

CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE



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THE GOLDEN YEARS

Volume 2 • Issue 40 | Week of October 20, 2025

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LIGHT ALONG THE WAY

Contributing Writer

Pat Locke

In the midst of Fall in all its beauty, I am reminded of the term "the golden years," and what those words mean in ways I never could have come to realize when I was younger. Yes, the pace is slower, though I find that staying active and vital is important. Writing for the Chautauqua Gazette and for my online blog which features people, places and things dear to my heart has been a labor of love as is my continuing love of music from an early age that has kept me feeling, at times, like a "teenager."

I used to think the years referred to as golden were something far off in the distance. Now, I see they're not necessarily about age or time, but are about gratitude and holding close what matters, as we let go of what doesn't. The golden glimmer comes not from what's ahead, but from the light that has been gathered along the



Bill & Pat Locke

way.

I suppose what makes these years golden is not the number of birthdays, but the ease that comes from knowing what matters. The warmth of friendship, a loving husband (in my case) and the peace that settles in when you realize the ordinary moments with one's partner in life and with friends are some of the many treasures in life. My partner in life whose name is Bill has

been a joy and was God's plan from the beginning as I look back on all of our shared experiences together that have taken us from New York State and Pennsylvania to Texas to Florida to North Carolina and back to Chautauqua County.

Whether you are in your own golden years or approaching them as the years pass, take heart in knowing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Feature your Business of Organization in the Next Gazette



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Lori Cornell

716-720-1845 cornell@CHQgazette.com



LIVE LONG AND STAY STRONG



Featured Writer

Dana Corwin Director of Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services

We all hope to live long, healthy, and meaningful lives—to watch our children grow, to enjoy our grandchildren, to stay active in our communities, and to continue giving back. But successful aging doesn't happen by accident—it takes planning.

Research shows that two-thirds of Stay Connected with Us older adults will need some type of support to age well at home. That's where we come in. The Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services (CCOFAS) is here to guide, connect, and advocate for long-term services and supports that help older adults remain active and independent in their homes and communities.

We like to say P-L-A-N: Please Look At this Now. Planning ahead is essential. Too often, we meet people who never realized our agency—or the services we provide—even existed until they needed help. We want to change that by making sure every older adult and caregiver in our county knows about the resources available.

The best first step is connecting with our office. Through our automated messaging system, Blooming Health, you can receive important updates by text, voicemail, or email. This month we're sharing information on:

- CarFit classes
- Energy and weatherization programs
- Medicare workshops
- The 2025 Walk to End Alzheimer's

... and more!

Don't miss the chance to learn about events, services, and benefits you or your loved ones may be eligible for. To sign up, call our NY Connects line at 716-753-4876.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

This Week Around Town

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

National Lead Poisoning Community Prevention Week Press Conference Jamestown 1 PM For Info: chl

Jamestown City Hall Lobby | Jamestown For Info: (716) 753-4644

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Spinal Tap - The End Continues 7:30 PM

1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center | Fredonia For Info: fredopera.org

The Fredonia Pops! Orchestra: "A Night at the Movies!" | 8 PM

King Concert Hall | SUNY Fredonia For Info: fredonia.edu

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

Movies at The Reg: The Conjuring: Last Rites | 7 PM

Reg Lenna Center for The Arts Jamestown For Info: reglenna.com

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23

"A Woman Making News": Guest Speaker Lori Cornell | 12pm

The Marvin House | Jamestown For Info: 716-488-6206

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24

Trunk or Treat | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Science Center | Jamestown Community College For Info: Event by SUNY JCC on Facebook

A Bright Room Called Day 6:30 PM

Robert H. Jackson Center | Jamestown For Info: roberthjackson.org

"Frenzy Moon" Screening | 7 PM

1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center | Fredonia For Info: fredopera.org

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24 - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

Autumn Renewal: Women's Wellness Retreat

Panama Rocks | Panama For Info: renewedspiritadventures. com/panamarocks

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

Fall Craft Show | 9 AM - 3 PM

Celoron Fire Hall | Celeron For Info:716-450-9342

Trick or Treat for Grown Ups 10 AM - 6 PM

Liberty Vineyards & Winery | Sheridan For Info: 716-672-4520

The Grand Opening of The Christmas Room | 10 AM

Community Helping Hands
Jamestown
For Info: chhny.org

Saturday, October 25 | 11 AM - 2 PM

Midway State Park Fall Fest Midway State Park | Bemus Point For Info: facebook.com/ midwaystatepark

The Enneagram Experience: Discovering Ourselves, Deepening 1 PM - 4 PM

Community Jamestown Community College | Jamestown For Info: facebook.com/ drdeborahegerton

Free Rabies Vaccine Clinic 2 PM-4 PM

Town of Gerry Highway Dept. | Gerry For Info: healthychq.com/rabies

Fright Night in The Barn | 4 PM-8 PM

Skywalker Stables | Jamestown For Info: 716-912-8156

Halloween Riverwalk Trick-or-Treat | 5 PM - 7 PM

Greater Jamestown Riverwalk Jamestown

For Info: 716-483-7523

Halloween Party | 6 PM

The Bemus Point Golf Club & Tap House | Bemus Point For Info: 716-386-2893

Meowsquerade Ball | 6 PM - 10 PM

Wicked Warren's | Jamestown For Info: wickedwarrens.com

Jamestown Harmony Express: "Music for America" | 7 PM

Robert H. Jackson Center | amestown For Info: nedlangham@hotmail.com

The Vampire Circus | 8 PM

Reg Lenna Center for The Arts Jamestown For Info: reglenna.com

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25 & SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

Nature & Wellness Weekend

The Heron Farm and Event Center Panama For Info: theheron.org

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

"Welcoming the Stranger" by Rev. Alex Holt | 10:30 AM

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown

For Info: UUJamestown.org/calendar

Fright Night in The Barn | 1 PM-4 PM

Skywalker Stables | Jamestown For Info: 716-912-8156

SENIO Frivia

- 1. What year was the first Social Security check issued in the U.S.?
- 2. What type of exercise is most recommended for maintaining bone density in seniors?
- 3. Which country currently has the world's highest percentage of seniors?
- 4. What U.S. state has the highest median age among its residents?
- 5. What percentage of the U.S. population is 65 or older (as of 2025)?
- 6. What type of retirement account is abbreviated as "IRA"?
- 7. What does AARP stand for?
- 8. What U.S. president signed Medicare into law?
- 9. What age do Americans typically start receiving full Social Security benefits (born after 1960)?
- 10. What metal is associated with "senior" status in anniversary terms (25th anniversary)?

1.1940 2. Weight-bearing 3. Monaco 4. Maine 5.18% 6. Individual Retirement Account 7. American Association of Retired Persons 8. Johnson 9.67 10. Silver



Susan Tilley: (716) 912-8156

Editorial with Lori Cornell

HOMEMADE FROM THE HEART



Owner & Publisher Lori Cornell

It might be fair to say that younger generations aren't carrying on the baking tradition to the same extent that our mothers and grandmothers did. They gave their hearts to their families with the tradition and toil of all things homemade. (Also dads and grandpas in some cases too!)

Case and point: Almost exactly one year ago, I had the honor of attending the funeral services for a beloved Sinclairville resident, Virginia Maloy, my brother-in-law Chad Jaquith's grandmother. She was a mid-county household name, long known for her successful family farm and her extensive involvement in the community. A common theme among her loved ones was the memory of her melt-in-yourmouth, one-of-a-kind bread. The descriptive joy for this bread was so passionate that it conjured up the memories of all the smells and tastes for the hundreds of her adoring fans and culinary apprentices in attendance.

But more importantly, Mrs. Maloy's bread was a metaphor for her dedication to her family. With five children and 13 grandchildren, she was still baking bread - still pouring all her love and leadership to all who were fortunate enough to enter her kitchen at age 95.

It is an absolute honor that now Mrs. Maloy's daughter, Peggy Maloy, shares this long-held, secret family recipe with our entire community. We publish it proudly below with her permission.

As we approach the holiday season, consider dusting off some of your old family recipes, too. Honor the culinary labors of love from your family elders and share their beautiful memories with your children. May baked bread, homemade pies and painstaking pierogies not become a lost art of the past. Honor the golden bread from our golden generations.

"If baking is any labor at all, it's a labor of love. A love that gets passed from generation to generation."

~ Ingrid Bergman



CHAUTAUQUA SUBMISSION DEADLINES GAZETTE

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Brought to you by: L. Cornell and Company, LLC

MOM'S WHITE BREAD

Shared by her daughter, Peggy Maloy

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 quart milk, scalded and cooled to lukewarm
- ¼ cup lukewarm water
- 3 tablespoons active dry yeast
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons salt
- 2 tablespoons shortening
- Approximately 10 cups all-purpose flour

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. In a small bowl, combine the lukewarm water and yeast. Let stand for 5–10 minutes, until foamy.
- 2. In a large mixing bowl, combine the scalded milk (cooled to lukewarm), sugar, salt, and shortening. Stir until the shortening is melted and ingredients are well blended.
- 3. Add the yeast mixture and begin adding flour gradually, mixing until a soft dough forms.



Local bread-baking legend, Virginia Maloy & her grandson, Chad Jaquith.

Rest in peace. April 20, 1929 - October 10, 2024

- 4. Turn the dough onto a floured surface and knead for about 10 minutes, until smooth and elastic.
- 5. Place the dough in a greased bowl, cover, and let rise until doubled in size.

Punch down the dough, let it rise again, then punch down once more.

- 7. Divide the dough into five portions, shape into loaves, and place in greased loaf pans. Let rise until doubled.
- 8. Bake at 350°F for about 23 minutes, or until golden brown.
 - 9. Remove from pans and cool on wire racks.





