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★ PRESIDENTS' DAY EDITION ★

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*"A president's hardest task is not to do what is right, but to know what is right."*

— Lyndon B. Johnson  
36th President of the United States of America

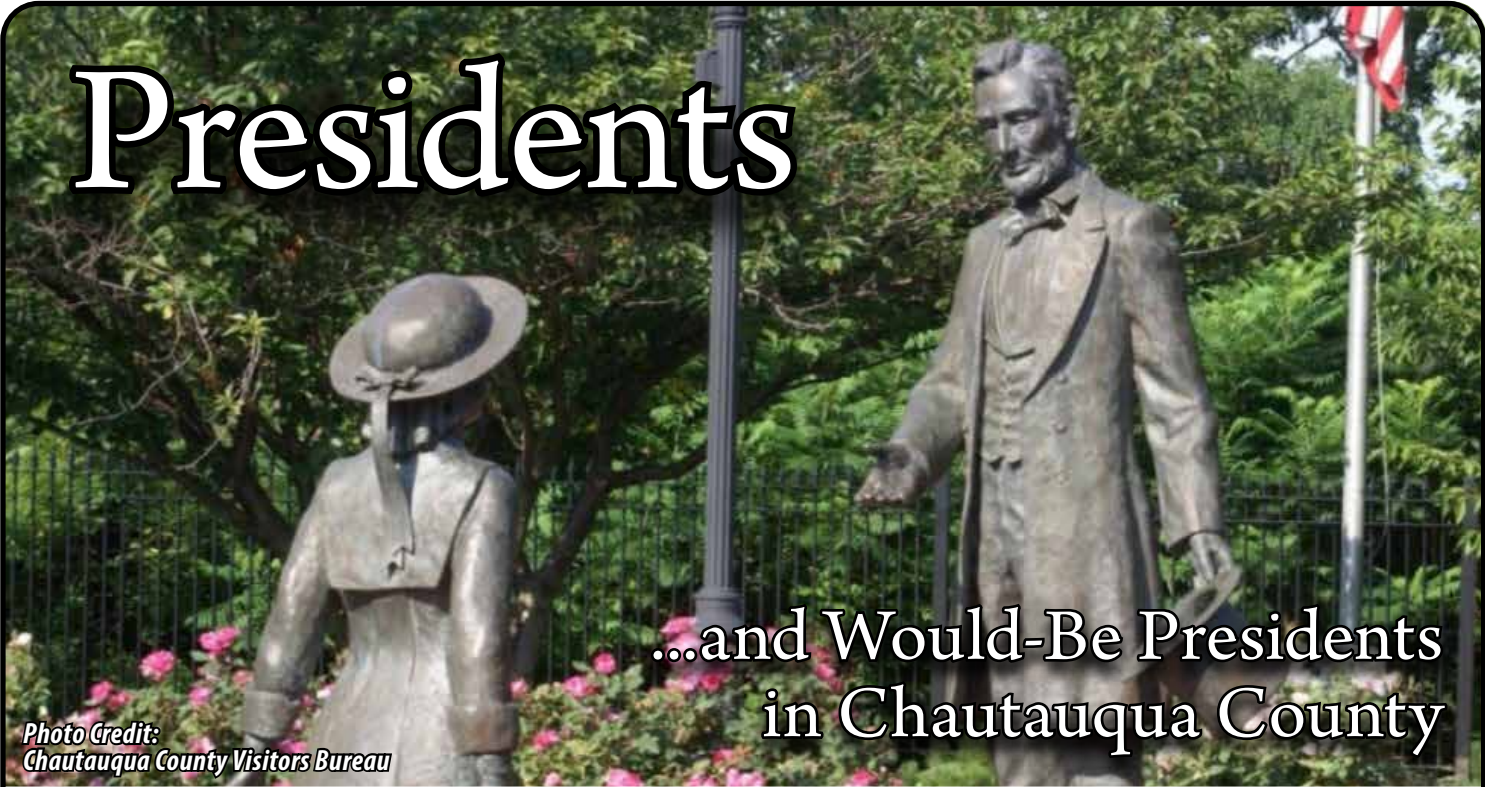


Photo Credit:  
Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau

## Presidents

## ...and Would-Be Presidents in Chautauqua County

*Featured Writer*

**Michelle Henry**

Historian and Trustee

Chautauqua County Historical Society

For much of the county's history, we have had associations with men who served as President of the United States, served in Presidential cabinets, or ran unsuccessfully for the office

themselves. Chautauqua County has played a role in several national events because of these associations.

Possibly the most famous Presidential visit happened in Westfield in February 1861, as Abraham Lincoln traveled by train to his inauguration in Washington, D.C. Lincoln briefly stepped out on the train platform

as the train stopped for fuel. The Philadelphia Inquirer of Feb 20, 1861 reported on the meeting: At Westfield, Mr. Lincoln greeted a large crowd. Addressing the ladies, he said, "I am glad to see you; I suppose you are to see me; but I certainly think I have the best of the bargain. (Applause.)"

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**

## County Executive PJ Wendel Announces Re-Election Bid

*Article Contributed by*

**The Committee  
to Re-Elect County  
Executive PJ Wendel**

Chautauqua County Executive Paul M. Wendel Jr. has announced his intentions to run for reelection, in the following statement.

"For the past four years, it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your County Executive and I am pleased to announce that I will be running again. Together, we are creating a stronger economy, a stronger community, and a better place to raise a family right here in Chautauqua County.

I am proud of what we have already accomplished, but

there is still much work to do. Our community will remain vibrant and thriving for generations to come with your continued support, we will continue to create new opportunities, improve services, and build on our successes.

During my tenure, Chautauqua County's tax rate has been successfully decreased, thanks to a steadfast commitment to fiscal responsibility on my part. In Chautauqua County, local businesses have committed to invest more than \$1.5 billion to create jobs and enhance our economic stability, and our planned shovel-ready sites will contribute to even further economic revitalization.

**CONT. ON PAGE 16**



Submitted Photo

Paul M. Wendel Jr.  
Chautauqua County Executive



# This Week Around Town

## Monday, February 17

**Snow Camp | 9 AM – 3 PM**  
Audubon Community Nature Center  
Jamestown  
Reservation Deadline Feb. 13  
AudubonCNC.org/events

## Tuesday, February 18

**Trolls Day Camp | 8:45 AM - 12 PM**  
Chautauqua Safety Village | Ashville  
For Info: 716-338-0170

**Chautauqua County's Mental Health Association Recovery Luncheon**  
Gateway Building, Door 14  
Jamestown  
For Info: (716) 661-9044

**The Henry C. Youngerman Center for Communication Disorders Support Group Meeting | 3 PM**  
Thompson Hall Room E148 | SUNY Fredonia  
For Info: (716) 673-4618

**NYS Homeland Security and Emergency Services: Citizen Preparedness Class | 5:30 PM**  
Fireplace Room at Prendergast  
Jamestown  
For Info: 716-484-7135 ext. 235

**Figure Drawing Class | 6 PM**  
Chautauqua Art Gallery | Jamestown  
For Info: 716-294-3027

## Wednesday, February 19

**Snow Camp | 9 AM – 3 PM**  
Audubon Community Nature Center  
Jamestown  
Reservation Deadline Feb. 17:  
AudubonCNC.org/events

## Wednesday, February 19

**Movies at The Reg: Mufasa: The Lion King | 4 PM**  
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts  
Jamestown  
For Info: 716-484-7070

**Galaxies: From Spirals to Ellipticals with Margaret Verrico | 7:30 PM**  
Martz-Kohl Observatory | Frewsburg  
For Info: martzobservatory.org

## Friday, February 21

**Movies at The Reg: Mufasa: The Lion King | 7 PM**  
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts  
Jamestown  
For Info: 716-484-7070

## Friday, February 21 - Sunday, February 23

**Wine & Chocolate Month**  
Lake Erie Wine Country  
For Info: lakeeriewinecountry.org

## Saturday, February 22

**Jamestown's Winter Farmers Market | 9 AM - 1 PM**  
St. Luke's Undercroft | Jamestown  
For Info: 716-483-6405

**YWCA's 3rd Annual Coldest Night of The Year Walk | 4 PM**  
YWCA | Jamestown  
For Info: 716-488-2237

## Hearts & Roses Soiree 7 PM - 11 PM

Northwest Arena | Jamestown  
For Info: 716-484-2624

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### Editorial with Lori Cornell

These are a few of my favorite things...

## wine, chocolate & more!



Owner & Publisher  
**Lori Cornell**

### KingView Meadhouse & Winery

It's all in the name: this winery is fit for a king...or, maybe more practically: a wedding! The building is literally a former church with seating ready for a ceremony complete with historic pews and dinner seating. Kingsview also specializes in "Mead" - a beverage made by fermenting honey with water and yeast. KingView serves Pennsylvania craft beers, enhancing its appeal to a broad audience, in addition to its wines and ciders.

### Cellar '54

Cellar '54 is deeply rooted in family tradition with their wines originating from generations of vineyard cultivation along the shores of Lake Erie. Everyone is involved - from sisters to cousins and more. The winery itself is subtle but very nicely done and well-appointed with a wonderfully inviting attached space for events.

### Presque Isle Wine Cellars

Presque Isle not only produces wine but also serves as a resource for amateur and professional winemakers by providing winemaking supplies and equipment. The winery is set alongside a beautiful bubbling brook and serves as a sort of quintessential Route 5 stop along Lake Erie. Its quaint and welcoming approach make it a must-do.

### Arrowhead Wine Cellars

The Mobilia family are in the proud process of turning the winery over to the third-generation of grape growers and winemakers, putting women at the helm. Their complete atmosphere emphasizes deep agricultural roots and a creative offering of wine-product shopping - everything from wine lipgloss to swag - makes this

## CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE

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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 the Greater Jamestown 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

a fun stop. Arrowhead's most unique asset, however, is no doubt its mascot poodles: Sweet Sophia and Gianna, real live Hollywood cameo stars!

### Heritage Wine Cellars

As one of the original wineries in the region, Heritage Wine Cellars boasts a rich family history and tradition in winemaking. Climbing the old wooden staircase up into a throw-back facade feels like a step back in time. The back deck with summer entertainment and yard games gives this winery the perfect blend of high-brow tradition with a down-home and welcoming local feel.

