



CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE



CHQgazette.com | L. Cornell and Company, LLC

We Love Our Lakes

Volume 2 • Issue 17 | Week of May 12, 2025

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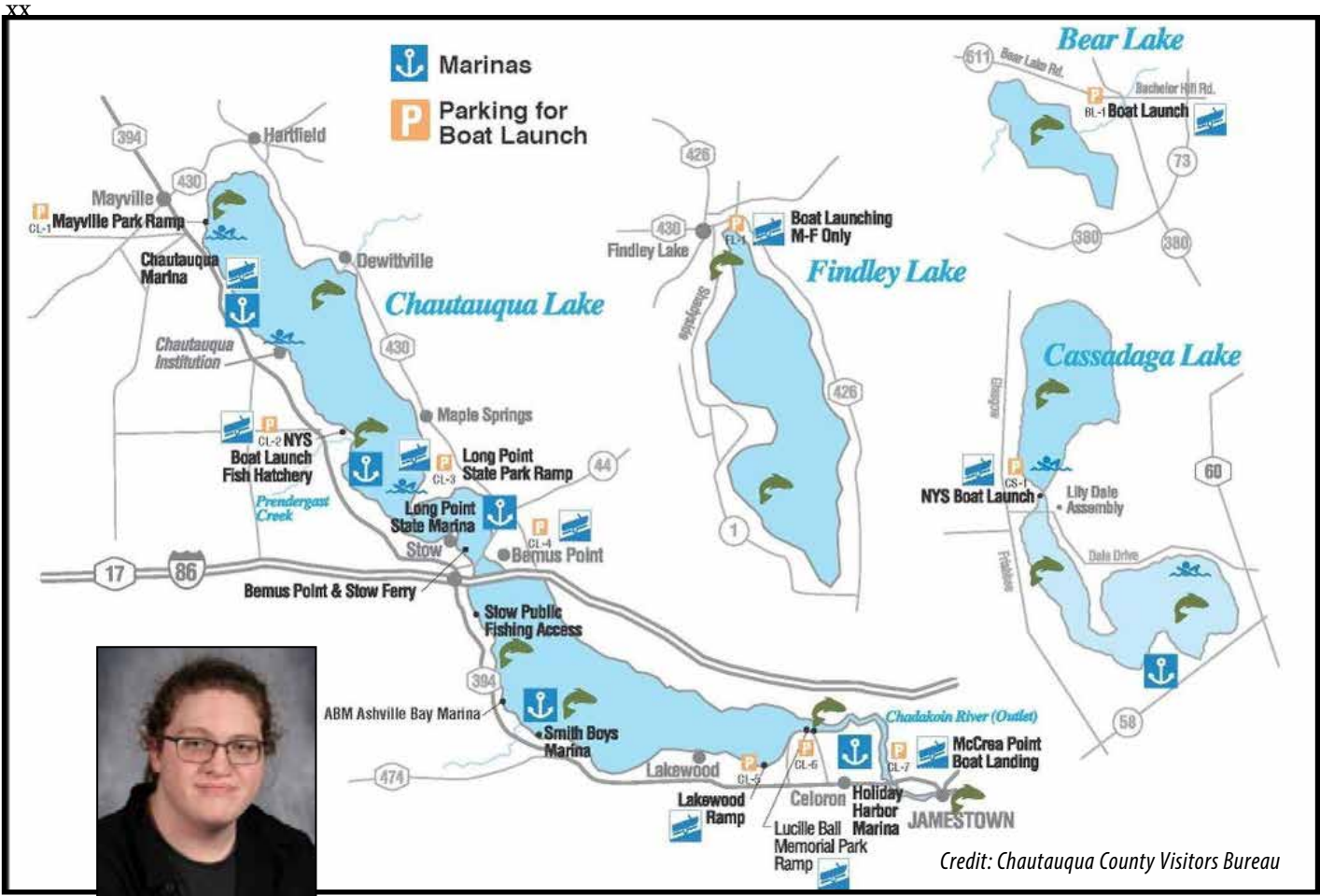
Lori Cornell

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Time wasted at the lake is time well spent.

~Anonymous

THOSE WHO LOVE OUR LAKES



Contributing Writer

Ryan Chambers-Leonard

Editorial note: Among our impressive team of volunteer writers includes Ryan Chambers-Leonard. At only 16-years-old, this Chautauqua County student writes well beyond his years and takes great care to research interesting topics for our readers.

This week, Ryan elected to review the three water resource organizations that are currently exploring a nonprofit merger. The Gazette recognizes that Ryan's review does not include all lake-related organizations nor approaches that exist. We work hard to be comprehensive and inclusive and welcome any other perspectives that may wish to contribute.

When it comes to finding information on important topics, one might assume that in the age of technology and social media, all information is easy to find. However, that is not always the case. Area residents and visitors alike

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO FISHING IN CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY



Contributing Writer

Shannon Nixon

It doesn't matter if you're a seasoned angler in pursuit of trophy muskellunge or a casual fisherman looking for a

peaceful afternoon on the water, our beautiful county offers never-ending fishing opportunities. From deep, kettle-holed basins to sprawling wetlands and weedy shallows, our corner of Western New York promises action in every season. Think of this article as your

complete guide to fishing in the county's top freshwater fishing destinations: Chautauqua Lake, Cassadaga Lakes, and Findley Lake.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

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This Week Around Town

MAY 12 - 18

Chautauqua County's 2nd Annual Active Transportation Week
Chautauqua County
For Info: (716) 661-8214

MONDAY, MAY 12

Author Series: Joan Wahl | 6:30 PM
Hazeltine Public Library | Jamestown
For Info: 716-487-1281

Trivia with Brewer Drew | 6 PM - 8 PM
Wicked Warren's | Jamestown
For Info: 716-484-4070

Chautauqua's Got Talent | 7 PM
The Spire Theater | Jamestown
For Info: 716-450-7357

TUESDAY, MAY 13

Memory Cafe: Madness Most Discreet 12 PM
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts | Jamestown
For Info: 716-484-7070

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

Movies at The Reg: The Luckiest Man | 7 PM
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts | Jamestown
For Info: 716-484-7070

Job Fair | 10 AM - 2 PM
Mental Health Association
For Info: 716-661-9044

THURSDAY, MAY 15

Jumpstart to Third Thursday & Third Thursday | 4:30 PM & 6 PM
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts | Jamestown
For Info: 716-484-7070

Artscape Opening Reception 5:30 pm - 7pm
Chautauqua Art Gallery | Jamestown
For info: 716-294-3027

Third Thursday: Madness Most Discreet 6 PM & 8 PM
Wintergarden Plaza | Jamestown

FRIDAY, MAY 16

Chautauqua Striders 33rd Annual Golf Scramble | 8 AM
South Hills Country Club | Jamestown
For Info: 716-489-3481

Movies at The Reg: Thank You Very Much 7 PM
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts | Jamestown
For Info: 716-484-7070

Dueling Pianos Comedy | 7 PM
Wicked Warren's | Jamestown
For Info: 716-484-4070

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Rabies Immunization Clinic | 10am-12pm
Pre-registration Required
Westfield Highway Dept
For info: HealthyCHQ.com/Rabies

Estate Auction | 10 AM
Ernest Hendrickson Estate
1954 Falconer-Frewsburg Road
For Info: 716-485-6164

Live at The Met: Salome | 1 PM
The 1981 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center
For Info: fredopera.org

Film: The Ballad of Wallis Island | 7:30 PM
The 1981 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center
For Info: fredopera.org

Bird Banding | 7 AM - 11 AM
Audubon Community Nature Center
Jamestown
For Info: auduboncnc.org/events

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Spaghetti Dinner Benefit to Support Butch Gutknecht | 12 PM - 4 PM
Celoron Legion | Jamestown
For Info: 814-730-2283

Rev. Michelle Buhite: "The Heart of Our Faith" | 10:30 AM
Unitarian Universalist Church of Jamestown
For Info: UUJamestown.org

Those Who Love Our Lakes

CONTINUED FROM Front Page

may have a general knowledge of our lakes and waterways, but not a full understanding of all the information and knowledge available to them on the subject. A prime example of this would be all the lakes that are part of Chautauqua County: Erie, Chautauqua, Findley, Cassadaga and Bear. While most residents of Chautauqua County are probably well aware of the commonly discussed concerns regarding the lakes, many may not be as aware of the organizations that have spent years addressing the situation.

While there are many issues that impact our lakes, one of the primary concerns are the algal blooms and the potential effects they may have. Algal blooms are masses of algae that prosper in warm weather, and while a lot of algae is not harmful, there has been a surge in harmful variants in the last few decades. For more detailed information, I recommend the Chautauqua Lake Association's "HAB Info" page. In any case, this process can lead to a severe negative impact on the aquatic ecosystem, which has led to a vast number of organizations working to address this issue over the years. Among these organizations are the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy (CWC), the Chautauqua Lake Association (CLA), and the Chautauqua Conewago Consortium (CCC) - but please note, this list is not exhaustive and others are out there! For the purpose of this article, we are focusing on these three as they are in talks to merge. All of our lake organizations - these three included - are dedicated, innovative and motivated in their work, but are characterized by a variety of projects. A distinct aspect of the CWC is its focus on the entire Chautauqua Watershed, which was well-emphasized in my discussions with their Executive Director, Whitney Gleason, and their Director of Conservation, Twan Leender. The organization holds the collective philosophy that neglecting the needs of the Watershed itself is "like putting a bandage on a wound without treating the injury." This mindset is evident in their projects, such as their campaign against invasive algae, the Chadakoin River Restoration project and shoreline stabilization work.

I was also lucky enough to connect with Jane Conroe, the Chair of the CCC, who graciously directed me to several of their websites. First, was the webpage of the Waterkeeper Alliance, an organization spread throughout 47 countries, with over three hundred affiliated groups, including the CCC. This led me to the CCC's website (<https://www.cccwaters.org/>), which details their story, beliefs and ventures. Beginning officially as the CCC in April 2020, the Consortium has always maintained a core motivation: "Everyone has a right to clean drinkable, swimmable and fishable water." Reflecting their role as a "voice of protection for our region's water," the CCC deals in both public advocacy and scientific expertise; often going out into the field to "patrol" the waters, observing water quality and taking their research back to the community.

The CLA notably uses "extensive scientific monitoring" to observe HABs (harmful algal blooms), and the gathered information is then forwarded to a number of collaborative parties. The CLA is currently under the lead of Executive Director Doug Conroe and takes immense pride in its work. Year after year, the group undertakes substantial projects that aim to remove as much of the "nuisance aquatic vegetation" as possible. While that is their primary objective, they also offer services for property owners on the lakefront. All of these organizations have webpages available online for further inquiries and information, so whether you choose to go even further into this topic or not, it will be readily available right at your fingertips. The lakes will always be an indispensable aspect of Chautauqua County, and one that we cannot allow ourselves to neglect.

Happy 89th Birthday



Ralph
"Razz"
Rasmussen
May 11th



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Editorial with Lori Cornell

There are FIVE



Owner & Publisher
Lori Cornell

As someone who grew up in Dunkirk, raised my kids in Jamestown and now lives in Bemus Point, I've been blessed to experience firsthand what us locals like to call both "the north and the south." Add to that over twenty years in public service focused primarily on Chautauqua County, and you get a brain full of tid bits from nearly every nook, cranny and crevice - meaningless, valuable or otherwise!

What has especially stuck with me is our lovely lakes and waterways.

To my point: our county has FIVE lakes. Call it a pet peeve, but there is a whole wonderful world beyond our beloved Chautauqua Lake with our smaller Bear, Cassadaga and Findley lakes. And let's not forget that truly, Lake Erie is GREAT. In fact, one of the greatest. (Pun intended.) If you've never witnessed a sunset there, it's the best. No partiality. Just check it out.

All of our lakes hold beauty of a different kind, and we would be remiss not to mention the breadth of our aquatic offerings here in Chautauqua County. This week, maybe share some love for our other lakes - go for a walk in Findley, rent a kayak at Cassadaga, dip your toes in Bear or admire the majesty of the Great Lake Erie.

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SUBMISSION DEADLINES
Thursdays at 5:00 pm

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

Trivia

1. Bear Lake is classified as what type of lake, formed by melting glacial ice?
2. Which lake in Chautauqua County has over 70% of its shoreline covered by wetlands?
3. What was produced from burned hardwoods around Chautauqua Lake, and used as a base for making soap and glass?
4. What is the elevation of Chautauqua Lake, making it one of the highest navigable lakes in North America?
5. Which large predatory fish, stocked by the DEC, can exceed 40 inches in length in Cassadaga Lakes?
6. How many distinct bodies of water make up the Cassadaga Lakes system in Chautauqua County, New York?
7. Who was the War of 1812 veteran that built a dam in 1815, creating Findley Lake?
8. Which major waterway does Findley Lake ultimately drain into through a series of connected streams and rivers?
9. Among the Great Lakes, which one is the shallowest and warmest?
10. What is the most sought-after fish in Lake Erie, attracting the majority of fishing enthusiasts?

