



"Because for Infinity, art isn't just a subject—it's a lifeline. And every student



TO VOTE! School Board Elections MAY 20TH

REMEMBER





who walks through their doors adds one more stroke to Chautauqua County's colorful and creative future." Shane Hawkins, Executive Director

Article Contributed by

Infinity Visual & Performing Arts Nestled in the heart of downtown Jamestown, Infinity Visual and Performing Arts, Inc. has become far more than a place to take music lessons—it's a vibrant, nurturing hub where young artists grow, create, and connect across generations.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

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

Learning to See

Continued from Front Page

Of course, I read picture books as a child and had the experiences all kids have, but I think my first grown-up experience with a piece of art was one of Piet Mondrian's paintings. That painting was a revelation to me. I sat staring at it trying to understand what I was looking at and how to see it.

What I realized is that Mondrian was reforming my world for me. Yes, I had seen natural landscapes all my life. Now, he was giving me a new way to see and understand that natural world. He gave me a new way inside of it.

Later, Thomas Cole asked me to see the drama of the Hudson River and Georgia O'Keefe taught me to look closely at the small aspects of the desert.

I like to hike the Rails-to-Trails paths through Chautauqua. As I walk, I see the world through my eyes, and then Mondrian's, Cole's, O'Keefe's, and a thousand other artists including my wife, who draws us in and asks us to see the overlooked elements of the woods, the fallen leaves, the weeds, and the ramps that grow wild and are passed by.

When I'm down, the Arts let me know that the lens I'm seeing through right then, sadness, selfdoubt, or isolation is just one lens to see through. In the middle of a bluesy winter when the whole world seems banal, the Arts fight that feeling. The Arts tell me this world is significant and so is my life.

Living with an artist has been an awakening too. Ann has taught me how to look.

Ann and I used to live and work in
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National
Parks, where I was the poet laureate.when she rar
exhibit of the a
von Stuck.This is where Mt. Whitney is located
along with the world's largest trees.about it cha
about it chaIt is a place of mountain peaks
and long vistas. In among all the
drama, I found Ann one day staring
at a dogwood leaf, focusing on it,
trying to see it, so she could paint it
properly.She came ou
museum a

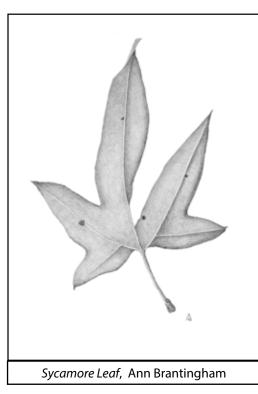


the beauty among the giant sequoia trees, fields of lupine, raging rivers, vistas, cliffs, and caves were the small things that you needed the proper eyes and frame of mind to see.

So now as I hike the Long Point Peninsula, and my eyes are drawn to the long expanse of Chautauqua Lake, I look at that, and I see that. But I also can see the leaves at my feet. Or at least, I remember to look.

So it is no exaggeration to say that the Arts save us or at least me. In those times when I thought the only way to see the world was hopelessly, the Arts gave me a thousand new ways to look.

And they changed the trajectory of my daughter Shaymaa's life as well. Shaymaa was at a crossroads. Having finished her bachelor's degrees, she was unsure what came next. She was in Europe visiting friends when she ran into an exhibit of the artist Franz von Stuck. Something about it changed her. She sat in the museum studying these paintings and let the work help her



to help you resee your world. They are there in part to help you resee yourself. They are there to help you understand that the limits you put on yourself are false, that what is possible is expansive and magical. The Arts are there to serve you.

I hope, too, that you visit some of the galleries that are a little off the beaten track. Check out Janet Madel's Art Studio in Kennedy. I love the way she helps us to re-envision birds. Take the time to see Nancy Nixon's Ensign Studio in Jamestown. I've seen her work online, and now I'm excited to see it in person.

And check out Peter Hamilton's furniture in the LMNOP Gallery in Sherman. I am currently writing this on one of his pieces of art, a desk that I commissioned from him. It's the most beautiful piece of furniture I own and also probably the least expensive. The he understands way woodworking will blow

you away.