### Noble Winery

It's hard to beat the picturesque view from atop the rolling hills of Westfield overlooking the gorgeous shores of Lake Erie that blend into acres upon acres of vineyards. The Nobles welcome their guests to bring their own picnic (or purchase light snacks in store) to most thoroughly enjoy the experience and wine. A beautiful fireplace with

a welcoming hearth greets guests as warmly as the wine.

### Johnson Estate Winery

Established in 1961, Johnson Estate Winery holds the distinction of being New York State's oldest estate winery, highlighting its long-standing presence in the industry. The owners, well-recognized and long-vested in the community, also offer vineyard walks, allowing visitors to explore and appreciate the beauty of their extensive acreage.

### Liberty Vineyards & Winery

The winery features a beautiful Vineyard-View Pavilion, available for group functions during favorable seasons, offering guests a scenic and intimate setting for events. The grounds are landscaped to the nines and their special chocolate truffles are not to be missed. Liberty also stands as a strong anchor along the lakeshore as one of only two wineries east of Brocton on the trail.



Photo Credits:  
Johnson Estate

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- Barack Obama  
44th President of the United States of America



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# In Loving Memory

<b>February 4</b>	<b>February 7 (continued)</b>
Kathleen Mary Lyons, 76 Jamestown Lind Funeral Home	Sharon Rexford, 66 Jamestown Lind Funeral Home
Glenda Sue Walker-Blake, 65 Jamestown Lind Funeral Home	Larry Dale Park, 83 Falconer Falconer Funeral Home
Scott Allen Martin Sr., 55 Jamestown Riccardi's Family Funeral Home	<b>February 8</b>
<b>February 5</b>	Lawrence Howie, 78 Lakewood Lind Funeral Home
Christopher A. Burstrom, 55 Jamestown Lind Funeral Home	<b>February 9</b>
Kristen L. Nelson, 44 Jamestown Riccardi's Family Funeral Home	Melvin R. Lord, 90 Blockville Lind Funeral Home
David Rexford, 71 Jamestown Lind Funeral Home	Leon E. Vickery, 82 Ashville Falconer Funeral Home
<b>February 6</b>	<b>February 10</b>
Sharon Nelson, 73 Jamestown Riccardi's Family Funeral Home	Lynn Blasdel, 66 Jamestown Lind Funeral Home
Nancy Wymer, 91 Jamestown Lind Funeral Home	Louis Reg, 94 Ashville Riccardi's Family Funeral Home
<b>February 7</b>	<b>February 11</b>
Tjitska Theadora "Thea" Kranzo, 56 Jamestown Lind Funeral Home	Deborah C. Ognibene, 75 Falconer Falconer Funeral Home
	Llon K. Bailes, 56 Jamestown Riccardi's Family Funeral Home

**Correction: We sincerely apologize for the error and offer our deepest condolences to Mr. Perkins.**

**January 28**  
Linda I. Perkins, 72  
Ellington  
Lind Funeral Home



## E2CCB Students Aid in Construction of Iconic Ice Castle



Submitted Photo

Juniors and seniors enrolled in the Conservation/Natural Resource Management program at the Hewes Educational Center again helped build the ice castle for this year's Mayville Winter Festival. E2CCB students have been assisting in the castle's construction for 30 years.

*Article Contributed by*  
**Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES**

It was tradition that provided the perfect icebreaker for students enrolled in the Conservation/Natural Resource Management program at the Hewes Educational Center.

Juniors and seniors spent several days at Lakeside Park in Mayville helping to build an ice castle that will be central to this year's Winter Festival taking place Feb. 14-16.

For years, Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES has played an important role in the festival. Career & Technical Education students, aiding scores of community volunteers, organizations, and businesses, assist with getting hundreds of uniform ice blocks out of Chautauqua Lake and into position for the iconic castle.

Warm weather prevented the construction of the castle for the last two years.

This year, Conservation students, under the direction of instructors Jeff Angeletti and Christian Hy, again helped at Lakeside Park for this year's Mayville Winter Festival. In addition to directing large blocks of ice out of the lake, students also helped build a large snow pile that will be used for sledding.

This year, the event is being hosted by Inspire Good of WNY.

"Students gain several valuable learning experiences, including teamwork, being on an active job site, and collaboration with several businesses and stakeholders within our community," Hy said. "This has led to jobs for students in the past, and this has already resulted in a few students being offered employment this upcoming summer."

Hy said the ice castle project allows students to work with "one of our greatest Natural Resources" utilizing

best management practices. Doing so, he said, ensures that the ice is harvested in "the most eco-friendly way possible."

"The sense of accomplishment, pride, and the feeling of giving back to the community truly is awesome," he said.

Angeletti, who began working at Hewes in 1998, alluded to E2CCB's long tradition of helping to build the ice castle. He estimated that Conservation students have been lending a hand for at least 30 years.

"Throughout the years, our class has been depended on to help construct the castle and work with many area businesses that have volunteered their time and resources," Angeletti said.

The longtime instructor also noted the benefits of helping out each winter.

"Our students are able to rub elbows and work with community business partners to construct a one-of-a-kind ice castle," Angeletti said. "Many of our students have landed internships or even job opportunities while volunteering at the castle. It's great to see our Conservation students helping the community with a project that has such an impact on our community."

Burl Swanson, a longtime volunteer for the festival, praised E2CCB for its continued support at the park.

"These kids are so dynamic," Swanson said. "Without them and all the effort they bring to us, I don't know if we'd be able to get the ice castle done. You have to move hundreds of blocks, get them into position, and have them ready for the guys who are making the physical castle. These kids do a fantastic job to help us."

For more information on Career & Technical Education programs available at E2CCB, visit [e2ccb.org/programs/career-technical-education/](http://e2ccb.org/programs/career-technical-education/)

## Chautauqua County Launches Program to Enhance Safety for Older Adults with Ring Video Doorbells

*Partnership with USAging and Ring Helps Seniors Age Safely at Home*

*Article Contributed by*  
**Justin Gould**  
Chautauqua County Media Information Officer

Chautauqua County's Office for Aging Services is proud to announce a groundbreaking initiative in collaboration with USAging and Ring, designed to empower older adults with innovative technology that enhances their safety and independence.

Through this program, Chautauqua County residents aged 60 and older will have access to Ring a Video Doorbell or a Stick-Up Cam, provided free of charge, to help them age in place with greater peace of mind.

This initiative stems from USAging's national partnership with Ring, announced earlier this year which included the donation of 5,000 Ring devices to 10 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) nationwide. Chautauqua County's Office for Aging Services is among the recipients and will distribute 500 devices locally, along with a lifetime Ring Protect Basic subscription for each device.

"Chautauqua County is committed to leveraging technology to enhance the safety and well-being of our older residents," said Dana Corwin, Office for Aging Services Director. "This partnership with USAging and Ring aligns with our mission to help seniors live independently and safely in their homes. We're excited to be part of this innovative program and provide this invaluable resource to those who need it most."

Michelle Swan, Home Care and Caregiver Support Coordinator, emphasized the program's role in supporting older adults and their families.



Submitted Photo

L-R: Paul M. Wendel Jr., Chautauqua County Executive, Dana Corwin, Office for Aging Services Director, Bridgette Paoletta, NY Connects Coordinator and James Quattrone, Chautauqua County Sheriff.

"For many seniors and their caregivers, safety is a primary concern. These devices offer a simple yet effective solution, enabling them to feel more secure while maintaining their independence. This initiative is a game-changer for the families we serve," said Swan.

The program builds on Ring's previous successful collaborations with AAAs in Florida and other states, which have shown how accessible technology can significantly improve older adults' sense of security. Recipients in Chautauqua County will benefit from Ring's features like Two-Way Talk and Live View, allowing them to interact with visitors at their door from the comfort of their home.

"Ensuring the safety of our community members is a top priority, and this program is a testament to the power of partnerships in achieving that goal," said PJ Wendel, Chautauqua County Executive. "These devices will not only help seniors feel more secure

but will also support caregivers by providing an extra layer of protection."

Chautauqua County Sheriff James Quattrone emphasized the initiative's broader impact on community safety. "Technology like Ring plays a critical role in promoting public safety and preventing crimes of opportunity. By equipping older adults with these devices, we're helping them remain vigilant and secure in their homes."

Bridgette Paoletta, NY Connects Coordinator, highlighted the importance of outreach and awareness.

"We want everyone to know about the resources and programs available to them through NY Connects," said Paoletta. "This initiative is a perfect example of how we're working to connect older adults and their caregivers with tools and information to enhance their quality of life."

USAging CEO Sandy Markwood highlighted the significance of this

initiative on a national level, stating, "Ring is a technology that addresses critical needs of older adults by adding a layer of safety and allowing older adults to see who is at their door. This partnership between Ring and AAAs will easily get devices into the hands of older adults most in need and help them to age safely in their homes and community."

"Since 2021, we've supported Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) throughout the country and have learned how eager seniors are to use technology that is accessible, convenient and helps increase peace of mind as they age independently at home," said Karla Torres, Head of Community Engagement at Amazon Devices & Services. "We are proud to support 10 additional AAAs and provide Ring technology for seniors in each community. We look forward to collaborating and learning alongside AAAs and ensuring that Amazon technology continues to support the needs of all users."

**Eligible participants must meet the following criteria:**

- Be 60 years or older.
- Reside in Chautauqua County.
- Have access to Wi-Fi, a smartphone, and an email address.

Ring provided technology training and installation training to ensure ease of use for participants. Devices will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Those interested in learning more about this program or applying should contact the NY Connects Helpline at 716-753-4582. For additional information, contact the Office for Aging Services at [chqgov.com/office-aging](http://chqgov.com/office-aging).

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- John F. Kennedy  
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- George H.W. Bush  
41st President of the United States of America

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## Deadline Approaching for Party Enrollment Changes Ahead of June Primary

**Voters Must Submit Enrollment Changes by February 14**



Photo Credit: Justin Gould/Media Information Officer

Voting in Chautauqua County, NY.