1. A Kettle lake. 2. Bear Lake 3. Pearl ash 4. 1,308 feet above sea level 5. Muskellunge 6. 3 (Upper, Lower, and Middle Lakes) 7. Alexander Findley 8. Mississippi River 9. Lake Erie 10. Walleye

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES
Remember to Vote Tues, May 20

Bemus Point Central
School District

Vote for 2

1. Eric Rinaldo
2. Eric Martin
3. Louis Riccardi
4. Lauren Ryan

Cassadaga Central
School District

Vote for 1

1. Aaron Richner

Chautauqua Lake
Central School District

Vote for 2

1. Kenneth Shearer, Jr.
2. Erin Pender
3. Andrea Munsee-Wellman

Clymer Central School
District

Vote for 1

1. Justin White

Dunkirk City School
District

Vote for 2

1. Stephen Helwig
2. Karen Willis

Falconer Central
School District

Vote for 1

1. Rob Woodard

Forestville Central
School District

Vote for 1

1. Michelle Merritt

Fredonia Central
School District

Vote for 1

1. Kevin Martin

Frewsburg Central
School District

Vote for 3

1. Polly Hanson
2. Bradley Ronald Swanson
3. Randall Beckstrom

Jamestown City
School District

Vote for 2

1. Frank Galeazzo
2. Joseph Pawelski

Panama Central
School District

Vote for 1

1. Kelly Bennett
2. Bob Lingle

Pine Valley Central
School District

Vote for 3

1. Will Pekrul
2. Joshua Howard
3. Larry Zollinger
4. Brianne Russo

Ripley Central School
District

Vote for 2

1. Michael Boll
2. Paul McCutcheon

Sherman Central
School District

Vote for 2

1. Kathy Sweatman
2. Michelle Emory
3. Jo DeLellis

Silver Creek Central
School District

Vote for 2

1. Scott Pulver
2. Jerry Cross

Southwestern Central
School District

Vote for 1

1. Kenneth Macdonald

Westfield Central
School District

Vote for 2

1. Wendy Dymont
2. Thomas Tarpley



In Loving Memory

April 28

Richard M. Saullo, 39
Brooklyn
Lind Funeral Home

May 3

Mary Lingenfelter, 97
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

May 1

Richard Duane Moller, 84
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Mark 4

Ian Mark Anderson, 49
Lakewood
Lind Funeral Home

James Richard Rasmussen, Jr., 75
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

May 6

Rocky Bland
Lind Funeral Home

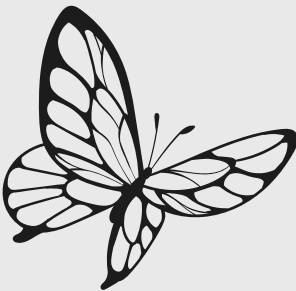
May 2

Virginia E. Park, 99
Jamestown
Falconer Funeral Home

Sandra Cusimano, 78
Warren
Lind Funeral Home

Calvert W. Baker, 84
Jamestown
Falconer Funeral Home
Russell M. Herbstritt, 60
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Randal L. "Fuzzy" Rumbaugh, 67
Frewsburg
Peterson Funeral Home
Myrtle M. Kohl, 61
Jamestown
Riccardi's Family Funeral Home



May 7

Leda Magi Domenici, 96
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home



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Faith Matters

LEARNING TO FISH

(Part 1 in a 5-part Series on Personal Bible Study)



Featured Writer
Pastor Matt Wolfe
First Baptist Church

It's been said, "Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime."

When asked to become a contributor to the Gazette's Faith Matters column, I prayed, "Lord, what could I write that would be most helpful to the readers of my community?" Almost immediately, the answer came: "Encourage them to read the Bible for themselves." With this in mind, I'd like to suggest that you can "learn to fish" in relation to reading the Scriptures for yourself, thus "feeding yourself" for a lifetime.

Yes, I know that reading and understanding the Bible can seem daunting. There are all these strange stories from peoples who lived on the other side of the planet thousands of years ago. There are huge cultural differences and assumptions. Tales full of supernatural phenomenon like multi-headed dragons, fiery chariots, and miraculous bread crumbs (not to be confused with my wife's miraculous macaroni and cheese with breadcrumbs). There are scores of ancient laws and statutes that seem to have little to no relevance to our lives today. And as if that weren't challenging enough, the books themselves aren't arranged in chronological order. It's all a bit much!

But before you get scared off, consider with me a couple of insights from the Bible itself. In the second letter of Paul to Timothy, Paul reminds his colleague, "From childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you

wise for salvation" (2 Timothy 3:16 – ESV). Did you catch that? As far as Paul was concerned, Timothy learned quite a bit about the Bible even as a child. We see that same point made in an earlier text where the people of God are told to teach the words of God "diligently to [their] children" (Deuteronomy 6:7 – ESV). That should give us some encouragement if we're feeling intimidated by the prospect of reading the Scriptures for ourselves.

So yes, it is a lot to take in. But I would like to suggest that it can be taken in. It's meant to be understood. I'm not saying that you will know it exhaustively or to the same extent as some Greek or Hebrew scholar. (Thank the Lord for those men and women! Their expertise helps the rest of us.) But you can grow into this. You can apply some basic principles and use some tried and true techniques to grow in your understanding of the Bible and its main message.

So over the next several submissions in the weeks ahead, I hope to offer some follow-up articles that one could label "fishing techniques." (Or go with the analogy of "tools in your toolbox" if that works for you.) My goal is to provide you the reader with some concepts that I have found to be helpful in understanding the Bible and, more importantly, coming to better know the wonderful God whose message it contains. We'll consider topics like paying attention to context, choosing a translation of the Bible, utilizing study materials, and approaching various literary forms (also known as genres) with some key ideas that are helpful in studying each.

Who knows? With a little time and effort, you might be able to read the Bible and say to God what one eager student of the Scriptures wrote some 3,000 years ago: "How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth" (Psalm 119:103 – ESV).

Matt Wolfe is the Senior Pastor at First Baptist Church, 19 Union Street, Westfield, NY. Visit fbcwestfield.com for more information or search "FBC Westfield NY" on YouTube for videos of services.



Tucker

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY PETS OF THE WEEK

Don't let the gray muzzle fool you, Tucker's still got the heart of a young pup and the nose of a seasoned tracker. At 8 years old, Tucker lived most of his life on a farm, tracking down critters and removing them, much to his family's dismay. Tucker is a hound dog, through and through, it's in his DNA, and he is looking for a home that will love him for every aspect of who he is. Tucker would do best in a home with no small children, no other animals, and a cozy couch. Shelter No. RR179.

Anna is as sweet as they come. She is a friendly soul, always ready to share a soft purr or a gentle nuzzle with those who take the time to get to know her. Why should you adopt her? Anna believes every home needs a touch of sweetness, a dash of friendliness, and a pinch of shy charm. She can offer all that and more. I'm just waiting for someone like you to share it with. Shelter No. RR179.



Anna



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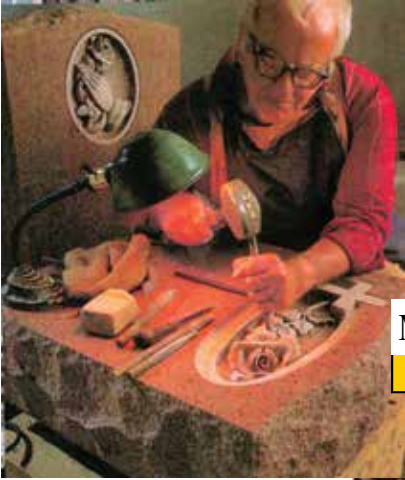
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Rev. Michelle Buhite “Comes Home” for Sunday’s Unitarian Service

Rev. Michelle Buhite, minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst in Williamsville, N.Y., returns to her “home church” this Sunday, May 18, to dedicate the infant of a family near and dear to her. She will also deliver the sermon at the 10:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown service. Of her message, “The Heart of Our Faith,” she says, “Ask 10 UUs what is at the heart of our faith, and you’re likely to get 15 different answers, depending upon each person’s priorities... social justice, care of the Earth, interdependence among people, etc. But what if those are all connected to one beating heart? What if all of the activities that we throw heart and soul into are all manifestations and responses to that beating heart?” Everyone is welcome to the service at 1255 Prendergast Avenue. To participate virtually, use the link at UUJamestown.org/calendar.



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THE LUCKIEST MAN IN AMERICA AND THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO SHOW AT REG LENNA CENTER FOR THE ARTS.



Based on a true story, The Luckiest Man in America (Wed., May 14 at 7 p.m.) is set in May 1984, when an unemployed ice cream truck driver from Ohio (Paul Walter Hauser) steps onto the game show Press Your Luck harboring a big secret: the key to endless amounts of money. His winning streak is threatened when the bewildered executives in the control room start to uncover his real motivations. The Luckiest Man in America is rated R and is 90 minutes long.

Very Much is unrated and is 99 minutes long.

Upcoming Movies at The Reg include Ray Mendoza and Alex Garland’s historical war drama Warfare (May 21 at 7 p.m.), Carey Mulligan in the music comedy The Ballad of Wallis Island (May 28 at 7 p.m.) and the fantasy adventure The Legend of Ochi (May 30 at 7 p.m.)

Tickets for most Movies at The Reg are \$8 in-person at the box office and \$10 online (reglenna.com) & by phone - 716.484.7070. Family showings are \$7 in-person at the box office and \$9 online & by phone. Special engagements are priced differently. The theater and box office at The Reg are located at 116 E. 3rd St. in Jamestown, NY. The box office is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 12 - 5 p.m. and one hour before movies and events.

Andy Kaufman’s provocative comedy is documented in Thank You Very Much (Fri., May 16 at 7 p.m.) Through never-before-seen footage and intimate recollections, filmmaker Alex Braverman explores Kaufman’s brief but impactful life and career. As the lines between performance and reality blur in our present age, Kaufman’s genius resonates more than ever. Thank You

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY'S 2ND ANNUAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION WEEK IS MAY 12-18



Article Contributed by
**Chautauqua County
Department of Planning &
Development**

The Chautauqua County Department of Planning and Development, in collaboration with the Chautauqua County Health Department and CHQ Transit, is excited to announce the second annual Active Transportation Week.

This year Active Transportation week will be held May 12 to May 18 and local residents are being encouraged to utilize the county's public transportation system – CHQ Transit – or simply use an alternative mode of transportation other than their personal motor vehicle. A “Bingo Card” has been created to inspire creative ways to get moving throughout the week. Each day will also highlight a different “theme” with Friday, May 16, focusing on riding a bike to work or school. Bingo Cards, themes and event details will be added on the Chautauqua County Events page.

The local effort is part of a nationwide initiative aimed at reducing single-rider vehicle trips, slashing CO2 emissions, and fostering a vibrant, interconnected community. Whether it's walking, biking, skating, bussing, or carpooling, there are plenty of ways to get involved. Such endeavors underscore the strategic imperative of prioritizing accessible and sustainable modes of mobility.

“Encouraging a greater number of individuals to embrace public transit, cycling, or walking isn't just good for Chautauqua County—it's a win-win

for everyone!” explained Stephanie Nick, Chautauqua County Special Project Coordinator. “When our communities invest in making it easier and safer to get around without dependence on cars, we all reap the rewards. From substantial savings in healthcare costs and personal expenditures to fostering the growth of local businesses and communities, the shift towards accessible and sustainable modes of mobility is the way of the future.”

“One of the most effective ways to improve health and wellbeing is to engage in regular physical activity, especially outdoors. Incorporating active transportation into your daily life is an easy way to do that,” states Chautauqua County's Public Health Director, Lacey Wilson. “As an added benefit, you are taking an active step to reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions. A special thanks to the Chautauqua County Department of Planning and Development for taking on this meaningful work.”

Information on bus schedules and prices can be found online at chqgov.com/carts/CHQTransit. Interested residents can also call CHQ Transit at 1-800-388-6534 to talk to a live person who will help plan the best route. Anyone interested in participating in Active Transportation Week can register at chqgov.com/events. Registration is not required, but will help with planning for subsequent years.

For more information, contact Stephanie Nick at (716) 661-8214 or email nicks@chqgov.com, or simply visit CHQGov.com and be a part of the movement towards a greener, healthier future.

Madness Most Discreet to perform at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts' Memory Café and Jumpstart to Third Thursday next week



Performance collective Madness Most Discreet will perform for The Reg's Memory Café Tues., May 13 at 12 p.m., followed by a pop-up performance for Jumpstart to Third Thursday Thurs., May 15 at 5 p.m. Both events lead up to their full, free Third Thursday performances of "Moonlight Revels" (adapted from Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream) at Wintergarden Plaza (6 and 8 p.m.) on May 15. Each event is offered free of charge.

The Memory Café program at The Reg is made possible by Exhale and its funders: Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation and Health Foundation for Western and Central New York.

Opening Memorial Day Weekend!

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| TRIPS: | Canoe or Double Kayak | Kayak | Estimated Paddle Time |
|---|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|
| Lazy Day: Vac Air to Conewango Kayak | \$58 | \$48 | 6-8 hrs |
| Rocking Run: Frewsburg to Conewango Kayak | \$48 | \$38 | 4-5 hrs. |
| Clam Island: Shell Island to Conewango Kayak | \$43 | \$33 | 3 hrs. |
| Beginners Best: State Line to Conewango Kayak | \$28 | \$28 | 2 hrs. |
| By the Hour | \$18 | \$13 | As long as you want |

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CHQgazette.com

Zonta Club of Jamestown Busy Honoring Members and Planning Event



The Zonta Club of Jamestown proudly celebrated the remarkable dedication and service of its members during its May Business Meeting recognizing milestone anniversaries. The club honored ten members who have demonstrated long-standing commitment to the club's mission of building a better world for women and girls. This year's honorees included members celebrating 10, 20, 25, 35 and even 45 years of active service with the club.

Pictured L to R are Row 1: Wendy Burns, Kathy Stedman, Jill Colburn, Cheryl Johnson-Scotty

Row 2: Liz Frederick, Mary Rappole, Eileen Healy, Marcia Restivo. Absent from the picture were Julie Dudgeon and Paula Rounds.

Additionally, the club is bringing color, laughter, and community spirit to the city by hosting its first-ever Mrs. Roper Romp on June 14, 2025. Inspired by the beloved character Helen Roper from the classic TV show Three's Company,

participants will don vibrant caftans, oversized jewelry, and big smiles as they walk through downtown Jamestown to several local establishments that will offer specialty drinks and snacks for purchase.

The event begins at 1:00 pm at the Northwest Arena, 319 W. 3rd Street, Jamestown, NY. The cost is \$10 at the door. Please wear full Mrs. Roper attire. This is a co-ed, over 21, rain or shine event.

Proceeds from the event will support Zonta's scholarship programs, advocacy initiatives, and service projects throughout the Jamestown area in an effort to build a better world for women and girls.

For more information about the Zonta Club of Jamestown or to learn how to become a member, please visit www.zontajamestown.org or reach out to the club at PO Box 913, Jamestown, NY 14702

SUDOKU

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

Here's How It Works:

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

Level: Beginner

CROSSWORD

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | 6 | 7 | 8 | | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | | | | | | 14 | | | | 15 | | | |
| 16 | | | | | 17 | | | | | 18 | | | |
| 19 | | | | 20 | | | | | 21 | | | | |
| | | | 22 | | | | | 23 | | | | 24 | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | | 28 | | | 29 | | | | 30 | | |
| 31 | | | 32 | | 33 | | 34 | | | | | 35 | |
| 36 | | | | 37 | | 38 | | | | 39 | | | 40 |
| | 41 | | | | 42 | | | 43 | | 44 | | | |
| | | 45 | | | | | 46 | | 47 | | 48 | | |
| 49 | 50 | | 51 | | | 52 | | | | 53 | | | |
| 54 | | 55 | | | | 56 | | | | | 57 | 58 | 59 |
| 60 | | | | | 61 | | | | | 62 | | | |
| 63 | | | | | 64 | | | | 65 | | | | |
| 66 | | | | | 67 | | | | 68 | | | | |

CLUES ACROSS

1. Two-person German submarine

6. 60-minute intervals (abbr.)

