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Area Events

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

INDOOR WINTER FARMERS MARKET
Sat/Sun, March 8 • 2pm
Allegany, NY

PUBLIC SKATE NORTHWEST ARENA
Saturday March 8,
N.W. Arena, Jamestown, NY

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

STAND UP COMEDY SHOW WILDWOOD BAR & GRILL
Saturday, March 8 • 8pm
Salamanca, NY

SPORTSMAN SHOW SENECA ALLEGANY CASINO
Friday, March 8, • 9am
Salamanca, NY

WINTER CARNIVAL HOLIDAY VALLEY RESORT
Sat/Sun, March 8-9
H.V. Resort, Ellicottville, NY

OPEN MIC WITH BOB HENRY AT BIG INLET BREWING
Saturday, March 9 • Big Inlet
Brewing, Mayville, NY

ICE BUMPER CARS AT NORTHWEST ARENA
Sunday, March 9 • 1:30pm
N.W. Arena, Jamestown, NY

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

MOVIES AT THE REG "One of Them"
Saturday March 14 • 7pm
Reg Lenna, Jamestown, NY

KARAOKE FRIDAYS
Friday, March 14 • 9pm
Shawbucks, Jamestown, NY

TURN THE RIVER GREEN
Saturday, March 15, • 10am
Jamestown NY

MOVIES AT THE REG "Becoming Led Zeppelin"
Wednesday March 26 • 7pm
Reg Lenna, Jamestown, NY

To advertise your events
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Sending Winter Off in Style

Winter Carnival 2025 at Holiday Valley



By CAROL FISHER-LINN

In today's world, skiers can always have plenty of fun, but how do they compete with the elaborate affair on the hill during Winter Carnival in the "old days?" These zany pioneers had tables covered in cloth tablecloths, fine silver, silver candelabras, huge silver trays filled with delicious, probably

homemade goodies and vases of flowers completing the "ambiance." Imagine sitting at those tables enjoying your pancakes, sausages and freshly made maple syrup. That is exactly what they did.

After sixty-seven years, it's obvious that the folks involved in the Ellicottville

SEE "CARNIVAL" PG. 6

Mardi Gras & The Brass Machine

Music Spotlight: Buffalo Based Band, Annual Tradition



By KATE BARTLETT

With Mardi Gras weekend upon us, the village of Ellicottville is again preparing for another day of festivities this Saturday, March 8th. It's become an annual tradition for The Brass Machine, a Buffalo based brass band, to lead the parade on Saturday with their high-energy, New Orleans Style

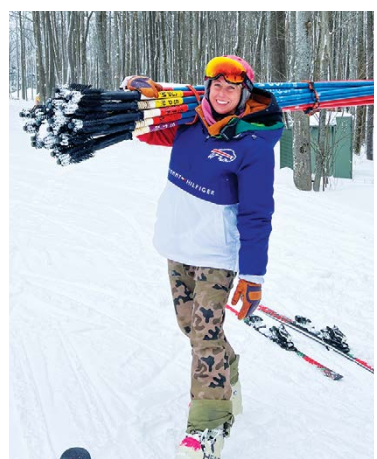
jazz music. They'll then keep the party going at Villaggio with a live performance directly following the parade.

Founded in 2015 by front man Kyle Yagielski, The Brass Machine features a rotating cast of musicians featuring a wide variety of horns, guitars, keys, drums and more. As one

SEE "BRASS" PG. 6

NYS Ski Racing Association

Appoints E'VL Native to Assistant Dev. Director



Caitlin Croft was recently promoted to Assistant Development Director of New York State Ski Racing Association.

By DAVID REED

Caitlin Croft, a well-known figure in Ellicottville, has been promoted to Assistant Development Director of the New York State Ski Racing Association (NYSSRA).

This exciting development recognizes her dedication and hard work in promoting ski racing in New York State.

As a leader in community development, Caitlin's passion for ski racing and community development has been evident throughout her career. Most recently she was the Lead Coach of the U18/16/FIS Alpine Team at HoliMont along with serving as the Chair of the NYSSRA Development Committee. Caitlin has played a crucial role in nurturing young athletes and fostering a love for the sport starting her coaching career at Holiday Valley working first with the younger athletes then slowly moving up the proverbial racing hierarchy. Caitlin has mentored numerous athletes to State, Eastern and National Level competitions.

"One of my favorite

SEE "CAITLIN" PG. 7

Up Close and Personal: Kate Welshofer

Communications Specialist w/ Nat'l Comedy Ctr.

By KATE BARTLETT

Former Channel 2 News anchor Kate Welshofer left her career of 27 years in broadcast journalism to pursue her passions with different creative outlets. In 2024, she signed on with the National Comedy Center in Jamestown as their Communications and Content Specialist. With humor and positivity having always been a major part of Kate's life, this career change was a good fit.

Growing up in Perry, NY, Kate wasn't quite sure where her path would lead. "I came from a family of teachers," recalls Kate. "I knew I wanted to go to college, but not having a specific career in mind, I wasn't quite sure what I wanted to study."

Kate eventually entered the Journalism/Mass Communication program at St.

SEE "KATE" PG. 7



After 27 years in the news industry, Kate announced she was leaving her position with WGRZ in October of 2024. Without a clear next step in place, Kate took some time to decompress and explore new opportunities. One conversation with the National Comedy Center got the ball rolling on her next chapter. Kate is now the communications specialist at the National Comedy Center.

Sneak Peek

Inside this Edition...

Holiday Valley Spring Happenings ... Pg. 5

Celebrating the New Season with Bounty of Events



We're not finished yet...stay tuned for the final Intense Milk Rail Jam and the Uppenovr on March 15, followed by Pondsiskimming on March 22. This season promises to go out with a bang!

Living Organ Donors ... Pg. 8

Donors Save Lives ~ March is National Kidney Month

More than 100,000 people are on the national waiting list for organ transplants, with the majority waiting for a donated kidney. While many people understand that viable organ donations can occur after a person has passed away, they may not realize that living organ donations are also possible, particularly for kidney and liver transplants. According to the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS), over 6,000 people received living donor transplants in 2023. Tragically, some people don't get a donation in time. In fact, hundreds of New Yorkers die each year while waiting for organ transplants.

Spring Fest '25 at Peek n' Peak

Weekend Festival Welcomes Spring



By DARLENE BRACE

After a long and blustery winter, it's time to welcome the spring season at the Peek n' Peak Resort in Clymer, New York. Join them for their annual Spring Fest from March 14 -16. They have a great lineup of fun and exciting activities planned, as well as entertainment all around the re-sort grounds. Check out how they will celebrate the arrival of spring at Peek n' Peak's Spring Fest.

On Friday night, there will be the Kickoff Celebration from 9:30pm-12:30am in the Bistro 210. DJ Tito B will be playing a variety of tunes to get the party weekend started. Request your favorite dance songs and hit the dance floor.

One of the main highlights of this festival is the exciting Cardboard Box Derby, which will take place on Saturday on the Tubing Hill. Imagine gliding down a snowy hill and gaining speed in nothing more than a decorated cardboard vehicle

SEE "PEEK" PAGE 3

HillTap Festival @ Holiday Valley

Uncle Ben's Remedy to Headline July 26



EAST AURORA, NY- The 5th annual HillTap Festival will return to Holiday Valley Resort in Ellicottville, NY on Saturday, July 26th. This popular event, at one of the most unique venues in the region, integrates a full day of outdoor activities and live music from three bands on two stages.

The HillTap Festival begins with a chairlift ride up to Spruce Lake with live music, adventure activities, and craft food and beverages. The festival then heads back down the mountain for two additional bands to wrap up the full day of activities. "There is no better place to merge great music, adventure, and craft beverages, I cannot think of another festival in the country where you take a ski lift from one stage to another. HillTap is truly a one-of-a-kind event", said 42 North Brewery Founder, John Cimperman.

