVER

in Olean, RocketCup coffee has been fostering their mission to cultivate community since 2022. Co-owner and co-founder Tom Cullen believes strongly in the power of community. "We founded RocketCup with the mission of revitalization, and we're proud that this vision has taken roots," says Tom. "The community has warmly embraced our mission, and we're honored to watch fellow small businesses thrive around us." Their recent collaboration with St Bonaventure holds true to fostering this mission.

Tom is a St Bonaventure graduate himself and currently runs the SBU Entrepreneurship Center at the University. His very first employee and current Manager of Marketing &

Sales, MacKenzie Bush, is also a St Bona grad along with many baristas and employees with RocketCup over the past 1.5 years. "This is such a great opportunity for us to give back to the university," says Tom. "We're looking forward to supporting the university with this project for many years to come."

The Bonnies Blend is a premium medium roast blend of Brazil and Columbian beans roasted in house at their Cattaraugus location. "Our coffee is considered "specialty" since it's a higher quality bean, and we can't wait for people to taste the difference," says Tom. The bag features the St. Bonaventure logo and was designed with a luxurious image in mind, somewhat of a collector's item.

The coffee was launched in conjunction with St Bonaventure's 80's weekend. "Most alumni consider this our

homecoming weekend," says Tom. "It's a great opportunity to get everyone together, a reunion of sorts. St. Bonaventure has a strong alumni involvement and a great support network. This is more than just a coffee; it's a way to stay connected to Bona Nation while giving back to the community that built us."

Bonnies Blend is available for purchase online and Tom is thrilled to report he has already had numerous sales. "We've been very busy at the roastery," says Tom. "We're working on filling the hundreds of orders that have already come in. We're very excited about this partnership and looking forward to supporting the university for many years." RocketCup plans to keep the Bonnies Blend on indefinitely. "It's not something that's going

"ROCKETCUP", Pg. 10



Old Gladys became as much of a celebrity as she might have been had she remained with Elvis. Aside from skier photo ops, and news articles, the visiting kids did incredible artwork of Gladys that hung all over the walls. Her legacy was insured. The final tribute was her ice sculpture, which was located across the road from Cadillac's, on Sunrise. (Belated thanks to the unknown Holiday Valley ski lift attendants (were you one of them?) who created this treasure of a snow sculpture pink Cadillac decades ago. Note the name on the license plate - a hat-tip to Skip Yahn.)

Cadillac

CONT. FROM COVER

Motel) at the intersection of 219 and Holiday Valley Road. The free-spirited owner of that restaurant at the time (1970's), Alpine Pete Chudzik, had great live music and allowed patrons on the dancefloor in ski boots. It is fondly remembered that he always had an old railroad tie sticking out of the fireplace so it could be continuously fed. After Chudzik sold the property to Jim and Janet Tekavec in the '80's they kept the name but upscaled the food. They eventually leased out the property - there was even a cowboy place at one time. Then came the Tekavec/Zerbian partnership (circa 1994) of Cadillac Jacks. **Enter Gladys, the Pink Cadillac.**

The story goes that the 1955 pink Cadillac was once owned by none other than --- The King, himself, Elvis! The "story" goes that Elvis heard about a new ski area called Holiday Valley. Being a spontaneous kind of guy, he headed North with Gladys to have a look and

a try at this crazy sport of sliding downhill on boards. Simply put, he was "way over his skis." The poor guy was mortified. Pete helped him out by feeding him and put him up in the old boat for a few nights while his body and ego healed. It is reported that Elvis was so grateful that he gave him a gift - Gladys. He grabbed a Bluebird bus in front of the old Main Street pharmacy (in disguise) and headed to Memphis. Now, you may think that Gladys lives at the Elvis Museum in Graceland, but if Chudzik were here, he would swear on a stack of horserace tickets that the original lived on in Ellicottville in the parking lot of Cadillac Jacks right next to the ski rack in the center of the parking lot.

Old Gladys became as much of a celebrity as she might have been had she remained with Elvis. Aside from skier photo ops, and news articles, the visiting kids did incredible artwork of Gladys that hung all over the walls. Her legacy was insured. The final tribute was her ice sculpture, which was located across the road from Cadillac's, on Sunrise. Would that it could have been preserved forever, but

all good things must come to an end. And so it was that Gladys, after one last hurrah with Elvis and his Gladettes at Mardi Gras (oh, how she loved the crowds cheering for her! She won second place that year), was wheeled away to her retirement. Cadillac Jack found a lovely resting place at his home, under a shady evergreen tree. He visited Gladys often, polished her pink coat, and told her stories about her time with Elvis and her time at Cadillac Jack's restaurant.

