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Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth

# CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE



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Happy Earth Day



Volume 2 • Issue 14 | Week of April 21, 2025

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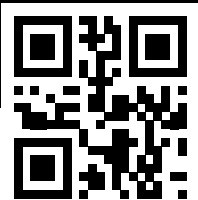
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Happy  
Earth Day!

Live CHQ. Love CHQ.  
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## Showcasing CHQ Natural this Earth Day

Featured Writer

Jason Sample

Chautauqua County Partnership  
for Economic Growth

One of the best ways to celebrate Earth Day each year is to change up your daily routine, get outdoors for a while, and connect with our natural environment. And if you're a resident of Chautauqua County, you're bound to be just a short walk or bike ride away from nature, no matter where you live (even if it's in one of our two cities!). But having easy and close access to our natural environment - including our countless forests and wooded areas - wasn't always the case.

For thousands of years, including the early pioneer history of Chautauqua County following its establishment in 1811, this land was covered with ancient, primordial forests containing the finest of timber. It's worth noting that even back then, a few places had been cleared by Native Americans for planting. But by and large, most of the land was virgin forest. Then, about 200 years ago, the county - still in its infancy - saw a population explosion, thanks to the opening of the Erie Canal that created a great westward migration of people from New England and the East Coast. Consider this: between 1820 and 1830, the population of Chautauqua County more than doubled, increasing from 12,500 to nearly 35,000 residents! That's a 175% increase in population in just 10 years. Never before or



Photo Credit:  
Chautauqua County Partnership  
for Economic Growth

Residents and visitors interested in hiking, biking, riding, and/or rowing Chautauqua County's 250+ miles of trails have new resources available to help them plan their trip with the new interactive trails map and mobile map application. More details available at CHQTrails.org.

since has the county experienced a population boom at that magnitude.

The new arrivals all worked to settle and "tame" the wilderness of our county. The early industry of that time focused primarily around lumber with dozens of mills lining various streams, creeks, and rivers - some practically on top of one another. Many of the new settlers were also interested in farming and they saw the forest as an obstacle to civilization that needed to be removed. To do this, they would clear-cut large swaths of forest.

Soft woods were often sent to the lumber mill for processing, while any hardwood was burned and their ashes used to make potash. It then becomes no wonder that by 1880, just a few decades after the population boom of the 1820s, an estimated 90% of the land in Chautauqua County was stripped bare of its grand forests and replaced predominately by farmland and agricultural enterprise.

At the time, most settlers and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

### The Preface to

## Good Soles: Chautauqua Rails to Trails Namesakes and Trailblazers

Featured Writer

Wendy Lewellen

Author, *Good Soles: Chautauqua  
Rails to Trails Namesakes and  
Trailblazers*

Boulder, Colorado, a mecca for trail users, was my home from 2004 to 2006. The trails seemed to be everywhere, traversing exquisite scenery and often touching the

backyards of multi-million-dollar homes. The trails are funded by a myriad of sources, including government, and their high priority in the community at large is obvious and pervasive. Use of trails is free and available to all, regardless of income level.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



Submitted Photo

Distributed in Ashville, Barcelona, Bemus, Cassadaga, Celoron, Chautauqua, Clymer, Dewittville, Ellington, Falconer, Findley Lake, Frewsburg, Gerry, Greenhurst, Jamestown, Kennedy, Lakewood, Maple Springs, Mayville, Niobe, North Clymer, North Warren, Panama, Randolph, Ripley, Sherman, Sinclairville, Stockton, Stow, Warren, Westfield





# Everyday Wonders –Robins



Artwork by Rachel Brown

Featured Writer  
Rachel Brown

This morning I woke up thinking about robins. I've been thing about robins a lot lately. A few days ago, sitting on the porch with my morning coffee, I watched a robin hopping around under the crabapple tree. It pecked in the grass and quickly pulled up a worm. I wondered how it had known where to look. Could it smell it? Well, this called for some research.

I was surprised to learn that the number one way a robin finds a worm is by using its eyesight. Smell is way down the list of senses birds use to find a meal. Robins can see even the tiniest bit of movement in the soil. They make small exploratory holes with their beaks and, Voila - breakfast! They are so good at this that if you laid all the worms a robin finds in a single day end to end it would measure 14 feet! That works out to about 42 worms, per robin, per day! And worms aren't

the only things they eat. Caterpillars, spiders, berries, and snails are also on the menu. Last Spring, I watched a robin make trip after trip from an azalea bush up into the crabapple tree, carrying a single blossom each time. The only explanation I could think of for this behavior was that it was drinking the flower's nectar.

My research yielded other interesting tidbits about robins. They tend to feast on worms earlier in the day when the morning dew moistens the soil and brings the earthworms up closer to the surface. Later in the day they change things up a bit. Another thing they do later in the day is lay their eggs, unlike most birds who prefer to do this at sunrise. They can have up to 3 batches, or “broods” of babies a year.

This brings me to what I was thinking about when I woke up today: Why are robins' eggs blue? White chickens lay white eggs and reddish chickens lay brown eggs, why would a brown and red bird lay eggs such an incredible shade of blue? This called for a bit more research.

Turns out the blue color is from a pigment found in the female robin's body. The shell is formed right before the egg is laid. The brighter the blue, the better the diet and health of the mama bird. The shade of blue also

protects the unborn chick from harmful sunlight. Because robins make a sturdy nest that is usually well-protected in a tree or bush (I say usually because I once found a robin's nest inside a clothespin bag hanging on the line) they don't need to worry about camouflage. Many birds lay brown or speckled eggs because their nests are out in the open and must blend in with their surroundings.

Robins are not the only birds with blue eggs. Others include blue jays, house finches, and red-winged blackbirds.

And another fun fact: The blue pigment in bird eggs, called “biliverdin,” is the same pigment that makes the blue color in moth and butterfly wings and the same one that turns bruises blue and green. So, we have something in common with the everyday wonder that is an American robin.



Artwork by Rachel Brown

## This Week Around Town

Wednesday, April 23 | 7 PM  
*Movies at The Reg: Liza: A Truly Terrific Absolutely True Story*  
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts | Jamestown  
For Info: 716-484-7070

Friday, April 25–Sunday, May 4  
*Birdathon Fundraiser*  
Audubon Community Nature Center  
For Info: AudubonCNC.org/Events

Saturday, April 26 | 7 AM - 11 AM  
*Bird Banding*  
Audubon Community Nature Center  
For Info: AudubonCNC.org/Events

Saturday, April 26 (10 AM - 4 PM) &  
Sunday, April 27 (10 AM - 2 PM)  
*Mayville Spring Market*  
Town of Chautauqua Offices | Mayville  
For Info: 716.269.4129

Saturday, April 26 | 7 PM - 9 PM  
*Infinity's Annual Spring Showcase*  
Washington Middle School | Jamestown  
For Info: 716-664-0991

Sunday, April 27 | 10:30 AM  
*The Language of Love*  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation | Jamestown  
For Info: UUJamestown.org

Sunday, April 27 | 12 PM - 4 PM  
*Spaghetti Dinner Benefit to support Stephen Piazza II*  
Celoron Legion Post 777 | Jamestown  
For Info: (716)-450-4373

Tuesday & Wednesday, April 29-30 | 9:30-11 AM  
*Trail Guide Training*  
Audubon Community Nature Center  
For Info: AudubonCNC.org/Events







Editorial with Lori Cornell

# Earth Day



Owner & Publisher  
**Lori Cornell**

In early April, I set about my usual routine of bringing in weekly business partners that reflect our theme and reached out first to those that annually sought to be featured in this special "Earth Day" edition. Of course, "Redemption Centers" were top of the list. There are clearly many items that may be "Reduced, Reused and Recycled," but cans and bottles are among the most obvious. With many conveniently located grocers and redemption centers standing ready to collect and refund consumers, it should arguably be a fairly simple process.

But I was shocked and saddened by what I learned. Recycling is reportedly on the decline, according to many of these local providers, and coupled with dated handling rates, at least several are struggling to keep their doors open. One center in Jamestown recently closed and others explained what a challenging outlook they face in their efforts to provide this environmentally-supportive service.

At least anecdotally, the situation may be even more dire in other parts of the country. Over the course of the last month, I've been blessed to bop around the east coast - albeit on a tight budget - from Florida to see my parents to Ohio to hear my son's college band and then Myrtle Beach for my family spring break... all the while, with this edition's theme in the back of my head. I couldn't help but take note of the recycling situation in these three communities - OR LACK THEREOF - along the way. Unlike our three strategically located Chautauqua County Transfer Stations, that stand ready in Falconer, Ellery and Fredonia to accept every

type of recyclable we make an effort to drop, my parents' retirement community has none. They must either travel over an hour to recycle or toss everything but cans. At my son's college, I witnessed massive amounts of cans (soda pop, I'm sure!) filling garbage cans with no recycling disposal instead in sight. And the South Carolina beaches attempted to place recycling containers beachside next to trash containers, but both were filled indiscriminately with mixed waste and recyclables alike.

Depressing.

So what to do?! Continuing the "spring break mood," consider the "Starfish Story" as adapted from its author, Loren C. Eiseley. To refresh your memory, it goes like this:

A young girl was walking along a beach upon which thousands of starfish had been washed up during a terrible storm. When she came to each starfish, she would pick it up, and throw it back into the ocean. People watched her with amusement.

She had been doing this for some time when a man approached her and said, "Little girl, why are you doing this? Look at this beach! You can't save all these starfish. You can't begin to make a difference!"

The girl seemed crushed, suddenly deflated. But after a few moments, she bent down, picked up another starfish, and hurled it as far as she could into the ocean. Then she looked up at the man and replied, "Well, I made a difference for that one!"

You see my analogy and point. There are plenty of opportunities to pitch your recyclables or to point in despair at societal apathy. No single one of us can change the world and save our environmental resources overnight. But perhaps we can make a difference in our communities, in our homes and in our families each day. We can take a minute to save the earth one thoughtful gesture, one recyclable can, one recyclable container, one "starfish"...if you will, at a time!

Have a great week. One Earth. One Life.

## A Call to Support Our Beloved Team Member, April Colburn, and Her Family

For years, April Colburn has been a major, creative force behind the Chautauqua Gazette's stunning design. She has poured her talent, dedication, and late-night hours into crafting visuals that elevate local businesses and capture the attention our readers. She has gone above and beyond to support this publication and the advertisers who rely on her artistry, all while balancing the demands of her full-time day job and raising her four children.

Now, it's our turn to support her.

April and her family recently suffered the heartbreaking loss of her husband, Mark, after a difficult hospitalization. As they navigate this unimaginable grief, the financial strain of medical bills, funeral expenses, and the challenges of moving forward without their beloved husband and father weighs heavily.

April has given so much to this paper, our business and organizational partners, and the Chautauqua community. Let's come together to give back in her time of need.

Scan the QR code below to donate to the GoFundMe for April and her children, or send checks to:



The Colburn Family  
c/o the Chautauqua Gazette  
PO Box 32  
Bemus Point, NY 14712

Every contribution, no matter the size, will help provide stability and relief as they heal. Thank you for showing April the same generosity and kindness she has shown all of us.