Niki Klein, Director of Resort Services at

SEE "HILLTAP" PAGE 2

Publisher's Word

"Why Not Today? Happy Mardi Gras!!"



So, it's not officially February 13, and it's not a Tuesday, and we aren't marking the beginning of Lent, but we are in Ellicottville and I say, whatever the Groundhog says, goes! Welcome to Ellicottville's 2025 Mardi Gras Celebration and Winter Carnival Event! You are in for a treat and to top it all off, it's not too late to participate in all the weekend's activities. If you haven't signed up to be in Saturday's parade yet, no worries, you can sign up online now at www.ellicottvillenyny.com. Grab a group of your friends, a few zany ideas and ridiculous outfits and join in the fun! I look forward to seeing you out there. Let's make each year's bigger and better than the last. Don't forget to bring a non-perishable food item for Holiday Valley Ski Patrol Food Drive and give back to the community that gives so many good times to you. See you at the party!!

Until then, enjoy the read and the ride! – Jeanine Caprino Zimmer

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The festival then concludes with a special performance from Uncle Ben's Remedy. Uncle Ben's Remedy is deeply rooted in country music with a unique, up-tempo style that will reverberate off the slopes of Holiday Valley. Uncle Ben's Remedy won the 2014 Battle of the Bands at Buffalo's Canalside and has also played the Borderland Festival.

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HillTap

have played the main stage at the Borderland Festival. The music then heads back down the mountain with two bands. Kody & Herren, hailing from nearby Springville, NY, will bring their band for a mix of original and classic roots music. The festival then concludes with a special performance from Uncle Ben's Remedy. Uncle Ben's Remedy is deeply rooted in country music with a unique, up-tempo style that will reverberate off the slopes of Holiday Valley. Uncle Ben's Remedy won the 2014 Battle of the Bands at Buffalo's Canalside and has also played the Borderland Festival. The vendor line-up at HillTap includes SUP Erie Adventures, Mud, Sweat & Gears, Tom's Pro Bikes, Holiday Valley E-Bikes, Snow Child, and Hatchet & Hops. Each of the vendors will be offering product exhibitions and demonstrations so attendees are encouraged to bring their adventure gear to take part in the adventure. Additionally, Fat Bob's Smokehouse and Dina's will have food on-site during the festival. Early bird tickets are now on sale for \$35 and include free parking, a lift ticket up to Spruce Lake, and a full-day of music and adventure sports demo's and clinics. A twilight ticket will also be offered that provides admission to the base of the mountain for the final two musical performances. The event runs from 12noon-9pm. For tickets and more information on the HillTap Festival, log onto www.hilltapfestival.com.

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Art After 5: Kody & Herren

Friday, March 28 Roger Tory Peterson Hosts Monthly Event

Art after 5 at the Roger Tory Peterson Institute is held every month from 5:30-7:30pm. Each month they bring together great art and great music in this series. Included with each Art After 5 ticket is full access to the museum, along with a complimentary beverage from the RTPI bar, light bites from Elegant Edibles, and two hours of live music. The RTPI bar features wine, beer, cider, and non-alcoholic beverages.

Back by popular demand this month is Kody & Herren are a wonderfully talented duo from Springville, NY. They are multi-instrumentalists, performing on guitar, violin, harmonica, mandolin, and more. Nick and Lydia's original material is inspired heavily by roots music



and their duets provide a strong chemistry on stage. Vocal harmonies and the overall dynamics of a song are important to them, and they aim to entertain an audience.

The Southern Tier Brewing Company will be onsite, serving up a variety of their

delicious craft beers. Not a beer drinker? No worries. Your drink ticket can also be used for a glass of wine or non-alcoholic beverage from the RTPI bar.

The Roger Tory Peterson Institute is located at 311 Curtis Street in Jamestown, NY, 14701.

Peek

CONT. FROM COVER

held together by tape and glue! Registration begins at 9:30am, with the vehicle inspection at 10am. The contestants' hearts will begin to race as they await their turn for the contest to start at 11am. Join the crowd as they gather around and cheer on the contestants as they make their way down the slope as fast as they can in their decorated vehicles. Prizes will be awarded in various categories at the end of the event, so contestants are encouraged to create not only a fast vehicle but also a creative one. There will be prizes awarded separately for kids and adults, with categories including Best Creativity, Best Team Spirit & Attitude, and Best Time.

If you are going to participate, be sure to follow all rules and guidelines when constructing your vehicle. Participants must be at least three years old, and all riders are required to wear a helmet for safety. To view the race format and to see the complete list of rules and guidelines, you can click on REGISTER YOUR TEAM HERE!

Another exciting festival highlight on Saturday afternoon is the Pond Skim event. This will take place on the hill next to The Retreat. St. Patrick's Day is the theme of the event, and they will be turning the pond green. Registration for the Pond Skim is from 11am to 12pm in The Retreat lobby, with the Pond Skim contest starting at 2pm. To participate in the Pond Skim, you must



One of the main highlights of this festival is the exciting Cardboard Box Derby, which will take place on Saturday, March 15 on the Tubing Hill. Imagine gliding down a snowy hill and gaining speed in nothing more than a decorated cardboard vehicle held together by tape and glue!

be on skis or a snowboard. Participants will glide down the hill and see how far they can go across the pond. Participants are encouraged to dress in costumes and be creative, as you can get more points for style and appearance. One grand prize will be given based on distance and style. The winner will likely receive a Splash Lagoon getaway. Even if you don't participate in the event, you can join this fun and exciting event to watch as a spectator.

For those needing a little break from the excitement or just looking for some different entertainment, DJ Mark will be playing tunes from 12pm to 5pm at the Retreat. There will also be an ice bar, a shot luge, and an outside grill serving food. On Saturday night, the party continues as the band Crush will be rocking the Peek' from 9:30pm to 1am in the Bistro 210.

To conclude the festival, there will be the 4th annual Hair of the Dog Party on Sunday afternoon in the Sports Bar. DJ Felix will be playing the tunes from

12pm to 5pm. The party will include drink specials and will feature a Bloody Mary bar.

While you are at Peek n' Peak for the Spring Fest, they encourage you to explore all the facilities. You are invited to use the indoor pool and hot tub, for a small fee. There are dining options at the Bistro 210 and in the Sports Bar for your convenience. Overnight packages are available for this fun and exciting weekend. If you're interested in more information about the festival and/or overnight accommodations, you can call 716-355-4141 or go to pknpk.com.

Many of us are hoping that winter is almost over, and this festival is a fun way to welcome the spring season. Whether you participate or are watching as a spectator, experience the thrill of the Cardboard Box Derby and the Pond Skim. You will be delighted with the music and have the opportunity to explore the resort's amenities while enjoying yourself at Peek n' Peak's Spring Fest.



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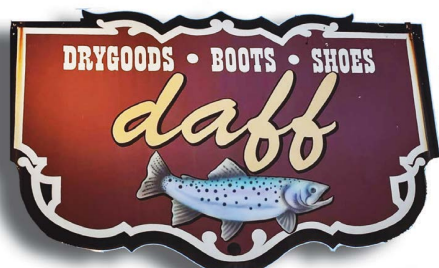
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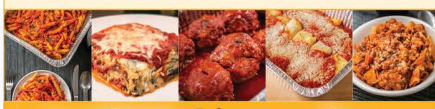
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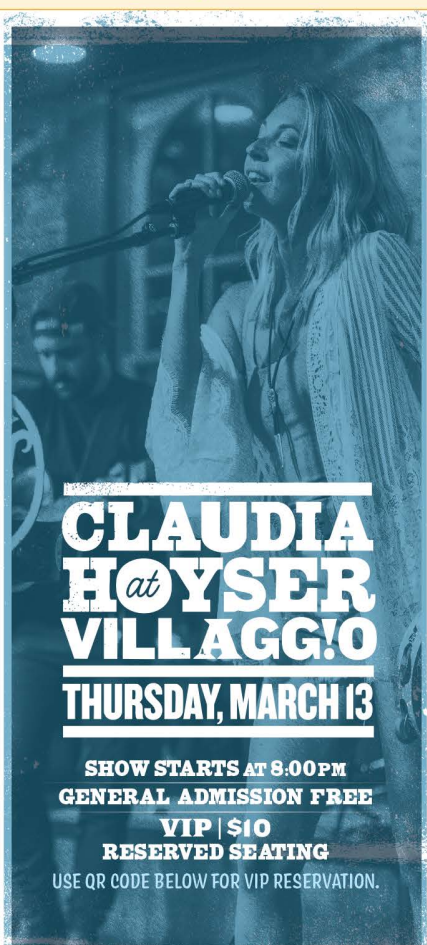
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HoliMont's Master Class of Coaches

Three HoliMont Race Coaches are National Champions



From left, HoliMont's Masters Ski Racing National Champions - Tom Scheeler, Jim Thoman, Joel Solly.

