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A LEGACY OF INDUSTRIAL EXCELLENCE: A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

Featured Writer

Todd Trantum

Executive Director, Manufacturers
Association of the Southern Tier
President, Dream It Do It Western New York

For more than a century, the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier (MAST) has anchored Western New York’s industrial community. Founded in 1900 as the Manufacturers Association of the Jamestown Area (MAJA), it evolved from a coalition of Jamestown based manufacturers into a regional force for innovation, workforce development and advocacy. Its mission remains constant: support, promote and

connect manufacturers through collaboration that strengthens the regional economy.

Origins: Cooperative Spirit (1900–1950)

Jamestown’s turn-of-the-century manufacturing boom demanded a unified voice. Under first president George V. Blackstone, MAJA combined practical problem-solving with community building: launching Jamestown Mutual Insurance to tame rising premiums; creating Jamestown Industries, Inc. for group purchasing; and operating a shared employment bureau that screened roughly 1,000 applicants per year.

Early transport savings came from a pool-car freight service that later ran until 1970. By the 1920s, MAJA even operated an automobile repair facility, while coal and gas purchasing cooperatives lowered energy costs for employers and their workers. At the time, members and their employees accounted for about half of Jamestown’s population—underscoring manufacturing’s civic footprint.

Association Roots in America

Trade associations trace their lineage to medieval guilds: bodies that set

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

DREAM IT DO IT WESTERN NEW YORK: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY

Featured Writer

Cindy Aronson

Look around you. The chair you’re sitting in, the phone in your pocket, the car you drive nearly everything you use every day is made by someone in manufacturing. Behind every product is a team of creative, skilled people turning ideas into reality. In Western New York, if you can dream it, you can do it — through a career in manufacturing.

Across the five counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Niagara, more than 70,000 people work in manufacturing — an industry that provides good pay, strong benefits, and pathways for advancement. Yet as thousands of experienced workers near retirement, local companies face a growing need for the next generation of talent. Without coordinated efforts between schools, employers, and community partners, the region’s 1,600 manufacturers — who together generate \$26.8 billion in annual

shipments — risk losing the workforce that drives their success.

That’s where Dream It Do It Western New York (DIDIWNY) comes in. This innovative initiative is dedicated to connecting students with meaningful careers in manufacturing by bridging the gap between education and industry. By partnering with schools, businesses, and community organizations, DIDIWNY is energizing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Get Started today and sign up for the
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This Week Around Town

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29

Halloween Fun Fair | 4 PM-7:30 PM

Chautauqua Safety Village | Ashville
For Info: chautauquasafetyvillage.com/halloween-event

Movies at The Reg: The Long Walk | 7 PM

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

Guppy's Boo Before Halloween 4:30 PM-10 PM

Guppy's Restaurant & Tavern | Bemus Point
For Info: 716-386-4422

Free SUNY Fredonia Young Artists Recital | 5:30 PM

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

CHQ Business After Hours 5:30 PM-7 PM

Full Strength Coffee Company | Westfield
For Info: chqchamber.org

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

Trick-or-Treat | 4 PM-9 PM

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

Halloween Read and Treat | 6 PM-8 PM

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown
For Info: uujamestown.org

Raven & Thorn Masquerade Party 7 PM

Raven & Thorn | Fredonia
For Info: 716-232-0879

County-Wide Halloween

Chautauqua County
For Info: hours available on page 6

Movies at The Reg: The Rocky Horror Picture Show | 10 PM

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

"Wetlands" Public Meeting #13 9:30 AM-11 AM

The Lawson Center | Bemus Point
For Info: chqlpoa.org

Findley Lake Fall Craft Show 10 AM-4 PM

Findley Lake Fire Hall | Findley Lake
For Info: visitfindleylake.com

The Cinema Series: The Senior 7:30 PM

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Speech by Paul Demler, Former Federal Employee | 10:30 AM

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown
For Info: uujamestown.org

First Sunday Storytime | 12:30 PM

Audubon Community Nature Center | Jamestown
For Info: auduboncnc.org

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3-SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

2025 Holiday Studio Open House 10 AM-5 PM daily

Janet Mandel Art Studio | Kennedy
For Info: janetmandel.com

Audubon Wins Best Destination Award, Has Free First Sunday Story Time

The Warren Times Observer has announced that Audubon Community Nature Center was chosen the Best Chautauqua County Destination in their Best of the Best Readers' Choice contest for 2025. This Sunday you can take your favorite 2-8 year old(s) to Audubon for First Sunday Story Time, 12:30-1 p.m. After your indoor nature-based reading adventure, visit the live animals, then go outside to observe the resident birds of prey and have lots of other fun—all for free. The Nature Center is at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown and Warren. For more information and to make reservations for Story Time, call (716) 569-2345 or go to AudubonCNC.org/Events





In this issue:

Lil' Gingers Deli

A2Z Custom Signs & Apparel

MANUFACTURING Trivia

- What tool was invented by The Crescent Tool Company in 1907?
- How many furniture factories were in Jamestown in 1930?
- What two resources did the initial industrial development of Jamestown depend upon?
- Jamestown was also once called the “_____ Capital of the World”.
- What year was the first cabinet making shop converted to a water powered factory?
- _____ Table Company invented a variety of furniture making machines sold throughout the United States.
- By 1911 Jamestown was _____ in the manufacturing of furniture in the US.
- Which company led by Reginald Lenna, was Jamestown’s largest employer for most of the 20th Century?
- What building what constructed to showcase and hold furniture expositions?
- For nearly 100 years, Jamestown was the largest manufacturer of this 1890 invention.

1. Crescent Wrench 2. 50 3. Wood & Water 4. Furniture Mart Building 5. 1837 6. Maddox 7. Second 8. Blackstone Corporation 9. Furniture Mart Building 10. the lever-based voting machine



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Editorial with Lori Cornell

DREAM IT, DO IT



Owner & Publisher
Lori Cornell

This edition, we are proud to partner with the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier (MAST) and Dream It Do It Western New York (DIDIWNY) in recognizing October as "Manufacturing Month".

This week, in particular, we celebrate 125 years of MAST in Chautauqua County and our accomplished history. Hard work and ingenuity have long been the bedrock of our community; while job creation, retention and promise for the future, make us the resilient economy that we are. But *who* is a manufacturer?

According to Webster's, in its most simple definition, "A manufacturer is a **person** or company that produces finished goods from raw materials by using various tools, equipment, and processes, and then sells the goods to consumers, wholesalers,

distributors, retailers, or to other manufacturers for the production of more complex goods."

At the Gazette, we applaud the **people** behind this production. The unparalleled human grit and commitment that make a product possible. The leadership at the top and the fortitude in the ranks - all human cogs in a wheel of strength. We recognize the companies, but we applaud the individuals - leaders in manufacturing and their hardworking employees - for their commitment to local industry.

Yes, they are the production; yes, they are the essential jobs, but there's something about a manufacturer that Webster can't define. There's something about the **person** within that cuts such a special cloth: Manufacturers are among the most well-respected human capital in our community. And perhaps it's this intrinsic value that we celebrate most this week. A manufacturer is a mover, a shaker, a voice and a reason: a person committed to community. We are stronger together because of you.

Thank you and congratulations, manufacturers!

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GAZETTE

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SUBMISSION DEADLINES
Thursdays at 5:00 pm

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The Chautauqua Gazette is a locally owned free weekly, community newspaper that highlights the notable events and remarkable people who make our region a unique and vibrant place to live. The Chautauqua Gazette is published every Monday and distributed to dealer locations in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties in New York and in Warren County, Pennsylvania.

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



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First President of the
Manufacturers Association of the
Southern Tier 10

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In Loving Memory

October 19

Andy M. Miller, 78

Panama

Lind Funeral Home

October 22

Denise D. Davis, 63

Ashville

Lind Funeral Home

October 22

Samuel V. Caruso, 73

Jamestown

Lind Funeral Home

October 24

Daniel P. "Sparky" Moran, 65

Lakewood

Lind Funeral Home

Ben Stiller Donates Stiller & Meara Archive to National Comedy Center as Documentary on His Parents' Legacy Debuts

Contributed by

National Comedy Center

The National Comedy Center – the United States’ museum and national archive dedicated to the art form of comedy – announced jointly with Ben Stiller that it is now the home to the career archive of legendary comedy duo Jerry Stiller and Anne Meara. Donated by Ben Stiller and the Stiller family, the archive spans more than five decades of creative collaboration, documenting the evolution and impact of one of America’s most enduring comedic partnerships.

The archive’s donation to the National Comedy Center coincides with the release of Nothing Is Lost – Ben Stiller’s deeply personal new documentary about his parents’ lives and legacy, which debuts October 24 on Apple TV+. Throughout the film, materials from the archive are featured, offering audiences a rare look at the couple’s creative process and working relationship.

“Knowing my parents’ body of work is preserved at the National Comedy Center means a great deal, because the material they left behind was not just a gift for my family, but for anyone who wants to understand comedy as a creative process,” said Ben Stiller. “They would have been very proud to know that the National Comedy Center is bringing their archive to life in a way that can inspire and educate future generations.”

With sharp, character-driven performances and a conversational approach, Stiller & Meara connected with audiences during the transformational decades of the 1960s and 1970s, rising from New York clubs to a remarkable 36 appearances on The Ed Sullivan Show – the era’s most coveted stage – and to countless other television talk and variety programs, including The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson and The Carol Burnett Show.

As a real-life married couple – he Jewish and she raised Irish Catholic – Stiller and Meara drew on the details of their own lives to create sketches that felt relatable and authentic. Their recurring characters, Hershey Horowitz and Mary Elizabeth Doyle, reflected the friction of worlds colliding – a



Jerry Stiller and Anne Meara
photo credit: National Comedy Center

widely felt experience in post-war America – and, with warmth and intelligence, helped to popularize a more personal and authentic style of comedy that continues to resonate today.

“Stiller & Meara broke ground by mining their own lives for moments rooted in honesty and affection,” stated Journey Gunderson, Executive Director of the National Comedy Center. “Their work was more than funny; it mainstreamed conversations about cultural difference, interfaith dating, gender equity, and the loosening of traditional relationship roles in a way that was quietly revolutionary.”

Beyond their collaborative work, both built acclaimed parallel careers as solo artists – Meara as a writer and in-demand TV actress who racked up four Emmy nominations across three decades as well as a Tony nomination for a late-career renaissance on the Broadway stage, and Stiller as both a seasoned stage performer and a screen actor who embodied unforgettable comedic characters in films like Hairspray and on television series including The King of Queens and his Emmy-nominated role on Seinfeld.

The newly donated archive was meticulously assembled by Jerry Stiller and Anne Meara – its curation a particular passion for Stiller. “From their earliest improv sessions at Chicago’s storied Compass Players, to love letters encapsulating their youthful courtship, to handwritten drafts of sketches like ‘Computer Dating’ and ‘The Last Two People on Earth,’ which made history on Ed Sullivan’s stage, Stiller and Meara’s archive contains tens of thousands of pages spanning a remarkable body of work,” said Dr. Laura LaPlaca, head of the National Comedy Center’s archive. “Their

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

In Loving Memory

Mona Ruth (Meabon) Smith
January 27, 1957 - October 14, 2025

Mona Ruth (Meabon) Smith, age 68 of Columbia, SC passed away October 14, 2025 at her residence. Born January 27, 1957 in Jamestown, NY. She was the daughter of Freemont Meabon and Mariam Mildred (Duell) Meabon. Both precede her in death. Mona leaves behind 4 children and numerous grandchildren. She is also survived by one brother and three sisters; Monty Meabon, Benita Parker, Dawn Meabon, and Mary Land. Mona was a homebody later life. She found joy in simplicity. Listening to music, reading, chatting with family and friends. She was of Mormon faith and enjoyed being present at church. There will be no public visitation or funeral services. A celebration of life will be held at a date to be determined. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Columbia, SC.



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A Legacy of Industrial Excellence: A Brief History of the Manufacturers Association

Continued from Front Page

business codes, defined quality standards, supported the sick and needy and pursued fair prices. In the United States, association life deepened through the 19th century: the New York Stock Exchange’s origins date to 1792, and national groups soon followed—the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers (1854), American Iron and Steel Institute (1855), U.S. Brewers Association (1865), American Bankers Association (1876), American Pulp & Paper Association (1882), National Association of Retail Grocers (1896), and American Hotel Association (1910). MAJA’s 1900 founding placed Jamestown at the vanguard of this movement.

Long before many peer groups, MAJA adopted formal bylaws in 1901 and was founded three decades before the New Deal spurred a national wave of association formation. The 1933 National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA) triggered a surge of sector groups charged with drafting fair-competition codes and stabilizing prices and production; although NIRA was struck down in 1935, associations remained central. During World War II, they coordinated standards, allocations, specifications, and communication between government and industry, roles MAJA helped fulfill locally.

Expansion, Services and Advocacy (1950–2000)

As Jamestown diversified its manufacturing base, MAJA expanded accordingly. It established a Medical Bureau to reduce time lost to injuries (operating until 1979), backed a Jamestown Area Safety Council (still active) and kept talent pipelines healthy through supervisory, maintenance and community education initiatives (including early Occupational Awareness for Teachers). The Association’s employment bureau served industry until 1960.

MAJA also championed infrastructure, advocating for the Chautauqua Lake Bridge and what became Route 17, and helped establish the Chadakoin Industrial Revitalization Program, bringing more than \$6 million into the community. In 1943, MAJA merged with the Jamestown Area Furniture Manufacturers Association,

formalizing collaboration across the region’s signature industry.

Modern Era: MAST, Partnerships and People

Reflecting its broader footprint, the group became the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier (MAST) in 2005. Partnerships deepened with Jamestown Community College (JCC) and others. With JCC, MAST helped create the Manufacturing Technology Institute (2003), a hands-on training hub for welding, machining and general manufacturing. MAST collaborated with Erie 2 Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES and Dunkirk City School District to form PTECH (2016). MAST helped launch the Manufacturers Intermediary Apprenticeship Program (MIAP) in Western New York, simplifying access to registered apprenticeships statewide. MAST was a core partner and supporter in the development of the Western New York Manufacturing and Technology Workforce Development Coalition (2024).

Leaders across the region credit MAST with tangible value, providing practical training, fast problem-solving and invaluable networking. Members frequently cite strong returns on investment through shared services and programs.

Policy Voice and the Road Ahead

Working alongside the Buffalo Niagara Manufacturing Alliance, the Business Council of New York State and the Manufacturers Alliance of New York State MAST advances a shared policy agenda: expanding apprenticeships and CTE programs (including Dream It Do It WNY), balancing climate and energy reliability, improving tax and regulatory competitiveness and investing in roads, broadband and utilities.

From shared freight cars in 1910 to robotics labs in 2025, MAST’s strength is its ability to adapt, rooted in a tradition of quality, collaboration and service. At 125 years, it remains both steward and catalyst, ensuring the Southern Tier stays a place where manufacturers and their communities don’t just endure, but thrive.

All Ages Welcome at Unitarian Church Halloween Read and Treat



Submitted Photo

Contributed by Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown

During Jamestown’s Friday, October 31, 6–8 p.m. Halloween Trick or Treat hours, the Unitarian Church’s Halloween Read and Treat® will have free books for all ages as well as treats and crafts. Parking is behind the church at 1255 Prendergast Avenue. Knowing that some kids in our community don’t have a single book to call their own, the church’s Social Action Committee is committed to making more books available

to children. The two book boxes in front of their building—one for children and one for adults—are filled with books that are free for the taking any time (see UUJamestown.org). Three Barker St. in Jamestown is also participating in Halloween Read and Treat®, whose motto is “A treat for the mind as well as the sweet tooth.” Warren locations on Friday are 3 Redwood St., 410 Hickory St., St. John’s Lutheran Church – 200 Pleasant Dr., and Warren Public Library – 205 Market St. Also Bean Bank Enterprises, 117 E. Main St., in Youngsville, Pa. St. John’s hours are 5–7 p.m., and Warren Library’s are 12–4:45 p.m. All others are 6–8 p.m.

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Peace, Hope and Joy with Linda Kent

Haunted Radio



Featured Writer
Linda Kent

When we first married, we moved into a two-hundred-year-old house in the middle of nowhere. The house was still furnished with its belongings, including a wood cookstove and an old-fashioned wooden cabinet radio. The stove I used often. The radio didn't work, however the woodwork was exquisite, so it stayed. We newlyweds and cat settled in, shortly to be joined by a tiny black kitten.

Strange things happened in that house. I swear the place was haunted. Doors would open I left closed. Items would move from where I left them. I would constantly hear voices in other rooms as though conversations were happening when no one else was present. Very unsettling.

I finally learned to play a radio all day and night to drown out the sound.

One night I was home alone, reading, and heard a new sound, a scratchy whine. Startled, my heart thumped. I sat up straight to listen for it again. I heard it and looked at the source, the broken radio. My heart lurched. It couldn't be. How could it? It didn't work. It wasn't even plugged in! My heart pounded, my mind raced. As I watched, the radio rocked slightly, and I started to feel cold fingers press up my spine. The scratching noise got louder, the radio rocked again, and I sat up even straighter. My book fell to the floor.

As I watched, a thin black thing appeared out from behind the open back of the radio and my heart almost stopped. It stretched longer and longer. That's when I started laughing. Because the long black thing turned into the thin paw and leg of my black kitten, Magic. The rest of her appeared as she squeezed the rest of her body out from where she had been hiding. Magic was haunting my radio.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show to Screen at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts on Halloween Night

Contributed by
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts

The Reg Lenna Center for The Arts will present their annual screening of The Rocky Horror Picture Show on Fri., Oct. 31 at 10 p.m. The cult film is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.



In the movie, sweethearts Brad (Barry Bostwick) and Janet (Susan Sarandon), stuck with a flat tire during a storm, discover the eerie mansion of Dr. Frank-N-Furter (Tim Curry), a transvestite scientist. As their innocence is lost, Brad and Janet meet a houseful of wild characters, including a rocking biker (Meat Loaf) and a creepy butler (Richard O'Brien). Through elaborate dances and rock songs, Frank-N-Furter unveils his latest creation: a muscular man named "Rocky." The Rocky Horror Picture Show is rated R and is 108 minutes long.

Patrons are encouraged to arrive early for costume contests, an "auction" centered on Rocky Horror first-time-viewers, and a demonstration of the "Time Warp" dance. This year, the showing will feature a full "Shadow Cast" of performers who will be acting out the movie in full costume. Keeping with the tradition of late night

showings of the film, the audience can participate throughout the movie, using props and items to interact with what is happening on screen. Several long-time Rocky Horror fans will be planted in the theater, shouting out call-backs during the movie.

Ticket buyers may bring their own props, such as toast, flashlights, little squirt guns and more, though other items - super soaker water guns, bags and boxes of rice and hot dogs are prohibited. \$5 fun packs featuring a small selection of usable props may be purchased before the film begins. Doors open at 9 p.m.

Tickets for The Rocky Horror Picture Show are \$15 before fees. The theater and box office at The Reg are located at 116 E. 3rd St. in Jamestown, NY. The box office is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 12 - 5 p.m. and one hour before movies and events.

HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT 2025

- ASHVILLE: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
- BEMUS POINT: 6 PM - 8 PM
- BROCTON: 5PM - 7:30 PM
- CASSADAGA: 5 PM - 7 PM
- GELORON: 5 PM - 7 PM
- CLYMER: 5 PM - 7 PM
- DUNKIRK: 4 PM - 7 PM
- FALCONER: 5 PM - 7 PM
- FREDONIA: 4 PM - 7 PM
- FREWSBURG: 6 PM - 8 PM

- GERRY: 5 PM - 7 PM
- JAMESTOWN: 6 PM - 8 PM
- KENNEDY: 6 PM - 8 PM
- LAKEWOOD: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
- MAYVILLE: 5 PM - 7 PM
- PANAMA: 5:30 PM - 7 PM
- SHERMAN: 5 PM - 7 PM
- SILVER CREEK: 5 PM - 8 PM
- SINCLAIRVILLE: 5 PM - 7 PM
- WESTFIELD: 6 PM - 8 PM

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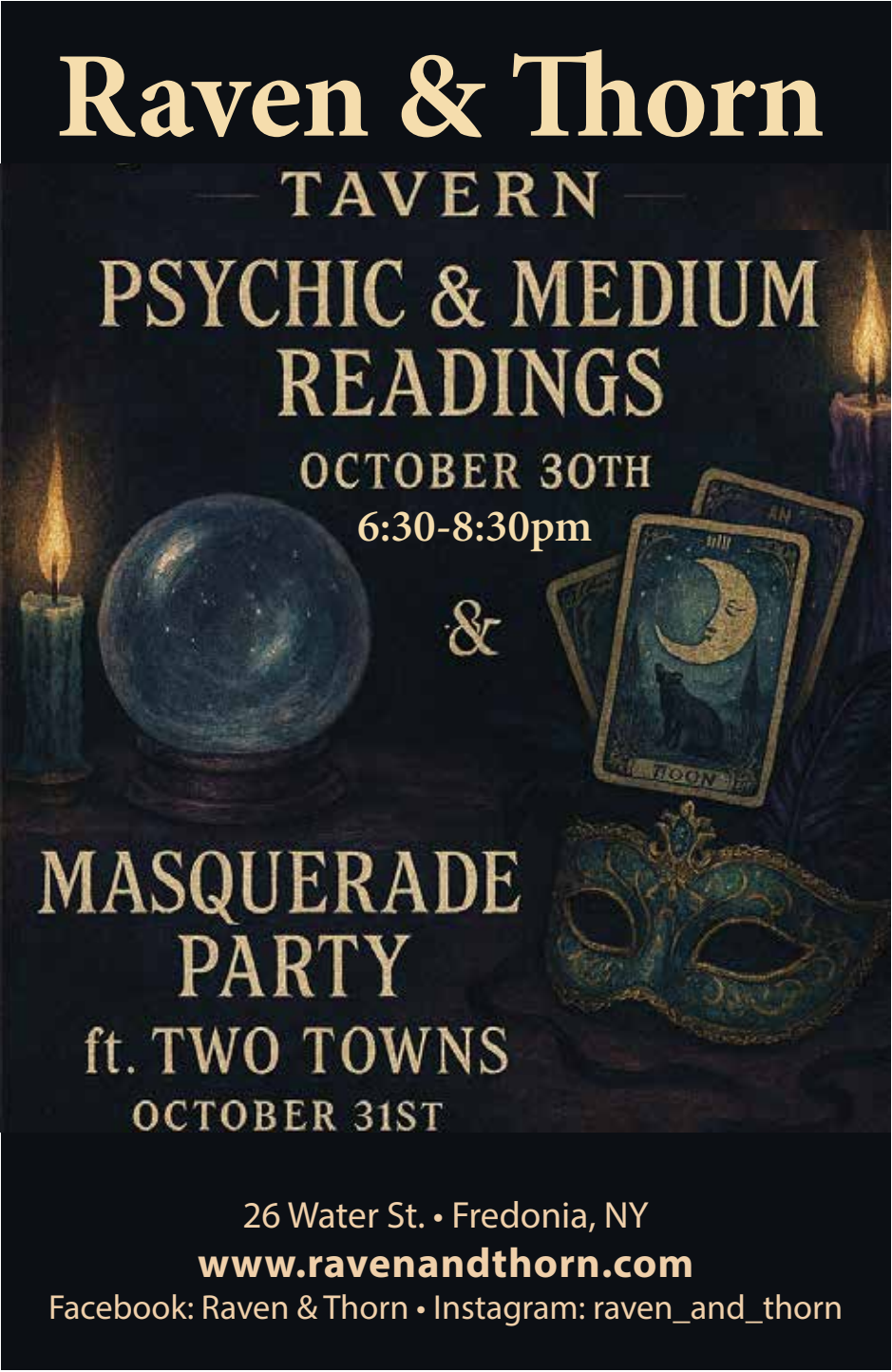
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BRIEF HAUNTINGS



Contributing Writer

Ryan Chambers-Leonard

Halloween was always the big “spooky and scary” holiday growing up, but as I’m getting older, I can’t help but feel like it was really the least scary of them all. With Halloween falling by the wayside after maybe two weeks of candy and decor on shelves, Thanksgiving and Christmas come barging right in to dominate through the end of the year. Don’t get me wrong, Christmas is my favorite holiday, but the holiday’s dominance over the last quarter of the year does still serve as a reminder that time feels like a flat, yet irrevocably dynamic circle. Today, I’ll say to myself, “Wow, the decorations for Halloween this year are great,” and what feels like only days later, I’m saying, “It’s Christmastime already?” Maybe it’s just me, though, since somehow I’ve been happily writing for the Gazette for an entire year already, and it feels like only yesterday I published my first article. That’s kind of terrifying to me.

Almost exactly a year ago from the day this article will be published, I put out my first article talking about the relatively niche holiday “Walpurgis Night,” (As I’m writing that, I’m frankly blown away by how recent that feels, but I digress) and I can happily say that I’m still really happy in my choice to write about that holiday. Today, I feel the need to further address how absurd the last 3-4 months of

the year are for holidays and the products that are manufactured for them. It’s honestly incredible to see how fast the entire country shifts from Halloween to Thanksgiving to Christmas, usually all before Halloween has even come and gone. It’s ironic that I’m talking about this now, since my original plan for my very first article was to talk about the growth of candy sales during Halloween. Surprisingly, it was more difficult to find consistent information on that topic than you would probably think. In hindsight, it doesn’t seem like an incredibly interesting topic. Now, however, I don’t think I need to try super hard to get my readers to understand what I’m talking about, since it feels so obvious. Halloween is a great holiday, and I think it’s a wonderful opportunity for the young kids to get out into their community, and maybe get into a bit of chaos. It’s an absolute ton of fun, and for a holiday that is so incredibly easy to market, I’m shocked that it becomes so overshadowed by Thanksgiving and Christmas so quickly. I can’t imagine how it feels for the manufacturers who have to transition so quickly through seasons, but I’m sure that it can be pretty enjoyable at times, too. But what would I know?

All in all, though, it’s been a crazy year of writing for the Gazette, and I’m incredibly grateful for it. While I ended up just talking about something that’s been bugging me for roughly the past decade, it’s something that I’ve found that a lot of people relate to. Hopefully, it brought at least a few of you a chuckle or two, and maybe it convinced you to do something fun for Halloween again. Enjoy your Hallo-week, folks, and hopefully, I will be back writing again soon.

P.S. I think that it’s an absolute crime that the season with apples, pumpkins, caramel, cider and candy is so short.

Trick or treat!

Tickets for the Prendergast Library's Haunted Library Fundraiser on Sale Now!

Contributed by
Prendergast Library

Jamestown, New York: The Prendergast Library presents *Mystery at the Victorian Inn*. Travel back in time to a spooky Victorian hotel where secrets and mayhem are afoot! Interact with a cast of characters as they try to solve the mystery of the hotel owners' demise.

Date: November 15, 2025
Showtimes: 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm
Cost: \$20.00
Tickets Available at the Library or online at www.prendergastlibrary.org/hauntedlibrary

The Prendergast Library recently reopened to the public on October 6, 2025, after being closed for six weeks to complete a building construction project. Due to the closure, the annual October Haunted Library fundraiser has moved to November.

On November 15, you can support the Library at a fun evening of theater.



Enjoy light hors d'oeuvres and two complimentary drink tickets with admission price. Wine, beer, and nonalcoholic beverages are available. Anticipated runtime is 90 minutes per show.

The event is for ages 14+, and an adult must accompany those ages 14-17. Adults 21+ must have a valid ID to consume alcohol. Tickets are on sale now at the Library's front desk or online at www.prendergastlibrary.org/hauntedlibrary. Costumes are encouraged. The Library is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-7:00 pm, and Saturday, 10:00 am-4:00 pm. Call 716-484-7135 for questions or more information.

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Ben Stiller Donates Stiller & Meara Archive to National Comedy Center as Documentary on His Parents' Legacy Debuts

Continued from Page 4

comedy was crafted to feel organic, but they were serial editors – sometimes carrying a single sketch across decades of iteration and refinement.”

Selections from the Stiller & Meara collection will be showcased throughout the museum in Jamestown, NY, which pairs archival materials with cutting-edge technology to tell the story of American comedy’s history, impact and evolution.

The Stiller & Meara archive joins the National Comedy Center’s unprecedented collection of

artifacts, documents, and recordings representing comedy’s heritage, including George Carlin’s handwritten joke file, records of Lenny Bruce’s obscenity trials and hand-annotated manuscripts, Joan Rivers’ card catalog of nearly 70,000 jokes, and production records from landmark series like I Love Lucy, Saturday Night Live, The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour, In Living Color, The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson, and more. In 2021, the Center’s archive department was named in honor of comedy legend Carl Reiner, whose own career archive joined the collections.

MAKE AN OFFER

Contributed by

Community Helping Hands

Do you buy 50/50 tickets in hopes of having the winning number? “Taking a chance” is often fun! If you are looking for a small adventure, we have an event you will enjoy!

Over the years, Community Helping Hands has received donations of wall art – paintings, photos, posters, craft objects, and items that are beyond description. We have had customers come into the retail rooms, look at some of the framed pictures and say they have heard of the artist and the work is worth much more than the \$20.00 price tag. Often folks want a beautiful frame and take the picture just to get that frame. We have seen signed movie star posters come in and go out with a thrilled shopper.

Without expertise and time, we cannot examine each item and know its value. This is where your love of “taking a chance” comes in. CHH is hosting an event for the public to look over our current art work and make a deal! In fact, it is called “Make An Offer” and you get to look at the art work, pick out what you love, buy a special gift for someone, find items

to decorate an office, or choose what you think is valuable (take a chance!) and make an offer! Buying the art work donated to CHH goes on at the Gateway Center every week, but for this event we have moved the art to a more convenient location with good parking and easy access.

Board members and volunteers of Community Helping Hands will be on hand to hear your offer, maybe negotiate a little, and help you enjoy a new and fun CHH shopping experience! The event will be limited to Friday, November 14 from 4 to 8 PM and Saturday, November 15 from 10 AM to 2 PM. We will move all the CHH art work to Darrah Hall at Christ First United Methodist Church, 663 Lakeview Ave., Jamestown – parking and the entrance to Darrah Hall is off Buffalo Street at the rear of the building. Put the place, dates and times on your calendar. You do not want to miss “Make An Offer” and the chance to pick up your personal treasures.



Jamestown BPU Community Fiber Project Celebration and Ribbon-Cutting

Contributed by

Jamestown BPU

The Jamestown BPU Fiber Project moved forward with a recent celebration and ribbon-cutting featuring State and local officials at the BPU.

In addition, the names of the first two Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to utilize the BPU’s fiber network were announced. Fiberspark of Ithaca, New York, and SumoFiber of Bountiful, Utah, have been named as two providers.

BPU General Manager David L. Leathers welcomed the attendees and spoke in appreciation of the utility’s board members who supported the fiber project.



Executive PJ Wendel addressed the audience.

Jeff Shaffer, Chief Executive Officer of FiberSpark, and Luke Hafen, Project and Operations Manager of SumoFiber, each spoke before the crowd.

BPU Business Development Coordinator Ellen Ditonto recognized representatives from the offices of Congressman Nick Langworthy, NYS Senator George Borrello and NYS Assemblyman Andrew Molitor.

BPU Board Chair Gregory Anderson and Board members Marie Carrubba and Ralph Wallace were in attendance. Also recognized from the podium were: Jamestown City Council Member

Brent Sheldon, County Legislators Jamie Gustafson and Lisa Vanstrom, Chautauqua County Economic Development Director Nate Aldrich, Jamestown City Mayor's Assistant Joe Calimeri, Village of Falconer Mayor James Jaroszynski and Falconer Village Trustee Alan Gustafson

CHQ Chamber Executive Director Dan Heitzenrater stepped forward to organize the ribbon-cutting.

BPU electric customers who sign up for Jamestown BPU Fiber may now select from the two companies announced as internet providers for the new service in the Jamestown electric territory.

“Beta testers are currently getting on the network to test the process,” explained Sellstrom. “Actual customers signing up for the BPU fiber service are not yet ready to receive internet.”

“We are so pleased and excited to bring this extremely important utility project to our community,” stated Leathers. “I would like to thank and recognize everyone involved, who has gotten us to this point of implementation, including our Board members, our hard-working employees, NYS leaders and our project partners.”

Leathers’ welcome was followed by remarks from BPU Deputy General Manager – Electric Kristofor Sellstrom, who provided an overview of the project.

New York State (NYS) ConnectAll Senior Vice President Joshua Breitbart next appeared on behalf of Governor Kathy Hochul. The ConnectAll state agency funded the fiber project. Also appearing were members of the Empire State Development Western New York Team, Karen Utz and Erin Corrado. Chautauqua County

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I will be open to the public for an entire week, Nov. 3 through Nov. 9 from 10am to 5pm each day.

I will have all of my available pieces: Originals, Limited Editions, Embellished and Mini-Embellished Reproductions, as well as a few gift items: ceramic mugs, night lights, coasters, tote bags, and a few sale items. Coffee and snacks as well!

<https://www.janetmandel.com>

JANET MANDEL BIO:

Contributed by
Janet Mandel Art Studio



The work of nationally recognized artist Janet Mandel reflects her love of all animals and her passion to explore them through her art. She has received regional and national recognition over the past 35 years for her fashion illustration, weavings, portraiture and wildlife paintings. Her exclusive focus since 1995 has been her detailed animal paintings. She is a member of numerous wildlife organizations and supports many animal rescue groups as well. Her work has been sold and featured by various wildlife organizations, including the National Audubon Society, the Smithsonian Institution, the National Geographic Society and the Humane Society of the US.

Her work depicts her love and respect of wild animals, and her sense of humor regarding the more domestic variety. It is her attention to detail as well as her individual touch in extending her work onto the mat that makes Janet's work unique. Janet's work includes original paintings, limited edition giclee' reproductions and embellished reproductions. Each embellished reproduction is hand painted individually and is an extension of the piece onto the mat. This

method is used by the artist quite extensively, since it affords an additional avenue to achieve depth and dimension, as well as movement, by extending the borders of the original piece.

Janet's work includes a series of humorous cat portraits, as well as her series of Songbirds, Marsh birds, North American and African wildlife.

Janet lives very close to nature on country property which has been certified as a wildlife habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. She resides with her husband and numerous pets.

Janet is member of Chautauqua County's North Shore Art Alliance and has been a part of Jamestown's Artscape program for the past 3 years.

Her work may be seen at wildlife and fine art & craft shows both locally and throughout the northeast, and may also be viewed on her website.<https://www.janetmandel.com>

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Proceeds from 7th Annual Heron Trail Run Donated to MHA

Proceeds from August's 7th Annual Heron Trail Run 5K, held in memory of Dave McDonald at the Heron Farm and Event Center, were donated to the Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County. Pictured presenting a check for \$2,700 to Executive Director Michael Nordin are, from left, Heron Volunteer Coordinator Jen Raines, Trail Run Race Director Faith Graham, and Heron owner Julie Rockcastle. A longtime volunteer at the MHA, Raines leads the Recovery Yoga group on Monday evenings at 5:30, where new participants are welcome. The MHA is a peer recovery center offering support groups and individual coaching for people looking to improve their lives, deepen wellness, thrive in recovery, or support those on a recovery path. To learn more, call (716) 661-9044 or visit MHACHautauqua.org or Facebook.com/MHACHautauqua.



FALCONER KIWANIS INSTALLS CLUB OFFICERS

The Kiwanis Club of Falconer recently held its 52nd annual Charter Night and Installation of Officers. Distinguished Past Lieutenant Governor Phyllis Belin installed Mike Erlandson as President, Michele Turk as Vice President, Amy Bellardo as Treasurer and Donna Barber as Secretary. Sue Erlandson and Jean Pletcher will serve three-year terms on the club's Board of Directors, Valerie Pierce and Mike Goon as two-year directors and Rosie Digirolamo along with Dave Rowley will serve another one-year term on the board. The club remembered their Charter members during the meeting. Among those in attendance, Don Lazarony, one of our few surviving club Charter members. To learn more about Kiwanis and how to become a member, contact any Kiwanis Club of Falconer member.

Dream It Do It Western New York: Bridging the Gap Between Education and Industry

Continued from front page

the early-talent pipeline and helping students discover opportunities right in their own backyard.

"Students can't aspire to careers they don't know exist," said Todd Trantum, President of DIDIWNY. "Dream It Do It opens their eyes to the exciting, high-tech world of modern manufacturing — where they can build things that matter, earn great wages, and stay right here in Western New York."

Since its launch in 2009, DIDIWNY has facilitated over 75,000 interactions among students, teachers, counselors, and local manufacturers through tours, competitions, and hands-on learning experiences. The goal is simple: help young people see what's possible, and help employers meet the growing demand for skilled workers. For many students, the experience is transformative.

Over the past year, DIDIWNY has expanded its impact with the Dream It Do It Advanced Manufacturing Program (DIDIAMP) — a first-of-its-kind platform where students can capture and showcase their manufacturing skills. Through manufacturing camps, technology tours, STEM WARS competitions, and other activities, participants earn digital badges, skill-belt levels, and credentials that highlight their achievements. These badges can be shared with employers to demonstrate readiness for work-based learning or apprenticeships.

"DIDIAMP gives students ownership of their learning," explained Cindy Aronson, DIDIWNY's Chautauqua

County Director. "They're not just visiting companies — they're actively building skills, solving problems, and discovering careers they never knew existed."

Local manufacturers are taking notice. "Dream It Do It has been a game changer for our recruiting efforts," said Mike Russo, Operations Manager at Weber Knapp in Jamestown. "It connects us directly with students who already have hands-on experience and a real interest in manufacturing careers."

Behind DIDIWNY is a powerful partnership between the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier (MAST) and the Buffalo Niagara Manufacturing Alliance (BNMA) — two organizations deeply committed to sustaining a strong and competitive manufacturing base across the region.

"The future of our economy depends on these students," added Aronson. "When we invest in them, we're investing in Western New York's future."

From the classroom to the factory floor, Dream It Do It Western New York is proving that manufacturing is more than machines and materials — it's imagination, innovation, and opportunity.

For more information, visit didiwny.com or contact: Chautauqua County Director: Cindy Aronson — caronson@didiwny.com or DIDIWNY President: Todd Trantum — trantum@didiwny.com.

New Scholarship Honors Lifelong Nurse and Educator Michelle Johnson-Anderson

*Contributed by
Chautauqua Region
Community Foundation*

The life and legacy of Michelle Rogene Johnson-Anderson, a lifelong nurse, educator, and mentor, will continue to impact future generations of healthcare professionals through the newly established Michelle Johnson-Anderson Memorial Scholarship at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.



Megan Grice & Michelle Johnson-Anderson

A 1979 graduate of Panama Central School, Michelle's path into nursing began when her high school guidance counselor encouraged her to pursue the profession. Though uncertain at first, she would later describe it as "the greatest decision of my life."

Michelle earned her associate degree in nursing from Jamestown Community College, becoming the first in her family to earn a college degree and receive the college's Nurse of Distinction honor. She went on to complete her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Daemen College, graduating magna cum laude.

Her career began at Warren General Hospital, where she worked in home care before joining the Erie 2 Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES School of Practical Nursing in 2004 as an instructor—a role she would hold for nearly 20 years. To her students and colleagues, Michelle was more than a teacher; she was a role model, mentor, and friend whose dedication shaped the next generation of nurses.