We're Open! **Mon-Sat** 8:30am-10pm and Sun 11-8pm

FOLLOW US

In Loving Memory

October 11

Kathryn M. "Kathy" Johnson

Pittsfield, PA Peterson Funeral Home

Tammy Ann Crawford, 48

Jamestown Lind Funeral Home

October 12

Robert E. Howe, 83

Brockway, PA Lind Funeral Home

October 13

Michael Palmieri, 71

Jamestown Falconer Funeral Home October 14

Robert J. Brown, Sr., 86

Jamestown Riccardi's Family Funeral Home

Phyllis Duink, 97

Jamestown Lind Funeral Home

October 15

Linda A. Alm, 76

Jamestown Lind Funeral Home

October 15

Sterling J. Pollaro, 58 Gerry Falconer Funeral Home

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THE REMAINDER



The Rev. Luke F. Fodor
Rector, St. Luke's Church

Working on a budget this past week, I found myself musing on something I had long forgotten existed: the remainder. Yes, the mathematical remainder—the mystery we first encountered in third-grade long division. That confusing remnant that served as our first gateway across the decimal point into the world of percentages. If you divide 10 by 3, you get 3 with a remainder of 1—which, of course, invites us to borrow a zero from the other side of the decimal and wander off into the infinity of .3333333... Yes, the remainder remains—even when we've forgotten about it. There is something divine about the remainder.

Having had a birthday earlier this month—and now standing on the shorter side of middle age—I find myself thinking a lot about the remainder. Not with regret, but with intention. When our plans crumble, our bodies weaken, our futures fade and our work remains unfinished, there is still something that abides. The remainder is not the scrap left over after loss; it is the essence that was true all along. It is what cannot be taken away. It is what our lives have been about from the very beginning.

And yet, we live in a world that idolizes youth and is endlessly fascinated with the new and the novel. In doing so, we lose touch with the wisdom that abides. We

need the living mentorship of elders, for they hold the perspective that helps us see what truly matters. As the monk Thomas Merton taught, "People may spend their whole lives climbing the ladder of success, only to find, once they reach the top, that the ladder is leaning against the wrong wall."

Both within my congregation and among the mentors I encounter through reading, I find myself seeking the living insight of elders who can advocate for a life worth living. In his book On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity, and Getting Old, Parker Palmer reminds us that "old age is no time to hunker down, unless disability demands it. Old is just another word for nothing left to lose—a time of life to take bigger risks on behalf of the common good." The world may call this stage diminishment, but faith names it deepening—a sacred invitation to live more freely, love more boldly and trust more fully in God's unfolding grace.

We cannot escape death, but as Palmer also writes, we can choose "how we travel the arc between our own sunrise and sundown." Will we resist the passage of time in denial or defiance, or will we collaborate with the Spirit's ongoing work within us? For people of faith, growing older is not about withdrawal but witness—the holy calling to show others what it means to live with gratitude, purpose and hope even as the light changes.

As such, senior advocacy is a form of faithful empowerment: to honor the image of God in every stage of life and to proclaim that each person—no matter their age—still has a part to play in God's revelation of the world we are called to shape. For in the end, it is the remainder that reveals what endures: love, faithband the quiet, unshakable presence of God, who holds us from first breath to last.

Thank You!

The Ellington Town Picnic Association thanks our sponsors, vendors and especially all the volunteers for making the 112th Ellington Town Picnic a success.

This great tradition could not go on without all the support and dedication of so many individuals and groups.

New Report Highlights Challenges Facing Economic

County leaders support call for immediate action to fix New York's 'economic freefall'

Development Across NY State

Contributed by

County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency

A recently released report is reaffirming the position by local leaders that a number of outside factors are inhibiting economic development across New York State, including Chautauqua County.

In September, the Public Policy Institute of New York State, an affiliate of The Business Council of New York State, along with the New York State Economic Development Council (NYSEDC), released a report entitled "Blueprint for New York – Creating a Roadmap for Change." The report was commissioned to explore what was driving New York to the bottom of every major business category, and what needs to be done to stop what the authors are calling an "economic freefall" that is being documented day-after-day.

More than 550 economic development officials and business leaders from across New York were surveyed as part of the report. The responses of the survey overwhelmingly point to high taxes, excessive regulations, and the overall cost of doing business in New York as the primary barriers to growth. Business leaders noted that they struggle with labor costs, compliance burdens, and government inefficiencies that make it difficult to compete with other states. Housing workforce shortages, availability, and infrastructure challenges also hinder economic expansion. Many respondents highlight capital access issues, slow state funding disbursement, and excessive red tape that delay projects and discourage investment. Additionally, crime, population decline, and the outmigration of businesses and workers are seen as critical issues impacting New York's economic future. The Blueprint report also indicates that jobs in New York have grown by only 7.3% during the past decade. This is underperforming when compared to the national average of 12%. It is especially subpar when compared to other states of similar size, including Florida (24.9%), and Texas (20.3%).

Even as the overall job growth rate for the state saw a minimal increase, data from the U.S. Department of Labor indicates that more than half of all New York counties (35 in all) saw job totals decrease from 2014 to 2024. Furthermore, the total rate of job loss in New York's seven Southern Tier counties was 6.3%, and the total rate of job loss in seven of the eight Western New York counties (excluding Erie County, the most populous county in Upstate New York) was 6.6%. By Comparison, Chautauqua County's job loss rate during the same time period was 5.9%.

"This data clearly indicates that the loss of residents and jobs in Chautauqua County isn't the result of local leadership or a lack of effort by our economic development team. Instead, it's a clear indication that the overall business climate in New York State is not conducive to building business, gaining jobs, and growing our local and regional economies. If anything, it's the complete opposite," said Paul "PJ" Wendel, Chautauqua County Executive.

"It's reaffirming to have this new report validate what we've known and have been saying for quite some time: no matter how hard we try locally, there are numerous outside factors that impact and hinder our economic and business development efforts here in Chautauqua County," added Mark Geise, Deputy County Executive for Economic Development and

CEO of the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency. "In spite of this, our economic development team remains committed to rising up to face these challenges."

The report pointed out a number of statistics that help to verify the lack of business development and growth across the state. From 2014 to 2024, corporate management jobs grew by only 2.8%, compared to the national average of 19.7%. The report also found that New York has over 300,000 regulations on the books, second only to California, creating a difficult and time-consuming maze for businesses to navigate. The state also leads the nation in new legislation introduced with over 24,000 bills introduced in 2023-2024, five times the national average and double the next closest state.

The survey portion of the report, which involved hundreds of business owners and economic development leaders participating, found that only 2% of business owners feel lawmakers represented their interests in Albany and only 3% feel lawmakers and state regulators understand and support their business. Overall, 72% of businesses do not see the current economic conditions of New York as good.

that New

The consensus was needed York immediate improvements around laws and regulations to make the state more business friendly and also address the high cost of doing business due to taxation as well as antiquated policies. The report also indicated that the business community wants to improvements state agency coordination, work to reverse population loss, and place a greater emphasis on addressing energy issues.

The Business Council of New York State and the New York State Economic Development Council are calling on lawmakers to act immediately to implement several recommendations to improve the State's economic climate.

"What was made clear to us as we traveled the state and spoke to business owners, leaders and organizations is this: rather than being treated as a partner or lifted up by government, businesses feel dragged down by high costs and excessive regulations," said Ryan Silva, NYSEDC Executive Director.

To read the full "Blueprint for New York" report, visit PPINYS.org.

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

Blueprint for New York — Creating a Roadmap for Change

Prepared for: The Public Policy Institute of New York



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Phone: (716) 753-4582 Fax: (716) 753-4844 E-Mail: ccnyc@chqgov.com For all your answers on aging and longterm care services for people of all ages, contact NY Connects, our Aging and Disability Resource

Center. This service is available in every county in NY State via 1-800-342-9871. Information Specialists will review all the available options that you qualify for and make electronic referrals with your consent so you don't have to make another call.

1-800-677-1116



This national helpline run by USAging can assist you to locate the Aging Services in another state Call or visit www.eldercare.acl.gov to search by location or zip code.

Access Line helps navigate local community resources for children and adults with disabilities. DIAL provides information about services such as transportation, housing, disability rights and more.



CAREGIVER SUPPORT SERVICES:

Counseling: In-person or telephonic to help families plan and implement services to help a loved one who is struggling

Archangels: Are you helping someone and feeling alone, stressed, and unsupported? Visit www.archangels.me to find the support you need because "Any Care counts!"

Alzheimers & Dementia: specific resources and connection to assist anyone with a cognitive impairment

Trualta: Online platform with short trainings to answers to most caregiving questions. www.trualta.com Free to NY State residents.

Respite: In-home, Adult Day, and other care to give families a break.

Elder Abuse Prevention

Assistance for seniors at risk for or victims of abuse, neglect, financial exploitation and scams. OFAS works with Adult Protective Services, law enforcement, legal services, banks and others to assist victims and provide trainings.

Home Repairs and Access

Assistance to adapt your home for handicap access or to make critical home repairs where there is a safety or health concern. OFAS works with CHRIC and vetted contractors to do the work. Some cost-sharing may be required.

Legal Services Program

OFA partners with legal service agencies to provide consultation and limited legal representation on public benefit programs, landlord/tenant issues, and other areas of civil law.

"Age is an issue of mind over matter." If you don't mind, it doesn't matter."

- Satchel Paige

NUTRITION & WELLNESS SERVICES

At OFAS, our programming is based on whole-person wellness that integrates six dimensions of wellness: Emotional, Intellectual/Occupational, Environmental, Spiritual, and Physical. It is through attention to and the development of each dimension in wellness that we can be successful in an active and engaged life throughout aging.

Nutrition & Wellness services focus primarily on the older adults physical wellness and includes:

- Individualized Nutrition Counseling by Registered Dietitian-Nutritionist
- Food & Nutrition Programs to meet the daily nutritional needs of frail and active older adults. See below for more information about Dining In, Dining Out, and Dining together
- Nutrition & Wellness Education programs for groups. See below for more information on SNAP-Ed

Dining In:

The traditional home-delivered meal program for frail older adults who need both a daily meal delivered to their door and a safety check. Meals are made fresh at UPMC Chautauqua and delivered by Jamestown Area Meals on Wheels or Dunkirk-Fredonia MOW who also perform a client safety check. Clients must be home to receive the meal and meet evaluation criteria to receive this service. Active older adults who qualify but do not need a daily safety check, may opt for a Meal Bundle service. Contribution letters are sent monthly with a suggested contribution based on use.

Dining Out & Dining Together:

Community Built Around a Table: Area restaurants, housing, senior centers, and clubs partner with OFAS on this program to promote socialization and keeping older adults active. Our Registered Dietitian works with the partners to develop a menu that meets the dietary requirements of our funding. Must be 60 years old, registered with OFAS, and receive a CHQAging card to participate. NOTE: **Gratuity is not included so please leave a tip!** Contribution letters are sent monthly with suggestion donation based on use. Call to register and for a list of participating locations.