Check out John Brantingham's work and sign-up for his newsletter at Johnbrantingham.com. He is author of 23 books of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction and will be covering stories on the visual arts, writing, and other arts in Chautauqua County. Contact us if you have an interesting story about the Arts that you wish to publish in the Chautauqua Gazette.

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.

Refinetition Shearer, Jr.
 Erin Pender

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

Ripley Central School
District
Vote for 2
1. Michael Boll
2. Paul McCutcheon

Sherman Central School District

Vote for 21. Kathy Sweatman2. Michelle Emory3. Jo DeLellis

Silver Creek Central School District Vote for 2 1. Scott Pulver

2. Jerry Cross

She stared at it for what seemed like been half an hour to me. When she was more done, she started to sketch it. The she result was an image that was more were at than real. What she captured was were the magic of the plant, a magic that to I'd never seen. It took her ability to rel focus, her ability to see the world for on me to understand the significance of his a single leaf.

What she taught me was that part of The Arts are there in part

She came out of the different museum а person, but she didn't become a visual artist. Like me, she is a writer. Instead, she realized the kind of work she wanted to do and went to the Netherlands study international to relations with a focus on the global order in historical perspective. And she still writes.

3. Andrea Munsee-Wellman

Clymer Central School District Vote for 1

1. Justin White

Dunkirk City School District Vote for 2

Stephen Helwig
 Karen Willis

Falconer Central School Distric *Vote for 1* **1.** Rob Woodard 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

Southwestern Central School District Vote for 1 1. Kenneth Macdonald

Westfield CentralSchool DistrictVote for 21. Wendy Dyment2. Thomas Tarpley



Editorial with Lori Cornell

Arts & Education



Owner & Publisher

Memorial Day weekend is here! In next Monday's edition, we will honor our veterans and all those who have sacrificed their lives so that we may enjoy the democracy and freedom we cherish in the United States today.

It is this democracy that allows us to vote in our Tuesday, May 20 local school board elections, and to take the opportunity to weigh in and make a difference in the future of our public education system. It isn't just about the "big decision" years that we should exercise our right to vote - our local elections are just as important as those on the national scale. If you can spare the time, participate in democracy at work and stop in to share your voice at your local school on Tuesday!

It is this freedom of expression that allows us to enjoy this weekend's "Art Trail" - an impressive volume and caliber of local talent on display throughout Chautauqua County. In our great county, we are blessed to have such creative folks that share their work in this incredible event. This North Shore Art Alliance's semiannual event never ceases to unveil true beauty and creative ingenuity. It's something residents and visitors a like can enjoy!

This week, on the precipice of summer - in the midst of dusting off the grill, laying down the mulch, hanging up your flag - please support our local arts and education - and do your civic duty!

CONGRESSMAN NICK LANGWORTHY ANNOUNCES \$500,000 EPA GRANT TO REVITALIZE COMMUNITIES IN CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

Article Contributed by

Office of George Borrello NY Senate District 57

Congressman Nick Langworthy

manufacturing facility, and a former dry cleaner in Dunkirk. In Jamestown, the focus will include a former landfill and multiple vacant industrial properties.

This Week Around Tow

MONDAY, MAY 19

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

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

TUESDAY, MAY 20

Countywide School Board Elections For Info: find open poll times at votechautauqua.com

The Ballad of Wallis Island | 7:30 PM 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center For Info: 716-679-1891

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

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

THURSDAY, MAY 22

Veterans Flag Placement Ceremony 4 PM Soldier Circle in Lakeview Cemetery Jamestown For Info: 716-664-1398

THURSDAY, MAY 22

Jamestown Young Professionals: Pop-Up Pickleball 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Michael LeGrega Memorial Field Lakewood For Info: facebook.com/ jamestownyoungprofessionals

