

# CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE



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Cheers to our Community 

Volume 3 • Issue 14 | April 6, 2026



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Photo Credit: VisitErie

## LAKE ERIE WINE COUNTRY Why a Visit Should be in Your Future

*Contributed by*

**Eric LeBlanc**  
Lake Erie Wine Country



It's obvious, isn't it?

You come for the wine.

Maybe it's not so simple.

We'll come back to the wine.

The number one reason people visit Lake Erie Wine Country is this: to enjoy themselves spending time with the people they came with.

Yes, tasting a new and memorable wine is part of the experience. But what matters more is what you're doing. You're stepping out of a busy life. You're tra-

veling with someone you care about. You're hitting pause on the pressures of the everyday and giving yourself permission to enjoy something simple and good—time, place, and company.

That's the good life.

The wine is the catalyst. The people are what make it magical.

A day—or two, or three—spent with someone special, with no agenda beyond enjoying what's in front of you,

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 13**

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## SPRING SPOTLIGHT ON OUR WINERIES



*Contributing Writer*

**Will Lively**

The hints of spring have begun to show in the Chautauqua region, signaling the opportunity to get re-acquainted with Lake Erie Wine Country wineries before the onset of the busy tourism season. Although the area's vintners offer respite in every season, there is a special spring buzz as the snow melts and vines begin to green, which makes a visit to our region's finest wineries the perfect season opener. The wineries below are notable not just for their dedicated owners and staff, world-class wines, and tranquil surroundings, but also for their importance and dedication to Chautauqua County and its residents as shown in their support of local businesses, such as the Chautauqua Gazette, and sponsorship of events that drive the local economy. By creating

jobs, attracting tourists, and cultivating international contacts for the regions grape harvest, the featured wineries have demonstrated their commitment to the region and its residents. So, ditch the snow boots for rain boots and join us in raising a glass to the growers that do so much to support our economy and define the culture of the Lake Erie Wine Country. We proudly present to you a possible "Trail Touring" route, listed in order from east to west along the Lake Erie shoreline.

**21 Brix Winery**  
6654 West Main Road  
Portland, NY



Known for its beautiful tasting room, complete with gift shop and event venue, and set amidst acres of vines and spring cherry blossoms, 21 Brix Winery is

an excellent spot to bring friends and family to enjoy some of Chautauqua's finest wines. Host to several monthly events, such as the Beats at the Brix live music show one Sunday each month, the winery also has ample photo opportunities including the locally famous life-size pink elephant "Ella the Elephant," which has called the property home since opening in 2011.

21 Brix offers a range of excellent wines, as well as craft beer and cider on tap, but the estate grown Cabernet Sauvignon, winner of the Pacific Rim International Wine Competition's "Best in Class" award, and the sweeter, tri-grape blend Thirsty Elephant, showcase the range of this wine country gem.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 5**

**PROUD MEMBER**



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THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 MEMBERS!  
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Sandra & Daniel Gullotti  
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# THIS WEEK AROUND TOWN



## MONDAY, APRIL 6 & WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

### **Mud Camp | 9 AM-3 PM**

Audubon Community Nature Center  
Jamestown  
For Info: [auduboncnc.org](http://auduboncnc.org)

## MONDAY, APRIL 6

### **Movies at The Reg: Goat 2 PM**

Reg Lenna Center for The Arts | Jamestown  
For Info: [reglenna.com](http://reglenna.com)

## TUESDAY, APRIL 7

### **Toast: The Ultimate Bread Experience | 7 PM**

Reg Lenna Center for The Arts | Jamestown  
For Info: [reglenna.com](http://reglenna.com)

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

### **Chautauqua Region Quilt Guild Meeting: Presentation by Amber Laurie of Concord Quilting Studio | 6 PM**

Busti 5 Corners Community Church | Busti  
For Info: [facebook.com](http://facebook.com)

### **CHQ Chamber Business Builder Workshop 9 AM**

SUNY Fredonia Center for Innovation and Economic Development | Fredonia  
For Info: [www.chqchamber.org](http://www.chqchamber.org)

## THURSDAY, APRIL 9

### **Craft & Sip Group 7 PM-10 PM**

Labyrinth Press Company | Jamestown  
For Info: [Labyrinth Press Company Facebook Page](http://Labyrinth Press Company Facebook Page)

### **Jamestown Trolley #93 Marks Its 100th Birthday 7 PM**

1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center | Fredonia  
For Info: [fredopera.org](http://fredopera.org)

## FRIDAY, APRIL 10

### **Movies at The Reg: Wuthering Heights | 7 PM**

Reg Lenna Center for The Arts | Jamestown  
For Info: [reglenna.com](http://reglenna.com)

## SATURDAY, APRIL 11

### **CLPOA "Wetlands" Public Meeting #15 9 AM-10:30 AM**

The Lawson Center | Bemus Point  
For Info: [chqlpoa.org](http://chqlpoa.org)

### **Little Explorers: Beavers, Muskrats, and More! | 10 AM**

Audubon Community Nature Center  
Jamestown  
For Info: [auduboncnc.org](http://auduboncnc.org)

### **Art & Architecture On Screen: Water Lilies by Monet | 1 PM**

1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center | Fredonia  
For Info: [fredopera.org](http://fredopera.org)

### **An Evening of Spring: May Wine Release Dinner | 7 PM**

Johnson Estate Winery | Westfield  
For Info: [johnsonwinery.com](http://johnsonwinery.com)

### **Spring Yard Sale 10 AM-4 PM**

Audubon Community Nature Center | Jamestown  
For Info: [auduboncnc.org](http://auduboncnc.org)

## Sunday, April 12

### **Ladies' Sing-Along-Brunch 10 AM-2 PM**

Bemus Point Golf Club & Tap House  
For Info: [Bemus Point Golf Club & Tap House Facebook Page](http://Bemus Point Golf Club & Tap House Facebook Page)

### **Spring Yard Sale | 1 PM-4 PM**

Audubon Community Nature Center  
Jamestown  
For Info: [auduboncnc.org](http://auduboncnc.org)

### **Ruby Wiles: "Hope and Help" 10:30 AM**

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown  
For Info: [uujamestown.org](http://uujamestown.org)



## Pat's Pen with Pat Locke



Contributing Writer

Pat Locke

There's something about wineries that invites people to slow down. Maybe it's the quiet rows of vines stretching toward the horizon or the way conversations seem to come easier when there's time to sit

## Wineries and Springtime

and enjoy the view. Wineries aren't just about tasting wine they can be about the experience. The gentle clink of glasses, the warmth of the afternoon sun and the feeling that for awhile there's nowhere else you'd rather be or need to be.

Budding vines hint at the season ahead, while visitors return after the quiet winter months. Outdoor patios fill again, laughter drifts across the hills and the pace feels unhurried. It's a season of beginnings both for the vineyards and for those who come to simply enjoy the day.

For many, visiting a winery has become

more than a special occasion. It's a chance to gather with friends, celebrate small moments or simply enjoy the beauty of the countryside. Some come for the wine while others come for the scenery though most leave with a sense of calm that is hard to find in everyday life.

Wineries remind us that good things take time. From the first buds on the vine to the final pour, there is patience in every step. Perhaps that's the real charm of wineries. They encourage us to slow down, savor the moment and appreciate the simple pleasures along the way.

Love, like wine, gets better with time.

*A bottle of wine contains more philosophy than all the books in the world."*

~ Louis Pasteur



Editorial with Lori Cornell

# WINE THROUGH THE GREAT DIVIDE



*Publisher*  
**Lori Cornell**

Visitors from the communities in the southern end of Chautauqua County...welllllll, the numbers show we could take more advantage of the adventure awaiting!!!

Historically, that's how we roll (generally speaking). The differing habits and happenings between the northern end of the county and the southern end have long been "our thing." We joke about it. Our collective, arguably territorial feelings are friendly, innocuous, and unintentional, but Chautauqua County has long had what we amusingly refer to as "the Great Divide," somewhat along our infamous "Chautauqua Ridge" snowline between the Chautauqua and the Lake Erie watersheds. It's the imaginary patronage and market-attention line where one side of the rainwater flows out to the Mississippi and the other out to the Atlantic. Where one side of the population shops in the "Dunkirk/Fredonia area" and the other, the "Jamestown/Lakewood area." Where one side enjoys grape vineyards, while the other locks in along the I-86/Chautauqua Lake corridor.

As someone who grew up in the north and now lives in the south, I've always found the "Great Divide" fascinating. However, this season, it is our hope that our entire region will wake up and smell the grapes, so to speak. Hit the Trail and bridge the "Divide" one tasting, one bottle, one experience at a time.

The relationship between the wineries, the Trail, and our local economy is reciprocal, whether we participate in it or not. But it's a lot more fun when we do.

So this edition, we're making the case: with numbers, with history, and with genuine local pride, that "the Great Divide" is worth crossing. The wine's fantastic. The views are splendid. And, it's right up the road.

**W**e are thrilled and grateful for our twice-annual partnered editions with Lake Erie Wine Country. Here in Chautauqua County, we are the proud home of the largest Concord grape-growing region in the world. Nestled in our rural area are thousands of acres of vineyards, dozens of wineries, and a Grape Discovery Center in Westfield, where one may experience it all. An astounding 65 percent of New York State's total annual grape harvest is produced here and sold in products across the globe. While visitors from across the globe may know all about our grape-growing haven, area residents may not understand the incredible opportunity growing right here in our backyards.

The Lake Erie Wine Trail is a one-of-a-kind wonder that stretches across 50 miles in our county and into Pennsylvania that boasts 23 wineries and an incredible experience for anyone who takes the trek. The Trail draws seasoned wine connoisseurs, eager learners, and really just any adult looking for one of the most creative, gorgeous, and immersive experiences of small business ingenuity in our own county.

Every year, our county plays host to visitors from various regions:

- ✓ Visitors from Buffalo - check.
- ✓ Visitors from Cleveland - check.
- ✓ Visitors from Erie - check.
- ✓ Visitors from Pittsburgh - check.
- ✓ Visitors from the communities in the northern end of Chautauqua County - check, check.



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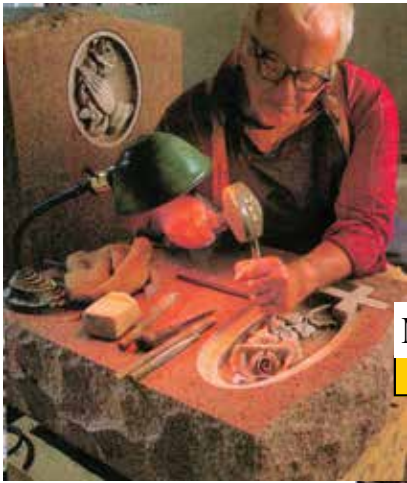
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# Faith Matters

## THE PENNY IN MY SHOE

by *Judy I. Booth Terhune*  
rev. March 12, 2013

A penny on the path I found,  
a single solitary cent.  
No pocket, no purse to store it in;  
no shop around within which  
it could be spent!

If inside my shoe  
that penny was lain  
By evening time  
I'd wish more reward for My pain ...

At hand and foot  
Jesus Christ suffered the nails! !  
The Perfect Sacrifice  
which provided our bail!

When on that cross  
my King was slain;  
Each drop of Blood-  
Shed for Our Eternal Gain.

Thru Eastertide,  
as Church you attend-  
You seek the Lord,  
Your Soul to mend!

The alter's open;  
the curtain's rent  
In honor of the Son  
God Almighty hath sent. ..

That peace might reign  
and joy abound  
For in Jesus Christ  
the lost be found!

*Judy is a lay speaker,  
Youth Group assistant,  
and coordinator of the  
Single's Group: "The 19  
to 99er's!" at Christ First  
United Methodist Church  
in Jamestown. She received  
inspiration for this poem  
while serving as Sunday  
School Superintendent.  
It was primarily written  
with the youth of our  
church in mind to aid their  
understanding of Easter.  
God's message of hope and  
salvation lives in each one of  
us all year long. Judy is also  
a published writer and poet.*



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- Robert Louis Stevenson



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## Spring Spotlight on our Wineries

*Continued from Front Page*

### Johnson Estate Winery

8419 W Main Street  
Westfield, NY



Johnson Estate Winery, New York's oldest estate winery, is run by third generation vintner and owner Fred Johnson and veteran winemaker Jeff Murphy. Together, the pair craft wines that pay homage to the region's history while remaining at the cutting edge of viticulture trends and practices. Offering guided walking tours of its historic grounds and tasting room, formerly an early 20th century apple building, Johnson Estate's friendly wine stewards and knowledgeable staff will guide you to that "just the right fit" wine and leave you with a greater appreciation for the deep roots of Chautauqua vines.