Local Roots and Local Routes:

Is a 10-week fresh fruit and vegetable program. Local Roots for active community seniors and Local Routes for our home-delivered meal clients so you too can "Strive for 5!"

Nutrition & Wellness Education Programs

Healthy Bones: Exercise with weights to improve bone strength and increase muscle mass. Helps improve/prevent osteoporosis.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers: Teaches how to deal with the stress of caring for a family member so you don't burn out.

Stepping On: Education program to help you decrease your risk of falls. Includes presentations by pharmacist, vision specialist and PT.

Tai Chi: Slow movements and positions based on the Chinese exercise routine to improve balance and prevent falls.

Walk with Ease: Walking program to increase endurance and flexibility.

GetSetUp: Free online access at www.getsetup.io to a variety of classes specifically geared for older adults. Connect real time via zoom or watched taped classes. Enter coupon code: "NYSTATE".

SNAP-Ed Nutrition Education: Teaches older adults how to save time and eat healthier on a budget

The Mission of Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services is to...

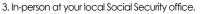
guide,
connect, and
advocate for
Long-term Services and Supports
to help older adults
remain in the community.



MEDICARE - BEFORE YOU TURN 65...

You can enroll in Medicare Part A and/or Medicare Part B in the following ways:

1. Online at www.SocialSecurity.gov 2. By calling Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY users 1-800-325-0778). Monday through Friday,from 7AM to 7PM





Medicare Navigator Program

Unbiased information and counseling on all aspects of Medicare from our certified Medicare Counselors or Medicare Navigators who are insurance agents trained by OFAS. Available during open enrollment and throughout the year when your health or medication changes. Assistance to enroll in NY State EPIC or Medicare Savings Program to reduce drug costs and/or part B premiums.

Safety

OFA works with the Office of the Sheriff and other community partners to keep seniors safe through a variety of programs:

- * **PERS:** Personal Emergency Response System. Bracelet or necklace button to call for help when you can't get to the telephone.
- * RUOK: Computer generated phone call that asks "Are you okay?" If you cannot answer, help is sent to you directly.
- Medical Alert: Bracelet or Necklace worn by individuals with medical conditions or cognitive impairment
- * **Door Alarms:** Can be provided for clients with dementia who are prone to wander

Night Lights: To prevent falls when you get up in the middle of the night

55+ Employment Program

Training to work: Department of Labor program for adults 55+, who meet income requirements. Enrollees are placed in government or not-forprofit agencies to learn employment skills.

IN-HOME SERVICES

To help people who have difficulty with everyday tasks due to a chronic condition and prevent nursing home placement.

OFA Homecare Program: People over 60 who are not eligible for the same services under VA or Medicaid. Includes several services.

- Aide Service: Up to six hours per week of house keeping and/or personal care through licensed home care agency or can hire friend/family member through the consumer-directed program. Must be 60+ years of age and meet the eligibility requirements. Cost sharing may be required.
- Case Management: OFA case manager/ nurse assesses client needs and does follow up contacts every two months to ensure services are still appropriate. Provides advocacy and information/assistance when care issues arise.
- <u>Home-Delivered Meals:</u> Through the Dining In..... See page 4
- <u>Personal Emergency Response System:</u> Alert system worn as a bracelet or necklace allows you to call for help at the touch of a button. Does not call 911. The call center will contact your designated friend or family member to check on you when alerted.

Medicaid Homecare Program: Similar to OFA homecare program for people who meet income requirements. May provide more aide hours and service.

- CASA: County nurses can guide you to long-term Medicaid options and provide case management for housekeeping (level 1), consumer directed and LPN services.
- **Maximus:** Statewide agency to enroll in long-term Medicaid for personal care at home and nursing home coverage. 1-800-342-9871.
- **Application assistance** for the aged, blind and disabled program available through Southwestern Independent Living Center.

Veterans Homecare Program: In-home care for "service-connected" veterans. Contact county Veterans Service Agency (661-8255 south county, 268-6030 north county) to find out of you are eliaible for these.

"Wrinkles should merely indicate where smiles have been."

- Mark Twain

NA DIVISION OF REIDENOUER INSURANCE SERVICES, LLC

Medicare Open Enrollment BEGINS OCTOBER 15th

What should I know:

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Light Along the Way

Continued from Front Page

the glow of the golden years comes from not the past, but from the grace of appreciating today. True age is about wisdom and kindness, not just the number of years lived.

In closing, allow me to share a quote from baseball pitcher, Leroy Robert "Satchel" Paige. "How old would you be if you didn't know?" This question encourages people to think of age as a state of mind rather than just a number. Without knowing their age, people might feel

"younger" or be driven by a sense of maturity rather than a specific number. Without the concept of "getting older," one might focus on living in the moment and enjoying life as it is. Knowing your age can lead to self-imposed limits about what you "should" or "should not" be doing. Without that number, those limitations might disappear. Paige left us with another quote: "Age is a state of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it don't matter."

Helping You Live Long and Stay Strong

Continued from Front Page

What We Do

If you're not familiar with us, here's a quick overview. CCOFAS is an Area Agency on Aging (AAA)—one of nearly 60 across New York State and hundreds across the country. Established under the Older Americans Act of 1973, AAAs are trusted local organizations dedicated to helping older adults live with independence and dignity. Please note our full list of services on pages 6-7 of this issue.

At CCOFAS, we provide:

- Preventive health and wellness programs
- Medicare and Medicaid counseling
- Nutrition and meal services
- Home care supports
- Legal assistance
- Transportation resources
- Safety equipment for fall prevention and recovery
- Support groups for caregivers and older adults

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Why It Matters

Your Area Agency on Aging is your **go-to source** for aging services and caregiver support. Whether you're planning for the future or facing a challenge today, we connect you with programs and services that promote health, safety, and independence. Our goal is simple: **to help you live long and stay strong**.

Call us at 716-753-4582 or visit chautauquacountyny.gov/office-aging to learn more and start planning to age well—at home and in your community.

At the Office for Aging Services, we believe that **education**, **information**, **and action** are key to aging well. Remember to **PLAN** ("Please Look At Now")—so you're equipped to live safely and independently at home as you age.

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to schedule a tour or learn more about how Hultquist Place can be the right fit for your family.

715 Falconer Street, Jamestown, New York

TIS THE SEASON... FOR HARVEST!





Contributed by

Cassandra Skal

Farm Bureau Director and Promotion and Education Chair, First Generation Farmer

Tis the season for the amazing smell of grapes along the lake in the North end of the county while the South end of the county is chopping corn. Both ends of the county are busy bringing in the harvest all hours of the day and night!

Harvest is a big season for the agriculture community. It is really important for all of us to pay attention to each other and share the road. New York State Farm Bureau is leading a campaign state wide to help remind drivers to share the road. You will see some new signs around reminding motorists to share the road with not only harvesting equipment and tractors but also plain community buggies.

In Chautauqua County we teamed up with Sheriff Jim Quattrone; here is what he wants us all to hear.

"I want to encourage all motorist to use caution when sharing the road with slow moving vehicles, to avoid crashes which are often fatal. Motorists can encounter these slow moving vehicles at any time of the year but between April and October we may see more agricultural implements. Animal drawn vehicles will be seen year around and often heavier traffic on Saturday evenings and Sundays. The Chautauqua County Sheriff's

Office was pleased to partner with the Farm Bureau on the Share the Road Campaign, an effort to protect our agricultural workers and those who rely on animal drawn vehicles."

Heather Woodis, from County Ayre Dairy in Dewittville, encourages us to remeber "The average time spent behind slow moving equipment is equal to one extra stop light. Be patient and share the road so everyone can safely make it home to their families."

Trucks carrying products that are being harvested are commonly loaded directly in the field so drivers have to be aware of unpredicted turns into a field. These trucks may not have a slow moving vehicle sign as they can be driven at a normal rate of speed. These will be going to farms to unload or depending on the product they could be going to a processing facility.

"I fear that I am going to die bringing in harvest because of someone running me off the road, passing me on double yellow lines, or whizzing by me at a high rate of speed on a blind corner." Says Dick Kimball, Chautauqua County Farm Bureau Director

Harvest equipment and tractors are so large and high that the operators may not even see you if you are following too closely. That being said, they also do not stop on a dime, it is important to leave extra space between you and the large equipment.

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Audubon Community Nature Center Welcomes Aaron Sidder as New Executive Director

Contributed by

Audubon Community Nature Center

Audubon Community Nature Center (ACNC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Aaron M. Sidder, M.S., as its next Executive Director, effective October 13, 2025.

Sidder brings more than 18 years of experience in landscape ecology, nonprofit leadership, grant acquisition, and environmental policy to his new role at ACNC. Most recently, he served as Ecology & Compliance Coordinator at Bat Conservation International, where he directed multi-agency habitat restoration projects, helped to secure more than \$12 million in federal and state funding, and built coalitions among government, nonprofit, and tribal partners. Sidder is also a widely published science writer, with bylines in National Geographic, Smithsonian Magazine, and Eos, where he has written stories about climate change, conservation, Earth science, and biodiversity for global audiences.

"We are thrilled to welcome Aaron to lead Audubon into its next chapter," said Tina Downey, board chair of Audubon Community Nature Center. "His deep expertise in ecology and conservation, combined with his proven ability to secure resources, build partnerships, and communicate science in ways that inspire, make him an exceptional fit for our mission. Aaron's leadership will ensure that Audubon continues to be a place where people of all ages connect with nature and learn to care for the world around them."

Sidder holds a Master's degree in Ecology from Colorado State University and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Sciences from the University of Oregon. He is a Certified Ecologist through the Ecological Society of America and has been active in advancing equity and inclusion in environmental programming throughout his career.

"I am honored to join Audubon Community Nature Center and to work alongside its dedicated staff, board, volunteers, and community supporters," said Sidder. "The Center has a remarkable legacy of environmental education and stewardship, and I look forward to building on that foundation while exploring new ways to connect people to the natural world and to one another."



With experience in landscape ecology, nonprofit leadership, grant acquisition, and environmental policy, Aaron Sidder brings a broad background to his new position as executive director of Audubon Community Nature Center.