FRIDAY, MAY 23

Ice Cream Social | 12 PM - 4 PM

The Hearing Place | Falconer For Info: 716-708-4343

Artist Reception: Tom Annear 6 PM - 8 PM Living Glass Gallery | Westfield For Info: livingglassgallery.com

SATURDAY, MAY 24 & SUNDAY, MAY 25

North Shore Arts Alliance: Driving Tour of Studios & Hubs | 10 AM - 5 PM Chautauqua County For Info: nsaachautauqua.org/art-trail

SUNDAY, MAY 25

Rev. Ron Skowronski: Remember, Reflect, and Reset | 10:30 AM Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown For Info: UUJamestown.org

MONDAY, MAY 26

Memorial Day Parade Free Books Christ First United Methodist Church Jamestown For Info: 716-664-5803

<u>CHAUTAUQUA</u> GAZETTE

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SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Thursdays at 5:00 pm

DISTRIBUTION

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

(NY-23) today announced that the

County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency has been awarded a \$500,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to assess and plan the cleanup of 21 targeted sites in the Cities of Dunkirk and Jamestown.

This federal investment will fund environmental site assessments, cleanup planning, and community engagement efforts at long-abandoned and potentially contaminated properties. Key sites include a vacant waterfront block, a former auto dealership and repair shop, a shuttered "I'm proud to announce this \$500,000 Brownfields grant that will help clean up blighted and hazardous sites across Dunkirk and Jamestown," said Congressman Langworthy. "These long-neglected properties have been barriers to investment and job creation for years. With this funding, we can begin transforming these liabilities into engines of economic opportunity-turning eyesores into job sites and pollution into progress. This is a major win for the future of Chautauqua County."

Technical Design Marc Scapelitte Featured Writer John Brantingham Faith Matters Pastor Matt Wolfe

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May 7

Sara M. Purpura, 101 Jamestown Riccardi's Family Funeral Home

Justin M. Meacham, 43 Jamestown Riccardi's Family Funeral Home

> Mary Garland, 76 Dublin, Ireland *Lind Funeral Home*

May 8

Donald Fuller Sr., 85 Ashville Lind Funeral Home



May 10

Mary Jo Eddy, 78 Ashville Lind Funeral Home

Gary W. Vebber, 77 Lakewood Lind Funeral Home

May 12

Marge Young, 96 Ross Mills Falconer Funeral Home

May 13

Elaine C. Bogardus, 74 Salamanca *Lind Funeral Home*

May 14

Corrine H. Hall, 97 Jamestown Lind Funeral Home

Unitarians Look Back on 200 Years of History This Sunday, May 25

Remember, Reflect, and Reset" is the message this Sunday when Rev. Ron Skowronski speaks at the 10:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown service. He suggests that with May 26 marking the 200th Anniversary of the American Unitarian Association, this should be a time not only of celebration, but great reflection. Informed by Emerson and his insights, his message will reflect on where Unitarians have been, where we are now, and ask, "Where are we going?" An ordained minister for more than 40 years, Skowronski currently serves as a contract minister for the UU Congregation of Northern Chautaugua. Everyone is welcome to the service at 1255 Prendergast Avenue. To participate virtually, use the link at UUJamestown.org/calendar.

A TRANSPORT

SPEA POD

Florist & Curiosities





AN AMERICAN NINJA CHRISTIAN?

(Part 2 in a 5-part Series on Personal Bible Study)



Featured Writer **Pastor Matt Wolfe** First Baptist Church

A while back, I was watching American Ninja Warrior, a show where contestants climb, jump, run, and lunge their way through increasingly challenging obstacle courses. In this particular episode, a contestant had written "Philippians 4:13" on her thigh with bold black marker. As my family and I cheered her on, we watched her successfully navigate the challenges of the first obstacle course. At the conclusion, two thoughts crossed my mind. First, "Wow! Kudos to this young woman for boldly testifying to her faith in Christ." Second, "She's actually taking that Bible verse out of context." For those of you who don't know, Philippians 4:13 says, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (NKJV).