Article Contributed by  
**Justin Gould**  
Chautauqua County Media Information Officer

Voters who wish to change their party enrollment before the June Primary must submit their request to the Board of Elections by 5 PM on February 14, 2025.

"As the Board of Elections prepares for petitioning and the Primary, Election Law states that we cannot allow individuals from changing their party affiliation between February 15 and seven days following the Primary (July 1st this year)," states Commissioner Luz Torres.

Any enrollment change must be physically received at the Board of Elections office by 5PM. on Friday February 14, 2025. A change of enrollment received by the BOE no later than Feb. 14th or after July 1st would be effective immediately, per Election Law §5-304(3). Changes submitted through the NYS DMV must be made by TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH, in order for the DMV to transmit the data to the Board of Elections timely.

"It is important to reiterate that voters wishing to change their party affiliation must do so by the February 14th deadline or the change will not be made until after the June Primary. In order

to be eligible to vote in a Primary Election you must be affiliated in the political party you wish to vote in," adds Commissioner Nacole Ellis.

The Board of Elections office is open daily from 8:30AM to 4:30PM. To meet statutory requirements for the last day to receive political party changes, the Board of Elections will remain open until 5PM on Friday, February 14th.

Voters wishing to change their political party need to complete a new Voter Registration Form, designating their new political party choice. Forms can be submitted in-person or via proxy at the Board of Elections office located at 7 N Erie St. Mayville, NY 14757.

Voter Registration Forms are available on line at [www.votechautauqua.com](http://www.votechautauqua.com) and at any local municipal office, library, post office or at the Board of Elections. Online options include the New York State Online Voter Registration portal or the Department of Motor Vehicles MotorVoter portal. Links to both websites are available at [www.votechautauqua.com](http://www.votechautauqua.com).

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## Scholarships Available for Students to Attend Summer Music Festival at SUNY Fredonia



Submitted Photo

Students Rehearse at a Previous Summer Music Festival.

Article Contributed by  
**SUNY Fredonia**

The Empire State Arts Scholarship program is providing financial assistance for students to attend the State University of New York at Fredonia's Summer Music Festival.

Middle and high schoolers can apply online at <https://www.oce.nysed.gov/nyssa/empire-state-arts-scholarship-program> for an Empire State Arts Scholarship to attend one of the summer music camp sessions.

A total of nine scholarships, valued from \$100 to \$700, have been awarded to students in the last two years. Scholarships are awarded to students based on family income level and financial need. To be considered, the family annual adjusted gross income must be

below \$91,000.

This year's festival will offer multiple levels of music camps: middle school band, high school band, choral, piano and string. Two new camps, modern band, and composition and songwriting, have been added for 2025.

Each week-long camp will be held during one of the following weeks: June 29 to July 5; July 13 to July 18; July 20 to July 26.

Scan the QR code for registration information:



"No government is perfect. One of the chief virtues of a democracy, however, is that its defects are always visible and under democratic processes can be pointed out and corrected."

- Harry S. Truman  
33rd President of the United States of America

## SUDOKU

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

### 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: Advanced

## CROSSWORD

			1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		
	10	11							12					13
	14							15					16	17
18							19			20		21		
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41				42		43		44				45	46	47
48			49		50		51					52		
53				54		55						56		
57				58		59				60	61	62		
	63	64						65						
								66						

### CLUES ACROSS

- Tropical Asian plant
- Yankees' slugger Judge
- Helps to preserve food
- Plant disease
- One who predicts
- Equally
- Burundian franc
- Pouch
- Arizona city
- Surround
- Hard, heavy timber
- Witnessed
- They —
- French river
- A way to drink
- Small constellation
- Peruse a written work
- Type of hound
- Plant of the goosefoot family
- Evade or escape
- A way to confine
- Volcanic crater
- Weekday
- Women's service organization (abbr.)
- Local area network
- Sensory receptor
- Posted
- Tibetan pastry
- Licensed for Wall Street
- Very willing
- Golf score
- Consume
- Touchdown
- Tends to remind
- In a way, smoothed
- Poke holes in the ground
- Herbaceous plants
- Taiwanese river

### CLUES DOWN

- Body art
- Boxing's GOAT
- Film for posterity (abbr.)
- Prayer
- Calculating machine
- Keyboard key
- Outburst
- Man-eating giants
- New Hampshire
- Type of sword
- Counting
- Pants style
- Political action committee
- U.S. government legislative branch
- Civil Rights Act component
- Contractors take one
- Spanish soldier
- A person's brother or sister
- Expressed pleasurer
- Song of praise
- Shock treatment
- Patti Hearst's captors
- Counteract
- Goes over again
- Popular Dodge truck
- Male adult
- A part of a river where the current is very fast
- Rope used to lasso
- Become less intense
- Subway rodent
- Lead alloy
- Japanese honorific title
- Advise someone
- Famous NYC museum
- Ocean
- Cathode-ray tube
- Cologne
- It starts with these two



eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**



## The Community Prepares for the YWCA's Annual "Coldest Night Out" in an Effort to Combat Homelessness

Article Contributed by  
**Rotary Club of Jamestown**

The members of the Rotary Club of Jamestown, NY will be among the hundreds of dedicated community members coming out to participate in the YWCA's annual, mobile, "chilly" fundraising endeavor, which is set to take place Feb. 22 and will begin and end at the Winter Garden Plaza in Jamestown. Registration begins at 4 p.m. and the walk begins at 5 p.m.

Last year's CNOY event raised more than \$15,000 for the YWCA's Transitions Supportive Housing Program. This vital program provides housing and case management support services for single women and women with children who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Transitional housing provides a unique and critical component in addressing homelessness by offering up to two years of stable housing paired with supportive case management. This approach allows women to stabilize their lives, develop essential skills, and achieve goals that enable them to secure and maintain long-term permanent housing. Through personalized support, case managers assist clients in accessing resources and unlocking their full potential, empowering them to build a foundation for lasting success," said Jacqueline Cook, the YWCA's program director (Choosing Action.)

As previously reported New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli said that "homelessness in New York state has grown sharply, more than doubling between January 2022 and January 2024," said DiNapoli. "Homelessness grew by 53 percent from January 2023 to January 2024, more than four times the rest of the nation. The large spike was driven by New York City and the influx of asylum seekers, but the rest of the state also had double- and triple-digit rate increases, led by Glens Falls, Saratoga and the surrounding counties."

Additionally, locally, the numbers of homeless or unhoused people are bleak according to DiNapoli's report.

According to the local Rotary Club's President-Elect, Michelle Jones, the Coldest Night of the Year event is our new National Walk for Homelessness, and here in out community, it is raising money for people and families experiencing homelessness, hurt, and hunger in Jamestown, NY.

Funds raised will help YWCA Jamestown do this work until injustice is rooted out, until institutions are transformed, until the world sees women, girls, and people of color the way we do: Equal. Powerful. Unstoppable.

Donations may be sent to PO Box 732, Jamestown, NY 14702.

*"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."*

- Abraham Lincoln  
16th President of the United States of America



Babe

## Chautauqua County Humane Society Pets of the Week

Babe is a goofy lovable guy who loves his stuffies and his people. Though a little awkward and shy at first meet he quickly warms up and is like Velcro thereafter. He would love a human that will play, train and go for long walks with him. He knows how to sit, stay, come, walk nice and easy for treats and shake. Meet Babe soon at CCHS. Shelter No. RR179.

Leia is a curious, friendly, and silly cat. If you're looking for a cat with a knack for mischief and a heart full of love, this is your girl. Stop by to visit Leia, and she will be sure to show you how comfy she is by offering you a head nudge. Shelter No. RR179.



Leia

## Fostering Democratic Engagement Among College Students

Article Contributed by  
**SUNY Fredonia**

State University of New York at Fredonia Associate Professor Angela McGowan-Kirsch has edited a book on fostering democratic engagement among college students.

"Encouraging College Students' Democratic Engagement in an Era of Political Polarization" features contributions from revered scholars in the field, offering diverse perspectives on dialogic and deliberative pedagogies, civility, civic education and the social contract.

"These insights position educators to help students learn about democracy through experiences and teach them strategies for engaging in productive disagreement – essential steps for active democratic engagement beyond the classroom," Dr. McGowan-Kirsch, of the Department of Communication, commented about the book.

The scholarly work explores the pivotal role that higher education institutions play in cultivating students' civic participation. It presents a collection of pedagogical strategies designed to equip students with essential citizenship skills, such as expressing opinions, collaborating effectively, and engaging in meaningful dialogue and civic reasoning," McGowan-Kirsch explained.

"By fostering these competencies, educators can prepare students to navigate and address pressing national and local issues constructively. The publication of this book is particularly timely, as recent studies highlight the increasing political engagement among college students," she said.

In a political climate described as polarized and hostile, it can be difficult to promote discussion that welcomes diverse opinions, ideologies and preferences, McGowan-Kirsch said. "This is particularly true on college campuses."

Insights shared by the contributors have shaped McGowan-Kirsch's approach to teaching, research and her work with the campus' American Democracy Project committee.



Submitted Photo

Dr. Angela McGowan-Kirsch

"Institutions of higher learning can be a powerful influence in instilling in young adults a democratic spirit. With eroding confidence in the stability of democratic institutions, particularly elections, educators are tasked with fostering an active citizenry," McGowan-Kirsch said.

The book's key principles, such as civility and collaboration, guide McGowan-Kirsch's efforts to help students develop the skills needed to engage meaningfully in democracy. She argues that these principles are essential for students' growth as thoughtful, active citizens.

McGowan-Kirsch, who joined the SUNY Fredonia faculty in 2015, is dedicated to teaching the critical skills of active citizenship to students.

The book, the culmination of McGowan-Kirsch's sabbatical taken during the Fall 2023 semester, is published by Lexington Books, an imprint of Rowman & Littlefield.

McGowan-Kirsch is also chair of the American Democracy Project committee, which educates students to engage in civic issues through participatory democracy, and coordinator of the Leadership Studies minor. Her scholarship has been published in journals that include the Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Atlantic Journal of Communication, Journal of Communication Pedagogy and Communication Teacher.

