

**FREE**

# The Villager

EL LICOTTVILLE • CHAUTAUQUA

## Area Events

**AUDUBON LIGHTS**  
Saturday, March 29, • 7pm  
Jamestown NY

**GREAT WIDE, OPEN TRIBUTE TO TOM PETTY**  
Sat/Sun, March 8 • 2pm  
Allegany, NY

**COMEDY NIGHT AT EBC, LITTLE VALLEY**  
Saturday March 29,  
Little Valley, NY

**OPEN MIC WITH BOB HENRY AT BIG INLET BREWING**  
Saturday, March 30 • Big Inlet  
Brewing, Mayville, NY

**RTPI GUIDED GALLERY WALK**  
Saturday, April 4 • 2pm  
RTPI, Jamestown, NY

**INDOOR FARMERS MARKET**  
Saturday, April 5, • 9am  
Salamanca, NY

**PETER COTTONTAIL EXPRESS**  
Friday, Saturday April 5 • 1:30 pm  
Train Depot, Gowanda, NY

**SK8 THE 80'S AT NORTHWEST ARENA**  
Sat/Sun, April 5 • 1pm  
Jamestown, NY

**SOUTHERN TIER, SYMPHONY PRESENTS. ATLANTIC BRASS QUINTET**  
Sunday, April 11 • 7:30pm  
Salamanca, NY

**2025 HAPPY HALF MARATHON, 5K & BEER MILE**  
Wednesday, May 10 • 9pm  
Ellicottville, NY

**KARAOKE FRIDAYS**  
Friday March 28 • 7pm  
Shawbucks, Jamestown, NY

**FREDONIA FARMERS MARKET**  
Saturday, April 5 • 9pm  
Fredonia, NY

**COMEDY NIGHT AT ELLICOTTVILLE BREWING**  
Saturday, March 29, • 7:30pm  
Ellicottville, NY

**JAMESTOWN WINTER FARMERS MARKET**  
Wednesday March 29 • 7pm  
Jamestown, NY

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## Celebrating Easter April 20, 2025

### Easter Traditions are Traditionally in Flux



Who doesn't need a butter lamb, freshly made kielbasa, colored Easter eggs or beautifully decorated pisanki. Buffalo's Broadway Market is open six days a week, Monday-Saturday from 8am-5pm. They are located at 999 Broadway Avenue in Buffalo, NY 14212 and can be reached by calling (716) 893-0705.

BY CAROL FISHER-LINN

**Early Head's Up**....Easter may seem far away but considering the time it takes to get ready it is around the corner. (Easter is late this year - April 20 (see detailed

explanation, page 8).) Hoping you heed that warning, here are some hints about taking your annual trek to the famous Broadway Market in Buffalo.

SEE "MARKET" PG. 6

## Sprague's Maple Farms

### Celebrating NYS Maple Weekends this Month



Randall Sprague stands in front of the evaporator at Sprague's Maple Farms where all of the sap is turned into syrup.

BY KATE BARTLETT

Sprague's Maple Farms in Portville, NY, is one of many maple farms celebrating NYS Maple Weekends March 22-23 and 29-30. Founded over 40 years ago, Sprague's has grown into one of the world's

finest purveyors of pure and natural maple syrup products from the picturesque Allegany Mountain region.

Randy Sprague began 'sugarin' over forty years ago as a hobby. "I got started as a kid,"

SEE "SPRAGUE'S" PG. 5

## "An Evening with Carson Waterman"

### Presented by St. Bonaventure, April 2, 2025



At St. Bonaventure University's 165th Commencement Exercises, on May 18th in the Reilly Center Arena, Waterman will be awarded an honorary doctorate. Dr. Jeff Gingerich, the university's president, said "Carson Waterman is one of the most significant artists Western New York has ever produced."

BY BARBARA ARNSTEIN

The art of Carson Waterman, a distinguished painter, designer, draftsman and sculptor, reflects Haudenosaunee history and culture, and combines realism with abstract symbols. (The Haudenosaunee are also known as the Iroquois, or Six Nations).

An exhibit of his work, at the Burchfield Penney Art Center in Buffalo until June 1st, is entitled "Art Saved My Life". Here is how that happened:

"When I was in Vietnam, cutting bamboo to clear a field, I offered a drink to the

SEE "WATERMAN" PG. 7

## Ellicottville Depot Lives On

### Another Historical Move for Legendary Landmark



BY NED CHALA

An iconic landmark in Ellicottville is closing its doors after decades of successful business. The old train station that was taken to its present spot on the railroad tracks almost fifty years ago from its original address on Mill Street in the village is no longer going to be the après ski spot for hundreds of thousands of people who have entered its doors. The AF Department of *The Villager* has

learned that a large corporate entity has purchased the Ellicottville Depot Restaurant and property from the Brown family. They are still open on the weekends now until they close the doors. The masses have already and will show their undying devotion for the celebrated restaurant, bar, concert hall - and in the past a ski shop and even a laundromat. The original owners had

SEE "DEPOT" PG. 6

## Sneak Peek Inside this Edition...

**Ellicottville Summer Music Fest. Headliner: Grammy Nominated Country Star Hailey Whitters .. pg. 5**



ELLICOTTVILLE - The Ellicottville Summer Music Festival is set to be another unforgettable event this year, with Hailey Whitters as the headliner. Known for her heartfelt lyrics and captivating performances, Whitters will bring her unique blend of country music to the picturesque slopeside at Holiday Valley in Ellicottville, New York.

**Merritt Estate Winery Adds to Team... Pg. 3 Celebrated Winery Announces Marketing Member**

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## Tony Cassetta's Legacy

### Apperception to the E'ville Community



Though Tony was born and raised on the West Side of Buffalo, he had many roots in Italy and fostered them in Ellicottville, NY as well.

part of the Ellicottville community for over 50 years as a skier and ski instructor at Holiday Valley. His generous endowment has made a lasting impact on the school's music program, and will continue to do so for many years to come.

Anthony was born and raised on the West Side of Buffalo to a large family as he is one of 8 children. His oldest brother, Joseph, started Cassetta Insurance Company in 1958, and Tony

SEE "CASSETTA" PAGE 7

## CHQ. Co. Humane Society

### Celebrating 120 Years of Service



The Second Annual All-Star Hockey Game with Community Through Hockey fundraiser for the Chautauqua Co. Humane Society will be held on Sunday, April 6th at the Northwest Arena in Jamestown from 1-5pm. The game will be between the North and South County All-Stars. Admission is free. The doors open at 1pm, and the game starts at 2pm. In the lobby, there will be adoptable pets to greet visitors. Additionally, there will be baskets for raffle, donated by local businesses and community members.

BY DARLENE BRACE

How you can support those who support the animals we love...

The Chautauqua County Humane Society (CCHS) is celebrating its 120th anniversary, having been established on January 9, 1905. As an independent nonprofit, CCHS aims to prevent cruelty to animals and empower the community to improve animals' lives. Funded by local businesses and community

SEE "HUMANE" PAGE 10



*"Kindness Is Key."*



would have them do unto you"; I recall are some famous words of reflection. The dynamics of the world seem to be spiraling out of control for some years now, but I believe life is like a pendulum. Don't regret, don't fight, forgive and move on; if you can't, no one around you will be able to either.

If you have a positive story to share, please share it with us, we love to spread a good word. We are easily reached by contacting info@thevillagerny.com or simply log on to www.thevillagerny.com and click on the "General Submissions" tab. You can also call our offices at (716) 699-2028. We look forward to hearing from you. Until next week, enjoy the read!

When someone treats you with honesty and integrity every day, appreciate that and give them the same respect. As our writer Chad Neal would say, "One Love".

*-Yours in writing,  
Jeanine Caprino Zimmer*

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• Rochelle Dunkleman... April 8th  
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•Tammy Lockwood... April 15th • Brian Vilka... April 15th  
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**Letter to the Readers: Christian's Plumbing LLC**

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**Roadside Attractions, History & Americana**

**Area Spotlight: Kazoo Factory – Eden, NY**

EDEN, NY - The Kazoo Factory, Museum, & Gift Shop in Eden, New York, is home to the Giant Kazoo, a playful and oversized tribute to the humble musical instrument.