## 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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and Sun 11-8pm





# In Loving Memory

**April 8**

Zechariah J. Abram, 17  
Falconer Funeral Home

Betty W. Abbott, 90  
Gerry  
Peterson Funeral Home

Margaret V. "Peg" Naetzker, 91  
Ashville  
Lind Funeral Home

Bonnie S. Huber, 63  
Jamestown  
Lind Funeral Home

**April 9**

Ellis R. "Elly" Norton, 100  
Ellicott  
Lind Funeral Home

**April 10**

Ann Marie Venman, 78  
Russell, PA  
Peterson Funeral Home

Ivan David Sandstrom, 68  
Jamestown  
Lind Funeral Home

**April 10 (continued)**

Bruce D. "Grizz" Carlson, 80  
Jamestown  
Lind Funeral Home

**April 12**

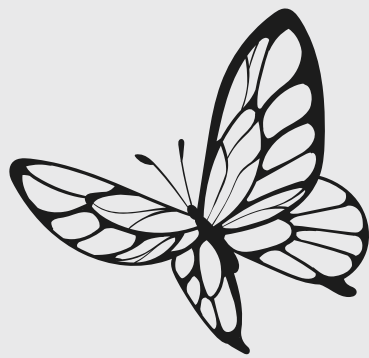
Rev. David Wesley Phelps, 96,  
Batavia  
Lind Funeral Home

**April 13**

George R. Clinger, 84  
Lakewood  
Lind Funeral Home

**April 15**

Luella M. Strickland, 87  
Jamestown  
Lind Funeral Home



## Sheriff's Office Launches Special Needs Support Program



*Submitted Photo*

Kerri Smith and her son Garrett, who has autism, join Sheriff James B. Quattrone during the announcement of the "Friends of the Sheriff" program—a new initiative aimed at enhancing safety and communication between law enforcement and individuals with special needs

*Article Contributed by*  
**SUNY Fredonia**

The Chautauqua County Sheriff's Office is proud to announce the launch of a new initiative designed to help deputies more safely and effectively respond to calls involving individuals with special needs.

Sheriff James B. Quattrone introduced the program, titled "Friends of the Sheriff," during a news conference Wednesday in Mayville, New York.

"This initiative is about building trust and promoting safety," said Sheriff Quattrone. "By giving our deputies tools to better understand individuals with special needs before arriving on a scene, we can reduce anxiety and prevent situations from escalating. We want every interaction between law enforcement and the community to be as safe and respectful as possible."

The "Friends of the Sheriff" program invites caregivers to voluntarily share key information about individuals in their household with special needs—such as sensory sensitivities, triggers, or calming techniques. This information is securely entered into the Sheriff's Office computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system and flagged to alert responding deputies.

To visually support this program, the Sheriff's Office has created a distinctive 4"x4" decal, which will be provided—up to three per household—only after a form is submitted. These decals can be placed on the rear driver-side window of a vehicle, front door, or mailbox to discreetly notify first

responders that someone in the home or vehicle may have special needs.

Residents can currently participate by filling out a physical form at the Sheriff's Office, providing information such as the individual's name, address, special needs, sensory issues, and vehicle details. A digital form will also be available via the Sheriff's Office website and mobile app, allowing for easier access and submission.

Once a form is received, decals will be distributed by mail, picked up at the Sheriff's Office, or delivered by patrol—based on the resident's preference. Information collected will be securely stored and accessible to dispatch and law enforcement for future calls to the location.

This initiative is being implemented in tandem with the statewide Blue Envelope Program of the New York State Sheriffs' Association. Blue Envelopes are provided to drivers with special needs to keep important vehicle and personal information, and should be handed to officers during traffic stops or roadside interactions.

"Our hope is that this two-part system—a visible alert and a data-driven preparation—helps us approach each situation with compassion and understanding," said Sheriff Quattrone. "This program is an invitation to partner with us in creating safer outcomes for everyone."

For more information about the "Friends of the Sheriff" program or to request a form, please contact the Chautauqua County Sheriff's Office at (716) 753-4900 or visit [sheriff.us](http://sheriff.us).

## CELEBRATE EARTH DAY



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*Mia at 2.5 years old*

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# Faith Matters Earth Day Connections



Contributing Writer  
**Rev. Tara L. Eastman**  
Transitional Pastor at First Presbyterian  
Church of Warren, PA

It was very early one Easter morning. So early that the sun wasn't up yet. The week before had been full of Holy Week preparations, reviewing of bulletins for several worship services, the lining up of readers, musicians, and greeters - as well as decorating the Sanctuary with an array of flowers and a brand-new Easter banner that our community had made.

The early morning prayer service was to take place outside in the church parking lot. But this service was not full of flowers or any pomp and circumstance. The structure of this service was a simple gathering to help us all to pause before the busy morning activities of worship, brunch and egg hunts began - to listen to the world around us.

I stood in that parking lot, the air so cold I could see my breath - not knowing if anyone would join me in the circle. One person showed up, then a little family dressed up in Easter clothes peeking out from their coats, hats and scarves.

Slowly but surely, the parking lot filled with about thirty people, who created a robust circle in the middle of the church parking lot. I handed out a one-page outline to all assembled and we

began the service with this prayer ...

*"... Let us see your creation with the eyes of a child, God. Let it all be new again. Let us stand up and greet this day. Let us welcome it. Keep us from hiding from the sun because we are tired and weary. Help us to take that chance. Help us to embrace this day with energy and passion. Let this be the start, God. AMEN."* (By Steve Case/The Book of Uncommon Prayer)

We continued the brief service, with scripture readings and a familiar song ... "They will know we are Christians by our love." The service concluded with an off-the-cuff prayer, asking all gathered to join me in a few minutes of silence. When they were ready, I asked them to speak aloud what they heard, saw, or felt as they listened to their surroundings.

It was a place of great contrast. The church lot was in the center of a downtown just waking up. Nature was present too. In the cool air. In the warming rays of the sun, we felt on our skin. In the colors of grass, flowers. In the sound of bird songs lilting in concert with flashing city stop lights and reflective street signs.

One by one, the people spoke of the sights, sounds and feelings of the chilly

morning.

As I listened, I was amazed to hear all the different things that were noticed. In the faces of the people gathered around the circle. It was a mishmash of peoples: elderly, middle age, teens and little ones. The concert of noticings expanded to include the voices and presence of the people also gathered there. Smiles. The shuffling of feet on the pavement. The crinkle of someone unwrapping a peppermint. The holding of hands to create needed

warmth and even more - connection. Connection with one another and connection with nature.

Without the presence of nature, there would be no ground to build that church or pour the asphalt of that parking lot. Without clean water, there would be no coffee for fellowship hour. Without the food grown by farmers, there would be no bagels for Easter brunch. Without the gifts and connections to nature, our human connections would suffer and cease to be.

On that chilly Easter morning, I was blessed with an opportunity to see, hear and feel the importance of human connection - as well as the sacred connection humans have with nature.

The question I still wrestle with

today, is how can I do more to honor the responsibility of nurturing and protecting this connection with the Earth. This question leads me to return to the words of the prayer from that Easter sunrise service. I hope this prayer, from writer Steve Case, will help you and I care for and protect the Earth that gives so much of itself to support humanity.

We are connected and we must learn how to better care for each other - both humanity AND nature. Our shared existence depends on it!

*"Creator God, we can't imagine all that you are or all that you've done for us. Each new morning is a new chance. A chance to put behind us all that we were and look ahead to all that we can be. You've brought us through another night. The darkness falls from our eyes and the wonders of your world become visible. Let us see your creation with the eyes of a child, God. Let it all be new again. Let us stand up and greet this day. Let us welcome it. Keep us from hiding from the sun because we are tired and weary. Your Son rose in the morning and gave us all a new chance at life. Help us to take that chance. Help us to embrace this day with energy and passion. Let this be the start, God. AMEN"* (By Steven Case The Book of Uncommon Prayer)

The Chautauqua Gazette is proud to feature different faith leaders from throughout Chautauqua County each week, in an effort to connect and inspire. We endeavor to provide a variety of religious and faith perspectives well-aligned with our diverse community and values. If you are a faith leader and wish to contribute, please contact publisher Lori Cornell at [cornell@CHQgazette.com](mailto:cornell@CHQgazette.com).

Each year, Earth Day offers an opportunity to engage in appreciating, protecting and celebrating the gifts of nature. Through the lens of prayer, I've shared a story of how humanity needs to listen to and find better ways to nurture our responsibility to attend to nature. As you celebrate Earth Day this year, I invite you to take a time out from the digital world and take some time in the great outdoors. When you head out into nature, I also invite you to listen to the elements of nature as the main character, and to consider how you can live into a needed role as supporting cast. Happy Earth Day. Happy Spring! May the warmth, colors and sounds of the season remind us of our calling to honor our connections with the earth - and one another, as we walk in grace together.

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Chautauqua County Aging Services

# CHQAging

LEADERS IN AGING WELL AT HOME

## EXPO & CONFERENCE

**May 22, 2025**  
 **SUNY Fredonia**  
**Williams Center**  
**280 Central Ave**

**75 + Vendors, Free Shuttle from parking lot 9A-C, Free Basket Raffle, and so much more!**

**Important Details**

- 9:30 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- 10:00 - 2:00 Expo & Resource Fair - All Welcome!
- 11:00 - 2:00 Food Trucks & Food Stands available (\$\$)
  - CHQAging Card accepted at some locations
  - Register to inquire about CHQAging Card
  - Seating available throughout event space
- 1:30 & 2:30 Conference Breakout Sessions
  - Various Topics with Limited Seating
  - Pre-Registration required for sessions

To Register visit:  
<https://chqgov.com/office-aging/2025-annual-chqaging-expo-and-conference-register-now>

**SCAN HERE TO REGISTER BY MAY 5TH**



**Questions? Call:**  
**Jamestown 716-661-8940**  
**Mayville 716-753-4471**  
**Dunkirk 716-363-3865**  
To request a reasonable accommodation, please indicate on the on-line registration form or call.

## Registration Deadline: May 5th

### Breakout Sessions

**Afternoon Educational Breakout Sessions at 1:30PM and 2:30 PM:**  
Limited Seating & Pre-registration.

Includes Topics: Dementia & Brain Health, Digital Literacy, Managing Anxiety & Depression, Diabetes, Medicare Fraud, Orthopedic Care, Scam Bingo, How do we hear?, WISE, Pre-planning for future & more.

**Interactive Morning Sessions :**  
Offered first come, first serve

Includes: Uke Can Do It!, Falls Screening, Exercise, New Horizons Band, VA SAVE training, & more.



This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP.

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FLIP THE SCRIPT ON AGING: MAY 2025

This material was funded in whole or in part by grants from the New York State Office for Aging (NYSOFA), and/or the Administration on Aging (AOA) and/or Administration for Community Living (ACL). Nothing herein is intended, nor should be construed, as an endorsement by the State of New York.





# Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services Proudly Launches Inaugural CHQAging Expo & Conference

Register Now – Deadline is Friday, April 25:  
[chqgov.com/CHQAgingExpo](http://chqgov.com/CHQAgingExpo)

Article Contributed by  
**Chautauqua County  
Office for Aging Services**

The Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services (OFAS) is proud to introduce the first-ever CHQAging Expo & Conference, an exciting new event dedicated to empowering older adults with valuable resources, education, and community connections. The inaugural event will take place at SUNY Fredonia’s Williams Center, 280 Central Ave, Fredonia, NY, on Thursday, May 22, 2025. The day will commence with a grand opening at 9:30 AM, followed by a Meet & Greet. The Resource Fair will be open from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, and lunch will be available from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Additionally, conference-style informational breakout sessions will be held at 1:30 PM and 2:30 PM, covering a range of topics including dementia awareness, Medicare fraud prevention, scam prevention, estate planning, and more. This event is free for older adults and caregivers, and registration is required by Friday, April 25th. “This year’s Older Americans Month theme, ‘Flip the Script on Aging,’ challenges us to transform the way we perceive and support aging,” said Dana Corwin, Director of the Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services. “Through this event, we are embracing this theme by providing a platform where our older adults can stay active, engaged, and connected to their communities.” The CHQAging Expo & Conference is a continuation of OFAS’s long-standing tradition of celebrating Older Americans Month. Over the years, the event has evolved from a summer picnic

at Midway State Park to a large-scale expo focused on accessibility, education, and community engagement. This year’s expansion allows for greater attendance and includes additional features such as informational sessions and increased agency participation. “We anticipate welcoming over 1,000 older adults, along with their caregivers and family members, to this year’s event,” said Carey Skelton, Nutrition and Wellness Coordinator. “By bringing together approximately 75 agencies and offering expert-led breakout sessions, we are ensuring that older adults and those who care for them have access to the best possible resources.” The event will feature special guests, including Chautauqua County Executive Paul M. Wendel Jr., who expressed his support for the initiative. “Ensuring that our seniors have the resources they need to lead fulfilling lives is a priority for Chautauqua County,” said County Executive Wendel. “The CHQAging Expo & Conference is an outstanding opportunity to empower older adults with knowledge and tools to navigate aging with confidence and dignity.” Community members are encouraged to participate in the event. Attendees can register online at [chqgov.com/CHQAgingExpo](http://chqgov.com/CHQAgingExpo) or by calling Office for Aging Services at 716-753-4471 or 716-363-3865 for assistance. Organizations serving older adults who wish to host an informational table can contact the OFAS Jamestown Office at 716-661-8940 or email [CHQAgingEvents@chqgov.com](mailto:CHQAgingEvents@chqgov.com). Special thanks to our platinum level sponsors SNAP-Ed and Univera Healthcare for making this event possible.