In addition to its hallmark wines, such as the Sparkling Traminette and "Double Gold" medal winning Semi-Dry Reisling, Johnson Estate also offers excellent seasonal wines. When you run low on their winter Mulled Wine, make sure to stop by for their annual spring release, the fruit-filled and herbaceous May Wine available now.



### Noble Winery

8630 Hardscrabble Road  
Westfield, NY

Standing hilltop on Noble Winery's veranda and looking down on fields, forests, families and the expansive waters of Lake Erie while being regaled by the winery's always convivial owner, Pete Noble, is a Lake Erie Wine Country must-do. Pete has been growing and fermenting since the age of 13, and opened Noble with his wife, Diane, in 2006, the culmination of a lifelong dream. He has since become a wine tour favorite, thanks in part to his amiable and infectious nature which permeates the grounds and the Amish built building he designed. Pete enjoys company, and he and his son Patrick (who recently took over winemaking operations) encourage guests, including children and pets, to enjoy the warmer months in the fields and between the vines of the hillside property.

Noble Winery offers wines from sweet to dry thanks to the constant experimentation, and sampling, work of Pete and Patrick. However,

in the warmer months their Wild Strawberry Dreams, featuring fresh picked strawberries, and Sexy Sangrias (both red and pink) are always popular choices for sipping on the veranda.

### Cellar'54

9368 West Law Road  
North East, PA



One of the highlights of the Lake Erie Wine Country is the complement of family-owned and run wineries, and Cellar'54 is a great example of a family having fun while making excellent wines. Owned by the Colletta family and under the direction of owner Dan Colletta, Jr. and winemaker Beau Colletta, Cellar'54 capitalizes on a family winemaking heritage going back to 1954. Stopping into the cozy tasting room and venue, one will likely find at least one Colletta to chat with as well as live music, fire pits, and an excellent selection of wines in an always enjoyable atmosphere.

One can't go wrong with any of Beau's well-crafted wines, but one of this writer's favorites - from both the winery and the entire region - is Cellar'54's Noiret.

### Driftwood

20 E Main Street  
North East, PA



Driftwood Winery is the result of co-owners Dave and Krista Stempka taking winemaking seriously while poking fun at the often-high-minded nature of wine culture. A trip to this urban winery in North East is always enjoyable, with the owners' senses of humor on display from the wine names (Unapologetically Unambitious Chardonnay) to the daiquiri pouches they offer to those taking advantage of the towns open container laws to do a walking wine tour. Whether you're just driving through North East or you're in the market for a walkable urban wine tour, a stop at Driftwood will always raise your spirits and leave you with a chuckle.

As a family-owned winery, all of Driftwood's wines are named by the Stempka's children, resulting in wines for every situation and season. Whether your day calls for their semi-sweet Shenanigans or you're feeling their Fancy AF Traminette, Driftwood will not disappoint.



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## First Lutheran Church

120 Chandler Street, Jamestown, NY 14701

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## Financial and Office Administrators

At First Lutheran Church we are called and commissioned by the Holy Spirit to bear witness to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in the world, our community, and our neighborhood, loving our neighbor as our Lord first loved us.

The congregation of First Lutheran Church seeks to be a positive force for change in Jamestown.

**Compensation for these positions will be commensurate with education and experience. Position includes benefits.**

### Financial Administrator

**Requirements and Responsibilities:**

- Experience in bookkeeping and accounting with a strong history and understanding of financial reports and general accounting practices
- Proficient in accounting and spreadsheet software (i.e. QuickBooks, Microsoft Excel) and a willingness to learn church financial management software
- Pay bills and invoices according to a payment schedule that takes full advantage of terms and discounts
- Attend monthly evening council meeting

### Office Administrator

**Requirements and Responsibilities:**

- Proficient in Microsoft Office and web based communication
- Print weekly worship bulletins using congregational and denominational resources
- Create a monthly newsletter and distribute to congregation by mail, email, and social media accounts
- Excellent interpersonal, communication and organizational skills
- Attend monthly evening council meeting

Full job descriptions are available on our Facebook page

Submit cover letter, resume, salary history, and three professional references to:

Personnel Committee  
First Lutheran Church  
PO BOX 484  
Falconer, NY 14733



**"In wine there is truth."**

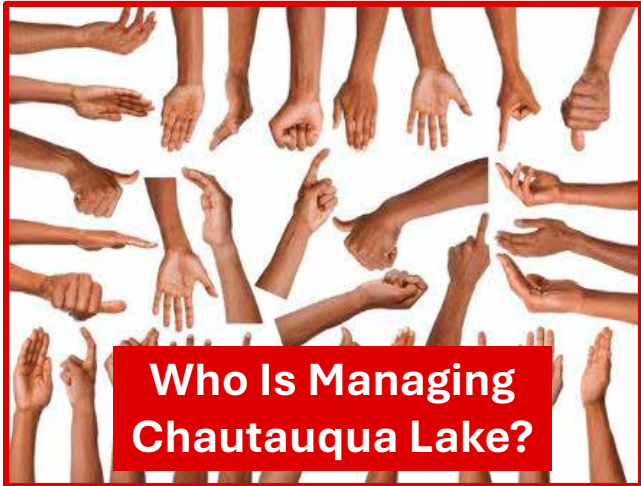
- Plato





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

**CLPOA "Wetlands" Public Meeting #15**  
**9:00-10:30 am, Saturday, April 11, 2026**  
**The Lawson Center, Bemus Point, NY**



**Who Is Managing Chautauqua Lake?**

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

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**CHAMBER CORNER**

**A Season of Growth:  
 Why Supporting Local Matters This Spring**

*Article Contributed by*

**Daniel J. Heitzenrater**

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce  
 President and CEO

As the snow finally retreats and the first hints of green appear, there is a sense of renewal in Chautauqua County. Spring is more than just a change in the weather. It is a time of growth and a perfect opportunity for us to reconnect with the vibrant communities we call home.

At the CHQ Chamber, we often talk about the importance of shopping locally, but as we head into this season, we want to emphasize that supporting local is about more than just a transaction. It is about investing in the unique character of our county. Our local businesses are not just the backbone of our economy but our community.

When you choose to spend your time and your dollars here, you are ensuring that Chautauqua County remains a place where families can grow and businesses can flourish. This spring, let's make a collective effort to be tourists in our own backyard. Let's celebrate the innovators, the makers, and the dreamers who keep our county moving forward.

**Business Builder Workshop:  
 Company Culture**

The CHQ Chamber will present its next Business Builder Workshop on Wednesday, April 8 at the SUNY Fredonia Center for Innovation and Economic Development. With a focus on company culture, this session will be held from 9-10:30 am.

This workshop will focus on how company culture shapes its employee engagement, business success, and community perception. Discover how intentional culture-building, rooted in values, leadership, and connection, can help you attract and retain top talent strengthen your team, and create a workplace where people truly want to be.

Our panelists for this workshop will be Joe Sanfilippo of Sanfilippo Solutions and Zac Hnatyszyn of The Tanglewood

Group. These local professionals will share real-world examples of how culture comes to life in their organizations, and influences everything from decision-making to employee involvement and community engagement. This workshop will be perfect for businesses and nonprofit organizations.

As with all CHQ Chamber events there will be time for networking and discussion. This workshop is free for CHQ Chamber members. A \$10 registration fee applies for nonmembers. Workshop sponsors are LaBella Associates, Media One Radio Group, Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union, and State University of New York at Fredonia. Please reserve your spot today through our online calendar at [www.chqchamber.org](http://www.chqchamber.org).

**The CHQ Chamber Presents the  
 State of the County**

The CHQ Chamber is working with the County Executive's office this year to provide a more meaningful event to our local business community. This year's breakfast gathering with the County Executive will include the actual State of the County address, followed by a moderated question and answer session so our guests can engage with the topics presented.

The CHQ Chamber State of the County Breakfast will be held Tuesday, April 21 at 8am at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 150 West Fourth Street, Jamestown. The cost to attend this event is \$30 for Chamber members or \$35 for non-members, which covers breakfast and helps to support the ongoing work of the CHQ Chamber year-round.

Sponsors for the 2026 CHQ Chamber State of the County Event are AHN Westfield Memorial Hospital, Brooks-TLC Hospital System, County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency, LaBella Associates, Media One Radio Group, National Grid, Phillips Lytle LLP, the State University of New York at Fredonia, and UPMC Chautauqua. Registration is open now through the Chamber's web calendar at [www.chqchamber.org](http://www.chqchamber.org).

**"Wine is constant proof  
 that God loves us and loves  
 to see us happy."**

- Benjamin Franklin



# THE NAZI'S DAUGHTER

Contributed by  
**Judy Schuler**

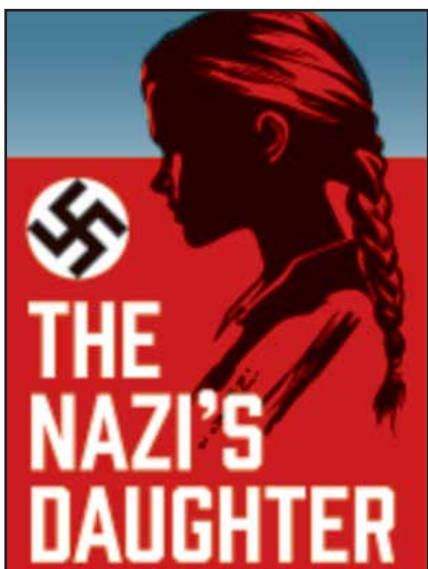
Over 80 years after its end, World War II continues to spark new books, both fiction and non-fiction. So many stories yet to tell.

The Nazi's Daughter, by Fredonia resident Judy Shuler, recounts a lesser-told story, that of the children of parents, mostly fathers, who worked for the Third Reich. Growing up Nazi meant unasked questions, secrets, a lifetime of guilt. Although a work of fiction, it was inspired by the lived experiences of the children of that war.

Gisela, the novel's protagonist, has settled comfortably into her senior years. Stories of her early years in Nazi Germany and its aftermath remain guarded and unspoken. No one has asked her about them. Until now. Jessica, her great-granddaughter, knows little of her German heritage and wants stories to include in an admission essay for college in Germany. As Jessica probes for information, Gisela struggles with what she will reveal.

The book includes the manuscript for a 10-minute play that book clubs and discussion groups can use to bring Gisela's story to life. It was selected for performance in the 2025 Juice Box one-act play competition at Lakeshore Center for the Arts, Westfield.

Shuler grew up in a German farming community in Wisconsin. While her farm family was exempt from milita-



ry service for their vital role in food production, she had three uncles who served during the war. One was stationed in Hawaii, though not aboard a battleship, on the day Pearl Harbor was bombed.

This is Shuler's fourth book. More information about the author and her other books can be found at [wordsalwaysmatter.wordpress.com](http://wordsalwaysmatter.wordpress.com). The Nazi's Daughter is available through local bookstores or [bookshop.org](http://bookshop.org) as well as [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

**What reviewers have said:**

*"I cannot imagine what experiences Gisela went through. But she is a survivor. She fought back with bravery, determination, hope and even love. Nazi domination from a different view."*

*"Offering a rarely touched upon viewpoint of WWII, the Holocaust and Nazi regime, The Nazi's Daughter brings to light how, decades later, life in war continued to form self and relationships."*

# Manufacturing Groups Advocate for State Policies that Support Innovation and Investment

Contributed by  
**Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier**

New York stands at a critical crossroads for its economic future. Innovation has long been the foundation of the state's growth and competitiveness, but that leadership is now at risk.

At a time when federal policy is moving decisively to encourage investment, innovation, and domestic manufacturing, New York's proposed Executive Budget (REV Parts F and G), along with Senate and Assembly one-house proposals, move in the opposite direction. These proposals will make New York State less competitive when it matters most.

The Buffalo Niagara Manufacturing Alliance (BNMA) and the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier (MAST) are raising serious concerns about the economic consequences of these proposals.

"At a time when federal policy is moving decisively to encourage investment, innovation, and domestic manufacturing, New York's proposed budget moves in the opposite direction," said Peter Ahrens, Executive Director of BNMA. "Decoupling from federal tax provisions makes our state less competitive precisely when it matters most."

"These policies would decouple New York from key federal pro-investment tax provisions, increasing costs for companies and discouraging growth," said Peter Ahrens, Executive Director of BNMA. "At a time when we should be attracting investment, we risk pushing it away."