This site is not only a working kazoo factory but a museum that celebrates the history and cultural significance of kazoos. Established in 1916, it is the first metal kazoo factory in the United States and remains the only one of its kind in North America.

Prohibition. Visitors can learn about the manufacturing process and even create their own kazoo during a tour. The Giant Kazoo itself serves as a whimsical landmark, embodying the quirky charm of this musical instrument. This site is a delightful blend of history, craftsmanship, and humor perfect for anyone who appreciates unique landmarks. -

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Historic Coaster Foundation Spotlights Great Wooden Ride



issues but eventually commenced in 2006, leading to the coaster's opening in 2008.

Ravine Flyer II features a terrain-based wooden track that spans 3,061 feet, with a height of 85 feet and a first drop of 120 feet at a 60-degree angle. The coaster reaches speeds up to 60 mph and includes ten airtime hills. Notably, it crosses over Pennsylvania Route 832 via a 165-foot-long arch bridge, emulating the path of its predecessor and making it the only ride to cross a four-lane highway.

Upon its debut, Ravine Flyer II was acclaimed in the amusement industry, winning the Golden Ticket Award for Best New Ride in 2008 and ranking as the 11th best wooden coaster in the world that same year. It has since maintained a strong reputation, consistently ranking among the top wooden coasters globally.

Ravine Flyer II is a wooden roller coaster located at Waldameer Park & Water World in Erie, Pennsylvania. It was designed by The Gravity Group and opened on May 17, 2008, as a modern successor to the original Ravine Flyer, which operated from 1922 until 1938.

The original Ravine Flyer was dismantled

in 1938 following a fatal accident in which a passenger fell to his death. The idea to resurrect the coaster emerged in the late 1990s, with initial designs by Custom Coasters International (CCI). However, due to CCI's bankruptcy in 2002, The Gravity Group took over the project. Construction faced several delays due to legal challenges and zoning

Ellicottville Historical Society

Looking for Volunteers to Enhance Programming

The Ellicottville Historical Society is putting together a group of Society supporters to plan historical society museum improvements, options for expansions to the historical society museum to create more/appropriate storage for historical items, funding options for improvements and

expansion, etc. No specific experience is required to get involved in the group but we would welcome those with building improvement, repair or restoration experience. Please comment here if you would like to be involved. We will reach out with a private message to get your email address to help

coordinate meetings of the Building Planning Group. If you or an acquaintance would like to participate in the group, please let the historical society know at sararae77@roadrunner.com. She will collect the email addresses to schedule the first meeting. Thank you for your help.

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Merritt Estate Marketing

Celebrated Winery Announces New Team Member



excited to begin a new journey with Merritt and help grow their business throughout NYS and PA. The Chamber was a great experience, and I enjoyed my decade long run working with local small businesses and community leaders. I'm looking forward to focusing on a local business that already has a great history and presence throughout the region and help grow their award-winning brand."

Merritt Winery was established in 1976 and will celebrate their 50th Anniversary next year. They have a vision to strengthen their brand. Decker brings more than 20 years of marketing and sales experience to the team.

"After an extensive search, we were quite pleased to find someone of Jamie's caliber with her years of marketing experience and her vast network of contacts both

individual and professional. We are very excited to have Jamie join our team and are excited to see what the future holds!" Jason Merritt, Co-Owner and General Manager Merritt Estate Winery.

Merritt Estate Winery was one of the first farm wineries organized in Chautauqua County under regulations established by Governor Carey in 1976; but the history of the Merritt Estate dates all the way back to the late 1800's. Their award-winning wines and other products are offered in their tasting room, at various events they attend and host, and are distributed across New York State. Merritt Estate Winery also own and operates The Slush Bus which can be booked for events throughout the summer season. For more information on Merritt Estate Winery, visit them online at www.merrittstatewinery.com or find them on social media.

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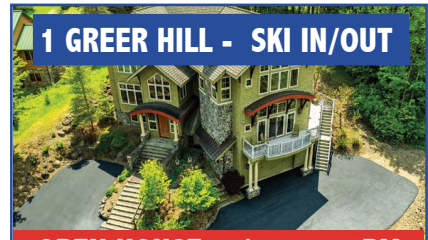
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# The Day Danger Dreaded Daring

## The Ultimate Spring Skiing Adventure

By DAN BALKIN

Mount Washington, NH has an interesting resume: It's 6,228 ft. summit is the highest in the Northeast / Due to a confluence of natural causes, despite many of the world's peaks being much higher, the highest winds ever recorded on a mountain - 231 MPH - occurred here on April 12, 1934 / Skiers flock here in the springtime, but there are no lifts / They hike up over 4,000 vertical feet to access the slopes / The ravine where they ski fills in with 50 plus feet of snow in the winter, giving it a glacier-like quality for late spring skiing / The headwall of this ravine has a maximum pitch of 55- degrees, a pitch scraping the edge of what a person can ski without going into free fall.

Toni Matt, one of the greatest skiers of his era, also has an interesting resume: A fellow countryman and protégé of legendary Austrian instructor Hannes Schneider who also fled his homeland to escape Hitler's dictatorship / U.S. Downhill Champion in 1939 and 1941 / Young man who earned U.S. citizenship by serving as a lieutenant in the famed 10th Mountain Division during WWII / U.S. Ski team coach in the years following WWII / Lowell Thomas, a pioneering radio broadcaster and skiing enthusiast called him "The Babe Ruth of Skiing" - Wow. But his resume is missing one remarkable feat - arguably the most daring and amazing single run ever accomplished in the history of alpine skiing.

In the 1930s, there was a race conducted at Mount Washington called the

"Inferno." The name was co-opted from an Inferno race in Murren, Switzerland, where modern ski racing was born. The Inferno on Mount Washington was not for the faint of heart. One had to climb, lugging wooden skis with primitive bindings, to the starting gate at the summit of Mount Washington. The course was four miles long and went from the mountain's peak to the base in the town of Pinkham Notch. Toni burst through the starting gate and was soon going 45 mph on chattering wooden skis on the icy summit slope while approaching the legendary Tuckerman's Ravine headwall. Tuckerman's has a 40 to 55-degree pitch and almost 1,000 feet of vertical drop. Even accomplished skiers equate the 55-degree pitch area to "skiing down an elevator shaft." Toni had never been to Mt. Washington before, was probably semi-exhausted from the climb to the peak and misjudged where the headwall began. To encourage drama and daring, the only racing gate for the four-mile course was jabbed into the snow on the 55-degree portion of the headwall. Toni's original plan was to do two turns on the headwall (incredibly daring), but as he hurtled over the precipice of the headwall into Tuckerman's Ravine, he realized that any attempt to slow down could result in a dangerous crash. In a split-second decision, Toni Matt dared to do what has never been done before or since - he "schussed" the headwall, going straight down. Most skiers, even the racers, considered this headwall so fearsome that they did a series of turns



Legendary Skier Toni Matt in 1939.

to control their speed on the pitch (even highly skilled skiers normally do "check" turns). The 3,000 spectators looked on with slack-jawed amazement as Toni sped by at speeds estimated to be 80-85mph (modern detective work of a film of Toni's run has verified these speeds).

How remarkable was his victory? One of the greatest skiers of the era, Dick Durance, who won the Inferno race in 1934, came in second place - a full 60 seconds behind Toni Matt. In fact, in 1934, Dick Durance, won the race in 12 minutes and 35 seconds. In 1939, the year of this legendary feat, Toni Matt won the race in 6 minutes and 29 seconds - remarkably nearly halving the winning time from 1934. In a final feat of daring and danger that day, near the bottom of the course, Toni momentarily caught an edge, managed to recover his balance, but missed a tree by inches. After the race, Toni Matt commented about his fearless schuss of the dangerous Tuckerman headwall: "I was nineteen and stupid with strong legs." Indeed.



Racer on Tuckerman's Ravine Headwall in the referred to "Inferno" race.