## SUDOKU

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

### Here's How It Works:

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

Level: Intermediate

## CROSSWORD

	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	
13								14						15
16				17				18					19	
20		21				22				23		24		
25					26				27		28			
29				30				31		32		33		
			34	35					36		37			
38	39									40				
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						67				68		
	69							70						

### CLUES ACROSS

1. Dark blacks  
7. Construct a wall to confine  
13. Most inappropriate  
14. A type of board  
16. Sacred Hindu syllable  
17. Flatterer  
19. The Granite State  
20. Tears down  
22. China’s Chairman  
23. Former Houston footballer  
25. Periods of time  
26. Expressed pleasure  
28. World alliance  
29. A Brit’s mother  
30. Television network  
31. Brother or sister  
33. Type of spirit  
34. \_\_ Ladd, actor  
36. A medium oversees it  
38. One time province of British India
40. Wrong  
41. The highest parts of something  
43. Insect  
44. Baseball stat  
45. A way to use up  
47. Where wrestlers compete  
48. It helps elect politicians  
51. As fast as can be done  
53. Genus of legumes  
55. Samoa’s capital  
56. Monument in Jakarta  
58. Former French coin  
59. Exploiters  
60. College sports official  
61. Uninterrupted in time  
64. Stephen King story  
65. Marked by no sound  
67. Weathers  
69. Denouncements  
70. More beloved

### CLUES DOWN

1. Winged nut  
2. It cools a home  
3. Kisses (French)  
4. Oxford political economist  
5. Keyboard key  
6. Leaf pores  
7. Agrees with publicly  
8. Not around  
9. Czech city  
10. Muscle cell protein  
11. Greek letter  
12. Movements  
13. Ned \_\_, composer  
15. Popular series Game of \_\_  
18. Exclamation that denotes disgust  
21. Helper  
24. Gift  
26. Up in the air (abbr.)  
27. Treat without respect  
30. Trims
32. Slang for lovely  
35. City of Angels hoopster (abbr.)  
37. Guitarists’ tool  
38. Island nation  
39. Delivered in installments  
42. A baglike structure  
43. Cooking vessel  
46. Gets in front of  
47. Wounded by scratching  
49. More breathable  
50. Medical dressings  
52. Indiana hoopster  
54. Married Marilyn  
55. An ancient Assyrian city  
57. Congressmen (abbr.)  
59. Approves food  
62. Ventura’s first name  
63. Between northeast and east  
66. Atomic #71  
68. Email designation

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Trivia

1. When was the first Earth Day celebrated?
2. Who is credited with founding Earth Day? U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson
3. What percentage of the world’s oxygen is produced by the Amazon Rainforest? About 20%
4. What significant environmental agency was created later in 1970 as a result of Earth Day? The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
5. In what year did Earth Day go global, mobilizing over 200 million people in 141 countries? 1990
6. What common household item takes 450+ years to decompose in landfills? Plastic bottles
7. Which U.S. president signed the Clean Air Act into law after the first Earth Day? President Richard Nixon
8. Which global agreement was signed on Earth Day in 2016? The Paris Climate Agreement
9. What percentage of Earth’s surface is covered by water? About 71%
10. Which country recycles the highest percentage of its waste? Germany (about 65%)

1. April 22, 1970 2. U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson 3. About 20% 4. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 5. 1990 6. Plastic bottles 7. President Richard Nixon 8. The Paris Climate Agreement 9. About 71% 10. Germany (about 65%)

Jamestown Harmony Express Celebrates  
39 Years of Music and Community



Article Contributed by

Jamestown Harmony Express

The Jamestown Harmony Express, a premier men’s barbershop chorus, proudly celebrates 39 years of harmony, camaraderie, and song. Known for their signature four-part a cappella performances, the chorus continues to bring joy to the community through a variety of musical events.

This year, the Jamestown Harmony Express will present two major concerts:

- Gospel and Sacred Show – April 26, 2024
- Annual Barbershop Show – October 25, 2024

In addition to these marquee performances, the chorus frequently participates in local public events, sharing the timeless tradition of barbershop harmony with audiences throughout the year.

Led by longtime director David

Lewis, the Jamestown Harmony Express welcomes male singers of all backgrounds and skill levels, from seasoned vocalists to those who simply love to sing. Weekly rehearsals take place in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere at:

First Presbyterian Church  
509 Prendergast Avenue,  
Jamestown, NY  
Tuesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Joining the Jamestown Harmony Express is a unique opportunity to enhance vocal skills, expand musical knowledge, and connect with others who share a passion for harmony. The chorus is committed to excellence, fostering growth through practice and experience to prepare singers in this unique style of music.

For more information on how to get involved, visit [www.harmonyexpress.com](http://www.harmonyexpress.com), email [info@HarmonyExpress.com](mailto:info@HarmonyExpress.com), or call 716-789-5248 and leave a message.



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Now that Spring Is Back

Drabble by John Brantingham

Now that even the puddles in drainage ditches have thawed, I can feel the eyes of creatures in the woods watching me from the treeline -- across corn fields or my backyard. I feel them when I walk across campus or into a grocery. Sometimes I feel them watching me through my window.

I wonder if some recognize me; I have missed them all of these months. That feeling mid-January of being alone, all of the reptiles frozen, most of the mammals asleep, so many of the birds gone south is eerie and silent.

It’s a comfort to have them back.

This poem was sponsored by a grant from  
New York State Council on the Arts.  
[Johnbrantingham.com](http://Johnbrantingham.com)





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LUCILLE BALL COMEDY FESTIVAL: AUGUST 7-10, 2025 | JAMESTOWN, NY

# Jon Stewart, Bill Murray & His Blood Brothers, SNL’s Mikey Day, Streeter Seidell and More Set to Appear at National Comedy Center’s Comedy Festival August 7-10

Article Contributed by  
National Comedy Center

The National Comedy Center, the nation’s museum and cultural institution dedicated to comedy, announced today that Jon Stewart, Bill Murray & His Blood Brothers, SNL’s Mikey Day & head writer Streeter Seidell are among the comedic performers to descend on Jamestown, New York for its annual comedy festival.

“An Evening with Jon Stewart” will take place on Saturday, August 9, with Stewart bringing his incisive stand-up comedy to the stage. On Sunday, August 10, a Stand-Up Showcase to be followed by a Rock ‘n’ Blues concert featuring Bill Murray and His Blood Brothers will fill the arena with an evening of comedy and music — a live blues and classic rock performance along with stand-up by some of today’s top talent from around the country.

“Jon Stewart is one of the most influential comedic voices of our time — providing his signature social commentary at a pace responsive to the news cycle, while deeply thoughtful about our shared humanity,” said Journey Gunderson, National Comedy Center Executive Director.

“I’ve said comedy is an iterative business and a grind; and that the best amongst us just keep at it. I’m glad there’s a museum and national archive that strives to honor that, and I look forward to seeing how

the National Comedy Center tells the story of this great art form that survives every moment,” said Jon Stewart.

“Bill Murray entered our comedy consciousness in 1977 and never left,” Gunderson added. “Whether you encountered his genius as a sketch comedian on SNL or came to know him through films considered ‘required reading’ in many households including mine, from Caddy Shack to Stripes to Ghostbusters to Groundhog Day to What About Bob and more, he’s left an indelible mark and an incomparable legacy. We’re thrilled to have him headline an incredible evening of music while he shares the spotlight with his phenomenal Blood Brothers band.”

The festival lineup will also feature Saturday Night Live cast member and writer Mikey Day and head writer Streeter Seidell, who will join the National Comedy Center for an on-stage dialogue curated for comedy’s national archive, offering an inside look at the groundbreaking show as the festival honors SNL’s 50th anniversary and explores its lasting impact on comedy. Seidell and Day’s visit also commemorates the “Washington’s Dream” sketch cue cards being accessioned into the National Comedy Center’s museum.

“It’s an incredible honor to be invited to the National Comedy Center, along with my friend and writing partner, Mikey Day, to talk about the craft of comedy. And an

even greater honor to have some of our work preserved in the Center’s archive alongside that of our heroes. That honestly seems like a mistake on the Center’s part but we’re going to roll with it until they realize their error,” stated Streeter Seidell.

Tickets for “An Evening with Jon Stewart” and “Stand-Up Showcase Featuring Music by Bill Murray & His Blood Brothers” will go on pre-sale for National Comedy Center members Friday, April 25 at 10 am ET through Thursday, May 1. Tickets go on sale to the general public Friday, May 2 at 10 am ET, at ComedyCenter.org. Both events will take place at the Northwest Arena in Jamestown, NY.

Tickets will also go on sale for the SNL on-stage dialogue event, as well as Late Night comedy shows, Lucy legacy events and more — all part of a festival that celebrates comedy’s contemporary stars and rising talent from across the country, while honoring comedy’s great heritage.

“Our festival will pay tribute to the best of comedy’s past and present with performances from the nation’s best stand-ups, block parties with live music, Lucy celebration events — over 50 live events over four days,” stated Malachi Livermore, Vice President, Programming and Guest Experiences.

To become a National Comedy Center Member in order to gain first access to available seats during the pre-sale ticket window, visit

ComedyCenter.org/membership or call the National Comedy Center at 716.484.2222. Memberships start at \$75 and provide year-round benefits including a “season pass” for visiting the award-winning National Comedy Center in Jamestown, New York.

Jon Stewart is the longtime host and executive producer of *The Daily Show*, where he redefined political satire and became a trusted voice for a generation, earning over 20 Emmy Awards in the process. Known for his incisive wit, fierce intelligence, and ability to cut through the noise with humor and clarity, Stewart’s influence extends beyond television. As a producer and director, he’s worked on a range of projects, including the acclaimed *Irresistible*, and as a podcast host, Stewart has continued to engage audiences with thoughtful commentary on the issues that shape our world. After stepping down from *The Daily Show* in 2015, Stewart made a highly anticipated return in 2024, hosting weekly and resuming his role as executive producer. Recently, Stewart has returned to stand-up comedy, bringing his unfiltered perspective and razor-sharp observations back to the stage. His rare live appearances have been met with sold-out crowds and critical acclaim, demonstrating that his comedic voice is as powerful as ever.

Bill Murray is collaborating with The Blood Brothers — award-winning musicians Mike Zito and Albert

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21





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# Earth Week to be Celebrated at SUNY Fredonia

Article Contributed by  
**SUNY Fredonia**

Earth Week activities will be taking place the week of April 21 at the State University of New York at Fredonia.

An Earth Day Expo and Farmer's Market is slated for Tuesday, April 22, from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m., in the Williams Center Multipurpose Room. The event is free and the campus and community are invited to attend.

There will be 32 booths including video and poster environmental presentations, crafts, sustainability tips, crafts, and volunteer opportunities.

Included at the expo will be: Student semester-project presentations and SUNY Fredonia departments/programs including Communication, English, Physics, Visual Arts, Environmental Studies. In addition, the Student Health Center will present, "Fighting Climate Change with Diet Change." Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP) groups from area middle and high schools including Fredonia, North Collins, Salamanca, Gowanda and Westfield will also be participating. Topics for presentations focus on a wide range of environmental and sustainability related concerns including household product life-cycle analyses, the science of energy generation, earth soundscapes and imagined utopias, and climate change.