9. Database management system

13. Vertical position

14. American jazz singer Irene

15. Ancient Greek City

16. Former Senate Majority Leader Harry

17. Japanese seaport

18. Self-immolation by fire ritual

19. Assigns tasks

21. Beloved type of cigar

22. Discounts

23. Cambodian communist leader Pot

24. Important football position

25. Kilometers per hour

28. Lentil

29. Extremely angry

31. Yellow-flowered European plant

33. American state
36. Some are made by rabbits

38. Express with a head movement

39. Affair

41. Cured

44. Youth organization

45. 18-year astronomical period

46. Automobile

48. Focus a shot

49. The NFL's big game (abbr.)

51. Mouth

52. Infections

54. Curved pieces of a horse collar

56. Shameless

60. Assist in escaping

61. Capuchin monkey genus

62. Cold wind

63. Retired Brazilian NBAer

64. Tropical Old World tree

65. Bulgarian city

66. Speak indistinctly

67. Soviet Socialist Republic

68. Between-meal sustenance

CLUES DOWN

1. Not soft

2. Sharp-pointed dueling sword

3. Line a roof

4. Greek god of the underworld

5. Software

6. Large-headed elongated fishes

7. Shag rugs

8. Type of whale

9. Lacking a plan

10. Spill the beans

11. Some is "heavy"

12. One who has been canonized

14. Indicate times

17. Greeting

20. Broadway actor Josh

21. Seashore

23. Indicates before

25. Electrical power unit

26. Destitute

27. Drags forcibly
29. Impropriety

30. Word forms

32. Equal to 10 meters

34. Neither

35. Computer language

37. Practice of aging film or TV characters (abbr.)

40. A woolen cap of Scottish origin

42. A promise

43. Challenges

47. Official

49. People living in Myanmar

50. Notable tower

52. Type of sword

53. Vaccine developer

55. Listing

56. Summertime insects

57. Concluding passage

58. Guitarist Clapton

59. Damp and musty

61. Central nervous system

65. Against

Just South of Lake Erie

Drabble by John Brantingham

The weather casters call what I'm sludging through a wintry mix, rain slushing the snow already on the ground. The snow left in the trees comes down in giant glops. One lands on my head and runs down the left side of my face, and I smile to be here and alive in a world that will wake me with a icy slap because it brings me out of my sleep just in time for me to watch the creek breaking up for this false spring that will last a while until ice fissure reseal and the southern warmth retreats.

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

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MARTZ-KOHL OBSERVATORY

Seestar and Chill

Amateur Astronomy Made Easy

Contributing Writer

Andy Felong

Public and Media Relations
Martz-Kohl Observatory

The wonders of the universe are becoming more accessible than ever, thanks to innovative technology like the ZWO Seestar series of smart telescopes. Corey Swanson will be presenting an in-depth look at these groundbreaking all-in-one devices, which are transforming how individuals of all skill levels engage with astronomy and astrophotography. The presentation will delve into the features of ZWO Seestar telescopes, highlighting their remarkably compact and user-friendly design. Attendees will learn how these lightweight systems make exploring the cosmos easier and more enjoyable than ever before. Corey will also showcase images captured with these innovative and relatively affordable instruments, and should weather conditions permit, attendees will have the opportunity to witness live demonstrations of their capabilities.

Corey Swanson is the current President and former Secretary of the Marshal Martz Memorial Astronomical Association, Inc., which operates the Martz-Kohl Observatory. A dedicated lifelong enthusiast of astronomy and space exploration, Corey pursues both visual observation of the cosmos and astrophotography. His engagement with technology extends to amateur radio, where he holds an Extra Class license and actively participates in receiving and decoding imagery and telemetry from the International Space Station, amateur radio satellites, and NOAA weather satellites.

Demonstrating a commitment to community outreach, Corey established the Library Telescope Program at the Martz-Kohl Observatory, a significant initiative designed to make astronomy accessible to the wider public by placing quality telescopes in local



Submitted Photo

Corey Swanson

libraries.

In his professional capacity, Corey Swanson serves the Chautauqua County Office of the Sheriff as a 911 Police/Fire Emergency Dispatcher. He also holds the distinction of being an Honorary Life Member of the Kennedy Volunteer Fire Department and is currently serving his second term as a Councilman for the Town of Poland.

Corey resides in Kennedy, New York, with his wife, Michelle, and is the father of three adult children. Their family also includes three dogs and two cats.

This talk will be live at the Martz-Kohl Observatory and available online via Zoom. You are encouraged to come to the observatory to meet Corey Swanson and join in our always lively Q&A after his talk. More info: <https://martzobservatory.org>

The Martz-Kohl Observatory, located at 176 Robbin Hill Road, Frewsburg, NY, is operated by the Marshal Martz Memorial Astronomical Association, Inc., a non-profit organization devoted to the amateur astronomer. The emphasis of the association is observational astronomy, well-rooted in education outreach and enjoyment of the starry skies.

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FINDLEY LAKE – BEAUTIFUL TODAY WITH A HEALTHY FUTURE



Photo Credit: Courtesy of Findley Lake & Mina Historical Society

Featured Writer

Rebecca N. Brumagin
Supervisor
Town of Mina

Findley Lake in the Town of Mina is the westernmost lake in New York State. It is fed primarily from underground springs as well as surface runoff from five tributaries within its 3,000-acre watershed. The lake lies atop the Allegheny Plateau located south of, and above, the Lake Erie Plain.

Findley Lake was two kettle ponds created by the receding of the great Laurentide Glacier around 12,000 years ago. In 1815, the ponds were dammed up at their north outlet by Alexander Findley thus creating Findley Lake. His objective was to float logs down the lake to his sawmill at the north end. The water level is now regulated with a mechanical gate that lowers the lake in the fall to reduce flooding and damage to breakwalls and docks. Summer lake level is at about 1,420 feet above sea level. When the lake is at winter level, tree stumps at the south end of the lake from Alexander Findley’s logging days are still visible. The 300-acre lake has four islands and views from every part of the lake are breathtaking.

Findley Lake, like all natural lakes, has a life cycle. Nutrients entering into the lake add to the aging process and weed growth, algal blooms and

other decayed organic matter settle to the bottom of the lake and create layers of sediment which fill in the lake.

The Town of Mina has been actively working collaboratively with the Findley Lake Watershed Foundation, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, and Chautauqua County to address the various sources of phosphorus loading in Findley Lake so that effective strategies can be implemented to manage and improve the long-term health of the lake.

Exploring a system of oxygenation for Findley Lake is one aspect of a multi-faceted plan to manage the long-term health of the lake. Additional strategies include the implementation of the Findley Lake Sanitary Sewer System that is currently in the design phase and the Buesink’s Creek Stream Restoration Project, not yet underway. This project is being funded by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to stabilize the streambank and reduce sediment loading to the lake from stormwater runoff.

The Findley Lake Sanitary Sewer District was formed following a positive vote in October 2023 by property owners in the proposed district. The Town of Mina purchased property for the wastewater treatment plant. Matt Zarbo and Andrew Meyerhofer from

Square Engineering are designing the system and have begun meeting with all property owners in the district to identify the most effective way for hooking up to the system.

Through the support of Chautauqua County Executive PJ Wendel and the county's watershed coordinator, Dave McCoy, the Town of Mina was recently awarded a Findley Lake Environmental Studies grant from Chautauqua County to conduct two lake studies – a bathymetric assessment and a sediment oxygen demand (SOD) analysis. Both studies are the result of recommendations that came from a 2022 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Planning grant awarded to the Town of Mina for In-Waterbody Controls for Nutrients. The data from the DEC grant supported the claim that the “internal phosphorous load is contributing to increased algal densities in the surface waters, and managing this internal load should improve water quality in Findley Lake.”

The bathymetric survey is the “mapping of water depth and the amount of accumulated unconsolidated sediment (top of sediment to bottom of sediment) in a waterbody.” “Data from this assessment can be modeled to produce topographic contours of water depth and sediment thickness ... it will help quantify the volume of an anoxic zone, which will help to design an efficient system.”

The SOD “largely dictates the amount of oxygen that will need to be delivered to the lake via the direct oxygen system to provide sufficient oxygenation throughout the duration of the growing season.” The scientific collection of data pertaining to the SOD of Findley Lake involves the in-situ measurement of SOD utilizing chambers following United States Environmental Protection Agency approved methodology.”

Field work is complete on both of the two studies and the final reports will provide data, findings, and recommendations to support the development of an effective system for oxygenation of Findley Lake that, if implemented, can manage phosphorous loading from in-waterbody nutrients.

The health of Findley Lake is the number one priority of the Town of Mina – and through the efforts of New York State, Chautauqua County, the Findley Lake Watershed Foundation, and local property owners, we are implementing lake management strategies that will ensure that Findley Lake continues to remain a beautiful regional jewel.

“Life is better at the lake.”

~ Anonymous

NCCF Announces Spring Community Grants Awards

Article Contributed by
North Chautauqua
Community Foundation

Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation (NCCF) envisions a vibrant, prosperous community, rich in opportunity, today and tomorrow. NCCF strives to realize this vision through leadership, collaboration, local philanthropy, and strategic grantmaking.

Recently, NCCF’s Board of Directors approved Community Benefit Grants totaling \$111,185 to be awarded to 19 local organizations. The biannual Community Benefit Grants Program awards grants to organizations seeking funding to improve and strengthen the northern Chautauqua region. The deadline to submit a letter of interest for the next round of Community Benefit Grants in the Fall is September 1, 2025.

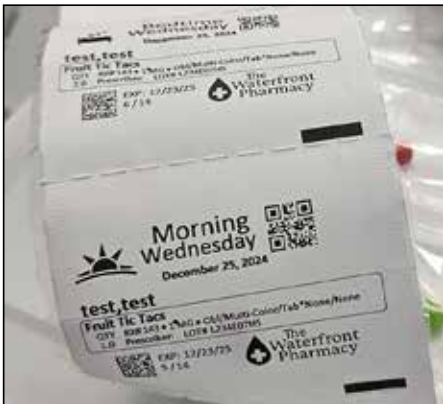
Organizations receiving funding from the 2025 Spring Community Benefit Grants Program are the: Ahira

Hall Memorial Library, American Red Cross, Boys and Girls Club of northern Chautauqua County, Centaur Stride, Chautauqua Blind Association, Chautauqua County Historical Society, Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth-Overland Trails Revitalization Project, Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth-CHQ Mural Festival, Chautauqua County Rural Ministry, Darwin R. Barker Library Museum, Dunkirk Camp and Conference Center, Embrace Fredonia, Fredonia First United Methodist Church-Blessing Beds, Northern Chautauqua Canine Rescue, Salvation Army, Sinclairville Free Library, Village of Silver Creek, Westfield Stray Cat Rescue and YWCA of Jamestown.



Waterfront Pharmacy Announces New Medication Packaging Service to Improve Patient Health and Convenience

PakMyMeds provides a simpler, safer medication experience through convenient, personalized packaging, using the latest in pharmacy robotics.



Monica Dunning, PHARM-D, is dedicated to managing the Waterfront Pharmacy's new pill packing system. She counts a patient's doses for a set days and times and the medications that are taken at the same time. The machine packs multiple medications in a properly labeled "dose-time" pack. This cuts down on confusion and under or overdosing of meds.

Article Contributed by The Chautauqua Center

The Waterfront Pharmacy, a forward-thinking community pharmacy in Jamestown, Dunkirk, and South Dayton, and part of the nonprofit community health center, The Chautauqua Center, recently added PakMyMeds for patients taking multiple prescriptions.

This is a new service designed to prevent dangerous medication errors within the vulnerable populations the Waterfront Pharmacy serves. PakMyMeds removes the guesswork for patients, by allowing the pharmacy to pre-sort and package patient medications, labeling each dose by day, date and time. The convenient, easy-to-open packaging

makes taking prescribed medications more straightforward, and hassle-free.

PakMyMeds allows for greater independence in care-at-home situations, and can accommodate prescriptions, OTC meds, and even supplements. Studies show that more than half of patients on multiple medications do not take their medications correctly. Medication non-adherence leads to 125,000 preventable deaths and more than \$500 billion in avoidable healthcare costs each year.

"PakMyMeds eliminates the confusion and inconvenience for patients taking a large number of daily medications," said Pharmacy Director Megan Reynolds. "The date-and-time stamped pouches

mean no more pill sorting and fewer errors. This can mean life-changing improvements in patient health and peace of mind for family members caring for their loved ones. There is much less worry about missed doses or accidentally taking more medication than directed."

The Waterfront Pharmacy offers the PakMyMeds service at no charge and will even deliver the medication to customers for free.

With PakMyMeds, taking medications, on-the-go is especially simple - in just seconds, patients can tear off the medication pouches they'll need. This can help busy patients to continue to live more independently.

The PakMyMeds service is made

possible by Waterfront Pharmacy's installation of the RapidPakRx™, a pharmacy robot designed and manufactured in the United States. With 23 vision systems and three layers of integrated machine vision pill detection, verification, and inspection, RapidPakRx can provide a high volume of multi-med pouches with unparalleled accuracy and speed, at a very low cost.

PakMyMeds is currently available. To learn more and to find out if the service is right for you, contact your pharmacist at the general pharmacy number at (716) 705-6153.

"With PakMyMeds our patients will become more adherent with less hassle and less worry, which means improved wellness overall," Reynolds said.

MHA's Dunkirk Center Now Reopened



Submitted Photo

Following successful building remediation, the North County recovery center of the Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County (MHA) reopened on Tuesday, May 6. It is located in Grace Lutheran Church, 601 Eagle Street in Dunkirk. Hours will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Anyone who needs assistance before the May 6 reopening can call (716) 661-9044 or email info@MHACHautauqua.org. The MHA is a peer recovery center offering support groups and individual coaching for people looking to improve their lives, deepen wellness, thrive in recovery, or support those on a recovery path. All services, including xylazine wound care kits and fentanyl test kits, are free. The Jamestown recovery center in the Gateway Building, Door 14, at 31 Water Street is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:30 a.m.–7 p.m., and Tuesday and Friday, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Information about the MHA is at MHACHautauqua.org and Facebook.com/MHACHautauqua.

Bird Banding and Plant Sale at Audubon This Saturday



Submitted Photo

Audubon Community Nature Center has two wonderful events for you this Saturday, May 17. Drop in any time between 7 and 11 a.m. to watch bird scientists capture migrating and resident birds in "mist" nets, fit them with identification bands, measure, weigh, and then release them. You might even be selected to help release a bird! From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., you can pick out some new plants for your garden at Audubon's Annual Plant Sale. The large selection of native plants, as well as annuals, perennials, trees, and shrubs are from local greenhouses and Audubon's gardens. For details, call (716) 569-2345 or go to AudubonCNC.org/Events. The Nature Center is at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown and Warren.