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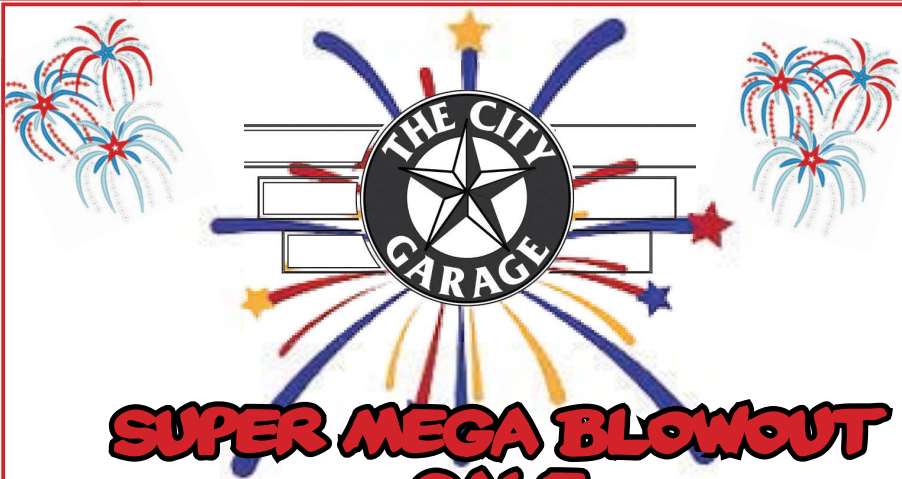
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# Ellicottville Summer Music Festival

## Grammy Nominated Country Singer Hailey Whitters Headlines



directions.” Whitters delivered on that promise two years later with her third album, “Raised”, which earned her performances on Jimmy Kimmel Live!, The Today Show, and Kelly Clarkson alongside profiles everywhere from NPR’s Weekend Edition to The New Yorker. Festival dates at Coachella, Stagecoach, and Bonnaroo followed, as did tours with Luke Combs, Shania Twain, Dierks Bentley, Eric Church, and Luke Bryan. Rolling Stone proclaimed “Raised” the top country album of 2022; lead single *Everything She Ain’t* went platinum and cracked the top 20 at country radio; and Whitters took home the ACM Award for New Female Artist of the Year in addition to garnering her first CMA and Grammy nominations. “Fans started calling me the ‘Corn Queen’ because I’m from Iowa”, Whitters explains. “At first, it seemed kind of silly, but the more I thought about it, the more I loved the duality of it. Corn is this simple, humble crop, and ‘queen’ implies royalty passed down through blood. I come from a long line of blue-collar farmers, construction workers, and bootstrappers. I’ve been out here for over a decade brushing my teeth in truck stop bathrooms, sleeping on hotel floors, and driving myself from gig to gig. It’s not glamorous, but I’m proud of it. I like the idea of a queen with a little grit and elbow grease.” Whitters more than lives up to the crown on her highly anticipated fourth album, “Corn Queen”, showcasing not only her relentless work ethic, but also her undeniable talent and charm. Recorded once

again in Nashville with longtime collaborator (and now-husband) Jake Gear, the collection is a rousing reflection on Whitters’ midwestern roots and the joys and struggles of small-town living. The writing is whip smart, full of clever wordplay and evocative storytelling, and the performances are utterly intoxicating, walking the line between classic and contemporary country with a healthy dose of bluegrass energy thrown in for good measure. Whitters has long been recognized as a master craftswoman, but “Corn Queen” solidifies her status as a genuine star, one with the wisdom—and the guts—to trust her instincts as she blazes her own singular trail through the industry. “This show will definitely be one for all ages to enjoy,” said Barb Pump, Executive Director of the Ellicottville Chamber. “We wanted to bring in a performer that would get the crowd up on their feet dancing, singing and living their best life! This performance will be a bona fide great time! We look forward to having another exciting Summer Music Festival!” Tickets to Ellicottville’s Summer Music Festival to see Hailey Whitters, at Holiday Valley Resort are on sale now and can be purchased through [ellicottvillenyc.com](http://ellicottvillenyc.com) or by calling 800-349-9099. For additional details about this year’s Summer Music Festival or to learn about other events and festivals planned in Ellicottville, follow Ellicottville, NY on Facebook and @visitellicottville on Instagram. Check out the show at [www.ellicottvillenyc.com](http://www.ellicottvillenyc.com).

ELLCOTTVILLE - The Ellicottville Summer Music Festival is set to be another unforgettable event this year, with Hailey Whitters as the headliner. Known for her heartfelt lyrics and captivating performances, Whitters will bring her unique blend of country music to the picturesque slopeside at Holiday Valley in Ellicottville, New York.

### ABOUT THE BAND

Born and raised in Shueyville, Iowa, Hailey Whitters moved to Nashville at 17 and spent much of the next decade grinding it out under the radar as an artist and writer. She released a well-received debut, “Black Sheep”, in 2015, and garnered early industry attention landing cuts with big name artists like Martina McBride, Alan Jackson, and Little Big Town, but it was Whitters’ 2020 sophomore effort, “The Dream”, that truly began opening doors. The Washington Post called it, “the year’s deepest country album,” while Rolling Stone declared it, “the type of record that could propel an artist as talented as Whitters in a million different

## Sprague’s

CONT. FROM COVER

explains Randy. “I visited area farms making syrup with friends. I started tapping my own trees when I was about 10 years old in my own driveway. It quickly became my hobby and just kept growing.”

In 1976, Randy bought his first commercial sugar bush, or forest stand of maple trees to tap for the production of maple syrup. “We began bringing our syrup to food shows and our products became well-known,” explains Randy. “Now our products are sold across the country.”

The farm has expanded from a few hundred taps to around 25,000, and acquired more property in order to adequately expand and meet the needs of the farm. In 2001, Sprague purchased the property of its current location, at 1048 Portville Obi Rd in Portville. “I’d had my eye on this property for a while,” recalls Randy. “I knew it’d be perfect for our maple farm; it’s what I’d always envisioned.”

The property boasts 90 acres nestled in the beautiful countryside alongside a picturesque pond. The main building features a full-service restaurant along with a gift shop to purchase maple products. The maple syrup production line is also housed in this facility, allowing guests to watch product being made.

The 250-seat restaurant opened in February 2001 initially serving breakfast foods to feature Sprague’s maple products. However, the restaurant has also become well-known for their hot turkey sandwiches. “These are



**In 2001, Sprague purchased the property of its current location, at 1048 Portville Obi Rd in Portville. The property boasts 90 acres nestled in the beautiful countryside alongside a picturesque pond. The main building features a full-service restaurant along with a gift shop to purchase maple products. The maple syrup production line is also housed in this facility, allowing guests to watch product being made.**

one of our top selling items on the menu,” says Randy. “The roasted turkey dinners are our #1 selling item. We raise about 2,000 free-range turkeys on our property; the turkey is exclusive to our restaurant.”

Sprague’s Maple Farms makes a variety of maple products, including syrup, maple cream, maple sugar, jelly, and granulated maple sugar. “There is something for everyone,” says Randy. “We offer various sizes, prices and quantities.” Sprague’s ships large orders across the country and into Europe.

Randy describes maple season as short and intense. “Every season is different and totally dependent on the weather,” explains Randy. “Ideally, we have freezing nights and warming days for the sap to flow freely. This season, we started on the first of March, last year we started in January, but it’s typically from mid-February to end of March.” Maple sap is a diluted liquid, with only 2% sugar content. “You have to boil away about 40-45 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup,” explains Randy. “This year, we’ve averaged 65 gallons of sap for one gallon of syrup; we’re working twice as hard for the same amount of product.”

It’s a delicate balance to keep their syrup in stock year-round. “Our syrup is stocked in various specialty shops around the county, and we offer shipping online. We don’t want to overproduce, but we don’t want to run out of our products either. We work hard to find that balance.”