Students/student groups including the Transfer Student Organization, Art Forum, Fred Grows, Student Sustainability Committee, Delta Phi Epsilon (sorority), Enactus, and an Environmental Science presentation on the science of bats by Rachel Echevarria. Activities will include upcycling through turning t-shirts into no-sew, reusable tote bags; packaging milkweed seeds to take home and throw-to grow, crocheting with plastic bags and rock painting.

Local conservation groups will offer educational videos, posters and brochures. Participants include Greystone Nature Preserve, the Audubon Community Nature Center in Jamestown, the Western New York Land Conservancy, the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy, the Chautauqua County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Nature Sanctuary Society of Western New York.

Vendors from the Fredonia Farmer's Market, including Royal Fern Nursery, Roo Haven Farm, Miller Apples, Dandelions and Dreams, Free Thinkers Gourmet and Soapy Aries, Maggitti Farm and Sunset Sky Farm. They will be offering fresh produce, meats, baked goods, skin care products, honey and maple syrup, and native plants.

In addition, an Earth Day Native Planting Event is scheduled for the same day at 2 p.m. Participants are asked to meet at the Science Center Greenhouse, where a wide variety of native pollinator and other perennials will be planted in the low- and no-mow zones areas near the campus garden and greenhouse to increase the beauty, biodiversity, and soil health of these designated areas. Those planning to help are asked to please bring gloves and garden trowels if possible, and dress appropriately for the weather and planting activity. The event is being organized by Dr. Christina Jarvis of the Department of English.

An Invasive Species Pull is slated for Thursday, April 24 at 2 p.m. Those wishing to participate should meet at the Lake Shore Savings Clock Tower in front of Maytum Hall. With careful instructions and supervision from faculty, volunteers will pull invasive species within and around the campus woodlot. Those planning to help with the effort are asked to please bring gloves if they have them and dress appropriately for the weather. Volunteers are welcome and no advance registration is required. The event has been organized by Dr. Jarvis.

Dr. Tracy Marafiotte, who is serving as Earth Day Expo coordinator, noted that 2025 is the 55th anniversary of the first 1970 Earth Day. She cites the famed British explorer-turned-environmentalist, Robert Swan, who stated "the greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it." Dr. Marafiotte adds, "Earth Day is the perfect opportunity to be reminded of the amazing beauty and diversity that we have in Western New York, and to learn about ways that our actions and choices can keep it that way." Assisting Dr. Marafiotte with the expo arrangements is intern Lindsay Hocking, a Communication department major.

The week's events are sponsored by the campus Department of Environmental Health, Safety and Sustainability.

# Rotary Club of Jamestown Learns About Junior Achievement



Submitted Photo

John Crawford with Marion Beckerink, President of the Rotary Club of Jamestown, NY.

Article Contributed by  
**Rotary Club of Jamestown**

Program chairman Amy Rohler introduced John Crawford, the executive director of Junior Achievement in Western New York, whose career has focused on the well-being of the Western New York Community. Before joining Junior Achievement, John served as Operations Director at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Buffalo, providing life-changing services to those most in need. John also served as President of College Relations at Medaille College for ten years and as Director of Development at SUNY at Buffalo and the American Red Cross.

John described Junior Achievement's services in the eight counties of

Western New York. He said the organization's goal is to empower young people by supplementing the education of students from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Junior Achievement develops a curriculum on topics such as financial literacy. Complete packets of information about each curriculum are provided to teachers and volunteers. The agency trains the volunteers and teachers. These activities include games and activities in school, after school, and during the summer.

Joelle Washer Conti of Northwest Bank added that she and many other bank representatives have acted as volunteers. She noted that volunteers are well-trained and that the activities and curriculum are a "ton of fun."





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# Showcasing CHQ Natural this Earth Day

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

community leaders saw the deforestation of our land as a sign of development and progress. But just as the last of the virgin forests of Chautauqua County were being removed, a national conservation movement started to take root. This movement advocated for the restoration, preservation, and wise use of our limited natural resources – something that was nearly unheard of during a time of great expansion and industrialization.

One of the leaders in the effort to restore and preserve our forests was Franklin B. Hough from the Adirondack Region of New York State, considered to be the “Father of American forestry”. Hough was a scientist, historian, forest conservationist, and was the first chief of the United States Division of Forestry, the predecessor of the United States Forest Service. He called attention to the depletion of forests in New York State and advocated for legislation ultimately approved in 1885 that established the Adirondack and Catskill Forest Preserves. This laid the groundwork for the New York State Forest program.

By the turn of the 20th century, the nation found a conservation champion in President Theodore Roosevelt, who worked to establish national parks, wildlife refuges, and the National Forest Service. The President also influenced millions of American to reconsider how to treat their own natural environment, including here in New York State and Chautauqua County.

In 1911, the New York State Conservation Department, predecessor of today's Department of Environmental Conservation, was created by legislation to consolidate the functions of the Forest, Fish and Game Commission, the Forest Preserve Board, the Water Supply Commission and the Water Power Commission. By combining these commissions into a single department, the state greatly enhanced its ability to protect the environment and respond to new environmental challenges, such as the rapid abandonment of farmland that began in the 1920s. Many of the farms in New York were on marginal land, and as better land became available out west, agriculture began to decline in New York. When the Great Depression hit, many farmers could no longer make a living on their worn out, unproductive land.

Throughout the Great Depression and afterward, the state continued to develop and strengthen its reforestation program. Other



conservation and reforestation efforts also took hold in our county, including SUNY Fredonia's College Lodge, outside of Brocton. In 1939, during the Great Depression, Fredonia college students purchased the forest with their own money to have a place to experience nature. As a result of their foresight, the forest became a prized learning laboratory for thousands of teachers, researchers, and students. Today the property remains a valuable natural resource and its preservation has been insured, thanks to the 2020 purchase by the Western New York Land Conservancy.

With the first Earth Day in 1970s, more and more residents became aware about environmental issues, our fragile ecosystem, and the important role we play in helping to conserve, preserve, and protect our natural environment.

All that leads us to today, with New York State having some of the strongest conservation programs in all the United States. This is evident here in Chautauqua County with thousands of acres of State Forestland, along with efforts to manage our local freshwater resources. Many of these forests contain recreational trails for hiking, mountain biking, cross country skiing, and even horseback riding. Those trails were developed in the 1970s – a short time after the first Earth Day was celebrated. Today, Chautauqua County has over 250 miles of recreational trails (not including snowmobile trails) available to the public, making our area an outdoor mecca for residents and visitors alike who want to get in touch with nature.

Even more importantly, the work to preserve land and also provide the public access to our natural environment continues. During the past five years, there has been an increased effort to improve existing trails and even develop new ones. Much of the recent improvements to the trail system is due to the work of the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG), along with the Friends of Chautauqua

County Greenways (FCCG) – which is a collaborative initiative between several public and private entities within the county, including Chautauqua County Government, the City of Jamestown, the Boutwell Hill Ski Club, Chautauqua County Equestrian Trail System, Chautauqua Rails to Trails, Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy, and WNY Mountain Bicycling Association. Together, these groups have been working tirelessly the past several years to enhance, maintain, and promote the incredible recreation opportunities within the county. This has become vital as the county works to promote itself as part of the Live CHQ talent attraction and retention marketing campaign.

And perhaps best of all, it's now easier than ever before for the public to find where all the outdoor trails are located, thanks to the Chautauqua County Interactive Trails Map, launched in the summer of 2024. The map allows users to locate all public trails, regardless of type, to help plan their own outdoor getaway. There's also a link to the Avenza app, which users can use while out on the trails, even if cell reception is spotty or unavailable.

Funding for the trail maps project comes from generous support provided by The Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation, the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, and the Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation. To learn more about all 250+ miles of recreational trails in the county, visit CHQTrails.org and use it to help make plans to get in touch with nature not only on Earth Day, but any day of the year, regardless of the season.

Residents and visitors interested in hiking, biking, riding, and/or rowing Chautauqua County's 250+ miles of trails have new resources available to help them plan their trip with the new interactive trails map and mobile map application. More details available at CHQTrails.org.

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## Liza Minnelli Documentary to Show at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts



Submitted Photo

Article Contributed by

### Reg Lenna Center for the Arts

*Liza: A Truly Terrific Absolutely True Story* (Wed., April 23 at 7 p.m.) brings into focus the dazzling, complex period of Liza Minnelli's life starting in the 1970s, just after the tragic death of her mother Judy Garland— as she confronts a range of personal and professional challenges on the way to becoming a bona fide legend. With insightful participation from a coterie of colleagues, along with the revelatory participation by the star herself, the film illuminates the contradiction of Liza Minnelli: her privilege and struggle, strength and vulnerability, unreal expectations and towering talent – the friction of which fueled her stunning rise, resilience and her enduring place as one of the greatest, most original performers in the history of entertainment. *Liza: A Truly Terrific Absolutely True Story* is unrated and is 104 minutes long.

Upcoming Movies at The Reg include Barbie Ferreira and John Leguizamo in the comedy-drama *Bob Trevino Likes It* (April 30 at 7 p.m.), Jenna Ortega and Paul Rudd in the horror-comedy *Death of a Unicorn* (May 2 at 7 p.m.), Steve Coogan in the comedy-drama *The Penguin Lessons* (May 7 at 7 p.m.), Naomi Watts with Bill Murray in the comedy-drama *The Friend* (May 9 at 7 p.m.), and *The Luckiest Man in America* (May 14 at 7 p.m.) a dramatic retelling of the 1984 *Press Your Luck* game show scandal.

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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Chautauqua County Partnership  
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The Preface to *Good Soles: Chautauqua Rails to Trails Namesakes and Trailblazers*

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

When I returned to my Chautauqua County homeland in the westernmost corner of New York State, I looked around and thought, “Okay. So where are *our* trails?” I had spent most of my outdoor active life on and in water, not trails. Chautauqua County boasts of having 50 miles of Lake Erie grape country shoreline, a 17-mile-long Chautauqua Lake, several smaller lakes, and accompanying tributaries. It is rolling and green—the fields, farms, and woodlands; the area is known for its snowfall.

Two years after my return I became mildly involved in Chautauqua Rails to Trails, an organization committed to converting abandoned railroad property to recreational trails. At that time, it had become a struggling band of volunteers, meager in number. Trail Manager Jim Fincher asked me if I would bring some order to a considerable quantity of organizational papers that had accumulated over the years. What seemed like a couple of bushels of documents, which were in great disarray, were loaded into my car. Consequently, I fell into the role of *Archivist* with a capital A; I have 21 binders to show for it. Eventually I agreed to serve as secretary, which I still do.

As one of only a handful of trail organizations in New York State that are privately funded, we constantly look for ways to raise money. Receipt of funds from the American Rescue Plan in 2021-2022 and receipt of state funds for the paving of the Brocton trail in 2002, were rare incidents of governmental financial help. It funded major wet spot improvements to the Ney Trail, Webb Trail and Sheldon Trail and the erecting of four kiosks. After the relative success of a holiday cookbook fundraiser during the COVID-19 pandemic, I began to consider writing a book about our organization.

If stewards of outdoor recreational trails have done their job—a formidable job—there is visible signage at the beginning of the trail, at the end of the trail, and at every type of crossing. Such signs exhibit the name of the trail. When it is a human being’s name on the sign, it is natural to wonder about that individual. I know I have.

As our board of directors acknowledged the inadequacy of our signs on the trails, I ended up wearing an additional hat

beginning in 2020—chair of the signage committee. I found myself refurbishing by hand many of our aging signs which had been battered by weather, woodpeckers, and vandals. *Whose name am I painting? Who is Laurie A. Baer? Who is Nancy B. Diggs? And why did we name our trails after them?*

There are ten people mentioned on the trail signs of the 28.1-mile Chautauqua Rails to Trails system of Chautauqua County. All but 5.3 miles are named after someone. Each named segment ranges from 0.9 miles to 9.7 miles in length. One segment is named for a husband and wife—Paul and Nadine Webb. One person was acknowledged with a paragraph of glowing tribute on the signs, rather than a trail naming—Herbert Hern Sr.