"Michelle had a way of making everyone feel seen, capable, and valued," said Megan Grice, BA, LPN, who studied under Michelle and later became her colleague and friend at BOCES. "She believed in her students long before they believed in themselves, and she never stopped encouraging us to grow—both as nurses and as people. Her impact will ripple through our community for generations."

In 2020, Michelle was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), a devastating neuromuscular disease that

affects the central nervous system. Even as her illness progressed—and during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic—Michelle remained committed to her students, continuing to teach through virtual platforms when she could no longer be in the classroom. Her strength and devotion reflected the compassion and resilience she inspired in others throughout her career.

Michelle passed away the following fall, leaving behind personal letters to her nursing colleagues—messages of gratitude and love that reflected the kindness and humility for which she was known.

Throughout her career, Michelle championed her students and colleagues. Years earlier, she helped organize a bedside graduation and pinning ceremony for a student battling terminal cancer and later helped create the Marianne Carpenter Scholarship in that student's memory. Her compassion for others always extended beyond the classroom.

Now, in that same spirit, Michelle's friends and colleagues have come together to establish a scholarship in her honor. The Michelle Johnson-Anderson Memorial Scholarship will support students pursuing nursing education—continuing her lifelong mission of caring for others and inspiring the next generation of nurses.

To make a gift to the Michelle Johnson-Anderson Memorial Scholarship, visit crcf.me/mjaf or call 716.661.3390. For more information on the funds held at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, visit www.crcfonline.org or contact Tina Downey, CFRE at tdowney@crcfonline.org.

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New Local Author: Book Release

Contributed by
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Local readers now have the opportunity to explore a heartfelt new release, *Anchored: A Father’s Reflections on What Matters*. Dr. Kenneth Erickson holds a PhD in Health Science from Lancaster University England, has lectured internationally on Health and has taken his first steps in authorship by writing his first book.

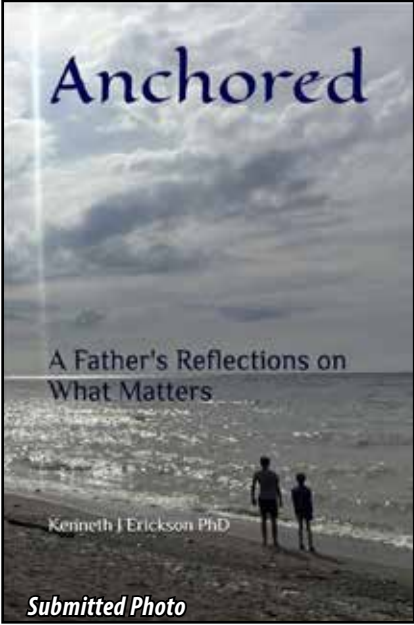
Anchored: A Father’s Reflections on What Matters focuses on: what do we leave behind when the noise quiets and the dust settles?

For Dr. Erickson, a devoted father, health professional and reflective teacher, the answer is simply this: We leave behind who we are, how we lived and what we stood for.

Anchored is more than a book, it’s a heartfelt offering. Written as a legacy for his sons, Dr. Erickson shares the lessons that shaped his life. Insights learned through personal failures and triumphs, drawn from history, philosophy and the wisdom of lived experience. Each chapter is grounded in timeless principles and emotional intelligence. The book concludes with a deeply personal reflection titled, “From Father to Son.”

But this book isn’t just for his sons. It’s for anyone who has ever asked themselves, “What truly matters?”

It’s for readers who value truth over trend, and depth over distraction. Whether you’re a parent, a seeker or simply someone trying to live with more intention and integrity, *Anchored* offers a steady compass.



Submitted Photo

Anchored
A Father's Reflections on What Matters
Kenneth J. Erickson PhD

Anchored is available at Dr. Erickson’s practice location in Jamestown (Erickson Chiropractic), at Pea Pod & Juniper, Good Neighbor Book Store and Chautauqua Book Store on the grounds of Chautauqua Institution.

About Ken Erickson, PhD, DC, DACNB

Ken Erickson brings a rare blend of real-world grit, academic depth and clinical insight to the field of health and human performance. Beginning his professional journey as a master electrician, Ken later followed a deep curiosity about the human body and brain - earning a Bachelor’s degree in Human Biology, a Doctorate in Chiropractic, and a Post-Doctoral Diploma in Clinical Neurology. He holds a PhD in Health Science from Lancaster University in Lancaster, England, where his research focused on applied neuroscience and integrative health strategies. Currently, Ken has a full-time practice at Erickson Chiropractic in Jamestown.

ANCHORED

A Father’s Reflections on What Matters Most
by Kenneth J. Erickson

Local chiropractor, internationally recognized health expert and proud father of two sons, releases his first book in their tribute.

Challenge your perspective. What truly matters? What will you leave behind when the noise quiets and the dust settles?

This book is for readers who value truth over trend, and depth over distraction. Whether you’re a parent, a seeker or simply someone trying to live with more intention and integrity, Anchored offers a steady compass.

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Chautauqua County HR Director Recognized for Leadership

Deborah Makowski honored for innovation and support of County employees

Contributed by
Chautauqua County

Chautauqua County Human Resources Director Deborah Makowski was recently spotlighted by the New York State Association of Personnel and Civil Service Officers (NYSAPCSO) for her leadership, innovation, and commitment to public service.

In her role as Director of Human Resources and Compliance Officer, Makowski leads a dedicated team of professionals who oversee all facets of HR operations for County Government. This includes recruitment, employee and labor relations for five unions, insurance and benefits administration, Civil Service support for County departments and 67 municipalities, employee orientation, and workplace investigations. Together, her department supports nearly 1,500 County employees and over 6,800 public employees countywide.

Reflecting on her experience in public service, Makowski noted that “moving into government and Civil Service stretched me in new ways. I’ve learned the value of adaptability, humility, and collaboration. I’m not afraid to admit when I don’t have all the answers—and I’ve come to rely on my team’s expertise as we navigate new processes together.”

Offering advice for those new to Civil Service, sharing “start by mastering the fundamentals of Human Resources—they’re the foundation of everything else. Take the time to truly listen and understand how Civil Service fits into the bigger picture. Build trust early and protect it fiercely. Use data to guide decisions, but never lose sight of the human element in HR. Stay calm, stay curious, and never stop learning.”

Makowski also emphasized the importance of modernization within Civil Service, saying, “in Civil Service, that bottleneck is the exam process. Moving to electronic testing would streamline operations, increase efficiency, and enhance the candidate experience.”



Deborah Makowski, Chautauqua County Director of Human Resources, recently recognized by NYSAPCSO for her leadership and dedication to public service.

County Executive PJ Wendel praised Makowski for her leadership and the recognition she’s received from her peers. “Debbie has brought tremendous professionalism, balance, and forward thinking to our Human Resources Department,” said Wendel. “Her ability to lead with both integrity and compassion has strengthened our organization, and this acknowledgment from NYSAPCSO is well-deserved.”

NYSAPCSO’s feature highlights Makowski’s dedication to fairness, integrity, and continuous improvement—values that continue to shape the County’s commitment to its workforce and public service.

To learn more about Chautauqua County Human Resources, view available positions, and explore current job postings, visit chautauquacountyny.gov/human-resources/home.

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CHAMBER CORNER

More Than Just a Decal on Your Door

Article Contributed by

Daniel J. Heitzenrater

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
President and CEO

What does Chamber membership mean for your business? When customers see the CHQ Chamber member decal on your door that's a signal that they are entering a business they can trust, a business that offers quality products or services, and a business that supports the community. How do we know this? It's in the numbers.

A nationwide survey was conducted online just over a year ago by The Harris Poll on behalf of the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE). Results of that poll were clear: 61% of respondents said being active in a local chamber of commerce demonstrates that businesses are reputable. 60% said those businesses are involved in their local community, and 57% said chamber membership shows they use good business practices.

Your membership in the CHQ Chamber reflects on your business. From the same poll, 50% of respondents said they would be more likely to purchase goods or services from chamber member businesses, and 48% said they would recommend the business to someone else.

The value of your membership in the CHQ Chamber goes even further. 62% of business owners nationwide say the chamber of commerce supports the growth and prosperity of their business, and 65% say it advocates for policies that are in the best interest of their business. 81% of US adults agree that local chambers of commerce are a trusted resource and partner for businesses, while 76% believe they are stewards of a strong local economy.

These numbers tell just part of the story locally. The mission of the CHQ Chamber is to build vital connections, provide professional resources, and champion our local businesses in Chautauqua County. We build connections through numerous networking opportunities for all businesspeople countywide during the year. We provide resources that include an online business directory, referrals, workshops, and the popular ShopLocalCHQ Gift Card that can be used at more than 150 local merchants throughout Chautauqua County. We champion local businesses by facilitating ribbon cutting events, promoting our members and sponsors all year round through a variety of online game passes, partnerships, and events.

The data speaks volumes, and our local stories back that up. From small member businesses throughout Chautauqua County, we have heard time and again how their participation in CHQ Chamber events has led to important

connections with other businesspeople. We have also heard from customers who said they wouldn't have known some businesses existed if we had not promoted an online game pass or done a live-streamed ribbon cutting.

The CHQ Chamber is in business to support our local business community. Across the country, 86% of US adults are satisfied with their local chamber of commerce, believing the chamber addresses challenges in their community, creates a network for business owners, helps to grow businesses locally, and helps to grow the local economy.

Please display your CHQ Chamber member decal proudly. If you need a new window cling, we are happy to provide it. We also have a Proud Member badge you can use on your website or on any print materials or in advertising. It will help your customers know your business can be trusted, and that's key to building relationships that translate into revenue for small businesses.

CHQ Chamber Announces Annual Meeting Speaker

The CHQ Chamber is pleased to announce that the keynote speaker for its 2025 Annual Meeting will be Ronald Richard. Mr. Richard retired in 2023 as president and CEO of the Cleveland Foundation, the nation's oldest community foundation. During his tenure at the foundation its endowment and grantmaking were doubled and fundraising increased by 600%. In addition, he led numerous major initiatives in the areas of public-school reform, mastery-based arts for K-12 students, leadership development, social services, and energy and the environment.

Prior to joining the foundation, Mr. Richard was managing director and chief operating officer of In-Q-Tel, the CIA's venture capital fund, where he worked to ensure the prompt and effective delivery of new technologies to the U.S. Intelligence community. Earlier he spent thirteen years at Panasonic in key management positions, including serving as president of the company's North American research and development operations; president of Panasonic Home & Commercial Products Company; vice president for planning, technology, and public affairs; and vice president for Internet business development.

From 1983-1988 Mr. Richard was a career U.S. Foreign Service officer, serving at the American consulate general in Osaka/Kobe, Japan, and as a desk officer for North Korean, Greek, and Turkish affairs, respectively, at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C. He began his career as director of the national public affairs program

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

If You Own Property or a Business On or Near Chautauqua Lake and/or Enjoy the Lake as a Lake, Come to...

"Wetlands" Public Meeting #13

Halloween Weekend

9:30-11:00 am, Saturday, November 1

The Lawson Center, Bemus Point, NY



Chautauqua Lake Property Owners Association
an IRS 501c(3) non-profit corporation - www.chqlpoa.org

**CLPOA+ Wetlands Litigation
Recent Actions and Meetings
"Misinformation and Rumors"
Centralized Lake Authority/District
FIGHT NYS/DEC OVERREACH &
IMPROVE THE LAKE**

Coffee, water, and snacks will be served

ZOOM ID: 634 650 3547, PWD: clpoa



Medicare Open Enrollment BEGINS OCTOBER 15th

What should I know:

Major updates are anticipated for the 2026 Medicare plans, particularly regarding drug coverage.

- ❗ Insurance Companies eliminating certain plans starting January 1, 2026
- ❗ Increase in Medicare Supplement Premiums
- ❗ Increased drug prescription plans, premiums and deductibles
- ❗ Increased prescription drug copays
- ❗ Reduced extra benefits

What should I do:

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Call for Artists: “100 Under \$100” Holiday Exhibition and Fundraiser



Submitted Photo

Contributed by
Infinity Visual and Performing Arts

Pearl City Clay House invites regional artists and makers to submit artwork for its annual “100 Under \$100” Exhibition, opening Saturday, December 13, 2025, in conjunction with Infinity’s Holiday Art Market Fundraiser.

This much-loved holiday tradition celebrates affordable, original art and community creativity. Each piece in the show will be priced at \$100 or less, offering shoppers the chance to find meaningful, one-of-a-kind gifts while supporting local artists and investing in the future of arts education. A portion of proceeds from all sales will directly benefit Infinity Visual and Performing Arts’ youth programs, ensuring that young people in our region continue to have access to life-changing creative opportunities.

Exhibition Details

- Opening Day: Saturday, December 13, 2025 (10 a.m.–4 p.m.)
- Artist + Guest Preview: Friday, December 12



- (5–7 p.m.)
 - Exhibit Runs: through January 9, 2026
 - Artwork Drop-Off: December 3–6 during regular studio hours
 - Unsold Work Pick-Up: by January 14, 2026
- Artist Guidelines
- Artists may submit up to three small works, each no larger than 14 inches in any dimension.
 - 2D works must be framed and wired for hanging.

About the Event
The 100 Under \$100 Exhibition is part of Infinity’s Holiday Art Market, a community fundraiser featuring local vendors, make-and-take art activities, raffle baskets, and more, all to benefit Infinity’s youth music and arts education programs.

About Pearl City Clay House and Infinity
Pearl City Clay House is a program of Infinity Visual and Performing Arts, Inc., dedicated to providing creative, hands-on experiences for adults, families, and visitors in Jamestown’s growing arts corridor. 100% of Pearl City Clay House proceeds help fund Infinity’s mission to help area youth Explore! Experience! and Excel! in the arts through mentorship, instruction, and performance opportunities.

Chamber Corner

Continued from Page 15

service at the nonprofit Japan Society in New York City.

Mr. Richard currently serves on the University Hospital Board of Trustees. He has also served on a number of nonprofit and public sector boards including the board of trustees at Spelman College, and the board of advisers of the Landegger Program in International Business Diplomacy at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service. He was a visiting professor for international business at Bennett College in North Carolina and a scholar in residence at the University of Arkansas’ Clinton School of Public Service. He is a former member of the board of the Council on Foundations, Hispanics in Philanthropy, Global Cleveland, and NewBridge Cleveland Center for Arts & Technology. He was the founding chairman of the board of the Cleveland School of Science and Medicine and of the Evergreen Cooperative Corporation.

Mr. Richard makes his home in Cleveland and Chautauqua. We are pleased to have someone with his breadth of experience in the business and nonprofit community as the speaker for this year’s Annual Meeting.

The CHQ Chamber Annual Meeting will be held at noon, Friday, December 12, upstairs at Wicked Warren’s in Jamestown. The 2025 Annual Meeting is a celebration of 25 years of the Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce and will include presentation of the Pam Lydic Coalition Builder Award as well as election of board members and officers for the coming year.

The CHQ Chamber Annual Meeting is sponsored by Brooks-TLC Hospital System/Kaleida Health, County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency, Jamestown Community College, Media One Radio Group, the State University of New York at Fredonia, and Wicked Warren’s. Registration is open online now at www.chamberrsvp.org.

Two Business After Hours Events Coming Up

The CHQ Chamber is offering our final two Business After Hours events of the calendar year in rapid succession. Join us on Thursday, October 30 from 5:30 – 7pm at Full Strength Coffee Company in Westfield, or Wednesday, November 12 from 5-6:30pm at Southern Tier Brewing Company in Lakewood.

Each Business After Hours event offers its own “flavor” providing an atmosphere that’s ideal for socializing with colleagues. Business After Hours always features complimentary appetizers and a cash bar. At Full Strength Coffee Company the “bar” will include all of their regular delicious beverages, along with special tastings from Ghostfish Brewing Company. At Southern Tier Brewing Company the bar is the wide variety of beverages they have on tap.

Chamber member businesses can always send two people free of charge. Non-members or anyone above the two-person limit will be \$10. Advanced registration is encouraged, as space is limited for both of these events.

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. Business After Hours at Southern Tier Brewing is sponsored by Southern Tier Brewing Company, 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. Register for either, or both, now through our Chamber web calendar at www.chqchamber.org.

CHQ Chamber Holiday Promotions

The holiday season is quickly approaching, and the CHQ Chamber is running some exciting holiday-themed programs throughout November and December.

We are pleased to bring back the popular countywide Holiday Window Decorating Contest. This event is open to all locally owned businesses and organizations. It is free to participate and is designed to create festive windows and facades, as well as pump up community spirit. Voting this year will be done through a Facebook gallery, with first, second, and third place prizes being awarded based on the most likes per picture. Organizations must register through the Chamber’s web calendar event page and will be required to submit a photo of their completed window. The Chamber will create a Google map of all participating locations to help drive foot traffic throughout the county and put more eyes on your business. Registration is open through November 17, and the voting will run November 24-December 17.

Small Business Saturday may be the “Superbowl” for small businesses everywhere, but this year the CHQ Chamber is expanding the celebration through the month of November. We are creating an online game pass that will encourage shopping and dining at small locally owned businesses throughout the county. Players will have a chance to earn points by checking in at local businesses, and enough points will make you eligible for a \$50 ShopLocalCHQ Gift Card. Extra points will be added for Small Business Saturday, November 29. Chamber members will receive an email about participation. The business does not need to do anything to be included, we will provide all the details soon.

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Tues, Nov. 4

VOTE 2025

Chautauqua
Countywide Races 2025

County Executive



Paul M. Wendel Jr.
www.facebook.com/CountyExecutiveWendel



Thomas Carle
www.facebook.com/Chauta.2025

County Clerk



Gregory K. Carlson
www.facebook.com
Greg Carlson For Chautauqua County Clerk



Gregory Krauza
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Greg Krauza for County Clerk

County Court Judge



David W. Foley



Voter Questions?

Contact the Chautauqua County
Board of Elections (BOE)

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



Hall R. Clothier Building

7 North Erie St.
Mayville, NY 14757
Ph: 716-753-4580
Fax: 716-753-4111
Email: vote@chqgov.com

Commissioner of Elections
Democratic

Luz E. Torres
TorresL@chqgov.com
Ph: 716-753-4250

Commissioner of Elections
Republican

Nacole L. Ellis
EllisN@chqgov.com
Ph: 716-753-4226

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Closed Holidays



Get Involved, Share a Donation - Contact Your Local Party Leaders

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE
Marcia Westling Johnson, Chair
PO Box 1218 Dunkirk, NY 14048
chqdem@gmail.com

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE
Nacole L. Ellis, Chair
PO Box 256 Ripley, NY 14775
ellisnacole@yahoo.com

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY CONSERVATIVE COMMITTEE
Anna Wilcox, Chair
3105 Cable Rd Fredonia, NY 14063
annamwilcox@att.net

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY WORKING FAMILIES COMMITTEE
Robert Dando, Chair
8631 Fredonia Stockton Rd Fredonia, NY 14063
robedi127@gmail.com



Early Voting Starts Oct. 25. Scan Code for schedule

<https://chautauquacountyny.gov/board-of-elections/Early-Voting-Information>

Chautauqua County Early Voting Sites

The Chautauqua County Fairgrounds at the 4-H Bldg.
Ag & Expo Center, 1089 Central Ave. Dunkirk, NY 14048.

The Chautauqua Mall (through the Main Entrance)
318 E Fairmount Ave. Lakewood, NY 14750.

The Robert H. Jackson Center
305 E 4th St. Jamestown, NY 14701

Board of Elections Office
7 N. Erie St. Mayville, NY 14757

Hours:

Saturdays and Sundays • 9AM to 5PM

Monday and Tuesday • 12PM to 8PM

Wednesday through Friday • 10AM to 6PM

Saturday, October 25 to Sunday, November 2.