BEAR LAKE



Drs. Bob and Anne Deming

Article Contributed by
Bear Lake Association

Published in 2018, “A History of Bear Lake”, by Drs. Bob and Anne Deming, tells the centuries-old story of a small lake nestled in a secluded valley in western NY. It captures the recollections, photographs and memories of Bear Lake residents with ties to its earliest families. With overviews of the lake’s formation, topography, former indigenous inhabitants, it also includes a chapter retelling the myths, legends and rumors that its residence have come to love. Currently out of print, the Demings were encouraged to make a second edition of their award-winning book available, and plan to publish this edition in the summer of 2025, this time on Amazon for its ease of access. This edition will include many land, residence and ownership changes not included in the earlier book, nor in their 2021 “Camp in the Woods on Bear Lake” Amazon book.

Drs. Bob and Anne Deming have summered on the lake for 48 years. Bob, a retired professor of English, and Anne, a retired college president, have long been active in the Bear Lake Association, both serving as president.

We are thrilled to share, with permission, the below fun-facts from the "Did You Know" chapter of their 2018 work:

- Bear Lake was named when two boys, Harlow Crissey and Jason Silsby from Stockton encountered two bear cubs up in a tree at a nearby lake. According to Cathryn Berndt’s Stockton Seen Through the Rear View Mirror (1987, 23), Jason’s story about the bear cub’s encounter

- “so amused the settlers that the lake was nicknamed ‘Bear Lake” and the name stuck.
- The Pierce, 10 bedroom “hotel” was located in the middle of the Bear Lake Road and sold chicken dinners cooked by Minnie (Blodgett) Pierce, ice cream from the Pierce cold storage, and pies also cooked by Mrs. Pierce.
- A former County Historian, Elizabeth Crocker’s cottage was not, as rumor has it, "moved across the ice one winter from Pierce Acres.” Rather, it was the Johnston’s cottage, that was moved two times—first from Brocton to Pierce Acres and finally across the frozen lake to become the boat livery for Walt Lamkin’s general store across the street from it.
- A relative of Lucille Ball rented the Lamkin boat livery building, and Lucy herself stayed there when she was young.
- Bear Lake is in both the Town of Stockton and the Town of Pomfret, the division occurring on a line crossing the lake running in a straight-line down Bacheller Hill Road and across the lake to the former Y Camp in the Woods.
- A Cassadaga Lake resident once regularly flew his sea plane from there to Bear Lake to visit a Bear Lake resident. Sea planes still land on the lake from time to time.
- Tiny Bear Lake is, in fact, the “headwaters of the Mississippi,” because you can actually navigate by canoe or kayak from Bear Lake Bear Lake Creek to Cassadaga Creek to Conewango Creek to the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers to the Ohio River, on to the Mississippi River and into the Gulf of Mexico.



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JPS TO HOST DISTRICT ART
SHOW MAY 20



2025 Art Show Poster created by JHS senior Raegan Powers

Article Contributed by
Jamestown Public Schools

Artwork by students from across Jamestown Public Schools will be on public display during the Annual District Art Show on Tuesday, May 20 from 5 to 7 p.m. The public is encouraged to enter through the gymnasium doors at Jefferson Middle School, at 195 Martin Road.

Each Jamestown art teacher selected pieces of student artwork to include in the show. With hundreds of works of art from kindergarten through 12th grade, the district’s talented artists will

have the opportunity to showcase their creative art skills to their families and the community.

“The District Art Show is a celebration of the skill and dedication our students bring to the arts,” said Christopher Scarpine, JPS coordinator of arts and humanities. “We invite the entire community to join us in recognizing the incredible work of our student artists.”

Light refreshments will be served during the opening of the show on May 20. A virtual presentation of the pieces will be made available on May 21 at jpsny.org/artshow.

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SELF-CARE IS NOT SELFISH: SMALL STEPS TOWARD MENTAL WELLNESS

Article Contributed by

Rachel Ludwig MSW
Project Coordinator,

Chautauqua County Department of
Mental Hygiene

Mental health and physical health are intertwined; including in self-care. Self-care is a term that has many meanings and can look and feel different for everyone. If you have a career as a caregiver or work in a field where employee burnout is common, we suggest you view self-care as a high priority.

A simple explanation for self-care is the activities and routines that we practice to help our mind, body and spirit's well-being. Self-care may be waking up 10 minutes earlier than you normally would

to enjoy your morning without rushing; or taking time to connect intentionally with someone who is special to you. Some specific practices to consider are breathing exercises, mindfulness and meditation, creative expression (i.e. music, dance, poetry, art), or time in nature. Self-care can help manage stress and feelings of being burnt out. We can also use the same types of practices to prevent the dangerous impacts of stress.

Here are some tips to consider. Start Small: try incorporating small shifts in your routine. To show a commitment to yourself that this is

important, consider setting some goals such as a certain number of minutes per day or a number of activities per week. Check back in with your goal and celebrate your efforts. Be Flexible with yourself. Life can be unpredictable and you may need to adjust your plans. If something isn't working, try another approach.

For more information and to develop your own plan, please see the following sites as examples if needed.

See <https://www.activeminds.org/about-mental-health/self-care/> to learn about what self-care

is and some specific examples of activities to try, and <https://www.selfcareday.com/> to personalize your plan for wellbeing and to download self-care checklists, and <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/caring-for-your-mental-health> for more tips and a clear message about when and how to find additional help, and <https://www.samhsa.gov/resource/dbhis/taking-care-you-self-care-family-caregivers> - a comprehensive resource, "Taking Care of YOU", for caregivers' self-care, noting the importance of stress management and coping with many specific, relevant examples.



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PUSATERI RECOGNIZED BY SAANYS REGION 12



Submitted Photo

Denise Pusateri, Coordinator of STEM for Jamestown Public Schools, has been named the 2025 Coordinator of the Year for Region 12

Article Contributed by Jamestown Public Schools

Denise Pusateri, Coordinator of STEM for Jamestown Public Schools, has been named the 2025 Coordinator of the Year for Region 12 by the School Administrators Association of New York State (SAANYS). Pusateri was recognized for this accolade during a reception at Creekside Banquet Facility in Cheektowaga on May 5.

Pusateri, who currently oversees the district’s mathematics, science, technology, and business departments, was honored for her outstanding leadership, collaborative spirit, and unwavering commitment to student and teacher success, according to Tina Sandstrom, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and School Improvement.

"Denise is the kind of leader who shows up early, stays late, and does so not expecting recognition," Sandstrom said. "She invests her time, energy, and heart into everything she does—lifting others up, building strong teams, and making sure our students and staff have what they need to succeed. We are so proud to see her recognized as SAANYS Region 12 Coordinator of the Year."

Pusateri began her career in the Jamestown City School District in 2001 as a mathematics teacher at

Jamestown High School. She later served as a GEAR UP Math Coach and mentor before joining the district’s administrative team in 2011 as a Coordinator of Mathematics. Over the years, she has taken on additional leadership roles across nearly every academic department, stepping up during periods of transition and bringing stability, organization, and purpose to each role.

A recent highlight of her leadership includes guiding a comprehensive selection process for a new K–8 mathematics curriculum, which prioritized teacher voice, collaboration, and student-centered decision-making. Following a months-long pilot process, the district adopted SAVVAS enVision earlier this year.



"Jamestown has been a family to me," said Denise Pusateri. "The students, teachers, staff, and administration have helped me to grow professionally and I have returned the favor as new teachers and administrators have joined the team. I especially appreciate the mentorship of Tina Sandstrom and Jessie Joy. I thank SAANYS Region 12 for this honor."

SAANYS Region 12 serves Allegany, Buffalo, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, and Wyoming counties.

MPS AWARENESS DAY



???

Article Contributed by Joan Eppehimer

This Thursday, May 15, 2025, is MPS Awareness Day, a time to spread the word about this group of ultra rare diseases. When Jamestown residents, Rev. Wayne and Joan Eppehimer, were married back in 1980 they had never even heard of mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS). They only knew that Eppehimer had something called Hunter syndrome and that was why his joints were all large.

That same year, Eppehimer’s sister, Sharyn Madison, began to notice that her three-year-old son was exhibiting traits similar to what she had seen in her brother’s disease. Madison’s son was tested at John Hopkin’s for Hunter syndrome and the test results came back positive. A doctor got her in touch with the National MPS Society and a whole new world of medical understanding opened for the family.

It turned out that Hunter syndrome was one of 11 different kinds of MPS, designated as mucopolysaccharidosis type II (MPS II). There were no treatments available at the time, but researchers were studying the diseases and hoping to develop treatments.

Each type of MPS lacks a different lysosomal enzyme. The lysosomes are the recycling center of every cell. There are approximately 60 different enzymes the lysosomes use to break down food inside the cell. With one of these enzymes lacking in MPS patients the result is that some of the cell’s food is undigested. The term for this undigested, or unrecycled food is glycosaminoglycan (GAG). GAGs accumulating in every cell throughout a patient’s life causing progressive damage as the buildup grows. There is also a similar type of storage disease called ML that is also under the National MPS Society umbrella.

For Eppehimer and his nephew,

the disease was attenuated, or mild. More than 60 per cent of children who are born with MPS II are on the other end of the spectrum and have debilitating symptoms. All children with MPS diseases begin life developing normally. As early as one-year children severely affected may show signs of developmental delay. Between eighteen months and two years of age, children with non-attenuated MPS diseases begin to regress. They lose their ability to walk, what little speech they had disappears, and other physical skills and mental ability decline.

In the United States and around the world, MPS research has come a long way since 1980 when Eppehimer and his sister had never heard the term. Today, there are enzyme replacement therapies for five of the MPS diseases. None of these therapies can reverse damage done, but they do slow the progression of the disease. There are some new therapies in the pipeline which will cross the blood-brain barrier which will help those children with the sever forms of MPS, and therapies are being researched for the MPS types that still lack treatments.

Currently the United States boasts a robust National MPS Society and a center for MPS research and treatment was recently opened in Chapel Hill, NC. The Center is named after Dr. Joseph Muenzer, a research physician who dedicated his entire career to working on treatments and a cure for MPS II. The Muenzer MPS Research & Treatment Center is part of the UNC Health Children’s care in Chapel Hill. To learn more about this family of diseases visit the National MPS Society at <https://mpssociety.org/>

In commemoration of this day, Mayor Kim Ecklund has issued a proclamation declaring May 15 as MPS Awareness Day and has ordered City Hall to be lit in purple, the color used to represent the National MPS Society.

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Business of the Week

Celebrating Local Businesses & Giving them the Spotlight!

Staying Fly: Local Food Truck Serves Up Playful Classics with Heart



Contributing Editor
Katrina Fuller

Chautauqua County's culinary scene just got a little more vibrant and a whole lot more delicious thanks to the return of On the Fly CHQ, a cheerful food truck run by Chautauqua County native Maddy Card. Nestled in the scenic Chautauqua Institution, this retro-inspired food trailer is quickly becoming a fan favorite for its bold flavors, playful menu and deeply personal story.

Now entering her second full season, Card says she's thrilled to be back on the grounds.

"Last year was my first big year, this year, now I have full permitting, so I can do every type of food that I'd like to off the truck," she said. "It is such beautiful blessing and privilege to have the opportunity."

Card also has a commissary kitchen in Sherman in addition to the food truck, which acts as her home base.

"I work out of a standalone kitchen, and then I operate off the trailer," she said.

On the Fly CHQ offers what Card calls "American classics with a modern twist." That includes her signature sandwiches known affectionately as "sammies." Card said customers will get a kick out of the names on her menu - she loves playful food and translated that into her menu. The bestsellers include "The Bossy Betty," a crave-able combo of turkey, Swiss, coleslaw and zesty Russian-esque dressing; and "The Lady Smith," featuring pulled chicken, green apples, cheddar, arugula and a honey mustard aioli.

"I just love feeding the loved ones around me," she said. "That's kind of my love language. And it's easy to be like, 'I eat that sandwich every day, so you should get it, too.'"

But behind the humor and delicious offerings is a story of resilience and reinvention. Like many during the pandemic, Card found herself facing an unexpected career pivot. "I was let go from a teaching position because of COVID and budgetary cuts, and it just broke my entire heart," she shared.

She spent some time afterward figuring out what came next. When the opportunity arose to purchase a food trailer, she jumped at the chance. "It was always art or food for me," she said. "I just never thought that this would be something that came to life for me and that I would have the opportunity presented in front of me to actually own and

operate a food trailer for the rest of my life. I've just done everything in my power to make it beautiful and clean - it's truly just a dream come true."

Card runs the show solo for the most part, though visitors might catch a glimpse of her husband, Chad, or her best friend Kevin Gleason lending a hand. "Kevin Gleason, who is just my social butterfly friend who I could not do alone... He volunteers his time. I'm so grateful for him," she said.

Breakfast and lunch are currently available Wednesday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Once the season officially begins in late June, she will move to a spot near Alumni Hall on Cookman Avenue, operating Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Card said this is a perfect spot for those who attend the afternoon lectures to grab a post-lecture bite to eat.

While the Chautauqua grounds will eventually require a gate fee to enter starting June 20, Maddy reminds locals that preseason visits are free and Sundays during the season are also open to the public, parking aside.

In addition to breakfast and lunch service, Card is offering pre-ordered dinners and lunches for weekend pickup. She is also open to a credit-type system, where customers can pay a fee at the beginning of the season and have pre-ordered meals for pick-up.

"A lot of people just want to leave the house and go enjoy a lecture and not think about

lunch and know that it's ready for them," she explained.

She's also bringing back her beloved baked goods and small batch orders from her standalone kitchen, with hopes of expanding into small events and dinner parties in the off-season. She is excited to offer made-to-order trays and pick-up meals going forward.

Card is working on expanding her presence outside the gates as well. Starting May 20, she'll be part of a rotating schedule with local eatery, the Hot Spot Cafe, serving up meals at the Camp Chautauqua campground near Chautauqua Institution.

While the food truck is a dream come true, for Card, it is also a move toward enriching the community and coming back to her roots.

"I was born and raised in this area. I love the community, I love the county, I love the area. I went to school in Cleveland for graphic art, and I consciously just knew that I wanted to come back to this area and thrive and be present here in some sort of fashion," Card said.

Card said the best way to keep up-to-date on her food truck offerings and other happenings is to find her Facebook page, On the Fly CHQ – Mobile Food Trailer. The page features updates on hours, menu changes and more. To place pre-orders or inquire about small events and dinners, call 716-640-8117.