## Presidents and Would-Be Presidents in Chautauqua County

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE



Photo Credit:  
Elaine Knopp

Some three months ago, I received a letter from a young lady here; it was a very pretty letter, and she advised me to let my whiskers grow, as it would improve my personal appearance; acting partly upon her suggestion, I have done so; and now, if she is here, I would like to see her." Their meeting is commemorated by the Lincoln-Bedell statue prominently centered in downtown Westfield.

The visits to Chautauqua Institution by four sitting Presidents are well-documented. The first, by Ulysses S. Grant, was in 1875 when the Institution was in its infancy. Grant was invited there by John Heyl Vincent, one of the founders of the Institution, and the visit undoubtedly brought national recognition to the tent assembly then known as Fair Point. Grant traveled by special train to Jamestown. After a luncheon at the Kent Mansion (now the Robert H. Jackson Center) he was transported up the lake by steamboat to the Institution.

Theodore Roosevelt visited the Institution in 1905, and his cousin, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, spoke at the Amphitheater in 1936, delivering his famous "I Hate War" speech. The speech was radio broadcast across the nation. Both of the Roosevelts had visited the Institution on more than one occasion, and Eleanor Roosevelt was a frequent speaker as well. One of Eleanor's lifelong friends and companions was Marion Dickerman of Westfield.

More recently, in 1996 President Bill Clinton stayed at the Institution for three days while preparing for the his debate against Bob Dole. He and his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, who

was a later Secretary of State and also a Presidential candidate, had visited and spoken at the Institution previously.

It is interesting to note that William H. Seward was hugely popular in western New York and was our pick for the Republican ticket in the election of 1860. We know that Lincoln secured the nomination nationally, but Seward's connections to Chautauqua County dated back to 1836 when he moved here to serve as Holland Land agent. For two years he rented the McClurg mansion as his home – you can visit the mansion (now the headquarters for the Chautauqua County Historical Society) and see documents and furniture from his tenure in the land office. Seward claimed that his greatest accomplishment was purchasing Alaska for \$7.2 million dollars in 1867. Although ridiculed for the purchase, called "Seward's icebox," Seward believed the territory was important to secure. He may have learned about Alaska's worth while living in Chautauqua County. Donald Mackenzie of Mayville had explored the northwest extensively and was an acquaintance of Seward.

Another Secretary of State, Daniel Webster, visited the county on two occasions. Webster's first visit was unofficial, when in about 1842 he came here to confer with Donald Mackenzie. Mackenzie's knowledge of what was known as the Oregon Territory was critical to northern border negotiations between the United States and Great Britain. Webster arrived quietly, by boat from Buffalo to Barcelona, where he was met by William Peacock's carriage and transported to Mackenzie's



Photo Credit:  
Linda Potts Walrod

residence. The Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842 established the 49th parallel as the border between the United States and what would become Canada.

Webster's second visit to the county could not have been more different from his first. Webster was Secretary of State for President Millard Fillmore when, in 1851, the New York and Erie Railroad opened to Dunkirk. The first train to arrive in Dunkirk carried the President and several of his cabinet members, including Webster, who rode the entire 17 hour trip from New York City in a rocking chair strapped to a flatbed rail car so he could enjoy the wild countryside. Webster also "enjoyed" a bottle of good rum along the way which delayed the celebratory parade in Dunkirk by three hours.

Horace Greeley, a friend and political ally of William Seward's, is best known as the editor of the New York Tribune. They both were involved in forming the Republican

Party in 1854, and the platform that was adopted by the party was written by men from the county along with Seward and Greeley. Greeley's parents settled just across the Pennsylvania state line but got their mail and conducted business in Clymer. Horace lived here briefly and visited regularly until his father's death in 1867. Greeley unsuccessfully ran for President against Ulysses S. Grant in 1872. He and Seward both died that same year.

William Jennings Bryan ran for President three times (1896, 1900, 1908) and served as Secretary of State under Woodrow Wilson. Bryan gained fame as an orator by inventing the national stump tour. He delivered lectures on the circuit of Chautauquas that existed across the country. Bryan visited Chautauqua County while campaigning in 1896. In 1913, as Secretary of State and a prohibitionist, he served Welch's grape juice instead of wine at a state dinner. Although not well-received by the dinner guests, it served as great publicity for Welch's!





Statements From  
New York State Senator  
**George M. Borrello**  
(R, C) 57TH SENATE DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICE: 716-664-4603  
SATELLITE OFFICE: 716-372-4901  
ALBANY OFFICE: 518-455-3563  
borello@nysenate.gov

Special Election Delays

Senator George Borrello has called on Governor Kathy Hochul to veto a blatant attempt by legislative Democrats to manipulate elections and silence voters through new legislation that would delay special elections for elective office vacancies.

Under current law, the governor must call a special election within 90 days to ensure voters aren't without representation for longer than necessary. Borrello noted in his letter that Hochul had no issue following this law when filling the recent vacancies left by Brian Higgins and George Santos—but now, Democrats want to change the rules in light of an impending vacancy in the 21st congressional district in order to give a political advantage to congressional Democrats.

"This isn't about saving money or increasing turnout—it's about rigging the system," Borrello said. "New Yorkers deserve full representation, not partisan games."

When Higgins resigned on February 2, 2024, Hochul immediately scheduled an election for April 30. When Santos was expelled on December 1, 2023, she set a special election for February 13. Borrello noted that no one complained about cost or turnout then—but now that a Republican seat is at stake, Democrats suddenly want to delay elections.

"By continually bowing to political special interests, Governor Hochul has only driven her approval ratings down, because New Yorkers see right through these schemes. It's time for her to step up and speak on behalf of the people that she serves," said Borrello.

"Democrats self-righteously hold themselves up as the champions of democracy. Yet here in Albany, those claims ring hollow as we've watched them brazenly bend both the electoral and judicial systems to serve their partisan aims in recent years," Borrello said.

"Delaying special elections is a direct attack on democracy that would leave hundreds of thousands without a voice in Washington. If Gov. Hochul truly believes in fair representation, she must veto

this bill and prove she serves the people—not her party's political machine."

Farm Employer  
Overtime Tax Credit

Senator George Borrello is calling on Governor Kathy Hochul to fulfill her commitment to New York's farmers by including a fix to the Farm Employer Overtime Tax Credit in her 30-day budget amendments to ensure that all farm employers—regardless of payroll structure—receive the relief they were originally promised.

In a letter sent to Governor Hochul, Senator Borrello urged her to include a technical correction to the tax credit so that all farm employers can be reimbursed for the added labor costs resulting from New York's overtime pay mandates for farm employees. The language of the original law establishing the tax credit unintentionally created a loophole that prevented many farm owners from being eligible to claim the credit.

"New York's farmers have endured relentless regulatory and financial burdens, and this tax credit was meant to provide meaningful relief as they adjust to the state's overtime mandate," said Senator Borrello. "However, a drafting error excluded many farms from eligibility. Last year, Governor Hochul acknowledged this issue when she vetoed a bill that would have corrected it, stating that it should be addressed in the budget process. Now is the time to keep that promise."

The farms excluded from the tax credit are those that manage payroll through professional employer organizations (PEOs) or corporate entities created to administer benefits across multiple operations. Many family-owned farms in New York use these structures to streamline payroll and human resources, yet they have been unfairly denied access to this much-needed relief.

The original Farm Employer Overtime Tax Credit, enacted in the FY 2022-23 state budget, was designed to help farms absorb the increased labor costs stemming from New York's decision to lower

the farmworker overtime threshold. The threshold will be lowered on a phased schedule set by the state Labor Department. As of January 1, 2024, farm workers in the state are entitled to overtime pay—calculated at 1.5 times their regular hourly rate—after working more than 56 hours per week. This threshold will decrease by four hours every two years until it reaches 40 hours per week in 2032.

The law created a crushing financial burden for many farmers, which led to the creation of the tax credit. However, due to restrictive language, many eligible farm businesses were unintentionally left out, despite their clear need for relief.

Senator Borrello reiterated his support for New York's agricultural community and ensuring that state policies help, rather than hinder, their success.

"Our state's farmers have already suffered under policies that prioritize radical special interests over what is best for our farmers and agriculture. We must correct this oversight and ensure that all farm employers receive the support they were promised," Senator Borrello continued. "The Governor has the opportunity to address this mistake by including the legislative correction in her 30-day amendments. New York's farmers—and the future of agriculture in our state—depend on it."

DOCCS Staffing  
Reductions

"I've learned that Acting DOCCS Commissioner Daniel Martuscello has ordered prison superintendents to treat 70 percent staffing capacity as "full staffing," and is requiring superintendents to submit plans to permanently operate with fewer personnel. This is a de facto 30 percent staffing cut in a system already under siege, as today's lockdown at Collins Correctional proves. Rather than addressing the ongoing crisis of rising violence and officer shortages, DOCCS and the Hochul administration are deliberately making an already dangerous situation worse.

Correctional officers are already stretched to the breaking point, routinely working double and

even triple shifts just to maintain the bare minimum coverage. This unsustainable workload is taking a devastating toll on their health, families, and safety, making them more vulnerable to attack while fueling instability inside prisons. Instead of protecting officers, DOCCS and the Hochul administration are slashing staff while ignoring the real causes of escalating violence—like the disastrous HALT Act, which has stripped officers of the tools they need to maintain control.

The lockdown at Collins and this 30 percent staffing reduction are just the latest evidence of DOCCS reckless mismanagement and Albany's pro-criminal policies. They are abandoning the men and women who keep our prisons secure to serve a radical political agenda. I strongly condemn this staffing reduction and urge Governor Hochul and Commissioner Martuscello to immediately reverse this dangerous decision before more lives are put at risk. Should any lives be lost, whether they be staff or inmates, the blood will be on their hands."

NYPA Rate Hikes

"NYPA's decision to pause its proposed hydropower rate hike is a win for New Yorkers, businesses, and communities that depend on affordable, clean energy. This near-tripling of rates was unacceptable, and I, along with Assemblyman Andrew Molitor and many of my Republican colleagues, fought hard to stop this devastating increase before it could take effect.

The overwhelming pushback from legislators, businesses, municipal utility providers, and residents made it clear that this proposal was unacceptable. Once Governor Hochul saw the extent of opposition, she put the brakes on it—something she should have done from the start. Keeping energy affordable is essential to retaining jobs, supporting families, and maintaining a competitive economy.