Now, before you think that Gladys was a "one-off" let me give you some tidbits about other places around town. The words **Rusty Nail** (50's-60's) should bring crazy memories to some of you. Jason's bar was run by colorful guys Lennon, Howard and Calabrese. Greg Widger and his **Handlebar Restaurant** (and moustache) had local fame. Who can forget **Smileys** (then PeeWees) situated over the creek across from the old Ford dealership (now Katy's), or **Patty Ford** playing the trombone behind the bar

"CADILLAC", Pg. 10



Winter Carnival • March 8-9, 2025

Saturday, March 8

- 10AM - 4PM: Safety Patrol Cookout at the base of Yodeler
- 11AM: Putt Putt Bar Crawl - begins at Ullr Bar in the Main Lodge
- 11AM - 4:30PM: Snowbar at the base of Yodeler
- 11:30AM - 1PM: Face Painting at Creekside
- 11:30AM: Hot Dog Cookout at Creekside
- 1PM: Scavenger Hunt at Creekside
- 1:30PM: Ski Patrol Toboggan Event - Lower Yodeler
- 2PM: Duel Beer/Rootbeer Slalom - Lower Yodeler
- 2:30PM: Old School Jump Comp - Lower Yodeler
- 3 - 6PM: PA Line will be playing music at the Yodeler Lodge
- 6:30PM: Mardi Gras Parade - Downtown Ellicottville

Sunday, March 9

- 9AM: Ski Patrol Pancake Breakfast - Base of Yodeler
- 10AM - 4PM: Safety Patrol Cookout - Base of Yodeler
- 11AM - 4:30PM: Snowbar at the Base of Yodeler
- 11:45AM: Line up for Mardi Gras Costume Parade - Edelweiss Lean-To on Mardi Gras
- 12PM: Costume Parade for all Ages - Mardi Gras (You Must Take Part In the Entire Parade in order to be Judged for the Costume Contest)
- 12PM: Lederhosen Ski Club Hotdog Sale for the Lounsbury Program - Base Area near the Clock Tower
- 12PM: Ellicottville Ski Club Wine & Cheese Sale near the Clock Tower
- 2PM: Ice Cream Sundaes at Creekside
- 2:30PM: Dummy Downhill - Base of Yodeler
- 3 - 6PM: Darkwater Duo Live at the Yodeler Lodge

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Amy Martis, Owner and Joe Gerace, General Manager of Lake Life Kitchen.

Lake Life

CONT. FROM COVER

the Chautauqua Lake area and bought a second home in Mayville. They spent a considerable amount of time in Bemus Point, making memories and enjoying the peaceful serenity of the Bemus community. They discussed that a coffee shop café would be a great addition to Bemus Point, and they decided to open a café during the summer of 2021. It's called Lake Life Café, located at 22 Main Street in Bemus Point, NY 14712.

Lake Life Café is a cozy coffee shop where customers place their orders at the counter. The café offers plenty of seating options, including tables, couches, and comfortable chairs. It also features an outdoor patio with fun activities such as Corn Hole, Connect Four, and various board games. The atmosphere is simple yet chic and cozy, making it a great spot for relaxing, reading, or working. Customers are encouraged to relax, feel at home, and fully enjoy their time there. At Lake Life Café, they believe that lake life is the best life, and their motto is,

"It's your time" to enjoy it. The Lake Life Café offers a large variety of hot and cold beverages such as One Line Coffee, teas, iced drinks, lattes, smoothies, espresso, and cappuccino. Their menu also features a variety of omelets, breakfast sandwiches, and baked goods for breakfast as well as salads, sandwiches, wraps, and paninis for lunch. They also have a small selection of Lake Life Gear, such as T-shirts, hats, and more.

Since its opening, Lake Life Café has been a welcomed addition to the Bemus Point community and has achieved considerable success. The owners believe that a significant part of their café's success is due to their manager, Joe Gerace, who has been with them since the café opened and continues to be a key asset. With the café doing so well Amy and Marc discussed expanding their business. In 2023, when Schuyler's Restaurant in Lakewood became available for sale, they decided that this opportunity would be a great fit for them. In November 2023, they purchased what was formerly Schuyler's Restaurant, located at 4477 W Fairmount Ave, Lakewood, NY 14750.

After purchasing Schuyler's, they decided to

renovate the building. They stayed open for business while the renovations took place and have gradually transitioned it. They expanded the kitchen, and the new dining area is now about twice the size of the previous one. The restaurant now includes new bathrooms, the new dining room, a new menu, and a new name, Lake Life Kitchen. Lake Life Kitchen has space for over 20 tables, allowing them to accommodate larger groups and private parties. Additionally, they have introduced a kids' menu and offer breakfast all day.