Sidder succeeds Leigh Rovegno, who served as executive director for the past seven years and has provided steady leadership during the transition.

Community members will have the opportunity to meet Sidder at upcoming events, including First Friday on Friday, November 7.

About Audubon Community Nature Center

Audubon Community Nature Center is located at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown, N.Y., and Warren, Pa. You can visit the nearly 600-acre nature preserve, check in on the live birds of prey, and hike over five miles of trails dawn until dusk daily for free.

The three-story Nature Center building houses interactive displays, a collection of live animals including the Hellbender exhibit, and the Blue Heron Gift Shop. Visitors are welcome Mondays through Saturdays, 10 a.m.—4:30 p.m., and Sundays, 1—4:30 p.m. Nature Center members and SNAP/EBT cardholders have free building admission daily. Building admission is also free every Sunday for non-Nature Center members.

To learn more about Audubon and its many programs, call (716) 569-2345, find Audubon Community Nature Center on Facebook or Instagram, or visit AudubonCNC. org. Check out AudubonCNC.org/about for a quick fly-by.

Audubon Community Nature Center builds and nurtures connections between people and nature by providing positive outdoor experiences, opportunities to learn about and understand the natural world, and knowledge to act in environmentally responsible ways.



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October 20, 2025 13 SENIOR ADVOCACY ISSUE





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DENTAL HYGIENE

Biting Into Health: Why Dental Care Matters for Seniors' Nutrition

Contributed by

Ellen Colasuonno, MS RDN

Nutrition & Wellness Educator Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services

For Margaret, 78, biting into an apple used to be her favorite snack. But after losing several teeth, she traded crisp fruit for applesauce. "I just couldn't chew the things I used to love," she said. "So now I have to think about what foods I can handle instead of what I want to eat."

story is unfortunately Her common. When dental health declines, nutrition often suffers. Missing teeth, gum disease, and poorly fitting dentures can make even simple meals painful and push seniors away from fresh, healthy foods toward softer, processed options. Over time, this can increase the risk of malnutrition, illness, and loss of independence.

Dental challenges crept up on Margaret without her noticing. Meals and snacks that used to bring her joy became uncomfortable, and medications left her mouth dry and sensitive. After retirement, paying for dental visits became another hurdle. Small problems that could have been fixed easily gradually began affecting what she could eat and how she felt each day.

When eating becomes difficult, it affects more than just nutrition. Skipping certain foods can make it harder to get enough protein, vitamins, and minerals and can complicate managing conditions like diabetes or heart disease. There can also be social effects, since some older adults avoid meals with friends or family because chewing is uncomfortable or they feel selfconscious. Even small changes in dental health can ripple through daily life, impacting overall wellbeing.

The good news is that many of these challenges can be prevented or managed. Daily habits like brushing, flossing, and caring for dentures make a real difference, and regular dental checkups catch small issues before they grow. Margaret has found that soft, nutrient-rich foods like cooked vegetables, yogurt, and soft pears with cottage cheese allow her to enjoy meals again without giving up the nourishment her body needs. Little changes like these help seniors stay healthy, strong, and independent.

Taking care of your teeth is not just about a bright smile. It can make everyday meals easier and more enjoyable. For seniors like Margaret, maintaining dental health has helped her enjoy soft, nutritious foods again and feel more energized each day. Good dental hygiene is one of the simplest ways to support nutrition, strength, and independence as we age. It is about staying nourished, connected, and enjoying life one bite at a time.

Check out our website at https:// chqgov.com/office-aging to see all the programs and services offered. Additionally, by signing up for our communication system, if you are not already registered, will provide you with information at your fingertips. We send messages about the current programs you may be interested in through your preferred communication method: text, email, or an automated call. If you are not already signed up to receive these messages, just call us at our NY Connects line 716-753-4582.

By making simple and healthy choices on a daily basis, you will be well on your way towards achieving total wellness. We know the healthy choice is not always the easiest choice, but small changes can make a big difference. Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services offers Nutrition & Wellness programs to support you in your journey toward total wellness. Call NY Connects at 716-753-4582 for more details and information about any of the Nutrition and Wellness programs provided by Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services.

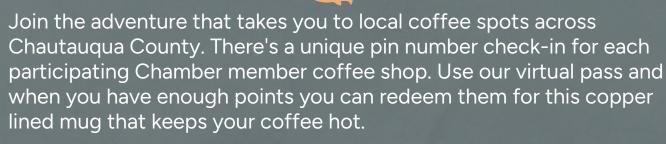
SNAP-Ed materials are funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition **Assistance** Program or SNAP. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Some of these materials have been funded in whole or in part by grants from the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA), and/or the Administration on Aging (AOA) and/ or Administration for Community Living (ACL). Nothing herein is intended, nor should be construed, as an endorsement by the State of New York.

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THE ENNEAGRAM EXPERIENCE

Discovering Ourselves, Deepening Community Saturday, October 25th at 1pm



The Enneagram Experience: Discovering Ourselves, Deepening Community

With Deborah Egerton Ph.D.

World-renowned Enneagram teacher, author, and President of the International Enneagram Association, Dr. Deborah Egerton, returns to the Chautauqua region after her powerful appearance at the Chautauqua Institution for a transformative 3-hour workshop exploring the Enneagram as a path to deeper understanding and connection.

Through guided practices and meaningful discussion, participants will discover how the nine Enneagram points reveal the patterns that shape how we think, feel, and relate. Whether you are new to the Enneagram or continuing your journey, this experience will leave you with tools for clarity, compassion, and growth.

Saturday, October 25, 2025

1:00 – 4:00 PM

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Seats are limited and must be reserved in advance. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

Scan the QR Code and reserve your seat today!

The Enneagram: A Pathway to Understanding and Connection

Contributed by

Dr. Deborah Egerton

World-renowned Enneagram teacher, author, and International Enneagram Association President Dr. Deborah Egerton believes that self-awareness is the foundation for human connection. Her upcoming The workshop, Enneagram Experience: Discovering Ourselves, Deepening Community, hosted by Denise DeAngelo at Jamestown Community College, offers local residents the opportunity to explore that concept firsthand.

"The Enneagram isn't just a personality system—it's a map," says Dr. Egerton. "It helps us see the patterns that shape how we think, feel, and behave. Once we understand those patterns, we can begin to respond to life with intention, compassion, and authenticity."

The Enneagram identifies nine fundamental ways people see and engage with the world. Each point



Dr. Deborah Egerton

reflects a distinct set of motivations and habits developed early in life to help us feel safe, loved, and valued. Over time, those habits become our automatic ways of being. The Enneagram invites us to wake up from autopilot—to understand our inner drives and reconnect with our deeper, truer selves.

Far from putting people into boxes, the Enneagram helps them step out of them. It shows that everyone's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

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Tues, Nov. 4 **VOTE 2025**

Chautauqua **Countywide Races 2025**

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Voter Questions?

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https://chqgov.com/board-of-elections/ Board-of-Elections



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KRAUZA FOR COUNTY CLERK

Contributed by

Greg Krauza

Candidate, Chautauqua County Clerk

Greg Krauza, candidate for Chautauqua County Clerk, recently highlighted his experience and vision if elected Chautauqua County Clerk.

"I have been managing customer service businesses for the last 30 years," he said. "Whether assisting individuals securing a mortgage, providing cost effective employee benefits to small businesses or renovating homes for families, my team and I have had to give great service and manage the ebbs and flows of all factors effecting our business. I have also managed staff over multiple locations, which is very similar to the demands I would face from our current Department of Motor Vehicles locations."

Krauza said he plans to improve service through flexible hours, technology upgrades, ongoing staff training, adding bilingual staff and by surveying the customers of the clerk's office. "Input from customers is an integral part of improving service," he added "Because my businesses on quality customer service I have experience with this. On the clerk's side, I have already been in contact with the business community members that are frequent users. Local attorneys depend on a smooth and efficient clerk's office. Auto dealers depend on the DMV as an extension of their business and need their clerk to be responsive to their needs. I have been visiting both of these type businesses throughout the county to hear their needs and let them know my office plans to be responsive to those needs."

Krauza stated "We need bold changes not only in the Clerk's office but throughout our county. Our current systems are inefficient and we suffer from some of the highest taxes in the entire country. I plan to use the clerk's office to support or lead efforts with our municipalities to work together for structural change that will increase efficiency."

Krauza also pointed his lifelong commitment to volunteerism in the community. While operating his businesses and enjoying his family, he found the energy to support many community efforts. When the Fredonia Farm Festival was set to be cancelled, Krauza stepped up and became chairperson. In the past, he was the chairman of the Jamestown Gus Macker for 20 years. Thirty years ago, he created and served as chairman of SummerFest, a fundraising carnival for the Northern Chautauqua Catholic School. Krauza actively captains an 11 Day PowerPlay team that has raised over \$60,000 to battle cancer and is board president of Filling the Gap, which manages affiliate businesses of the Resource Center. has also served the business community as president of the Fredonia Community Chamber and president of the New York Association of Mortgage Brokers.

"I am confident my combination of private, public and volunteer experience make me uniquely qualified to serve as county clerk," he said. "My past leadership, team building approach to managing staff and willingness to roll up my sleeves and get the job done will make my tenure as county clerk successful.

Krauza is married to Jonelle Frazier, director of sales and marketing at Fredonia Place, and is the proud father of six children and 10 grandchildren. Krauza continues to play men's league hockey for the Beaver Club in Fredonia and is an avid Buffalo Bills and Sabres fan.

League of Women Voters County Clerk Candidate Forum

Contributed by
Greg Carlson
Candidate, County Clerk

This past Tuesday, I participated in the League of Women Voters Candidate Forum at the Jackson Center. First and foremost, I want to thank the moderator, my opponent and most importantly, the voters in attendance for a professional and substantive event. We were able to get through an hour of political discourse without interrupting or talking over each other, which isn't always the case in today's polarized political environment. I was encouraged by the mutual respect and decorum of all who participated and attended.

The forum format facilitated an organized exchange of ideas, and the questions were fair and relevant. However, there were things I wish we could've discussed in greater detail. One example was the topic of interoperability or shared services with town and village clerk offices that was suggested as a path to greater efficiency. In theory, this seems like a good idea, but generally speaking is not executable and lacks practicality. In New York State, town clerks are typically elected and directly accountable to their constituents. Unlike appointed officials, they are not subordinate to another town official or board for day-to-day operations, nor are they subordinate to the county clerk.