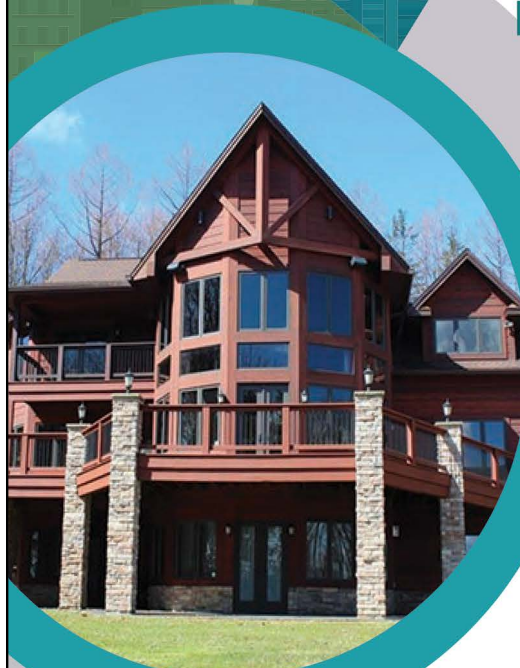
During NYS Maple Weekends, Sprague’s will offer maple syrup demonstrations behind their main building from 10-4pm both Saturday and Sunday. Guests will be able to take a wagon ride through their property back to their sugarhouse in the woods where they can watch a wood-fired evaporator producing syrup. They’ll also have maple cake donuts, sugar on snow, maple chardonnay and the opportunity to sample different grades of maple syrup. “It’s sure to be a fun weekend and a great family experience,” says Randy. “We invite everyone to come out and experience what we have here on the farm.”

For more information, visit [spraguesmaple.com](http://spraguesmaple.com), or visit Sprague’s for their second NYS Maple Weekend on March 29-30 from 10-4pm. The restaurant will be open regular hours from 8am-8pm both days.

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As immigrants came to Buffalo's east side in the late 1800's, they sought to preserve their European traditions and heritage. A group of citizens donated a piece of land at 999 Broadway and a European style open-air market was created. 135 years ago on March 26, The Broadway Market opened for the first time. Many Buffalonians have treasured memories of the beloved market over the decades. As Easter approaches, we recall our memories of buying butter lambs and pierogis from the Broadway Market. What do you remember?

## Market

CONT. FROM COVER

Yes, everyone should do it – pretend you are going to a European market because that is what it is like!

No longer outdoors, as many in Europe are, it nonetheless has all the flavor, sounds, smells and excitement – and crowds - of an old-world market. I grew up going to the Broadway market. First by trolley, then by bus. Our Family was Polish and we needed to get our fix of cultural foods. We weren't alone.

As immigrants came to Buffalo's east side in the late 1800's (even before many of them) they sought to preserve their European traditions and heritage. A group of citizens donated a piece of land at 999 Broadway and a European style open-air market was created. (And yes, I remember those days, watching them catch and butcher a duck

for Mama's soup from the famer at the back stalls). It morphed into a cultural spot where business and socializing took place. If you wanted the latest gossip, you went to the market. East Buffalo grew up around the market and the area became Buffalo's second largest business section. As shoppers made their way through the many stalls, they could follow their noses, or just look for delicacies from all over the planet – even then! African dates, Spanish olives, Italian cheeses, Kosher needs, smoked salmon, fresh herring rare wines and even jellied eels.

An indoor market sprung up with some outdoor stalls remaining for live chickens, geese, etc. or where the fruit and vegetable farmer preferred to sell to customers from their battered old farm trucks. In the early 1920's my mom woke at 3am to ride, bundled up, in her grandfather's open wagon from West Falls to take his vegetables to the Broadway market by 6am. The open

market was also where shoppers found the yard sale items. Maybe an old steel wheel for the tractor, a leather strap for the horse carriage, or an early 1800's framed daguerreotype or colorful pastoral scene of sheep in a field to brighten their wallpapered walls. Over time, the market had three different structures (the newest built in 1956 – renovated in 1980 – now 90,000 square feet of retail space with two levels of parking), but to this day it maintains its old-fashioned concept of selling farm fresh, exotic and unusual products, just as it had since day one.

Who doesn't need a butter lamb, freshly made kielbasa, colored Easter eggs or beautifully decorated pisaniki. Pisaniki derive from an ancient tradition when eggs, the symbol of life, were endowed with magical properties and were thought to ensure both a plentiful and good health. These eggs are exchanged among

SEE "MARKET", PG. 10



The decor that added up over the years on the walls and ceiling show the style and taste of the owners, and that is what inspired philanthropist Abe Rifuls to make a plan to bring the historic landmark to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Owners, Vicky & Chris "Moose" Brown, pictured far right in first photo with friends.

## Depot

CONT. FROM COVER

the building moved in a historical undertaking by lifting it from its original foundation on the corner across from Rockwell Avenue on Mill Street next to the underpass trestle and placing it on a railcar to move it to the field it resides, for now. Before the Wildflower condominium complex was the neighboring lot, the memorable place hosted many fun events on the property. The Birdwalk regatta ended there and it was a huge party, resulting in a mud bog local good ol' boys participated in, running their 4x4s through a huge mud hole in the field. And the epic music shows there really brought in the crowds as well. Not to mention the Beach Parties that many regale as the biggest party of the ski season.

The decor that added up over the years on the walls and ceiling show the style and taste of the owners, and that is what

inspired philanthropist Abe Rifuls to make a plan. The AF Department of *The Villager* heard of his idea and promptly asked him about it. Rifuls said he wants to be the main purchaser at the auction he told *The Villager* he knows about. Intrigued he was asked about what was being auctioned. "Everything on the walls, the equipment I suppose, the bar and if I am right in thinking what the land purchaser is planning on doing with the building, I am buying that too and moving it the same way they did all those years ago!" Rifuls said.

Rifuls is a member at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, OH and told *The Villager* he plans on using rail to take the whole building to Cleveland as a landmark of true rock and roll history. "I want to buy everything at the auction and carefully and strategically move it to the Rock Hall on Lake Erie. If I can't get it all the way there on rail, we'll get it to the lake and ship it from there on boat. It will be historical and wonderful!", Rifuls exclaimed.

He didn't want to jinx his

plans so he has investors ready to make high bids to carry out his agenda. He added in not so many words. He said he is in talks with the railroad already and hinted they may have to cut the building in half, though he really doesn't want to do it that way. "I want to move it like they did forty some years ago!" He said, "I have so many ideas about how to get this done, and I will be coming to Ellicottville to make further plans on *April Fools Day*!"



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Casetta met his wife, Barbara, in his late 60's, who is also a skier, and they made many happy memories in Ellicottville as well as traveling the world. (Both photos taken at Holiday Valley.)

## Casetta

CONT. FROM COVER

joined a few years later after obtaining his business degree from the University at Buffalo. Now 67 years later, Casetta Insurance remains a solid business in the Buffalo area with 12 employees and 2 locations. Around 1963, Tony was looking for an active hobby, so he decided to learn how to ski. He frequented Holiday Valley in Ellicottville and eventually bought property in the area. "My Uncle was a lively, driven individual," describes Joseph Casetta, Tony's nephew. "He was a free spirit of sorts. He knew what he wanted and he stayed true to himself. While his friends were settling down, getting married and starting families, Tony wanted to maintain his independence. He was a spontaneous, high-energy guy, so he took up skiing in his late 20's," explains Joe.

Tony eventually became a ski instructor and enjoyed his time on the slopes in Ellicottville. He built a ski chalet and spent his winters there. "It became his home away from home," says Joe. Skiing became a big part of

Tony's life, and he served as president of the Ellicottville Ski Club twice, and was a ski instructor until his 70's. Tony skied frequently in Europe, spending 1 month in Austria every year, in the small, elite town of Lech, as well as time in Arlberg in The Apls.

He met his wife, Barbara, in his late 60's, who is also a skier, and they made many happy memories here in Ellicottville as well as traveling the world. "Tony loved skiing in Ellicottville, and he valued his friendships he made here," says Barbara. "We appreciated the warm, welcoming community and spent many seasons on the slopes as well as playing tennis and golf."

Barbara describes Tony as a very community and civic-minded individual. He served on the Boys and Girls Club board and was named "Man of the Year" for his giving of time and wealth. He also served on the Studio Arena board in Buffalo and is a lifetime trustee of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Tony also sought to give back to the community of Ellicottville. He served on many boards throughout his years in Ellicottville and wanted to make a difference in programs that served the community. He donated a generous portfolio to the Ellicottville Library from

his personal collection of Norman Rockwell illustrations. "Tony loved Norman Rockwell, and he donated his personal Tom Sawyer portfolio by this American icon to the library in order to increase its exposure and allow more people to view and appreciate this work of art."