Now, with owning two businesses, the goal was to incorporate elements from their sister restaurant, Lake Life Café in Bemus Point, into the new Lakewood location. They hope to maintain the exceptional food quality, recipes, and service that the community has come to love while infusing their own brand identity. They were able to retain most of Schuyler's staff as well as their menu items. They have expanded the menu, including additions like the chicken salad croissant and several other items from Lake Life Café. They have also added a fryer, allowing them to offer favorites like French

"LAKE LIFE", Pg. 10



Day Trippin': Mohicans Treehouse Resort

Glamping it "Tree-style" in Ohio

BY KATE BARTLETT

If you're looking for a unique winter or spring glamping experience, look no further than The Mohicans Treehouse Resort. Located in Glenmont, Ohio, halfway between Cleveland and Columbus, the resort is an ideal destination for a retreat any time of year, immersive in nature and the great outdoors. With 4 lavish cabins, 10 state-of-art treehouses, 2 country homes and a gorgeous Wedding Venue, they welcome families and groups of all sizes to come and share in the magic of this rural oasis. Two of their 10 treehouses were designed by Pete Nelson, treehouse designer, and start of Discovery Channel's hit series "Treehouse Masters." Their Little Red Treehouse was even featured on the show.

The Mohicans Treehouse Resort is a family owned and run business that incorporates sustainable design concepts into its properties, including

passive solar design, radiant heat, on-demand hot wa-ter, reused and repurposed materials. The property sits on 77 private acres surrounded by beauti-ful natural landscape and rolling hills. Each of the 10 treehouses offers its own unique signature design. The Nest is a whimsical honeymoon suite and features cathedral windows and a massive cedar shingle domed roof. Another favorite, the Tin Shed, features a corrugated metal exterior, a full-sized garage door in the back, and a 100-foot extension bridge connected by a steel spiral stair-case. The newest additions include Silver Bullet, a renovated vintage 1978 Airstream trailer perched 22 feet off the ground and The View which features floor-to-ceiling windows on three of its four walls.

The resort is environmentally conscious and rightly so as it is literally made from nature itself. They strongly believe in reducing their ecological footprint by integrating

sustainability values into eye-ryday operations. Simple touches, such as environmentally friendly dish soap, toiletries and paper products are found in each unit.

What started as a private escape from city life for friends and family, quickly evolved into one of the most truly unique destinations in the world. Our family can personally attest to this, as we set out for a winter getaway and immersed ourselves in the beauty of the great outdoors. Our Tree-house of choice was The White Oak in the North Villager with hand crafted cedar double door en-trance, kitchenette, first floor bedroom and upstairs loft. It was the perfect amount of space for our family of four. Last year we stayed at The View, which featured floor-to-ceiling windows on three of its four walls, along with a full kitchen, bathroom and loft bedroom. On both visits, we spent many

"TREEHOUSE" Pg. 11

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Dr. Woloszyn grew up in Poland where he graduated from the Medical University of Gdansk in 2002. He completed his internal medicine residency at St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Far Rockaway, New York. He has been proudly practicing since since in 2011 as part of Jamestown Area Medical Associates. Dr. Woloszyn is currently affiliated with Olean General Hospital.

He takes a personalized approach seeing every patient with exceptional individualized care in a professional and welcoming environment. Combining the newest technology with extensive knowledge, skills, and passion for his patients, he takes a comprehensive approach to diagnosis and treatment with a firm belief that proper care requires a high level of doctor patient communication. He spends time with each patient explaining their options, answering questions, and addressing concerns.

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CCIDA Announces Appointment

Bemus Point Resident, John Healy Serves Board of Directors

since 2021 and was recently named the Executive Director, replacing Brad Walters, who retired from that position at the end of 2024. Walters resigned from the CCIDA board on December 23, 2024 due to his recent retirement from BEST, after serving for ten years, creating the open board seat that Healy is now filling.

Healy is a member of numerous local organizations including the Workforce Investment Board; Jamestown YMCA; and the Jamestown Noon Rotary Club, where he served as past president. His educational background includes an MBA from the Franciscan University of Steubenville; a BA from the University of Mount Union; and is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP). While playing football at Mount Union, Healy helped the Raiders to a 55-1 record and three NCAA Division III national championships. He is a native of Steubenville, Ohio, and currently lives in Bemus Point with his wife Betsy (Myott) and their four sons.

"We are pleased to have John join the board of the CCIDA," said Mark Geise, Deputy County Executive for Economic Development and CCIDA CEO. "John brings a wealth of experience to the board and has a firm understanding of its role related to growing and strengthening the local economy, thanks to involvement with BEST and his relationship with

Brad Walters." "Brad provided a lot of great insights pertaining to what was going on in the business community, so it was very beneficial having him on the board these past ten years," said Gary Henry, CCIDA Chair. "We are confident that John will continue to provide valuable insights in the years to come and look forward to having him on our team."