Humans are always fascinating when you take a closer look at them. Always. And taking ten closer looks turned out to be much more of an adventure than I ever expected. I have had the privilege of sitting, in most cases, face-to-face, with family members and associates whom I probably would never have encountered otherwise. I spoke with David Lawson Jr. about his father’s experience with Ralph C. Sheldon Jr. as his business partner. A few days after my third visit when I had given him a draft to look over—along with a sampling from my mother’s famous brownie recipe—I was shaken by the news that Mr. Lawson had passed away.

In every single instance I was intrigued, and even riveted, by their stories. Each time I really had not expected that. This project turned into quite an exciting quest.

Getting to know who these people were or are, along with their families and their stories, often put me in awe of their accomplishments and of the way they led their lives. Other times I could not help but become engulfed in the agony of some of the tragedies—the abject pain and grief they had experienced. The cooperation afforded me was in part the result of mutual determination—the families’ and mine—that these people should not be forgotten, if they had passed away. And the living namesakes deserved attention as well. Of the ten people profiled here, only two are living. We all hate the irony of the timing of

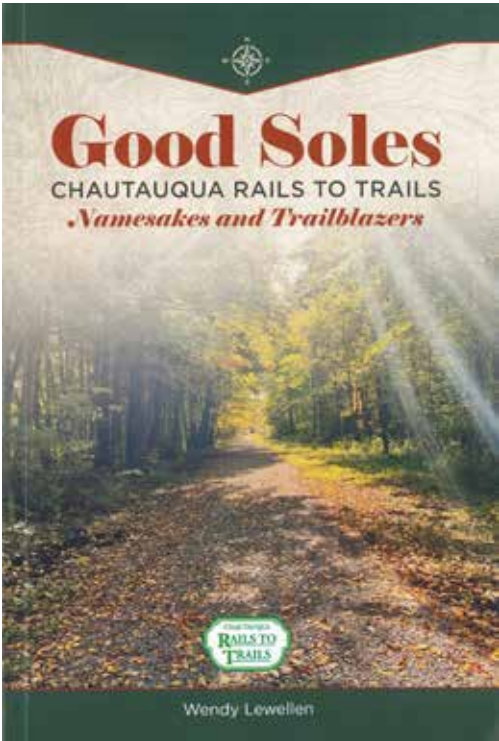
praise lavished on people only after they are gone. But it is way better than *not* doing it. We descendants and acquaintances are all richer for it, as we are nudged to examine our own lives.

Unsurprisingly, a common denominator of these ten individuals was an attraction to, and appreciation of, the value of human experience in the outdoors, to varying degrees. Look up couch potato and find its opposites. That description is another commonality of every one of these individuals. Untimely death is a pervasive theme in four of the ten stories ahead. In addition to the two living honorees, four of them led long and healthy lives. Every one of them valued nature trails and believed in their importance to human health—both physical and mental.

My aim is for you to enjoy and be enriched by these profiles of the people for whom our various trails are named or credited in our trail signage. The next time you enter one of our trails and see the sign, if you wish, well now you know.

And I hope this effort also serves to shed light on, and give credit to, the local people who have worked so very hard to create and maintain this wonderful trail system beginning in 1991. If Robert Berke, John Goodell, Sam Thorndike, Jean Haynes, Les Johnson, Jim Fincher, *and others* had not dedicated so much of their lives to Chautauqua Rails to Trails in the early ‘90s and beyond, the trails created by those old railroads would not be there for us to enjoy today. The pathways would now be off-limits, or usurped, or overgrown, or even unidentifiable.

Your purchase of this book is a gesture of much needed and appreciated support for our cause. The custody of our trails is dynamic and ongoing, and the challenges are never-ending. The continued existence of Chautauqua Rails to Trails depends on a supportive attitude on the part of the public. I hope this book helps with that. Fundraising, earning support from foundations, and utilizing all funds *effectively* and *responsibly* are what we unpaid volunteers do. This book is evidence of that first fundraising pillar. Thank you!



***Good Soles: Chautauqua Rails to Trails Namesakes and Trailblazers***, was first published in late 2023 and was updated in August 2024 by long-time secretary, Wendy Lewellen. It shares the life stories of the people for whom the trail segments are named. It also includes a history of the local trail club, gives credit to the individuals who have worked so hard to establish and sustain it, contains many beautiful color photos taken on the trail system, and contains some local railroad history.

The book is available for sale year-round at these brick-and-mortar locations: Chautauqua Book Store, Fenton Historical Center, Ashville General Store, Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame, Bemus Point Library, Loud Performance in Bemus Point, Webb’s Candies and Gifts, and in Westfield at Full Strength Coffee Company and Portage Hill Gallery. Seasonally it can be purchased at Bemus Point Pottery, Cadwell Cheese House, and CHQ Marketplace coffee shop.

Online purchase is available at CR2T.org. on the Donate page. 100% of the proceeds go to the organization.

Chautauqua Rails to Trails is proud to share that the printing and graphic design were deftly handled locally by Falconer Printing and Design and graphic designer, Lisa J. Short. The author will be speaking about her book on July 9, 2025, at the Fenton Historical Center at 7 p.m. For more information about the organization call 716-753-2800 and about the book call 716-485-6677.

Celebrate Earth Day by purchasing this fundraising book and by getting out anywhere on the nearly-30-mile trail system.





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Daily Steps to Make a  
Vehicle Last Longer

Article by  
Metro Creative Connection

Modern cars have longer life expectancies than their predecessors. Consumer Reports indicates it's not unheard of for modern vehicles to endure for 200,000 miles or more. For many, that equates to 12 to 15 years of usage.

Even though many vehicles are built to have increased longevity, it often is up to the driver to do his or her part to ensure cars and trucks can last for years and years. Here are some daily steps vehicle owners can take to achieve longer life spans for their cars or trucks.

- 1. **Take it slow and steady.** Athletes do not hit the ground running at top speed, and neither should a vehicle. Let the car gradually acclimate to being on the move each day after sitting overnight. Gently accelerate and afford the engine time to warm up and all of the components to get the fluids they require before you jump on the highway or require the vehicle to go all out. Most automotive experts warn against idling a car in the driveway to warm it up, but starting out at a slow and steady pace is key.
- 2. **Don't be extreme.** Jerky turns, gunning the gas and braking hard lead to unnecessary wear and tear on a vehicle. By smoothing out your driving, you'll put less stress on mechanical components and help prevent them from wearing out prematurely.
- 3. **Clean it out daily.** Accumulated debris often builds up inside a vehicle that is used all of the time. Taking a few minutes to clear out trash or to wipe down the interior

each day will prolong the interior components, not to mention make it easier to do a more thorough detailing when the time comes.

- 4. **Find a trusty fuel station.** Bad gas can wreak havoc on a vehicle. Find a station that you trust, particularly one that takes care of their pumps and regularly changes their pump filters. It's worth it to spend a little more overall for good gas.
- 5. **Read your oil level.** Oil is essential to maintain a properly operating engine and vehicle. AARP suggests routine reading of a car's oil level so that you can add lubricant as necessary. While this might not be a daily task, doing it regularly enough means you will keep on top of this important step.
- 6. **Park in the shade or a garage.** The sun may feel good on a warm day, but the UV rays from the sun can take their toll on a vehicle's paint. Whenever possible, park out of direct sunlight so that the paint will not fade and the interior upholstery will not bleach. Those who need to park their vehicles for an extended period of time should choose a clean, dry, well-ventilated location, advises Wawanesa Insurance.
- 7. **Be attentive.** Listen to the sounds your vehicle is making and give it a visual inspection each time you get in or out of the car. The sooner you catch something that is out of the ordinary, the easier it becomes to fix problems before they become costly and damaging.



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## Here's Your Chance to Make a Difference!

Article Contributed by  
**Chautauqua Fire Department**

In Western NY volunteerism is not dead. We live in a part of the state that relies on volunteers for many things. This includes fire protection and EMS services. There is always a need for people to step up and lend their time and talent to help their neighbors.

New York state recognizes this and every April sponsors a program called RecruitNY. It is an opportunity for fire departments like, Chautauqua Fire Department and the other 40 plus volunteer departments in Chautauqua County, to invite people who are interested in volunteering to come and meet the members and discuss what opportunities are available.

This year, RecruitNY open house for Chautauqua Fire Department will be Saturday, April 26, between 12 and 3 PM. They will open their doors to anyone who is curious or interested in what we do and who we are. Visitors and interested parties

will be able to see equipment and speak with members about what it is like to serve the community as a member of our fire department.

Other departments in our county will also be involved in Recruit NY weekend. For information about the fire department in your area and what is happening go to RecruitNY.org. Click on participants, find Chautauqua County and your fire department.



Chautauqua Fire Department serves a diverse district, from the 750 acres of the Chautauqua Institution to the seventeen square miles of the Town of Chautauqua that surrounds it. We answer about 350 - 450 alarms a year, many during the summer. We have 65 members, 31 of whom actively respond to alarms.

Please stop by CFD at 2 Royal Way on April 26 from 12 - 3 or any Tuesday evening if you want to meet us or get information. We would love to meet you.

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# Chautauqua County's Mayville DMV Announces Special Saturday Hours to Assist Residents Ahead of REAL ID Deadline

Article Contributed by

**Justin Gould**

Media Information Officer  
Chautauqua County Government

With the federal REAL ID compliance deadline approaching in May, Chautauqua County residents are encouraged to visit their local Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) office to upgrade to a REAL ID or Enhanced Driver License (EDL).

To better accommodate the anticipated increase in foot traffic, **on Saturday, May 3 at the Mayville DMV** will be open for EDL/RealID upgrades only from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Beginning May 7, 2025, all travelers flying within the United States or entering secure federal facilities will be required to present a REAL ID-compliant form of identification, such as a REAL ID, Enhanced Driver License, or valid U.S. passport. However, residents can still upgrade to a REAL ID even after this date.

“We want to ensure that Chautauqua County residents are fully prepared before the deadline,” said Kerri R. Smith, Motor Vehicle Administrator for Chautauqua County DMV locations. “Many people still have questions about the difference between a REAL ID and an Enhanced Driver License, and we encourage them to contact us or visit New York State’s DMV website to understand their options before heading to the DMV.”

The REAL ID Act, passed by Congress in 2005 in response to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, establishes minimum security standards for state-issued identification. This means that individuals must provide certain federally required documents when applying for a REAL ID, including proof of identity, Social Security number, and two proofs of residency.

## Understanding the Difference: REAL ID vs. Enhanced Driver License (EDL)

**REAL ID:** A federally compliant form of identification that allows residents to board domestic flights and enter secure federal facilities. It cannot be used for travel across U.S. borders.

## Chautauqua County DMV Office Locations & Contact Information

**Jamestown DMV**  
512 W. 3rd St.,  
Jamestown, NY 14701  
Ph: (716) 661-8220

**Dunkirk DMV**  
3998 Vineyard Drive,  
Dunkirk, NY 14048  
Ph: (716) 366-0210

**Mayville DMV**  
(Hall Clothier Building)  
7 N. Erie St., Mayville, NY 14757  
Ph: (716) 753-4229

## Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. REAL ID processing ends 1 hour before closing due to the multi-step, multi-employee nature of the transactions.

For more details on REAL ID and Enhanced Driver Licenses, including acceptable documents and application guidance, visit:



[dmv.ny.gov/driver-license/enhanced-or-real-id](https://dmv.ny.gov/driver-license/enhanced-or-real-id)

**Enhanced Driver License (EDL):** In addition to serving as a federally compliant REAL ID, an EDL allows U.S. citizens to re-enter the United States from Canada, Mexico, and some Caribbean countries by land or sea. It is available for an additional \$30 fee beyond the standard renewal cost.

To avoid last-minute issues, Chautauqua County residents are strongly encouraged to gather their required documents ahead of time and take advantage of the DMV’s online document guide and pre-screening application tool. These resources can help ensure that applicants arrive prepared, reducing wait times and processing delays.