By DAN BALKIN

Master's level ski racing is the pinnacle of amateur / adult ski racing in the world. HoliMont's Master's Race Program Director Jeff Konsella has his hands full – in a good way. On his staff are three Masters Racing National Champions. They have proven, in multiple races on both the East and West coasts, that one need not hail from a famous or big mountain to perfect one's ski turns. Each of these skiers learned their race-craft in Western New York. In the photo we see (left to right) Tom Scheeler, Jim Thoman, and Joel Solly. They are all grateful for their families and loving and proud fathers. Tom, Jim, and Joel are progressively a decade apart in age, which is reflected in the fact that Tom has three young children, Jim has kids in the 8–10-year-old range, and Joel has three young adults 18–24 years old. Their sense of accomplishment for what they have achieved on racecourses is complemented by respect for each other, the HoliMont Master's participants, and the other coaches they work with. Many members who are currently participating or who have passed through the program believe that the skills they learned on the racecourse greatly enhanced their free skiing

skills.

Joel Solly is legendary in WNY skiing circles. He is an ambassador for Nordica skis and has been sponsored by numerous companies for products related to skiing. Joel has competed in both Masters and Pro ski racing. Joel's mother Arleen and sister Laura have contributed to the timeless charm of Ellicottville as owners of the shops Kazoo II and Daff Dry Goods. Another family member, Joel's brother Josh, lives in Sun Valley, Idaho. The brotherly love paid off for Joel as he podiumed in 2005 in slalom at the Master's World Championships in Sun Valley. Five years later, again in Sun Valley, Joel won the Master's National Championship. In the everyday world, Joel is CEO of Indoor Air Professionals and Kanberra Products. Joel grew up skiing at Kissing Bridge, and early in his KB coaching career he spotted a young prodigy named Jim Thoman. Later, when Joel began coaching at HoliMont, he encouraged Jim to become a race coach at HoliMont.

Jim Thoman rose through the ranks of the race program at KB and eventually did college racing at Geneseo. Jim began to participate in master's adult racing while at UB Law School (99-02) and is an attorney

for Hodgson Russ LLP, one of the leading law firms in Buffalo. He so enjoyed coaching at HoliMont that he decided to join the club while maintaining his position as a Master's Race Coach. Jim has won, across a variety of age categories, a remarkable eight (that's not a typo!) Master's National Championships. Number nine might be on the horizon, as Jim is entertaining the idea of attending the Master's Nationals at New York's Gore Mountain this year. Jim said, "I've always worked with adults at HoliMont and really enjoy helping them develop their skills and watching them experience the fun of skiing a racecourse."

The torch of showing Master's ski racers nationwide what HoliMonter's can do was passed from Joel to Jim and Tom. Tom Scheeler grew up on the slopes of HoliMont. In Tom's own words, he was "Born and raised through the HoliMont Race program." Before Tom entered U.B. to earn a degree in mechanical engineering, he spent four years as a full-time race coach at Holiday Valley. Tom coached older kids on the weekends, and collegiate racers from St. Bonaventure and U.B. during the week. Eventually, Tom returned to his HoliMont roots to offer his expertise to our weekend mornings Master's Program. Tom won the Master's National Championship at Okemo, VT in 2014 and 2018. Among Master's racers, Tom is revered as one of the very best. Off the slopes, Tom employs his engineering skills as the Plant Manager for Unicell Body Company in Buffalo.

If you are a HoliMont member, and this has sparked any interest in joining HoliMont's Masters Race Program, please contact Snowsports Director Travis Widger at travis@holimont.com. Joel, Jim, and Tom, along with their talented fellow coaches, will be the fast guys who demonstrate and explain expert skiing in a clear, concise, and friendly manner. It's fun!

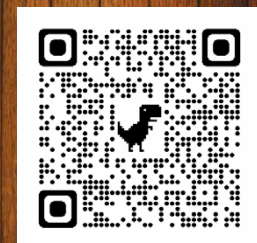
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www.thevillagerny.com, "General Submissions"

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Holiday Valley Spring Happenings

Celebrating the New Season with Bounty of Events

Spring

CONT. FROM LEFT
day in time for everyone to head into town to watch the parade at 6:30pm.

Sunday begins with the 9am Ski Patrol pancake breakfast with sausage and real maple syrup at the base of Yodeler. Donations to the Patrol are gratefully accepted. Everyone looks forward to the Costume Parade at noon down Mardi Gras where the Best of Show wins a season pass for next year! Lederhosen Ski Club will host their hot dog cookout as a fundraiser for the Lounsbury Adaptive Program and the Ellicottville Ski Club will serve free wine and cheese, both near the Clocktower.

Be sure to head down to Creekside at 2pm for FREE ice cream sundaes, then back up to Yodeler for the Dummy Downhill

The celebration ends with the Darkwater Duo band playing in Yodeler from 3-6pm.

that starts at 2:30pm sharp. 3-6pm. Wow, what a weekend!
This zany event features creative homemade dummies that ski or snowboard down, over a jump and then crash into a barrier at the bottom... it's a real crowd pleaser! The celebration ends with the Darkwater Duo band playing in Yodeler from 3-6pm. *But we're not finished yet...stay tuned for the final Intense Milk Rail Jam and the Uppenovr on March 15, followed by Pondsiskimming on March 22. This season promises to go out with a bang!*



At 1:30pm on Saturday, the Ski Patrol puts on a wild and crazy Toboggan Race at the bottom of Yodeler. Teams of 3 patrollers guide a toboggan down a race course while spinning, holding a balloon and switching places. This is followed by a beer (or rootbeer) slalom open to the public at 2pm where competitors ski or snowboard through the gates trying not to spill their full beer and then chugging it at the finish line.

BY JANE ESHBAUGH

With a few days of sunshine so far and an occasional warmer day, spring is coming...at least that's what the calendar says. Regardless, Holiday Valley is preparing for a fantastic spring skiing session with amazing snow and wonderful events.

This weekend is the annual Winter Carnival featuring many of the traditional activities and a few new ones as well. If you're ready for golf season to start, check out the Putt Putt Bar Crawl this Saturday, March 8, starting at 11am at the Ullr Bar. It's a 7-hole putting

contest that takes place at the many bars at the resort and finishes at the SnowBar. The \$10 registration fee includes 2 drinks. Speaking of the SnowBar, the HV Snowmaking Crew will open for business at the base of Yodeler from 11am-4:30pm both Saturday and Sunday and the Safety Patrol will barbeque hot dogs and sausages at Yodeler base from 10am-4pm. Several Holiday Valley departments will be decorated in a Western theme and the judging takes place on Saturday. Kids can get their face painted, eat hot dogs and hunt for candy in the Scavenger Hunt at the Creekside Lodge between 11:30am-1pm.