Village clerks are appointed, not elected. The village mayor will appoint a clerk with approval of the board of trustees. The village clerk is subordinate to the mayor, but not to the county or town clerks. Though all clerks are responsible for recording and managing records, their responsibilities are mutually exclusive to their respective village,

town or county. Everything from their funding source, to their software systems, to their specific responsibilities are uniquely tailored, and mass operational integration would actually be less efficient not more. Now to be clear, I fully support professional affiliations, meetings and supportive collaboration amongst all the clerks. You can certainly share ideas and take lessons learned back to your respective offices to improve processes, or assist another clerk's office as needed. But these offices generally function best independently.

Another topic I would've liked to discuss is how the county clerk can advocate for positive change beyond direct oversight of the office. For the last six-years, I've worked for County Executive PJ Wendel, and I've seen first hand how he's actively advocated for our county and made our voices heard through increasing committee roles in state, regional and even national organizations for governmental executive leadership. There are similar opportunities for the clerk to advocate for the county through professional organizations like the New York State Association of County Clerks (NYSAC). Currently, there are 11 standing committees in NYSAC, and if elected I will aggressively pursue committee opportunities to advocate for positive changes at the state level. Many of the issues we see in Chautauqua County are not internal, but rather down stream of policies set in Albany.

Overall, the candidate forum was an excellent experience. I commend the League of Women Voters, the Jackson Center, my opponent Mr. Krauza and all of the voters in attendance for a very organized and professional event

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I am eager to represent you, listen to you and work for you.
We cannot continue "government as usual".
Thank you, Greg

"My primary focus is serving the residents of Chautauqua County. There is no singular action or talking point that leads to good governance. It's a commitment to continuous process improvement, and putting our dedicated public servants in the best position to provide efficient and friendly customer service. My focus will be proper staffing, improved training, and easier access for our residents and customers." -Greg Carlson

Paid for by: Friends of Greg Carlson



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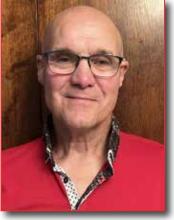


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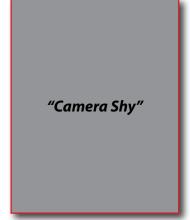




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Anthony J. Dolce Ward 2 Councilman



Seth States for Ward 3 Councilman



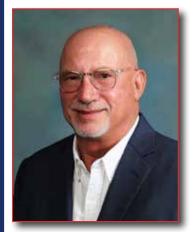
Joseph Pateriniti Ward 4 Councilman



Danny Hickman for Ward 5 Councilman



Andrew Faulkner Ward 6 Councilman



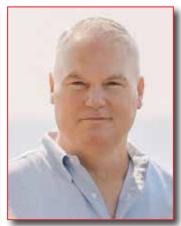
Phillip Landy Legislator, District 9



Jamie Gustafson Legislator, District 10



Tamara Dickey Legislator, District 11



Jeffrey Russell for Legislator, District 12



Joseph Tickle for Legislator, District 13



Experienced Leadership



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POWER DOESN'T WANT CHOICE!

Republicans have held power here for decades.

WHERE HAVE THEY LED US?

To a harsh reality of shrinking communities, lost jobs, and rising poverty. But once, our communities, farms, and families flourished.



Tom Carle
County Executive



Greg Krauza
County Clerk



Vincent DeJoy III
DISTRICT 9
Representing Jamestown



Julie Jackson-Forsberg

DISTRICT 10

Representing Jamestown, Busti,
Lakewood, and Ellicott



Robert Whitney, Jr.

DISTRICT 11

Representing Jamestown



Fred Larson

DISTRICT 12

Representing Jamestown



Tom Nelson

DISTRICT 13

Representing Jamestown



Melissa First

DISTRICT 17

Representing Busti, Harmony, and Clymer

THIS DEMOCATIC TEAM WILL WORK FOR YOU!

Jamestown and Lakewood/Busti Democratic Committees are bringing choice up and down the ballot!

IT'S TIME FOR A <u>CHANGE!</u> VOTE NOV 4



Daniel Gonzalez
JAMESTOWN CITY COUNCIL
AT LARGE



Jeremy Engquist
JAMESTOWN CITY COUNCIL
At Large



Regina Brackman
JAMESTOWN CITY COUNCIL
WARD 3



Doug Scotchmer
JAMESTOWN CITY COUNCIL
WARD 4



Hannah Jaroszynski Jamestown City Council Ward 5



John Jablonski Lakewood Village Trustee



Kristan McMahon Lakewood Village Trustee



Greg Juul III Busti Town Council.



Mike Pisko Busti Town Council.

Like You, I Choose to Live in Chautauqua County! Let's Make It Better Together!

Contributed by

Tom Carle

Candidate, County Executive

Yes. It's true that I have aspirations for Chautauqua County and every one of us!

And yes, it's true that our county is naturally beautiful in many ways. We have terrific people, we have some wonderfully successful businesses and many landowners who care about their property's appearance. We have tremendous schools and an abundance of pride in them.

As the county has declined in population and business, the result is empty and vacant work-sites and homes, unused parking lots and areas that are not kept up. Burneddown buildings, abandoned shopping carts, unmowed culverts and the like leave something to be desired, especially if you are looking to improve and deciding where to begin a transformation. With the decline in population and jobs, there is a loss of money to do anything about it.

If we admit that our appearance is one of our shortcomings, and recognize what is holding our county back from its potential, we can take our collective future in a positive direction. Before any recovery process can take place, you have to understand the issue that you'd like to resolve.

I understand that perfection is unattainable and that there is always work that has to be done if we truly want to move forward. Admitting that there is work to do and that all is not perfect is merely being honest.

So, let's start with the premise that everyone wants our county to attract and retain population and achieve prosperity. Most of all, as we go forward, understand that you have a partner in the effort to improve.

I will begin with affordability, reducing costs and lowering taxes. The county and I will support businesses and municipalities, schools and non-profits. We will work to resolve age-old issues.

We will identify needs, educate and train for the opportunities that await us. We will attract and retain, and we will transform our communities into more than they are today.

As I type this, I have heard the very exciting news that two of our prominent school districts have agreed to work under the direction of one superintendent! It is not just about the savings; it is about sharing expertise and bringing people together, as well. Thank you to all involved with this timely change. This news is exactly where we need to go in sharing services and expertise.

I will work with you to take Chautauqua County to new levels of performance.

Our county's transformation is beginning.

Let's make our county better together!

Turning our population and business losses around is going to take a lot of Hustle and Coordination but we CAN do it.

Contributed by

Melissa First

Candidate

District 17 County Legislature

I'm Melissa First and I'm excited to be a legislative candidate for District 17. In addition to being a parent of 6, and an active part of the Clymer-Sherman-Panama school district, I have professional experience as Senior Management running a 1500 employee food manufacturing facility. I have experience coordinating with state governments to obtain development grants and monies. I have real estate experience and have been managing the business portion of a small construction and design business for 25 years. I would like to use my skills to contribute to my district and the county at large as a legislator for the upcoming term.

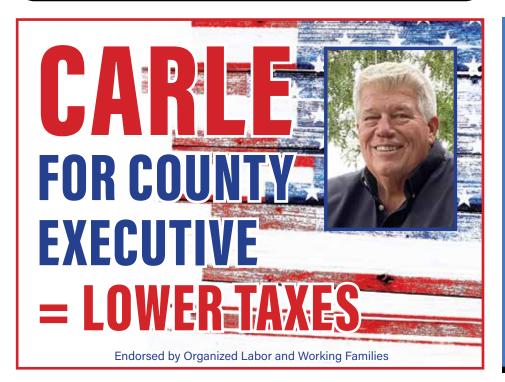
I'm running because I have, like many of us, become frustrated with the lack of of progress in bringing people and businesses back to our area as well as retaining the good people and businesses we already have. I have looked to our elected officials to take leadership over the years but have not seen progress and, in fact, job and population declines continue.

I do not believe this is an intractable problem. There

are models for success among similar cities and counties and there are ways to compete for state and federal development monies even now when budgets are tightening from the federal level on down. Success depends on working affordable housing, training programs, business development and related services simultaneously. And it is going to require a LOT of work on the part of our elected officials.

I believe our local government is doing the best it can with the resources it has, but we need to increase the resources and tax base. Tax breaks are helpful but they don't fix the underlying problem of our decreasing revenue and the same problems will rear their ugly heads until we increase tax revenues through population and business growth.

I was disappointed to read that our Republican legislators "rejected job growth as a county goal" (Jamestown Post Journal, July 25, 2025). I believe that is one of the most important goals as a county legislator. To create jobs. Not just the conditions for businesses but integrating training, housing, zoning. It can be done but it will require maximum effort and I would love the chance to be part of making that happen for the first time in many, many years.



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SHARE S



The Gazette has invited all countywide and legislative candidates to submit an ad and article each week this fall.

We appreciate those candidates that have helped make this special voter education section possible.

We encourage and welcome all.

Legislator Larson: County Taxes Can Be Cut

Contributed by

Legislator Fred Larson

As a county legislator, I support three different tax cuts for county residents.

First, the county real property tax is being routinely increased by about \$1,700,000 every year. I will fight for you against these tax increases.

The county property \$71,500,000 2024, \$73,300,000 this year and \$75,000,000 proposed last month by the county executive for 2026.

The county executive also plans to continue property tax increases of about \$1,700,000 each year.

The proposed property tax increase to \$75,000,000 uses the state's entire 2% tax cap limit on tax increases.

The state's 2% tax cap was not meant to also be a floor to encourage annual tax increases.

Chautauqua County government can afford to freeze the county property tax at this year's \$73,300,000 for three main reasons.

First, the county's share of Medicaid is \$1,000,000 less than it was 20 years ago when the state agreed to cap the county's Medicaid share.

Second, the county's sales tax revenue goes up at least at the rate of inflation. The county's sales tax revenue was \$54,000,000 in 2024 and is projected to be \$57,900,000 in 2026, up \$3,900,000 or 7.2% over just 2 years, more than the rate of inflation.