Find me:

Chautauqua Farmer's Market

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Pre-Season until June 20th

CHAUTAUQUA LAKE ASSOCIATION (CLA) KICKS OFF 2025 SEASON

Article Contributed by
Chautauqua Lake
Association

The CLA is back on Chautauqua Lake and ready to take charge of the care and maintenance that our lake deserves. With decades of experience, we are eager to continue our mission to enhance Chautauqua Lake for your recreational enjoyment today and for future generations.

Spring debris cleanup began on Monday, April 28, and will continue through the beginning of May. The aquatic vegetation survey with CLA board members, staff, and lake leaders was successfully conducted on April 30. As we continue to monitor plant growth, harvesting will begin as the aquatic vegetation reaches a harvestable height.

Our Mission and Services
The CLA’s primary objective is to provide a consistent, effective lake maintenance and management program that fosters a healthy, biodiverse aquatic ecosystem for all lake users to enjoy. These efforts include the following key activities:

- **Annual In-Lake Programs:**
 - Spring debris cleanup
 - Early harvesting

- Lake-wide summer harvesting
- Near-shore skimming
- Floating vegetation removal
- Mobi-Trac support
- Continued fall work through September
- **Scientific Monitoring:**
 - Facilitating monitoring efforts to assess lake health.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention:**
 - Implementing measures at local boat launches to prevent the spread of invasive species.
- **Public Outreach Programs:**
 - Educating the community about lake care and maintenance.

One of the CLA’s most visible and impactful services is aquatic vegetation harvesting. This task improves boat access, clears navigational lanes, and reduces nutrient loads that fuel harmful algal blooms (HABs). Harvesting also leaves sub-surface plant growth critical for the lake’s fishery, ecological well-being, and lake bottom stabilization.

In addition to cutting, the CLA’s harvesters and skimmers collect floating vegetation, which accumulates due to boat activity, wind, and natural die-off. This material can hinder navigation

and contribute to shoreline decay. By removing it, we improve water flow, reduce odor, and minimize surface scum accumulations—all of which are essential to preserving the lake’s usability and ecological balance.

The CLA takes special pride in its near-shore maintenance program. Crews travel by barge along developed shorelines, manually collecting floating vegetation and debris with pitchforks. This shoreline work improves water circulation and prevents localized buildups of algae and debris, which are key to maintaining a clean and healthy lakeshore environment.

Equipped for Success
To execute our operations effectively, the CLA operates a robust and diverse fleet, all serviced and maintained in-house to ensure peak performance.

- Our current equipment inventory includes:
- 7 Harvesters
 - 2 Converted Near-Shore Skimmers
 - 2 Standard Near-Shore Skimmers
 - 4 Transport Barges
 - 5 Near-Shore Barges
 - 1 New Near-Shore Support Vessel
 - 4 Large Dump Trucks
 - 3 Small Dump Trucks
 - 1 Equipment Truck
 - 3 Shore Conveyors

This year, the CLA will add a new custom-designed barge to support the Town of Chautauqua’s Mobi-Trac program. This specialized vessel combines the speed and capacity of a transport barge with a harvester-style front conveyor, enhancing our ability to load floating and near-shore vegetation quickly and efficiently.

Operational Approach and Planning
The CLA operates three full crews lake-wide from May through September. While we strive to follow a circular work route, our operations are dictated by weather and lake conditions. We also have GPS tracking, which helps ensure no disturbance to protected or undeveloped habitats.

Our weekly work plans are posted on Facebook and the CLA website. We also provide a Friday activity report to inform residents about where we’ve been and what we’ve accomplished.

Sustainable Practices in Action
In our commitment to sustainability, vegetation collected by harvesters, skimmers, and Mobi-Trac crews is loaded onto high-capacity transport barges. These barges transport the material to one of our three shore conveyors,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

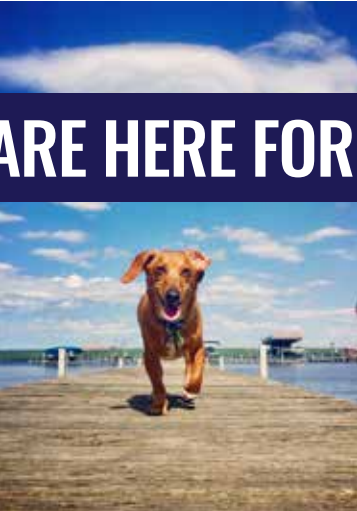
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CHAUTAUQUA LAKE ASSOCIATION

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Learn More About the Work We Do
ChautauquaLakeAssociation.org

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Chautauqua Lake photos submitted by: J. Kuntz; M. Dick; K. Skorepa; L. Falcone; L. Chappell

LIVING ON THE EDGE



Article Contributed by
Chautauqua-Conewango
Consortium

There is much to love about our lakes. Historically, humans have gravitated to them, along with other bodies of water, some by actually living near them, others by visiting. Being near the edge of the water can generate relaxation, as well as adventure and exhilaration. Something for everyone.

An edge is a place of transition and a lake edge is where water touches land. This edge could be described as thin and delicate, yet it experiences fierce forces every day. Some say it is like the skin of a living being, the protective layer that keeps the system healthy. Break the protective barrier and it can become the entry way for illness or worse.

The name for this fragile area is riparian zone. Here, this relatively narrow strip of land mounts a protection for both itself and the water. More water needs a wider zone. Faster moving water needs a stronger zone. Steeply sloped land needs a wider and stronger zone. “Strong” may call to mind concrete walls or sheet-piling barriers for protection yet Mother Nature might have a far better idea.

The trees are the biggest and strongest protectors of the zone. The shoreline needs trees. Their leaves freely provide you with fresh oxygen and shade the water, lowering its temperature and making multiple water creatures exceedingly happy. The trees roots hold the soil, keeping it on the land and out of the water. Those same roots absorb nutrients while grabbing gallons and gallons of rainwater. The shapes of the trees provide a gentle frame for the most spectacular views.

The shrubs and flowering plants are also protectors and providers for the zone. They bring more roots to hold soil and more color to attract and feed pollinators. People are not the only creatures that find “living on the edge” a good place to be.

Look closer and see that green plants are

not just on the land. The water side of the zone also has its protectors and providers. The zone in the water gets a new name, the littoral zone. Rooted plants here grab hold of the soil on the bottom and won’t let moving water or wave action disturb the sediment. Holding that bottom sediment helps keep the water clear.

Crystal clear water is such a gleaming expectation for our human senses. However, crystal clear surface water is not the best indicator of the water’s true condition or of the littoral zone’s performance. In describing overall health, “clear water” is actually a known indicator for lakes with less or little life. The littoral zone’s most critical job is producing food and providing habitat for its multiple living populations.

The critical job of providing food and habitat starts with the growing, rooted green plants in the water. They survive because of sunlight, plenty of nutrients and just the right temperature. Because they are there, small and large insects have food. Together, the plants and the insects bring all manner of other creatures... fish, frogs, bats, ducks, turtles, birds... and bigger birds, the great blue heron, eagles and tundra swans. Healthy plant communities both on land and in the water are the foundation for both the protection of the edge as well as life at the edge.

The plant populations in Chautauqua Lake are currently being reviewed. The preliminary results are showing a decline in the growing aquatic plant abundance over approximately 20 years. If a decline is confirmed, it will be a call to action for all of us. The lake is already over-enriched with nutrients and they feed both plants and algae. Fewer plants could mean more algal growth. We do not want to see algal blooms. Do you? Let us know by going to our Chautauqua-Conewango Consortium Facebook site. Say no to algal blooms and support growing lake plants.

Keeping green plants growing both on land and in the water, allows life at the edge to thrive. Keeping the edge healthy, helps the entire water body to do the same.

Support Our Lakes



The Chautauqua-Conewango Consortium is working to protect our waters.

For lakes to be healthy, growing plants need to be near and in their waters.



Take Action!

- Install and keep buffers
- Limit hardscape
- Reduce feeding your lawn
- Protect habitats for fish and more

Let us know that you want growing plants near and in the water.

 Like us on Facebook

Add your voice. Support us.
Go to www.cccwaters.org



BRING BACK THE BLUE

Article Contributed by
Chautauqua Watershed
Conservancy

When we think of the color blue, we might picture clear skies, open horizons, and sparkling lakes.

Unfortunately, many of our lakes have traded in their clear, refreshing blue for murky shades of green. Why? Too many nutrients – mainly nitrogen and phosphorus – are running off our lawns and landscapes into lakes and feeding the growth of algae and aquatic plants in them.

Dealing with this issue has become a consistent yearly struggle here in Chautauqua County. Cutting, raking, and spraying may offer temporary relief, but these methods are just band-aids. They treat the symptoms, but not the source. The real fix starts with us – and our yards. Whether you live on the water or miles from it, your property is part of the watershed. And what you do on land affects the water in our lakes.

The good news? You can help bring back the blue. Here are four simple yet effective ways you can help protect our lakes – and do it right from your own backyard!

Plant Natives: Native plants have deep roots that soak up excess nutrients and keep soil from sliding into the water. If you live near a lake or stream, let those last few

feet go wild. Stop mowing to the edge and let nature do her thing. Not on the water? No problem. Native gardens still help filter runoff and support pollinators and birds.

Scoop the Poop: Pet waste is loaded with nitrogen and phosphorus. If left on the ground, it washes into storm drains and eventually into our lakes. Bag it, trash it, and keep it out of the water.

Fertilize in the Fall (if at all): If you fertilize, fall is the best time. Cooler weather supports strong root growth heading into winter and reduces the risk of that fertilizer contributing to algae and unwanted plant growth in nearby lakes.

Maintain Your Septic System: A neglected septic system can send unfiltered waste straight into our waters. Pump it every 3–5 years to keep things flowing the right way.

Want to see more about how it all connects? Watch Our Lakeshore Connection – a short video by the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy. You can find it on our website (chautauquawatershed.org) and YouTube channel, or just scan the QR code in our ad in this publication.

Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy is a local not-for-profit organization working to protect the Chautauqua region’s lands and waters.

Chautauqua Lake Association (CLA) Kicks Off 2025 Season

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

where it is transferred into dump trucks and delivered to local farms for composting.

This eco-friendly process turns lake debris into a nutrient-rich resource for agriculture, closing the loop on lake management and benefiting the wider community.

The Importance of Our Work
For over 70 years, the CLA has been the sole in-lake service provider, ensuring safe, navigable waters for residents and visitors. Our work supports biodiversity, helps mitigate harmful algal blooms, and contributes to the region’s economic well-being.

The Chautauqua County Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and multiple lake management guidance documents endorse the

CLA’s techniques and strategies.

How You Can Help
As lake maintenance costs continue to rise, your support is more important than ever. The CLA relies on community contributions to maintain our high standards of service. Every donation directly supports clean water, sustainable practices, and a more beautiful lake for everyone. Together, we can ensure that Chautauqua Lake remains a thriving, navigable waterway.

Please consider donating today at ChautauquaLakeAssociation.org

A Clean Lake is Everyone’s Business
The Chautauqua Lake Association (CLA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization overseen by a volunteer board of directors.

“So lovely was the loneliness of a wild lake.”

~ Edgar Allan Poe

Our Lakeshore Connection

Lakes are an essential part of our identity here in Chautauqua County.

They are vital for our economy, the environment, and our way of life – and it is up to us to protect them and keep them healthy!

Scan the QR code to watch “Our Lakeshore Connection” and learn more!



THE BEMUS POINT STOWE FERRY

MEMORIAL DAY TILL LABOR DAY, FRIDAYS 4-6PM, SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS NOON- 9 PM AND HOLIDAYS

Article Contributed by
Jay Kuntz, President
The Bemus Point Stow Ferry

The Bemus Point-Stow Ferry is a historic icon on Chautauqua Lake. Ferry service between Stow and Bemus began in 1811, carrying family members from their farm holdings in Stow to Bemus Point, pulling hand over hand on a sturdy manila rope stretched from side to side across the narrowest point on Lake Chautauqua.

For pioneering families, The Ferry became an important and trusted source of transportation. A short trip across the lake could save days instead of traveling the heavily forested trails around the lake. Local farmers would pay a small fee to transport livestock and produce across the lake.

As early as the 1870's, visitors to southwestern NY would find the ferry a unique, useful and enjoyable way to experience their visit to Lake Chautauqua. It became an annual tradition to take a ride on The Ferry. For many families, The Ferry is a link that connects generations.

As horses and wagons were replaced with cars and trucks, The Ferry continued to be a vital part of the transportation infrastructure. The size was increased to carry the cars of the faster-moving society. Gas-powered engines replaced the hand-cranked pulleys used to pull the boat across The Narrows.

As World War II was ending, the continued operation of The Ferry was in doubt, and the county stepped in and made it a part of the highway system. It was modified to carry up to 9 cars and operated from 6 am till midnight, April thru November. The engine rigged to turn the pulleys and pull the cables was replaced with paddle wheels on a drive shaft providing propulsion.

In the early 1980s, as the I 86 bridge was being built, it looked like The Ferry could become a footnote to the past as the county would no longer need to keep her running. However, a non-profit organization realized the significance of keeping this jewel an active part of the history of the region and took over the operation and maintenance of this unique vessel.

Today, 214 years later, The Bemus Point-Stow Ferry continues to go back and forth. She connects riders with the significant role this vessel has played in the development of the local culture, and is an enjoyable way to spend time on the water.

Every spring, field trips on The Ferry give school children a rare opportunity to experience a part of their history. Returning visitors to Chautauqua Lake make sure a ride on The Ferry is part of their trip. The many layers of the past attract visitors to experience an active connection to days gone by. Midweek, birthdays, anniversaries, or other reasons for family and friends to get together can be arranged for a personalized special event. A trip across The Narrows on board The Ferry rekindles old memories and creates new ones.

There is no fee to ride The Ferry. A donation is all that is asked for. It is operated and maintained by dedicated volunteers who recognize the value of her continued operation, linking us to the way life used to be. Weather permitting and operator availability, she uses on weekends from Memorial Day till Labor Day, Fridays 4-6p, Saturdays and Sundays Noon- 9 p.m and holidays. . Come Ride The Ferry and be a part of the legacy of Chautauqua Lake

For more information visit <https://www.thebemuspointstowferry.com/> or follow us at The Historic Bemus Point-Stow Ferry on Facebook.