At 1:30pm on Saturday, the Ski Patrol puts on a wild and crazy Toboggan Race at the bottom of Yodeler. Teams of 3 patrollers guide a toboggan down a race course while spinning, holding a balloon and switching places. This is followed by a beer (or rootbeer) slalom open to the public at 2pm where competitors ski or snowboard through the gates trying not to spill their full beer and then chugging it at the finish line. Check out the "Old School Jump Comp" on lower Yodeler at 2:30pm. PA Line will entertain in Yodeler Lodge from 3-6pm to finish off the

SEE "SPRING" RIGHT



Sunday begins with the 9am Ski Patrol pancake breakfast with sausage and real maple syrup at the base of Yodeler. Everyone looks forward to the Costume Parade at noon down Mardi Gras where the Best of Show wins a season pass for next year! The Dummy Downhill starts at 2:30pm sharp back at the top of Yodeler. This zany event features creative homemade dummies that ski or snowboard down, over a jump and then crash into a barrier at the bottom.

Holiday Valley

MARCH 8TH & 9TH
WINTER CARNIVAL

Join the ultimate winter celebration! Enjoy live music, a festive costume parade, and much more. Whether you're out on the slopes or hanging with your friends at the Snowbar, there's something for everyone... families, friends, and people just looking to enjoy the fun.

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LIVE MUSIC

Stop by the Yodeler Lodge this Winter Carnival Weekend for a great selection of live music on Saturday and Sunday from 3-6PM. Saturday, PA Line will be entertaining the crowd and on Sunday, Darkwater Duo will be performing.



FIND MORE INFORMATION AT HOLIDAYVALLEY.COM

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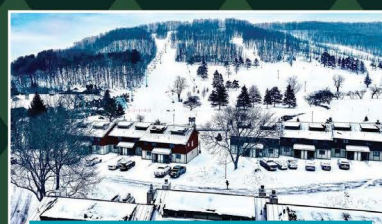
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enjoy having the freedom to play what they want, bringing their own flair to each and every show. We value each musician's unique background and invite them to let it shine."

The Brass Machine will be celebrating their 10-year anniversary this fall. Over the past 10 years, the group has collected impressive accolades including performing alongside many national acts including *Earth, Wind and Fire*, *Trey Anastasio*, *The Soul Rebels*, *Goose*, *Flaming Lips*, *Starship* and many more. Festival appearances include Borderland (5x), Railrider Jamboree (3x), Rochester Jazz Fest, Night Lights, and Folk-face Face, among others. The band frequently plays many events and weddings, and is currently touring North East New York State with stops including Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse, Buffalo and well as Pennsylvania and Vermont.

Kyle also plays in a side project, Soudaphunk, which will be playing at the Ratchet Hatchett on Saturday, March 8th from 1-4pm. Kyle describes this 3-piece group as an upbeat tuba led jam group playing energetic hits from the Grateful Dead, Phish and more. "It's just something you have to experience," says Kyle. "We love surprising people with our music; putting our own style to many of the greatest hits."

For more info: thebrassmachine.com and see the band perform in the Mardi Grad Parade in Ellicottville March 8th, Villaggio immediately following. Follow on social media for updates.

Brass

STORY FROM COVER

of the hottest acts on the live music circuit today, Kyle describes The Brass Machine as a 'brass gumbo' of music weaving together funk, jazz, R&B, and more.

The Brass Machine has played the Mardi Gras parade for the past 3 years and feels fortunate to be a part of this event. Kyle describes the parade as a one-of-a-kind experience, a true "Mardi Gras" in the small town of Ellicottville. "The energy is just awesome," explains Kyle. "It's a super fun, family-friendly event. We bring that high-energy, New Orleans Style jazz that our band was founded on, and it creates an awesome vibe. Everyone is out lining the streets, throwing beads and candy, hugging each other, just having a good time."

Following the parade, Buffalo Brass Machine will uphold their annual

tradition of playing at Villaggio for an evening of high-energy, upbeat music. "This event really showcases the duality of our band," remarks Kyle. "We get the opportunity to play homage to the genre that we founded the band, then at Villaggio we play a mix of popular cover songs and original music with our own original twist. Nick at Villaggio is incredible and we're so thankful he hosts us every year. It's great to see this community embracing and supporting local musicians."

With more than 35 musicians in rotation, it's almost impossible to put the same show on twice. "We have such a talented group of musicians, all with unique backgrounds and talents," says Kyle. "I love assembling the lineup and combining different variations to set up interesting, unique performances."

The musicians have fun playing together, and it shows during their performances. "It's such a fun energy. The musicians



These zany pioneers had tables covered in cloth tablecloths, fine silver, silver candelabras, huge silver trays filled with delicious, probably homemade goodies and vases of flowers completing the "ambiance." Imagine sitting at those tables enjoying your pancakes, sausages and freshly made maple syrup. That is exactly what they did. Photo from *For the Love of Skiing* by Edna Northrup and Lillia Condon.

Carnival

CONT. FROM COVER

Ski Club continue to entertain and share the delights of the winter season at Holiday Valley Resort. Edna Northrup, in her classic book, *For the Love of Skiing*, written with her pal, Lillian Congden, states "From the beginning, the Ellicottville Ski Club brought the drive and enthusiasm for torchlight parades, ice sculpture competitions and spring festivals to give thanks for hearty winters." Now, Edna knew a thing or two about skiing and Holiday Valley as a co-founder of the resort. She had a remarkable sense of adventure and fun and was quick to join in anything that involved either.

The events that are enjoyed today during the Winter Carnival are the Snowbar, the cookouts, a Putt-Putt bar crawl throughout the lodges to see who comes up with the lowest score. The

Duel-Beer/Rootbeer slalom is always challenging. Competitors race with a cup of liquid, get to the finish and chug what's left. (ID required for beer). The first one with an empty cup wins. A real favorite is the ski patrol toboggan event. Patrollers from Holiday Valley and HoliMont use their skills to work as a team, with one person "riding" in the toboggan, to navigate a pre-set course to see which team can do it the fastest. While you watch there is always wine and cheese to enjoy. Most of the food treats serve as fundraisers. Please be generous.

For the kiddoes there is a scavenger hunt, face painting, hot dogs and ice cream sundaes at Creekside.

Any reason was the best reason to dress up for these '60's revelers so they showed up in the most colorful and outlandish costumes, which created the need for a parade on the slopes. The parade continues today but doesn't end as it used to with the

burning of Old Man Winter on the slopes. As I said, they were crazier back then, with fewer safety mandates and restrictions. A truly hilarious substitute is the annual Dummy Downhill which takes place on Sunday at 2:30 after the parade. It may be called "Dummy" downhill but truly one must be quite clever and wicked smart to be able to create a skiing dummy which will make it from the top to the bottom of the course (including a jump!) in one piece, or close. For once in your life, you can cheer for the dummy and not feel like a dummy.

In 1991 it seemed logical that some of this on-the-hill fun would be brought down to the village streets. *Doesn't everyone hold a parade in the middle of winter, at night, on a state road? Only in Ellicottville!* Ever since then, locals and visitors alike can join in

"CARNIVAL", Pg. 10

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Holiday Valley

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 Lounsburry 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



Channel 2 in Buffalo approached Kate to join their team in late 2016. While there, she created Most Buffalo, a local news show focused on providing both information and inspiration with a side of humor.