Third, the county government is currently sitting on a \$35,000,000 "slush fund" or unappropriated fund balance.

Under long-standing county policy, 5% of the county's \$300,000,000 budget or \$15,000,000 would be an adequate "slush fund."

Former County Executive Greg Edwards had an unapproporiated fund balance of \$13,500,000. Former County Executive Vince

Horrigan had a 2013 "slush fund" of \$12,600,000.

At the Oct. 22 County Legislature meeting, I will vote to use enough of the \$35,000,000 "slush fund" to at least freeze the county's property tax at this year's \$73,300,000

The second tax cut I will continue to fight for is to reduce the county's sales tax from 8% to 7 3/4%.

For decades, the county made do with a 7% sales tax. In order to have a sales tax rate above 7% requires state "Home Rule" legislation every 2 years.

This year, I sponsored legislation to ask the state for a reduced 7 3/4% rate. In 2 years I will renew that fight to reduce your sales tax burden.

We need to reduce the county's sales tax rate to better compete with retailing in Pennsylvania which borders us on two sides.

A 1/4% sales tax cut would save a new vehicle buyer about \$100, and would strengthen our retail sector here in Chautauqua County.

The third tax cut I will continue to fight for is for senior citizen homeowners.

The majority in control of the County Legislature set a \$30,000 income limit for senior citizen homeowners to benefit from the County's partial real property tax exemption.

I voted to raise the income limit to \$37,500 on the recommendation of the county's leader of the Office for Aging Services, because \$37,500 is about the official poverty line.

Next year, I will resume the fight to give more of our senior citizen homeowners a much needed tax reduction.

My experience in county government, including first representing the North side of Jamestown in the legislature 40 years ago, serving as your County Attorney from 1998-2005 and now returning to the Legislature two years ago, convinces me that the county can and should give you tax relief.

RE-ELECT EGISLATOR LARSO. Paid for by Friends of Fred Larson

Nelson Re-Election Bid 2025



Contributed by Legislator Tom Nelson

County Legislator Tom Nelson has announced that he is seeking a third term representing District 13 in the Chautauqua County Legislature. Nelson has served in the Legislature since 2023.

"I bring extensive experience in city government," Nelson said, "having served on the Jamestown City Council from 2015 to 2020 as the Ward Six representative." During that time, he served on the Public Works Committee, the Jamestown Local Development Corporation, and as liaison to the Planning Commission. From 2022 to 2024, he also served on the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU).

Currently, Nelson serves on the Audit and Control Committee, the Public Facilities Committee, the Jamestown Planning Commission, and the Cornell Cooperative Extension Board of Directors.

"As your legislator, I have consistently

supported policies that strengthen our community," Nelson said. "I voted to lower county property and sales taxes, increase the share of sales tax revenue returned to the City of Jamestown, keep South County services in Jamestown, and support the Job Corps and local career training programs."

Nelson has also been a strong advocate for protecting social safety nets. "I have opposed federal cuts to Medicaid, SNAP, and the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)," he said.

Looking ahead, Nelson emphasized the need to focus on economic development, public safety, opportunities for young people, and quality care for seniors. We must also address our declining population and restore commercial air service to the Jamestown Airport," he

Jamestown has been home to Nelson and his family for the past 35 years. A graduate of SUNY Fredonia and St. Bonaventure University, he taught U.S. History and Participation in Government at Frewsburg Central before retiring in 2024. He and his wife, Dee, have four adult children and are active members of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, where he serves on the Vestry.

"I'm eager to continue serving as your county legislator," Nelson said. "Together, we can build a stronger future and ensure that Chautauqua County remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family."



RE-ELECT TOM NELSON

COUNTY LEGISLATOR DISTRICT 13



- Voted to lower County Property Taxes
- Voted to reduce County Sales Tax
- Strong Advocate for keeping South County Services in Jamestown
- Supports Job Corps and Career Training Opportunities
- Focused on Economic Development and Public Safety

EXPECT MORE FROM YOUR LEGISLATOR

WORKING FOR YOU. COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITY.

PROUDLY SERVING JAMESTOWN - DISTRICT 13

EXPERIENCE THAT MATTERS:

- Jamestown City Council (2015-2020) Chair, Public Works Committee
- BPU Board Member (2022-2024)
- Retired U.S. History & Government Teacher - 37 years at Frewsburg Central School

Let's keep working together to make Chautauqua County a great place to live, work, and raise a family.





A Date with Civic Engagement

Contributed by

Southern Chautauqua **Democratic Committees**

In 1950, Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson wrote in Communications American Association v. Douds:

"It is not the function of our government to keep the citizen from falling into error; it is the function of the citizen to keep the government from falling into error."

This Election Day, that duty is ours. It's time to make sure our government doesn't keep stumbling into the same old mistakes—and that starts right here at home.

Jackson's insight reminds us that democracy only works when we do. Civic engagement isn't a spectator sport—it demands that we stay informed, get involved and show up.

Two things are essential: we must learn about the issues that affect us, and we must speak up, especially at the ballot box. Local elections, in particular, shape our daily lives far more than most realize.

Of course, staying engaged isn't easy. We live in an age of information—and nonstop disinformation—that can make anvone want to tune out. But democracy depends on us resisting that urge. We have to keep testing what we believe, asking tough questions and deciding how to act on the facts.

Each election is a chance to "kick the tires" on our government. Is our community doing well—or just well enough? Think about your own quality of life: your job, your housing, your taxes, your ability to thrive here. If the answer feels like "just good enough," then it's time for change.

And change is sorely needed in Chautauqua County.

Over the past twenty years, our population has dropped by roughly 10%. That means fewer workers, fewer taxpayers and fewer opportunities. Since 2010, we've lost 14,000 jobs—yet county leaders have failed to prioritize economic growth or make this region attractive to new residents.

Taxes remain among the highest in New York, yet the Republican majority in the County Legislature refuses to lower the sales tax rate, offer property tax relief by using part of its \$37 million reserve or raise the senior partial property tax exemption from its minimum income level.

Meanwhile, crumbling housing, absentee landlords and persistent poverty are eroding neighborhoods. Homelessness and drug-related crime are on the rise. Without bold, coordinated action, these problems will only deepen and more families will move away.

Does this sound "good enough" to you? Because Republican leaders seem to think it is. They've accepted the status quo, and we've paid the price.

But this year, we finally have a

For the first time in years, 58 Democrats are on the ballot across county—people who've done the hard work to step up, get involved and fight for a better future. They're ready to bring energy, ideas and accountability back to local government.

All that's left is for you to do your

Make your voice heard.

Vote for change on November 4th.



Article Contributed by

Daniel J. Heitzenrater

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO

Nominations Open for Pam Lydic Coalition **Builder Award**

The CHQ Chamber is accepting nominations now for the Pam Lydic Coalition Builder Award. The Chamber developed this award in 2012 as a way to honor the memory of its first executive director. Pam Lydic was instrumental in bringing together Northern Chautauqua Chamber of Commerce and the Jamestown Area Chamber of Commerce to form the Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce in 2000. The award honors her work and her efforts to build a stronger community through collaborations and partnerships, paying tribute to those who carry on her legacy of bringing people together.

Nominations are being accepted online at www.chqchamber.org/ award-nomination-form. The deadline for submission is October 24. The CHQ Chamber Board of Directors will review nominations and select this year's recipient.

Business After Hours at Full Strength Coffee is October 30

Join us for Business After Hours at Full Strength Coffee Company, 55 East Main Street, Westfield, from 5:30-7pm Thursday, October 30. This special event will feature Ghostfish Brewing Company.

Chamber member businesses can send two people free of charge. Non-members or anyone above the two-person limit will be \$10. Advanced registration is

CHAMBER CORNER

encouraged, as space is limited for this event. Register now through our Chamber web calendar at www.chqchamber.org.

Business After Hours at Full Strength Coffee is sponsored by Full Strength Coffee Company, AHN Westfield Memorial Hospital, DFT Communications, LaBella Associates, National Grid, Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union, Jamestown Community College, Media One Radio Group, and the State University of New York at Fredonia.

Play Along with the **Chautauqua Coffee Crawl**

Explore, sip and win! Join this adventure that takes you to the best local coffee spots Chautauqua County. There's a unique pin number check-in for each participating Chamber member coffee shop. Participating coffee shops are: 3 Lakes Cafe, Cassadaga; Central Station Restaurant, Dunkirk; Crown Street Roasting Company, Jamestown; Domus Fredonia; Full Strength Coffee Company, Westfield; Jenna's 4th Street Cafe, Dunkirk; Labyrinth Company, Jamestown; Music For Your Mouth, Mayville; PersNikkity Pies, Falconer; Sacred Grounds Coffee House, Lily Dale; She Sings Cafe, Restaurant and Bar, Mayville; The Parkview Restaurant, Westfield.

Use our virtual passport to play along and when you have enough points, you can redeem them for this special travel mug: copperlined to keep your coffee hot with a cork bottom for great stability. Check in every 12 hours to participate. Learn more at www. chqchamber.org/experiences.



Early Voting Starts Oct. 25. Scan Code for schedule



U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Safe Boating Class

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary 092-03-04 is offering a Safe Boating Class via Zoom on Saturday, December 6th, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

This class meets the New York State requirements for mandatory boating safety education.

To register, contact Captain Wagner at captainmmwagner@gmail.com and include your full name, address, phone number, and email address.

Participants will need a computer with a camera to take part in the class.

Cost: \$30.00 — payment is due after the class is completed.



CHQgazette.com

The Land Conservancy Opens the Floating Fen Preserve in Chautauqua County





Contributed by

Western New York Land Conservancy

The Western New York Land Conservancy is pleased to announce the opening of its newest preserve, the Floating Fen Preserve in Chautauqua County on October 16th. This spectacular 225-acre forest is home to a unique wetland that includes a floating peat mat, "the floating fen," from which the preserve derives its name. The fen was formed during the last Ice Age; when the glaciers retreated, they scored deep cuts in the earth that have filled in over millennia.

Visitors to the new preserve will be able to enjoy scenic vistas around this remarkable fen. The Land Conservancy's stewardship team, led by Josh Balisteri, designed and built the 2-mile hiking trail. The Land Conservancy will host a grand opening to introduce the trail to the public.