MELISSA FIRST

For

COUNTY LEGISLATOR

We CAN bring businesses, people and the quality of life back to the communities in our county.



WORKING FOR ALL OF US



mfirst0791@gmail.com

Paid for by Committee for Melissa First for Legislator District 17

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.

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www.CHQgazette.com



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We Tried to Lower Your Taxes...

Contributed by

Tom Carle

Candidate, County Executive

On Oct. 22, at the monthly legislative meeting, the Democrats voted to amend the budget to reduce the property tax levy by \$2 million. Unfortunately, as usual, the Republican led legislature voted 'no' to a tax break and passed the county budget as it was.

As a recap - In 2025: Chautauqua County Democrats in the legislature voted unanimously for a property tax break and the Republicans voted "No."

Chautauqua County Democrats in the legislature voted unanimously for a reduction in Sales tax and the Republicans voted "No."

When the Chautauqua County Democrats in the legislature wanted to discuss a change in Sales tax distribution to benefit the municipalities, the Republicans said "No."

As a county legislator, I have seen the financials, and they tell me that tax breaks should be provided. In my career, I have managed facilities to success that had budgets up to \$175 million a year, so I have confidence in my interpretation of the facts. I have done this before. Because of that, I have voted to reduce taxes every time that I could, and this was no exception.

Most importantly, I can honestly say that there will never be a time under the current executive when the situation could be better to provide a tax break to you than right now. I said that to the legislature on Oct. 22, 2025, and they said "No."

The county has the money in an unobligated fund balance, and it is yours, yet they will not vote to let you have a portion to reduce the tax levy. Possibly, it is because they fear the unknown, and they lack

confidence in the current executive to manage our affairs. They have also witnessed the spending, the contracts, the salary increases and more by the current executive, so they hold onto your tax money like grim death. Since they also favor expensive projects like the \$120 million jail, they hold onto your money.

If you vote for Tom Carle for County Executive, you will have a cost reduction hawk/expert overseeing the dollars that the county spends, and I guarantee that taxes will be able to be reduced as a result. I can build legislative confidence through improved performance against the budget. With that improved financial performance, I will be able to convince the legislature to vote to reduce taxes.

My promise to you is that I will always work to reduce the costs of government, while we simultaneously improve and expand services. The county will continue to do its job in every way, and county employees will see a positive, secure change in the atmosphere in their workplace. We can do it all!

In closing, I am only running for county executive to help us - all of us! I want a better, improving county for my family to live in, just like you!

So, it's time for a positive change - definitely a change in skill sets in the role of the executive is more than warranted. I would stack up my qualifications for the role of executive against my opponent's any day and I guarantee that you would hire me. There is no comparison.

The taxes that we pay, the population that we have lost, the jobs that we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

CARLE FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE = LOWER TAXES



Endorsed by Organized Labor and Working Families

Legislator Larson: Experience Counts

Contributed by
Legislator Fred Larson

Of the 19 County Legislators, my extensive and unique experience in county government convinces me that Chautauqua County can provide you with fewer taxes and more private sector jobs.

My experience in county government started in 1977 as a part-time Assistant County Attorney. In 1985, the people on the northside of Jamestown first elected me to represent them in the County Legislature.

From 1990-1993, I co-chaired the Route 17 Advisory Committee that succeeded in finally getting Congress to fund the completion of the Route 17 Southern Tier Expressway (now I-86) from the Chautauqua Lake Bridge all the way to Pennsylvania. As your county attorney from 1998-2005, I was a member of the County’s Industrial Parks Task Force.

We convinced the County Legislature in 1999 to support our vision for opening up a County Industrial Park off of Hunt Road in Busti and building a 40,000 sq. ft. spec building that soon became the birthplace of Southern Tier Brewing Co. My experience with Industrial Park creation prepared me as a county legislator once again in 2024 to convince the County Legislature

and the county’s Industrial Development Agency to commit to finally get 60 acres of vacant land in our South County Industrial Park in Ellicott shovel-ready for new businesses by the Fall of 2026.

When the voters on Jamestown’s northside sent me back to the 19-member County Legislature 2 years ago, I became the only lawyer, the only former County Attorney and the only former Acting County Executive on the current legislature. Of the legislators I served with in 2014, before I had to resign to become your City Court Judge, only 4 of them remained in 2024 when I again took my seat as a legislator from Jamestown’s northside.

Our county government operates under a County Charter last adopted in 1998. I was your County Attorney when the legislature adopted that charter. I can explain to other legislators what our County Charter expects of us as the policy-making body in Chautauqua County government. I trust the voters on the northside of Jamestown to keep my experience and my knowledge of county government working for them in the Chautauqua County Legislature.

I have never engaged and I will not now engage in dirty politics, no matter what the other side does in this election.

CARLSON ADDRESSES THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN’S CLUB

Contributed by
Greg Carlson
Candidate, County Clerk

This past Tuesday, I was invited to speak at the Chautauqua County Republican Women’s Club (CCRW) at Whittier Apple Farm in Ashville. It was a beautiful fall venue, and CCRW were gracious and generous hosts. The invitation’s stated purpose was to “discover how CCRW empowers women to make a real difference in Chautauqua County and New York State while connecting with passionate, civic-minded women.” The event delivered on its intent, and was highlighted by the special guest speaker, former New York State (NYS) Senator and Assemblywoman Catharine “Cathy” Young.

Sen. Young served in the NYS Assembly from 1999 to 2005, and in the NYS Senate from 2005 to 2019. As someone running for political office myself, I was incredibly impressed by her presentation. Her delivery, message and authenticity were masterful and something to aspire to. Her thoughts on public service, family values and self-empowerment really connected with all in attendance. She truly lives her message. After a very successful political career where she became the first woman chair of the high-profile Senate Finance Committee, she’s still answering the call to serve her community. Seeing an imminent need to get involved, she was elected to the Olean City School District

Board. And, in no surprise, was very quickly promoted to President of the Board. I’m supremely confident the Olean City School District School Board is in good hands, and her words of wisdom are a blessing to all who attended Tuesday.

Though Sen. Young headlined the event, I was inspired by the enthusiasm of all the CCRW members who spoke about their organization. The passion and appreciation for our community, country and shared values were refreshing, and not commonly found in today’s political discourse. Their consistent message was patriotism, gratitude and service to the community as opposed to the list of grievances commonly echoed in the body politic. I’d highly recommend CCRW membership to any woman who shares their values and wants to get involved in a grassroots movement to make a positive difference in Chautauqua County.

I was thankful CCRW granted me the opportunity to address the group about my campaign and plans for the County Clerk’s Office. I outlined many of the points laid out in previous Gazette columns, more specifically, my plans for increased efficiencies and revenue, general leadership principles and future role in advocating for fellow candidates who will fight for our shared values. After spending a couple of hours with CCRW, I departed feeling invigorated about our future and my campaign for Chautauqua County Clerk.



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LEGISLATOR LARSON

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BOB DANDO
FOR COUNTY LEGISLATOR DISTRICT 3
FREDONIA & POMFRET



"As a longtime labor activist, I have spent my life fighting for good, fair-paying jobs in our county. We need to make our county a place where our children and grandchildren can live. I'm running because I believe my experience will bring a fresh perspective & valuable new ideas to the County Legislature."

Paid for by Dando for Progressive Change

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- REDUCTION TO THE SIZE OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE
- TERM LIMITS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS
- IMPROVING AND DEVELOPING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS OUR COUNTY

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EARLY VOTING OCT. 25 - NOV. 2

Available at the Dunkirk Fairgrounds or Board of Elections in Mayville. Scan the QR code for dates & times.



GREG CARLSON FOR
CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY CLERK



- PUBLIC SERVANT, RETIRED MILITARY, DEVOTED FAMILY MAN
- PROVEN LEADER COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT
- TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, RESULTS

"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

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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*



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
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**THIS DEMOCRATIC TEAM
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LOWER TAXES | INCREASE EFFICIENCIES | STIMULATE OPPORTUNITY

Think Globally, Vote Locally

Contributed by
**Chautauqua County
Democratic Committee**

“Think globally, act locally.” That aphorism is familiar to most. Its origins are unclear, but its gravity is more important now than ever. Globally, are you concerned about the erosion of the rule of law and the undermining of democracy?

Then vote for Democrats locally who inherently believe in the democratic process (it’s right there in the name of the party).

Globally, are you concerned about DOGE and Russell Vought’s Project 2025 gutting the agencies and services that so many right here in Chautauqua County rely on? Then vote for Democrats locally who will fight to find ways to reverse or counter that unlawful gutting of government.

Globally, are you concerned about the assault on free and fair elections that ensure this is a government, as Republican Abraham Lincoln said, “Of the people, by the people, and for the people?” Then vote for Democrats locally who will defend that principle without fear or favor.

By now, the message should be clear: local elections and local government aren’t divorced from the chaos we’re seeing on the national level. In the face of the United States’ demotion on the world stage, a Federal government shutdown precipitated by the Republican Party which controls all three branches of government and a president who is literally tearing down a third of the “People’s House” in Washington, local representation is more important than ever.

Republicans at the local and county level would have you believe that everything’s fine, that the status quo is the way to go. At the same time, they’re silent on their support for the national chaos that’s impossible to ignore. If they support the all-too-rapid transformation of our democratic republic into an autocracy, why don’t they shout it from the rooftops of Dunkirk, Mayville and Jamestown?

Even if you’re not convinced of that connection, consider this: Chautauqua County Republicans

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

Common Sense and Uncommon Vision

Contributed by
Julie Jackson-Forsberg
Candidate
District 10 County Legislature

Julie Jackson-Forsberg is running for Legislature in District 10 to bring change and a vision for the future to Chautauqua County.

Our Republican-dominated county Legislature has been branded in the press as “listless,” taking “comfort in a low bar” for performance, and “content with a status quo that does absolutely nothing to move the county forward.” Indeed.

Status quo is a phrase that comes up a lot in relation to our county Legislature, and to break that status quo, we need change.

The Republican-led Legislature overtaxes and underperforms for its residents, marching in place while the county population continues its long decline. We now have fewer residents to pay for our increasing tax levy – in one of the poorest counties in the state – but Republican legislators voted to give themselves a pay increase of over 60%.

We have continued to lose jobs while our residents continue to struggle with poverty, homelessness, drug addiction, and drug-related crime. Meanwhile, Republican legislators voted to approve a set of goals for next year where performance is measured in terms of the contracts and grants the county already administers. Real performance measures require a commitment to growth.

We are a County in need of vision, in need of leaders who work together to formulate solutions and take action.

Instead of sitting on a surplus of about \$36 million, the county needs to reduce its tax burden on residents and fund programs and services that create targeted solutions for the county’s challenges. We can do both of these things: allocate funding to important issues facing the county and reduce the burden on taxpayers.

The county needs to invest in business,

both large and small. Large employers and shovel-ready sites are important, but so, too, are small businesses, which contribute to the culture and character of the area, help us sustain tourism, and encourage residents to invest in our communities.

Jackson-Forsberg would also seek a safety audit of County roads. District 10 contains one of the most dangerous intersections in the county at Baker Street and Southwestern Drive, and voters in District 10 all along Baker Street from Jamestown through the Towns of Ellicott and Busti speak up about the excessive speed and safety concerns of this critical roadway.

Jackson-Forsberg has an MBA from Rochester Institute of Technology, Saunders School of Business; a BA in creative writing and chemistry from Hamilton College; and is a graduate of Jamestown High School. She serves as the Vice President of Learning for Defy Ventures, a national nonprofit that teaches entrepreneurship, employment readiness, and personal development inside prisons and in the community for people with criminal histories. She serves on the Town of Busti Planning Board and the board of YWCA Jamestown. She has been endorsed by the Working Families Party, the CSEA, and Eleanor’s Legacy.

Jackson-Forsberg notes that, “I am a candidate who will stand up, speak out, and fight for solutions to our County’s persistent economic struggles and population decline. I believe the Legislator for this District should communicate with voters about issues and decisions facing the County; act as a liaison to local City, Town, and Village governments; collaborate with others, regardless of party, to forge common-sense solutions; and represent District 10’s varied needs and interests at the County level. It’s your choice, your voice, and your vote. I humbly ask for your vote in this election.”

To learn more about Jackson-Forsberg, visit www.facebook.com/JacksonForsbergforLegislature

WITH THE MAJORITY IN OUR COUNTY LEGISLATURE, REPUBLICANS HAVE:

- Voted **NO** on lowering YOUR taxes (every Democrat voted **YES!**)
- Given themselves a 62% raise, **+\$5,732 EACH**
- Given the Republican Sheriff, Clerk, and Executive **+\$10,000 raises EACH**
- Voted **AGAINST** sharing more revenue with villages, towns, and cities. (Every Democrat voted **YES!**)

The choice is **CLEAR**. This November 4th, **VOTE** for **CHANGE**. Vote **DEMOCRATIC** down the line. Let’s send these self-serving Republicans **PACKING!**

ELECTION DAY NOV. 4
Early Voting Oct. 25 - Nov. 2

Paid for by Chautauqua County Democratic Committee

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ELECT

Greg

KRAUZA

COUNTY CLERK



The change we need,
The progress we deserve,
Building a better Chautauqua

EXPERIENCE MATTERS

Krauza has successfully managed service based businesses
(Just like the Clerk/DMV)

Krauza's has managed multimillion dollar budgets
(Just like the Clerk/DMV)

Krauza has managed multiple locations and 20+ employees
(Just like the Clerk/DMV)

Krauza knows the public sector as well, while Mayor in Dunkirk he held the line on taxes, improved services and solved the City's wastewater crisis.

His opponent is a decent man, served his country and managed a small staff and budget with County government.

THE DIFFERENCE IS CLEAR

VISION MATTERS

Krauza is committed to improving service and increasing revenue at the Clerk's office and DMV. He has done it in both the public and private sector and by empowering staff, improving technology and introducing innovative programs he will continue his success.

Krauza also understands our current system has created higher taxes and inefficient service delivery. We cannot continue "government as usual", the time for change is now. We need to be open-minded, positive and use all resources available. We are confident he has the experience, knowledge and attitude to have success without losing our valued traditions.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

- * Chairman - Fredonia Farm Festival
- * past chairman - Jamestown Gus Macker
- * Board President - Filling the Gap
- * Past President of the Fredonia Chamber
- * captain 11 Day Powerplay team that has raised over \$60,000 to battle cancer.

Time and time again Krauza has stepped up when a job needs to get done...and you can be sure Greg puts in his full effort and gets it done!



Paid for by the Committee to Elect Greg Krauza

KRAUZA FOR COUNTY CLERK

Contributed by

Greg Krauza

Candidate, Chautauqua County Clerk

Greg Krauza, candidate for Chautauqua County Clerk, highlighted his experience and vision if elected Chautauqua County Clerk. "I have been managing customer service businesses for the last 30 years. Whether assisting individuals securing a mortgage, providing cost effective employee benefits to small businesses or renovating homes for families, me and my team have had to give great service and manage the ebbs and flows of all factors affecting our business. I have also managed staff over multiple locations very similar to the demands I would face from our current Department of Motor Vehicles locations."

Krauza 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. Because my businesses rely on quality customer service I have experience with this. On the Clerk's side I have already been in contact with the business community 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 out 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 Charman of the Jamestown Gus Macker for 20 years. 30 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. He 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. 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 the former Jonelle Frazier, director of sales and marketing at Fredonia Place, and is the proud father of 6 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.

Think Globally, Vote Locally

Continued from Page 21

have blocked tax relief for residents at every turn while giving themselves a substantial pay raise. And they've refused to make business growth and job creation a priority in the County Legislature's official goals. Over 20 years of Republican control of Chautauqua County has seen nothing but ongoing population decline, job loss and rising homelessness and drug-related crime. Their response? It's Albany's fault. That excuse rings hollow. Unless the

Chautauqua County Republican Party is prepared to disavow the actions of the GOP on the national level, they're complicit in its crimes against the United States of America taking place in broad daylight.

What can you do about all of this? Simple: vote early starting October 25th, or on Election Day, November 4th. That simple act won't solve every problem we're seeing, but each vote is a domino that can start a chain reaction for the better.

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Your name printed weekly in 2025!

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Photo by: Kim Weber



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STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE WELLNESS



Courtesy of
Metro Creative Connection

The tenets of wellness can be traced to ancient civilizations. Wellness encompasses strategies that lead to a state of holistic health. Those strategies include physical, mental and even spiritual components. The root of wellness incorporates various natural approaches and preventive care.

Physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being is achieved through different avenues. Programs in communities and places of employment can promote and emphasize wellness, which can benefit people in myriad ways.

- **Feeling empowered:** Wellness begins with individuals, who can feel empowered when they make healthy choices and utilize the tools and support systems at their disposal. This can include information provided by health care professionals as well as research people uncover on their own.
- **Community involvement:** Individuals who have access to healthy food, safe housing, education, and medical care are more likely to make wellness a priority. Community leaders can ramp up their efforts to provide health-based offerings to people in surrounding neighborhoods.
- **Workplace initiatives:** People spend eight or more hours each day at work, and health should

and can be prioritized at places of business. Employers can incorporate healthy eating options in cafeterias or break rooms, offer stress management services, engage in fitness challenges, and even provide workout equipment or quiet spaces so employees can incorporate wellness into their work days.

- **Spiritual connection:** While spiritual wellness can include faith in a specific religion or belief, it also encompasses values, ethics, service to others, and finding meaning and purpose in one's life. Embracing spiritual wellness through outreach and other efforts can improve health. The World Health Organization states that health is not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. It also includes physical, mental and social well-being, which can be fostered through a spiritual component of wellness.
- **Mental health support:** The National Institute of Mental Health says approximately 59.3 million adults in the United States experienced a mental illness in the past year. Such illnesses include anxiety and depression. The World Health Organization estimates 970 million people globally live with a mental health disorder. Mental wellness comes from seeking help from doctors, therapists and support groups when needed. It also can involve finding root causes of mental distress and taking steps to remove triggers.



HEALTHYCHQ



Chautauqua County Kicks Off National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week: ‘Take Steps for Lead-Free Kids’



October 20th Press Conference from left: Jamie Gustafson District 10 Legislator, Dr. Paul Robbins Pediatrician, County Executive Wendel, Anna Powell Health Department’s Lead Program Coordinator, Lacey Wilson Public Health Director, Joseph Calimeri of the City of Jamestown Mayor’s Office, and Ken Dahlgren Chautauqua County Board of Health Member.

Contributed by
Chautauqua County Health Dept.

In recognition of National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, observed October 19–25, 2025, the Chautauqua County Health Department (CCHD) joined forces with the Healthy @ Home CHQ Coalition, City of Jamestown, and other key community partners to launch the week’s events earlier today at Jamestown City Hall.

Speakers at the kickoff event included Dr. Paul Robbins, local pediatrician; Lacey Wilson, Chautauqua County Public Health Director; Joe Calimeri, representative from the Jamestown Mayor’s Office; and County Executive PJ Wendel.

“There is no safe level of lead in a child’s body,” said Dr. Paul Robbins. “Even low levels of lead — as little as 2 micrograms per deciliter — have been linked to reduced academic performance. This is a completely preventable issue, and it starts with awareness and action.”

Lead poisoning remains a critical health concern in Chautauqua County, particularly among young children. In the past three years, an average of 60 children per year in the county have been diagnosed with lead poisoning based on New York State’s action level of 5 micrograms per deciliter. Another

10 to 20 children annually test just below that threshold — still at risk for long-term developmental harm.