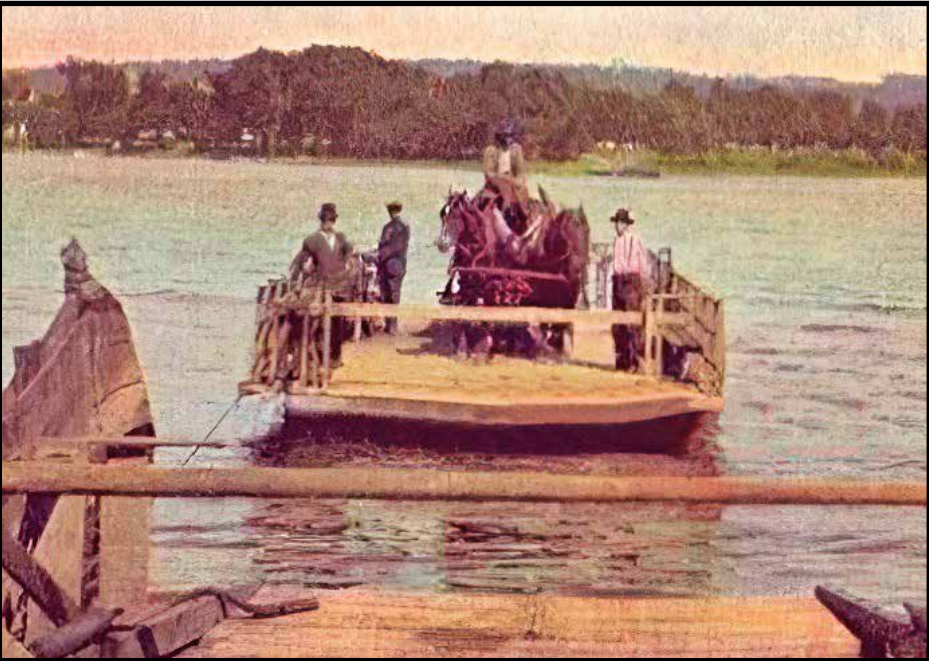


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DEMOLITION BEGINS ON FORMER SILVER CREEK HIGH SCHOOL PROPERTY

Action Clears the Way for Construction of 54-unit Senior Housing Project

Article Contributed by
**Chautauqua County
Industrial Development
Agency**

The effort to redevelop a major blighted property in downtown Silver Creek is taking a significant step forward this week. Demolition of the former Silver Creek High School building at 60 Main St. is now underway, clearing the path for a three-story multi-unit apartment complex for seniors.

The Silver Creek Apartments project is being developed by Southern Tier Environments for Living (STEL), in conjunction with Park Grove Development, LLC. The former high school building has sat vacant for more than 45 years with several efforts to redevelop the property occurring – including as recently as 2022 - but each was ultimately unsuccessful.

A renewed effort to develop the property began in 2023. In October of that year, representatives from STEL and Park



Grove Development appeared before the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA) Board to provide initial details of their project, which involved the demolition of the former school building and replacing it with a very attractive 50,574 square-foot apartment building. In February 2024, the CCIDA Board authorized local assistance for the project, which included a Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement along with exemptions for both sales and mortgage tax payments. Throughout the rest of 2024 and into 2025, the developers worked to secure all funding for the project and also ownership of the property. Last month the property was transferred over to Silver Creek Apartments, LLC, clearing the way for the project to move forward.

Demolition of the existing building involves long-needed environmental remediation, including the careful removal and disposal of hazards including asbestos, PCBs, and lead paint. Once the building has been demolished, work can begin on the new apartment building construction, which will provide 54 safe and affordable apartments for seniors age 62 and up. Of those units, 51 will be one-bedroom apartments, and three will be two-bedroom apartments. Fifteen units will also be set



Submitted Photo

The long-awaited demolition work at the former Silver Creek High School at 60 Main St. in Silver Creek began Wednesday morning, May 7. Once demolition is complete, work will begin on the future Silver Creek Apartments, tentatively scheduled for completion by the summer of 2026.

aside for supportive housing. The new building will also include a community room, fitness room, laundry facilities, and an onsite property management office. There will also be a large parking lot for up to 58 vehicles, along with a patio and shed. The project will provide 180 construction jobs and, once complete, 4.75 full-time equivalent jobs. The total cost of the project is \$20.2 million.

In addition to assistance from the CCIDA, the project also received \$1 million in assistance from a New York State Restore NY award, which will be administered by the Village. The CCIDA assistance also helped the developers with securing \$6.9 million in funding from New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR).



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WHEREVER IT LEADS**

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WINE AND SPIRITS

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~ Percy Ross

Participants Needed for Dunkirk's Annual Memorial Day Parade



Article Contributed by
Scott D. Mekus
Event Specialist, City of Dunkirk
Festivals & Special Events

The City of Dunkirk Festivals and Special Events department are proud to announce the Annual Memorial Day Parade in downtown Dunkirk on Monday, May 26. The parade is sponsored by Chautauqua Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Refresco, Dunkirk Memorial Post 62 and Central Station Restaurant.

The day will begin with a memorial service at 8:30 a.m. at the Dunkirk Lighthouse presented by the Knights of Columbus and a 10 a.m. memorial service at Memorial Park directed by the Dunkirk Joint Veterans Council.

The parade begins at 11 a.m. and will travel down Central Avenue and end at Washington Park with a hydration station hosted by Revitalize Dunkirk. Miniature flags for waving will be distributed to families along the parade route while supplies last.

Memorial Day was established on May 29, 1863 as a designated day for the purpose of strewing flowers over the graves of our dead veterans who had died in defense of our country.

For more information about being a parade participant and/or event sponsor, please contact Scott Mekus, Dunkirk Festivals event specialist at (716) 366-9848 or smekus@cityofdunkirk.com.

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The Ultimate Guide to Fishing in Chautauqua County

CONTINUED FROM Front Page

Chautauqua Lake: The Crown Jewel of Western New York

Chautauqua Lake stretches across 13,156 acres, making it the largest inland lake in Western New York and one of the highest navigable bodies of water in North America. The lake is divided into two distinct basins by Bemus Point: the shallower, weed-heavy south basin and the deeper, kettle-hole-filled north basin.

Anglers here will find no shortage of fish to target, including everything from largemouth and smallmouth bass to muskellunge, walleye, perch, crappie, bullhead, and more. The north basin, which reaches depths of up to 75 feet, stratifies in summer and is home to popular deepwater fishing spots like Warner Bar, Dewittville, and Prendergast Point. The shallow south basin, with a max depth of 19 feet, is ideal for bass and panfish, especially near thick weed beds.

The history of muskellunge culture in New York began right on Chautauqua Lake. The original hatchery at Bemus Point gave way to the current Chautauqua Hatchery at Prendergast Point, which now raises 25,000–30,000 fingerling muskies annually, making this lake a must-fish for those chasing a true freshwater giant.

During the summer months, bass anglers have success using spinner baits, soft plastics, and crankbaits near submerged vegetation and rocky shoals. Walleye respond well to trolling with worm harnesses or jigging along drop-offs, especially during low-light periods.

In the winter season, Chautauqua Lake becomes one of the premier ice fishing destinations in the region. Mayville, Long Point, and Ashville Bay are hotspots for panfish like yellow perch and bluegill. Jigging spoons tipped with minnows or grubs are also favorites. For walleye, early morning and evening bites are best, using jigging Rapalas or tip-ups rigged with shiners.

Whether you're launching a boat or casting from shore, public access is readily available. Key launch points include Long Point State Park, DEC launches at Prendergast Point and Bemus Point, and shore fishing access at Tom's Point and Midway State Park.

Lake Erie: A World-Class Walleye Destination on Chautauqua's North Shore

New York's Lake Erie shoreline in northern Chautauqua County is widely regarded as one of the best places in the state to catch walleye. With populations supported by both local spawning stocks and millions of migratory fish from the lake's western basin, Lake Erie delivers some of the most consistent trophy walleye fishing anywhere.

From May 1 to March 15, anglers can harvest six walleye per day (minimum 15 inches), with most fish measuring between 18–28 inches and many exceeding 30 inches. Walleye can be caught via trolling, drifting, bottom bouncing, and casting. Springtime nighttime trolling between Barcelona and Dunkirk is especially productive, with stickbaits run flat in shallow rocky areas. As the season progresses into summer, anglers shift to offshore tactics using lead core line, Dipsy Divers, Jet Divers, and planer boards to reach fish suspended in 60–80 feet of water.

Fall fishing is often underrated but excellent, with fish moving back into shallower rocky structures to feed. Though shore fishing opportunities are limited, break walls and jetties near harbors can be productive in spring and fall, especially after dark.

Anglers without boats can book charters out of local harbors, including Dunkirk and Barcelona. For those seeking a competitive edge, summer walleye tournaments draw anglers from around the region.

While walleye is the headline act, Lake Erie also offers chances to catch smallmouth bass, catfish, freshwater drum, and white bass, particularly in shallower areas with structure. Whether you're trolling deep offshore or casting from a jetty at sunset, Lake Erie delivers big fish and world-class fishing right here in Chautauqua County.

Cassadaga Lakes: Quiet, Connected Waters with Big Potential

Located in northern Chautauqua County, the Cassadaga Lakes consist of three interconnected bodies of water — Upper, Middle, and Lower Cassadaga. Together, they offer around 5 miles of shoreline and a surprising variety of fishing opportunities for their modest size.

Bass fishing is a highlight here, especially along the natural wetlands where largemouth bass thrive. Smallmouth

bass prefer the gravel-bottom drop-offs and rocky outcroppings. Anglers commonly use surface plugs, plastic worms, and live bait like crayfish to lure these aggressive fighters.

The lakes also support northern pike and stocked muskellunge, both capable of reaching trophy sizes. Try casting large jerkbaits or using big minnows to attract these apex predators. Though walleye are less abundant, the occasional legal-size fish is still pulled from these waters.

Panfish are plentiful and provide year-round action. In spring, fly anglers enjoy casting to bedding sunfish with poppers and wet flies, while conventional anglers stick to worms, jigs, and small spinners. After dark, bullhead catfish become active, especially in the shallower, weedy sections.

Ice fishing is also popular, particularly for panfish and the occasional predator. Just note that oxygen depletion below 12–15 feet from June through September limits deepwater fishing during the summer months.

Public boat access is available at the DEC site on Glasgow Road at the north end of Middle Cassadaga Lake. The launch includes parking for trailers and accessible features like a dock and hand launch area.

Bear Lake: Remote, Rich, and Steeped in Glacial History

Tucked away north of the Village of Stockton in north-central Chautauqua County, Bear Lake is a quiet, glacially formed kettle lake with a unique ecology and some surprising fishing opportunities. Covering 114 acres with a maximum depth of 35 feet and more than 70% of its shoreline composed of wetlands, Bear Lake offers rich habitat for predator and prey species alike.

Largemouth bass thrive in the weedy shallows, while deeper water supports smaller panfish like bluegill, perch, and pumpkinseed. Anglers can expect action using soft plastics, spinnerbaits, and live bait near shoreline vegetation or along the deeper weed edges. The undeveloped shoreline and wetland cover also make Bear Lake an excellent destination for nature lovers who enjoy combining fishing with birdwatching or a peaceful paddle.

Access is simple but rustic, with a public hand launch located on Bear Lake Road just north of the Village of Stockton. It's a perfect spot for a small boat, kayak, or canoe, and an ideal destination for fishing enthusiasts seeking solitude,

scenic views, and dependable bites in a gorgeous outdoor setting.

Findley Lake: A Glistening Hidden Gem Near the Pennsylvania Border

Tucked away in the southwestern corner of the county, Findley Lake may be smaller at 292 acres, but it punches above its weight in terms of fishing quality. Lush weed beds provide prime habitat for largemouth and smallmouth bass, along with an increasing population of tiger muskellunge and northern pike.

Bass anglers find success with a variety of techniques, from topwater lures to live shiners. Largemouths tend to stick to vegetation, while smallmouths roam the rockier, open areas. Since 2009, the DEC has stocked advanced muskellunge fingerlings annually, and the lake also receives walleye fingerlings every other year.

Crappie, yellow perch, bluegill, and pumpkinseed round out the species list, all of which are reliable targets through the ice or during open water season. Fly fishing in spring with poppers and small wet flies can yield fast-paced action for sunfish.

Public access is provided at two sites at the north end of the lake, along Route 426/430 in the Village of Findley Lake. One site is DEC-operated for hand launching, while the other (open on weekdays only) accommodates trailered boats. A fishing/viewing platform and accessible dock make this a great spot for families or anglers with mobility needs.

Chautauqua residents can proudly boast that our country reigns supreme as a year-round fishing destination, thanks to its lakes' pristine waters, variety of fish species, and a rich fishing history and culture. Whether you're ice fishing for walleye on Chautauqua Lake, tossing a popper for panfish in the Cassadaga chain, trolling for muskie on peaceful Findley Lake, drifting a worm harness in Lake Erie's offshore depths, or quietly paddling through the wetland edges of Bear Lake, there's a corner of this county that will speak to every type of angler. Don't forget your license (and maybe a camera)...you never know when your next cast will land you a memory of a lifetime!

Special thanks to Andrew Nixon, CEO of the Chautauqua County Tourism Bureau, CCVB, and fishing writer Forest Fisher, whose insights and expertise greatly contributed to this article. Forest Fisher's fishing articles can be found at Tour Chautauqua.

Seven Local Manufacturers Get Retool WNY Funding for Clean Energy Initiatives in BPU Territory

Article Contributed by
Jamestown Board of
Public Utilities

The Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has provided seven local manufacturers with \$19,000 each to assist their efforts in developing and producing parts and components in the clean energy sector. The manufacturing transformation mini-grants were part of the Retool WNY initiative launched through the Accelerate the Southern Tier program, a multi-year grant funded by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).

The funding supports companies that showed significant investment in purchasing equipment, conducting research and development or creating new supply chain opportunities for products/services in the clean energy/ climate technology sector. The project effectively transforms their companies to accommodate the growing manufacturing needs of the clean energy sector.

“The Accelerate the Southern Tier grant has been an invaluable resource in supporting our community’s efforts to ‘retool’ and modernize our local industrial and commercial sectors,” said BPU Deputy General Manager-Electric, Kristofor G. Sellstrom. “Manufacturing remains a cornerstone of our community, and adapting to ensure its relevance and competitiveness in an evolving landscape is critical. Our Retool initiative, which enabled these mini-grants, is dedicated to achieving that goal.”

“These mini-grants complement the broader Retool conferences, regional marketing initiatives, and the HVAC/ BAS program at Jamestown Community College, creating a comprehensive approach to sustaining and advancing our local economy,” continued Sellstrom. “The BPU team is thankful for everyone that has helped with this initiative as it takes many small changes and a dedicated community working together to achieve long-term results.”