Under the proposed changes, companies could benefit from favorable federal tax treatment while facing higher upfront taxable income and slower cost recovery at the state level. While federal policy allows businesses to immediately deduct major investments, New York would require those same costs to be spread out over years or even decades. This effectively raises the cost of doing business and strains cash flow.

At the center of the issue is the proposed capitalization of research and development (R&D) expenses (S.9009-B, Part F). For more than 60 years, businesses have been able to immediately expense R&D costs, recognizing the uncertain nature of innovation. When federal policy briefly required amortization under the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, companies responded by delaying hiring, scaling back innovation, and taking on debt. Congress has since restored immediate expensing of R&D costs within federal tax policy. New York's proposal would reverse course, placing the state at a competitive disadvantage.

"This is not theoretical, it directly impacts investment decisions happening right now," said Todd Tranum, Executive Director of MAST. "Manufacturers and innovators are deciding where to grow. If New York increases costs, those investments will go elsewhere."

The concern extends beyond R&D. The proposals would also de-couple New York from several key federal provisions that support capital investment. The federal provisions include immediate expensing for production facilities, expanded deductions for equipment purchases, and interest deductibility tied to financing investments.

Decoupling from federal tax policy would disproportionately impact manufacturing, engineering, agriculture, and technology sectors. All these industries rely heavily on capital investment and innovation. De-coupling would also place a heavier burden on small and mid-sized businesses, many of which lack the financial flexibility to absorb delayed cost recovery.



Manufacturing investment is long-term and capital-intensive, but it delivers significant economic benefits. It supports high-quality jobs, strengthens supply chains, and generates one of the highest economic multiplier effects of any industry. In 2021 alone, private companies in New York invested nearly \$26 billion in R&D. These investments fuel growth across communities statewide.

States across the country are aggressively competing for these investments. Aligning with federal tax policy helps keep New York competitive. Decoupling does the opposite. Decoupling raises costs just as companies are deciding where to invest their next dollar.

The solution is clear: New York should align with federal policy, not diverge from it.

Coupling with federal provisions would encourage innovation, support manufacturing growth, retain and create jobs, and strengthen the state's long-term economic foundation. Just as importantly, it would restore the consistency, and predictability businesses need to invest with confidence.

"New York's leaders face a critical choice," Ahrens added. "They can adopt policies that increase costs and discourage investment, or they can position New York as a destination for innovation and growth."

"If we want to secure our economic future New York State policies must send the right signal to the business community and align with federal policy that supports innovation, and encourages investment in our economy," concluded Tranum.

# THE NAZI'S DAUGHTER

The Nazi's Daughter, by Fredonia resident **Judy Shuler**, recounts a lesser-told story, that of the children of parents who worked for the Third Reich. Growing up Nazi meant unasked questions, secrets, a lifetime of guilt. Although a work of fiction, it was inspired by the lived experiences of the children of that war.



This is Shuler's fourth book. More information about the author and her other books can be found at [wordsalwaysmatter.wordpress.com](http://wordsalwaysmatter.wordpress.com).

Available at Good Neighbor Bookstore



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[www.CHQgazette.com](http://www.CHQgazette.com)





# CHQ Reads

## LIBRARY CORNER



**Ahira Hall Memorial Library (Brocton)**  
37 West Main St, Brocton 14716  
716-792-9418 • www.ahirahall.org  
Hours: M/W 1-8 TU/TH 10-5 F 1-5 Sa 10-1



**Alexander Findley Community Library (Findley Lake)**  
2883 North Rd. Findley Lake 14736  
716-769-6558 • www.findleylibrary.org  
Hours: M/Sa 9-2 TU/TH 1-7



**Anderson-Lee Library (Silver Creek)**  
43 Main St. Silver Creek 14136  
716-934-3468 • andersonleelibrary.org  
Hours: M/TU 12-8 TH 10-8 F 12-5 Sa 10-2



**Ashville Free Library**  
2200 N. Maple St. Ashville 14710  
716-763-9906 • www.ashvillelibrary.com  
Hours: M/T/W 9:30-7, TH/  
F 9:30-5 Sat 10-1



**Bemus Point Free Library**  
13 Main St. Bemus Point 14712  
716-386-2274 • bemuspointlibrary.org  
Hours: M/TU/F 10-5 W 1-5 TH 10-5 Sa 10-2  
**Storytime:** Wed 10 am Toddlers  
**Book Club:** 1st Mon. 6 pm



**Clymer-French Creek Free Library**  
564 Clymer-Sherman Rd. Clymer 14724  
716-355-8823 • www.cfclibrary.org  
Hours: M 9-12; 1-5 W 10-4 F 9-1; 3-6 Sa 9-2



**Dunkirk Public Library**  
536 Central Ave. Dunkirk 14048  
716-366-2511 • www.dunkirklibrary.org  
Hours: M/TU/W/TH 10-7 F 10-3 Sa 10-2  
**Storytime:** Tues. 11 am, Thurs. 11 am  
**Book Club:** 1st Thurs. 5:30 pm



**Darwin R Barker Library Association (Fredonia)**  
7 Day St Fredonia 14063  
716-627-8051 • www.barkerlibrary.org  
Hours: M/W/F 10-5 TU/TH 1-6 Sa 10-2  
**Storytime:** Mon. 10:30 am for preschoolers, Tues. 4:15 pm all ages  
**Book Club:** 4th Sat. 2 pm



**Ellington Farman Library**  
760 Thornton Rd. Ellington 14732  
716-287-2945 • www.ellingtonlibrary.org  
Hours: M/TU/W/TH 11-7 Sa 10-1



**Falconer Public Library**  
101 West Main St. Falconer 14733  
716-665-3504 • www.falconerlibrary.org  
Hours: M/TU/W/TH/F 9-5 Sa 9-12



**Fluvanna Free Library**  
3532 Fluvanna Ave. Ext Jamestown 14701  
716-487-1773 • www.fluvannalibrary.org  
Hours: M/TU/W/TH/F 10-5 Sa 10-2  
(closed Dec-Feb)



**Hazeltine Public Library (Busti)**  
891 Busti-Sugar Grove Rd Jamestown  
716-487-1281 • www.hazeltinelibrary.org  
Hours: M/W/F 1-7 TU/TH 10-5 Sa 10-1



**James Prendergast Library Association**  
509 Cherry St. Jamestown 14701  
716-484-7135 • prendergastlibrary.org  
Hours: M/TU/W/TH/F 9-7 Sa 10-4  
**Book Club:** 2nd Wed. 5:30 (at Labyrinth)  
**Storytime:** Tues. 10:30am, Wed.  
10:30am, Tues. 9:30 Lapsit (non-walkers)



**Kennedy Free Library**  
649 Second St. Kennedy 14747  
716-267-4265 • kennedyfreelibrary.org  
Hours: TU/W/F 9-7 TH 9-5 Sa 9-12



**Lakewood Memorial Library**  
12 W Summit St. Lakewood 14750  
716-763-6234 • www.lakewoodlibrary.org  
Hours: M/TU 10-5 W/TH 10-7  
F 10-6 Sa 10-2



**Mary E Seymour Memorial Library (Cassadaga and Stockton)**  
Stockton Branch :  
22 North Main St. Stockton 14784  
Hours: TU/TH 12-6 Sa 10-2  
Cassadaga Branch:  
18 Maple Ave Cassadaga 14718  
Hours: M/W/F 12-6 Sa 10-2  
716-595-3822  
www.stocktonlibraries.org  
**Storytime:** 2nd Sat. 11 am



**Mayville Library**  
92 South Erie St Mayville 14757  
716-753-7362 • mayvillelibrary.com  
Hours: M 10-6 TU/F 11-5 W 10-5  
TU 11-7 Sa 10-1



**Minerva Free Library (Sherman)**  
116 Miller St. Sherman 14781  
716-761-6378 • www.minervalibrary.org  
Hours: M 10-4 TU 3-8 TH 9-8 Sa 9-12



**Myers Memorial Library (Frewsburg)**  
23 Ivory St Frewsburg 14738  
716-569-5515 • www.myerslibrary.org  
Hours: M/TU/W/TH/F 10-1; 3-6 Sa 10-2  
**Storytime:** Thurs. 10 am  
**Book Club:** After-hours book club 6pm



**Patterson Library (Westfield)**  
40 South Portage St. Westfield 14787  
716-326-2154 • www.pattersonlib.org  
Hours: M/W/F 10-6 TU/TH 10-8 Sa 10-2  
**Storytime:** Thurs. 10:15 am Ages 0-3 Fri.  
10:30 am Ages 3-5  
**Book Club:** Best Sellers BC 1st Tues. 6:30 pm, Book Talk 2nd Thurs 4pm, Mystery BC 3rd Wed. 4 pm



**Ripley Public Library**  
64 W. Main St. Ripley 14775  
716-736-3913 • www.ripleylibrary.org  
Hours: M/W/F 10-5 TU/TH 10-7-30 Sa 9-2  
**Storytime:** Thurs. 10:15 am Ages 0-3 Fri.  
10:30 am Ages 3-5  
**Book Club:** First Monday 5:30 pm



**Sinclairville Free Library**  
15 Main St. Sinclairville 14782  
716-962-5885 • sinclairvillelibrary.org  
Hours: M/TH 2-7 W 9-5 F 10-4 Sa 10-1



**Smith Memorial Library (Chautauqua)**  
21 Miller Ave Chautauqua 14755  
716-357-6296  
www.chq.org/visit/resources/smith-memorial-library  
Hours: Sept – June M 12-6 W/F 10-5 Sa 10-3 Su 12-3  
June 21- Aug 24 M/TU/W/TH/F 9-5 Sa 9-3 Su 12-3

## Hazeltine Public Library Spring 2026 Free Author Series

Contributed by  
**Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System**

Hazeltine Public Library is pleased to announce the popular author series will begin April 6 and continue each Monday evening until May 18. Held in the Community Building at the HPL at 6:30 PM each Monday, authors will read from their work, talk about the process of writing, answer questions, and have their books available for sale and signing.

The first evening will feature a new author, Nick Smith, on April 6. A native of Bristol, England, is a bestselling author, film director, producer and actor who now lives in Western New York.

Milk Treading, the first novel in Nick's Whiskers in the Dark series, has been featured on NPR's All Things Considered, translated into Italian, adapted into an Edinburgh Fringe Festival play, and praised by the New York Times, Tod Goldberg, Jilly Cooper and David Letterman.

Arlene Coulter joins us on April 13. A native of the Washington, D.C., suburbs, A.K. She has just released Windblown, the first in a series of four books following members of a Special Ops team as they make their transitions from military careers to civilian life. One of the overarching themes is that you don't have to be heroic to make a difference in your family, in your community, and in your world.

Returning author Jason Bussman is featured on April 20. His career has included newspaper copy editor, high school teacher and he currently teaches writing at SUNY Fredonia and St. Bonaventure University. His memoir – Fumble – expands on those themes and gives us a humorous look into growing up in the 80s and 90s and navigating the challenges of being a dad and husband.

April 27 features a new author Carrielynn Hutchinson. Carrielynn is a local indie author and the creator of the Mill Wheel Mysteries, a cozy mystery series set in a charming small town where secrets simmer beneath

the surface and community ties run deep. As an independent author, she oversees every aspect of her books—from writing and editing to publishing and reader engagement—making her journey both creative and entrepreneurial.

TJ Buck will join us on Monday, May 4. Buck, a Falconer native, has worked for newspapers in Albany, Saranac Lake, and Glendale, New York, as well as publications in Arizona for more than 25 years. His novel, Beyond the Pale was set in Boston and Belfast; combining crime and politics.

Historian Pamela Brown is the featured speaker for May 11. Brown is the appointed historian for three municipalities in Chautauqua County; the Village of Panama and the Towns of Harmony and North Harmony and is the volunteer librarian, archivist and collections manager at Harmony Historical Society in Blockville, NY. She will share local history with us through her book: Legacy of Labor: The Story of the Only Conservation Corps Camp in Chautauqua County, New York. This is a compelling and heartfelt account of a unique chapter in local and national history. The book meticulously chronicles the story of the lone Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp established near Panama in Chautauqua County during the Great Depression,

Our final evening, May 18 features a returning author Lana Keller who brings uplifting and comforting messages through her poetry. Keller, a native of WNY, has recently retired and can now work more on her poetry. She has written poetry for several decades – often touching on everyday topics and occurrences that have inspired her.

Copies from each author will be for sale on their evening, as well as available to borrow through the library. Reservations are not required, off-street parking is available, and the Community Building is accessible.