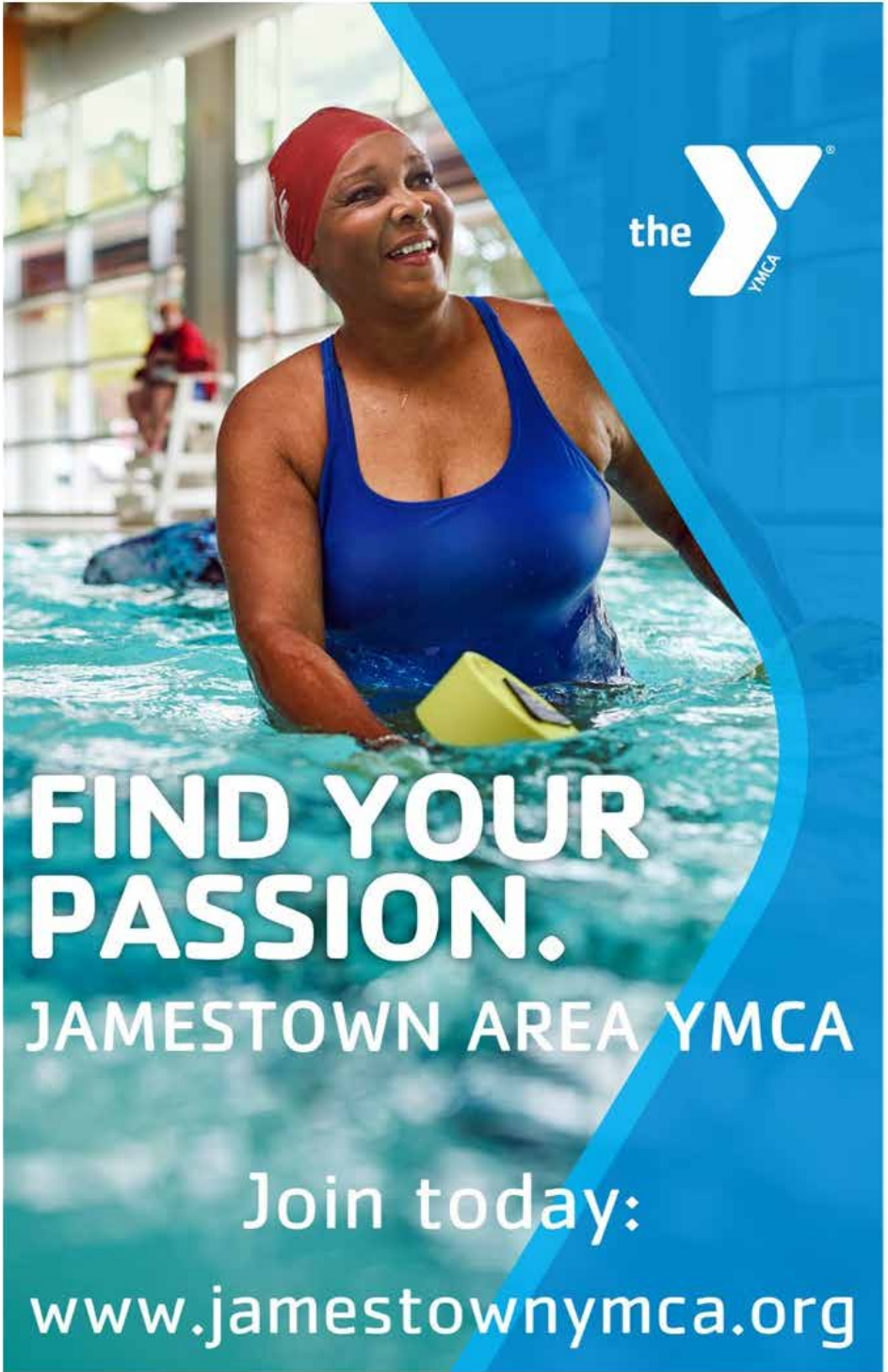
“Eight out of ten lead-poisoned children in our county live in rental housing,” noted Public Health Director Lacey Wilson. “We need landlords, tenants, and the broader community to work together to prevent this exposure — especially in older homes where lead paint is still present.”

In Chautauqua County, approximately 80% of homes were built before 1978, the year when lead-based paint was banned for residential use. In Jamestown and Dunkirk, that number rises to nearly 90%.

“Jamestown’s older housing stock can pose significant challenges to children’s health and create economic burdens for families,” said Mayor Kimberly Ecklund. “The city is committed to supporting county and state-led initiatives, working to ensure homes are safe and families have the resources they need to protect their children and strengthen our community.”

According to research from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the economic burden of lead poisoning in New York State is estimated at over \$6 billion annually. This includes costs related to healthcare, reduced productivity, special education services, and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27





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Chautauqua County Kicks Off National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week: ‘Take Steps for Lead-Free Kids’

Continued from Page 25

premature mortality.

To help raise awareness and share resources, community partners will be Stepping Out for Lead Poisoning Prevention by visiting neighborhoods throughout the week, distributing door hangers that outline five simple steps families can take to prevent lead poisoning.

Five Steps to Protect Kids from Lead Poisoning:

1. Test your home for lead – Call CCHD at 716-661-8243 for a free lead inspection. Homes built before 1978 are at highest risk.
2. Wash hands often, especially before eating.
3. Clean surfaces and toys regularly using wet wipes to minimize lead dust exposure.
4. Feed children a healthy diet rich in iron, calcium, and vitamin C, which can help reduce the body’s absorption of lead.
5. Get your child tested at ages 1 and 2 – A blood test is the only way to know if a child has been exposed to lead.

“Lead exposure is silent, but its effects can be lifelong,” said County Executive PJ Wendel. “The good news is we can prevent this. Through awareness, education, and partnerships, we’re taking steps for a healthier future — one child, one home at a time.”

Although anyone can be affected by lead exposure, young children under six are especially vulnerable due to their developing brains and

nervous systems. Lead poisoning can lead to learning disabilities, behavior issues, hearing loss, slowed growth, and other serious long-term consequences.

CCHD extends its sincere thanks to the many partners involved in the Take Steps for Lead Free Kids campaign. Organizations interested in participating can contact Anna Powell at 716-661-8068.

Resources:

- Answers to frequently asked questions about lead poisoning and prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/lead-prevention/about/>
- Symptoms of lead exposure: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/lead/signs-symptoms/index.html>
- To learn more about the Chautauqua County Health Department’s Lead Poisoning Prevention Program visit HealthyCHQ.com/Lead or call 716-661-8243.

About Chautauqua County Health Department - The Chautauqua County Health Department is the leading Public Health organization in Chautauqua County dedicated to the support of the community’s health. The Health Department takes innovative approaches to provide technical assistance to partner organizations, and offers various programs and services in order to help prevent disease, protect the public’s health and promote our community’s overall health and wellness. For more information visit www.HealthyCHQ.com.

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Changes to Federal Benefits

(From the Perspective of a Former Federal Employee)

Paul Demler grew up in Hamburg, N.Y., and graduated from the University of Buffalo with a Political Science degree in 1972. Now retired, he worked with Social Security/Medicare in the Jamestown field office for just over 40 years and most of that time was a leader in AFGE Local 3342 that represents Social Security employees in 17 New York offices. This Sunday, November 2, at 10:30 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown, Demler will speak on the current status of Social Security, SNAP/WIC (Supplemental Nutrition/Women, Infant & Children) benefits, Meals on Wheels of the Jamestown Area (southern Chautauqua County), housing and Section 8, Medicaid, and the ACA (“Obamacare”) subsidies. All are welcome to the service and coffee hour that follows at 1255 Prendergast Avenue. To participate virtually, use the link at UUJamestown.org/calendar.



Submitted Photo

“Excellence is not a skill.
It’s an attitude.”

- Ralph Marston

Tom Carle: We Tried to Lower Your Taxes...

Continued from Page 18

have lost, the companies that have moved out - all paint the picture of a county in decline under our current executive. We can do better!

The poor performance of the current executive is also demonstrated in poor site selections for industrial development, small business failures, generous salaries and lack of oversight within the government, persistent unresolved lake issues and more! We can do better!

When I say ‘We can do better’, I mean you and I, working together, of course. I also mean that we can do better with the Democratic Legislative candidates that are running in this election! One thing is for sure - there will be tax relief in the future if you also support these knowledgeable and wonderful people, who want the very best for you and our county.

The Incumbent Candidates:
Fred Larson, Tom Nelson, Marcus Buchanon and Bob Bankoski - all are time-tested and terrific legislators for you! And they have all voted to reduce your taxes! We need them all back!

The Candidates that will Exceed Your Expectations:

Vince DeJoy, Melissa First, Julie Jackson-Forsberg, Sandra Lewis, Bob Whitney, Amanda Merced and Bob Dando. All of them have the experience and energy to breathe new life into our county. They will control our spending and keep us moving forward. Helping them to win in their districts is how we can win.

And last, but certainly not least: the County Clerk candidate:

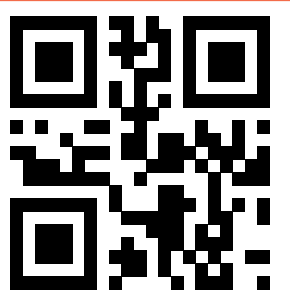
Greg Krauza is a phenomenal person, volunteer, organizer and businessman. His vast experience in contracts, deeds, home sales, construction and service work makes him the most qualified candidate ever for our county clerk. Together, we can reboot and reshape the government to meet the needs of the people and the times that we live in.

I promise you that we can make our county government more effective and responsive to us by electing these people! (Don’t forget me!) Maybe we can get a little tax relief while we are at it! I have every confidence that we can reverse negative trends. We can do better!

"The secret of change is to focus all your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new."

- Socrates

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

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!

Level: Beginner

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4			5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13			14				15		
16					17		18				19		
20							21				22		
				23		24				25			
26	27	28	29					30					
31								32					
33										34	35	36	37
					39	40	41		42	43			
			44	45					46				
								48					
49						50				51		52	53
56						57				58			
59						60					61		
62						63						64	

- 1. El __, Texas town
- 5. Rocker’s tool
- 8. A lot
- 12. Traveling by ground
- 14. Spelling competition
- 15. Two-toed sloth
- 16. Small perfumed bag
- 18. “Much __ about nothing”
- 19. Tough-skinned mollusk
- 20. Removes from record
- 21. It warms the planet
- 22. Leafy green
- 23. Quality of arriving favorably
- 26. Living thing
- 30. “Six of Crows” author Bardugo
- 31. Got around a rule
- 32. Resin from burned substance
- 33. Iraq seaport
- 34. Religious leaders

- 39. Fugitives are on it
- 42. Samson’s influencer
- 44. Italian city
- 46. A quality of lacking interest
- 47. Predatory tropical fishes
- 49. Nobel physician Isodor
- 50. Luck
- 51. Stationary part of a motor or generator
- 56. Orthopedic professional group (abbr.)
- 57. One point south of due east
- 58. It follows 79
- 59. Paper currency
- 60. Anger
- 61. Spanish seaport
- 62. Sleep in a rough place
- 63. Famous museum
- 64. Selfs

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Bullfighting maneuver
- 2. From a distance
- 3. Soul and calypso song
- 4. Expressions of delight
- 5. Lower in esteem
- 6. Inner region of an organ
- 7. Flowers
- 8. A bog
- 9. Remove a fastening
- 10. Membranes
- 11. Enormous
- 13. One who abstains from drink
- 17. Malayan wild ox
- 24. Type of student
- 25. Rejecting all moral principles
- 26. Sino-Soviet block
- 27. Egyptian unit of weight
- 28. Wrong
- 35. Indicates location
- 36. Boxing’s “GOAT”
- 37. Where wrestlers compete
- 38. Timid
- 40. Disney town
- 41. Suggesting the horror of death : decay
- 42. Male parent
- 43. Remove for good
- 44. Simple shoes
- 45. Flowers
- 47. Hindi courtesy title for a man
- 48. Not pleased
- 49. “Atlas Shrugged” author
- 52. CIA officer and writer
- 53. Hoodlum
- 54. __ Von Bismarck, Iron Chancel
- 55. Woolen rugs



2025 MIDWAY CAR SHOW WINNERS

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Best of Show Truck - Morreale's Collision	Rich Larson	1941	Chevy	Cab Over
Best of Show GM - Non Chevy - Cusimano Collision Repair	Stan & Kay O'Rourke	1967	Pontiac	GTO
Best of Show Primer - TA Auto Repair	Don McCracken	1950	Studebaker	
Best of Show Engineered - Johnson's Keystone	Wally Melvin	1951	Henry J	
Best of Show Chevrolet - Carlson's Muffler & Brakes	Kenny E. Brooks	1956	Chevrolet	Belair
Best of Show Corvette - Jamestown Area Community Credit Union	Richard Meder	1962	Corvette	
Best of Show Rat Rod - Bush & Sons Used Cars	Dan Egley	1939	Ford	
Best of Show Pre-1949 - Hiller Tire Service	Larry & Judy Carr	1941	Ford	Convertible
Best of Show Tuner Car - Tanner's Garage	Jim Gennock	2015	Subaru	STI
Best of Show Paint - Adam's Towing Service	Gary Gross	1950	Pontiac	
Best of Show Mopar - All Metal Specialties	Mark McCormick	1970	Plymouth	Super Bird
Best of Show Custom - Busti Auto Parts	Gary Gross	1950	Pontiac	
Best of Show Most Radical - Randolph Auto Supply	Scott Oddreako	1948	Chrysler	Desoto
Best Of Show Overall - Vertical Limits Kustom Hot Rod Shop	Richard DeRouche	1952	Ford	Custom Convertible
Best of Show Foreign - Jamestown Bronze Works	Dave Block	2005	Lotus	Elise
Best of Show Late Model Muscle - Landmark Chevrolet	Brady Corbett	2018	Ford	Mustang GT
Best of Show Stock Motorcycle - Hector's Cycle Sales	Alan Waters	1972	Kawasaki	750 H2
Best of Show Custom Motorcycle - Falconer Power Sports/Harley Davidson of Jamestown	Jon Kamholtz	1978	Yamaha	XS 650
Best of Show Club Participation - Kaczar Collision/Line X of Jamestown	Lake Shore Street Rods	33		
Memory of Deceased Members of Der Kobbler's - Jamestown Macadam	Tom Freeman	1928	Ford	



The Der Kobbler's recently presented donations from the proceeds of their Midway Car Show. A donation of \$3000 was given to UPMC Chautauqua Diabetes Education. Another \$3000 was given to Roswell Park Alliance Foundation. Once again they would like to thank all that participated to make this possible.

Opera House to Present FREE SUNY Fredonia Young Artists Recital



Submitted Photos

Contributed by
1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center

The 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center will present a special free-admission recital featuring some of the most talented young students from the State University of New York at Fredonia’s School of Music on Thur., Oct. 30, at 5:30 p.m.

Presented in partnership with School of Music Faculty Members Dr. Eliran Avni and Dr. Natasha Farny, the performance is part of a concert initiative created to provide the students the opportunity to perform in a variety of settings and to a broader audience. The event also serves to strengthen the collaborative relationship between the Opera House and the School of Music. The recitals feature both solo and ensemble performances.

The recital program will feature music by Beethoven, Bartók,

Chopin, and Schumann, as well as a few modern composers. With this recital falling the day before Halloween, there might be some appropriately spooky fun as part of the performance. Admission is free, although donations are gratefully accepted.

Opera House programming is 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, and by the United Arts Appeal of Chautauqua County.

The 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center is a member-supported not-for-profit 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.

Honduras Promise Children Mission Live Auction, Chinese Auction, Silent Auction November 9th, 2025



Submitted Photo

Contributed by
Honduras Promise Children Mission

The Honduras Promise Children Mission will again hold the annual Honduras Auction and Chinese Auction, Sunday, November 9th, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The event will be held at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 3748 Route 430, Bemus Point, NY. Everyone is welcome.

Andrew Campbell is the live auctioneer. Many businesses and individuals have donated gift certificates, gift baskets and other items for the auction. Viewing begins at 5:00 p.m. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

The auction supports the ongoing weekly program in the small village of la Villa de San Francisco in Honduras. St. Timothy and many other local

churches support children and their families year-round. Recently, we have added English & computer classes for the children, and a microloan program for the mothers.

A mission team is planning to go to Honduras in January, 2026, to work with the children, assess the needs of the program, provide medical check-ups and teach the mothers new skills.

This auction is one of the major fund raisers for the Honduras Promise Children Mission, which has been going on for over 25 years. New sponsors are always needed for the children, since we support the year-round weekly program, plus give protein based foods to the family once a month.

For more information contact Gale Svenson-Campbell – 716-753-6319 or gales1949@gmail.com

Zonta Club of Jamestown Honors Debbie Piotrowski as Zontian of the Year and Supports New Women’s Shelter Program



Pictured L to R: Brigetta Overcash representing First House; Laura Csellak of the ZontaClub of Jamestown; Marcia Restivo, President of the Zonta Club of Jamestown; Kristi Renullo and Amanda Gesing from the YWCA; and Roberta Anderson of Zonta’s Service Committee.

Contributed by

Zonta Club of Jamestown

The Zonta Club of Jamestown recently celebrated two major milestones in its ongoing mission to build a better world for women and girls—honoring Debbie Piotrowski as the 2025 Zontian of the Year and presenting a donation to support First House, a new women’s shelter program in Chautauqua County.

During the club’s October program meeting at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel, members recognized Piotrowski for her extraordinary dedication to improving the lives of women and girls both locally and globally. “Choosing our Zontian of the Year is never easy because so many members work tirelessly to make our world a better place for women and girls,” said Laura Corey, as she announced the award. “Debbie’s lifelong commitment to healthcare, education, and community service makes her a truly deserving honoree.” Along-time member of the Jamestown club, Piotrowski’s professional and volunteer contributions reflect Zonta’s mission in action. With a distinguished career in nursing, she has served in cardiac care, trauma, and as a nurse practitioner. She founded and directed Jamestown High School’s first school-based health center, providing medical, dental, and mental health services to more than 700 students. Under her leadership, the teen pregnancy rate dropped from over a dozen cases a year to nearly zero—an outcome that underscores her impact as both a healthcare provider and an advocate for youth.

Beyond her professional achievements, Piotrowski is known for her love of nature, gardening, and



Pictured L to R are Wendy Burns, 2024 Zontian of the Year, presenting the plaque to 2025 winner, Debbie Piotrowski.

travel. She and her husband, a U.S. Navy veteran, raised three children and now enjoy spending time with their grandchildren. She recently accomplished her personal goal of visiting all 50 states, with Alaska as her final destination. During the award presentation, Piotrowski’s granddaughter, Mae, shared heartfelt remarks about her grandmother’s influence and inspiration, making the evening especially memorable.

In addition to honoring Piotrowski, the Zonta Club reaffirmed its commitment to supporting women in need by presenting a donation to First House, a new transitional housing program for women and their children. Club President Marcia Restivo presented the check to Brigetta Overcash, representing First House, along with Laura Csellak and Roberta Anderson of Zonta’s Service Committee. The shelter, expected to open later this year, will provide safe, stable housing for six to eight women and their children as they work toward independence and self-sufficiency.

For more information about the Zonta Club of Jamestown and its mission to empower women through service and advocacy, visit www.zontajamestown.org.