"I'm excited to join the CCIDA Board of Directors and look forward to contributing to the great work the organization does in Chautauqua County," Healy said.

Prior to his resignation from the board, Walters served as vice chair. That position will now be held by board member Dan Heitzenrater, who had previously served as board secretary. The office of board secretary will now be held by board member Amy Harding.

About CCIDA - The CCIDA is an economic development organization authorized and empowered by the State of New York to make Chautauqua County a better place to work, live, and visit. It facilitates development by attracting new businesses, while promoting the retention and expansion of existing businesses. Assistance in the form of incentives - tax abatements, low interest loans, and bond financing - enhances the opportunities for job creation and retention by our businesses. For more information visit ChooseCHQ.com.

Chautauqua County Events

BY DARLENE BRACE

It's already the end of February and it's been an old-fashioned blustery winter this season. Let's hope that the weather breaks soon, and we can get out more to see what's happening in Chautauqua County.

Thursday, February 27th - To start off this week's entertainment, the **Busti Tap House** will be hosting **Jerod Eggleston**. He will be performing from 6-9pm. Come enjoy a wonderful meal from the Tap House menu while listening to this talented soloist.

Friday, February 28th - The River Bar in the **Seneca Allegheny Casino** will be host to **LMK Connection**. This band has been around for decades playing funk and soul, and the music will begin at 7pm.

It's **Karaoke Night at Shawbucks** in downtown Jamestown. You can pick your favorite song to sing or just watch as a spectator. **DJ Giulia** will be playing the tunes starting at 9pm.

The **Roger Tory Peterson Institute** in Jamestown will be hosting its **Art After Five** event this weekend. **Tyler McClain** will be performing a fun mix of music. With your admission ticket, you get two hours of live entertainment, light bites by **Elegant Edibles**, and admission to the current exhibits.

Wicked Warrens Jamestown invites the **Dirty Blanket Band** to their stage. Dirty Blanket Band has been touring the United States, and Wicked Warrens is excited to have them there, playing original bluegrass music starting at 9pm.

Big Inlet Brewing welcomes back **Jason**

Merrick to their stage. Jason is a singer-songwriter that plays originals and selected covers. The music starts at 6pm, so bring your family and friends with you to enjoy drinking your favorite beverage while listening to this talented musician.

Another Round Bar and Grill in Cherry Creek is having **Karaoke Night**. **DJ Payne** will be spinning the tunes, and you are invited to come and watch the show and maybe get up your nerve to sing a song or two.

Jamestown's popular party rock and pop band, the **Porcelain Bus Drivers**, are performing at **Balloons in Ellicottville** starting at 7pm. Check out What's Shakin' in EVL in today's issue for more details.

Local organizations Reality Check and HOPE Chautauqua invite the community to the **Reg Lenna Center** for the Arts in downtown Jamestown to enjoy a **free movie this Friday**. The doors will open at 6pm for the free showing of **Cruella**, which is rated PG-13. This film stars Emma Stone and follows the early days of the notoriously fashionable villain, Cruella de Vil. There will be information tables featuring youth smoking prevention resources. The first 100 attendees will receive a free popcorn and drink.

Saturday, March 1st - **Acoustic Jukebox** is playing at **Southern Tier Brewing** starting at 5pm. They play a variety of music. Come enjoy your favorite Southern Tier brewing beverage while listening to this talented musician.

Big Inlet Brewing welcomes back **Miranda**

Wilcox. Miranda is a super talented singer-songwriter. She plays a mix of originals and covers spanning generations and genres.

If you are looking for something to do during the day with your family, take a short ride to Randolph in Cattaraugus County for their **Craft and Vendor Show** at the **Randolph Fire Hall** from 10am-4pm. There will be a wide variety of vendors for you to browse and shop at.

The Village of Fredonia will be rockin' as **Furious George** takes the stage at **64 on the Rocks**. This energetic and entertaining band will get you moving to the beat with their classic covers, and maybe even get you and your group up dancing the night away.

The **Peek n' Peak Resort** in Clymer has a fun day of music planned. **DJ Mark** will be playing tunes from 1pm to 5pm at The Retreat. There will be fun music, prizes, and giveaways. Later that night, **Tyler McClain** returns to their **Bistro 210**. He will be performing his eclectic music sets starting at 9:30pm.

Sunday, March 2nd - The **Busti Tap House** welcomes **Adam McKillip** to perform from 2pm-5pm. This talented soloist sings a wide range of music, so there's a little bit of something for everyone. Enjoy a delicious meal from the Tap House menu while listening to this talented musician.

What a fun weekend of live entertainment to close out the month of February. Check out next week's issue to see what's happening in Chautauqua County.