Kate

CONT. FROM COVER

Bonaventure University. An internship requirement for her major led to spending a summer at R News (now Spectrum News) in Rochester, NY, where she was later hired as a producer. At R News, Kate created original news programming for kids. “We had a segment called R Kids but it was more about parenting”, explains Kate. “I pitched the idea of featuring young people’s voices and activities in a fun way and my boss gave me the opportunity to do that. It was my first

on-air gig.” Kate became a reporter and eventually moved to Albany for a full-time anchor position. Craving a creative outlet in 2013, Kate started a YouTube channel. “I was frustrated by not having a creative component of my regular job and a friend encouraged me to just do something I enjoy and see where it leads. It was great advice and it eventually led to starting a YouTube channel.” Originally called “No TelePrompTer, No Mercy”, the channel featured fun, light-hearted comedy. “I really just started it for fun, but it ended up changing my life. It gained attention and opened doors to a number

of opportunities, including my job with WGRZ in Buffalo.” Channel 2 in Buffalo approached Kate to join their team in late 2016. While there, she created Most Buffalo, a local news show focused on providing both information and inspiration with a side of humor. “My goal was to make news for all those people who always told me they don’t watch the news because it’s too depressing,” laughs Kate. “I couldn’t blame them and I wanted to create something that was not only informative but intentional about showing the good things and incredible people in the community.” Most

Buffalo first aired in 2019 and stayed strong during the pandemic in 2020 and beyond. “That was when a lot of people discovered the show because they were home at 4pm to see it,” says Kate. “We figured it out as we went along, but it was always important for me to give people something positive. People share with me it meant a lot to them and I’m so grateful for their continued support.” Kate’s work during that time earned her two back-to-back National Edward R. Murrow Awards for her writing in 2020 and 2021. She considers the wins major milestones in her career. “It was really meaningful for a couple of reasons: first, writing is at the core of all the work I do, and the Murrows have long been considered among the most prestigious awards in news. News is a pretty traditional institution, and my work did not fit that traditional mold, so to be twice recognized on both a local and national scale was an incredible honor.” After 27 years in the news industry, Kate announced she was leaving her position with WGRZ in October of 2024. Without a clear next step in place, Kate took some time to

decompress and explore new opportunities. One conversation with the National Comedy Center got the ball rolling on her next chapter. “I’ve always felt comedy is vital to our lives; it’s a big part of who I am,” explains Kate. “When I announced I was leaving my job, we had the opportunity to sit down at talk about what the next step might be and realized working together might be a good fit for both of us.” Kate’s position at the Comedy Center involves supporting marketing department efforts in promoting the museum and its happenings. “I serve as a spokesperson and ambassador which includes everything from writing articles or press releases to creating video content and handling press interviews.” Kate says she has enjoyed applying the skills she built in her news career in a different way, all while learning more about something she truly enjoys. “The National Comedy Center is a world-class attraction right in our backyard and I want people to know that it’s really fun!” laughs Kate. “I love watching people of all ages explore the

cool, interactive features of the museum and just spend a day laughing together. I also enjoy helping people learn about artform. There’s a lot of work that goes into comedy, and I think the museum does a great job of educating people about the incredible amount of heart, soul and talent it takes to do it well. We’re like the Louvre of Laughs!” The Comedy Center is offering free admission for kids and teens from now until April 19th (two kids with the purchase of an adult ticket). “It’s a great time to bring the whole family,” encourages Kate. The Comedy Center is also proud to host “One Laugh at a Time: A National Comedy Center Memory Café” on the first Monday of every month. Memory Cafés provide a place for adults with memory loss and their caregivers to take a break from the stress of life and simply enjoy themselves and connect with others. The Comedy Center is one of 11 arts and cultural institutions in WNY to host a café. For more information on the National Comedy Center visit comedycenter.org.

Caitlin

CONT. FROM COVER

moments was getting a call from a local athlete Laz Rifkin that he’d just won the Francis Piche U12 race at Gunstock in New Hampshire. I wasn’t high enough in the ranks at the time to attend a race of that caliber. Rifkin had been out the previous two seasons due to injuries and it was a proud moment to witness the hard work of

an athlete pay off. This is an incredibly rewarding sport and teaches you the most valuable lessons of resilience and adaptability. To watch these lessons play out for athletes year after year is truly an honor.” As Assistant Development Director, Caitlin aims to drive the growth of ski racing in New York State. Her focus will be on assisting the Development Director, Stephen Mergenthaler of Lake Placid. She will spearhead more state representation in the Western and Central

District. By working closely with coaches, clubs and community leaders, Caitlin seeks to create a thriving ski racing ecosystem that benefits the entire state. Beyond her professional achievements, Caitlin is a dedicated community member. She serves on the Village Board of Trustees and the Town Planning Board, demonstrating her commitment to local governance. She also is the director of the Ellicottville Farmers’ Market held in the summer months Friday evenings in front

of the 1887 building. Her hobbies include dance of all kinds, most recently achieving the nod to get on pointe in her mid-thirties. Caitlin enjoys hiking, surfing and spending time reflecting her love for the outdoors. “None of this would have happened without my amazing mentors, directors, friends and family that surround me. I am a mosaic of all the people that have influenced me over the years. I remember calling my dad thanking him for all he had done for me

with this sport. His love and dedication to ski racing and more largely the entire ski world was instilled to me so young. There were many times I wanted to give up or walk away and he was always there to guide me back to my why. My why: There is no community like the one forged from skiing. There is nothing more freeing that sliding on snow; to me it will forever and always be the closest thing to human levitation. Fast is a feeling that everyone deserves to understand. Last, I wish her continued success in her new role!

thank the snowboarding community for their contributions to the modern race ski. No matter what snowsport you love, getting out there with friends is 99% of it.” Caitlin Croft’s promotion is a testament to her passion for ski racing and community development. As Assistant Development Director of NYSSRA, she is poised to make a lasting impact on the sport and the state. We wish her continued success in her new role!

Ellicottville's Mardi Gras MUSIC SCHEDULE

Friday, March 7, 2025

- 6-9pm - Jared Rosewell Hill @ EBC Taqueria
- 6:30-10pm - The Funkensteins @ Balloons
- 8pm-12:30am - Two Guys Drinking Beer @ Gin Mill
- 8-11pm - Interstate Daydream @ Mill St. Sports Pub
- 9pm-2am - DJ Persia @ Madigans
- 10pm-1am - Pat & Own @ Balloons Back Bar
- 10pm-2am - DJ Lyfe @ Balloond

Saturday, March 8, 2025

- 2-5pm - Chillbillys @ Gin Mill
- 3-6pm - PA Line @ Holiday Valley's Yodeler Lodge
- 6:30-10pm - Darkwater Duo & Co. @ Balloons
- 7(ish)pm - Brass Machine @ Villaggio
- 8-11pm - AppleJack @ Mill Street Sports Pub
- 8pm-12am - Live-N-Kickin @ Gin Mill
- 9pm-2am - DJ Persia @ Madigans
- 10pm-1am Pat Owen @ Balloons Back Bar
- 10pm-2am - DJ KT Stylez @ Balloons

Sunday, March 9, 2025

- 2-5pm - Brian Rick @ Gin Mill
- 3-6pm - Darkwater Duo & Co. @ HV's Yodeler Lodge
- 5:30-8:30pm - Grace Lougan @ Villaggio

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Living Organ Donors

Donors Save Lives ~ March is National Kidney Month

BY DARLENE BRACE

Aside from organizations like Kidney Connection, there are various ways for people to connect regarding living organ donations. One such donor is Kristy Carder, a 44-year-old woman who is a resident of Gerry and is the general manager at EBC in Ellicottville. She is a working mother of four children and has four grandchildren.

One evening near Christmas of 2024, Kristy ran into an acquaintance named Steve, who resides in Kennedy. As they chatted, she noticed Steve appeared to be very unwell. During their conversation, he revealed that he was looking for a liver donor. They talked for a bit, and she expressed interest in donating a portion of her liver, knowing that the liver can regenerate itself. The next day, she reached out to him for a serious discussion, during which time he sent her a link to UPMC for testing to determine if she was a suitable match.

Kristy was found to have O-negative blood, which means she could donate to anyone. After completing all the necessary tests to ensure she was a good candidate, it was confirmed that she was a match. Kristy will be having surgery on March 17, 2025, to donate 60% of her liver to Steve.

will receive their organ.

Numerous national organizations assist with live organ donations, such as UNOS, Donate Life America, and the National Living Donor Assistance Center, among others. In Chautauqua County, we are fortunate to have local organizations and foundations that also support live organ donations. One such organization is called Kidney Connection.