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PUZZLES ON PAGE 29

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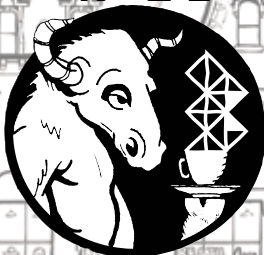
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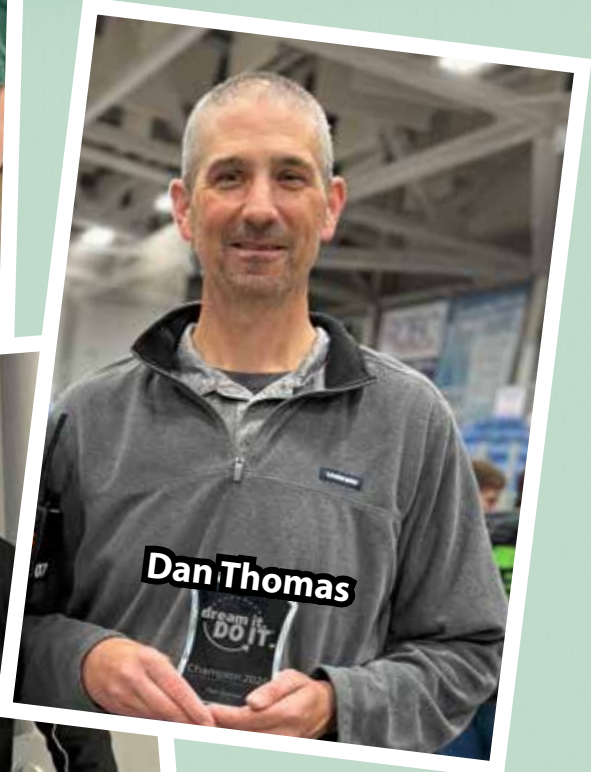
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Build My Workforce

Advanced Manufacturing Program

- Find, attract and recruit early talent, decreasing our my recruitment costs, onboarding and train-ing costs.
- Participate in the Dream It Do It (DIDI) Advisory Council in my county and help guide program-ming that helps our company build our workforce
- Educate the educators, counselors and the community through presentations to local organizations and schools about careers at my company
- Energize the talent pipeline by hosting a tour and participating in programming with my future workforce
- Provide hands-on manufacturing experiences and opportunities through job shadowing, mentor-ing and internships
- Find, attract and recruit early talent
- Gain early brand awareness among students while they are in middle school and high school.

Intermediary Apprentice Program

- Build my workforce through an apprentice program with the support of MAST and the Manufacturer’s Intermediary Apprentice Program

Create a Better Business Environment for My Company Through Advocacy and Action

- Advocate on federal issues through MAST’s network and relationships with the National Association of Manufacturers
- Advocate on state issues through MAST’s network and have access to a lobby firm to help address issues specific to my company
- Advocate through MAST at the regional and local level on issues specific to my company

Updating You With Relevant and Valuable Information

Stay up to date on manufacturing specific news through the weekly e-newsletter Manufacturing Minute.
Receive information on upcoming programming that will help you navigate and grow your business.



Here are some reasons why you should put the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier to work for you!

Providing Access to a Network of Peers

“When we need help connecting and expanding our network to other manufacturers in the region and beyond, the Manufacturers Association has been a valuable resource.”

Chase Churchill, President, Jamestown Electro Plating

Building Our Regions Workforce

“The Manufacturers Association has been a pro-active leader on the issue of workforce development by connecting us with schools and students, developing technical training infrastructure in the region and by reminding the community about the availability and security of manufacturing careers.”

Rhonda Johnson, President, Weber Knapp

“The Dream It Do It Advanced Manufacturing Program Certification is a valuable resource in that it helps students showcase their talents and interests while enabling our company to connect and recruit them into career opportunities that we offer. We see the program as an essential part of our strategy to build a talent pipeline to careers here at Blackstone Advanced Technologies.”

Heather Turner, Owner/President, Blackstone Advanced Technologies

Creating a Better Business Environment Through Advocacy & Action

“When we have needed help or direction regarding regulatory issues in New York State or at the local level MAST has helped us get the answers we are seeking and consistently looks out for our interests.”

Anna Dibble, Executive Director, Engine Business Manufacturing, Cummins

Updating You With Valuable Information

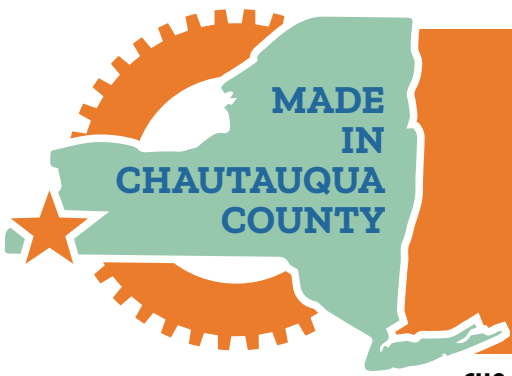
“I often get inundated with emails from a variety of places, however when I get information from MAST it is important, very clear, to the point and helpful without all the fluff.”

John Stahley, Vice President & General Manager, FoxRES

Chautauqua County Manufacturing Stats

Manufacturing Companies	203
Manufacturing Employment	10,560
Manufacturing Payroll & Benefits	\$538,006,300
Manufacturing Shipments Annually	\$5,107,494,000

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The Future of Manufacturing: What's Next Globally—And What It Means for Western New York

Featured Writer

Dr. Tim Piazza

By 2035, manufacturing will look nothing like it does today. Artificial intelligence will direct production lines that reconfigure in hours. Digital twins will test designs before a part is ever built. Robots and humans will collaborate safely, and supply chains will become shorter, smarter and greener.

The winners will be the regions that combine advanced technology with skilled people—and Western New York is poised to be one of them.

The Global Transformation

Five forces are shaping the next decade of manufacturing:

1. AI-native factories.

Artificial intelligence is evolving from a helpful tool into a production partner. Algorithms will soon schedule work, predict maintenance and manage energy in real time, while digital twins simulate thousands of “what-if” scenarios before any changeover.

2. Collaborative robotics.

The factory of the future won't cage its robots. Cobots, which

are flexible, mobile and easy to program, will work safely beside humans, boosting output and precision for both small and large manufacturers.

3. Additive and hybrid production.

3D printing and hybrid machining are shifting from prototypes to full-scale production, reducing lead times and inventories while enabling rapid customization for industries from aerospace to healthcare.

4. Circular, low-carbon operations.

Sustainability is becoming a competitive advantage. Manufacturers that design for reuse, remanufacture components and use real-time energy data will thrive in carbon-conscious markets.

5. Shorter, resilient supply chains.

Reshoring and “friend-shoring” are real trends, as companies seek reliability and proximity to customers. Localized production supported by flexible micromanufacturing sites and regional supplier networks will be central to this resilience.

New York's Moment

The CHIPS and Science Act has triggered a U.S. semiconductor renaissance. Micron's planned

investment near Syracuse and the federal designation of the NY SMART I-Corridor Tech Hub (Buffalo–Rochester–Syracuse) are transforming Upstate New York into a national technology corridor. These developments will create opportunities not just for mega-plants, but also for small, agile suppliers and micro-manufacturers throughout Western New York. Our region already employs more than 60,000 people in advanced manufacturing, spanning motion control, aerospace and medical technology. The challenge ahead is accelerating technology adoption and building a workforce ready for intelligent, automated production.

Building the Pipeline

People, not machines, remain the heart of the system. That's why programs like Dream It Do It Western New York (DIDIWNY) and the Dream It Do It Advanced Manufacturing Program (DIDIAMP) are so vital. Through partnerships with schools, training centers, and the digital platform Tallo, students earn badges, certifications and real-world experiences that make them visible to employers. Jamestown

Community College and the Manufacturing Technology Institute add another bridge, providing advanced technical education for the growing demand in mechatronics, welding, machining and automation.

Western New York's Advantage

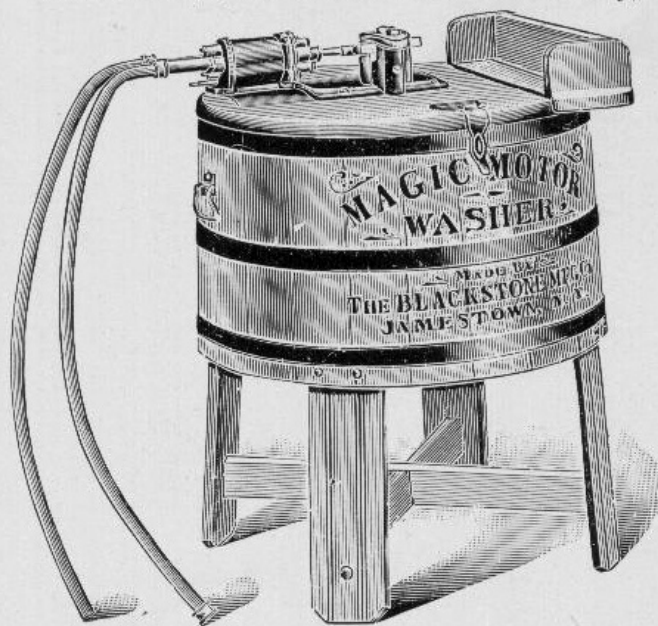
The future of manufacturing won't reward the biggest factories; it will reward the most adaptive regions.

Western New York's strength lies in its mix of innovation and practicality: a history of making things, a network of manufacturers ready to modernize, and a workforce pipeline already being built from middle school to advanced training.

If we invest in technology diffusion, workforce velocity, and regional collaboration, Western New York won't just keep up with the next era of manufacturing—it will help define it.

Dr. Tim Piazza is a Professor at Jamestown Community College and advocate for advanced manufacturing in Western New York.

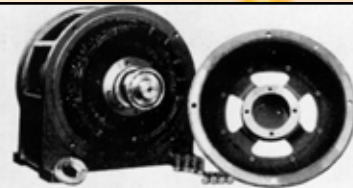
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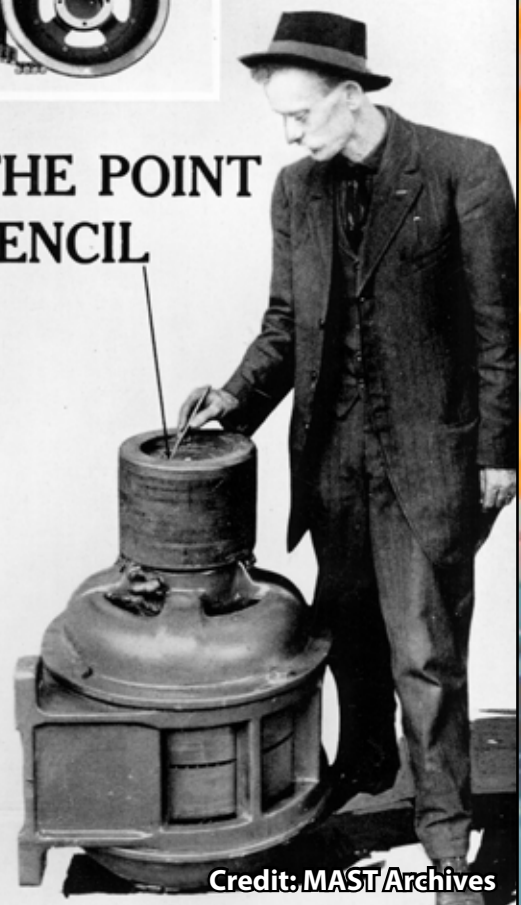
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El Greco Woodworking Marks 50 Years: A Legacy of Craftsmanship, Innovation, and Family



Submitted Photo
Pictured with their late father, George, The Theofilactidis siblings—Alexis, Lazaros, and Dimitri—carry on the El Greco Woodworking legacy from their Jamestown factories, celebrating 50 years of family craftsmanship and forward-looking design.

Contributed by El Greco Woodworking

In 1975, a young Greek immigrant named George Theofilactidis founded El Greco Woodworking, Inc. in Jamestown, New York, armed with little more than determination, a craftsman’s eye, and a deep appreciation for quality. He learned furniture making not in a factory or trade school, but by reading books at the Prendergast Library, applying what he learned through patient experimentation and relentless care.

What began as a small shop making solid oak home and office furniture evolved into one of Jamestown’s enduring family businesses — a testament to George’s reputation for timeless quality and integrity that continues to shape the company today.

His daughter, Alexis Singleton, now President, sums up that guiding principle simply: “If it’s not good enough for my house, it’s not good enough.”

George’s passing in 2023 marked

the end of an era, but his legacy lives vibrantly through his three children — Dimitri, Alexis, and Lazaros — who continue to lead the company with the same spirit of craftsmanship and integrity, while steering it confidently into a new era.

For decades, El Greco was best known for its beautifully crafted cribs and children’s furniture, built to the highest safety and environmental standards. But in the summer of 2025,

“If it’s not good enough for my house, it’s not good enough.”

~ Alexis Singleton, President

the siblings made a strategic decision to exit the crib business and return to the company’s roots: furniture for the home — specifically, contemporary office and adult

bedroom collections that marry precision engineering with timeless warmth.

Under this next-generation leadership, design has taken center stage. Lazaros leads the creative vision, while Dimitri brings the technical expertise that shapes both process and innovation. Alexis, who left a Wall Street trading

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Building Futures, Not Just Graduates: Why Dream It Do It Western New York Matters



Submitted Photo

Featured Writer

Justin Hanft

Teacher, Bemus Point CSD
Former Director, Dream It Do It WNY

When I stand in front of a classroom today, I see what I used to see as a regional workforce director: untapped potential. Students are creative and capable, but often unsure how to turn their curiosity into meaningful careers close to home.

That’s exactly why Dream It Do It Western New York (DIDIWNY) exists. It’s not just a career-readiness program; it’s a bridge between education and industry. Having both taught students and helped build this initiative, I’ve seen how it changes lives by helping young people recognize their strengths, connect learning to purpose and envision a future in modern manufacturing.

Modern Manufacturing, Modern Education

Manufacturing today is high-tech, digital and team-driven. Through DIDIWNY, students see that firsthand. They tour local facilities, participate in STEM challenges and meet professionals in design, robotics and production. They realize that the skills they’re learning in math, science, problem-solving, and communication translate directly into high-paying, creative careers right here in Western New York.

The program helps students understand that manufacturing isn’t the factory floor of the past. It’s automation, coding and innovation. For many, that realization changes everything.

A Structured Pathway: The DIDIAMP Program

One of DIDIWNY’s most powerful tools is the Dream It Do It Advanced Manufacturing Program (DIDIAMP), supported by the digital platform Tallo. Through DIDIAMP, students create online portfolios that showcase their work, achievements and skills. They earn digital badges and progress through belt-level certifications, like martial arts, that mark their growth from beginner to career-ready.

This system turns interest into action. Employers can see verified student achievements, while students gain recognition for what they do both in and outside the classroom. Tallo gives students visibility and connects them with real opportunities: apprenticeships, training programs and jobs, no matter their ZIP code.

Learning by Doing

DIDIWNY applied learning with portfolio development, badging and connections to manufacturers. Students don’t just earn badges by attending a lecture; they earn them by doing: competing in STEM Wars,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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The illustration above shows a Blackstone washer and its proud owner of about 60 years ago.

Blackstone washers have been familiar to many generations of home makers. The first Blackstone was made in 1874. Then, and ever since, the name has signified the highest quality money could buy in washing machines.

For over 80 years, the maintenance of its products' high reputation has been a primary concern of the Blackstone Corporation.

BLACKSTONE CORPORATION
AMERICA'S OLDEST WASHER MANUFACTURER
JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK

Credit: MAST Archives

Building Futures: How Manufacturing Sparks Opportunity at Chautauqua Lake Central School

Featured Writer

Leah Stow

Guidance Counselor
Chautauqua Lake Central School

When we ask students what they want to be when they grow up, the answers are usually familiar: teacher, athlete, YouTuber, doctor, maybe an engineer. But increasingly, we're hearing something new from the students in our halls at Chautauqua Lake Central School: "I want to be a welder."

This shift is not by accident. Over the past several years, our district has worked hard to build a robust manufacturing program that opens doors for students who learn best by doing, students who find meaning and pride when creating something with their hands. Through our partnership with Dream It Do It of Western New York (DIDIWNY), we've seen students discover pathways they might never have imagined and find opportunities in areas they didn't know existed.

The manufacturing program at Chautauqua Lake gives students hands-on experience in areas like engineering, machining, robotics, and welding. These are not just technical skills; they're career-building experiences that link directly to opportunities that exist in our region. By partnering with Dream It Do It, students explore local industries, meet professionals, and participate in events like STEM Wars, Manufacturing Mayhem Camps, and Girls in Manufacturing Day.

Kortlyn Fairbank, a Chautauqua Lake freshman, shares that the manufacturing program has opened up possibilities for her future that she may not have considered otherwise. "I like that it lets me be creative and build things that I wouldn't be able to on my own," she said. "The Girls in Manufacturing days have allowed me to teach other girls different skills with machines and show them how to create things with them. Manufacturing has taught me things I would've never known how to do otherwise and has changed my plans for the future."

The Dream It Do It Advanced Manufacturing Programming allows students to earn digital badges and certifications through Tallo, which builds a digital resume - even before graduating high school. Badges represent growth, effort, and real-world readiness, qualities that employers and colleges value.

Logan Little, a freshman at Chautauqua Lake, has career goals that include welding. He attended the Dream It Do It Technology Camp this past summer and said, "Our manufacturing program is important to me because it helps me develop skills that I wouldn't otherwise have the chance to learn. My dad is a welder, so that, along with our school's program, has helped me shape my plans for the future. The DIDO technology camp was neat because it allowed me to see what it would be like to work in different manufacturing environments."

Leah Stow knows that our community has abundant opportunities for her students.

"As a school counselor, one of my favorite parts of this work is seeing how confidence grows alongside skill," she said. "Students who had no clear direction are now talking about apprenticeships, trade programs and high-demand careers that offer creativity and stability. Manufacturing today is not necessarily how it used to be; it's high-tech, innovative and full of opportunity right here in Western New York."

Derek Jagoda is a Brocton Central School junior who attends Chautauqua Lake through a district partnership in order to take advantage of manufacturing programming.

"These manufacturing classes have really helped me in getting to know the world of manufacturing," Jagoda said. "They have also helped me with my ability to think of new ideas and problem-solve. These are all life skills that can and will be useful at some point in life."

Principal Rachel Curtin sees manufacturing and technology pedagogy as student-focused first and foremost. "We're firm believers at Chautauqua Lake that there's no single path to success," Curtin said. "For some students, that path begins with a spark, literally. Whether pursuing welding, machining, or any career in manufacturing, programs like ours prove that when education connects to purpose, wonderful things can happen. We're proud of the partnerships and people who make this possible. Our teachers, our guidance counselors, community members and local industry leaders, and organizations like DIDIWNY are key partners, but most of all, we're proud of our students who are not just preparing for the future, they're building it."