Feel free to call the library at 716.487.1281 if you have any questions about the venue or the author series or in general. We look forward to welcoming you to the Hazeltine Public Library.

Get to Know  
Your Local

LIBRARY

ABC

# LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

## Bemus Point Library

*Contributed by*  
**Chautauqua-Cattaraugus  
 Library System**

The Bemus Point Public Library began with an idea from Mrs. Elizabeth Bemus in 1907, with the donation of a piece of land next to her home on Center Street! She also lent money for the building and materials, which, in turn, put the entire village in a generous gi-

ving mood. The Library officially opened its doors in December 1908 with Mrs. Bemus as head librarian. In 1910, an official charter was issued. In 1959, a children's room was added in the basement. When the Chautauqua/Cattaraugus Library was established in 1969, the library became a participating member, benefiting from support and training. After an extensive fundraising effort and a generous residents' workforce, the library moved to its current location at 13 Main Street, having purchased the former Clu-

brooms from the Bemus Point Fire Department. Throughout the years, the library has been an extremely important community gathering place.

Over the decades, the library has gone from the card catalog into the digital age, expanding reading materials, movies, audiobooks, and even a telescope that can be checked out with your library card. In recent years, the library has vastly increased in programs for community members, such as book clubs,

author talks, computer help, gardening talks, origami classes, tutoring center, rug hooking groups, book sales, the Art Trails, & Art Mobile, children's programs, as well as story hour for toddlers. Alongside Bemus' residents, the Library is a true gift to the community.

Stop in today to say hello and check out all the great material and resources available with your library card. No matter your need, the Bemus Point Library staff will be there to help.

13 Main St, Bemus Point, NY 14712 • 716-386-2274  
 Shannon Donovan • [director@bemuspointlibrary.org](mailto:director@bemuspointlibrary.org)  
[bemuspointlibrary.org](http://bemuspointlibrary.org)



## SPECIAL EVENTS IN APRIL

**PRENDERGAST LIBRARY:**

**Tuesdays | 5:30 PM**

Curiosity Club: Tuesdays, 5:30 April will welcome the Society for Creative Anachronism to teach patrons about medieval dance, armor making, medieval cooking, woodworking, calligraphy and more

**Tuesday, April 7  
 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM**

Tween Tuesday. Drop in to learn DnD, or just hang out and eat snacks

**Tuesday, April 9 | 2:30 PM**

UV Resin: Teens and adults can join to learn how to make resin objects like jewelry, bookmarks and keycaps

**Tuesday, April 11  
 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM**

Patchwork Bowl with Pearl City Clayhouse: Free program, but registration is required. Register by calling 716-484-7135 ext 2226

**Tuesday, April 22 | 5:30 PM**

Needle Felting: Teens and adults can join to learn how to use specialized barbed needles to interlock wool fibers, creating 3D Sculptures, shapes, or 2D designs

**Monday, April 6 - Friday, April 10**  
 Spring Break Programming

*Check out our programming calendar at [prendergastlibrary.org](http://prendergastlibrary.org) to view all the upcoming events!*

**PATTERSON LIBRARY:  
 Adult Programs:**

**Thursday, April 9 | 5:30 PM**  
 NEW! Concert Series: SUNY Fredonia Music Students

**Thursday, April 30 | 6:30 PM**  
 NEW! Embroidery for Beginners  
 Supplies included.

**Saturday, April 18  
 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**  
 NEW! Beginning Bead Weaving  
 Registration required/supplies included

**On Display through April 24**

Art in the Stacks: Nancy Wehr

**On Display through April 25**  
 OCTAGON GALLERY: Lark Milius  
**Children's Programs:**

**Saturday, April 18 | 11:00 AM**  
 Beyblade Tournament

**Saturday, April 25 | 11:00 AM**  
 Sensory Support with Mrs. Matthews: Learn about sensory differences, what they are, and how you can help your child in 3 sessions: Understanding Sensory; Movement & Regulation; and Sensory Support at Home. Registration required.

*For a full list of events:  
[www.pattersonlib.org](http://www.pattersonlib.org) or our FB page for pics!*

**MYERS MEMORIAL LIBRARY:**

**Saturday, April 18  
 10:30 AM-12 PM**  
 Drop-in Craft. Come join us to make a birdfeeder out of a recycled juice or milk carton.

**BOARD MEETINGS:**

*All open to the public*

**Ahira Hall Memorial Library**

3rd Friday of each month, 9:30 AM

**Bemus Point Public Library**

3rd Wednesday each month, 5:30 PM

**Darwin R Barker Library Association**

3rd Wednesday of each month, 4:00 PM

**Dunkirk Public Library**

4th Tuesday of odd months, 4:15 pm

**Hazeltine Public Library**

4th Tuesday of each month, 5:30 PM

**Myers Memorial**

3rd Tuesday of Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov,  
 6:30 PM

**Patterson Library**

2nd Thursday of Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov,  
 7:00 PM

**Prendergast Library Association**

3rd Thursday of even months, 5:15 PM

**Ripley Public Library**

4th Wednesday each month, 6:00 PM

# GRAPE DISCOVERY CENTER

grapediscoverycenter.com



## Opening for the Season: Thursday April 9th

*Contributed by*  
**Grape Discovery Center**



Concord Grape Belt Heritage Association, Inc., Westfield, NY recently held its Annual Meeting in preparation for this year's season opening. Held at its headquarters at the Grape Discovery Center (GDC), the official Visitor's Center for the NYS Lake Erie Concord Grape Belt Heritage Area, the association hosted fifty members and guests for a short business meeting, fittingly enough, on National Ag Day in March, followed by a presentation by Jennifer Phillips Russo of Cornell Cooperative Extension, and then refreshments.

As the Cornell Senior Viticulture Extension Specialist and Team Leader for the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program, Ms. Phillips Russo spoke

to the interested grape growers and business leaders about many of the factors affecting the grape industry in Western New York. In addition to collaborating with statewide and national partners to address industry challenges, Ms. Phillips Russo and her

team provides the industry with many tools to evaluate production strategies, improve profitability and adopt best management practices.

The Grape Discovery Center (GDC) exists to support and promote the grape

and wine industry and serves over 7,000 visitors each year. In addition to its interactive exhibits and museum, the GDC offers wine and juice tastings from over sixteen NY wineries and juice producers and a gift shoppe featuring many locally produced foods and unique artisanal items. The GDC also offers its tasing room for small groups and private parties.

Located at 8305 West Main Road (Rt.20) in Westfield, NY, the Grape Discovery Center can be found on Facebook or at [www.grapediscoverycenter.com](http://www.grapediscoverycenter.com) or contact manager, Lauri Lewis, at 716-326-2003. The Concord Grape Belt Heritage Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and welcomes volunteers to help in its ongoing mission to bolster and strengthen the Lake Erie Concord Grape Belt region of Western New York and Pennsylvania.

*Taste . Explore . Learn . Shop*



the official Visitor's Center for the  
NYS Lake Erie Concord Grape Belt Heritage Area  
We support and promote the Grape industry.  
Visit us and learn about

*all things Grape!*

- Tasting bar with wines from Lake Erie Wine Country
- Exhibit Room
- Family-friendly
- Tours offered for pre-booked groups
- Interactive Learning displays
- "Grapey" apparel, art, food, and so much more... all made by local artisans



**OPENING FOR THE SEASON: THURSDAY, MAY 9**

Regular hours:

Thursday, Friday & Saturday - 11am-5pm

Find us on Facebook

8305 West Main Road (Route 20) • Westfield, NY  
716-326-2003 • [www.grapediscoverycenter.com](http://www.grapediscoverycenter.com)

## LAKE ERIE WINE

### Trivia

1. How long is Lake Erie Wine Country from end to end?
2. What 1968 law helped wineries form in Pennsylvania?
3. What 1976 law helped wineries form in New York?
4. What type of industry did these laws help create?
5. What type of native grapes are still produced in the region today?
6. What type of climate does the Lake Erie Wine Country region have?
7. Which shoreline does the wine region primarily follow?
8. What is the most widely grown grape in the region?
9. What is the oldest and largest Concord grape-growing region in the world?
10. What Pennsylvania town marks the western end of the region?



1. 53 miles 2. Limited Winery 3. Farm Winery 4. Chateau Industry 5. Labrusca 6. Cool continental 7. Southern shore 8. Concord 9. The Concord Grape Belt 10. Harborcreek



# Cheers to 250

April 17-19

## CHEERS TO 250

### Celebrate America's Story with Wine, Food, and Connection

Contributed by

Lake Erie Wine Country

That's where the magic happens.

#### A Taste of Place

Each stop along the Lake Erie Wine Trail offers something unique. Every winery carries its own character, its own history, and its own approach to wine-making. Together, they reflect a region rooted in small-town charm, warm hospitality, and a deep sense of place.

But the experience doesn't end at the vineyard.

Visitors are encouraged to make a weekend of it. Stay at a historic bed and breakfast or unwind at a regional resort. Explore the natural beauty of Panama Rocks, or take in the cultural offerings of the National Comedy Center or the Roger Tory Peterson Institute. Spend an evening enjoying Erie's vibrant nightlife, browse local shops, or tour the area's historic lighthouses.

Your visit can be as relaxed or as full as you want it to be—each path offering its own rewards.

#### Craft, Climate, and Quality

Lake Erie Wine Country is uniquely suited to producing exceptional wines. The region's Germanic microclimate supports a wide variety of grapes, allowing local winemakers to craft reds, whites, and blush wines ranging from

#### EVENT DETAILS

Cheers to 250 runs:

- Friday, April 17: 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- Saturday, April 18: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Sunday, April 19: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Tickets are available now at: [www.lakeeriewinecountry.org/events](http://www.lakeeriewinecountry.org/events)

- Three-Day Ticket: \$45
- Two-Day Ticket (Friday & Sunday): \$35
- Mocktail Ticket: \$20

Each ticket includes a food and wine pairing at every participating winery, along with a keepsake wine glass (included with standard tickets). Mocktail ticket holders will enjoy a specially crafted non-alcoholic beverage and food pairing experience at each stop.

#### PARTICIPATING WINERIES:

- 21 Brix Winery
- Arrowhead Wine Cellars
- Burch Farms and Country Market
- Cellar '54
- Courtyard Winery
- Driftwood Wine Cellars
- Johnson Estate Winery
- Lakeview Wine Cellars
- Liberty Vineyards and Winery
- Mazza Chautauqua Cellars/ Five and 20 Spirits and Brewing
- Mazza Vineyards
- Noble Winery
- Presque Isle Wine Cellars
- South Shore Wine Company
- Yori Wine Cellars and Brewing Co.

This spring, Lake Erie Wine Country invites you to raise a glass to something bigger than just a weekend outing. Cheers to 250, taking place April 17-19, is a celebration of America's 250th birthday—an opportunity to gather, reflect, and celebrate the people, places, and traditions that define our nation.

As communities across the country begin marking this historic milestone, Cheers to 250 offers the perfect way to kick off the season—with wine, traditional American fare, and, most importantly, one another.

#### A Celebration Built on Connection

At its heart, wine country has never been just about the wine.

It begins with who you bring along. Friends, family, partners—those closest to you become part of the experience. Over the course of the weekend, as you visit 15 participating wineries, you'll share conversations, laughter, and moments that linger long after the last glass is poured.

And then there are the people you meet along the way. Fellow travelers discovering a new favorite vintage. Tasting room staff eager to share the stories behind each bottle. Wine country is, above all, a social experience—one where connections form easily and where the simple act of sharing a glass becomes something memorable.

sweet to dry.

And while the region's charm is unmistakably local, its wines have earned recognition far beyond it. From the Decanter Awards to the Los Angeles International Wine Competition and others, Lake Erie wines have stood shoulder to shoulder with some of the finest in the world.

But awards only tell part of the story.

What truly matters is what happens in the tasting room—when knowledgeable staff guide you to a wine that suits your palate perfectly. In the end, the only award that counts is your enjoyment.

#### Raise a Glass

As we approach America's 250th birthday, Cheers to 250 is more than an event—it's an invitation.

An invitation to celebrate history not as something distant, but as something lived—through shared meals, shared stories, and shared experiences. An invitation to honor the spirit of community that continues to shape this country.

So gather your people. Explore the region. Meet someone new. Discover a wine you love.

And raise your glass—to the journey, to the moment, and to the place we all call home.



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# Cheers to 250

## April 17-19

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# Cheers to 250

April 17-19

## Lake Erie Wine Country: Why a Visit should be in your future

### Continued from Front Page

becomes something you carry with you. Something you remember.

#### A Place People Return To

Did you know that roughly 75% of our guests are repeat visitors?