Kidney Connection was founded by Jamestown resident Jeanette Caprino (*our publisher; Jeanine Caprino Zimmer's aunt*). In 1994, Jeanette's son Paul Cardinale needed a kidney transplant, and he was fortunate to receive a kidney donation from his father. However, in 2005, when he needed another kidney, Paul and Jeanette knew that

no other family members matched as donors. Paul and his mother looked on national websites for potential matching donors. At that point in time, they found out that people in New York State were not allowed to accept organ donations from strangers and could only be from family members. Paul waited for months in hopes of finding a donor while undergoing dialysis three times a week.

Out of great concern for her son, Jeanette actively lobbied to change the policy so that strangers could become living kidney donors. She attended numerous meetings and talked to committees to advocate for her son and others in the same situation. This involved

See "DONORS" pg 10

Chautauqua County Events

BY DARLENE BRACE

As a sign of spring approaching soon, we spring ahead the clocks one hour this weekend, so that means it is time to spring on out and see what's happening in Chautauqua County this week.

Thursday, March 6th - The new hot spot for entertainment in the Village of Fredonia is **Monster Beach Brewery** located at 34 West Main Street. They will be having **Scareoke** from 7pm-11pm. Join the fun and choose your favorite karaoke song to sing to entertain the crowd.

In Westfield, there will be **Open Mic Night** at the **Lake Shore Center of the Arts**. This event starts at 7:30pm, and you are invited to sing, read poetry, or showcase whatever talent you want to share.

Friday, March 7th - Five and 20 Spirits and Brewing in Westfield is continuing its Customer Ap-appreciation Nights on Friday evenings. There will be drink specials and \$2 off draft beers. Sing-er/songwriter **Jess Royer** will be performing this Friday from 5pm-8pm.

Big Inlet Brewing will have **Michael Gerholdt** perform at 6pm. Michael is a singer/songwriter who tells a story with his music. He has been entertaining audiences for years as he sings his original tunes and selected covers for your enjoyment.

Peek n' Peek Resort in Clymer will be host to Erie's acoustic band **Small Town Rollers**, who puts their own spin on many favorite tunes. They will be performing in the **Bistro 210** starting at 9:30pm.

Darkwater Duo will

be performing at the **Southern Tier Distillery** starting at 5pm. These talented musicians play a variety of tunes from many genres of music that will get you moving to the beat.

Saturday, March 8th - The **Trillium Lodge** in Cherry Creek is having their **Mardi Gras Party. Mid-night Recovery** will be rocking it out starting at 8:30pm. Come and join the fun.

There's more fun to be had in the Cherry Creek area. An event called **Boots and Beats** will be taking place at **Farrington Hollow** located at 7495 Farrington Hollow Road. The **Swamp Yankees** get the party started playing country, southern rock, and much more. This is an all-ages event starting at 5:30pm and will include a full bar and food by Super Duper Catering.

Shawbucks in downtown Jamestown is excited to welcome back **Afraid of Human** to their stage. Be ready to listen to some hard rock originals and covers starting at 10pm. This band has developed quite a following, so get there early if you want a seat.

The **Sherman Hotel** is excited to have **Taylor Remaid** perform for the crowd from 9pm-1am. This band plays a fun mix of rock and pop music that is sure to get you moving to the beat.

The **Cooler Cafe** in Sherman welcomes **Sam Winterberger** to perform and entertain the crowd. Sam is likely to play a few originals as well as some favorite covers starting at 7pm. Come and hang out with friends as you sip on a cold beverage while you enjoy listening to this talented soloist.

Mardi Gras weekend

is happening in **Ellicottville**. There is a **parade at 6:30pm on Saturday**, a weekend of activities, and live music at many of Ellicottville's hotspots. Check out the **What's Shak-in'** in EVL in today's issue on page 9 for more details.

The **Compass Bar and Grille** in Clymer is hosting the **Honkey Tonk Heroes**. Remember your boots so you can dance the night away. Come and listen to this energetic foot-stomping hands-clapping country band that plays 80s and 90s country tunes starting at 9pm.

The **Gowanda Historic Hollywood Theater** is having **"Out on the Tiles" - A Tribute to Led Zepplin**. They will perform classic tunes from the iconic Led Zepplin. Enjoy a flash from the past with music that generations have enjoyed.

The **Murder Mystery Dinner Train at New York and Lake Erie Railroad** in Gowanda begins a schedule of monthly rides with dates scheduled from now and through November. Enjoy the train ride while you and your group try to figure out who did it while you're having dinner.

Sunday, March 9th - The **Southern Tier Distillery** will be hosting **Bingo and Booze** from 1pm to 4pm. It is free to play, with a one drink minimum. There will be lots of fun and maybe you will win a prize.

Next week, may the luck of the Irish be upon you. Make sure you check out next week's issue to see what is happening in Chautauqua County for St. Patrick's Day's weekend of entertainment.

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Whether Outside or In, Live Music is Always Available

By, MOUTH SAY TONGUE

rock/pop/blues/folk set of covers with soulful vocals. Try the late-night menu.

Madigans joins the party with **Dj Persia** from 9-2am squeezing out the juice so you can really cut loose in the window on Washington. There's a dart board and pool tables for some competition or you can chill by the wood stove.

SATURDAY
The Gin Mill is the early bird with **The Chillbillys** from 2-5pm. Grab a late lunch or an early dinner or just do some day drinking. **Live-N-Kickin'** takes the stage from 8-12am. This band plays a rock/pop/alt/country set of covers to get you up and moving.

Up at The Valley all kinds of activities are taking place and Yodeler Lodge will host **PA Line** from 3-6pm. This band is a jam band playing an alt/roots/folk set of covers and originals.

Balloons is back with **Darkwater Duo & Company** from 6:30-10pm. This very popular Bradford band plays a pop/mod/alt/country rock set of covers with the occasional original. **Pat & Owen** are in the back bar from 10-1am and **Dj KT Stylez** will provide the thumpin' for the bumpin' from 10-2am.

Villaggio is a player with **The Brass Machine** around 7ish. This band plays jazz and Dixieland style music to accompany the best Italian menu in the southern tier. Check out the excellent wine list.

The Mill St Sports Pub is back with **AppleJack** from 8-11pm. This band plays a rock/pop/alt/country set of covers. This is the spot for all your sports viewing.

Last but not least Madigans is back and so is **Dj Persia** from 9-2am playin' some crunk so you can shake your junk from 9-2am.

SUNDAY

The Gin Mill is first, again, with **Brian Rick** from 2-5pm. Brian plays a rock/pop/alt/country set of covers. Don't forget they're open for breakfast on the weekends.

Yodeler Lodge is the place to be for pancake breakfast, dummy downhill, Sno-Bar to name a few and the return of **Darkwater Duo & Company** inside from 3-6pm.

Villaggio is back with its weekly **AYCE Pasta Night** and **Prime Rib Special** from 5-9pm. Fresh pasta with the toppings of your choice or savory prime cooked how you like it. **Grace Lougan** will provide the musical accompaniment from 5:30-8:30pm. Grace plays a mod/alt/folk/jazz set of covers and originals.

MONDAY

Monday is Strings and Wings at Balloons from 4-10pm. 50 cent wings with a fine selection of craft beers to wash em down. This weeks musical guest is **The Chillbillys** from 6-9pm. This husband-and-wife act plays a rock/pop/folk/country set of covers and originals.

The Gin Mill's Monday residency is hosted by **Drew Vics** from 7-10pm. Drew plays a rock/pop/alt set of covers utilizing some electronics for backing. If you like craft cocktails try the Carriage House Sidebar for some high-end spirits.

TUESDAY

The Gin Mill is back for its next to last time, Tuesday, with **Marty Peters** from 7-10pm. This Buffalo Music HOF'er plays a folk/blues set of covers from the 60-70's. Don't forget those 37 beers on tap.

WEDNESDAY

We've ended our

See "SHAKING" pg 10

Beat on the Street:

"What was the First Toy You Remember Playing with?"