This fight isn't over. We must remain vigilant to ensure NYPA doesn't revive this misguided proposal down the road and that New Yorkers continue to have access to reliable, low-cost energy."



BUFFALO NIAGARA  
MANUFACTURING  
ALLIANCE



BNMA and MAST Statement Regarding  
Hochul Calling for End of NYPA Proposal

Submitted by

Todd J. Trantum

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

Buffalo Niagara Manufacturers  
Alliance & Manufacturers  
Association of the Southern Tier  
joint statement regarding Governor  
Hochul, '... calling for and end to  
the Power Authority's unacceptable  
proposal to raise electric rates on its  
customers statewide.'

In a joint statement released today,  
the Buffalo Niagara Manufacturers  
Alliance and the Manufacturers  
Association of the Southern Tier  
stated, "We thank and appreciate  
Governor Hochul recognizing

the disastrous impact the NYPA  
rate proposal was going to have  
on manufacturers and ongoing  
economic development initiatives  
across New York State. We look  
forward to continued dialogue  
with NYPA. NYPA has historically  
provided cost competitive, reliable  
and clean power that has helped  
keep manufacturers in New York  
State. As manufacturers operating in  
a high cost, high tax, high regulatory  
State, affordable and reliable NYPA  
power has helped manufacturers  
compete domestically and globally  
while retaining and growing jobs.  
We also thank those leaders from  
the manufacturing sector, and our  
Western New York delegation of  
elected leaders that have conveyed  
their concerns directly to NYPA, to  
their peers and to the Governor."

Uphill from the Marsh  
near Sherman, New York

Drabble by John Brantingham

I cocked my head at the sleet rimed rock pile and thought  
about what the forest had been a hundred years ago when the  
rocks had been a part of a wall, hemming in cows, this land  
that had gone back to wild since its people had moved on.

Something hidden in the rocks chirped, something that  
watched me and maybe was commenting about the way I  
stood or what I would do next, something that maybe wanted  
me gone, something that knew this was no longer a place for  
humans, that had found a warm nook from the snow.

This poem was sponsored by a grant from  
New York State Council on the Arts.  
Johnbrantingham.com



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Heritage Ministries Now Offering  
Expanded Medical Transportation  
Service to Chautauqua County and  
Surrounding Residents

Article Contributed by

Heritage Ministries

Heritage Ministries, the largest  
trusted provider of skilled nursing  
care in Chautauqua County, of  
therapy, memory care, rehabilitation,  
assisted living, and independent  
living, is excited to announce the  
launch of its expanded medical  
transportation service. This initiative  
is designed to ensure that residents  
as well as community members have  
safe, reliable, and timely access to  
essential medical appointments and  
healthcare services.



Submitted Photo

Lisa Haglund  
President & CEO  
Heritage Ministries

Understanding the challenges  
many patients face in securing  
transportation, Heritage Ministries  
is expanding its commitment  
to quality care by offering non-  
emergency medical transportation  
for individuals who need assistance  
traveling to doctor's appointments,  
therapy sessions, hospital visits, and  
other medical care.

"At Heritage, we recognize that  
access to medical care extends  
beyond our walls," said Laura John,  
Transportation Coordinator. "By  
expanding our medical transportation  
services to Chautauqua County  
and the surrounding area, we are  
providing a vital resource that  
continues to support our residents'  
ongoing health needs while also  
extending our care to seniors and  
individuals with mobility challenges  
in the community."

Key features of Heritage's Medical  
Transportation Service include:

- Wheelchair-Accessible Vehicles –  
Ensuring comfort and safety for all  
passengers.
- Trained & Compassionate Staff –  
Skilled professionals equipped to  
assist patients with mobility and  
special needs.
- Expanded Service Area – Available  
for Chautauqua (NY), Erie  
(NY and PA), and Warren (PA)  
County residents.

This service is available to both  
residents of Heritage Ministries  
and members of the surrounding  
community. Request "The Gerry  
Homes" if scheduling through  
Medical Answering Services (MAS).  
For more information or to schedule  
a ride, call 716-338-0133 or visit  
heritage1886.org/medical-transport.



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"To waste, to destroy, our natural  
resources, to skin and exhaust the land  
instead of using it so as to increase its  
usefulness, will result in undermining in  
the days of our children the very prosperity  
which we ought by right to hand down to  
them amplified and developed."

- Theodore Roosevelt  
26th President of the United States of America





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## Maintenance Intervals Drivers Should Know

Article by

*Metro Creative Connection*

Vehicles are among the most costly expenses individuals have. According to data from Kelley Blue Book, the average price paid for a new vehicle in the United States in September 2022 was \$48,094. Canadian car buyers face an equally expensive reality in their country, where the average MSRP for a new car is more than \$45,000.

Since vehicles are such sizable investments, it behooves motorists to do as much as they can to keep their cars and trucks running smoothly. Vehicle owner's manuals typically recommend maintenance intervals and should be drivers' first resource for information regarding how to take care of their cars and trucks. But the following are some standard maintenance intervals drivers can keep in mind.

### 3,000 Miles

The 3,000-mile marker used to be the benchmark for changing oil, but modern vehicles can now go longer between oil changes. However, it's still a good idea to check other fluid levels every 3,000 miles. Windshield washer fluid, coolant, brake fluid, transmission fluid, and power steering fluid should all be checked every 3,000 miles and topped off if levels are low.

It's wise for drivers to perform some additional maintenance checkups every 3,000 miles. Check tire pressure, inspect hoses (which should not be leaking or bulging) and clean the interior of the vehicle every 3,000 miles.

### 5,000 Miles

Many vehicle manufacturers now recommend oil changes every 5,000 miles. Tire rotations also can be part of service visits at this interval, and drivers can ask their mechanic to

check their fuel filters and batteries every 5,000 miles as well. Many may already do this as part of their comprehensive maintenance packages, but it's still good to confirm if they do and request they do so if it's not part of the plan.

Drivers also can request that cabin air filters are inspected at this point, though they can generally last a year before they need to be replaced.

Around the 5,000-mile mark, wiper blades also may begin to show signs of wear and tear, including streaking on the windshield or scratching noises when in use. Each of those signs indicates the wipers need to be replaced. However, drivers should take note of these signs regardless of when they appear. Some may not make it 5,000 miles before they begin to wear down. In such instances, they should be replaced immediately regardless of how many miles it's been since they were installed.

### 10,000 Miles

Some vehicles may only require oil changes every 10,000 miles. That's not uncommon in vehicles that use synthetic oil, though drivers are urged to consult their owner's manuals.

Brake pads also may need to be replaced around this time, and one telltale sign of that is a squeaking noise whenever the brakes are applied.

Drivers can ask their mechanics to check the alignment of their vehicles around this interval as well. Though many vehicles won't develop alignment issues, it's best to check for such issues every 10,000 miles or whenever a vehicle feels as though it's pulling in one specific direction.

Maintenance intervals are created to serve as a guideline for drivers. Any issues that arise should still be brought to the attention of a mechanic regardless of how many miles have been added to the odometer since the most recent trip to the garage.

# GMC

# LARRY SPACC GMC

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STOCK# 25E03A

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- ALL WHEEL DRIVE
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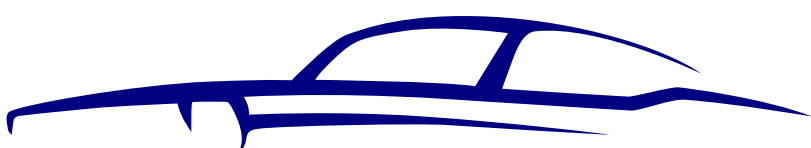
- MILES 49,397
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## Common Car Noises and What They Might be Indicating

Article by  
*Metro Creative Connection*

Although there are many drivers who understand what goes on under the hood of a vehicle and the inner workings of car mechanics, there are plenty of others who might not know a spark plug from a dipstick. For the latter group, random noises when driving can be a cause for immediate alarm.

Certain noises can be innocuous and easily fixed, while others may be indicative of something more complex. Pinpointing where a noise is coming from can help vehicle owners identify the problem. Here's a list of some common sounds and what the causes might be, courtesy of Firestone, Geico and Nationwide.

### High-pitched Squealing

Screeching or squealing coming from the tires when stepping on the brakes likely means that brake pads are wearing down and the indicator is rubbing against the rotor. Although this is not an emergency situation, it does mean that brakes will need to be replaced sooner than later.

### Rattling in the Wheel

If you hear rattling inside of a wheel at low speeds which stops as you drive faster, it could mean there is a loose lug nut inside of the hub cap. That wheel wasn't tightened properly the last time it was removed and replaced. Bring the car to a mechanic as soon as possible.

### Clicking

If you try to start the car and only hear a clicking sound instead of the car turning over, a dead battery is likely the cause. Such a noise also may indicate corroded battery terminals that are preventing the current from flowing. Terminals need to be cleaned. The battery should be checked and jumped, if necessary. If a battery is not holding a charge, a new one is needed.



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### Squeaky or Scraping Windshield Wipers

Squeaking and scraping means the windshield wipers are wearing down or the windshield is dirty. Clean the windshield and inspect the wiper blades to make sure they are in working order. A bad wiper and dirty windshield can reduce visibility and make driving dangerous.

### Clunking Sounds

Clunking sounds may indicate a few different issues. A clunking sound might indicate worn out shock absorbers, which absorb vibrations from the wheels. Damaged struts also can cause clunking. Worn out leaf spring shackles that help in off-roading conditions also can cause clunking when they bend or break.

### Humming, Whining or Whirring

These strange noises might have different origins. Check if the differential needs to be lubricated. A wheel bearing also could be worn out and produce a noise. In more severe cases, the transmission could be failing. The best course of action is to get a professional opinion from a mechanic.

### Flapping Noise

A broken belt typically is the culprit when a vehicle makes a flapping or slapping noise. Something also may be interfering with the fan. Driving with a broken belt may cause severe engine damage, so it's important to address the issue.

### Squealing Under the Hood

Squealing can indicate worn or loose accessory belts. In newer cars it might be the serpentine belt. Belts are relatively inexpensive and easy fixes.