If you haven't made the trip yet, that might make you wonder what you're missing.

Our returning guests come back to something familiar. They see faces they recognize—from past events, from tasting rooms—and pick up conversations where they left off. They reconnect, compare notes, and rediscover places they've come to love.

It's a return to somewhere that feels, in its own way, like home.

And for first-time visitors? You're not missing out—you're beginning something. You're starting a new chapter, one that you can return to and build on over time.

Like coming home for the first time.

"But I Don't Like Wine..."

That's okay. In fact, that's part of the fun.

I once brought my son on a wine tour. He told me up front he didn't like wine—but he'd come along anyway. In our first stop, the staff didn't ask what he should like. They asked what he did like. Sweet or dry? Bright or smooth? Familiar flavors or something new?

They guided him—not to a textbook answer, but to his own preferences.

And something interesting happened.

He slowed down. He paid attention. He tasted with intention.

By the end of the day, he wasn't just leaving with three bottles of wine—he was leaving with a new way of experiencing things. A way of noticing what he enjoys and allowing that to matter.

That's the real discovery.

#### More Than Wine



And wineries don't have to be your only destination.

Why not pair a tasting with nine holes of golf? Or a walk through Panama Rocks, where that same heightened awareness lets you appreciate nature more fully?

Lake Erie Wine Country isn't a

checklist. It's a landscape—a garden of experiences.

Why visit the roses and ignore the orchids?

When you're here, you're surrounded by culture, history, and opportunity. Spend time at the National Comedy Center and share a laugh that becomes part of your memory. Stay at a historic bed and breakfast and enjoy the charm of another era. Or choose a modern resort and unwind in comfort.

Step outside the current of daily life—and then choose, intentionally, how you want to spend that time.

Because those choices are what make a visit special.

#### The Wine Still Matters



So the wine isn't the point?

Let's not get carried away.

If the wine weren't good, everything else would feel a little less special. Fortunately, that's not a concern here.

Lake Erie Wine Country's winemakers take the fruit of this region and craft wines that range from simple and familiar to complex and contemplative. A crisp white for a relaxed afternoon. A bold red for a long dinner with someone you care about.

Wine isn't just good or bad—it's what suits the moment. And when the wine fits, the moment becomes something more.

Whether you know a great deal about wine or almost nothing, you already have everything you need: a palate and a point of view.

No expertise required. Just attention.

As the saying goes, only a fool takes his pleasures lightly.

#### Why You Should Visit

Why should you visit Lake Erie Wine Country?

Because relationships deepen when you give them time and space.

Because shared experiences—especially simple ones—have a way of reminding us that life still holds joy.

Because when you slow down and pay attention, the world feels richer.

And because you'll be glad you did.

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www.burchfarmscountrymarketandwinery.com



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250-acre farm. They boast one of the region's largest winery gift shops, featuring unique gifts from around the world. Plenty of free parking and fully handicap accessible. Buses are welcome by appointment. **W+V**  



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Cellar '54 is a family-owned and operated winery with vineyards dating back to 1954. Making your way down the drive you will be welcomed by vineyards and serene countryside where you can enjoy a glass of wine in a peaceful environment. Being a new winery, our wine list is still growing from traditional premium dry wines to uniquely named sweet wines. Come sip with us and be treated like Cellar '54 family! Located one block south of Route 20 on W. Law Road between Brickyard and Mooreheadville Road. Visit our website or social media for updates on special events. Please call or visit our website for hours. **W+V**  

## COURTYARD WINERY

10021 West Main Road (Route 20) • North East, PA  
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*Capture the Essence, From Vineyard to Vintage.* Courtyard Winery is in the heart of Lake Erie Wine Country on Route 20 in the historic town of North East, PA. From growing grapes to pressing freshly harvested fruit right off the vine, fermenting, barrel aging and bottling, we do it all. We specialize in small lot, hand-crafted award-winning wines. Enjoy a flight of wine or a locally handcrafted beer. Our "Vineyard Veranda" patio awaits during the warmer months. Visit our website for a full menu of experiences. **W+V**   

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814-347-5292 • [www.driftwoodwinecellars.com](http://www.driftwoodwinecellars.com)



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**TR** 

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# Cheers to 250

April 17-19


### LAKEVIEW WINE CELLARS

8440 Singer Road • North East, PA  
814-725-4440 • [www.lakeviewwinecellars.com](http://www.lakeviewwinecellars.com)



Lakeview Wine Cellars, located in the center of Lake Erie Wine Country, is a small boutique winery that produces limited selections of premium wines

made from local grapes. Our rolling vineyards and stunning views of Lake Erie make Lakeview a great place to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy a glass or bottle of wine in the peaceful surroundings. **Handicap Accessible. Groups of 8-15 reservations requested in advance. No buses.**

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### MAZZA VINEYARDS

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814-725-8695 • [www.enjoymazza.com](http://www.enjoymazza.com)



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growers in the Lake Erie Wine Region to craft only the finest wines at our winery. Enjoy a tasting flight or glass in our Mediterranean style tasting room. Outdoor seating available seasonally. Open 7 days a week with extended summer hours, please visit our website for more info. Our wines are also available on our website. **W+V**   

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**W+V**    

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Sunday: 11:00am - 5:00pm



### Legend to Wineries:

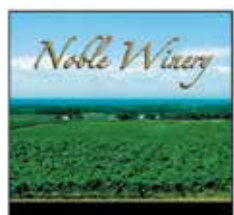
**W** | Winery (Produces & bottles wine; Tasting room) **V** | Vineyards **TR** | Tasting Room Only **B** | Brewery **C** | Cidery **D** | Distillery **M** | Meadery




*Cheers to* **250**  
April 17-19

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Noble Winery is lifelong dream come true for the owner. Our winery sits on the hill overlooking a spectacular view of vineyards and Lake Erie. This family-friendly farm winery produces a variety of wine to please

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history, premium crafted wines and tranquil grounds with vineyards, woods and waterfalls make us a must stop along your trail. Visit our cozy tasting room and have a memorable creekside wine picnic. The Isle House is home to our tasting room, featuring wine, wine slushies, and local craft beer. Visit our website for our current hours and upcoming special events. **W+V+C**   



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*Photo Credit: VisitErie*



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## CASA of Chautauqua Invites Community to Stand Up for Children During Child Abuse Prevention Month



Blue pinwheels symbolize hope and prevention during **Child Abuse Prevention Month**. The **Pinwheels for Prevention** campaign raises awareness about child abuse and neglect and encourages communities to take action to support children and families.

*Contributed by*  
**CASA of Chautauqua County**

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and CASA of Chautauqua County is calling on residents across the county to take action in support of children who have experienced abuse or neglect.

At any given time, approximately 100 children in Chautauqua County are living in foster care through no fault of their own. Across the nation—and locally—factors such as substance use and shifting socioeconomic conditions are contributing to an increased strain on the child welfare system. These challenges can have lasting impacts on children’s emotional well-being, education, brain development, and long-term stability.

Many foster youth are also aging out of the system without permanent homes or the support systems they need to succeed in adulthood. As these challenges grow, the need for dedicated advocates for children in foster care continues to rise.

CASA of Chautauqua County works to meet that need by recruiting, training, and supporting volunteers who advocate for children involved in Family Court due to abuse or neglect. These volunteers build relationships with the children they serve and work alongside professionals in the child welfare system to ensure each child’s best interests are represented in court and in the community. Locally, CASA volunteers are part of a national network of more than 93,000 advocates serving children across the country.

Throughout April, CASA of Chautauqua County invites community members to participate in the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign, a national awareness initiative created by Prevent Child Abuse America that encourages communities to turn awareness into action for children and families.

Community members are invited to attend the Pinwheels for Prevention planting ceremony on Friday, April 17 at noon on the front lawn of the Town of Chautauqua Municipal Building, located at 2 Academy Street in Mayville. The event will bring together county officials, CASA staff, volunteers, board members, and community partners to recognize Child Abuse Prevention Month and highlight ways residents can support vulnerable children and families.

Throughout April, pinwheels will also appear across Chautauqua County at local financial institutions, convenience stores, markets, restaurants, gas stations, libraries, and other participating businesses. Community members can show their support by purchasing a pinwheel for \$2 or a pinwheel card for \$1. A full list of participating locations is available at [ChautauquaCASA.com](http://ChautauquaCASA.com).

“Every child deserves to feel safe, supported, and heard,” said Kathy Park, Executive Director of CASA of Chautauqua County. “CASA volunteers step into a child’s life during an incredibly difficult time and become a consistent voice advocating for their best interests. That kind of support can change the trajectory of a child’s life.”

Research shows that children with a CASA volunteer spend 20 percent less time in foster care on average compared to children without a CASA advocate. They are also more likely to receive critical services and four times more likely to find safe, permanent homes.

Funds raised through the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign directly support CASA’s mission to train and support 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.

## Jerry Seinfeld, Bert Kreischer, Seth Meyers Headline National Comedy Center's Annual Festival August 6-9



*Contributed by*  
**National Comedy Center**

The National Comedy Center, the United States’ museum and national archive dedicated to the art form of comedy, announced today that **Jerry Seinfeld**, **Bert Kreischer** and **Seth Meyers** will headline its annual comedy festival, held in Jamestown, New York, August 6 – 9, 2026.

For the first time, this year’s festival features three major headlining comedians performing in the arena. Additional talent will be featured in stand-up showcases and late-night comedy shows throughout the festival. Jerry Seinfeld will headline on Thursday, August 6; Bert Kreischer will take the stage on Saturday, August 8; and Seth Meyers will perform on Sunday, August 9. A mainstage Stand-Up Showcase on Friday, August 7, and showcases throughout the festival will feature a lineup of talent from across the country.

“The National Comedy Center’s museum and archive were established to celebrate the art form’s distinct voices and contributions throughout time, and this year’s festival brings together artists who represent distinct approaches to the craft. I love that audiences can experience the best of live comedy while connecting it to the larger story we preserve and share every day in Jamestown,” said Journey Gunderson, Executive Director.

Announced headlining performances include:

- Thursday, August 6 at 7:00 p.m. – Jerry Seinfeld (Northwest Arena)
- Friday, August 7 at 7:00 p.m. – Stand-Up Showcase (Reg Lenna Center for The Arts)
- Saturday, August 8 at 7:00 p.m. and

- 9:30 p.m. – Bert Kreischer (Northwest Arena)
- Sunday, August 9 at 5:00 p.m. – Seth Meyers (Northwest Arena)

“Our festival has grown into one of the premier comedy events in the country, and this year’s lineup reflects that momentum,” said Malachi Livermore, National Comedy Center Vice President of Programming & Guest Experiences. “With three of today’s top artists and an expanded slate of performances across the city, anchored by the award-winning museum, the multi-day experience brings audiences closer to comedy’s biggest stars and rising talent.”

Tickets for headlining performances and festival events will go on pre-sale for National Comedy Center members beginning Monday, April 27 at 12 p.m. ET, with tickets on sale to the general public beginning Friday, May 1 at 12 p.m. ET at [ComedyCenter.org](http://ComedyCenter.org).

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](http://ComedyCenter.org/membership) or call the National Comedy Center at 716-484-2222.

Additional artists scheduled to appear include comedian, writer, producer and Emmy Award-winner **Carol Leifer**, whose credits include Seinfeld, Curb Your Enthusiasm, Saturday Night Live, Modern Family, and Hacks, plus America’s Got Talent finalist **Gina Brillon** (Jimmy Kimmel Live!, Late Night with Seth Meyers, NBC’s Stand up for Diversity Showcase), **Ian Lara** (The Tonight Show, Comedy Central, HBO MAX), **Jenny Zigrino** (CONAN, Comedy Central, MTV, Netflix is a Joke,

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 26**



# HEALTHYCHQ



## A Community Transformed: The 2026 "Mission Possible" Wellness Symposium

Contributed by

**Southwestern Independent Living Center, Inc**

The spirit of collaboration was on full display at the 8th Annual Southwestern Independent Living Center, Inc. (S.I.L.C.) Family, School, and Community Connections Symposium, along with the Brocton Central School District Rural Mobile Medical Unit Health and Wellness Initiative Event. This year's event, themed "Mission Possible," proved that when a community unites, there is no limit to what can be achieved. Building on the momentum of receiving the prestigious 2025 Champions of Change Award from the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA), the partnership between the school district and the Southwestern Independent Living Center (S.I.L.C.) reached an inspiring new milestone.