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WEEKDAYS FROM 6-10AM

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Whether Outside or In, Live Music is Always Available

By, MOUTH SAY TONGUE

This has been a banner year for skiing and the village has been hopping and the music has been as plentiful as the snow, so let's see who's playing where.

THURSDAY

Our seven-day weekend starts on Thursday at Balloons for Burgers, Brews and Trivia from 4-10pm. \$15 gets your choice of any burger and any domestic beer with house made chips. Trivia starts at 7pm and there's cash prizes for first through third place.

The Gin Mill's Thursday music is some of the best with **The Chillbillies** from 8-11pm. This husband and wife act plays a rock/ pop/country/blues set of covers and originals featuring smooth guitar riffs and sweet vocal harmonies. Try some or all of the 37 beers that are always on tap.

FRIDAY

Edna's at the Tamarack hosts **Jay McDonnell** from 4-7pm. Jay plays singer, songwriter based acoustic rock covers. Dine, drink and listen with a majestic view the slopes.

Balloons is back with **The Porcelain Busdrivers** from 6:30-10pm. This Jamestown band plays a rock/pop/mod/ hip-hop/blues set of covers. The back bar will host **Tina Williams** from 10-1am. Tina plays a rock/pop/folk/country/blues set of covers and originals. **Dj Andre the Giant Redhead** will plays some crunk so you can shake your junk on the two dance floors from 10-2am.

We return to The Gin Mill for **The Dakota Brothers** from 8-12am. They play classic and southern rock and a little

country. Check out the late kitchen open till 9pm sun-wed and 10pm thurs-sat. Open for breakfast 9-11:30 Sat-Sun.

The Mill St Sports Pub will host **Strictly Hip (Acoustic)** from 8-11pm. This is a Tragically Hip tribute band and plays rock covers. Check out the late-night menu.

Pour Taproom joins the party with **Porcelain Train** from 8-11pm. This duo plays a folk/roots/blues set of covers. Located across the street from The Valley you get a wrist band and pay by the ounce.

Madigans is a player with **Dj Kage** from 9-2am mixing up some sauce so you can shake it like a boss in the window in Washington. Great apre' sittin by my wood stove.

SATURDAY

The Gin Mill is the early bird with **Brian Rick** from 2-5 pm. Grab a late lunch or an early dinner or some hair of the dog Bloody Mary's while you listen. The **Bob Hartle Band** takes the stage from 8-12am. This band plays classic and modern country and Bob is a mean ass picker. Wear your dancin shoes.

The T-Bar is up next with **Landon Pinto** from 4-7pm. I couldn't get a hold of Landon so I'm not sure what he plays but you can go in the bar with your ski boots on and find out.

We're back at Balloons for **Crush** from 6:30-10pm. This band plays rock alternative music from the 2000's. The back bar will host **Jamie Smith** from 10-1am. Jamie plays a rock/pop/blues/hip-hop/alt set of covers. Dj KT Stylez will squeeze up some juice so you clubbers can cut loose from 10-2am.

Pour Taproom is back with **Leslie Zagotti** from 8-11pm. Leslie tells me she

plays a rock/pop/folk set of covers. I've heard the mac and cheese is tasty.

Last but not least Madigans is back and so is **Dj Kage** with some thumpin for the bumpin from 9-2am. Try the dart board or pool table for some friendly competition.

SUNDAY

Once again, The Gin Mill is first up with **Davey "O"** from 2-5pm. Davey plays a folk/rock/roots set of originals and covers. Don't forget those world-famous Bloody Mary's.

Villaggio hosts its weekly AYCE Pasta Night and Prime Rib Special from 5-9pm. Fresh made pasta with your favorite toppings or succulent prime served the way you like it. This week's musical guests are **Grace Lougan and Alex McArthur** from 5:30-8:30pm. This duo plays a folk/pop/blues/alt/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 em down with. The music will be provided by **Jim Ronan** from 6-9pm. Jim plays a rock/poo/folk/r&b/blues set of covers.

The Gin Mill's Monday residency is hosted by **Red Gray** from 7-10pm. Red plays classic and modern country and classic and southern rock covers with some originals thrown in.

TUESDAY

Tuesday The Gin Mill hosts **The Hick Ups** from 7-10pm. This collection of local musicians from various bands have been playing together for over 10 years. They play an eclectic set of bluegrass/roots/country music with some banjo and dobro pickin go-

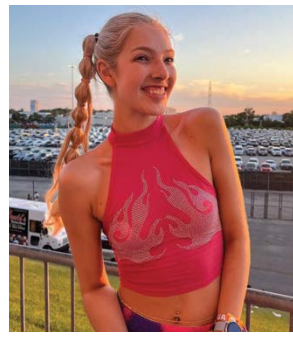
See SHAKING pg 10

Beat on the Street:

"What Comforts You the Best?"