Tony had a deep appreciation for music and the arts. "Tony wanted to help increase exposure to the arts and wanted to provide opportunities for area children to attend musical performances, shows, and other presentations that might not be offered in the immediate area," explains Barbara. In 1996, he set up a fund for the Ellicottville Central Schools endowing \$30,000 to the arts department. "Tony generously donated \$20,000 to the ECS music department," explains Joe. "He pledged if the community could raise another \$10,000, he would match this donation, allotting a grand total of \$40,000 to the music and arts departments."

This funding is still in operation today, and has granted many opportunities for students including attending philharmonic concerts and has purchased several instruments. "Several times throughout

SEE "CASETTA", Pg. 10



Carson Waterman showcases his "survival artwork" by painting a Haudenosaunee trooper, helicopter and Hiawatha Belt amid the backdrop of the Vietnam War. Photo courtesy of Carson Waterman.

## Waterman

CONT. FROM COVER

man guarding me", he said. "As I was handing my canteen to him, he was killed by a sniper. I was very lucky and I wasn't hit. After that I did a sketch of a lieutenant and he showed it to the division commander, who said, 'I want this man working for me'. I was then transferred to the Public Information office, to do illustrations and sketches for stories. Years later, I met my former platoon leader, who told me that I missed a very bad battle and probably would've been killed if I hadn't been reassigned".

Since his return from Vietnam, he has used his art to help ensure his culture's survival. Since he is a member of the Snipe clan of the Seneca Nation, he helped establish the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum on the Seneca Nation's Allegany Territory. He served there as an exhibit designer, illustrator and artist. (In 2018, the museum relocated to the Onohsagwe:de' Cultural Center.) His current

exhibit at the Burchfield-Penney Art Center, at Buffalo State University, features eight paintings honoring Haudenosaunee Clan Mothers of the Seneca Nation. "I did large paintings, each 5' high by 7' long", he said, "because larger works demand visual attention".

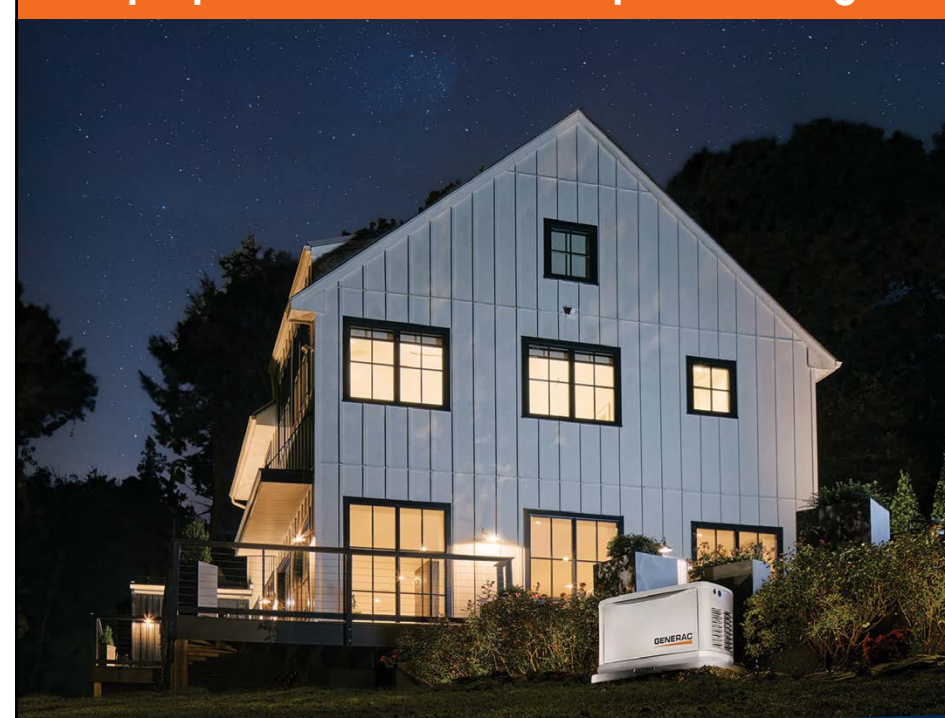
From 1988 to 2003, he sold his art through a gallery in Salamanca. One of his paintings is on display at the New York State Museum's Cultural Education Center in Albany, NY. Other places his work can be seen include the Delevan-Canisius subway station and Erie Basin Marina in Buffalo; the Seneca Allegany Resort and Casino; and Allegheny River and Chautauqua Lake rest areas, community centers, nursing homes and fire halls. About his subway station artwork, which is 4' high and 20' long, he commented, "I did the mosaic tile-cutting myself, and devised my own method".

"An Evening with Carson Waterman", an event at which he will talk about the stories behind his work and the messages it conveys about his culture, will be presented by St.

Bonaventure University, at 5pm on Wednesday, April 2nd. The presentation will be in the Rigas Theater of the Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts. Images of Waterman's work will be projected on a screen as he speaks. He will be interviewed by Caleb Abrams, a multimedia artist and Associate Producer of the 2017 Seneca documentary, "Lake of Betrayal: The Story of Kinzua Dam". Admission to the event is free and open to all, but seats must be reserved in advance, through ticketor.com/quickarts. The doors will open at 4:30pm. A recording of the interview will be used in an immersive art exhibit featuring Waterman's work at the Quick Center in the Fall.

At St. Bonaventure University's 165th Commencement Exercises, on May 18th in the Reilly Center Arena, he will be awarded an honorary doctorate. Dr. Jeff Gingerich, the university's president, said "Carson Waterman is one of the most significant artists Western New York has ever produced."

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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 2011 as part of Jamestown Area Medical Associates. Dr. Woloszyn is currently affiliated with Olean General Hospital.

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## Calculating the Easter Calendar

### Understanding Why the Holiday Fluctuates



**Easter's date fluctuates because it's based on the lunar cycle, specifically the first Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox, which is around March 21st.**

BY CAROL FISHER-LINN  
*Easter is when this year???? The why of this "moveable feast".....*

The Christian church has some crazy customs that we shake our heads and wonder about, but the "moveable feast" is one that gets calendar watchers a little crazy. And rightly so. After all, if Christmas is every December 25th (well, almost, depending on which calendar you use) and St. Patrick's Day is always March 17th, then why can't Easter, the BIGGEST holiday of the church, be on its own special date – forever set, never changing, amen. After all, in a nutshell, Easter is what it's all about!

The date for Easter changes each year but always falls in March or April. The timing is linked to the phases of the moon and the Jewish festival of Passover. Remember, we are talking 30AD here, so we've gone through lots of calendars.

Without getting too technical, here's a little church calendar lesson

that might clarify a few things about Easter. There's a thing called The Paschal Triduum, meaning three days – Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Sunday. It is the apex of the entire liturgical calendar. Holy Week is the most solemn and glorious week in Christianity, the pinnacle of the liturgical year. Bet you didn't know it is more sacred than Christmas! This is because Holy Week commemorates the final week of Our Lord's life, the very purpose for which Christmas happened (sj.com). This is, of course, followed by the most significant date on the Christian calendar, Easter Sunday, and the empty tomb.

But what and why a moveable feast, and why is Easter one of them? As a child learning catechism, I had a devil of a time saying "moveable" feast, always wanting to call it "removable." The nuns brought out the ruler if they heard me say that forbidden word! And if the priest heard, I ran for cover! Seriously, let me try to sort out this conundrum for you.

Early Christians lived in many countries with different calendars, so it wasn't practical to fix the date of Easter on just one calendar, such as the Roman one on which our modern calendar is based. (Although, why not?) Instead, the powers-to-be decreed it had to be calculated in a calendar-neutral way, using the Spring Equinox, then the first full moon after that. Since the phases of the moon vary in relation to dates on our solar calendar, the date of Easter varies accordingly from year to year. (Whew! did you get all that?) While in theory this calculation should have kept Easter close to Passover in timing, differences between the Roman and Jewish calendars over time have produced what we now see: sometimes they fall together, and sometimes they fall apart (news.nau.edu).