The Floating Fen Preserve is an integral part of the WNY Wildway, the Land Conservancy's plan to create an extensive series of protected lands that connect the vast forests of northern Pennsylvania to the Great Lakes and link up with the Eastern Wildway. Combined, the Floating Fen and College Lodge Forest total nearly 400 acres of contiguous land in a critical linkage area.

Protecting linkages such in the WNY Wildway is a key component of the Land Conservancy's long-term vision. "Only 1.3% of WNY Wildway linkage areas are protected," says the Land Conservancy's Executive Director, Marisa Riggi. "This leaves critical corridors between habitat cores vulnerable, so we aim to conserve additional linkages in the coming years. Not only is the Floating Fen a beautiful place to discover the wonders of nature, it's also a vital habitat and linkage for many rare plants and animals. I'm thrilled

that our community was able to come together to protect it."

Like the neighboring College Lodge Forest, the Floating Fen is situated directly in a migratory bird corridor. That means birds as diverse as Veeries, Blackburnian Warblers, Yellow-billed Cuckoos, and Scarlet Tanagers may all descend on the forest to nest in the spring. This

creates a vivid atmosphere for birding—and a truly unique opportunity for birders and hikers alike to experience this beautiful property.

The Floating Fen is also located in a tension zone—it is the northernmost range of some species, and the southernmost range of others. As a result, it's home to an exceptional array of rare peatland plants, carnivorous sundews, blue flag iris, and the very floating fen from which it derives its name. The Floating Fen's diverse habitats make it an ideal home to black bears, wood ducks, red-shouldered hawks, porcupines, fishers, and beavers.

Getting there: The Floating Fen Preserve is located on Chautauqua Road near Fredonia. Learn more at wnylc.org/ floatingfen.

The Western New York Land Conservancy is a regional, nonprofit land trust that has protected more than 8,400 acres of land with significant conservation value in Western New York for the benefit of future generations. We envision a future in which forests, farms, meadows, and waterways are connected, cherished, and protected in Western New York. Our clean air, clean water, and fertile soils will equitably support the health and wellbeing of future generations of every living thing. The Land Conservancy is accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. For more information on upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, or the mission of the Western New York Land Conservancy, please call (716) 687-1225 or visit wnylc.org.

CBA Hosts Successful White Cane Awareness Day Walk in Fredonia



The 2025 White Cane Safety Awareness Day Walk was well attended.

Contributed by

CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services

CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services brought staff, clients, and community supporters together at Barker Commons Park for the organization's 4th Annual White Cane Awareness Day Walk. This year marked the first time the event was held in Fredonia.

The event aimed to raise awareness about the white cane, an important symbol of independence for individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Fredonia Mayor Michael Ferguson attended the event and issued an official proclamation declaring October 15 as White Cane Awareness Day in Fredonia. After the proclamation, attendees participated in a group walk around the park, crossing the main streets of Fredonia. Following the walk, everyone enjoyed refreshments donated by Farm Fresh Bakery of Jamestown, as well as treats brought by family members of clients.

"We were fortunate once again this year with beautiful weather, and we had a fantastic turnout," said Megan Maynard, Executive Director of CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services. "We were thrilled with the level of support. The attendance from friends of CBA, board members, clients, their guide dogs, and local Lions Club members was truly wonderful. I hope we can continue to organize more events like this to bring our clients together and raise community awareness."

CBA Vision Rehabilitation Services provides services to individuals who are legally blind in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties. White Cane Awareness Day, first recognized nationally in 1964, honors the independence and mobility that the white cane provides to individuals who are blind. The day also serves to remind motorists and the public about the traffic safety laws that protect white cane users.

For more information about CBA's programs or to view photos from the event, visit chavision.org or call 716-664-6660. CBA is a proud United Way Community Partner.



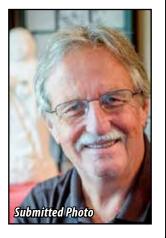
Are you or someone you know suffering from severe vision loss?

WE CAN HELP.

For more information call 716-664-6660 or www.cbavision.org

Hear About Welcoming the Stranger This Sunday

"Welcoming the Stranger" is the subject of Unitarian Universalist minister Rev. Alex Holt's sermon when he speaks virtually at the UU Congregation of Jamestown's 10:30 a.m. hybrid service this Sunday, October 26. Holt says, "It's sometimes a bit tricky to welcome the stranger. New relationships, wisdom hard won, and even looking in the mirror are times when we find the stranger and wonder what to do to welcome. Perhaps they come bearing gifts?" All are welcome to the service at 1255 Prendergast Avenue. To participate virtually, use the link at UUJamestown.org/calendar.





The Enneagram: A Pathway to Understanding and Connection

Continued from Page 15

behaviors are rooted in a universal human desire to belong and to be understood. "When we can recognize that everyone's reactions come from a place of longing or fear, we start to replace judgment with curiosity," Dr. Egerton explains. "That's when empathy—and healing—begin."

A psychotherapist and internationally respected voice in the Enneagram community, Dr. Egerton integrates this personality archetype with her lifelong commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. Her work highlights the Enneagram as a practical bridge across differences—racial, cultural, and generational.

"In my experience, we can't create equity or belonging in the world if we haven't done our own inner work first," she notes. "The Enneagram helps us understand our internal defenses, so we can meet others from a place of awareness rather than reaction."

Participants in The Enneagram Experience can expect an afternoon of guided practices, reflective discussion, and shared learning. The workshop offers practical tools to enhance self-understanding and relationships, whether one is brand new to the Enneagram or a longtime student.

Dr. Egerton has previously spoken at the Chautauqua Institution and says she looks forward to returning to a community known for its openness to dialogue and transformation. "Chautauqua has always been a space for growth," she reflects. "It's the perfect setting to explore what it means to live more consciously and compassionately."

The Enneagram Experience: Discovering Ourselves, Deepening Community

With Dr. Deborah Egerton Date: Saturday, October 25, 2025 Time: 1:00 – 4:00 PM Location: Jamestown Community College, 525 Falconer Street, Jamestown, NY 14701

Seats must be reserved in advance; tickets will not be sold at the door.

To register, visit www.deborahegerton.com/ welcome-to-the-enneagramexperience

Deborah Threadgill Egerton, Ph.D. is an Internationally Respected Psychotherapist, Best-selling Author, and Unity and Belonging Advocate for the Healing of Humanity. In her multifaceted roles of Consultant, Coach, Mentor, and Spiritual Teacher she focuses on guiding humanity toward a more compassionate approach engaging inner work by harnessing the insights of the Enneagram.

Community Helping Hands Christmas Room Opening



Contributed by

Community Helping Hands

Community Helping Hands will again have The Christmas Room open for shoppers to pick up all their Christmas decorating needs at very reasonable prices. Besides the previously loved items for sale, we have new (still in the packages) items donated by a retailer, to be sold at very reduced prices!

The Grand Opening of The Christmas Room is Saturday, October 25 at 10 AM. The Room will be open until 3 PM on that Saturday and then open on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and

Fridays from 3 to 7 (excluding the week of Thanksgiving) until December 20.

Come to CHH at 31 Water Street in Jamestown to find items to fill your home with Christmas decorations, get a tree for your porch, pick up items for your craft projects, or find cards and stationery to send Christmas greetings.

The revenue from The Christmas Room supports Community Helping Hands as we meet the needs of our clients. Please check out The Christmas Room and remind your friends and family of the great deals on all things Christmasy!

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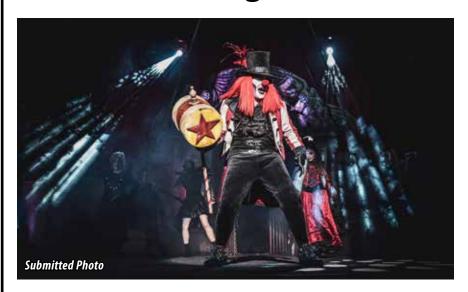
\$75 doe & \$85 buck, regular cut. Freedom Mounts \$90.

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We process beef & pigs in the deer off-season.

PA is now accepting NYS deer!
CWD certified

October 20, 2025 **25**

The Vampire Circus Comes to the Reg Lenna



Contributed by Reg Lenna Center for the Arts

The Vampire Circus Comes to the Reg Lenna Center for the Arts in Jamestown, NY this October for a Spooky Spectacle!

Just in time for Halloween, The Vampire Circus is descending upon the Reg Lenna Center for the Arts in Jamestown, NY for a night of thrills, chills, and extraordinary entertainment! This mesmerizing, gothic-infused spectacle will take place Saturday, October 25th at 8 p.m., and promises a hauntingly beautiful fusion of circus artistry, theater, technology, twisted acrobatics, and the mysterious allure of vampires.

The Vampire Circus combines jawdropping acrobatics, contortion, aerial stunts, and mind-bending

performances. Guests will be transported to a world where the supernatural reigns, and where death-defying acts are as thrilling as the storyline itself. Whether you are a fan of dark fantasy or just seeking an unforgettable night out, this show has something for everyone.

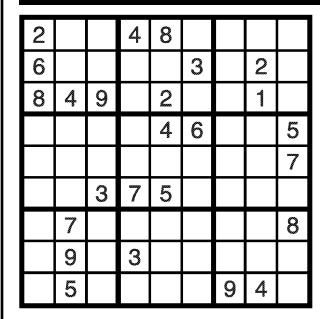
Tickets for this event are on sale now. The Reg Lenna Center for The Arts box office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 12-5 p.m. and one hour before movies and events. Tickets may also be purchased by calling 716.484.7070 or at reglenna.com. Reg Lenna Center for The Arts is located at 116 E. 3rd St. in Jamestown, NY.