By CHAD NEAL

The simplest of times were those days that involved pretending and mimicking the older people in our lives, personally and on screen. And the props we used to play adult were the toys that we received or made using items we found, like sticks and rocks. Toy stores were a huge thing for about a hundred years now, alas the ones we knew for the past several decades haven't fallen on the way side, like Kay Bee Toys and Toys R Us. Our first play things weren't our favorite as we grew and our imagination evolved; we enjoyed different ways to pretend being adults. The original one though in our memory can stick out, it may be caused by a picture or a real synapse of thought ranging back to those very young days we started comprehending some aspects of life. But from the beginning we used these kids' tools to become the big kids we are today. What was the first toy you remember playing with?



Elliott W.- The wii.

Pat M.- XL Tonka Machines in the Turtle Sandbox!

Todd P.- Stretch Armstrong!



Candice C.- ANIMAL from the Muppets!

Amanda E.- Corn flake doll and my mom's old cradle she had as a child.

Don P.- It's called Marvel the Mustang. I had a cowboy hat and a vest when I rode on him.



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Donors

CONT. FROM PG. 8

months of discussions and deliberations, but with Jeanette's dedication and persistence, eventually this policy was changed.

In 2006, Paul was finally successful in finding a kidney donor through a national website called matchingdonors.com. Through this national platform, Paul received a kidney from a man in Alaska named William Thomas. Although her son was receiving the kidney he needed, Jeanette wanted to continue to support those in her community who were still fighting this battle. She decided to help others needing kidney transplants by creating an organization called Kidney Connection.

Kidney Connection is a nonprofit charitable organization that assists in connecting people in our area who need kidney transplants to people who are selflessly willing to be donors. Kidney Connection helps connect individuals who live in Western New York and Northwestern Pennsylvania. The website, which is kidneyconnection.com, is free of charge for users. People needing kidneys can create a profile to share their stories and connect with possible donors. The website is a valuable tool, and to date, it has facilitated seventeen successful live kidney transplants between strangers. With it being a local organization, the recipients and donors all live relatively close, so there are not as many travel expenses. With this concept in mind, the organization's motto is "Neighbors Helping Neighbors." It is truly a blessing that Jeanette created this website. It has helped find donors who are good, altruistic people who feel empathy and compassion that inspires them to want to help save the lives of others that they don't even know.

One such case of the Kidney Connection's effectiveness in connecting recipients and donors is that of Jamestown resident Mitch Stone. In 2012, after a year of waiting for a kidney transplant, he became part of the Kidney Connection. He received a message through the website from a woman named Diane Bookhagen, who at the time lived in Springville, and she was willing and able to apply to be a match for Mitch. They met in Buffalo, and after some blood work and testing, they found that they were indeed a match. Shortly after that, they proceeded with the surgery, during which Diane donated one of her kidneys to Mitch.

Mitch gratefully shared his sentiments, saying, "Diane is not just my kidney donor. We have become good friends for life. Without her, I don't know what would have happened. Diane gave me a second chance to spend precious time with



One case of the Kidney Connection's effectiveness in connecting recipients and donors is that of Jamestown resident Mitch Stone. In 2012, after a year of waiting for a kidney transplant, he became part of the Kidney Connection. He received a message through the website from a woman named Diane Bookhagen, who at the time lived in Springville, and she was willing and able to apply to be a match for Mitch. They met in Buffalo, and after some blood work and testing, they found that they were indeed a match. Shortly after that, they proceeded with the surgery, during which Diane donated one of her kidneys to Mitch (pictured).

my family and to see my grandchildren grow. I hope that this article may inspire others to consider donating their organs to help others in need."

Diane has since moved to Buffalo to be closer to her own grandchildren. When Diane was asked about her experience of being Mitch's donor, Diane stated, "It was an amazing experience. People should be aware of living donor programs like the Kidney Connection and that it is possible to be happy and healthy with one kidney. Mitch and his wife have become lifelong friends with me and my husband. We are all Bill's fans, and sometimes we meet for lunch to talk about football. If I had another kidney to give, I would gladly do it all over again. Seeing Mitch return to good health was incredibly rewarding for me, and it has been very gratifying for me to see him spend time with his family."

Aside from organizations like Kidney Connection, there are various ways for people to connect regarding living organ donations. One such donor is Kristy Carder, a 44-year-old woman who is a resident of Gerry and is the general manager at EBC in Ellicottville. She is a working mother of four children and has four grandchildren.

One evening near Christmas of 2024, Kristy ran into an acquaintance named Steve, who resides in Kennedy. As they chatted, she noticed Steve appeared to be very unwell. During their conversation, he revealed that he was looking for a liver donor. They talked for a bit, and she expressed interest in donating a portion of her liver, knowing that the liver can regenerate itself. The next day, she reached out to him for a serious discussion, during which time he sent her a link to UPMC for testing to determine if she was a suitable match.

Kristy was found to have O-negative blood, which means she could donate to anyone. After completing all the necessary tests to ensure she was a good candidate, it was confirmed that she was

a match. Kristy will be having surgery on March 17, 2025, to donate 60% of her liver to Steve.

When asked why she chose to donate, she simply said, "Why not? Why not do this to help someone else, to save someone's life, and improve their quality of life! It's just something that I wanted to do." Steve was extremely thankful and told Kristy that she was his "Christmas miracle" during their discussions back in December. Let's hope that the luck of the Irish will be with them on St. Patrick's Day when Steve's liver transplant surgery takes place. Let's wish Steve and Kristy the best of luck.

Unfortunately, some people are not as lucky as Paul, Mitch, and Steve. Each year, thousands of people who are seriously ill are on waiting lists to receive organ transplants. Many individuals hope to donate their organs upon their death but living organ donations are also crucial for helping more people now, with increasingly better outcomes for the recipients. In a world that sometimes seems chaotic and with some negative elements, it's heartening to know that there are still altruistic people who are willing to donate organs, whether it be to a loved one or a stranger.

If you're thinking about becoming a living organ donor, it's essential to be in good health, be at least 18 years old, and connect with a compatible match. Many organizations and foundations can assist in connecting donors with recipients in desperate need. If you require a kidney or another organ, consider exploring online resources like the Kidney Connection, which has made a profound impact by saving many lives. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Jeanette Caprino, you can access the Kidney Connection's free website (thekidneyconnection.org), where "Neighbors Help Neighbors" in this important effort to save lives.

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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:

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

Carnival

CONT. FROM PG. 6

the crazy fun on the main street in Ellicottville. Bring your slicker and dress warm. March weather in Ellicottville is predictably unpredictable. This year the parade is Saturday, March 8 beginning at 6pm at Katy's Restaurant marching to the gazebo. You don't want

to miss it. And be sure to cheer on your very special King and Queen who have already left their mark on Ellicottville without being old folks! Come to the parade and see who has this special honor this year.

Bring your beads and stuff a can of chili or stew (and a generous check made out to United Church of Ellicottville Food Pantry) in your coat pocket

to drop into the baskets of the Holiday Valley Ski Patrollers who march along with the parade route in their Ski Patrol jackets, collecting items for the Ellicottville Food Pantry. It's a wonderful thing.

(For even more in-depth information on the event check out Jane Eshbaugh's article on page 5.)

Don't Forget to Visit Our Facebook Page!! Or Our Website: www.thevillagerny.com

Shakin

CONT. FROM PG. 9

same way for 40+ years at The Gin Mill for Wing, Wednesday from 7-10pm. **Brian Rick** is the musical host and hopefully he'll have a 40+ year run like Joe Wagner did.

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

Tribute ~ Jerrine Neff

Trailblazer from Williamsville with a Spark to Light Up a Room



By Carol Fisher Linn

“There are no strangers here. Only friends you haven’t met yet.” Wm. Butler Yeats

Jerrine Neff from Williamsville died this past February 8. She also left a hole in the fabric that is Holiday Valley and Ellicottville. I never met Jerrine, yet after speaking to her partner of 35 years, Al Winzenried, (he said they never married but considered themselves “recycled”) and several of her closest friends, I get the feeling that I lost an opportunity to meet one of God’s creatures who would have surely brightened my life. It is this writer’s wish that after you learn about her, you too will feel a loss of someone you may have needed or simply wanted in your life at one time or another - for the mentor that she was, or for the bearer of pure, unadulterated joy, zaniness, and laughter.