These are some of the sounds that vehicles can make when something is awry. Figuring out the issue can prevent further damage.

## Wicked and Mufasa to Show at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts



Article Contributed by  
*Reg Lenna Center for the Arts*

*Wicked*, (Fri., Feb. 14 at 7 p.m.) the untold story of the witches of Oz, stars Emmy, Grammy and Tony winning and Oscar®-nominated powerhouse Cynthia Erivo as Elphaba, a young woman misunderstood because of her green skin who has yet to discover her true power, and Grammy-winning, multi-platinum recording artist and global superstar Ariana Grande as Glinda, a popular young woman gilded by privilege who has yet to discover her true heart. *Wicked* is rated PG and is 160 minutes long. The film is nominated for 10 Academy Awards including Best Picture, Best Actress - Erivo, and Best Supporting Actress - Grande.

Exploring the unlikely rise of the beloved king of the Pride Lands, *Mufasa: The Lion King* (Wed., Feb. 19 at 2 p.m. & Fri., Feb. 21 at 7 p.m.) enlists Rafiki to relay the legend of Mufasa to young lion cub Kiara, daughter of Simba and Nala, with Timon and Pumbaa lending their signature schtick. Told in flashbacks, the story introduces Mufasa as an orphaned cub, lost and alone until he meets a sympathetic lion named Taka—the heir to a royal bloodline. The chance meeting sets in motion an expansive journey of an extraordinary group of misfits



searching for their destiny—their bonds will be tested as they work together to evade a threatening and deadly foe. *Mufasa: The Lion King* is rated PG and is 118 minutes long.

Upcoming Movies at The Reg include Oscar-nominee for Best Actor Adrien Brody in the Best Picture nominee *The Brutalist* (March 1 at 7 p.m.), Lily-Rose Depp in director Robert Eggers' *Nosferatu* (March 5 at 7 p.m.), Buster Keaton's *Sherlock Jr.* with R.E.M.'s *Monster* and *New Adventures in Hi Fi: A Silents Synced Film* (March 12 at 7 p.m.), SZA and Keke Palmer in the comedy *One of Them Days* (March 14 at 7

Tickets for most Movies at The Reg are \$8 in-person at the box office and \$10 online (reglenna.com) & by phone - 716.484.7070. Family showings are \$7 in-person at the box office and \$9 online & by phone. Special engagements are priced differently. 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.


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## “Humanism: Super Natural Not Supernatural” is Sunday’s Unitarian Universalist Congregation Message


This Sunday's (February 23) speaker at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown's 10:30 a.m. hybrid service is John Hooper, Ph.D., a retired scientist and industrial research director. An active leader in both national Humanist and UU organizations, Hooper is also vice president of the Board of Trustees of the UU Fellowship of Chautauqua and coordinator of the newly formed Humanist Community at Chautauqua Institution. Recent scientific revelations of the critical role of affect (feelings) in human perception and behavior have created both a challenge and an opportunity for Humanists. Hooper's message will look at how Humanists could more fully participate in interfaith conversations with a kind of “natural” spirituality. Susan Kalfas is service leader, and Julie Anderson is pianist.



All are welcome to the service and the coffee hour that follows at 1255 Prendergast Avenue. To participate virtually, use the link at UUJamestown.org/calendar.

*“The only thing to fear is, fear itself.”*

- Franklin D. Roosevelt  
32nd President of the United States of America





## County Executive PJ Wendel Announces Re-Election Bid

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

As part of my continued commitment to public safety, and to ensure that all county residents have access to timely emergency medical care and mental health services regardless of where they live, I expanded the county fly car ambulance service, and mobile crisis unit.

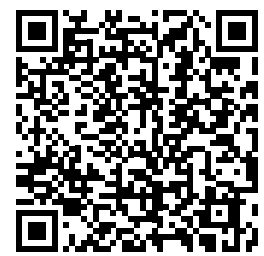
Having the opportunity to serve, as your County Executive is an incredible honor and great blessing, let us commit to fostering a strong

community where everyone thrives.

It is my intention to seek the endorsement of both the Chautauqua County Republican Party and Chautauqua County Conservative Party. I would like to thank both the Republican and Conservative party committees for their steadfast support during my time in office. Their backing has been instrumental in our shared mission and I am confident that we can achieve even greater progress for our community."

## Prendergast Library will be Offering a Citizen Preparedness Class through NYS Homeland Security and Emergency Services

Participants will receive a preparedness kit and an hour of valuable information about how to respond when disaster hits. This event is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18th, 2025 at 5:30pm and will be hosted in the Fireplace room. The maximum capacity is 90 people. For questions, please refer to the attached flyer or call Danica Olson, Public Services Manager at Prendergast Library, 716-484-7135 ext. 235.



Patrons can register by scanning the QR code above.

## U.S. PRESIDENTS Trivia

1. Who was the only U.S. president to serve more than two terms?
2. Which president was the first to live in the White House?
3. Who was the first president to be impeached?
4. Which U.S. president had a pet alligator in the White House?
5. Who was the first U.S. president to be born a U.S. citizen?
6. Which president was known for being a skilled wrestler and was inducted into the Wrestling Hall of Fame?
7. Who was the only bachelor president, never marrying?
8. Which president was a five-star general before taking office?
9. Which president made the first televised address from the White House?
10. Which president once owned a Major League Baseball team?

1. Franklin D. Roosevelt 2. John Adams 3. Andrew Johnson 4. John Quincy Adams 5. Martin Van Buren 6. Abraham Lincoln 7. James Buchanan 8. Dwight D. Eisenhower 9. Harry S. Truman 10. George W. Bush (Texas Rangers)

## Senior Scene

### Let's Talk About the Weather

Article Contributed by

**Chautauqua County  
Office for Aging Services**

The weather has hit us harder this winter. With the snow and wind during the past winter months, people are spending more on heating. The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) may be some assistance for families.

Weatherization is the process of making a house more energy efficient and protecting it from the elements. It can also improve the safety and comfort of your home. Weatherization can save money on heating and cooling costs. It can address energy-related hazards and improve safety standards. Weatherization can make a home more comfortable. Some benefits of weatherization are energy savings as well.

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) assists families and individuals by reducing their heating and cooling costs and improving the safety of their homes through energy efficiency measures. Energy efficiency measures performed through the program include air sealing (weather stripping, caulking), attic and wall insulation, heating system improvements or replacement, efficiency improvements in lighting, hot water tank and pipe insulation, and refrigerator replacements with highly efficient Energy Star rated units.

Both single-family and multi-family houses and buildings are assisted. Household energy use reductions and resultant energy cost savings are significant, with an average savings in excess of 20%. In New York State, the Weatherization program is administered by NYS Homes and Community Renewal (HCR).

Program services are available to both income-eligible homeowners and renters, with priority given to senior citizens, families with children and persons with disabilities. Households with incomes at or below 60% of state median income are eligible for assistance. See the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) Income Guidelines for income eligibility.

If a household contains a member who receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Public Assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), or Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) benefits, the household is considered automatically eligible for

weatherization services.

Some services that are beneficial, but not limited to are:

#### Mechanical:

- Clean, tune and or replace heating and/or cooling systems
- Install duct and heating pipe insulation
- Repair leaks in heating and cooling
- Install programmable thermostats
- Repair or replace water heaters

#### Building:

- Install insulation where needed
- Perform Air sealing
- Install Window film
- Repair or replace windows and doors.
- Electrical and Water:
- Install efficient light sources
- Install Low flow shower heads
- Replace inefficient refrigerators

#### Client Education:

- Educate on potential household hazards such as Carbon Monoxide. Mold and moisture, fire and indoor air pollutants, lead paint and radon.
- Discuss the benefits of using energy efficient products.
- Health and Safety:
- Perform Heating system safety testing
- Perform combustion appliance safety testing
- Repair and Replace vent systems to ensure combustion gas drafts are outside.
- Evaluate Mold and moisture hazards

Providers purchase and use materials that meet state and federal government standards. HCR offers providers training in quality control and material use. All services are provided without charge or obligation to the occupant of the home. However, owners of rental buildings are required to invest funds toward the cost of the Weatherization services.

Individuals wishing to apply should contact their local provider. For Chautauqua County contact Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. at 716-661-9430. The first step will be an energy efficiency audit. For more information, please feel free to visit <https://www.chautauquaopportunities.com/energy-audits/> or <https://otda.ny.gov/workingfamilies/wap.asp>.

If you need any further assistance please reach out to the Office for Aging Services and NY Connects either by stopping at one of our office locations, via email at [ccnyc@chqgov.com](mailto:ccnyc@chqgov.com) or by phone at 716-753-4582.



Article Contributed by

**Daniel J. Heitzenrater**

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce  
President and CEO

### Programming that Moves the Needle for Local Business

With a couple of successful new and out-of-the-box events under our belt for this year we continue to build out a full list of CHQ Chamber events for 2025 that are meaningful to our business community. This includes a broad variety of networking opportunities, advocacy events, workshops, and more, focused around meeting our mission to build vital connections, provide professional resources, and champion our local businesses in Chautauqua County.

Two workshop events are coming up. On February 26 we will focus on Building Foot Traffic with a workshop at the SUNY Fredonia Center for Innovation & Economic Development (formerly the SUNY Fredonia Technology Incubator) in Dunkirk. The next will be March 24 on Corporate Citizenship & Engagement at the Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union Community Training Center in Lakewood. These workshops are free for all local businesspeople to attend and each one not only provides a session to learn something but also includes opportunities to network and get to know other businesses in the area. There is no charge for CHQ Chamber Business Builder Workshop, but we do strongly encourage advanced registration for our planning purposes.

Business After Hours networking events continue to grow. The next one will be a unique opportunity to network not only with Chautauqua County businesspeople, but with Warren County as well. We are partnering with the Warren County Chamber of Business and Industry and Audubon Community Nature Center for a special event March 20. This event will be held at Audubon, an organization with strong ties to both counties. April 30 will bring Business After Hours at the Athenaeum Hotel on the grounds of Chautauqua Institution, and at the end of May we invite one and all to meet and mingle with the Jamestown Tarp Skunks for a special Business After Hours event at Russell E. Diethrick Jr. Park.