The Reg Lenna Center for The Arts' programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

Feature your Business of Organization in the Next Gazette **CHQgazette.com** - Text, call, or email today! — Lori Cornell 716-720-1845 cornell@CHQgazette.com



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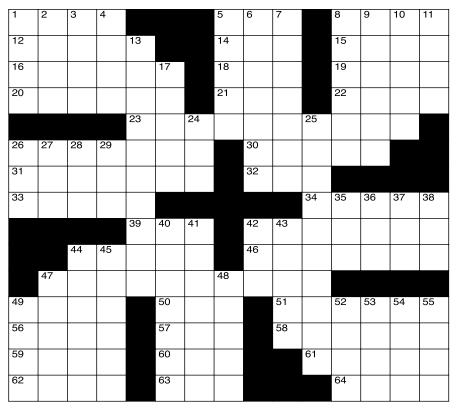


Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

/el: Intermediate

CROSSWORD



- 1. Remark
- 5. Upper body part 8. Expression of dismissiveness
- 12. Alternate name
- 14. Popular beverage
- 15. Swiss river
- 16. Step-shaped recess
- 18. Rocker Stewart 19. Bright shade of color
- 20. Popular "street"
- 21. Wrath
- 22. Heat units
- 23. Nocturnal omnivorous mammals
- 26. Fall back into
- 30. Remove from the record
- 31. Sound a splash made
- 32. Popular Dodge pickup model
- 33. Jamaican river

- 34. Notable event in Texas history
- 39. Cool!
- 42. Subset of Judaism
- 44. Newly entered cadet
- 46. Duct in urinary system
- 47. Exterminator
- 49. Snatch quickly
- 50. Have already done 51. Less healthy
- 56. Therefore
- 57. What couples say on the altar
- 58. Mysteriously
- 59. Look angry or sullen
- 60. Bird's beak
- 61. Taco ingredient 62. Square measures
- 63. Google certification (abbr.)
- 64. Singer Hansard

- 1. Pubs
- 2. Wings
- 3. Popular BBQ dish
- 4. Small sponge cake
- 5. Open-roofed entrance halls
- 6. Organize anew
- 7. Type of wine
- 8. Forums
- 9. North Atlantic islands (alt. sp.)
- 10. Pond dwellers
- 11. Large integers
- 13. Signaled
- 17. Brief
- 24. Type of student
- 25. Tibetan monasteries
- 26. Revolutions per minute
- 27. NY Giants great Manning
- 28. Local area network

- 29. Residue from burning
- 35. Illuminated
- 36. Vasopressin
- 37. Notable space station
- 38. Wood sorrel
- 40. Adhering to laws
- 41. Chose
- 42. Hovel
- 43. Stood up
- 44. European city
- 45. Works ceaselessly
- 47. Mistake
- 48. Sun-dried brick
- 49. Sicilian city
- 52. A steep rugged rock or cliff
- 53. Murder
- 54. Other
- 55. "Deadpool" actor Reynolds



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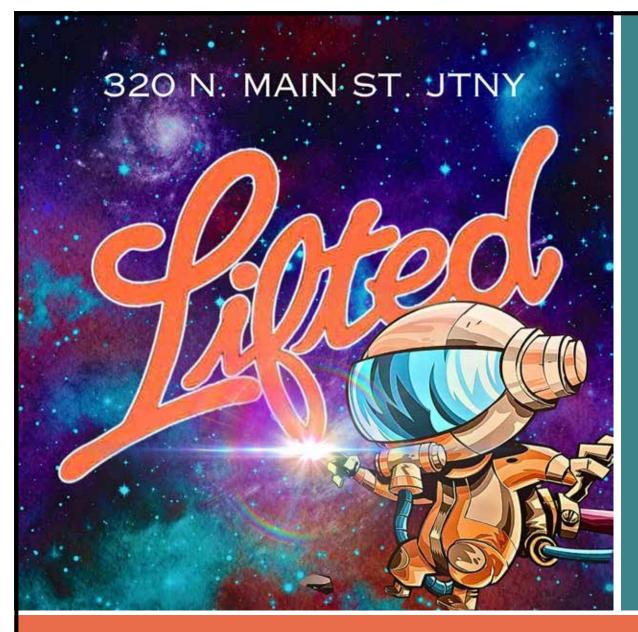
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Opera House to Present Area Premiere of Native's Latest Film

Contributed by

Fredonia Opera House

The 1891 Fredonia Opera House will present the area premiere screening of "Frenzy Moon," the latest film from Filmmaker Gregory Lamberson on Fri., Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. Lamberson will be on hand to participate in its screening along with several cast members, all of whom will participate in a Q&A following the screening.

Horror thriller "Frenzy Moon" is Lamberson's tenth feature film as a director, and his seventh filmed in western New York. (Lamberson was born in Gowanda, and raised in Fredonia.)

The movie tells the story of six college students and a mysterious hunter who spend a terrifying night battling werewolves in a remote cabin. Lamberson describes "Frenzy Moon" as "a cross between 'The Howling' and Carpenter's 'The Thing.'" The film won a Gold Award for Best Film at the Pittsburgh Moving Picture Festival. The film also won a Bronze Award for Best Film Score at the same festival. The score was composed by SUNY Fredonia School of Music Lecturers Armand Petri and Ed Croft.

The film's principal cast is primarily comprised of Western New York theater actors: Alyssa Grace Adams, Aaron Krygier, Kayla Walker, Gabrielle Nunzio, Harold Octavius Jacob, Steven Maiseke and Jacob Applegate. Lamberson cast many of them after scouting them in local stage productions. The crew was also local. It was filmed largely in Clarence.

Guild of America, some of Lamberson's previous "Johnny Gruesome," include "Widow's Point," and "Guns of Eden." Lamberson also is the author of 15 books, including the novels The Frenzy Way, The Frenzy War and The Frenzy Wolves.

Members of SUNY Fredonia's Digital Marketing for the Music Industry class are sponsoring a food drive at the screening. Bring a donation of a non-perishable food item (canned fruit, canned



vegetables, peanut butter, pasta, etc.) to benefit the Chautauqua County Rural Ministry, and receive a limited edition CD featuring John Rzeznik (The Goo Goo Dolls) and Mary Ramsey (10,000 Maniacs).

Also to be screened prior to the feature film are two shorts filmed and produced by local filmmakers: "Close Your Eyes" (5 minutes), and "Shadows" (11 minutes).

Directed Hope "Close Muehlbauer, Your Eyes" produced for Warehouse 47 Films, production company of Donovan Gale, Jay Gleason, and Gabriell Nunzio, all of whom worked on Frenzy Moon. Gale and Gleason are SUNY Fredonia alumni. In it, a young couple has a conversation that will decide the future of their relationship.

"Shadows" is written and directed by, and stars Fredonia filmmaker Tim Watson. In this short, a lone man struggles with a sinister presence inside his apartment.

Tickets to the film screening are \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors/ students, and are available at the door only.

The 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center is a member-supported not-forprofit performing arts center with a mission to "present the performing arts for the benefit of our community and region ... providing access to artistic diversity ... and high-quality programming at an affordable price." It is located in Village Hall in downtown Fredonia. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.fredopera.org.



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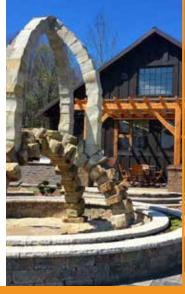


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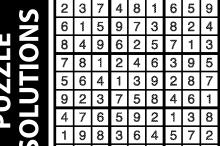
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PUZZLES ON PAGE 25

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Agritourism Conference to Strengthen Farm-Based Tourism

Contributed by

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Cornell Cooperative The Extension Agritourism Program Work Team invites farmers, tourism professionals, educators, and community leaders to attend the New York State Agritourism Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY. This two-day event on Monday, November 10 and Tuesday, November 11, will offer valuable insights and hands-on learning opportunities for anyone interested strengthening in or starting an agritourism enterprise.

The conference features two educational tracks, more than 18 speakers, and representatives from across New York's agricultural and tourism sectors, including Farm Credit East, I Love NY, Tourism Promotion Agencies, and the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets. Attendees will also enjoy a regional networking event designed to build partnerships and foster collaboration.

On the second day, participants will select from two immersive experiences: "Hosting Agritourism Workshops" "Interactive Farm Tours." These sessions will guide attendees through planning, logistics, pricing, and customer engagement strategies before concluding with interactive, hands-on activities such as a lavender wreath-making class or sample farm tour stations featuring planting, agricultural literacy materials, and crafts.

Registration for the conference is \$100, which includes light snacks on both days. To view the full conference schedule and learn more, visit https://ccebroome.my.canva.site/2025-nys-agritourism-conference/#schedule



Theatre department brings 'Lightning Thief' musical to life at Fredonia

Contributed by

Fredonia Opera House

Minotaurs, exploding buses and a rock band share the stage in an epic production this October at the State University of New York at Fredonia.

The Department of Theatre and Dance opens its 2025-26 Walter Gloor Mainstage Series with "The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical" from Oct. 24 to Nov. 2 in the Robert W. Marvel Theatre on the Fredonia campus.

Tickets are available online 24/7 at fredonia.edu/tickets or on Monday, Wednesday or Friday by phone at 716-673-3501 or in person at the Campus Ticket Office in the Williams Center.

Director Dr. Jessica Hillman-McCord said the production will feature plenty of "theatrical magic," as monsters, exploding buses and fight sequences come to life.

"It's a visually exciting production," she said. "I hope audiences will have a super good time."

"The Lightning Thief" is the musical adaptation of Rick Riordan's bestselling book that made its Broadway debut in 2019. The tale follows Percy Jackson, a teenager who discovers he's a demigod. He and his friends must embark on an epic journey to prevent a war among the gods.

"The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical" is supported by the Walter Gloor Mainstage Series Endowment of the Fredonia College Foundation and is presented as part of the 2025-26 Lake Shore Bank Season.



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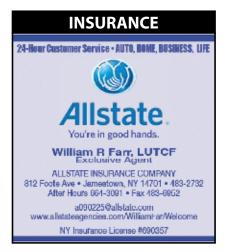






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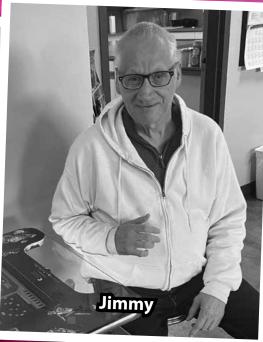


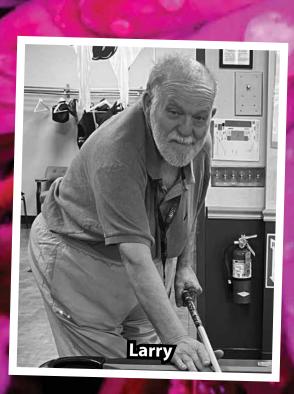
















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