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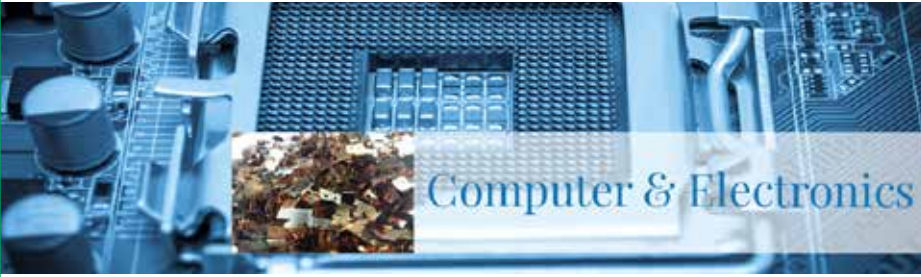
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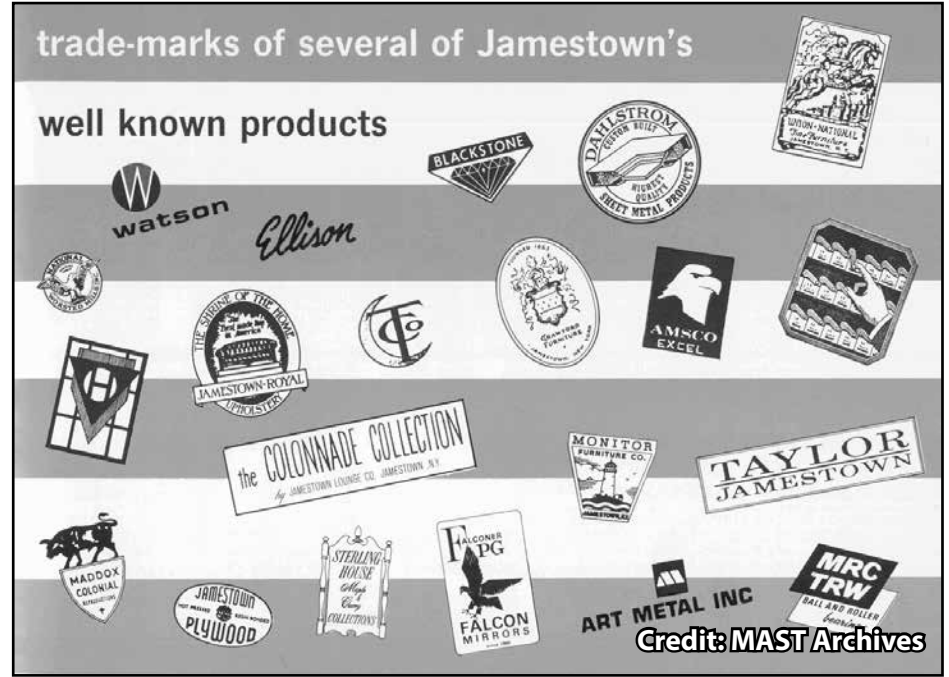


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trade-marks of several of Jamestown's
well known products



Credit: MAST Archives

Trademarks of Jamestown manufacturers 1960

FESSENDEN LAUMER & DeANGELO, PLLC, is proud to announce that **Charles S. DeAngelo**, a partner in the firm, was recently honored once again by being named to the Upstate New York 2025 Super Lawyers list. This is the ninth time Chuck has been named to the Upstate New York Super Lawyer list. Chuck DeAngelo was selected in the practice area of general litigation. Super Lawyers selects attorneys using a multiphase selection process. Peer nominations and evaluations are combined with independent research. Each candidate is evaluated on 12 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement. Selections are made on an annual, state-by-state basis. Super Lawyers notes that the objective is to create a credible, comprehensive, and diverse listing of exceptional attorneys. The Super Lawyers publication notes that only 5% of the attorneys in the state are selected to receive Super Lawyers recognition.



WNY P-TECH Welcomes State Education Commissioner



WNY P-TECH students join New York State Education Department Commissioner Dr. Betty A. Rosa for a group photo outside of the school.

Contributed by

Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES

Myah Benjamin has made a habit of standing out at WNY P-TECH STEM College & Career Academy. In addition to excelling in the Mechanical Technology pathway, she's a 2024 inductee into the school's chapter of the National Honor Society and a frequent competitor at the STEM Wars competition in the spring. Benjamin is standing out in other ways as well. The Dunkirk native recently caught the attention of Dr. Betty A. Rosa, New York State Education commissioner, during her stop at WNY P-TECH, one leg of a four-part tour that included stops to Lake Shore CSD, the Carrier Educational Center, and Jamestown Public Schools.

Rosa admitted it was Benjamin and her sparkling silver and pink sequined jacket that she noticed first when arriving at the school. Soon afterward, it was listening to Benjamin discuss the program and the positive impact it's had on her life that Rosa said she found most striking.

"You just listen to her passion about everything. It really comes through," the state Education commissioner said during a roundtable discussion with WNY P-TECH and Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES administration officials.

Shortly before touring the Dunkirk facility, Rosa heard from current and former WNY P-TECH students. The group heard from Whitney Hice, a 2021 alumna and current employee of eSolutions Furniture (Bush Industries), who credits the program for setting her up with a successful career at Bush Industries. She recalled first learning of P-TECH, which stands for Pathways in Technology Early College High School, as a seventh-grade student in Dunkirk and the decision to apply the following year.



WNY P-TECH student Myah Benjamin of Dunkirk poses with New York State Education Department Commissioner Dr. Betty A. Rosa during the commissioner's recent visit. At WNY P-TECH, Benjamin is pursuing her associate degree in the Computer-Aided Design pathway through Jamestown Community College.

"I know the idea of getting an associate's degree appealed to a lot of students in my grade," said Hice, who recounted being among the first students to get the new program off the ground through classes held at the LoGuidice Educational Center.

"There were six teachers, and that was the start of WNY P-TECH," she said. "It was just a different feeling being there. The teachers were much more hands-on with the students' learning. They truly cared about any student entering the program and always wanted to be there to support them."

During her second year at WNY P-TECH, the program moved to its current location at 55 E. Benton St. in Dunkirk. She eventually chose to pursue the Mechanical Technology pathway with a concentration in Computer-Aided Design. Rosa asked Hice what sold her on applying back when she was still in middle school. Hice responded that she loved the idea of being able to work with her hands in a specialized educational setting.

"That's music to my ears," Rosa said.

Benjamin said she first learned about P-TECH from her brother, Noah.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



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Credit: MAST Archives

Why Dream It Do It Western New York Matters

Featured Writer

Rachel Curtin

Principal, Chautauqua Lake Central School

At Chautauqua Lake Central, I see students who are curious, eager, and talented but not always sure how their classroom learning connects to real careers. Just as often, they do see the connection but have no idea what the next steps should be after they cross the graduation stage. That’s why I’m proud to **support** Dream It Do It Western New York (DIDIWNY): an initiative that bridges school and career, showing students that meaningful futures in modern manufacturing, right here in Western New York, are both accessible and attainable.

Manufacturing today is high-tech, precise and collaborative. Through DIDIWNY, students experience this firsthand. They tour local facilities, tackle design challenges at STEMWARS, attend technology-intensive summer camps and earn digital badges through the Dream It Do It Advanced Manufacturing Program (DIDIAMP).

When a student designs a part in CAD and then watches it come to life on the factory floor, math and science suddenly have purpose. Artistic students who love design or gaming see those same skills used in robotics and automation—learning becomes real.

My favorite aspect of our advanced manufacturing program is the conversations I have with students about what they are making. Every project reflects personal meaning. From Father’s Day gifts to a machined replacement part for our Ice Castle construction equipment, students choose to design and manufacture something that matters to them.

That sense of relevance changes everything. Students who learn best by doing find confidence and identity in these hands-on pathways. Engagement rises, behavior improves and students begin to see themselves as part of the future workforce.

Manufacturing remains one of

Western New York’s strongest economic engines, offering skilled careers with solid wages and advancement opportunities. Yet, many families still picture it as “old-fashioned” work. DIDIWNY changes that perception by showcasing modern, technology-driven manufacturing—where innovation, teamwork, and creativity drive success.

Through this program, students see that they don’t have to leave the region to build rewarding, respected careers. They can stay, grow, and thrive right here at home.

At Chautauqua Lake Central School, manufacturing education has become a hands-on, career-focused experience. Our partnership with DIDIWNY has expanded opportunities for students to connect classroom learning to the modern world of work through plant tours, design challenges and real-world demonstrations.

Students gain exposure to advanced robotics, precision tools and local industry professionals who model the innovation and teamwork that define today’s manufacturing sector.

Through DIDIAMP and DIDIWNY’s technology partner, Tallo, students build digital portfolios that track achievements and earn verified badges for technical skills, teamwork and engagement. These profiles connect students directly with local employers, training centers and postsecondary opportunities.

This partnership has sparked a culture of curiosity and confidence in our classrooms, where students see that the skills they’re developing today can build real careers in Western New York tomorrow.

DIDIWNY is also leading the way in inclusion. Programs like Girls in Manufacturing introduce female role models and encourage young women to explore technical fields once considered off-limits. When students of every background can see themselves as engineers, technicians or designers, our community becomes stronger, smarter and more diverse.



Building Pathways to the Future: How WNY P-TECH in Dunkirk Powers Workforce Development

Featured Writer

Jeff Teluk

WNY P-TECH Principal
Dunkirk, New York

At P-TECH in Dunkirk, we believe in one simple idea: learning should lead somewhere. For our students, that “somewhere” can be a real career in an industry that is vital to our region’s future: manufacturing. The past few years have shown how essential manufacturing is to Western New York’s economy and its sense of identity and opportunity. That’s why our mission at P-TECH is clear: connect education to employment by preparing students for success in high-demand, high-skill careers.

P-TECH (Pathways in Technology Early College High School) is more than a school; it’s a six-year program that allows students to earn both their high school diploma and a college degree in advanced manufacturing or technology through Jamestown Community College (JCC). Our students graduate ready for the workforce, equipped with college credits, certifications and real-world experience. For many, it’s a chance to break new ground: to become the first in their family to graduate college, or to step directly into a good-paying job right here in Western New York.

At the heart of it all is our committed approach to hands-on, project-based learning. Whether students are working in our welding lab, coding in a Computer-Aided Design program, or programming CNC machines, they’re learning by doing. These experiences go far beyond textbooks. They teach precision, teamwork, problem-solving and responsibility — the same skills that local employers tell us they need most. Our students aren’t just preparing for the future; they’re already contributing to it.

What makes this approach work is partnership. P-TECH in Dunkirk thrives because of strong relationships with regional leaders like the Manufacturers Association

of the Southern Tier (MAST) and Dream It Do It Western New York (DIDIWNY). Together, we’re creating a seamless talent pipeline from classroom to career.

MAST provides critical links to the region’s manufacturing community, helping us align our programs with real industry needs. They’ve opened doors for plant tours, internships and mentorships that show students what modern manufacturing looks like: clean, safe, and high-tech. Their advocacy also ensures that our students are part of the broader regional workforce strategy, giving them visibility among employers eager to hire skilled, motivated young people.

Meanwhile, Dream It Do It Western New York complements our work by energizing students’ interest in manufacturing at an early age. Through events like STEM Wars, Manufacturing Mayhem Camps and the Dream It Do It Advanced Manufacturing Program (DIDIAMP), and in partnership with the technology platform, Tallo, students earn digital badges, build online portfolios, and connect with local manufacturers. Many of our P-TECH students participate in DIDIAMP to track their skills and achievements — and, in turn, attract potential employers.

The results speak for themselves when education, industry, and community come together. Our graduates leave P-TECH ready to join the workforce, continue their education or start apprenticeships that lead directly to family-sustaining careers.

At a time when manufacturing is evolving faster than ever, P-TECH in Dunkirk is proof that early, intentional, career-focused education works. We’re not just filling jobs — we’re building futures. And through our partnerships with MAST and Dream It Do It Western New York, we’re ensuring those futures are made right here, in WNY.

WNY P-TECH Welcomes State Education Commissioner

Continued from Page 3

“I kind of thought that it was pretty cool, but I wasn’t really sure,” she said of following in her sibling’s footsteps. “Then I took a tour of the place and realized the atmosphere here was so nice and that everyone was great to me.”

Like Hice, Benjamin chose to pursue the Computer-Aided Design pathway. Meanwhile, Noah Benjamin recently advanced to Jamestown Community College to complete his associate degree in Welding Technology.

Also to speak was Tyrick Nadi, who told the commissioner he wanted a different kind of high school experience, one that got him out of the traditional classroom. While in eighth grade, he shadowed a WNY P-TECH student and decided soon after to apply.

“I immediately knew that this is where I needed to be,” said Nadi, who is currently in the Welding Technology pathway. “I spend a large portion of the day in the (welding) shop with hands-on work. I’ve always liked working with my hands; I’ve always been very good at that.”

Rosa focused on the point that Nadi had a chance to shadow a student while still in middle school. WNY P-TECH Principal Jeffrey Teluk said they encourage all applicants to visit

the school for a full day to get a feel for each pathway.

“So that was a defining moment for you when you shadowed the student that day?” Rosa asked Nadi, to which he responded, “Yes.”

Leo Fial, Director of P-TECH, CTE & Program Innovation, said incoming students are offered an opportunity to meet and interact with current students shortly before school starts through a weeklong Summer Bridge program.

“It helps them get acclimated to the transition they’re making into a new setting,” Fial said.

After the roundtable discussion, Rosa toured the facility and met briefly with students and staff.

The WNY P-TECH STEM College & Career Academy offers a project-based, differentiated learning structure with specialized educators working in tandem with higher education, business partners and public school districts. Students work to earn NYS Regents Diplomas and A.A.S. Degrees in Welding Technology, Mechatronics, or Mechanical Technology, with specializations in CAD or Machine Tool, from Jamestown Community College.

Credit: MAST Archives



Charles Ulrich sales vehicle in the mid 1920's

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BPU Provides Critical Community Resources

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Jamestown BPU

Due to its ability to provide low-cost power to industries within its service area, the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has consistently served as a catalyst for driving business creation in the immediate Jamestown area. In recent years, the BPU has taken those efforts to new levels.

Since 2022, when the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (NYSERDA) awarded a grant to the BPU for what became known as the Retool WNY initiative, the BPU has been at the forefront of promoting clean energy development for manufacturing in Chautauqua County.

Through its Retool WNY conferences, the BPU has not only brought in high-level, nationally renowned speakers to discuss the process of building clean energy facilities and products, but also provided a platform for local stakeholders to engage with these experts. Just as importantly, the BPU successfully courted new businesses, including New Flyer, which is building electric buses in Jamestown, and ElectroVaya, a lithium-ion battery maker based in Ontario, assembling battery systems in Jamestown.

This year's Retool'25 conference at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel drew dozens of people from across the state and region to gather for critical discussions about improving efficiencies, emerging clean energy technologies and more. The local Retool WNY conferences have been established as a model for other events across New York State.

Additionally, this year, the BPU collaborated with the City of Jamestown's Department of Development and the Gebbie Foundation to launch its first-ever Developers' Forum. The event took place in Downtown Jamestown and included both walking and bus tours to showcase available sites for a wide variety of development opportunities throughout the BPU service area. The BPU also partners with the Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency and its Partnership for Economic Growth. The NYSERDA Retool grant allowed the BPU to provide ten regional manufacturers with small grants for research and development, equipment, or training, required to capture these new opportunities in clean energy manufacturing.



Dan Heitzenrater of CHQ Chamber presents Business Champion of the Year Award to David Leathers, BPU General Manager; Kristofor Sellstrom, BPU Deputy General Manager - Electric; and Ellen Ditonto, BPU Business Development Coordinator.

The grant also helped fund the Building Automation Systems curriculum at Jamestown Community College.

The Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce this year named the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities as its "Business Champion."

The BPU operates five divisions - Electric, Water, District Heating, Solid Waste and Wastewater. The Electric Division owns and operates the Samuel A. Carlson Electric

Generating Station, or power plant. Established in 1923, the BPU employs approximately 150 people who serve the residents of the City of Jamestown, the Town of Ellicott and the Villages of Celoron and Falconer; as well as segments of the Towns of Busti, Kiantone and North Harmony, and the Villages of Ashville and Lakewood.

While the BPU produces electricity in its power plant, a majority of the power distributed throughout the BPU territory comes from an allotment of hydropower from the New York Power Authority and the Niagara Power Project. As a public power electric company, services in the BPU's electric and other divisions remain affordable and reliable.

The Jamestown BPU is one of 2,200 not-for-profit, public power electric utilities in the United States. The utility is operated by a Board of Directors that employs a General Manager who oversees employees in the five divisions, including engineers, line workers, boiler operators, laborers, solid waste workers, wastewater treatment operators, customer service representatives and administrators.



A group of participants in the Jamestown BPU Retool'25 conference tour new Jamestown Manufacturer ElectroVaya.

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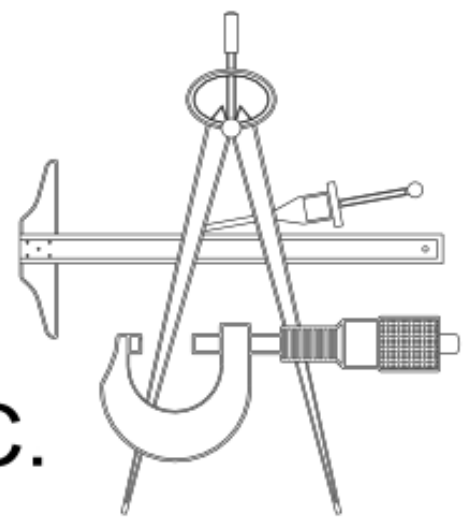
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ARTONE - PROUD TO CALL JAMESTOWN HOME

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Artone

At Artone, we take great pride in calling Jamestown home. For more than five decades, our company has been part of the Southern Tier’s manufacturing story — a story rooted in craftsmanship, dedication, and community. What started small has grown into a leading manufacturer of custom hospitality casegoods, proudly supplying hotels and resorts across the country — but our heart and foundation remain right here in Western New York.

While our reach may be national, our spirit is local. Most of our team members live right here in the Southern Tier, many just a short drive from our Jamestown facility. Others commute from neighboring areas, and a few even work remotely — but we’re all connected by one shared goal: to build lasting furniture that represents the quality and pride of our region.

We’re especially proud of the opportunities we’ve created for people who want to build a career in manufacturing. Our **Artone Development Program** (ADP) is

designed to help employees grow, learn, and move up within the company. Each department has its own ADP, offering structured training and clear career paths. On our production floor, for example, team members can work their way up to the top of the program within three years through skill development and achievement milestones. It’s our way of investing in our people — and ensuring that Artone remains a place where talent and hard work truly pay off.

Some of our employees have been part of Artone for 30 years or more, and several have even seen multiple generations of their family join the team. Those long-term commitments say a lot about the kind of company culture we’ve built — one where teamwork, respect, and craftsmanship are at the center of everything we do. We’re proud to say that when someone joins Artone, they don’t just find a job; they often find a career and a community.

Over the years, we’ve worked on a number of exciting local projects that we’re especially proud of. The Chautauqua Harbor Hotel, The Doubletree by Hilton in downtown Jamestown and the Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino 11th floor luxury suites. Most recent

being the **Westin Buffalo** to the **Sheraton at the Falls** in Niagara Falls, and the **Embassy Suites Buffalo**, we’ve had the privilege of contributing to some of the region’s most beautiful hospitality spaces. Each project reflects the pride we take in representing Western New York design and manufacturing on a grand stage.

As manufacturing continues to evolve, so do we. We’ve embraced technology and innovation to stay competitive while keeping our commitment to quality and tradition. The Southern Tier has a long, proud history of craftsmanship — and we’re honored to carry that legacy forward into the future.

Being part of the Southern Tier Manufacturers Association’s 125th anniversary celebration gives us a moment to reflect — not just on how far we’ve come, but on what makes this region special. It’s the people. The hardworking, creative, resilient people who build, design, and innovate every day. We’re proud to stand among them.

To everyone in our community — from our employees and their families to



our partners, suppliers, customers and neighbors — thank you for supporting local manufacturing and believing in what we do. We’re grateful to call Jamestown home, and we’re excited to keep building, growing, and innovating right here in the Southern Tier for generations to come.



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OUR STORY

Guestroom photo:
THE WESTIN BUFFALO

The Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier: Maintaining Momentum

Featured Writer

Dale Gier

Board President, MAST

For over a century, the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier (MAST) has served as the voice and backbone of our region's manufacturing community. Our mission is clear: MAST is a proactive leader committed to enhancing the economic strength of the region. The Association promotes the common interests of its membership, develops services that benefit its members and is a primary resource for information and assisting in the promotion of manufacturing excellence and innovation in a global economy. During my tenure the past few years, that mission has come to life through action: on the shop floor, in schools, and across state and federal policy arenas.