“Our goal is to make the transition to REAL ID as smooth as possible,” Smith added. “By offering select Saturday hours, we hope to provide residents with additional opportunities to complete the process before the deadline.”

# 2025-26 Jamestown Public Schools Kindergarten Registration Scheduled for May 7



Submitted Photo

Jamestown Public Schools will register kindergarteners for the 2025-2026 school year by appointment on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at the Central Administration Office located at 197 Martin Road between 8:15 a.m. and 4:15 p.m.

Article Contributed by

**Cameron Hurst**

Public Relations Specialist  
Jamestown Public Schools

Jamestown Public Schools will register kindergarteners for the 2025-2026 school year by appointment on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at the Central Administration Office located at 197 Martin Road between 8:15 a.m. and 4:15 p.m.

Any child who resides in the city of Jamestown and who will be 5 years old on or before December 1, 2025, is eligible to attend kindergarten in the district this fall. If your child is not currently enrolled in a Jamestown Public Schools UPK program and will be of kindergarten age, please contact

JPS Central Registration Office at (716) 483-4344 with any questions and to schedule an appointment. Registration information and forms will be mailed to families once an appointment is scheduled.

**This registration day is only for students who are new to the Jamestown Public Schools.** This registration is not for students who are currently enrolled in UPK programs at any Jamestown Public Schools UPK site, including Head Start at Bush Elementary School, Holy Family, A Children's Place, YMCA, or YWCA.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call Central Registration at: (716) 483-4344.



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## BPU Spring Water Main Flushing Schedule Announced

*Article Contributed by*

**Rebecca I. Robbins**

Communications Coordinator  
Jamestown Board of Public Utilities

The Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) Water Division announces the spring main water flushing schedule.

Pre-flushing in Falconer will start at 1 p.m. Friday, April 25, in the areas of Aldren, Mapleshade, Ralph and Valmeere. The entire Village of Falconer will be flushed from 8 p.m. Saturday, April 26, overnight into Sunday, April 27, until Falconer flushing is completed.

Water in the Village and on the north side of Jamestown can be expected to discolor when the Falconer flushing procedure occurs.

Flushing of the remainder of the BPU Water Division system will occur from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, April 28-May 2; and Monday-Wednesday, May 5-7.

The exception will be on Wednesday, April 30, when flushing will begin at 4:30 a.m. to accommodate downtown Jamestown and Fairmount Avenue businesses and restaurants. Residents on streets and neighborhoods located near West Third Street, Harding and Fairmount Avenue (Rte. 394) could experience discolored water that day, even though their own streets are not directly flushed.

Flushing of the mains may discolor water, especially when the process takes place in the customers' immediate areas, near or on their scheduled flushing days. Customers may see discolored water at any time during flushing, even on days other than their scheduled flushing days.

The BPU's April customer newsletter contains a two-page color-coded map showing which areas will be flushed on which days. The maps also are posted on [www.jamestownbpu.com](http://www.jamestownbpu.com) and appeared in the Jamestown Post-Journal on April 19.

Flushing location maps are also available in the BPU Customer Service Office, the Jamestown City Clerk's Office, the James Prendergast

Library, and at Town and Village Offices in communities affected by flushing.

BPU commercial and industrial customers recently learned of their flushing dates by automatic calls. Residential customers, whose phone numbers are current on their accounts, may expect to receive such calls two-five days in advance of their flushing days.

Customers with questions about flushing and their flushing dates may call the Flushing Hotline at (716)661-1613, the BPU Customer Service Office at (716)661-1660 or Communications at (716)661-1680. BPU Communications Coordinator Becky Robbins notes, "If you receive voicemail when calling, please leave your address, the names of the streets at the end of your block and your phone number. BPU employees will return calls with flushing location dates and answers to any questions."

The main precaution customers may take during water main flushing is to check for discolored water before doing laundry and to avoid pulling discolored water into their hot water tanks. The BPU also suggests putting aside water for cooking or drinking a day ahead of their flushing days because the discolored water appearance is unappealing.

If discolored water enters the household, it may be expected to clear in 12-24 hours.

The BPU flushes water lines twice a year to remove naturally occurring sediment that may gather in pipes. As flushing occurs, employees also check the condition of the hydrants and fix any problems that they may find. Water main flushing is a normal process used in communities throughout the country.

For questions, refer to the BPU Flushing FAQs at [www.jamestownbpu.com](http://www.jamestownbpu.com) or call the Flushing Hotline at (716)661-1613, Communications at (716)661-1680 or the Customer Service Office at (716)661-1660.

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Jon Stewart, Bill Murray & His Blood Brothers, SNL’s Mikey Day, Streeter Seidell and More Set to Appear at National Comedy Center’s Comedy Festival August 7-10

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Castiglia — and guitarist and longtime Conan O’Brien late night show bandleader Jimmy Vivino, for a truly unique performance that blends his creative energy and love of blues and rock with their powerful, soulful sound. Murray first captivated audiences with his groundbreaking work on *Saturday Night Live*. Known for his unique blend of deadpan humor, irreverent wit, and improvisational genius, Murray quickly became a staple of American comedy. From his iconic roles in *Groundhog Day*, *Ghostbusters*, and *Caddyshack*, to his more dramatic performances in *Lost in Translation*, *The Razor’s Edge*, and *Rushmore*, Murray has showcased a remarkable range as an actor. His ability to seamlessly blend absurdity with poignant, heartfelt moments has earned him numerous accolades, including a Golden Globe Award and an Academy Award nomination for *Lost in Translation*. Most recently, Murray made memorable appearances in NBC’s acclaimed *SNL50: The Anniversary Special* and *SNL50: The Homecoming Concert*. Murray’s musical talents are also a vital part of his creative expression, blending seamlessly with his work across film and comedy.

Mikey Day joined *Saturday Night Live* as writer in 2013, became a featured player in 2016 and a main cast member in 2018. Streeter Seidell joined the *SNL* writing staff in 2104 and became head writer in 2022. Together, they have written many of the most acclaimed *SNL* sketches of the past decade, including the “Washington’s Dream” sketch featuring Nate Bargatze, now regarded as one of the best sketches of all time.

The acclaimed National Comedy Center and Lucy Desi Museum are both welcoming visitors throughout the festival with over 50 interactive experiences providing laughter for all ages —the experience named one of *TIME*’s “World’s Greatest Places”, *USA Today*’s “Best New Museum”, and *U.S. News & World Report*’s “Top 25 Family



Weekend Getaways.” Advanced purchase of museum admission is recommended to avoid sellout. Admission tickets may be purchased while purchasing festival event tickets.

The Lucille Ball Comedy Festival is presented by the National Comedy Center and embodies Lucille Ball’s vision for her hometown, Jamestown, New York, to be a destination for the celebration of the comedic arts and to showcase new comedic talent from around the country. The festival attracts over 15,000 attendees annually from nearly every state in the country, who come together to share laughter while honoring the craft and contributors on stage at dozens of venues throughout Jamestown, including the National Comedy Center and the Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum.

Now in its 35th year, the festival has featured comedy’s greatest stars and rising young comedians and has welcomed over 300 artists to Jamestown, NY, including Jerry Seinfeld, Lily Tomlin, Nate Bargatze, John Mulaney, Trevor Noah, Taylor Tomlinson, Jeff Foxworthy, Gabriel Iglesias, Jay Leno, Sebastian Maniscalco, Amy Schumer, Nicole Byer, David Spade, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Ellen DeGeneres, Lewis Black, W. Kamau Bell, Jim Gaffigan, Kevin Nealon, Paula Poundstone, Dan Aykroyd, Joan Rivers, Bob Newhart, the Smothers Brothers, and more than one hundred other comedic artists.

Celebrating Young Talent: Infinity’s Spring Showcase Returns to the Stage



Article Contributed by  
Infinity Visual and  
Performing Arts, Inc.

A night of music, art, dance, theater, and community celebration is on the horizon as Infinity Visual and Performing Arts prepares to host its Annual Spring Showcase, presented by Merrill Lynch of Jamestown, on Saturday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the Washington Middle School Auditorium.

For more than two decades, Infinity’s Annual Spring Showcase has honored the hard work and creative growth of Infinity’s young musicians and artists. This year’s performance highlights students from across the region who have spent months rehearsing, creating, and collaborating to bring an unforgettable night of youth-led performance to life.

Infinity Artistic Director JamieLee Bonfiglio-Davis shares: “Our Spring Showcase is more than just a performance—it’s a milestone. It’s a chance for our students to step into the spotlight and show the heart, dedication, and passion they’ve poured into their art all year. This show is a reminder of what’s possible when young people are given the space and support to shine.”

The evening will feature a wide variety of student performances, including rock bands, vocal ensembles, musical theater, and dance, along with visual art and



photography displayed in a small gallery at the event’s entrance. Student emcees will guide the audience through the show, offering a glimpse into the energy and enthusiasm that defines Infinity’s learning environment.

Raffle baskets will also be available during the event, offering community members a chance to support the organization while winning prizes from local businesses—including cash and gift cards.

Infinity Executive Director Shane Hawkins notes: “Spring Showcase is always a reminder of what community support can do. When you watch these young people take the stage—some for the very first time—you see firsthand how the arts can empower, connect, and uplift. It’s a night we look forward to every year.”

Admission is free for attendees under 18. More information is available at [www.infinityperformingarts.org](http://www.infinityperformingarts.org), or by calling the Infinity Center at (716) 664-0991.



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PUZZLES ON PAGE 7





# GRAPES & HOPS FESTIVAL

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## Grapes & Hops Returns to Northwest Arena

*Article Contributed by*

**Tonja Rinaldo**  
Marketing/Events  
Northwest Arena

Raise a glass, Western New York: Grapes & Hops is back! On Saturday, April 26, the Northwest Arena will once again transform into a lively tasting room for the region's favorite celebration of local flavor. Featuring an impressive lineup of wineries, craft breweries, cideries, and more, this beloved annual event invites guests to sip, savor, and shop their way through an unforgettable afternoon in downtown Jamestown.

Doors open at 2:00 p.m., with general tasting sessions running until 5:00 p.m. Attendees can enjoy unlimited samples from a curated selection of regional beverage makers, offering everything from bold reds and crisp whites to IPAs and refreshing hard ciders. This year's event also includes a growing selection of non-alcoholic options which are perfect for those who want to raise a toast without the buzz.

"Grapes & Hops is one of our most popular events of the year," said Tonja Rinaldo, Events and Marketing Manager at Northwest Arena. "It's a chance for our community to come together, support local makers, and discover new favorites—all in a fun, welcoming atmosphere."

Alongside the tasting, guests can enjoy live music, browse artisan and craft vendor booths, and soak up the energy of spring in full swing. For those looking for a more elevated experience, VIP ticket holders will gain early access at 1:00 p.m., with special pours, a souvenir tasting glass, and complimentary food during the exclusive VIP hour in the private tent area.

Tickets are on sale now at NorthwestArena.com and at the Northwest Arena box office. This event is expected to sell out, so early purchase is encouraged.

Tickets are available at three levels: VIP Admission is \$50 and includes early access at 1 p.m., exclusive tastings, a souvenir glass, and entry to the VIP Tent with complimentary food during the first hour. General Admission is \$35 and includes entry at 2 p.m., unlimited tastings and a souvenir tasting glass. For those not drinking, the Designated Driver Admission is \$10 and includes entry at 2 p.m., access to non-alcoholic beverages, and the full event experience, minus the alcohol.

Please note: This is a 21+ event. Valid ID required at the door.

Whether you're a wine connoisseur, a craft beer enthusiast or just looking for a fun Saturday outing with friends, Grapes & Hops offers something for everyone. Come sip, savor, and shop on April 26.







# Falconer Easter Egg Hunt a Big Success



Submitted Photos



The annual Falconer Easter Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, April 12. Approximately 100 children ages 1-12 participated in the candy-filled event at Falconer Park. Thanks to donations from local businesses and organizations, event organizers were able to give away two bikes, gift cards, and other prizes. Children also had the opportunity to greet the Easter Bunny, who arrived in the Falconer Fire Department's 1936 Mack firetruck.