Al wanted to join her *broomball team and once he got to know her, he said, “I didn’t know women were made like this.” He got on the broomball team and over the years together they camped, hiked, skied (she), snowboarded (he) ... it was a “mixed marriage” says Al. They kayaked, mountain biked, played music, travelled and drank beer with the guys.

Her friend Sue Rohring told how Jerrine was

fearless, even taking on most men younger than she to race up and down the trails behind McCarty Hill on her mountain bike in fierce competitions.

A lover of all outdoor adventures, this single mom raised two boys, Jason and Jeremy, and was always happy to do boy things with them and make them lots of tie-die shirts which might often be found curing in the kitchen sink. And, oh yes, about the kitchen, she took particular joy in riding a unicycle in her kitchen. Doesn’t everybody?

She was known to scold vultures, loved feeding seagulls, and had a thing about sock monkeys - making them for her pals. If she were to drop her open purse, surely a pair of fake glasses with moustache and nose would fall out along with a nose flute. She was known to never be without these important items.

She might have been impish and unpredictable but before retiring she was a responsible adult like most of us (at least nine to five) as a Technologist at Praxair Inc. That didn’t stop her from finding time to establish a ski club (Friezurbunzoff Ski Club), the Bottom of the Chute Club, and broomball teams, or help feeding hungry bikers at the Raccoon Rally and National Trail days.

Funny stories abound about this trailblazer, this spark that lit up every room she entered, but what’s even more heartwarming is how she mentored people and wanted to see them succeed. One of her friends said, “she was my mentor - she encouraged me to do things I never thought I could do.” Friends I spoke to were at least 10 years younger but could not keep up with her.

Operating out of the box as she generally did, she was

still extremely sweet, soft spoken, and had a “wicked spontaneous humor.” Per Al, she was mentally quick on her proverbial feet, but would say of herself, “My mouth goes off before my brain does.” Yet, she never would say anything bad about people. If she didn’t approve of someone, she would say nothing. She was always the first person to welcome new people into gatherings to make them feel comfortable.

Jerrine and Al had a cabin in Ellicottville for a few years and their friends and family have many fond memories of the hours they spent there, even though they literally “roughed it”. She may be remembered for the funny costumes during pond skimming and Mardi Gras but she is warmly remembered for her generous heart, for her inclusion of everyone and for her boundless joy.

Alas, she was unstoppable until she wasn’t. Alzheimer’s found her and after an extended battle, it finally took her to a place of boundless eternal joy, recognizing Al to the end.

Thank you to Al Winzenried, Sue Rohring, and Cathy Brath for their input into this tribute to a woman who marched to her own drummer and brought everyone along for the parade. Even the seagulls.

There really are people who have never met a stranger, only friends they haven’t met yet. Jerrine Neff was one of those people.

A celebration of Life for Jerrine will be held on Sunday, May 25 from 12-4pm, at Island Park, 5577 Main Street in Williamsville.

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.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A LICENSE FOR AN ON-PREMISE LIQUOR LICENSE has been applied for by S&W Company LLC dba Ellicottville Brewing Company to sell beer, wine and liquor at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 20 Washington St. Ellicottville NY 14731 County of Cattaraugus for on premise consumption.

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.

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.

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BY ORDER OF THE TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE TOWN BOARD

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS- The Town of Ellicottville is accepting proposals for the floor resurfacing at the Town Center Rotary Auditorium located at 28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, NY 14731. Specifications and information can be obtained from the Engineering Department by calling 716-699-9005, Ext. 1 or by emailing ben.gross@evlengineering.com.

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~Zachary M. Golley, Ellicottville ~ 2000-2025



Ellicottville - Zachary M. Golley, 24, of Ellicottville passed away on March 1, 2025 at ECMC surrounded by his family, as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident. He was born on November 8, 2000, in Buffalo, son of John and Debbie (Lexer) Golley, of Ellicottville, who survive. Zachary was engaged to Emily Hall, of Ellicottville who survives.

A graduate of Ellicottville Central School, class of 2018, he was quickly well known throughout the area for his hard work and dedication to whatever craft called his name. Immediately following his graduation, Zach worked for the City of Salamanca DPW, followed by Cattaraugus County DPW, until the Village of Ellicottville recruited him to where he was recently employed. He would eventually go to water and sewer school, earning his title of Grade 1 Sewer Operator for the village of Ellicottville water department. Zach started his own business, “Zach of All Trades” where he continued to grow his landscaping and plowing company, and what turned into a diverse combination of moving company, scrapping company, heavy equipment operation, and whatever odd jobs came calling his name. Zach never turned down an opportunity to not only help others, but also make a quick buck in the process. Zach started demo derbies at the Cattaraugus County Fair when he was 16, and would continue to demo as well as partake in CRASH-O-RAMA, he especially loved the Enduro and Boat Races. He was a proud and persistent provider for his family, and especially for his beloved daughter, Bailey Rose Golley, whom he was the most proud of to have in April of 2024. Zach was a dedicated and loving father, who seamlessly continued his on-the-go lifestyle with slowing down to always make time for his fiancée, his daughter, and family. As much as Zach enjoyed being busy, he always found time to unwind with those important people in his life over a beer, going on the boat and surfing on Chautauqua Lake, a game of horseshoes, or even a simple conversation.

Of all the things that made Zach incredibly unique, his service may be remembered as his most memorable trait. From his time as a junior fighter to newly elected First Assistant Fire Chief of the Ellicottville Vol. Fire Dept., to becoming a certified EMT, Zach often was the first responder on calls and kept looking for more ways to be involved. He was also in charge of the ambulance maintenance for the Ellicottville/Great Valley Vol. Fire Dept. His life of service continued after his death, nobly donating organs to sustain lives of those in need.

Besides his parents, loving fiancée, and beloved daughter Bailey Rose, Zachary is survived by three sisters: Ashley (Connor) Hellwig of Little Valley, Becca (Tommy) Fales of Randolph, and Caitlyn (Kevin) Bower of Grand Island, as well as four nieces: Madeline, Addyson, Laura, Hallie, and five nephews: Kaiden, Lukas, Jackson, Tucker, and Cameron. Also surviving is a paternal grandmother, Barbara Golley of Ellicottville, several aunts, uncles, cousins, loving friends, his “Fire Fam” and especially Bailey’s godparents, Kyle and Haley Germain.

Zachary is predeceased by his paternal grandfather, David Golley, and maternal grandparents, Stuart (Janet) Lexer, and beloved family friend, Richard “Dick” Kruse.

Friends may call on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 from 3-7 pm, and Thursday, March 6, 2025 from 4-8 pm from Mentley Funeral Home Inc., 411 Rock City St. in Little Valley, NY.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, March 7, 2025 at 11 am from the Ellicottville Town Center, 28 Parkside Dr. in Ellicottville.

Burial will be in Holy Cross Cemetery in Ellicottville.

Memorials may be made to the family’s Go Fund Me page for his daughter, Bailey: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-zach-a-kind-hearted-individual-in-our-community?qid=8fbe4040777bc4bedfc395964b3f821d>

Online condolences may be made at www.mentleyfuneralhome.com.



In 1922 Washington, D.C., beach policeman Bill Norton enforced modesty by measuring the distance between women’s knees and the bottom of swimsuits. This peculiar practice reflected the strict morality codes of the time, where revealing too much skin was deemed inappropriate. Since then, we have progressed a lot. However, it’s still one of those rare historical photos for mature audiences that make you think about societal attitudes towards women’s fashion and the policing of public decency back then.

Views from Holiday Valley: Annual Telestock Sponsored by the City Garage Last Friday



Photos/Jon Elder

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