Here's Wikipedia weighing in: First,

"EASTER" Pg. 11

## Chautauqua County Events

BY DARLENE BRACE

It's already last weekend in March, with April just around the corner. Read on to see what's happening in Chautauqua County this weekend.

**Thursday, March 27th** - The **Busti Tap House** will host **Campfire Junkie** starting at 6:30pm. Come and have a delicious meal from the Tap House menu while listening to this talented musician.

**Friday, March 28th** - **Brazil Lounge** in downtown Jamestown invites you to their Happy Hour starting at 5pm. **Merrick Follett** will entertain the crowd with his originals and cover music. Join them to relax, unwind, and hang out with your friends after work.

**Customer Appreciation Night** continues in Westfield at the **Five and 20 Spirits and Brewing**. **Tommy Link** will be performing. Tommy is a singer/songwriter, who plays a mix of originals, and some selected covers. Come enjoy this talented musician starting at 5pm. There will be discounts on beer and some drink specials. Light snacks will be available to purchase.

The **Roger Tory Peterson Institute** in Jamestown will be hosting its **Art After Five** event this weekend. **Kody and Herren** will be performing a mix of originals and covers. They are multi-instrumentalists who play the guitar, violin, mandolin, harmonica and more. With your admission ticket, you get two hours of live entertainment, light bites by **Elegant Edibles**, a free drink, and entry to the current exhibits.

**Big Inlet Brewing** is excited to invite **Keith Medley** to perform. Keith is a member of the Living Room Jam Band. He

will entertain the crowd as a soloist starting at 6pm. Bring your family and friends to hang out with you as you listen to this amazing musician.

It's **Karaoke Night with DJ Payne** at **Another Round Bar and Grill** in Cherry Creek. He will start playing the music at 9pm. Come on out and pick your favorite song to sing to entertain the crowd or watch as a spectator. It's bound to be a fun night.

The **Seneca Allegheny Casino** is excited to announce **Carly Pearce** in concert at 8pm in the event center. Carly is a country singer featuring heartfelt lyrics and a distinctive voice. She became quite popular after her album *Every Little Thing* had hits like *Never Wanted to Be That Girl*. Check out the concert and then enjoy more country music at the Casino's River Bar, as Hazzard Country will be performing until midnight.

Then on Saturday night, live music continues with **Brother James** performing music from the 60s-80s from 7pm-11pm.

**Saturday, March 29th** - The 4th Annual **Red Carpet Gala** will take place at the **Northwest Arena** in downtown Jamestown at 7pm. This is a woman's only fundraising event. There will be lots of music, dancing, and desserts, as well as drawings and raffles. Bring your family and/or your gal pals to dance the night away while helping

a good cause. The event's proceeds will benefit the Jamestown Public Schools Garden Clubs and the CCS Prom Dress Experience.

**Southern Tier Brewing** will be hosting the live music of **Tito** starting at 5pm. Tito plays a fun mix of tunes that will entertain the crowd. Enjoy your favorite Southern Tier beverage while listening to this talented soloist.

Live music returns to **21 Brix Winery** in Portland. **White Bronco** will play its fun and energetic 90s and alternative music starting at 7pm. Sit back, relax with a nice glass of wine, and enjoy the music.

**Miranda Wilcox** will be performing at **Grace and Abe's** at 7pm in Westfield. Miranda sings a mix of some of her own originals and a variety of covers that will captivate any audience.

The **Jay McDonnell Trio** returns to **Group Ther-Happy** in Lakewood starting at 8pm. Enjoy a delicious appetizer or entrée while listening to this trio play your favorite and familiar oldies.

**Backlog** will be performing at the **Grandview** in Ellington. They play a diverse mix of music from the 60s to present-day popular hits. Come join the fun starting at 8pm.

Next weekend, will be the first weekend of April. Check out next week's issue to see what fun things are in Chautauqua County.



Kody and Herren will be at RTPI this Friday.

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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

Every year, at this time, I like to remind people of the many miles of hiking and biking trail that surround Evl that are free to everyone. Of course there's always lots of music, so let's see who's playing?

THURSDAY

We start our weekend on Thursday at Balloons with Burger, Brews and Trivia Night from 4-10pm. \$15 gets any burger and any domestic beer plus house made chips. Trivia starts at 7pm and cash vouchers are awarded for first-third place.

The Gin Mill hosts The Chillbillies, Thursday, from 8-11pm. This husband-and-wife act plays a rock/pop/country/ folk/blues set of covers and originals featuring smooth guitar riffs and sweet vocal harmonies. Try some of the 37 beers that are always on tap.

FRIDAY

We're back at Balloons for The Pat Harrington Trio from 6:30-10pm. These guys play a blues/country/folk/rock set of covers and originals. The back bar hosts Tina Williams from 10-1am. Tina plays a rock/pop/country/folk/alt set of covers and originals. Dj Andre the Giant Redhead will squeeze up some juice so you can really cut loose on the two dance floors from 10-2am.

The Gin Mill is back with Nashville North from 8-12am. This band plays country and country influenced rock. Check out the kitchen open seven days a week till 9pm sun-wed and 10pm thurs-sat. Open for breakfast 9-11:30am sat, sun.

The Pour Taproom is a player with Mark Christy from 8-11pm. Mark tells

me he plays a multi genre acoustic set of cover tunes based on the musical taste of the audience.

Madigans joins the party with Dj Kage from 9-2am. He'll put the funk in the trunk so you can shake your junk in the window on Washington.

SATURDAY

The Gin Mill gets the worm with Meet the Bacoons from 2-5pm. This duo plays a folk/country/american/rock set of covers and originals. Barnstorm takes the stage from 8-12am. This band plays classic and new country with a Little Rock thrown in.

We return to Balloons for Vinny and the Mudflaps from 6:30-10pm. They play a rock/pop/hard rock set of covers. The Chillbillies will rock the back bar from 10-1am. Dj Kage will provide the thumpin for the bumpin from 10-2am.

The Pour Taproom is back with Michael Hund from 8-11pm. This Buffalo Music HOF'er plays a rock/pop/blues set of covers. This is Evl's newest eating and drinking establishment, right across the street from The Valley.

Last but not least Madigans is back with Dj Danny Delta from 9-2am. He'll serve up some sauce so you can shake it like a boss till the wee hours.

SUNDAY

The Gin Mill is first up with another appearance by The Chillbillies from 2-5pm. Tiffany won't be playing guitar while she heals up from a broken hand which required surgery. if you like craft cocktails try the Carriage House Sidebar for some high-end spirits.

Villaggio hosts AYCE Pasta and Prime Rib Soeical from 5-9pm. Fresh, made to order, pasta with the toppings of your choice or succulent prime

rib made the way you like. This weeks musical guest is Grace Lougan from 5:30-8:30pm. This highly talented singer/songwriter plays a rock/pop/alt/jazz/blues set of originals and covers.

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. This week's musical guest is Dave McGarry from 6-9pm. Dave plays a rock/pop/alt/country set of covers.

The Gil Mill's Monday music is hosted by Michael David from 7-10pm. Michael plays a country/bluegrass/rock/grunge set of covers. Don't forget those 37 beers on tap.

The Mill St Sports Pub hosts its Poke Monday and Trivia starting at 4pm. Poke bowls and Asian inspired entrees with trivia starting at 7pm. Cash vouchers for first -third place.

The Gin Mill makes its next to last appearance with The Hick Ups from 7-10pm. This band is comprised of players from various local bands. They play an eclectic set of country/bluegrass/roots covers that are very lively.

WEDNESDAY

If you know anything about the local music scene you know we've ended our seven-day weekend the same way for 40+ years, at The Gin Mill, for Wing, Wednesday from 7-10pm. Brian Rick is the musical host now and he plays a rock/ pop/country/folk set of covers.

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

Beat on the Street:

“What do You Think the World Will be Like in Ten Years?”