Our first advocacy event of the

## CHAMBER CORNER

year brought over 100 local businesspeople together to learn about the State of Business in Chautauqua County and ask questions ranging from innovations to awareness to regulations and electric rate increases. On the heels of that insightful event, we plan to offer a more casual opportunity for businesses to meet with local elected officials in a more direct way as we provide "Official Introductions" – a time set aside for networking directly with your representatives from all levels of government. Official Introductions will be held at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel June 17, with more details to be announced soon.

If you're on our direct email list watch for announcements coming up on all of these events. If you're not receiving our emails, it's easy to sign up at [www.chqchamber.org/stay-up-to-date](http://www.chqchamber.org/stay-up-to-date). If you want to align your brand with our mission, we welcome sponsorships for all these business-focused events. Contact our Director of Membership Development, Bob Lingle at [rlingle@chqchamber.org](mailto:rlingle@chqchamber.org).

### Business Builder Workshop: Boost Your Foot Traffic

The CHQ Chamber will present its first Business Builder Workshop of the year on the crucial topic of boosting foot traffic for local businesses. Whether you have a retail shop, restaurant, or service industry, you'll gain some tips on how to drive more customers through your door.

This Business Builder Workshop will be held Wednesday, February 26 from 9:30 – 11:30 am at the SUNY Fredonia Center for Innovation and Economic Development (formerly the Technology Incubator), 214 Central Avenue, Dunkirk. This event is designed to be both a learning experience tied with a bit of networking. It is free for all to attend. Pre-registration is requested for planning purposes and is open now through the Chamber's web calendar at [www.chqchamber.org](http://www.chqchamber.org).

### Hanover Committee to Hold Sip & Celebrate

The CHQ Chamber's Hanover Committee invites local businesspeople to a special evening

of networking and camaraderie at Merritt Estate Winery in Forestville, Thursday, March 13. Sip & Celebrate is a fun way to close the winter season and mingle with other regional businesspeople. There will be complimentary snacks from Merritt Estate Winery along with pizza from Villaggio Italiano, and a cash bar from the winery. There will be a 50/50 drawing and some prize raffles. There is no charge for Chamber members. For non-members the cost is \$10. Advance registration is appreciated for planning purposes. You can register online through the Chamber's web calendar at [www.chqchamber.org](http://www.chqchamber.org).

### Chambers to Hold Collaborative Event at Audubon

Audubon Community Nature Center, located at 1600 Riverside Road, Jamestown, will host the CHQ Chamber and the Warren County Chamber of Business and Industry in a collaborative Business After Hours Event, on Thursday, March 20 from 5-6:30pm. This event will be a preview for Audubon Lights, which kicks off its three-weekend run the following evening. Audubon Lights features a half mile-long trail of lights after sunset including luminaries on the trail edges, illuminated trees, and special light displays at various points along the trail.

Business doesn't end at a line on a map, exemplified by Audubon Community Nature Center which serves communities across state lines and draws visitors and volunteers

from both Chautauqua and Warren counties. Both Chambers are excited to hold this collaborative event that demonstrates the power of regional collaboration and fosters stronger connections.

All local businesspeople are invited to attend this special networking event, which will include complimentary appetizers and beverages, with tips to benefit the Audubon Community Nature Center's mission of connecting people to nature. Bring business cards for networking and door prize drawings.

CHQ Chamber member organizations can send two people free of charge to all Business After Hours events. Non-members or anyone above the two-person limit will be \$10. Registration for CHQ Chamber members is open online now through the Chamber's web calendar at [www.chqchamber.org](http://www.chqchamber.org). Members of the Warren County Chamber of Business and Industry should email Savannah Casey at [sszimmerman@wccbi.org](mailto:sszimmerman@wccbi.org) to register free of charge. Advanced registration is strongly encouraged by March 14.

Business After Hours at Audubon Community Nature Center is sponsored by Anchor Advisors, DFT Communications, Jamestown Community College, Kinetic Business, Media One Radio Group, Northwest, Observer, The Post-Journal, Southern Tier Brewing Company, Superior Tire & Rubber Corp., United Refining Company, and Whirley DrinkWorks!

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*"You cannot extend the mastery of government over the daily life of a people without somewhere making it master of people's souls and thoughts. Every step in that direction poisons the very roots of liberalism. It poisons political equality, free speech, free press, and equality of opportunity. It is the road not to more liberty but to less liberty."*

- Herbert Hoover  
31st President of the United States of America





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## Tax Breaks Aging Taxpayers May Be Eligible For

Article by **Metro Creative Connection**

### Reduce Taxable Income

The ability to contribute more to tax-deferred retirement accounts enables older adults to reduce their taxable incomes. This, in turn, reduces the amount that needs to be spent on income taxes.

### Changes in Filing Threshold

According to The Arbor Company, which oversees senior living communities, the filing threshold is the income that must be made before being required to file a tax return. Typical taxpayers who are either employees or retired and drawing pensions or Social Security find the threshold increases over age 65. Single filers over age 65 do not need to file returns if their incomes are \$14,050 or under. Married filers over age 65 have a threshold of \$27,400. If primary or sole income comes from Social Security or a pension, those over age 65 may not have to file returns at all.

### Elderly or Disabled Tax Credit

Differing from deductions, a credit for taxpayers is available to people age 65 or older or retired persons on permanent and total disability who receive taxable disability income for the tax year, according to the Internal Revenue Service. In addition, this credit is for those who have an adjusted gross income or the total of nontaxable Social Security, pensions, annuities, or disability income under specific limits. The eligibility levels change from year to year. Credits range from \$3,750 to \$7,500.

These are some of the tax breaks American seniors can expect when filing their income tax returns. Speak with an accountant and financial planner about other perks that come with aging. Individuals also can visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for further information.

### Increase Retirement Savings

Older individuals can contribute more to employer-sponsored retirement accounts and Roth or traditional individual retirement accounts (IRAs), according to AARP. For 2023, the contribution limit for employees who participate in 401(k) and 403(b) programs, most 457 retirement savings plans and Thrift Savings Plan through the U.S. Federal Government can increase their contributions to \$22,500 - a jump of \$2,000 from last year. Those over age 50 can maximize contributions even more, up to a total of \$30,000.

### Larger Standard Deduction

The Balance Money says for tax year 2022, people age 65 or older can add an extra \$1,750 to the standard deduction they're eligible for if they are unmarried and not a surviving spouse. Those who are married and file joint returns can add \$1,400. For tax year 2023, those amounts go up to \$1,850 and \$1,500. In addition, the standard eligible deductions increased. Most older taxpayers feel the bigger standard deduction plus the extra standard deduction is more than any itemized deductions they can claim and choose this option when filing their returns.



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## Notable Presidential Firsts

Article by **Metro Creative Connection**

The third Monday in February is set aside for Presidents' Day in the United States, which is actually referred to as Washington's Birthday on the federal calendar. Washington's Birthday had always been celebrated on February 22, but with the passage of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act in 1968, the holiday was moved. In fact, Washington's birthday has not been celebrated on the actual day of his birth since the law first took effect in 1971.

This is only one of the many "firsts" and presidential superlatives that have taken place throughout history. Let's look at some other notable ones.

### First President to have Served as a Governor

President Thomas Jefferson was the first U.S. president to have previously been a governor. He served as the second governor of Virginia after the U.S. won its independence from England. President Jefferson also was the first U.S. president to be inaugurated in Washington, D.C.

### Longest-serving President

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt served as the 32nd president of the U.S. from 1933 to 1945, becoming the longest-serving U.S. president. FDR is the only president to have served more than two terms, which is now no longer possible.

### Interesting Presidential Pets

While dogs and horses are some of the most common pets to be found in and around the White House, President William Howard Taft had a Holstein cow named Pauline Wayne, "Queen of the Capital Cows." President Jefferson kept a magpie, and First Lady Grace Coolidge kept Rebecca, a pet raccoon.

### White House Wedding

President James Monroe was the first U.S. president to have a child get married at the White House. His daughter, Maria Hester Monroe, married Samuel Lawrence Gouverneur on March 9, 1820. The first presidential son to exchange vows in the White House was John Adams II, former President John Quincy Adams' son.

### First Black President

When President Barack Obama was elected president in 2008, he became the first Black person to hold the office of the president.

There have been many presidential firsts throughout the years. This interesting trivia can be the basis of President's Day celebrations.

### Youngest President

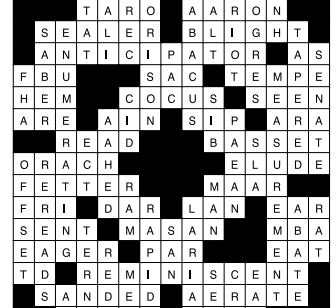
President Theodore Roosevelt succeeded to the office of U.S. President after the assassination of William McKinley at age 42, making him the youngest U.S. president. Article Two of the United States Constitution provides that U.S. presidents must be at least 35 years of age at the time they take office, so it remains to be seen if President Roosevelt's status of youngest president will endure into the future.

### Shortest Lifespan

When President John F. Kennedy

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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



## PUZZLES ON PAGE 7

## Great Lakes Flight Center Recognized for Flight Training Excellence by National Association



Submitted Photo

Article Contributed by **Dave Hinz**  
President / Chief Flight Instructor  
Great Lakes Flight Center

Great Lakes Flight Center has been recognized for its high standard of accomplishment in flight training by The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), the world's largest aviation association. Great Lakes Flight Center has been awarded a spot on the Flight Training Experience Awards as a Distinguished Flight School, a title given to high scoring flight training providers from the 2025 Flight Training Experience Review.

The Flight Training Experience Awards was created to highlight the best flight training the industry has to offer. "Having a friendly and family-like atmosphere has always been a hallmark of excellent instructors and flight schools, but this year there was also a strong trend of describing some truly amazing ways that instructors and schools went above and beyond to serve their customers," said AOPA Foundation Sr. Director Flight Training Education Chris Moser.

"We are extremely proud to receive the AOPA Distinguished Flight

School Award for 2025!" said Great Lakes Flight Center President / Chief Flight Instructor Dave Hinz. "All of our instructors work hard to tailor each lesson specifically to each individual student and make flight training fun and safe. We're humbled that our students and pilots have recognized our efforts through their survey responses, and we're looking forward to another great year of flying. We think it's awesome to have a nationally recognized flight school right here in Western New York and based out of both of our county airports - Chautauqua County / Jamestown Airport (KJHW) and Chautauqua County / Dunkirk Airport (KDKK)!"