Building a Workforce for Today and Tomorrow

At the heart of MAST's work are people. We've doubled down on our partnership with Dream It Do It Western New York (DIDIWNY) to reach thousands of students through facility tours, camps and applied learning opportunities. Today, we are connecting them to the Dream It Do It Advanced Manufacturing Program (DIDIAMP). Students now earn digital badges and manufacturer-endorsed credentials, making their skills visible to employers and post-secondary partners. This collaboration has connected over 1,600 manufacturers across five counties, fueling a manufacturing sector that generates roughly \$27 billion in shipments annually.

Administered regionally through MAST, the Manufacturers Intermediary Apprentice Program (MIAP connects employers, educators, and apprentices to create earn-and-learn opportunities in high-demand trades such as machining, mechatronics, welding and maintenance technology. The program provides a streamlined framework for companies, especially small and mid-sized manufacturers, to register apprentices, access state funding and tax credits and deliver standardized on-the-job training paired with related classroom instruction. By aligning skill development with real industry needs, MIAP strengthens local talent pipelines, reduces workforce shortages and ensures that the next generation of manufacturing professionals can build rewarding careers right here in Western New York.

Partnerships in Action

Our relationships with education and workforce partners, such as PTECH in Dunkirk, Chautauqua Lake Central School District the Northland Workforce Training Center, Jamestown Community College and others, continue to strengthen the regional talent pipeline. These partnerships provide early exposure to high-demand careers in welding, mechatronics and precision manufacturing while aligning curriculum with employer needs.

Advocacy with Impact

MAST's voice at the table has never been stronger. Working with our policy partners, including the Buffalo Niagara Manufacturers Alliance, the Manufacturers Alliance of New York, the Business Council of New York State and the National Association of Manufacturers, we've advanced key issues that directly affect competitiveness.

Among our 2025-2026 advocacy priorities:

- **Building the Talent Pipeline:** Expanding CTE, STEM, and apprenticeship programs, including support for the Manufacturers Intermediary Apprenticeship Program (MIAP).
- **Energy and Climate Policy:** Advocating for balanced energy solutions under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) that include nuclear, natural gas and renewables to protect affordability and reliability.
- **Tax and Regulatory Reform:** Supporting NYS Tax Parity for Manufacturers, and opposing excessive mandates like the Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act that would burden local producers.
- **Infrastructure Investment:** Promoting fair funding for regional roads, bridges, and utilities.

What Comes Next

Looking forward, MAST will continue growing student engagement through DIDIWNY, and advocating for workforce and policy solutions that keep manufacturing competitive. We'll also strengthen our apprenticeship programming, peer networks and data-driven member services that deliver measurable return on investment.

After 125 years, one thing remains constant: MAST's commitment to helping manufacturers compete, connect and grow. We have proven what collaboration can achieve and we're just getting started.

Regional Pitt Campuses Provide Hands-on Training



Contributed by
University of Pittsburgh
at Bradford

Two regional campuses of the University of Pittsburgh are offering hands-on training programs designed to help students step into good-paying, in-demand jobs close to home.

Students at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford can prepare for professional careers with the four-year Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering technology that was started in 2022. This program combines classroom learning with

hands-on training in a new, modern Geroe B. Duke Engineering and Information Technologies Building.

Students work on real projects, building and testing their own prototypes, operating machine shop equipment, testing aerodynamics in a wind tunnel, and working with industrial automation. Courses include welding, engineering design, thermodynamics, automation, calculus and chemistry.

Graduates are prepared for jobs with manufacturers, utilities, government

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



Pitt **Forged.** Bradford **Inspired.**



www.upb.pitt.edu

The Anderson Trifectas

Contributed by
Anderson Precision

At Anderson Precision, we believe business should be a game worth playing - and everyone deserves a role on the field. With over 50 Davenport multi-spindle machines, 8 Euroturn multi-spindle machines, and 20 CNC lathe-type machines, we're proud to be a Jamestown-based manufacturer of precision-turned metal parts and fittings for global industries - from automotive to heavy truck to electric motors and beyond.

We embrace the principles of open-book management and the philosophy of the Great Game of Business: sharing the numbers, giving every employee the chance to think, act and win like an owner. When our team understands how the business works, they can help steer it toward success - and share in the rewards that come with it.

This mindset isn't simply good business - it's the foundation of what we call the Anderson Trifectas: If it's good for the employees, good for the customers, it's good for Anderson.

For our employees:

That means opportunity - to learn, grow, and build meaningful careers in advanced manufacturing. At Anderson Precision our people aren't just cogs in a machine - they're empowered collaborators who understand how their daily work connects to the bigger picture.

For our customers:

That means reliability, innovation, and partnership. Whether it's a high-volume production run or a one-off challenge with tight tolerances, we deliver on spec, on time, and at a cost that supports a successful partnership.

For our community:

That means a sustainable business that supports local families, progressive careers, and industrial pride right here in Western New York. With over 120 years of combined experience, we're building trust.

We're proof that manufacturing here doesn't just survive - it thrives. At Anderson Precision, we're not just making parts - we're building something bigger: A company where people matter, performance is shared, and success belongs to everyone.

Building Futures, Not Just Graduates

Continued from Page 9

joining Manufacturing Mayhem Camps, participating in Girls in Manufacturing or completing plant tours and coursework tied to real industry standards.

As a former director, I saw how DIDIWNY helped students connect with manufacturers. As a teacher, I see students gaining confidence, discovering passions, realizing their skills have real value and making the connection to career pathways into manufacturing.

Changing Perceptions, Building Purpose

One of the biggest shifts DIDIWNY creates is cultural. Parents and educators who once saw manufacturing as a fallback now see it as a future. When students graduate with a DIDIAMP certification, it signals readiness, not just for college, but for a career built on both technical and professional skills.

In my classroom, I see the difference every day. Students who once tuned out during "career

prep" now light up when they can see where their work leads. They are fully grasping the importance of a sustainable wage and recognize the opportunities advanced manufacturing offers to earn one. They are not just imagining jobs—they're building futures.

A Call to Collaboration

Dream It Do It Western New York thrives on partnerships among schools, students, and manufacturers. If you're a student, get involved. If you're a teacher, connect your lessons to the program. If you're an employer, open your doors and engage the next generation of makers.

Education and industry succeed when they work together. Dream It Do It WNY, and its partner Tallo, make that connection real—turning potential into progress and curiosity into careers.

Because when our students can dream it, and we help them do it, Western New York wins.

ANDERSON PRECISION

Go beyond
the part

Innovate to
lower costs

OUR MISSION

We believe in seeking, embracing and implementing *Anderson Trifectas*—ideas and actions that are good for employees, customers and Anderson Precision.

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Registered Apprenticeship Programs: Old Idea, New Power for Today's Manufacturers

Featured Writer

Cindy Aronson

Director of Apprenticeships
MAST/BNMA

What do Vincent van Gogh, Benjamin Franklin, and Elvis Presley have in common?

They all were once apprentices.

And while the word *apprentice* may sound like something from a bygone era — tucked between candle makers and cobblers — the idea is more relevant today than ever. Across New York and the nation, **Registered Apprenticeship Programs** are quietly reshaping how manufacturers build their future workforce.

Why? Because they work.

An Old-School Idea Meets Modern Manufacturing

Walk through any advanced manufacturing facility today, and you'll see technology, precision, and problem-solving in motion. But behind every high-tech machine is something timeless — people learning from people.

"Apprenticeships are about passing on what you know," said one local training coordinator. "They create a direct bridge between experience and enthusiasm."

Traditionally associated with the construction trades, **Registered Apprenticeships** have expanded to industries like advanced manufacturing, IT, healthcare, and beyond. The concept is simple but powerful: employers train and mentor employees while they earn wages and complete technical coursework through a college or training provider.

Why Employers Are Signing On

For manufacturers, it's more than just training — it's **building a pipeline of skilled talent**. Apprenticeship programs create a structured way to transfer critical knowledge from seasoned experts to the next generation.

The process strengthens teamwork, preserves institutional expertise, and fosters a culture of mentorship and growth. Employers often find that productivity rises — along with morale.

"Companies that invest in apprenticeships show their community that they're committed

to people," said Cindy Aronson, Director of Apprenticeships for MAST/BNMA. "They're not just making great products. They're making great careers."

A Pathway for People, Not Just a Job

For the apprentices themselves, the impact can be life-changing.

Rather than taking on college debt, apprentices earn while they learn — receiving on-the-job coaching from experienced mentors while studying with college instructors and industry experts. By the end, they've mastered new skills, earned a national credential, and proven their value in a high-demand field.

"It's incredible to watch someone start on the shop floor and, within a few years, become a certified journeyperson," Aronson added. "They gain confidence, skills, and pride — and they do it without debt."

Grants, Credits, and Support Make It Easier Than Ever

It's also never been a better time for manufacturers to start an apprenticeship program. Both state and federal initiatives now offer significant support — including funding for related technical instruction at **SUNY community colleges, tax credits**, and even **reimbursement for partial wages and training supplies**.

Programs like the **Manufacturers Intermediary Apprenticeship Program (MIAP)** make it easier. MIAP helps handle the administrative side of registering and running apprenticeships, allowing companies to focus on training and production rather than paperwork.

Building Tomorrow's Workforce, Today

Across Chautauqua County and beyond, manufacturers are rediscovering that apprenticeships aren't an old-fashioned idea — they're a forward-thinking investment.

When companies commit to training through apprenticeship, they strengthen not just their workforce, but their community.

Interested in Learning More?

Cindy Aronson

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716.969.6016

Regional Pitt Campuses Provide Hands-on Training

Continued from Page 11

agencies, and engineering firms. Job titles include consulting engineer, industrial engineer, product engineer, transportation engineer, product manager, and technical sales representative.

Small class sizes and hands-on labs give students a real advantage. They graduate with skills they can use right away.

The program's first two graduates have gone on to work with Allegheny Bradford Corp. in Lewis Run and Napoleon Engineering Services in Olean, N.Y. During the summer of 2025, students held internships at Superior Tire and Rubber in Warren, Corry Manufacturing Co., Bayshore Mechanical Services in Rochester, N.Y., and Erie County (N.Y.) Division of Sewerage Management, among others. Their tasks included delivering technical solutions, testing equipment operations and troubleshooting.

Meanwhile, at the Manufacturing Assistance Center in Titusville, short-term courses give students practical skills that local employers need in machining and manufacturing.

Located at the Education & Training Center at Pitt-Titusville, the MAC provides manufacturing and tool and die training to help students and adult learners gain job-ready skills for regional employers.

Courses are taught by experienced instructors and are open to anyone who wants to build a career or learn new skills. Current classes include Introduction to Basic Machining Processes and Introduction to CNC Operations and Theory and are held

two nights per week.

These classes give people a fast way to gain the skills companies are looking for, and graduates are ready to step into the regional workforce.

The 15-week programs are affordable and supported by funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, Bridge Builder Community Foundations, Gene Haas Foundation, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and other local and state partners. Financial help is available to those who qualify.

Both Pitt-Bradford's engineering technology program and the MAC help fill a growing need for skilled workers in the Twin Tiers.

By combining practical training with strong industry connections, the programs give students direct pathways to well-paying, stable careers.

For more information about the mechanical engineering technology program, visit www.upb.pitt.edu.

To apply or learn more about manufacturing programs at the MAC, visit www.titusville.pitt.edu/mac.



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El Greco Woodworking Marks 50 Years

Continued from Page 9.

career to join the business years ago, continues to anchor operations with a deep sense of purpose and quality. The aesthetic guiding the company today — “minimalist with warmth” — shines in their new Dahl bookcase and Arro dresser collections, which reflect a mastery of solid hardwoods as well as high-end, real-wood veneers.

While embracing modern manufacturing methods, the heart of El Greco’s work remains unmistakably human. The company operates with a tight-knit team of 14, ten of whom have been with the business for more than a decade — most having worked directly under George. Human hands still touch every part of every piece that leaves the shop.

At the same time, El Greco is looking to the future — exploring new materials such as thermally fused laminates (TFL) that emulate the texture and visual depth of natural wood, offering expanded design options while maintaining the company’s commitment to durability and environmental responsibility. The balance between innovation and integrity remains at the core of everything they do.

Throughout it all, Jamestown has remained El Greco’s home and heartbeat. The company hires locally, sources locally, and proudly manufactures 100% in the U.S., sustaining a proud tradition of American craftsmanship in a region once synonymous with fine furniture. Community connections — from local suppliers to neighboring woodshops — continue to shape its identity and strength.

As El Greco celebrates its 50th anniversary, it does so as more than a business milestone. It’s a story about family, place, and purpose — about the enduring value of making something well and treating people right.

If George could see the company today, he’d no doubt be proud — not just of the products, but of the harmony with which his children continue to work together.

Because at its heart, El Greco has always been exactly what it is today: Smart with heart. Built by hand. Rooted in Jamestown.

Explore, sip, and win this great travel mug!



Chautauqua Coffee Crawl



Join the adventure that takes you to local coffee spots across Chautauqua County. There's a unique pin number check-in for each participating Chamber member coffee shop. Use our virtual pass and when you have enough points you can redeem them for this copper lined mug that keeps your coffee hot.

Learn more and find the participating coffee shops at chqchamber.org/experiences.



Jamestown Container Companies: 70 Years of Innovation, Sustainability, and Service

Contributed by
Jamestown Container Companies

For nearly seven decades, Jamestown Container Companies has been helping businesses across the Great Lakes region package, protect, and promote their products with integrity and expertise. Founded in 1956 as a small box manufacturer in Jamestown, New York, the company has grown into a multi-facility operation recognized for its custom corrugated packaging, retail displays, and sustainable solutions that meet the demands of modern commerce.

From its humble beginnings, Jamestown Container has evolved alongside its customers, always focusing on quality, innovation, and partnership. Today, with services strategically located throughout New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, including its Midwest Box Company and Cattaraugus Container divisions, the organization continues to expand its regional reach while maintaining the personalized service that has been its hallmark since day one.

Packaging Solutions for Every Industry

Jamestown Container’s comprehensive capabilities make it a trusted partner for companies in manufacturing, retail, food and beverage, healthcare, and e-commerce. The company designs and manufactures a wide range of products including custom corrugated boxes, point-of-purchase displays, shipping cartons, and specialty packaging. Its design teams use advanced CAD technology and structural testing to ensure each package performs optimally — from protecting delicate industrial components to elevating retail shelf presence.

The company’s in-house packaging design centers specialize in creating tailored solutions that enhance efficiency, reduce waste, and strengthen brand presentation. Jamestown Container also supports customers through its eVMI program, a custom inventory management system for just-in-time delivery, and full logistics support, helping streamline supply chains while reducing total cost.

Commitment to Sustainability

Sustainability isn’t a marketing buzzword at Jamestown Container; it’s part of the company’s DNA. Long before “green packaging” became a trend, the company embraced recycling and renewable

materials as the foundation of its operations. Corrugated packaging is inherently renewable and 100% recyclable, and Jamestown Container continues to build on that legacy by investing in state-of-the-art, energy-efficient machinery, ISO-certified manufacturing processes, and a closed-loop recycling system that keeps materials in use and out of landfills.

The company also helps its customers meet environmental goals by designing lighter, stronger packaging that reduces material use and shipping weight without compromising performance. As members of The Independent Packaging Association (AICC), the Fibre Box Association (FBA), and the Packaging Alliance Network (PAN), Jamestown Container plays an active role in shaping sustainable packaging practices nationwide and internationally.

People, Safety, and Community

Behind every box and display stands a dedicated team, and Jamestown Container’s workforce is the heart of its success. Many employees have been with the company for decades, a testament to its culture of loyalty and respect. In recognition of its commitment to operational excellence and employee well-being, the company has received multiple Fibre Box Association Perfect Plant and Safety Excellence Awards.

Jamestown Container actively supports the communities it serves beyond the plant floor, too. From local charitable donations and sponsorships to partnerships with organizations like The Salvation Army, Kent State University, and local school districts throughout the region, the company takes pride in giving back.

Looking Ahead

As Jamestown Container Companies approaches its 70th anniversary in 2026, the business remains focused on its founding principles: innovation, integrity, and customer partnership. Whether it’s supporting global brands with complex packaging programs or helping local entrepreneurs launch their first product, Jamestown Container continues to deliver smart, sustainable packaging with the care of a family-run business and the reach of a regional leader.

In an ever-changing marketplace, Jamestown Container’s story is one of adaptation, collaboration, and purpose. Proof that even a humble brown box can be the start of something extraordinary.



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Calendar 2025-2026

#AMPUPYOURFUTURE

Programs & Events	Date	Time	Location
TCAM Camp	December TBD	9:00am—2:00pm	TBD (ERIE)
TCAM Camp	November 14	9:00am—2:00pm	SUNY Niagara (NIAG)
TECH WARS- Niagara	January 7	9:00am—1:00pm	SUNY Niagara, (NIAG)
Create Your Future @ Tech Wars	January 7	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	SUNY Niagara
TCAM Camp	January 23, 2026	9:00am—2:00pm	PTECH Academy, Dunkirk (CHQ)
TCAM Camp	February 5, 2026 (tentative)	9:00am—2:00pm	ON BOCES - Medina
Girls in Manufacturing Camp	March 7, 2026	9:00am—2:00pm	SUNY Niagara (NIAG)
TCAM Camp	March 11, 2026	9:00am—2:00pm	Northland (ERIE)
TCAM Camp	March 20, 2026	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	MTI@JCC, Jamestown (CHQ)
Girls in Manufacturing Camp	March 21, 2026	9:00am—2:00pm	Northland (ERIE)
Girls in Manufacturing Camp	March 28, 2026	9:00am—2:00pm	MTI@JCC, Jamestown (CHQ)
Be Your Own Hero Career Fair	March 31, 2026	8:00 am – 2:00 pm	Buffalo Riverworks, Buffalo (ERIE)
Create your Future	April 18 or May 2, 2026 (tentative)	9:00am—2:00pm	SUNY Niagara (NIAG) or Medina BOCES
Girls in Manufacturing Camp (tentative)	May	9:00am—2:00pm	Northland (Erie)
Tech Wars—Erie County	May 21, 2026	9:00am—1:00pm	SUNY Erie, (City Campus) (ERIE)
STEM Wars	May 20-21, 2026	9:00am—1:30 pm	Northwest Arena, Jamestown (CHQ)
Girls in Manufacturing Camp	June 5, 2026	9:00am-1:00pm	CLCS, Mayville (CHQ)
Manufacturing Mayhem Camp	August TBD	TBD	TBD (NIAGARA)
Manufacturing Mayhem Camp	August 11— August 15, 2025	9:00am—2:00pm	MTI@JCC, Jamestown (CHQ)

Ongoing Programs & Events	Various Dates and Times Throughout a Month
Manufacturing Technology Tours	Dates, times and locations vary throughout the month.
Manufacturing Month Programming	The first Friday in October is Manufacturing Day and in some communities like ours, there is programming occurring throughout the month, making it Manufacturing Month. Public relations promoting manufacturing & manufacturing careers, Tours and a variety of programming & events.
DIDIAMP Enrollment Activities	Dates, times and locations vary throughout the month. These are usually in class room programming where students enroll in the DIDIAMP either guided by DIDI Directors or teachers/guidance counselors or both.
DIDIAMP Certification Company Endorsements	The objective is to highlight careers at manufacturing companies and begin promoting and imbedding the DIDIAMP manufacturer recognized certification in the community and within manufacturers.

Dream It Do It Western New York offers equal opportunity programming. While the Girls in Manufacturing program is focused on females, the program is open to all genders in grades 6th-12th. Women make up about 47% of the American workforce but only 30% work in manufacturing. The focus of Girls in Manufacturing programming is to encourage more girls and women to consider careers in manufacturing.

DIDIWNY initiative is funded with \$120,000 in Federal money, which represents 22% of the overall DIDIWNY budget, 78% of DIDIWNY is funded by nonfederal government resources. For more information regarding our financial supporter visit www.didiwny.com/financial-support/