“We are grateful to NYSERDA for its continuing support of our “Accelerate the Southern Tier” multi-year grant,” stated BPU General Manager David L. Leathers, “especially regarding these recent mini-grants that have been



Wayne Rishell, CFO, and Rhonda Johnson, President of Weber Knapp, accept Retool WNY mini-grant check from Jamestown BPU Business Development Coordinator Ellen Ditonto.



Blackstone Technologies: Pictured L-R at the Retool WNY mini-grant check presentation is Blackstone Advanced Technologies CFO Sarah Drake; Senior Manufacturing Engineer & Facilities Manager Paul Silzle; Jamestown BPU Business Development Coordinator Ellen Ditonto; Blackstone Advanced Technologies Owner Heather Turner; Engineering Consultant Wayne Berg, and CEO Richard Turner.

awarded over the last several months to seven companies located in the Jamestown BPU electric service territory. We congratulate the local manufacturers that are retooling their production lines to meet the State’s goals of clean energy/ climate technology.”

NYSERDA Director of Commercialization Stephen Bravo said, “Advancing local manufacturing, job creation and a robust supply chain helps to accelerate the pace of commercializing clean energy technologies. NYSERDA is proud to support the Jamestown BPU and the awarded companies in fostering innovation and economic growth across

western New York.”

Dawson Metal, Weber Knapp, Anderson Precision, Stuart Tool & Die, Falconer Electronics, SKF and Blackstone Advanced Technologies have benefited from the grant program that ended in December 2024.

Dawson Metal, a custom sheet metal fabricator founded in 1946 and located in Jamestown, purchased a Haeger automated fastener machine. This equipment enables the manufacturer to make components for companies in the EV charging infrastructure and electric rail car assembly businesses. Dawson

employs 100 people at its location on Allen Street.

Weber Knapp invested over three hundred hours in research and development and purchased new equipment to produce a line of hinges for refrigerators and freezers with greater energy efficiency standards. The first batch of hinges was produced in late 2024, and a second component line will be in production in two years. Weber Knapp expects to add two employees to assist with this new production work. The company is over one hundred years old and has two local production facilities, one on Chandler Street in Jamestown and a second on Allen Street Extension in Falconer.

Stuart Tool and Die, located in Falconer, purchased a Niagara stamping press, which provides new tooling options and the opportunity for new die builds requested by clean energy end customers. Stuart Tool has been building stamping dies for the solar industry, and the new equipment will allow the company to expand its capability to make stamped solar components. The company has added employee to assist with the projected increase in parts. If sales continue to trend upward due to increased production capability, three additional employees may be hired.

Anderson Precision, situated on Livingston Avenue in Jamestown, has been in business since the late 1800s and services customers in the automotive, heavy truck and electric motors sectors. The company supports customer efforts to re-shore parts to North America and has started to produce a turned metal component for the battery cell in a Jeep hybrid model. The company has invested in tooling and fixtures to allow for one hundred percent optical quality inspection and test materials to meet the requirements for its end customer. The company has increased its employee count by two due to this new business opportunity.

Falconer Electronics has been in business for 40 years, manufacturing wire harness assemblies, ground straps and heavy-duty industrial power strips for large retail customers. Due to changes in the industry and foreign competition, owner Roger Hall realized the company needed to expand its ability to become connected

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26



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CHAMBER
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An Exciting Small Business Week!

Article Contributed by
Daniel J. Heitzenrater
Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
President and CEO

What an extraordinary week it was! The CHQ Chamber team, sometimes joined by friends from partner organizations along the way, visited 500 small local businesses during National Small Business Week, bookended by two press events – one to officially proclaim Small Business Week in Chautauqua County, and the other to honor small businesses receiving awards from the Small Business Development Center.

We began the week at 3 Lakes Café in Cassadaga where our hosts Jake and Abi Landean helped us usher in Small Business Week by greeting dignitaries and representatives from our partner organizations including the Small Business Development Center, County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency, Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau, and more. From there we walked through parts of Cassadaga and Lily Dale, then on to Falconer and Frewsburg. Tuesday took us to Clymer, Panama, Bemus Point, and some Jamestown businesses. On Wednesday we travelled through Fredonia, Silver Creek, Irving, Forestville, and Dunkirk. Thursday began in downtown Jamestown and then moved on towards Celoron and Lakewood. Friday morning, we started out in Westfield where we were delighted to be part of an outstanding celebration at the new home of CK Natural Fruit Juice (more on that in a moment) as well as walk through much of the village before pressing on to Mayville and the Chautauqua area and into Maple Springs.

Small businesses represent 99 percent of the businesses in Chautauqua County. They truly run the economic gamut from retail to restaurants to a wide variety of service industries including finance, law, automotive, agriculture, manufacturing, and everything in between. They employ hundreds of people countywide and also put a unique face on each community in our county.

Friday’s event at CK Natural Fruit Juice was organized by our friends at the Small Business Development Center at JCC in tribute to Melissa Baideme, the owner of the business, who was named New York State Small Business Person of the Year.

The local SBDC staff was joined by New York State Director Sonya Smith from Albany, and Victoria Reynolds, District Director of the Small Business Administration from Buffalo.

Melissa Baideme has received this award just as her business is about to take a new and exciting turn. She has purchased and is renovating a building in Westfield that will become her own processing facility and sales center, allowing her to bring her business to an even larger scale. She noted that it hasn’t always been easy, but it has been rewarding. “Discomfort,” she said, “doesn’t mean something’s wrong. It means something worthwhile might be waiting on the other side.” As a fruit juice processor, she is passionate about supporting local farmers, and she also thanked her husband and family for their encouragement and assistance.

The SBDC also presented awards to Julie Ambrose, owner of St. Elmo Spa in Chautauqua, and to Carrie and Levi Swanson, owners of Sweeterson Farms, an online kitchen boutique based in Clymer. Congratulations to all of them!

As we wore down the soles of our shoes walking from business to business in numerous communities, we realized they don’t often get a simple “thank you.” Our purpose was just that – to thank them for being the foundation of our communities. Small businesses are much more than the places we go when we need to make a purchase or grab a meal. They are where we gather for coffee and meet up with friends. They are central to our sense of place. They are the footings our community is built upon.

Along the way we learned some things. We heard about some of the challenges our local businesses are facing, and also about their plans and goals, and what makes them proud to go to work every day. We made some purchases, heard some great stories, and connected directly with people who have a lot of passion about what they do. Small Business Week may be drawing to a close, but our small businesses are here every day to provide us with goods and services, and to inspire us all to keep pushing forward. Happy Small Business Week to all! We thank you for all you do.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

"The Curse of Spade Manor"

A Chilling Mystery Rooted in Blood and Secrets



Featured Writer
Karlie Blodien
Author



Set in the shadowy streets of late 1880s London, *The Curse of Spade Manor* is a gripping mystery thriller that explores the devastating weight of legacy, betrayal, and the lengths one woman will go to uncover the truth.

Ella, the novel’s determined protagonist, has lived in the shadow of death for most of her life. The trauma of witnessing her father’s murder ignites a lifelong obsession to uncover the truth behind the tragedy—and the sinister curse that has long plagued her family. Haunted by loss and driven by justice, Ella steps into a world of buried secrets and dangerous truths.

But she’s not alone. Her husband, James, stands by her side even when the truth is revealed. Together with her uncle Carlisle, her late mother’s brother and a man holding pieces of the past, Ella begins to unravel a mystery far darker and more complex than she ever imagined.

As Ella dives deeper into the truth behind the curse, she finds herself navigating a tangled web of family secrets, old alliances, and chilling

betrayals. Each revelation draws her closer to a legacy soaked in blood—and a confrontation that could break the curse or consume everything she has left.

With richly drawn characters and an atmosphere thick with gothic tension, *The Curse of Spade Manor* pulls readers into a world where nothing is as it seems. It’s a story about inheritance—not of wealth or status, but of pain, fear, and hidden power—and the fight to rewrite fate before it destroys another generation.

Written for an adult audience, this novel blends historical intrigue with heart-pounding suspense. Fans of Victorian mysteries, family dramas, and slow-burning thrillers will find themselves captivated by Ella’s quest and the eerie truths she uncovers along the way.

The Curse of Spade Manor is a haunting tale of love, loyalty, and the desperate pursuit of freedom from the past.



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PUZZLES ON PAGE 7

Seven Local Manufacturers Get Retool WNY Funding for Clean Energy Initiatives in BPU Territory

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

to customers in the clean energy sector by using new marketing techniques. The company developed an enhanced online marketing profile with multiple software tools, allowing customers to build and customize parts in an online model.

This move by Falconer Electronics appealed to customers in the solar, wind and EV markets, and according to the owner, has been a game-changer. Ground straps and wiring harnesses are critical components to electric motors, inverters and other parts used in the clean energy sector. Falconer Electronics has seen a sizable increase in orders from companies seeking these parts with a "Made in America" label.

SKF USA's Aeroengine Plant in Falconer is investing in additional equipment and automation tools to ramp up production of ceramic rolling elements for the electrified aircraft market, part of the emerging clean energy sector. Ceramic rollers and balls are forty percent lighter than their equivalent steel rolling elements. The lighter-weight components help reduce fuel usage and enable the growth of the electrified aircraft market.

SKF is focused on improving efficiency in the production line by adding a robotic arm to two existing loading and unloading machines. This project will allow for greater efficiency and increased output to meet the rising demand for these lighter-weight rollers.

Blackstone Advanced Technologies used the grant funding to assist with purchasing a laser welder. The machine provides cleaner welds at a faster speed and has allowed Blackstone Advanced Technologies to produce parts for the climate technology sector, including enclosures used in wind power production.

Jamestown BPU's Business Development Coordinator, Ellen Ditonto, has worked with companies throughout the Southern Tier to assess their ability to transform production lines to meet emerging clean energy sector needs.

Insyte Consulting completed a detailed study as part of the NYSEDA grant. The analysis outlined the potential for existing manufacturers to expand into the clean energy sector through retooling, investments in research and development and direct outreach to companies looking for supply chain partners.

The Retool WNY initiative's success over the last four years has included annual conferences on topics of interest to manufacturers, educators and suppliers. The Retool'25 Conference is planned for June 3rd. Details are available by contacting Ellen Ditonto at businessdev@jamestownbpu.com.

Applications being accepted for next Project SEARCH class

Contributed by
The Resource Center

The Resource Center is accepting applications for its next Project SEARCH internship program, a collaboration with UPMC Chautauqua that prepares people with intellectual and developmental disabilities for community-based employment.

Applications are being accepted for the 2025-26 internship program, which begins in September. The program targets recent high-school graduates and others up to age 30. Applications are due in May.

Project SEARCH supports people with disabilities in gaining work-readiness skills. During the nine-month program, the interns will participate in classroom instruction and experience three unique internships at the hospital. Upon graduation, interns will transition into TRC's Supported Employment Program to either become employed at the hospital or use the skills they have acquired to try to obtain employment elsewhere.

Project SEARCH began at Cincinnati Children's Hospital in 1996 and has grown to 782 program sites in 47 U.S. states and nine countries, with more than 48,000 people going through the program since 2010.

The local Project SEARCH program operates with funding from two New York State agencies: the Office for People With

Developmental Disabilities and ACCES-VR (Adult Career and Continuing Education Services — Vocational Rehabilitation).

The local Project SEARCH program began in 2022. Nine people have graduated from the program; four were hired by UPMC Chautauqua, while two others work elsewhere. Seven people are participating in the current Project SEARCH class, which ends in June; one of this year's interns has accepted a job offer from the hospital.

TRC officials are pleased with how the internship program has gone and the positive effects Project SEARCH has had in furthering the employment aspirations of people with disabilities in Chautauqua County.

"When I heard about Project SEARCH, I wanted TRC to start a program, because it offers a path to employment that hadn't previously been available in our community," said Faith Baker, employment services administrator at The Resource Center. "Every year, we have witnessed tremendous growth in the interns participating, not just in the employment arena, but in life. Project SEARCH promotes overall confidence and independence. As adults, our careers identify us in so many ways, and I love helping people achieve their employment goals."

For more information or to obtain an application form, phone Baker at 716-483-2344, extension 90016.



MHA Holding Jamestown JOB FAIR Wednesday, May 14; Dunkirk Center Reopening



The first Job Fair presented by the Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County (MHA) is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday, May 14 at the Jamestown recovery center, Door 14 in the Gateway Center, 31 Water Street. A number of local businesses and organizations will be represented, and anyone looking for work is invited to come and find exciting career opportunities that align with their skills and interests. Pictured planning the event are, from left, bilingual Spanish Outreach Peer Danny Rosario, OPEN Program Peer Justin Jimenez, and Peer Specialist Gordy Frederes. Also, following successful building remediation, the MHA's North County recovery center reopens Tuesday, May 6 in Grace Lutheran Church, 601 Eagle Street in Dunkirk. Hours will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The MHA is a peer recovery center offering support groups and individual coaching for people looking to improve their lives, deepen wellness, thrive in recovery, or support those on a recovery path. All services are free. Learn more at MHACHautauqua.org and [Facebook.com/MHACHautauqua](https://www.facebook.com/MHACHautauqua).

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COMPOSITION AND SONGWRITING, MODERN BAND CAMPS TO JOIN FREDONIA SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL



Dr. Eliran Avni works with a student during a Piano Camp.

Article Contributed by
SUNY Fredonia

Two new camps – Composition and Songwriting, and Modern Band – have been added to the Summer Musical Festival at the State University of New York at Fredonia.

“We are excited to offer two new camps this summer, in addition to the five camps we traditionally hold. These new camps will give even more students an opportunity to focus on their chosen field within the world of music,” said Adjunct Lecturer Tiffany Nicely, who directs the festival geared to middle and high school students and held in Mason Hall.

School of Music faculty and experienced guest faculty members will mentor campers as they live like music majors on campus for the week, honing their skills and exploring new musical avenues.

There are a total of seven camps, each age specific and lasting one week, held from late June to late July.

Composition and Songwriting, for students in grades 8 through 12 and including seniors who recently graduated, will explore the art of creating music through instruction, demonstrations, group lessons and individual review sessions. It will be held Sunday, June 29 to Saturday, July 5.

Students will learn how to build a new piece of music, working with faculty composers and performers. Musical examples from both living and historical composers from different styles and genres will be presented. Small group lessons and daily master classes on specific aspects of music composing are also on the schedule. A public reading of each student’s music will conclude the camp.

Modern Band, for students in grade 8 through 12 and including seniors who recently graduated, focuses on contemporary music (rock, hip-hop and country, among others) created in small groups or bands. Students who play guitar, bass, keyboard, drums or sing are welcome to join in the process.

The bands will play a mix of existing music and new tunes created during the camp held Sunday, July 13 to Friday, July 18. Instruction will also be given in the history of popular music and students will work on their own musical and listening skills.