Supporters of the event included the Village of Falconer, Volunteer Firemen's Association of Falconer, Ellicott Police Benevolent Association, Jamestown Veterans Association, Tasta Pizza, Cattaraugus County Bank, Ames Insurance, PersNikkity Pies, West Main Mercantile, and Hartson Holdings.



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Lots of Spring Opportunities at Audubon!



Audubon Community Nature Center needs nature lovers to be Trail Guide volunteers for student groups coming for spring Discovery Walks. At training on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 29 and 30, the education staff will teach you all you need to know for this important work. Bring the family to observe bird scientists in action and birds up close at Bird Bandings anytime from 7 to 11 a.m. on Saturday mornings April 26–May 17. Friday, April 25 through Sunday, May 4 are the dates for Audubon's 2025 Birdathon fundraiser; check out how you can raise money for the Ryan Exline Memorial Scholarship and the care of Audubon's animal ambassadors. For more information on any of these opportunities, call (716) 569-2345 or go to AudubonCNC.org/Events. The Nature Center is at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown and Warren.

Jamestown BPU Electric Division Honored With Highest National Award for Outstanding Safety Practices



BPU Power Plant staff gather for a photograph celebrating the National Safety Award.

Article Contributed by  
Jamestown Board  
of Public Utilities

The Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has earned the American Public Power Association (APPA) Safety Award of Excellence for safe operating practices in 2024. The utility earned the Diamond Award in the category for utilities with 151,946 worker-hours of annual worker exposure. The Diamond Award is the highest safety recognition a utility can receive from the APPA.

In 2024, the BPU Electric Division was honored with the APPA Gold Award for 2023 results.

More than 200 utilities entered the annual Safety Awards for 2024. The entrants are placed in accordance with their number of worker-hours and ranked based on the most incident-free records and overall state of their safety programs and culture during 2024. The incidence rate is based on the number of work-related reportable injuries or illnesses and the number of worker-hours during 2024, as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

The safety award not only recognizes the electric line department and the power plant of the BPU. It

also acknowledges administrators and managers, customer service representatives, customer service field representatives, billing staff and all employees involved in the Electric Division.

“The Jamestown BPU is proud of our overall safety culture and commend our Electric Division for this Diamond Award distinction,” Jamestown BPU General Manager David L. Leathers. “This award is a testament to the overall safety culture we have built at the BPU and the hard work that goes into ensuring that our employees have a safe work environment.”

“Harnessing electricity to keep our communities powered is vital work that can be dangerous, even deadly, if the proper attention isn’t paid to tried-and-true safety practices,” said Jon Beasley, Chair of APPA’s Safety Committee and Vice-President of Electric Cities of GA. “This award honors utilities that hold fast to these practices and – in doing so – put the safety of their personnel and their customers above all else.”

The APPA has conducted the Safety Awards annually for more than sixty-six years. APPA is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide.



Line workers, electricians and supervisors in the Electric Transmission and Distribution Line Department are pictured with a line truck.

The Language of Love is Subject at Unitarian Service This Sunday

How do we show love to our loved ones? What is your most meaningful love language? Former Lutheran pastor Ruby Wiles will explore “The Language of Love” in her message this Sunday, April 27, at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown. Wiles is the founder/director of

Warren’s Free Books for Kids Town and recipient of the church’s T. Richard Parker Award for Social Justice. Everyone is welcome to the 10:30 a.m. hybrid service and the coffee hour that follows at 1255 Prendergast Avenue. To participate virtually, use the link at UUJamestown.org/calendar.

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# CASA of Chautauqua Invites the Public to Act Against Child Abuse and Neglect During National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Article Contributed by  
**Court Appointed Special  
Advocates of Chautauqua  
County**

During National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April, CASA of Chautauqua challenges residents of Chautauqua County to stand against child abuse and take action to support children who have been abused or neglected.

At any given time, there are nearly 90 children in foster care in Chautauqua County. These children come into the child welfare system through no fault of their own. Substance abuse and the socioeconomic environment is changing the demographic of children coming into care and placing a burden across the United States including Chautauqua County. These issues impact a child's emotional well-being, educational achievement, brain development and mental health, and later employment. Trends have shown that more foster youth are aging out of the foster care system without finding safe and permanent homes and the skills needed to succeed. The demands for advocacy for these children exponentially increase in an overburdened and complex child welfare system.

CASA of Chautauqua County recruits, trains and supports volunteers who get to know children and the adults around them, and who advocate for the needs of those children in court and in the



Submitted Photo

CASA of Chautauqua County staff and board member posing by planted pinwheels during the 2024 pinwheel planting ceremony in Mayville, NY. Pictured (L-R): Kathy Park, executive director of CASA of Chautauqua; Bob Rogers, CASA board member; Kelly Fiorella, fund development coordinator of CASA of Chautauqua.

community. Our volunteers are simply everyday people who care deeply about children and are ready to make a child's life better. They are part of a national network of over 93,000 volunteers who are doing this work.

Throughout the month of April, CASA of Chautauqua is calling on members of the community to help the program serve more of Chautauqua County's most vulnerable children. The public is invited to join the Pinwheels for

Prevention campaign. Pinwheels for Prevention is a national awareness campaign created by Prevent Child Abuse America urging people to act to prevent childhood abuse and neglect by transforming awareness into action.

Look for the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign at area financial institutions, convenience stores, markets, restaurants, gas stations, liquor stores, libraries and more. Visit any participating business to purchase a pinwheel for \$2 or a

pinwheel card for \$1. For a complete list of business participants visit ChautauquaCASA.com. To join the campaign and host pinwheel sales at your organization, contact Kelly Fiorella at kfiorellacasa@gmail.com.

Without intervention and the help of a CASA volunteer, the odds are stacked against children in foster care. A child with a CASA volunteer spends 20 percent less time in foster care, on average, compared to a child without a CASA volunteer. Studies show children with a CASA volunteer receive more services that are critical to their well-being and are four times more likely to find a permanent home.

"CASA volunteers are a constant for the child in a time of chaos," said Kathy Park, executive director of CASA of Chautauqua County. "A child may have multiple social workers, attorneys, therapists and foster placements throughout the life of the case but only one CASA volunteer, which can make all the difference for the child's future."

All monies raised from CASA's Pinwheels for Prevention Campaign are used to fulfill CASA's mission of supporting volunteers who advocate for abused and neglected children in Chautauqua County. If you would like to support the mission of CASA, a tax-deductible donation can be made by sending a check to CASA of Chautauqua Co., Inc. at 2 Academy Street, Suite 5, Mayville, NY 14757.

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### Chautauqua County Humane Society Pets of the Week



Angus is a sweet young pup who is sure to steal your heart with his golden fur, charming smile, love for snuggles, and playful personality. Angus loves to run, play with toys, and be in your lap. He would be the best companion for an active person looking for an adventure buddy! Meet Angus soon at CCHS.

Anna is as sweet as they come. She's a friendly soul, always ready to share a soft purr or a gentle nuzzle with those who take the time to get to know her. She is a bit shy, but that doesn't stop her from dreaming of a loving home where she can relax and let her true colors shine. Meet her soon at CCHS.







# Independent Bookstores Day

## Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> 2025

### GENRES BOOKSHOP

A cozy & quaint used bookstore located in the YWCA at 58 S. Portage St., Westfield, NY.

Hundreds of gently used contemporary & vintage Fiction & Nonfiction titles, with prices starting at \$3.

**HOURS:**  
Tue - Sat  
12pm to 3pm

Check out our social media to see photos & videos of the shop & our books. Links below!



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## Independent Bookstores Day Celebrates its 12th Anniversary

Article Contributed by

### Good Neighbor Bookstore

Good Neighbor Bookstore is happy to announce our participation in the 12th Anniversary of Independent Bookstore Day! The event will be on Saturday, April 26th from 10:00 to 5:00.

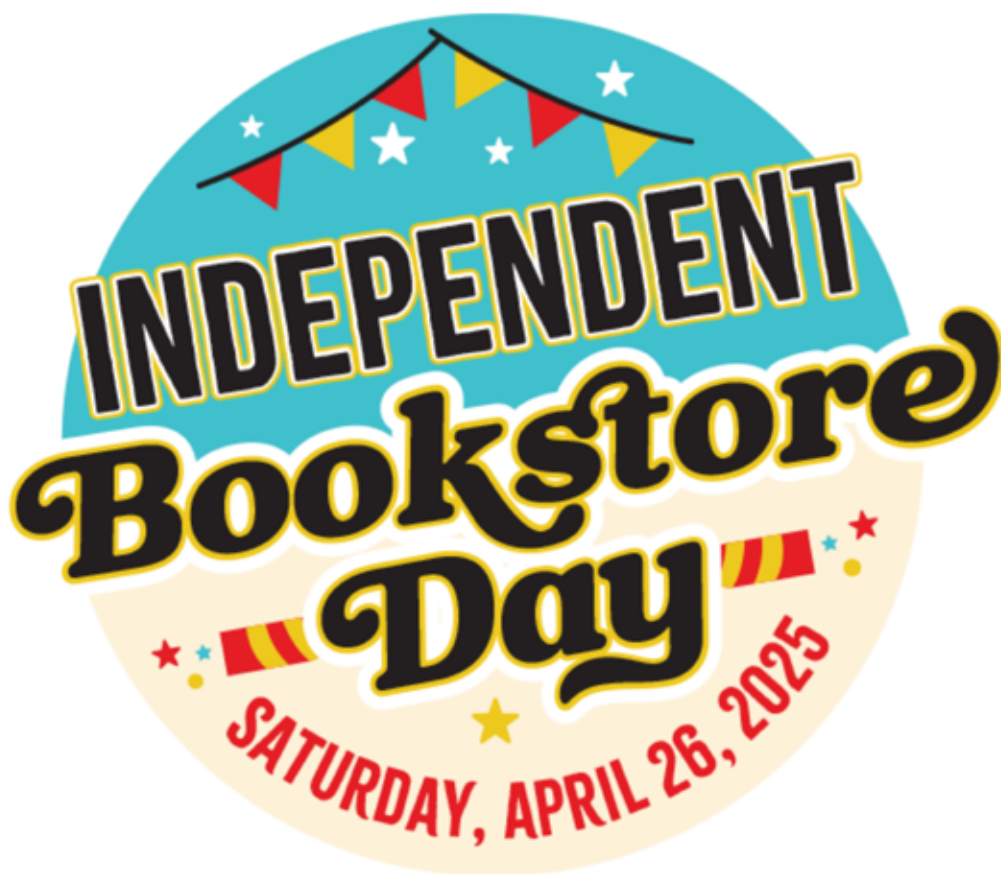
Good Neighbor Bookstore will have over 15 exclusive items for sale and as giveaways, from specialized tote bags to hats and exclusive books. There will be two local authors, Trenton Lutes from 11:00-1:00 and TJ Buck from 1:00-3:00 in the store for book signings. We will also have treats and more!

"Independent Bookstore Day is one of my favorite days of the year. It's when the community comes together to show their support for our store, literacy, and to celebrate what independent bookstores

bring to their communities. Stories. Connection. And sometimes just an escape." - Bob Lingle, Owner/Operator of Good Neighbor Bookstore

Independent Bookstore Day was established in 2013 to promote, celebrate, and highlight the value of the independent bookstore community. The day has been observed on the last Saturday of April every year since 2013. This year there are over 1,400 stores participating across the country.

Independent Bookstore Day is organized by the American Booksellers Association, a national not-for-profit trade organization, that works with booksellers and industry partners to ensure the success and profitability of independently owned book retailers, and to assist in expanding the community of the book.



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Article Contributed by

Daniel J. Heitzenrater

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce  
President and CEO

Sometimes a Desk is  
More Than Just a Piece of  
Furniture

A reception desk may seem like no big deal to many, but when it's a prominent fixture in a very public space it can make or break first impressions for guests. The same is true for storefronts and interior fittings, restaurant décor, and office waiting areas. Everyone who visits your place of business will leave with a first impression. Granted, that pertains to a friendly and helpful staff as much as it does to the space they see.