In this week's article, we're going to talk briefly about hermeneutics. If that's a new word for you, don't be scared. Hermeneutics simply means the principles that guide your interpretation of what you read. As such, hermeneutics is something you practice every time you read anything. And it's very important when it comes to Bible study.

You've probably heard the saying, "In real estate, the three most important factors are location, location, location." It's like that in interpreting the Scripture. When it comes to good hermeneutics (aka, accurately interpreting what you're reading in the Bible), the three most important factors are context, context, and you guessed it—context. conversation—that context—helps you see what's really being said in an individual verse of Scripture.

In the case of Philippians 4:13, when you look at the larger conversation that its author Paul is having with his original audience, Christians in Philippi, you realize that Paul's not talking about obstacle courses or physical feats of strength. If Philippians 4:13 was intended for any and all Christians who aspire to compete on American Ninja Warrior, then this article's author (a middle-aged, chubby hubby of a Baptist pastor) should be able to go out and keep up with that young athlete. But let me reassure you: that ain't happening! But when we go back and look at the actual context of Philippians 4:13, we realize that it's part of a larger conversation about finding and maintaining true contentment in one's relationship with God regardless of one's financial circumstances. Yes, as Paul explains in the surrounding context, he's experienced all things financially, great highs as well as incredible lows, but he's learned to be content and to trust God through it all. That's Paul's point in Philippians 4:13. And it's a powerful one that speaks to you and me right where we actually live-not on a television show's obstacle course but in our everyday workaday world with all its highs and lows.

So the next time you open your Bible to a favorite verse, be sure to look at its larger context. Be sure to see how it contributes to the larger conversation in that particular section of the Bible. Ask yourself questions that start with Who? What? Where? When? Why? Work to understand how this passage contributes to the bigger conversation taking place in that particular book of the Bible. And then see how God speaks clearly and powerfully through his Word to you today!

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Auto Repair Brakes & Belts Check Engine Exhaust & Electrical Batteries & Wipers Transmissions Air Conditioning Each Bible verse you read is part of a larger context. That individual verse you love so much is part of a larger paragraph or narrative where something is either transpiring, being declared, or addressed by the author. In other words, it's part of a "larger conversation." And that larger 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.

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.

CPEG Awards 14 Economic Development Project Grants Totaling \$175,000 Funding will be used to support projects in various communities across Chautauqua County

Article Contributed by Chautauqua Partnership for Economic Growth

The Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG) has announced the recipients of its 2025 round of grant funding, used to support economic development projects that focus on revitalization and long-term strategic investment throughout Chautauqua County, consistent with the County's economic development strategic plan. This year, 14 different projects will receive a total of \$175,000 in grant support from CCPEG. The combined value of all 14 projects is \$984,000.

Many of the projects that received funding for this year have a county-wide impact, while others are located in specific communities, including Jamestown, Mayville, Sherman, and Westfield.

The applicant receiving the largest amount of CCPEG grant funding, Dream It, Do It Western New York, was awarded \$25,000 for its Advanced Manufacturing Program. Two other projects each received \$20,000 in support funding. They were the Jamestown Department of Development's Main Street Underpass Park project and the Village of Sherman's effort to make public parking improvements for the Chautauqua Rails to Trails trailhead, located within the Village. A complete list of all projects is provided below.

A total of 31 applications seeking \$775,000 in total grant support from CCPEG were submitted by the February 21, 2025 deadline. Grant awards typically

range between \$10,000 and \$20,000, however, requests of up to \$50,000 were considered. Projects selected based were on a number of criteria including: readiness, economic impact, leverage potential, geographic alignment distribution, economic with the development strategic plan, and input from CCPEG's public-private Advisory Board.

"This has been an extremely valuable funding resource for dozens of local projects the past three years, and we are pleased to see it continue in 2025," said Nathan Aldrich, Economic Development Manager for CCPEG. "We look forward to realizing the tremendous impact that this funding will have on our ability to execute our mission and implement several transformative economic development

CHAUTAUOUA COUNTY

for Economic Growth

projects within the next few years."