The growth of this initiative has been nothing short of remarkable. What began in 2018 with just 25 service providers has evolved into a powerhouse of support and resources. This year's symposium shattered previous records, hosting 87 service providers and highlighting 112 unique programs. The true success, however, was measured by the people: 429 attendees consisting of service providers, residents, and children who filled the halls, auditorium, nurses station, and gymnasium, engaging with vital services and connecting with their neighbors. To ensure that every member of the community could participate, the organizers even coordinated free transportation through CHQ Transit, removing any barrier to entry to this free event!

In a historic addition to this year's lineup, the Chautauqua County Association of Educational Office Professionals (CCAEO) hosted its very first professional development session during the day. Titled "The Secretary's Toolkit: Building Your Google Command Center," the workshop made history by welcoming 33 secretaries from across Chautauqua County. By focusing on streamlining digital workflows and mastering organizational tools, the session empowered these essential

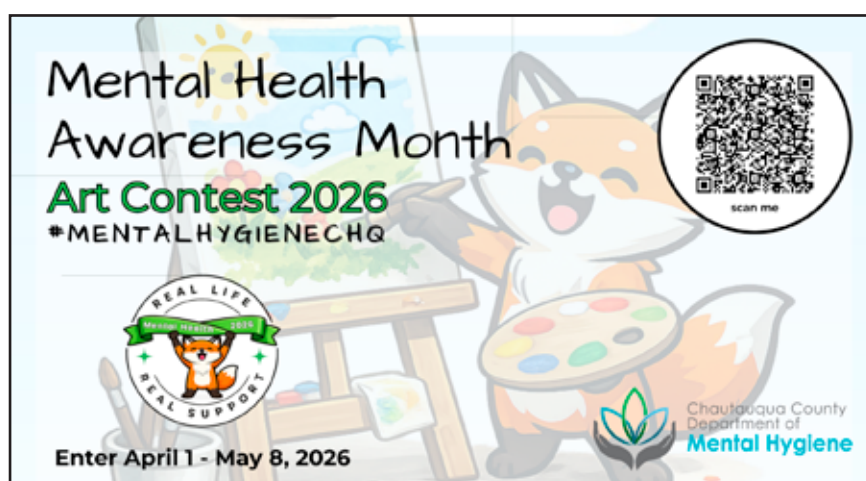


school professionals to return to their districts with a modernized "command center," proving that the mission of growth and excellence extends to every level of educational support.

The day also functioned as a hub of learning and empowerment for the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

## Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene Invites Community to Participate in 2026 Mental Health Awareness Month Art Contest



Contributed by

**Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene**

The Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene is excited to announce the return of its annual Mental Health Awareness Month Art Contest, open for submissions as of April 1, 2026.

This year's contest is part of the county's broader Mental Health Awareness Month campaign, "Real Life. Real Support. Support looks different for everyone." Community members of all ages are invited to share their creativity and perspective through art that reflects what support, hope, and mental wellness look like in real life.

Submissions will be accepted from

April 1 through May 8, 2026. Selected winners will be recognized and receive themed prizes celebrating the importance of mental health and community support.

"This contest is a powerful way to lift up voices across our community," said Trish McClennan, Deputy Director of the Department of Mental Hygiene. "Art helps us express what can sometimes be hard to put into words, and reminds us that support comes in many forms. We are excited to bring this back to the community this year." Participants can find full contest details and submission information by scanning the QR code on promotional materials or in the Mental Health Awareness Month Toolkit.

Follow along and join the conversation using #MentalHygieneCHQ.

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53

19



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# HEALTHYCHQ



## Tobacco-Free Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany (TF-CCA) Amplifies National Drug Facts Week to Confront Youth Nicotine Risks

*Contributed by*  
**Tobacco Free Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Allegany**

TF-CCA focuses on nicotine education—an urgent priority as today’s youth face an increasingly sophisticated and rapidly expanding array of nicotine products

Tobacco-Free CCA recently joined communities across the country in observing National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week (NDAFW), to empower young people in our communities with science-based information about nicotine and addiction. The organization is marking NDAFW through school-based educational sessions, interactive youth workshops and parent and caregiver outreach with a focus on the tobacco industry’s expanded reach through high-tech “smart” vapes, disposable e-cigarettes and flavored nicotine pouches.

“National Drug Facts Week is a good time to remember the horrific toll of tobacco industry marketing and nicotine addiction in our communities,” says Jonathan Chaffee, Reality Check Youth Coordinator for Tobacco-Free Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany (TF-CCA) “Nicotine is considered as addictive as, or more than, heroin and cocaine[MB1].”

Despite progress in youth vaping in New York State from 18.7% in 2022 to 13.1% in 2024, overall youth nicotine use continues at a dangerous rate. And youth use of nicotine pouches doubled during the same time period.

### An Evolving Nicotine Market

A 2026 Truth Initiative report shows that the nicotine industry has dramatically expanded its reach through high-tech “smart” vapes, disposable e-cigarettes, and flavored nicotine pouches. These products are aggressively marketed to youth by using digital features, bright packaging, and fruity flavors. About **32% of youth who use e-cigarettes reported using “smart” vapes in the past month**, highlighting a growing trend that blends nicotine with interactive technology.

Sales of flavored oral nicotine pouches—such as Zyn, Velo, and On!—nearly

tripled from 2023 to 2024, making them the fastest-growing nicotine product category in the U.S. Flavored varieties dominate youth use.

These shifts reinforce the importance of Tobacco-Free CCA’s mission to create environments where youth feel protected from targeted nicotine marketing and empowered to make tobacco- and nicotine-free choices.

### Youth Nicotine Use: Progress Plus Persistent Risks

According to data from the New York Youth Tobacco Survey (NY-YTS) youth e-cigarette use has declined significantly – from 18.7% in 2022 to 13.1% in 2024 – yet overall tobacco use remains a concern. Cigarette use remained low at 2.4%, showing promising long-term progress toward reducing combustible tobacco use.



CDC data show that **88.2% of high school students who used e-cigarettes in the**

**past 30 days chose flavored products**, demonstrating the industry’s continued reliance on flavors to hook young users.

### Key Facts Regarding Nicotine to Remember During Drug & Alcohol Facts Week

NDAFW, led by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), unites schools, health organizations, and prevention leaders to dispel myths about substance use and provide teens with factual, accessible information that supports healthier choices. Tobacco-Free CCA stresses these key facts about nicotine:

**Vaping and Addiction:** Many teens do not perceive vaping as addictive, yet nicotine products like JUUL and Zyn are highly addictive, and 55% of high school students in a 2023 survey did not see vaping as a high-risk activity.

**The “Gateway” Effect:** Using nicotine as an adolescent can alter the developing brain and may increase susceptibility for addiction to other substances, including alcohol and cannabis.

**Brain Development:** The teenage brain is particularly vulnerable to nicotine, which can disrupt brain development, affect memory and impact attention.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

## Cancer Prevention and Nutrition for Cancer Prevention Month

*Contributed by*  
**Ellen Colasuonno, MS RDN**  
Nutrition & Wellness Educator  
CHQ County Office for the Aging

March was Cancer Prevention Month, a time to focus on the steps we can take to support our health at every age. While the risk of cancer increases as we get older, research shows that healthy lifestyle choices still play an important role in prevention. Nutrition, physical activity, and regular screenings all work together to reduce risk and support healthy aging.

There is no single food that prevents cancer, but overall eating patterns matter. Diets rich in vegetables, fruits, whole grains, and beans are linked with a lower risk of several types of cancer. These foods provide fiber, vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants that help protect our cells and support the immune system. Aim to fill half your plate with fruits and vegetables and include a variety of colors throughout the week.

Limiting processed and red meats is also an important step. Foods such as bacon, sausage, hot dogs, and deli meats have been linked to an increased risk of colorectal cancer. Choosing more poultry, fish, eggs, or plant-based proteins like beans and lentils can support both heart health and cancer prevention.

Maintaining a healthy weight is another key factor. Excess body weight is associated with several cancers, including breast and colorectal cancer. Balanced meals, regular movement, and mindful portions can help support a healthy weight over time.

Alcohol is another area to consider. Even small amounts can increase the

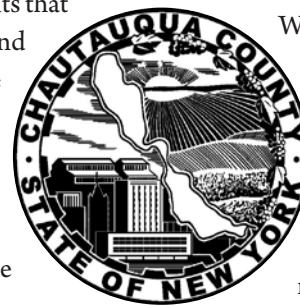
risk of certain cancers. If you choose to drink, following recommended limits can help reduce that risk.

Nutrition works best when combined with physical activity. Regular movement, such as walking, gardening, or participating in a senior exercise class, can lower cancer risk, improve strength and balance, and support overall well-being. The goal is to stay as active as possible in ways that feel safe and enjoyable.

Prevention also includes early detection. Routine screenings can help find cancer at an earlier and more treatable stage. Talk with your healthcare provider about which screenings are right for you based on your age, health history, and risk factors.

We know the healthy choice is not always the easiest choice, but small changes can make a big difference. Try adding one extra serving of vegetables each day, replacing processed meats with beans once a week, or inviting a friend to take a walk. Aging services programs can also support your goals. Congregate meals, home delivered meals, nutrition counseling, and wellness programs are designed to help older adults stay healthy and connected.


Check out our website at <https://chqgov.com/office-aging> to see all the programs and services offered. Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services offers Nutrition & Wellness programs to support you in your journey toward total wellness. Call NY Connects at 716-753-4582 for more details and information about any of the Nutrition and Wellness programs provided by Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services.





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## TAX BREAKS AGING TAXPAYERS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR

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and choose this option when filing their returns.

### Reduce taxable income

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

### Changes in filing threshold

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

### Elderly or disabled tax credit

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

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

Growing older comes with many perks for those who are open to exploring the benefits. In addition to senior discounts on movies, meals and more, moving into one's golden years could offer some breaks when it comes to taxes and finances.

It is always best to go over tax- and finance-related plans with an accountant or certified financial planner to figure out what is in your best interest. However, generally speaking, here are some potential age-related tax perks.

### Increase retirement savings

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

### Larger standard deduction

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

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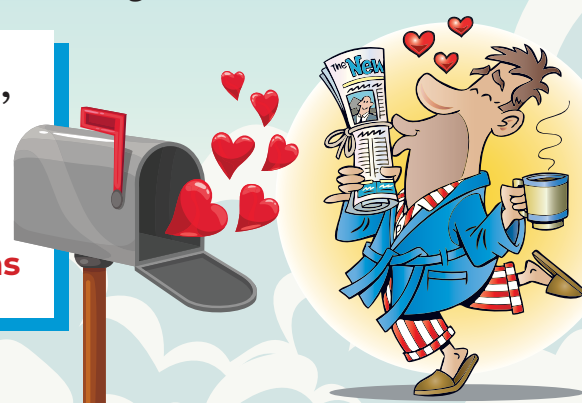
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## Tobacco-Free Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany (TF-CCA) Amplifies National Drug Facts Week to Confront Youth Nicotine Risks

*Continued from Page 22*

**Industry Tactics:** Tobacco companies are increasingly using social media influencers to target youth with new nicotine delivery systems.

**It's Not Just Cigarettes:** While cigarette smoking is a major concern, the rise of vaping and oral nicotine pouches require a broader focus on all nicotine products.

### Supporting NDAFW Through Local Action

Tobacco-Free CCA will honor National Drug Facts Week through:

- **School-based educational sessions** highlighting the science of nicotine addiction.
- **Parent and caregiver outreach** to support household conversations about nicotine.
- **Community partnerships** to promote healthy, tobacco-free norms.

### NYS Quitline is available to help.

Anyone who lives in New York State may contact the NYS Quitline by calling 1-866-NY-QUITS (1-866-697-8487). They can also visit nysmokefree.com to reach a specialist through an online chat, request a call-back or order free

nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) medications. The NYS Quitline additionally offers a variety of free texting programs for those seeking help at their fingertips. Learn2QuitNY and Vivir Sin Tobacco Es Vida (culturally tailored for Spanish-speaking communities) provide daily texts and weekly goals; text QUIT-NOW or DÉJELO YA NY to 333888 to register. The NYS Quitline's latest texting service, DropTheVape, supports young people and young adults in their efforts to overcome nicotine addiction. Registration and more information is available at DropTheVape.com.

### New York State's pledge to reducing smoking-related death and disease.

The New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Tobacco Control funds TF-CCA to increase support for New York State's tobacco-free norm through youth action and community engagement. Efforts are evidence-based, policy-driven, and cost-effective approaches that decrease youth tobacco use, motivate adult smokers to quit, and eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke. TF-CCA is a program of Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center.