The 2025 awards were drawn from flight students and pilots who voluntarily reviewed their flight training experience this past fall through an AOPA online customer feedback process.

Learn more: [www.aopa.org/FTawards](http://www.aopa.org/FTawards).

Information about flight training with Great Lakes Flight Center is available at [www.greatlakesflightctr.com](http://www.greatlakesflightctr.com) or by calling (716) 906-8119.

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- George Washington  
1st President of the United States of America





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- Bill Clinton

42nd President of the United States of America

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# Current and Former Sheriffs Endorse Ashley Smith for Cattaraugus County District Attorney

Submitted Photo

Former Sheriff Tim Whitcomb, Cattaraugus County Attorney Ashley Smith, and Sheriff Eric Butler.

**Article Contributed by Brightside Communications**

The current and former Cattaraugus County Sheriffs have endorsed Republican Ashley Smith in this year's race for District Attorney. Current Sheriff Eric Butler and his predecessor, former Sheriff Tim Whitcomb, announced the endorsement in a recent letter to members of the Cattaraugus County Republican Committee.

Smith is an experienced attorney and prosecutor who currently serves as Cattaraugus County Attorney. She announced her candidacy for District Attorney last month. This election will be for an open seat following incumbent Lori Reiman's announcement that she will not run for re-election.

In their joint letter of endorsement, Sheriffs Butler and Whitcomb wrote, "Between the two of us, we've led the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Office for the past 17 years and have a combined 60+ years of professional law enforcement experience. We've spent countless hours working with prosecutors, including five different District Attorneys, to ensure that our communities are as safe as possible.

"Over the years, we've both worked with Ashley Smith in her role as Cattaraugus County Attorney. She has always demonstrated an exceptional commitment to justice, integrity, and the safety of our community. She has proven time and again that she is a dedicated advocate for victims, a fair and thoughtful decision-maker, and a staunch supporter of our law enforcement officers. Her collaborative approach ensures that justice is served while respecting the rights of all citizens," said Sheriffs Butler and Whitcomb.

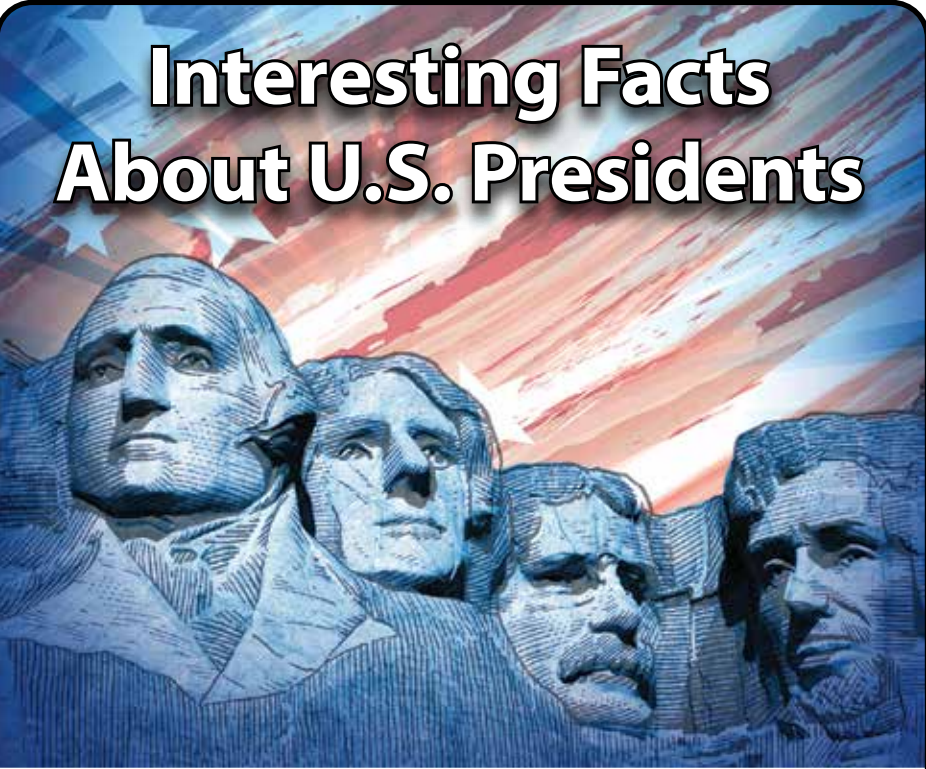
"I'm honored to have the Eric's and Tim's support. They've given so much to our community, working for decades to make Cattaraugus County a safer place for all families," said Smith. "I look forward to continuing to work alongside them to make sure that crime is prosecuted firmly, fairly, efficiently and effectively in Cattaraugus County."

Since 2020, Ashley has served as Cattaraugus County Attorney, where she has prosecuted serious cases involving neglect and abuse, family offenses, juvenile delinquency and more. She also prosecutes civil cases on behalf of the County, serves as legal counsel to the County Legislature and 24 county departments, supervises a staff of 14, and manages a \$1.5 million office budget. She previously served as First Assistant Social Services Attorney, where she handled serious cases involving child protective services, abuse and neglect, custody, child support, adult protection, and more.

The Sheriffs' letter also said, "Ashley's vision for a safer Cattaraugus County aligns with the values we hold dear. Her plans to address issues such as drug-related crimes, domestic violence, and community outreach are not just promises but well-informed strategies grounded in her years of experience and dedication."

Ashley lives in Allegany and is the proud mom of four. She is a graduate of Cattaraugus-Little Valley Central School, Gannon University and Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

Primary Election Day is slated for June 24, 2025, while the General Election will be held on November 4, 2025. Early Voting and Absentee Voting will be available for both elections.



**Article by Metro Creative Connection**

Americans celebrate President's Day each year in mid-February. Though some may see the holiday, which is celebrated on a Monday, as a great opportunity to book a three-day weekend getaway, others may be inspired to learn about the many men who have held the highest office in the United States. For the latter, the following are some interesting facts about U.S. presidents, courtesy of History.com.

- Founding father and first U.S. president George Washington was a man with many hobbies, including dog breeding. Alex Hager of the Presidential Pet Museum told History.com that Washington likely developed his passion for dog breeding as a result of his love of fox hunting. Indeed, the American Kennel Club considers Washington the father of the American foxhound. It's also worth noting Washington's predilection for giving his dogs humorous names, including Drunkard, Tippler and Sweet Lips.
- The country's fourth president, James Madison, was a slight man. Madison was five-feet-four and weighed just over 100 pounds. Madison might have put on a few additional pounds had he lived to enjoy the snack cake brand Dolly Madison, which was inspired by the fourth president's wife, Dolley, and introduced in 1937.
- John Quincy Adams might be most recognized as the first man to follow his father and hold the office of the president. However, the sixth president had a notable career even after his time holding the highest office in the land. John Quincy Adams argued before the Supreme Court in a case that freed African captives who had rebelled aboard the slave ship Amistad. That rebellion and its subsequent court case was later dramatized in the 1997 Steven Spielberg film "Amistad," in which Adams was portrayed by Welsh actor Anthony Hopkins.
- It took some time before the United States had its first American-born president, but that happened upon the election of Martin Van Buren in 1837. Prior to Van Buren's victory, all presidents had been born before 1776 and were thus British subjects at their time of birth.
- Many Americans fought long and hard to secure the right to vote, but one president never voted until his own name appeared on the ballot. Zachary Taylor, the nation's twelfth president, acknowledged he had never voted prior to 1848, the year he was elected president.
- Only two men in U.S. history have been elected to serve non-consecutive terms as president. The first to do so was Grover Cleveland, who served as the nation's twenty-second and twenty-fourth president. That feat was not replicated until it was pulled off by Donald Trump, who was elected in 2016 as the nation's forty-fifth president and then again in 2024.
- Some presidents are more soft spoken than others, but perhaps none have been more reserved than the thirtieth president Calvin Coolidge. When a female visitor bet Coolidge that she could get three words out of him, Coolidge simply replied, "You lose."
- Thirty-third president Harry S. Truman's name is somewhat misleading. The middle initial "S" is not an abbreviation for any particular name, but rather an homage to his grandfathers Anderson Shipp Truman and Solomon Young.
- Richard Nixon, the nation's thirty-seventh president, was a highly skilled poker player. In fact, during his time serving in the United States Navy during World War II, Nixon won substantial sums of money playing poker, funds he ultimately used to finance his first political campaign.

# Fredonia Wind Ensemble Performs on Recording Nominated for International Award

Submitted Photo

SUNY Fredonia musicians work with composer Augusta Read Thomas, Dr. Paula Holcomb, and bassoonist Nadina Mackie Jackson, in Harry A. King Concert Hall.

**Article Contributed by SUNY Fredonia**

The State University of New York at Fredonia Wind Ensemble received recognition in 2024 and is again in the spotlight for international kudos.

Read Thomas and Mackie Jackson were on the SUNY Fredonia campus for several days of rehearsals, recording sessions, and student workshops during the 2022-2023 academic year. The recording was done by SUNY Fredonia Sound Recording Technology students and faculty member and GRAMMY nominee, Dr. Bernd Gottinger, and the album was picked up by the Nimbus label late in 2023.

Dr. Paula Holcomb encourages students and their families, alumni, and members of the campus and community, to post their vote for the very special award. Voting runs from Jan. 23 to Feb. 28 online at <https://www.classical-music.com/awards/2025-awards/bbc-music-magazine-orchestral-award-2025>.

The album features the Grossman Ensemble, conducted by Stefan Asbury and Timothy Weiss, and the SUNY Fredonia Wind ensemble's performance of the world premiere of "Carnival," a piece commissioned by the SUNY Fredonia School of Music and performed by the Fredonia Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Holcomb, with bassoonist Nadina Mackie Jackson.

In 2015, Holcomb and the Fredonia School of Music commissioned the work for bassoon and wind ensemble by Ms. Read Thomas. The

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- Ronald Reagan

40th President of the United States of America



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