The five other music camps and their respective dates include: Piano, Band/High School, Band/Middle School, and Choral, will run Sunday, June 29 to Saturday, July 5; and String camp, Sunday, July 20 to Saturday, July 26.

For more information and to register, visit the website at <https://www.fredonia.edu/academics/colleges-schools/school-music/music/summer-music>



Chamber Corner

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

Six New Members So Far in our 31 in 31 Initiative

The first week of May is closing and to date we have six new members of the CHQ Chamber as we work to attract 31 new members during the 31 days of May. Those who have joined the Chamber this month are Beyond Support Network of Fredonia; Impact Internet of West Seneca; Chautauqua Medial Aesthetics of Lakewood; Personal & Home Development LLC of Jamestown; Cotton Thistle Boutique of Lakewood; and Builders Exchange of the Southern Tier in Falconer.

Throughout the month of May, the CHQ Chamber is offering incentives to our current members when they help get a new business to join. Here’s how it works: when a new member joins and lists your Chamber member business as having referred them, the current member will get a six-month banner ad on the CHQ Chamber website. That’s a \$300 advertising value. If three new members join and list your business as the referrer, you get a six-month banner and plus two tickets to the CHQ Chamber Awards Banquet in October for a \$430 value. If five new members join and list your business as the referrer, you’ll get a six-month banner ad, two tickets to the Annual Awards Banquet, plus a quarter page ad in the CHQ Chamber 2025 Membership Handbook – for a total value of \$980. These incentives are open to any current Chamber member business. Referrals can be noted either in our printed membership form or the online join form. In both forms there’s a space that asks, “Please let us know who referred you for CHQ Chamber membership.” You can also let our staff know you’ve referred a business, and we’ll follow up. Just send a quick email to Membership Development Director Bob Lingle at rlingle@chqchamber.org.

What are the real benefits of joining the CHQ Chamber? There are plenty for businesses of all sizes. Our mission is to build vital connections, provide professional resources, and champion our local businesses in Chautauqua County. We do that by

providing opportunities that connect customers to local businesses, connect businesspeople peer-to-peer, and offering multiple services such as human resources compliance tools, ribbon cuttings for new businesses, an online business directory featuring integrated Google mapping, and more. Your membership is valuable, but not expensive. All these services, and more, start at just \$195 a year. This May, bring a friend, and demonstrate the value of membership in the CHQ Chamber.

Business After Hours With the Tarp Skunks

Join us this month for a unique Business After Hours event with the Jamestown Tarp Skunks! You can mingle with the baseball players and other local businesspeople, enjoy a complimentary hotdog courtesy of 3 C’s Catering, enjoy a cash bar, and get a personalized baseball card with your name and picture on it – taken by a professional photographer. Then, stay after if you’d like to watch the Tarp Skunks practice.

This event will be held Tuesday, May 27 from 5-6:30pm at Russell E. Diethrick Jr. Park, home of the Jamestown Tarp Skunks. All local businesspeople are welcome.

CHQ Chamber Business After Hours events are free for two people from each Chamber member organization. The price is just \$10 for non-members or anyone above the two-person limit. Registration is not required but is very much appreciated for our planning purposes. Advanced registration also gets you on our “Who’s Who in the Room” list during the event. Registration is open now through our web calendar at www.chqchamber.org.

This event is proudly sponsored by Phillips Lytle LLP, Jamestown Tarp Skunks, 3 C’s Catering, AHN Westfield Memorial Hospital, Brooks-TLC Hospital System, LaBella Associates, National Grid, Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union, Jamestown Community College, Media One Radio Group, Observer, and The Post-Journal.



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ARTSCAPE JAMESTOWN ORIGINAL ART SHOW OPENS WITH 60 REGIONAL ARTISTS

Contributed by
Chautauqua Art Gallery

The original artwork for the 2025 ArtScape Jamestown will be on display and for sale in a joint art show held at Chautauqua Art Gallery, and the Pearl City Clay House, from May 9 - June 28 with an opening reception on May 15 from 5-7:30pm. The public is invited to the opening reception to meet the ArtScape artists and view their work.

This year's artist reception will begin at Chautauqua Art Gallery at 5 p.m. with opening remarks at 5:30 p.m. Guests are invited to make their way to Pearl City Clay House at 5:45 pm to view the entire body of work included in the show. Both galleries will remain open until 7:30 p.m.

Now in its third year, ArtScape is an outdoor public "gallery" created by the Jamestown Renaissance Corporation in partnership with the Chautauqua Art Gallery, Pearl City Clay House, and the City of Jamestown Parks Department. It displays works of art by local artists on banners in the downtown area.

ArtScape aims to represent a diverse group of regional artists from all walks of life. From December 2024 through February 2025, local artists were invited to submit up to three works of art for this unique art show. In March, a jury of arts professionals selected 58 of the 312 artworks submitted to be printed on banners. ArtScape Jamestown is again pleased to partner with the Resource Center to host two additional pieces by artists who participate in Resource Center art programs led by Susan



Gutierrez. This year, eight of the 60 banners will display art from our new youth category, sponsored in part by Infinity Visual and Performing Arts, and Pearl City Clay House.

All of the artist's pieces have been professionally photographed and have been printed on banners that will hang downtown now throughout the rest of the year and into 2026.

A brochure with a walking tour of the outdoor gallery will be available at restaurants, hotels, and attractions throughout Chautauqua County, including The Chamber of Commerce, Pearl City Clay House, Visitors Bureau, and Chautauqua Art Gallery.

"I am thrilled to continue supporting this program through the Chautauqua Art Gallery," said Leslie Calimeri, owner of Chautauqua Art Gallery. "Now in its third year, I am excited to see ArtScape continue to grow and reach even more talented artists. The creativity and

variety of artwork is truly incredible."

The Artscape banner program is made possible through the support of local businesses that sponsored banners. Each business or person who sponsored a banner has their name printed on the banner below the artist's name. When the banners come down at the end of the program, they will be given to the sponsors. Banner sponsors are also listed in the walking tour brochure.

"Public artwork creates beauty, builds community, and gives people a reason to explore downtown Jamestown. It is wonderful to see local businesses supporting this project and helping to foster a sense of community and pride in our city," said Frank Besse, Executive Director of the Jamestown Renaissance Corporation. "I'm looking forward to seeing people take the ArtScape walking tour and discovering everything our downtown offers."

"As an organization committed to fostering creativity in our community,

we could not be happier to have Pearl City Clay House co-host the ArtScape Original Art Show and sponsor a banner. We look forward to continuing to help develop ArtScape and focus on creating awareness for our strong local arts community," said Deb Eck, teaching artist and Director of the Pearl City Clay House.

During the original art show, all artwork from the ArtScape banners is available to view and purchase on Chautauqua Art Gallery's website: <https://ChautauquaArtGallery.com>. The Chautauqua Art Gallery is open Monday-Friday from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. At 318 N. Main Street in Jamestown, (716) 294-3027. Pearl City Clay House is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-8 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m and Sundays Noon - 4 pm at 220 E. 2nd St. in Jamestown, (716) 488-2529.

About Jamestown Renaissance Corporation (JRC): The Jamestown Renaissance Corporation is a non-profit and public-private partnership dedicated to revitalizing and enhancing Jamestown, New York. Through collaborative partnerships and innovative programs, the JRC creates a vibrant, thriving community that fosters economic growth, strengthens neighborhoods, and improves the quality of life for all residents. Information about the Jamestown Renaissance Corporation is available at <https://www.jamestownrenaissance.org/>



Celeron Lighthouse at Sunset, painting by Shawn Tibbitts



Self Portrait, by Serenity Licciardi



Leaf Through The Roof, Photograph by Lyn Harris

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STATEMENTS ON /FINAL PASSAGE OF THE NYS FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 BUDGET



George M. Borrello
SENATE DISTRICT 57

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ALBANY OFFICE: 518-455-3563
borello@nysenate.gov

“This year’s budget was a missed opportunity -- a chance to confront New York’s affordability crisis, restore public safety, and rebuild public trust. Instead, Albany delivered more of the same.

At \$254 billion, this is the largest and one of the most irresponsible budgets in state history. While families struggle with rising costs and small businesses fight to survive, this plan adds to the burden. Modest wins like a small tax cut and one-time ‘inflation refunds’ will be quickly offset by the long-term damage of the runaway spending. You can’t fix affordability by growing government at such a scale.

The failures extend beyond the bottom line. The Governor promised meaningful discovery reform to fix the flood of criminal case dismissals under the 2019 law and the resulting harm caused to public safety. Instead, we got a watered-down tweak that won’t make a real difference. Her proposed mask ban, meant to deter masked agitators and criminals and aid law enforcement, was similarly gutted. The kind of lawless takeover we saw this week at Columbia University will happen again and again. Once again, public safety took a back seat to political appeasement.

There are a few bright spots.

The budget finally expands involuntary commitment standards and strengthens Kendra’s Law—provisions similar to legislation I’ve championed for years. These changes are overdue and may save lives. It also pays off the state’s \$7 billion unemployment insurance debt, offering long-awaited relief for small businesses. But let’s not forget: those same businesses have spent the past five years unfairly footing the bill while Albany failed to act.

Any goodwill is undermined by one of the most outrageous provisions in the budget: \$10 million in taxpayer funds set aside to cover the private legal fees for state officials, including Attorney General Letitia James, if she faces federal prosecution for mortgage fraud. The actions being investigated involve a personal financial transaction and have nothing to do with her role as Attorney General. She should pay for her own defense. Taxpayers should never be forced to bankroll the personal legal troubles of political elites.

This budget is a monument to mismanagement—a missed opportunity to deliver real reform, real relief, and real results. Every year, Albany excuses a late budget by promising it will be ‘worth the wait.’ This year, once again, it wasn’t.”



Andrew Molitor
ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 150

DISTRICT OFFICE: 716-664-7773
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MOLITOR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV

“I came to Albany committed to bringing common sense and accountability to our state government. Unfortunately, what I witnessed throughout this budget process was anything but that. The process is broken, weeks late, shrouded in secrecy and driven by backroom deals that shut out the voices of everyday New Yorkers.

“There are some positives in the final budget. I was pleased with the \$50 million increase in the CHIPS program, which will help repair and maintain our local roads—a vital investment for our rural communities and small towns. I also welcomed long-overdue changes to the state’s broken discovery laws, which will help bring balance and fairness back to our criminal justice system.

“But the good cannot outweigh the bad. This budget is loaded with unsustainable spending and misguided priorities. Albany continues to pour billions into top-down programs that do little for Western New York—like the \$3 billion in taxpayer dollars for the grossly mismanaged New York City transit system. Meanwhile, costly mandates tied

to the state’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) - the state’s lofty and unrealistic green agenda - will hit families, farmers and small businesses hard, especially in upstate regions already struggling with affordability.

“This budget was crafted for headlines, not for hard-working people. That’s why I voted no. I’ll continue pushing for a budget process that’s transparent, fiscally responsible and focused on delivering real results for Western New York.”

Assemblyman Molitor represents the 150th Assembly District, encompassing all of Chautauqua County. For more information on Assemblyman Molitor, please follow him on Facebook

Upcoming Animal Rabies Immunization Clinics at the Westfield Highway Department

Contributed by
Chautauqua County
Health Department

The Chautauqua County Health Department (CCHD) is announcing a free rabies vaccination clinic sponsored by the Town of Westfield and the CCHD. Vaccinations will be provided free of charge to all dogs, cats, and domesticated ferrets three months of age and older.

When: Saturday, May 17th
10:00am-12:00pm
Where: Westfield Highway
Department 118 Chestnut St.
Westfield, NY 14787

Pre-registration is required and should be submitted online by visiting HealthyCHQ.com/Rabies



and view the calendar for upcoming clinics

Pet owners must bring previous rabies vaccination records for each animal receiving a shot to ensure proper and effective vaccination; clinic staff will confirm previous rabies vaccination records. All dogs must be on a leash. All cats and ferrets must be in individual carriers. Animal handlers will transport animals to the veterinarian for vaccination.



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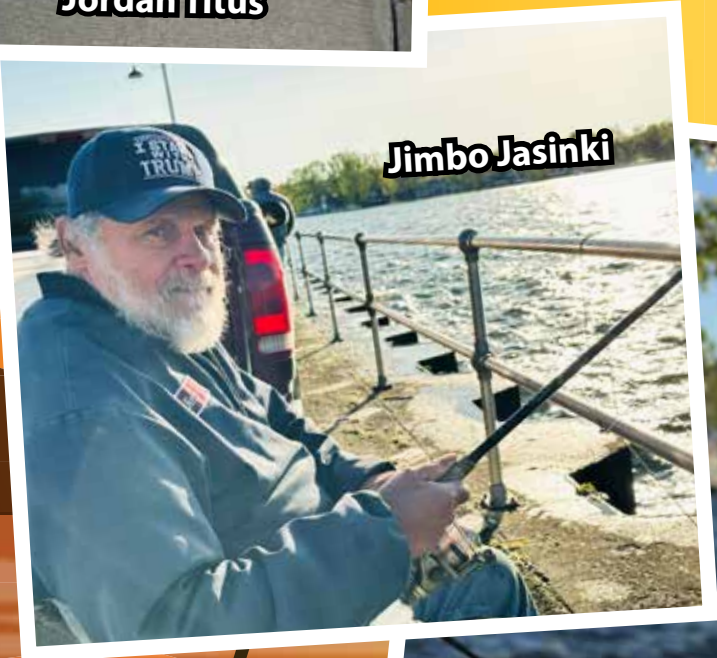
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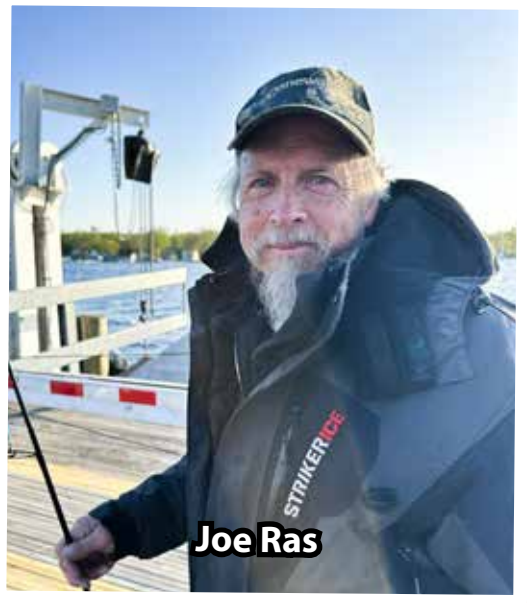
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