## New Case Study Highlights Successes of CCPEG during Its Initial Five Years in Operation

**CCPEG helped advance 60+ projects and leveraged nearly \$50 for every \$1 of investment**

*Contributed by*  
**Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth**

The Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG) has released a new case study that illustrates how Chautauqua County is getting economic development projects across the finish line – faster, better coordinated, and with results people can see.

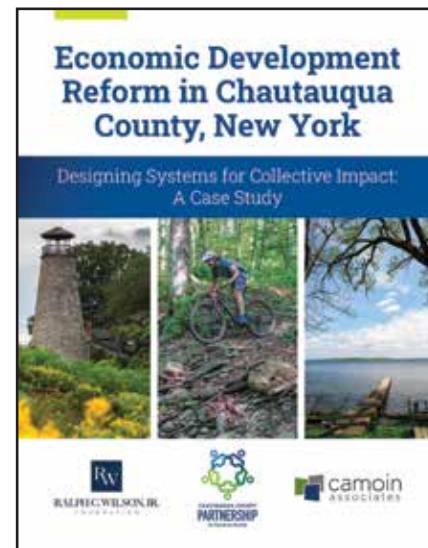
For years, economic development initiatives in the county were spread across many groups. This not only made it challenging to agree on priorities, but also created a situation where multiple groups were competing for limited funding. It also resulted in good ideas stalling before they became real projects. This case study, developed in collaboration with the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, Camoin Associates, and CCPEG/County Planning Staff, demonstrates how County leaders, the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA), and various community partners have been working together since 2019 to reduce fragmentation by building a shared structure for countywide collaboration through the launch of CCPEG.

One of the first initiatives of CCPEG was the creation of a County Economic Development Strategic Plan (2020–2025). The plan was organized around five pillars – Business Development, Placemaking, Infrastructure, Housing, and Workforce Readiness. This strategic plan has been the basis for how CCPEG has functioned and worked with dozens of partners from throughout Chautauqua County ever since.

“We realized that for decades, much of the economic development efforts occurring in Chautauqua County were being undertaken in silos, with stakeholders not always cooperating, or even aware, of what their counterparts were focusing on,” explained Mark Geise, Chautauqua County Deputy County Executive for Economic Growth and CCIDA CEO. “The main goal of the Partnership was to bring a wide array of economic development-related stakeholders to the table and help prioritize key projects in a coherent and methodical way. While we are always striving to improve upon our methods, we believe we’ve largely been able to achieve that goal, as evidenced through this new case study.”

### Major results: projects advanced and funding leveraged

As indicated in the new case study, from 2021 to 2025, CCPEG helped advance more than 60 community-based projects across Chautauqua County. These efforts included downtown revitalization in several communities,



support for small businesses attraction, workforce readiness projects, placemaking improvements, and initiatives that helped communities prepare for and leverage new housing and neighborhood investments.

A major driver of progress was the creation of a flexible tool entitled the Project Leveraging Fund (now known as the Economic Growth Fund or EGF), supported largely by the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation. The purpose was simple and practical - many local projects need early-stage resources for planning, design, engineering, and matching funds before larger state or federal funding can be secured.

The case study reports a clear outcome: for every \$1 spent from the EGF between 2021 and 2025, an additional \$46 was contributed by other public, nonprofit, and private sources. Project Leveraging Fund contributions ranged from \$4,000 to \$50,000, with an average of \$18,300 per project. The report notes that projects were reviewed and prioritized based on alignment with the county's strategic plan, readiness, sponsor capacity, feasibility, and the potential for meaningful economic and community impact.

After 6 years, CCPEG has helped leverage more than \$55 million in investments in local economic and community development projects across Chautauqua County.

The City of Dunkirk is one example of what can be accomplished when communities have the appropriate technical assistance at the appropriate time. After several years of unsuccessful applications, in 2023 Dunkirk secured \$10 million through New York State's Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI), supported by CCPEG technical assistance.

“The collaboration between the City of Dunkirk and CCPEG helped secure the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) award by providing additional design and engineering professionals to more fully develop projects, but that was only the beginning. It's the

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 25**



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- W.C. Fields



## New Case Study Highlights Successes of CCPEG during Its Initial Five Years in Operation

Continued from Page 24

close partnership that has helped to launch DRI projects... that will bring new, transformational development and investment to the City," said Vince DeJoy, City of Dunkirk Director of Development.

### People and place: talent, quality of life, and long-term growth

The case study also highlights a major step tied to the county's long-term workforce needs – attracting and retaining talent. A key game-changer, identified in the Economic Development Strategic Plan within the Workforce Readiness and Development category, was the recommendation of launching a talent retention and attraction initiative. That suggestion became a reality with the unveiling of the "Live CHQ" campaign. Launched in 2024, Live CHQ is a talent attraction marketing effort designed to draw new residents to consider Chautauqua County as a place to relocate to, and to appeal to workers to fill open job positions with employers across the county.

"The Live CHQ campaign is an important component of what we do. Economic development is not only about providing incentives to businesses to locate here or expand, creating shovel-ready sites, and/or trying to get buildings back into play. It is also about people – the workers employers need to run their businesses, the families looking for opportunity, and the young adults deciding where to build a life," Geise said.

The case study also points to placemaking strategies that strengthen quality of life and support local economies – including trail and outdoor space improvements, downtown revitalization efforts, complete streets programs, and waterfront activation initiatives. The report highlights trail improvements at Harris Hill State Forest as one example supported through the Project Leveraging Fund. It also notes that, as capacity increased, CCPEG was able to manage and coordinate a wider mix of funding streams tied to community-shaping work, including trail-related efforts.

A key takeaway from the case study is that implementation capacity is often the limiting factor. Communities can have solid ideas and strong local support, but still struggle to move forward without enough staff time, technical expertise, and project support. The re-

port describes how multi-year funding and dedicated capacity –

including CCPEG's small staff, as well as consultant relationships, have helped sustain progress and support hands-on work that moves projects across the development continuum from the ideation stage to implementation.

"This case study points to the value of staying aligned, investing in implementation capacity, and continuing to pursue measurable results that strengthen the economy and improve the quality of life across Chautauqua County," said Nathan Aldrich, Economic Development Coordinator for the County, CCIDA, and CREDC.

CCPEG and its partners are building on this progress as the county identifies its future priorities for 2026 through 2031. Those priorities will be included in an updated County Economic Development Strategic Plan, scheduled for release by early May of this year.

"It's important for us to have the analysis from this study completed and available, not only to help our own stakeholders see and understand the successes of CCPEG, but to also provide a helpful guide for other rural counties across Upstate New York, particularly in Western New York, who are struggling to improve and enhance their own local economies and communities with limited resources," concluded Josiah Lamp, CCPEG Program Manager

The complete case study can be found online at [CHQImpact.org](http://CHQImpact.org).

**About CCPEG** - *The Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG) serves as the main convener of economic development partners and resources to advance key projects that achieve economic prosperity in Chautauqua County. It also serves as the catalyst and broker of resources for advancing economic prosperity efforts and is the central coordinating entity for improving the quality of life in our communities, thereby attracting people and businesses to Chautauqua County to live, work, recreate, and invest. It is an initiative of the Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation (CREDC).*

For more information visit [CHQPartnership.org](http://CHQPartnership.org).



## SUDOKU

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

### Here's How It Works:

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

Level: Beginner

## CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10									
11					12										13				
14										15						16	17		
												19							20
					21			22							23				
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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	

### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Absence of difficulty
- 5. Preserve a dead body
- 11. Gratitude
- 14. The act of coming together again
- 15. More cushy
- 18. Visionaries
- 19. Large fish-eating bird
- 21. Indicates near
- 23. Former CIA and CIA critic
- 24. Icelandic poems
- 28. Pop
- 29. Hammer is one
- 30. Selfs
- 32. Thyroid-stimulating hormone
- 33. Nowhere to be found
- 35. Electronic data processing
- 36. Drivers' licenses and passports a two
- 39. Snake-like fishes
- 41. Air Force
- 42. Popular personal computers
- 44. Stages in ecological succession
- 46. Wings
- 47. In the center
- 49. Pleasantly smooth
- 52. Jeweled headdress
- 56. In slow tempo
- 58. \_\_\_ Falls
- 60. Reiterations
- 62. Eras
- 63. Hyphen

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Body part
- 2. Mimics
- 3. Expel or eject (variant sp.)
- 4. Sea eagle
- 5. Taxonomic category
- 6. Chinese languages
- 7. Mr. T's "A-Team" character
- 8. Consumed
- 9. Chinese dynasty
- 10. NFL legend Randy
- 12. Ireland
- 13. Palm trees with creeping roots
- 16. Fungal disease
- 17. Tall, slender-leaved plants
- 20. Affirmative! (slang)
- 22. It says who you are
- 25. Atlantic coast state
- 26. Grow older
- 27. Associations
- 29. Woman (French)
- 31. Sunscreen rating
- 34. Brew
- 36. Leader
- 37. Indigo bush genus
- 38. Burn with a hot liquid
- 40. Junior's father
- 43. Mackerel genus
- 45. Morning
- 48. Straight line from side to side (abbr.)
- 50. Type of molding
- 51. Small, thin or twisted bunch
- 53. Worn by exposure to the weather
- 54. Mars crater
- 55. Humanities
- 57. Relating to the ears
- 58. "To the \_\_\_ degree"
- 59. Residue when something is burn
- 61. It cools a home

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## Warren's Ruby Wiles on "Hope and Help"

Sometimes known as "the book lady," Ruby Wiles is the founder/director of Free Books for Kids Town in Warren, Pa. In 2017, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown presented Wiles with their T. Richard Parker Award for Social Justice for her program whose mission is children's literacy and education. The former Lutheran pastor now speaks monthly at the church at 1255 Prendergast Avenue in Jamestown. Her message for this Sunday, April 12, is "Hope and Help: Hope for those who suffered trauma and help for the rest of us." All are welcome to the 10:30 a.m. service and the coffee hour that follows. To participate virtually, use the link at [UUJamestown.org/calendar](http://UUJamestown.org/calendar). To learn more about Wiles' program, visit [www.FreeBooksKidsTown.com](http://www.FreeBooksKidsTown.com). To participate virtually, use the link at [UUJamestown.org/calendar](http://UUJamestown.org/calendar).



## Jerry Seinfeld, Bert Kreischer, Seth Meyers Headline National Comedy Center's Annual Festival August 6-9

*Continued from Page 18*

HBO), and **Drew Dunn** (The Tonight Show, Dry Bar, Don't Tell Comedy, Just For Laughs Comedy Festival), with more talent to be announced in the coming weeks at [ComedyCenter.org/festival](http://ComedyCenter.org/festival).

The festival will feature more than 50 live events over four days, including late-night comedy, block parties, live music and more – all part of a multi-day celebration of comedy's contemporary voices and rising talent. The full festival lineup will be announced in the coming weeks at [ComedyCenter.org/festival](http://ComedyCenter.org/festival).

"We've built this festival to offer something for every kind of comedy fan," added Livermore. "From nationally touring headliners to stand-up showcases featuring a wide range of distinct comedic voices, along with late-night shows, block parties and special events throughout the city – audiences can experience comedy in multiple ways across the entire weekend."



The 2026 festival marks the 35th anniversary of the event and the 30th anniversary of the Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum — a milestone year for comedy in Jamestown.

The festival, which each year sees more than 15,000 ticket buyers traveling from more than 40 states to Lucille Ball's hometown will also commemorate the 75th anniversary of I Love Lucy – the iconic series that forever shaped television comedy.

Recently named the "Best Pop Culture Museum in the country" by USA Today, and home to the Carl Reiner Department of Archives & Preservation, the National Comedy Center will be open throughout the festival, offering visitors an immersive, personalized experience featuring interactive exhibits celebrating comedy's greatest moments and creators.

Over its 35-year history, the Lucille Ball Comedy Festival has featured hundreds of artists in Jamestown, including Jon Stewart, Lily Tomlin, Nate Bargatze, John Mulaney, Trevor Noah, Bill Murray, Jim Gaffigan, Taylor Tomlinson, Jeff Foxworthy, Gabriel Iglesias, Jay Leno, Sebastian Maniscalco, Amy Schumer, Nicole Byer, David Spade, Margaret Cho, Brian Regan, Kevin Nealon, Ellen DeGeneres, Lewis Black, Michelle Wolf, Mark Normand, Sam Morrill, W. Kamau Bell, Paula Poundstone, Dan Aykroyd, Joan Rivers, Bob Newhart, The Smothers Brothers and many more.