By CHAD NEAL

The sensation of feeling only goodness and tranquility is usually short lived, yet it is a dragon we all chase. It stems from those carefree days as an infant and during childhood, where all fears and pain were taken away and the solace of comfort took over(likely by mother). Imagine a kitten curled up in a cozy blanket purring and eyes closed, that is a carefree being enjoying nothing and everything at once. A certain tingle of pure elation is the peak of this contentment we all seek in some form or another. Drugs can cause a false sense of these feelings, but true ease from life's woes feels better in the long run as the crapulence from toxins cause addicting behaviors leading to never feeling that true comfort again... To be cradled and doted on as we were when we were babies is the first taste of serenity. What comforts you the best?



Ariah T.- Honestly, a hug from my mom can fix anything!

Dan L.- Nostalgia, whether it be music, movies, memories or just catching up with an old friend.

Joe L.- My woodstove on a cold winters night!



Kristin H.- When you're at work hot & sweaty and you wipe your forehead off with your shirt and you can still smell your fresh laundry detergent. I know it's weird, but in my line of work that's comforting for me.

Nicolette P.- When we are all home on the farm with nothing to do and have a home cooked meal around the dinner table.

Jennifer L.- Having all my kids at home just being together.

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Canadian Friendship Week, Jan. 6-10 • Winter Blues Wknd, Jan. 17-19 • Winter Music Jam, Feb. 22-23



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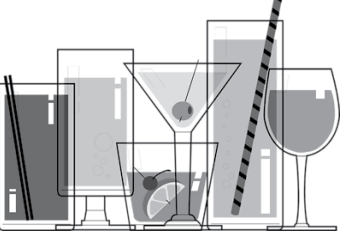
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★★ Sudoku Challenge ★★

This Week's Difficulty Level:
★★★★☆

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, place a number into each box so that each row across, each column down, and each small 9 box square within the larger diagram (there are 9 of these) will contain every number from 1 through 9. In other words, no number will appear more than once in any row, column, or smaller 9 box square. Working with the numbers already given as a guide, complete each diagram with the missing numbers that will lead to the correct solution....**Good luck!**

Last Week's Puzzle:

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



The New York and Lake Erie Railroad was featured in 2 movies: *The Natural* (1983) and *Planes, Trains and Automobiles* (1987). President Fillmore and Daniel Webster have both taken rides on this railroad.

Train

CONT. FROM COVER

busy, then slowed, and now has entered into a period of preservation of sorts." The New York and Lake Erie Railroad offers some of the most unique features of its kind in the area. It holds the steepest grade in the mainline railroad east of the Mississippi and passes through a stone tunnel 97 feet long that was built in the 1860's. It was featured in 2 movies: *The Natural* (1983) and *Planes, Trains and Automobiles* (1987). President Fillmore and Daniel Webster have both taken rides on this railroad. The Gowanda to South Dayton line of the New York and Lake Erie Railroad remains in operation as a passenger train with 92 events annually. The railroad runs various seasonal events including Easter, Christmas, Mother's Day and their upcoming Murder Mystery train ride starting March 8th and running through November. **The Murder Mystery runs shows from March 8-November 1, Matriarch Mayhem and Ma-ma Mia Mayhem are a couple of the examples, both performed by the** comedy club "In All Serious-ness." This 5-hour catered event kicks off with dinner at 5pm at the Gowanda Moose (menu to be announced closer to the event). Trains depart at approximately 6:30pm for a 2 hour round trip from Gowanda to South Dayton and back, with dessert at 8:30 back at the Moose. "It's a unique and engaging experience," says Mel. "It's definitely something everyone should try at least once." For more info follow on Facebook or visit www.nylerailroad.com or call 716-532-5242.

Rocketcup

CONT. FROM PG. 6

away. We plan to keep this blend going for-ever." The Bonnies Blend is one of many coffee varieties that are available in the RocketCup Coffee Subscription packages. "This is a great option for anyone looking to have our premium coffee delivered on a regular basis," explains Tom. "We have a variety of packages available including 2, 4, 6, and 8 week deliveries of any of our coffees delivered strait to your doorstep." RocketCup also offers roastery tours at the Cattaraugus location (18 N Main St, Cattaraugus, NY 14719), giving the unique opportunity to observe and partake in the coffee roasting experience. The tour starts with an introduction of each coffee bean, taste testing, hands on roasting, and then allows each guest to blend their own unique blend to take home. Roastery experiences are currently available on Saturdays and Sundays and can be booked on their website. For more information and updates on upcoming events and projects, follow on social media @ RocketCup Coffee and visit online @ rocketcupcoffee.com.