Now, when visitors come to the CHQ Chamber Office and Visitor Information Center in downtown Jamestown they will be welcomed warmly by our staff and will also get a first-hand look at the craftsmanship of a fine, locally made custom office installation that is so much more than just a desk. We were proud to work with Colecraft Commercial Furnishings in Jamestown as they designed and built a new workstation that allows us to improve our workflow and expand our team, all while providing a better look and feel to our space that welcomes visitors from all over the country.

Notably, this new reception desk is the perfect finishing touch to the rehabilitation of this centerpiece building, which was conducted in 2023 by its owner, the Gebbie Foundation. We are grateful to them and proud to be able to use this space in service to the community.

This new addition to our office comes thanks to an occupancy tax grant from Chautauqua County aimed at improving our Visitor Information Center. We shopped locally, and found a firm that could design and build this large piece to meet our needs at a price we could afford.

As a local business association, it is important to us to do business with local companies as much as possible. We understand the value in supporting local businesses that hire local people, pay local taxes, and make our communities a great place to live and work.

CHAMBER  
CORNER

The CHQ Chamber works in partnership with the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau on our downtown Jamestown Visitor Information Center. They source brochures and publications that help tourists find points of interest in Chautauqua County, and our staff offers suggestions and tips to travelers when they stop in. Frequently, we find that visitors have come to our area for a specific purpose – often the Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum or the National Comedy Center – and then they are surprised to learn how much we have to offer here when their question is, “What else can we do in this area?”

We routinely direct visitors to a wide variety of attractions and recreation destinations countywide including the Roger Tory Peterson Institute, Robert H. Jackson Center, Fenton History Center, Jamestown Audubon and other Jamestown sites. But we also point them to the lighthouses at Dunkirk and Barcelona, Panama Rocks and other outstanding nature trails, wineries along the Lake Erie shore, beautiful spots to enjoy water sports on all our amazing lakes, quaint shopping destinations, art galleries, and locally operated restaurants too numerous to count.

Our work as a visitor information center directly meets our mission to build vital connections, provide professional resources, and champion our local businesses in Chautauqua County. We invite you to stop at our Jamestown office at 300 North Main Street soon and see how we are serving the entire county by providing vital information and resources, all in a professional manner, and now with a newly enhanced reception space that also demonstrates continued craftsmanship in manufacturing right here in our county.

Business After Hours at the  
Athenaeum Hotel

The next CHQ Chamber Business After Hours will be held Wednesday, April 30 at the grand Athenaeum Hotel at Chautauqua Institution. You can enjoy this beautiful setting along with complimentary appetizers and a cash bar from 5-6:30pm.

All local businesspeople are welcome. CHQ Chamber Business After Hours events are free for two people from each Chamber member organization. The price is just \$10 for non-members or anyone above the two-person limit. Registration is appreciated for our planning purposes but is not required. Registering in advance gets you on our “Who’s Who in the Room” list. Registration is open now through our web calendar at [www.chqchamber.org](http://www.chqchamber.org).

Business After Hours at the Athenaeum Hotel is sponsored by the Athenaeum Hotel, Brooks-TLC Hospital System, Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua Marina, Kinetic Business, M&T Bank, Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union, Jamestown Community College, Media One Radio Group, Observer, and The Post-Journal.

Check the Calendar  
and Stay in Touch

The CHQ Chamber has been busily lining up mission-driven summer programming. That means there will be a variety of localized events around Chautauqua County over

the next several months all designed to connect consumers with local businesses and support our business community. Some of these are new ventures and some are returning, including the very popular First Fridays in Westfield.

For businesses, there will be numerous ways to gain some recognition – and hopefully make some sales – during upcoming events aimed at showcasing local merchants and restaurants. By attending CHQ Chamber events you can meet fellow businesspeople to expand your personal and professional network, develop potential partnerships, and learn more about other businesses in Chautauqua County. The opportunities are endless, and while we do need to cover costs for some events many are free for our members to participate.

It's easy to stay informed about upcoming CHQ Chamber projects. Just sign up to receive our weekly CHQ Chamber Connections email newsletter and special email bulletins about events. Find our convenient form at [www.chqchamber.org/stay-up-to-date](http://www.chqchamber.org/stay-up-to-date) and check our online calendar for all the details on upcoming CHQ Chamber events and join us when you can!

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SATELLITE OFFICE: 716-372-4901

ALBANY OFFICE: 518-455-3563

borello@nysenate.gov

### Senator George Borrello Introduces Bill to Feature New York Wines in Grocery Stores

*Initiative aimed at expanding the market for New York wines*

Senator George Borrello today announced he is introducing legislation, S. 7398, that would allow grocery stores in New York to sell wine, but with a key provision: only New York State-produced wines would be eligible for sale.

The proposal is intended to support family farms and local vintners and boost New York's wine industry, which contributes nearly \$15 billion in direct economic impact to New York State. It also addresses concerns that a general law allowing wine sales in supermarkets would result in major national distributors paying for shelf space and crowding out New York-produced wines. Smaller wineries—many of which rely on direct-to-consumer sales and limited distribution—could find themselves shut out of the grocery market entirely.

"New York is home to one of the most diverse and innovative wine industries in the country. From the Lake Erie shoreline to the Finger Lakes and down to Long Island, our winemakers are producing award-winning wines that deserve a prominent place on grocery store shelves," said Senator Borrello. "But if we allow out-of-state wines to flood our stores, it will be the big national brands—backed by powerful distributors—who dominate shelf space. Small New York producers are likely to be squeezed out entirely or reduced to a token presence on store shelves."

Under current law, wine is sold primarily through standalone liquor stores. While proposals to allow wine sales in grocery stores have surfaced for years, they've been repeatedly defeated due to opposition from the liquor store lobby, which argues the change would harm independent retailers.

Borrello acknowledged their concerns and noted that his legislation strikes a balance—supporting New York's wine industry while addressing the concerns of independent retailers and the liquor store lobby. The targeted approach would ensure that grocery sales expand in a way that uplifts local agriculture without undermining small, community-based wine and liquor shops.

He also said that he will soon be introducing legislation to address another concern of small wine

and liquor retailers: the current prohibition on selling food products such as cheese, cured meats, olives, and crackers—items that complement wine and spirits. The goal is to level the playing field, as New York State currently prohibits liquor stores from selling any type of food.

"For too long, outdated and often unfair regulations have held back our state's wine and spirits industry," Senator Borrello said. "It's time to bring New York's alcohol laws into the 21st century, because our small producers and retailers deserve a system that works for them, not against them."

He noted that modernization begins with giving New York wines a fair shot. By allowing only New York-produced wines to be sold in grocery stores, he said his legislation provides a smart, targeted way to strengthen our homegrown wine industry without undercutting independent retailers.

"New York wines are world-class. But our small producers are fighting an uphill battle in a consolidated distribution market," said Senator Borrello. "This bill would give them a real leg up, while expanding consumer access to local wines and supporting our state's economy."

New York is the third-largest wine-producing state in the nation, with more than 450 wineries and 35,000 acres of vineyards across 11 American Viticultural Areas (AVAs). The industry supports thousands of jobs and draws over 5 million tourists to wine country annually, generating nearly \$2 billion in tourism spending.

New York wines, particularly Rieslings and Cabernet Francs, continue to earn national and international acclaim while New York regions are frequently named among the best wine destinations in the world.

"This legislation isn't just pro-agriculture—it's pro-New York," Senator Borrello added. "It supports our farmers, our small businesses, and our rural economies. And it ensures that if wine is sold in grocery stores, New Yorkers will see New York wines front and center."

## Laurel Memorial Run/Walk Logo Contest Under Way

*Article Contributed by*

### Laurel Memorial Run/Walk

Area high school students can put their artistic talents to use by participating in a contest to design the logo for the 2025 Laurel Memorial Run and Walk. The person who designs the winning entry will receive a \$50 gift card to a business of their choosing.

Laurel Run was started in 1997 by Wayne and Elaine Hotelling of Silver Creek. The annual event is named in honor of their oldest daughter, Laurel, who died in 2017, had Down syndrome, and the Laurel Memorial Run/Walk seeks to raise awareness and appreciation about the achievements of people with Down syndrome and other types of disabilities.

The Laurel Memorial Run and Walk raises money for Filling the Gap, Inc., which works with The Resource Center to support people with disabilities and their families in Chautauqua County.

The logo contest is open to high school students in Chautauqua County. Entries should not be too intricate, since the design needs to reproduce well on a T-shirt. Artists also are encouraged to submit

original designs, rather than using artwork they find on the Internet or through other sources.

Designs must be received by Monday, May 12. The public will have the opportunity to vote online to help determine the winning design.

Designs should be submitted to: Laurel Run Logo Contest, c/o Filling the Gap, 92 Fairmount Avenue, Jamestown, NY, 14701. Designs also may be submitted electronically to [kayla.depane@fillingthegap.net](mailto:kayla.depane@fillingthegap.net). All entries become the property of Filling the Gap.

The 29th annual Laurel Memorial Run/Walk is set for July 18 and 19. The traditional Jamestown-to-Dunkirk relay run will take place Friday, July 18. The following morning in Silver Creek, there will be an 8-kilometer running race, a 5k run/walk, a 1k fun walk, children's runs, and "Laurel's Memorial Lap" (a free event that is open to anyone who has a disability).

For more information about the logo contest or the Laurel Memorial Run/Walk, phone 716-483-2344, extension 90135.

Last year's winning design was created by Lizzy Ball.

## Stephen Piazza II Benefit

Brothers By Choice, in collaboration with the local community, is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner Benefit to support Stephen Piazza II on April 27, 2025, at the Celoron Legion Post 777, 26 Jackson Avenue, Jamestown, NY 14701.

Stephen Piazza II, a dedicated community member and retired founding member of Brothers By Choice, recently endured a life-threatening medical emergency. On December 29, 2024, he fell into a diabetic coma and remained intubated until January 9, 2025. He subsequently required dialysis for nearly a month before his kidneys and pancreas regained function. Stephen is now in the recovery and rehabilitation phase of his journey while facing significant medical and financial challenges.

Steve has spent much of his life helping others and served as a former road captain and president of Brothers By Choice. He also retired from I.B.E.W. Local 106, where he worked as an electrician and trade instructor, mentoring the next

generation in both the electrical field and in life. Now, the community has the opportunity to give back to him in his time of need.

The success of this benefit relies on the generosity of sponsors and donors. Contributions of all kinds are welcome, including:

- Physical merchandise
- Food donations (a list of needed supplies is available upon request)
- Gift certificates for products and services
- Monetary donations

In addition, a basket auction will be held during the event. Those interested in donating baskets are asked to have them submitted by April 13, 2025. Donations can be dropped off at a designated location or pickup arrangements can be made.

For more information or to make a donation, please contact Jennifer Munday at (716)-450-4373 or (716)-483-3366.





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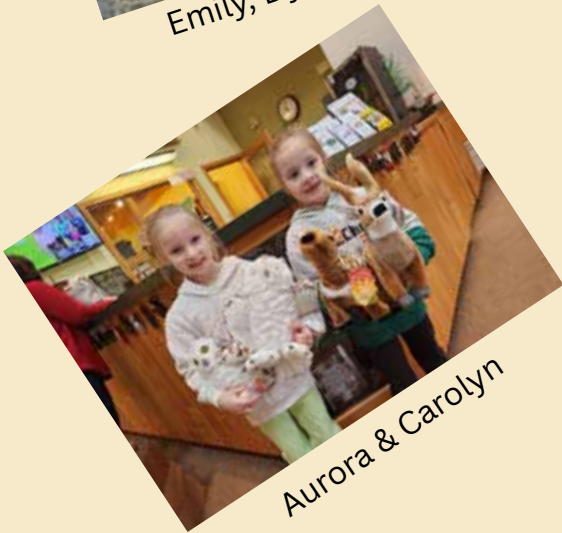
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