### About the Headlining Artists

#### Jerry Seinfeld

Jerry Seinfeld's comedy career took off after his first appearance on The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson in 1981. Eight years later, he teamed up with Larry David to create Seinfeld, widely regarded as one of the most successful and influential comedy series in television history. The show ran for nine seasons, earning numerous

Emmy, Golden Globe and People's Choice Awards, and was later named the greatest television show of all time by TV Guide and the best sitcom ever in a 60 Minutes/Vanity Fair poll.

Seinfeld's recent Emmy-nominated Netflix projects include Jerry Before Seinfeld and 23 Hours to Kill, along with the acclaimed series Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee. He has also starred in, written and produced films including Comedian and Bee Movie, directed and produced the Broadway hit Colin Quinn: Long Story Short, and authored multiple best-selling books. He currently stars in the Emmy-nominated Netflix film Unfrosted, which he directed, co-wrote and produced, and continues to perform stand-up nationally and internationally.

#### Bert Kreischer

Bert Kreischer has evolved from Rolling Stone's "Number One Partier in the Nation" to one of the top-grossing stand-up comedians in the world – and a powerhouse entrepreneur, actor, producer, content creator and entertainment brand. Named by Forbes as "one of the best storytellers of his generation," Kreischer has parlayed his signature comedy and authenticity into a dynamic media empire.

His sixth Netflix special, Lucky, premiered in 2025 and debuted in Netflix's Top 10 most-watched shows. Through Berty Boy Productions, Kreischer oversees hit podcasts and series including Bertcast, Something's Burning and 2 Bears, 1 Cave (with Tom Segura), reaching millions of fans worldwide.

Kreischer is the founder of the Fully Loaded Comedy Festival and starred in and produced The Machine, a feature adaptation of his viral stand-up story. He also recently launched the Netflix series Free Bert, which quickly reached the platform's global Top 10. He is currently on his Permission to Party World Tour, performing to sold-out audiences around the world.

#### Seth Meyers

Seth Meyers is an Emmy Award-winning writer, New York Times bestselling author and host of Late Night with Seth Meyers since 2014.

Meyers began his career on Saturday Night Live, where he spent 13 seasons as a cast member, including nine seasons as head writer and eight seasons as anchor of "Weekend Update." He has earned 33 Emmy nominations for his work in television.

He has released two acclaimed stand-up specials – Lobby Baby and Seth Meyers: Dad Man Walking – and continues to perform stand-up nationwide. Meyers also co-headlines a residency with John Oliver in New York and collaborates on multiple podcasts with Andy Samberg, Akiva Schaffer and Jorma Taccone.

## Audubon Has Little Explorers and Spring Yard Sale This Weekend



At Audubon Community Nature Center's Little Explorers this Saturday, 10–11:30 a.m., you and your favorite 3 to 8-year-old(s) can learn about "Beavers, Muskrats, and More!" The beaver chew pictured is one of the results of their activities. You can reward Audubon's spring cleaning by coming to the Spring Yard Sale this weekend and giving a new home to items collected over the years – like office products, tools, equipment, and more. Payment is by donation. Saturday's sale hours are 10 a.m.– 4 p.m. and Sunday's are 1–4 p.m. Audubon is located at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown and Warren. To learn more, call (716) 569-2345 or visit [AudubonCNC.org/events](http://AudubonCNC.org/events).

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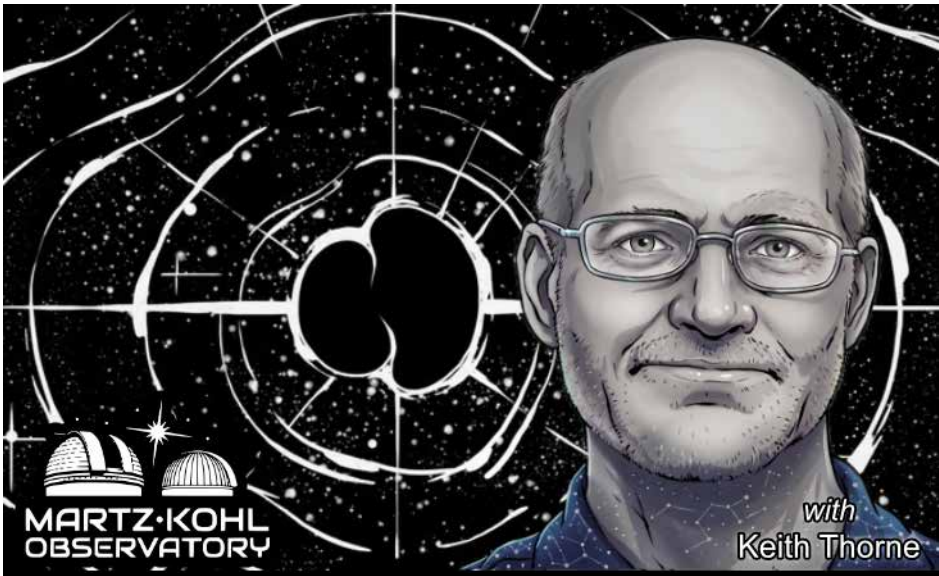
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Observatory Lecture Series

# Listening for Bumps in the Night

Discovering Gravitational Waves

Wednesday  
April 15, 2026  
7:30 PM

**Martz-Kohl Observatory**  
176 Robbin Hill Rd  
Frewsburg, NY 14738  
martzobservatory.org  
(716) 569-3689



## Listening for Bumps in the Night: Discovering Gravitational Waves



Credit: NASA/LIGO/Caltech

Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) Locations

The 2015 detection by LIGO, a joint venture between Caltech and MIT, provided the first direct evidence for Einstein's General Theory of Relativity, specifically confirming the existence of gravitational waves.

*Contributing Writer*

**Andy Felong**  
Public and Media Relations  
Martz-Kohl Observatory

Imagine the universe as a vast, silent ocean where the most violent events—the collision of massive black holes—send invisible "shudders" through the very fabric of space-time. To capture these faint whispers from the deep cosmos, the NSF Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) utilizes colossal laser detectors in Washington and Louisiana. These instruments are so sensitive they can detect movements smaller than the width of an atom. After a decade of refining this incredible technology, LIGO made history in 2015 by detecting a collision from 1.3 billion light-years away, forever changing how we explore the deepest mysteries of our universe.

We are delighted to host Keith Thorne on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 7:30 p.m., a research physicist who was at the heart of these historic astronomical breakthroughs. After earning his doctorate at Fermilab, Keith joined the LIGO collaboration in 2003 and eventually led the real-time controls and computing groups at the Livingston, Louisiana observatory. His technical leadership was instrumental in the first-ever detection of gravitational waves and the vital system upgrades that followed through 2024. Now retired in Wellsboro, PA, Keith remains

a pillar of the local astronomical community through his work with asteroid occultation observations.

This interactive session will be broadcast on our big screen at the Martz-Kohl Observatory and is also available to join online via Zoom. We encourage you to join us in person at the observatory to virtually meet Keith and participate in our always-lively Q&A session following the talk. If the weather permits, we will conclude the evening with guided tours and viewing opportunities through our premier telescopes. Please remember to dress for the elements; while our classroom is heated for your comfort, the observatory domes are not.

For more information and the Zoom link, please visit: [martzobservatory.org](http://martzobservatory.org)

The Martz-Kohl Observatory is managed by the Marshal Martz Memorial Astronomical Association, Inc., a non-profit organization comprised of amateur astronomers. The association is committed to observational astronomy, with a particular emphasis on educational outreach, citizen science initiatives, and the enjoyment derived from stargazing. The observatory is located at 176 Robbin Hill Rd, Frewsburg, NY 14738.

### A Community Transformed: The 2026 "Mission Possible" Symposium

*Continued from Page 19*

general public. Expert-led lectures took center stage, offering invaluable takeaways to a hybrid audience of local attendees and virtual participants alike. Highlights included deep dives into VA Healthcare and veteran outreach, essential strategies for preventing identity theft and elder abuse, and heart-centered discussions on "Nourishing the Garden of Neurodiversity." The inclusion of youth peer support programs and transition services for students with disabilities ensured that every generation felt seen and supported.

Finally, the symposium served as a massive, one-stop shop for health and wellness. The presence of the University of Buffalo Health on Wheels, the Vet Center, and the Fidelis mobile units brought high-quality care directly to the school parking lot. Inside, families took advantage of free hearing tests, dental screenings, and retinal exams. Beyond just check-ups, the event

provided tangible safety tools, such as children's safety equipment from Kaleida Health, and specialized genetic

testing for autoimmune diseases.

As the "Mission Possible" symposium concluded, the message was clear: this event is more than just a resource fair; it is a testament to the strength of Chautauqua County. By bringing veterans, seniors, students, and professionals together under one roof, Brocton CSD and S.I.L.C. have created a blueprint for community care. This year's success serves as a powerful reminder that while the challenges facing our families may be great, when we work together, change is always possible.

This event was sponsored by UPMC Chautauqua, M and T Bank Mayville, Kate Fryberger, Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union, Brocton Boosters, Prime Care Coordination, and Refresco. A heartfelt "Thank You" to all our sponsors!

The next event at Brocton Central School is scheduled for March 12, 2027. For more information, if you would like to be a sponsor or have a table at this event, please call Miss Judy Wroda at 716 450 3960.

### PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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M	C	E	G	O	S	T	S	H				
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E	P	O	C	H	S							

### PUZZLES ON PAGE 25



# COMMUNITY CORNER



## Funding Available to Local Teachers for Service-Learning Projects

*Contributed by*  
**Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation**

The Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation is accepting applications for the Service Learning Grants Program for the 2026-27 academic year. Service Learning is a teaching and learning method that connects classroom lessons to real-world, meaningful community service. Grants are available to support classrooms from 4th to 12th grade in northern Chautauqua County. Since its inception, the Service Learning Grants Program has provided over \$68,000 in funding for projects in seven area school districts.

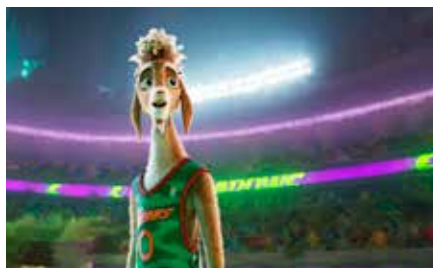
Local 4th-12th grade teachers are encouraged to apply for funding for projects in line with the program's goals. Classrooms from all disciplines have participated in the program, including art, social studies, trades, science, and more. Applications for Service Learning Grants will be accepted through April 17, 2026, with awards announced in June. Please visit [nccf-foundation.org/helping-nonprofits](http://nccf-foundation.org/helping-nonprofits) to download an application and pro-

gram guidelines, or to apply online. To learn more about the Service Learning Program or to support the program with a gift to NCCF's Community Funds, please visit [nccf-foundation.org](http://nccf-foundation.org), call 716-366-4892, or email [nccf@nccf-foundation.org](mailto:nccf@nccf-foundation.org).



*Since its incorporation in 1986, the NCCF has invested nearly \$25 million in northern Chautauqua County through strategic grantmaking, targeted scholarships, and leadership and community collaborations. The NCCF is a tax-exempt charitable organization inherently committed to enhancing the northern Chautauqua community and encouraging local philanthropy. As a nationally accredited community foundation, the NCCF has proven compliance with the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations, demonstrating integrity, equity, accountability, transparency, and effectiveness in meeting the needs of its community. For more information on the NCCF, visit [www.nccf-foundation.org](http://www.nccf-foundation.org) or call 716-366-4892.*

## Goat and Wuthering Heights to show at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts



*Contributed by*  
**Reg Lenna Center for the Arts**

Goat (Fri., April 3 at 7 p.m. & Mon., April 6 at 2 p.m.) follows Will, a small goat with big dreams who gets a once-in-a-lifetime shot to join the pros and play roarball – a high-intensity, co-ed, full-contact sport dominated by the fastest, fiercest animals in the world. Will's new teammates aren't thrilled about having a little goat on their roster, but Will is determined to revolutionize the sport and prove once and for all that "smalls can ball!" Goat is rated PG and is 100 minutes long.


Margot Robbie and Jacob Elordi star in Wuthering Heights, (Friday, April 10 at 7 p.m.) a passionate and tumultuous love story set against the backdrop of the Yorkshire moors, exploring the

intense and destructive relationship between Heathcliff and Catherine Earnshaw. Wuthering Heights is rated R and is 136 minutes long.

Upcoming Movies at The Reg include: the 2026 Academy Award winner for Best Documentary Feature Mr. Nobody Against Putin (April 15 at 7 p.m.)


Tickets for most Movies at The Reg are \$8 in-person at the box office and \$10 online ([reglenna.com](http://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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