BY CHAD NEAL

As with every era in our history big changes happen to shift things around a bit. Often subtle, the changes are looked at in hindsight and wondered on. It seems these days though the subtleness has been tossed on the wayside. Many things are being talked about in the media that make it seem like there will be big changes coming to reshape society as we know it, for better or worse - it seems inevitable. We can't really foretell the future, but we can speculate using the knowledge of history we've learned. The outcome of certain decisions can be predicted partially. There were some storytellers who envisioned flying cars for everyone by now, we don't, but we do have artificial intelligence in many facets of life though. Will it be a dreamscape or something sinister? What do you think the world will be like in ten years?



Kayli A.- No real social human interactions at the stores or restaurants/bars!



Alex O.- The fire and ash will have settled and those strong enough to survive will be rebuilding OR Zombies!



Thomas P.- As citizens of the New American Empire, we'll have privileges over and above those we have vanquished. We'll just have to do our best to forget about human rights and the Old Constitution.



Jesse A.- Have you seen Idiocracy? Something similar to that.



Bob O.- Cash and coins will become obsolete. Everything will be cards or phones. Welcome to Terminator life!



Brigid F.- Better than now!



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Wknd, July 25-27 • Taste of Ellicottville Aug. 9-10 • Rock N' Roll Wknd, Sept. 12-14 • LaCrosse



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*Funded by local businesses and community members, CCHS envisions a community where all animals are respected and safe. It provides shelter and an adoption center, with about 900 pets adopted out each year and around seventy animals housed at the shelter at any given time.*

CONT. FROM COVER

members, CCHS envisions a community where all animals are respected and safe. It provides shelter and an adoption center, with about 900 pets adopted out each year and around seventy animals housed at the shelter at any given time.

On January 9th, 2025, a gala celebration kicked off a year of events commemorating CCHS's 120th anniversary and was held at the Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union Community Training Center in Lakewood. The event featured light hors d'oeuvres and beverages, during which the organization announced its new logo, mission, and vision statements, as well as aspirations for expanding humane education programs and additional services. Celebratory events will continue throughout the year, culminating in a major event at the end of 2025, currently in the planning stages.

The CCHS offers other services beyond facilitating pet adoptions. They operate a pet pantry to provide pet food to families in need within the community. Additionally, there is a Lost and Found for missing pets and support for those experiencing pet loss when their pets pass away. The organization also features humane education programs for local schools and provides shelter tours for field trips.

To sustain the operations at the CCHS and to be able to continue to provide these important services, the CCHS gets much of its revenue through fundraising events. One event is the Pennies for Paws fundraiser, which is a year-round event. Community members can make donations at

the shelter, online, or at local businesses that have canisters available.

Please consider attending next week's fundraiser that is the Second Annual All-Star Hockey Game with Community Through Hockey. It will be held on April 6th at the Northwest Arena in Jamestown from 1-5pm. The game will be between the North and South County All-Stars. Admission is free. The doors open at 1pm, and the game starts at 2pm. In the lobby, there will be adoptable pets to greet visitors. Additionally, there will be baskets for raffle, donated by local businesses and community members.

There is a 50/50 drawing that has already begun, with tickets available for \$5 each at CCHS. Tickets will be on sale until the second timeout period of the game. Last year, approximately 250 people attended the event, raising nearly \$10,000. The prize for the 50/50 drawing was over \$3000!

The CCHS invites you to join them to participate in this fundraiser. If you would like to buy a 50/50 ticket or donate a basket for this event, stop by the shelter at 2825 Strunk Road in Jamestown or call (716) 665-2209. CCHS would like to thank the event's sponsors including the Media One Radio Group, Supportive Divorce Solutions, Kinetic by Windstream, and Shults Auto Group. Their support

made this event possible.

In addition to events like this and making monetary donations, there are many other ways you can support CCHS. Some people choose to honor the memory of loved ones by making donations when they pass away. The organization also appreciates donations of pet food, treats, paper towels, blankets, cleaning supplies, and other items from their current needs list, which you can find on their website [chqhumane.org](http://chqhumane.org). Additionally, individuals can contribute by volunteering, which involves registering online and receiving training to volunteer or to foster animals.

The CCHS's Director of Fundraising and Communications, Brian Papalia, stated, "We would like to thank all the volunteers and donors for their generous support. We invite everyone in the community to get involved, whether by attending fundraising events or by donating their time or money. We appreciate any type of support you are willing to offer."

Every animal should be provided a happy and healthy life. Let's all find a way to support the Chautauqua County Humane Society and its ongoing mission to provide all animals with the quality of life they deserve.

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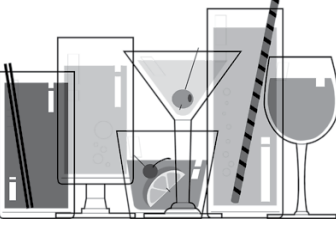
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## Market

CONT. FROM PG. 6

friends and relatives with good wishes.

Spoiler alert. Expect it to be mobbed, as my claustrophobic husband discovered when I dragged him there one year. I was lucky to get him off the elevator. Plan to stand three deep at the seafood and meat counters, or the freshly made placeks (coffee cakes) and Kruschicki. There are typically around 30 vendors. Goto the [broadwaymarket.com](http://broadwaymarket.com) site for a list.

CAUTION! Go early in the season. The days immediately before Easter are for the brave of heart who want that crushing exhilarating experience. For older wimps like me, I suggest going anytime now. Check for hours. If you are local and want some good meats before



The open market was also where shoppers found the yard sale items. Maybe an old steel wheel for the tractor, a leather strap for the horse carriage, or an early 1800's framed daguerreotype or colorful pastoral scene of sheep in a field to brighten their wallpapered walls.

the holiday, or don't want to fight the crowds, stop over at the Meat Shoppe at 44 Main Steet in Springville, near Julie's. The shop makes me feel as if I am back in my old family butcher shoppe with mom in the late 40's 50's. The Ted Martin daughters have taken over the hauling and cutting of the daily fresh meats from Ford Bros., but

they still adhere to dad's old way of marking and hand calculating the sale in pencil on the brown Kraft paper they use to wrap their meats and freshly made kielbasa and Italian sausages. Pulled pork is the best and yes, they cut the meat to your specifications. Check their hours before heading out. Get your peeps lined up!

# ★★ Sudoku Challenge ★★

This Week's Difficulty Level:  
★★★★☆

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

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:

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

## Casetta

CONT. FROM PG. 7

our visits in Ellicottville we have been recognized by parents or youth who have been granted opportunities through this funding," remarks Barbara. "It's exactly what Tony had intended."

Joe describes his uncle's personality as free-spirited and high-energy. "He is steadfast in his values and knows himself well. He is compassionate and lived his life with a young heart." Barbara describes his charismatic and charming personality, making friends wherever he went. While Tony is still living in the Buffalo area, he has been

suffering from dementia. He is in good care and visited by his nephew, wife, and other family members often. He enjoys remembering "the good ol' days." Tony's spirit will live on in Ellicottville through his many philanthropic endeavors, particularly in the music and arts program for the youth.



**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

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MAPLES CEMETERY ASSOCIATION:** Monday, April 14, 2025 at 6:30 pm in the Mansfield Town Hall, 7691 Toad Hollow Road, Eddyville, NY. All deed holders are encouraged to attend.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - VILLAGE OF ELLICOTTVILLE PLANNING BOARD LEGAL NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that pursuant to the Village of Ellicottville Zoning Local Law, The Planning Board will hold a public hearing at the Ellicottville Town Center, 28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, New York 14731, on the 8 day of April, 2025, to hear all interested parties and citizens regarding an application by Reed W Randolph Revocable Trust, for a Special Use Permit, Site Plan Approval and Architectural Design Review for a new attached garage and single-story accessory apartment, at 27 E Washington Street (SBL 55.036-1-33). Further information is available for review at the Planning Department, 28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, New York 14731. The application may also be viewed on the Village website at [www.ellicottville.gov](http://www.ellicottville.gov). Persons wishing to do so may submit comments prior to the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the Village of Ellicottville Planning Board, 1 Washington Street, P.O. Box 475, Ellicottville, New York 14731, dropped off in person to the same address, or emailed to [greg.keyser@evlengineering.com](mailto:greg.keyser@evlengineering.com).