Cadillac

CONT. FROM PG. 6

at Madigan's. Folks still talk about **Louie Earl** riding his horse into the Gin Mill with his dog in sunglasses who sat at the bar drinking a beer with him. Who could forget the **upside-down Christmas tree** hung from the ceiling at The Depot, or their **February pool party**, sand, baby pool and HV Lifeguard chair. We had unique characters like the legendary **Pete Seeley** and **Big Paul Haouk** whose drooping pants always fought with the 76 keys he carried on his key chain. We sang Irish music led by **Bobby McCarthy** and fed ourselves from the kitchen at **Holiday Haus** which burned and revived itself as **Whole Hog Café** without the sloping floors which were always a challenge to navigate after a few beers. We still miss **Joey D** and **his musical spoons**, the quaint checked tablecloths at the **Harness Shop** and the mystery salad dressings at **Tips Up**. Sure, for balance, there were a few individuals who suffered no fools like Mary and Les Fox at **The Barn** and Jack Mason who had stories to tell but didn't tolerate a lot of buffoonery. **-Got any stories to share? Thank you to The Zerbians, Vicky Brown and Todd Lindell for their input for this piece.**

Lake Life

CONT. FROM PG. 7

fries and chicken fingers. Some of their bestsellers include country-fried steak and chicken and waffles. In Bemus Point, Lake Life Café is open from 7am-2pm on weekdays and from 8am-2pm on weekends. For more information and to view the menu for Lake Life Café, you can visit lakelifecafe.com. Lake Life Kitchen is open seven days a week from 7am-2pm. They currently do not yet have a new dedicated website, but you can find the menu online at schuylerskitchen-en.com. Both of these charming restaurants capture and embrace the essence of Lake Life. They offer a cozy and welcoming atmosphere, making them fantastic additions to our lake communities. At Lake Life Café, you can treat yourself to a delicious selection of hot and cold beverages along with tasty food options. Lake Life Kitchen has a larger and more diverse menu that everyone in the community loves. Together, these sister restaurants truly celebrate the lake life vibe and embrace the "It's Your Time" motto, inviting you to relax and enjoy every moment spent there!



In 2023, when Schuyler's Restaurant in Lakewood became available for sale, Amy and Marc decided that this opportunity would be a great fit for them. In November 2023, they purchased what was formerly Schuyler's Restaurant, located at 4477 W Fairmount Ave, Lakewood, NY 14750.

Shakin'

CONT. FROM PG. 9

ing on. **WEDNESDAY** We end the seven-day weekend like we have for 40+ years, at The Gin Mill, for Wing, Wednesday from 7-10pm. Brian Rick is your musical host. He plays a rock/folk/pop/country set of covers. Don't forget those 37 beers on tap. We hope you had a great time in our little village and that you tell your friends and family and come back often but whenever you are PLEASE, ALWAYS SUPPORT LIVE MUSIC!!!!!!!!!!!!

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History of Cutlery in Little Valley

Second Annual Village of Knives Celebration Planned

By CHAD NEAL



“The Village of Knives Celebration” will be showcased at the Cattaraugus County Fairgrounds in Little Valley, a town that produced a great product as their world-renowned Case Knives, among others. The event is July 11-12, 2025 and the cutlery world is excited.

Our Village, town and county are steeped in history that is nationally recognized. There were many manufacturing companies in this area and many of them made knives. Not that long ago Burrell Cutlery in Ellicottville was still making knives to be shipped worldwide. Mayor John Burrell and his late wife Sheila ran the legacy manufacturer and John is still showing his legendary cutlery knowledge and prowess in shows and conventions; one show that started last year was successful and now another show this year is being planned. The Village of Knives Celebration will be showcased at the Cattaraugus County Fairgrounds in Little Valley, a town that made a great product in their world renowned Case Knives, among others. The event is July 11-12, 2025 and the cutlery world is excited.

With a few words typed into a search online The Villager learned that in 1882, John Champlin and his son Tint started a wholesale distribution company in Little valley, NY and 4 years later J.B.F. Champlin and William R. Case started Cattaraugus Cutlery, they hired expert cutlers from around the country and Europe. They purchased their manufacturing equipment from Beaver Falls Cutlery Company. Before building a factory along the railroad in Little Valley the company was on Mill Street in Little Valley and was powered by water in 1890. The move came after Tint took over after the death of J.B.F. Champlin in 1903. It was the beginning of a legacy as Cattaraugus Cutlery turned out to be one of the most important knife brands in America,

even Admiral Byrd chose them for his South Pole expedition. In 1963 the Champlin family ceased operations. And that is just a tiny bit of the history of the knife manufacturing saga in the area and the is going to be so much more at the Village of Knives Celebration. John Burrell is a descendant of the Case family. The Cases have had several generations manufacturing the sharp implements that helped make the business the oldest and largest in the industry. The Villager will be interviewing Burrell more about his story and nuances he has a plethora of knowledge in as the event gets closer. Little Valley was home to many brands of cutlery for decades. The Village of Knives Celebration delves deep into the history of the manufacturing and folks who built it. Several vendors will be there as last year's event was a success this year's can only get

better. This year's event is open for vendors and display booths. Personal tours will be given of the town of Little valley and the “Annual Banquet” will be on Saturday night at the historic home of Andrew Jackson Case, the “Robins Roost” which is now the American Legion Post 531. As “This event is 150 years in the making!” The Villager will be sharing more about the event as it gets closer to its July start. The excitement by history buffs and knife enthusiasts is growing. There is more information at villageofknives.com including more information on the walking tour which includes over a dozen sites that will explain more of the history this area is known for. Be on the look out for further reports and announcements about this celebration and the events surrounding it in The Villager.

Treehouse
CONT. FROM PG. 7

hours connecting with each other, and nature, while unplugging from the rest of the world. Hours of reading, drinking wine, and playing board games all while in the bows of nature's wonderous trees will never be forgotten. Our family enjoyed our two-night stay unplugging from our daily lives and reconnecting with each other. Several hours were spent reading in the loft, playing games in the den, smores by the fire, and strolling the woods exploring the other treehouses on the property. The finishing touches made all the difference, from a welcome basket to books and DVDs for the family to enjoy. The treehouse itself was simply a wonder; a simple luxury

atop the trees, escaping the hustle of every-day life. We highly recommend stealing away for your own treehouse glamping experience at The Mohicans Treehouse Resort in any season. Many new projects are currently in development, including a glamping tent treehouse, and a sister treehouse to The View. For more information visit www.themohicans.net/ and follow on Social Media.

Classified

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Town of East Otto is accepting bids for the following repairs to the historical museum building. Bids will be accepted until Monday May 12, 2025, and will be opened at the May 13, 2025, board meeting at 6:30 PM. Bids may be submitted to the East Otto Town Clerk at 9393 Bowen Rd., East Otto NY 14729. Bids should be clearly marked “Bids for Museum Project”. Please include the following in the bid: -Removal and disposal of the cement pad at the front of the building -Removal and replacement of rotted sections of the beam along the front of the Building -Replacement of supports along the front of the building to level the floor at the front of the building. Replacement of the cement pad with ADA compliant ramp with a landing at the entrance door and railings as required. Materials to be pressure treated and weather resistant. Railings to be painted white. -Sill plate at door to be replaced as necessary. Work to be completed by September 30, 2026. The town of East Otto reserves the right to reject any and all bids and rebid as necessary. - By order of the Town Board, Town of East Otto - Deanna Bowen Town Clerk

NOTICE OF FILING OF ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION OF THE TREE GIANT LLC were filed with the New York State Office of the Secretary of State on August 31, 2024. Office location: Cattaraugus County. The principal business location is located at 11431 Bolton Rd., Springville, NY 14141. The LLC designates the following as its registered agent upon whom process against it may be served within the state of New York: United States Corporation Agents Inc. 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Assist residents and municipalities with the care or removal of trees and other flora or any lawful purpose.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - The Town of Ellicottville is accepting proposals for the landscape maintenance of the Jefferson Street, Niles (Rt 242W) and Bryant Hill Cemeteries. Specifications and information can be obtained from the Engineering Department by calling 716-699-9005, Ext. 1 or by emailing ben.gross@evlengineering.com.

Sealed bids will be received by the Town of Ellicottville Engineering Department located at 28 Parkside Drive, P.O. Box 600, Ellicottville, NY 14731, until 10:00 a.m. Friday March 14, 2025, and then at that time and place opened and read aloud.

The Town reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, and to accept the bid, which, in their opinion, meets the intent of the specifications and deemed most advantageous to the Town.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE TOWN BOARD

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - The Town of Ellicottville is accepting proposals for the landscape maintenance at the Nannen Arboretum. Specifications and information can be obtained from the Town Engineering Department by calling 716-699-9005, Ext. 1 or by emailing ben.gross@evlengineering.com.

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From Bryan's Brain



American President Woodrow Wilson and his wife Edith kept sheep at the White House during WWI to keep the lawn neat and reduce gardening costs. The sheep's wool was also auctioned off to raise money for the Red Cross.

Walter's World

Photo Picks From “The Rittman Show”



Convair Model 118: Prototype Flying Car from 1947, in Flight

Views from Ellicottville: Winter Music Jam Last Weekend in Ellicottville



Photos!JonElder



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