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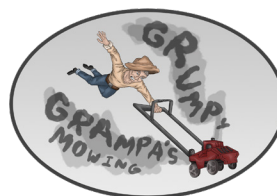
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**~ Cara Maria Birrittieri ~**

**Wife, Mother, Journalist, Friend**



**BIRRITTIERI, Cara Maria** New England Journalist, Beloved Mother and Wife Age 65, of Lakewood, NY, passed away on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, following a valiant battle with ALS. She was born in Boston, MA, to the late Domenic and Michelina Cappuccio Birrittieri, on August 1, 1959. Born and raised in Dorchester, MA, Cara's incredible fortitude was ignited at a young age. Her intellect, in conjunction with her innate need to communicate, compelled her toward a degree in Journalism. Graduating from Boston Technical High School in 1977, Cara continued her higher education at Wheaton College, receiving her Bachelor of Arts in Biology. She went on to earn a Master of Arts degree in Journalism at Emerson College,

igniting her career as a reporter and news broadcaster. Cara began her journalism career as a television reporter at Channel 5 in Bangor, Maine. She went on to find opportunities at NECN Boston and Channel 5 WCVB Boston, before anchoring her prowess with Reuters news. She felt privileged to report on some of the world's most unforgettable stories, including John F. Kennedy, Jr.'s plane crash on Martha's Vineyard, covering 9/11 from Ground Zero, interviewing Apollo astronauts, Buzz Aldrin and Mike Collins and, perhaps most exhilarating, her broadcast from the navigation seat in an F-14 Tomcat from the Cape Cod Naval Air Base. Cara was a star in the field of journalism: she was a published author and a multi award-winning journalist.

Loving land and sea alike, Cara was a considerable supporter of the New England Aquarium. Somewhat apropos, she was a proud member of the Moray Wheels Club, a dive club encouraging the sport's accessibility for the handicapped. Cara's love of learning and knowledge followed her to Western New York after the family settled in Lakewood in 2012. She was elected as the first female mayor of the Village of Lakewood, was the Health and Science reporter for The Villager newspaper and was a beloved substitute teacher at Maple Grove High School in Bemus Point. Despite troubling symptoms prior to her ALS diagnosis, true to form, Cara skied the Rocky Mountains with son AJ, completed her 100th deep sea dive while vacationing in Puerto Rico and organized family trips to Italy and Las Vegas.

Cara will be remembered as a devoted mother, loving wife, sister and aunt, and a fun-loving, devoted friend. The radiant light Cara's soul cast upon this world will be deeply missed by her husband, Allen "Jackson" Smith, Jr., whom she married in 1999; her children, Allen Jackson Smith, III (AJ) and Victoria Maria Smith (Tori); her sister, Gina (Christopher) Birrittieri Enock; her brother, Domenic (Katherine) Birrittieri; and her nephews, Andrew Enock and Alexander Enock. Besides her parents, Cara was preceded in death by her sister, Lisa A. Birrittieri in 2018.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made, in Cara's name, to the Chautauqua County Humane Society, 2825 Strunk Road, Jamestown, NY 14701. In addition, donations can be made to Project Main Street, a New York based 501c3 dedicated to providing financial grants to individuals living with ALS. ([www.projectmainstreet.org](http://www.projectmainstreet.org))

**Fondly Remembering Teresa Mercer Wagner**

**Fun-loving, Witty Jokester, Bringing Sunshine and Laughter**

By CAROL FISHER-LINN  
Teresa A. Mercer Wagner, 64, of Ellicottville, died March 22, 2025. Probably every pampered pup in Ellicottville was beautified by Teresa and her daughter, Calla at Rover Makeovers. Even if you didn't have your pets groomed, you likely remember Teresa Mercer Wagner from all her years waitressing or tending bar all over Ellicottville at Carson's, The Gin Mill, Hoagie's, Dina's, The Depot, or The Barn. About fifteen years ago, she decided to be her own boss and created Rover Makeovers.

Command Center". To decorate, she took a Ken Brown calendar with photos of old "sexy" men holding skis or other sports gear to cover their xxx areas, put each one in a frilly pink frame and hung them. MJ's words so aptly describe so many of the relationships she had with her people.



**Teresa is holding her best friend (furbaby) Timmy. Teresa's daughter Calla is holding Martha.**

Growing up in the local Ellicottville Mercer clan (parents - Roger and Patricia Mercer) with her brother and a passel of aunts, uncles and many cousins, set the foundation for the straightforward, no-nonsense, yet nurturing and witty woman she would become. She and her brother Tommy, who predeceased her in 2021, spent a great deal of time with their aunt Lucille Harris, until Lucille's death in 2020. Learning the open-door policy of living near relatives and popping in and out of each other's homes, she formed her own clan as she became the sister-mother-friend figure to many.

"Teresa was like a sister to me. We laughed and cried at the same things. We solved ALL the problems while walking with Timmy and The Doodlers (MJ's dogs) ... She was a friend I wanted to grow old with."

She loved making costumes for Halloween. She called herself the White Trash Martha Stewart, and she and long-time pal Brenda Smith (Mill Street Sports Bar) made and handed out Jell-o shots to adult visitors along with candy for the kids. Brenda, who worked all over Ellicottville with Teresa for years and stood for each other's weddings, raised kids together (thinking their daughters were switched at birth because the girls ended up being like each other's moms) was also her partner in crime from Key West to Ellicottville. Ask her about the bike rides.

Jane Chew told how for ten years, Teresa would deliver fresh soup or meatballs and help Jane's mom with her dad's care ... and calmly took care of mishaps, like removing birds from chimneys, while Jane was in Little Valley at work. Obviously, Jane's mom, Monica adored her.

Hannah Gerwitz, assisted at Rover Makeovers. Hannah had this to say: "What I want the world to know about Teresa is that she was always thinking

about others before herself. She was a beautiful sunny day amongst the gray clouds. Many people knew only her professional side, but I'm so beyond grateful to have known Teresa on a much deeper, caring, kind and funny level."

Nikky Himes (Purple Doorknob) says Teresa was the typical old world woman who was always mothering people, feeding them, making them laugh and taking them under her wing like a mother bird. Nikky's mom died twenty-five years ago but with Teresa in her life, she never felt motherless. Teresa made her meatballs for every celebration, for every family in grief, or any occasion that required food. Although cooking was her specialty her baking skills lagged. If she had a certain cake design in mind, she would attempt to create it, and generally failing miserably, would frame a photo of the desired cake and place it next to the pathetic plate holding the wanna be cake.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Feel free to honor Teresa and her love for animals with a memorial donation in her name to EARS [www.empirerescue.org](http://www.empirerescue.org) or mail a check to E.A.R.S. PO Box 445, Salamanca, NY 14779.

**Easter**

**CONT. FROM PG. 8**

during the 16th century Renaissance in Western Europe, progress was made on refining the accuracy of the calendar - e.g., this was when the leap year was established - and the previous Roman calendar, known as the Julian after Julius Caesar, was replaced by Pope Gregory XIII in favor of the Gregorian calendar; the one we use today. This change did not affect Eastern Christianity, whose liturgical calendar

remains Julian rather than Gregorian. But this subtle refining of calendars would not have been enough to alter significantly the dates for Easter between East and West. In addition to this change, how the East and West calculate the first full moon after the vernal equinox accounts for the difference. How can that be, you ask? Well, in the West, the vernal equinox is what it is, and always falls on either March 20th or 21st of the Gregorian calendar. In the East, however, they "fixed" the vernal equinox to March 21st of the Julian calendar. Thus, in the East, the

"vernal equinox" may not be on the vernal equinox, resulting in a different calculation for Easter than in the West. The result is that, in the East, Easter always falls between April 4th and May 8th, whereas in the West, it always falls between March 22nd and April 25th.

And then, this: When, after calculations are made, Easter falls on Passover, the Eastern churches move Easter to the following Sunday. Understand it now? Bottom line, watch your calendar, or *The Villager* every spring. We will keep you on top of everything Easter.

**Walter's World**

**Photo Picks From "The Rittman Show"**



**Happy Easter from the Villager**



# Scenes From Ellicottville: Pond Skimming at Holiday Valley • Last Saturday, March 22



Photos/Jon Elder



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