Funding from the projects was provided by the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation (RCWF). In November 2024, the Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation (CREDC), the umbrella organization of CCPEG, authorized the acceptance of a three-

year funding award from RCWF, totaling \$1.625 Million. The grant award, CCPEG's largest financial commitment to date, extended and enhanced CCPEG's administrative and project development capacity, helping to local-matching provide dollars to support catalytic economic and community development projects.

"For the past three years, CCPEG has supported numerous high-priority projects, designed to spur economic development within Chautauqua County," said Mark Geise, Deputy County Executive for Economic Development and CCPEG Advisory Board co-chair. "Thanks to additional funding from the Wilson Foundation, we are able to continue providing support for local economic development projects that will

build on the momentum we are generating across the county."

While the next round of CCPEG support for economic development projects will tentatively open in early 2026, CCPEG does have limited funding still available to allocate this year, specifically for highpriority economic development grant projects required local cash match. As partners think about the upcoming Economic Development Regional Council funding process, and other state and federal funding opportunities this year, they are encouraged to reach out for assistance and to inquire about the possibility of matching funds support.

More information about the funding program is available at CHQPartnership. org.

About CCPEG - The Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG) serves as the main convener of economic development partners and resources to advance key projects that achieve economic prosperity in Chautauqua County. It also serves as the catalyst and broker of resources for advancing economic prosperity efforts and is the central coordinating entity for the formation, retention, development, and attraction of quality jobs and advancements to the quality of life. It is an initiative of the Chautauqua Region *Economic Development* Corporation (CREDC). For more information, please visit CHQPartnership.org.





Approximately 2,500 Jamestown Public Schools elementary students and



middle school students at Jefferson Middle School will bring home a copy of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and begin reading it with their families and classes this week. For the fourth straight year, JPS will take part in a unique, national family literacy program called One District, One Book, made possible by the non-profit Read to Them. The initiative is designed to strengthen the educational connection between home and school by having families across the district read the same book at the same time.

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Chautauqua Gazette

6



LAKEWOOD COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Lakewood Community Development Corporation Brings Music to Hartley Park

Article Contributed by

Lakewood Community Development Corporation

Lakewood Community Development Corporation (LCDC) is excited to announce Rock The Lake, a summertime concert series at Hartley Park in Lakewood, NY. LCDC is bringing the community together for an unforgettable summer of live music, lakefront fun - all for **FREE!**

Kicking off July 6, 2025, the series boasts four concerts throughout the summer, which will feature a dynamic lineup bringing something for everyone. Concertgoers can enjoy a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere, from their boat or on the shore, with plenty of room to spread out, dance, and soak up the sun. Food trucks will also be on-site, providing local fl avor. With Rock The Lake, LCDC is providing a space for neighbors to connect and the community to come enjoy the beautiful lakefront off ered at Hartley Park.

Artist Lineup:

- July 6 Country Show with Sean Patrick McGraw & the James's, also featuring The Dryes from Nashville. July 27 – Hollywood Nights – Bob Seger Experience with opening act Interstate Daydream
- August 10 Rat Pack Show with a Barbra Streisand Tribute
- August 24 Brass Transit –

Each concert will be held from 2 p.m.- 5 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and their best summer vibes. No tickets or registration are required. You can get more information on their website, https://lcdcny.org/, or you can follow us on Facebook (https:// www.facebook.com/lcdcny) and Instagram (@lcdc_wny) to stay up to date on the show details and participate in our giveaways leading up to the show.

About the Lakewood Community Development Corporation: The Lakewood Community Development Corporation is a 501(c)(3)organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in the Village of Lakewood, NY. LCDC played a key role in the 2004 Chautauqua Avenue Renewal Project, along with many other infrastructure improvements, including the new playground at Hartley Park. You can learn more about the LCDC at www.lcdcny.org

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<image>

Grab your blanket, get a snack at a food truck and enjoy a FREE afternoon of music by the lake!

July 6	Country Show w/Sean Patrick McGraw & the Jame's also featuring the Dryes from Nashville
July 27	Hollywood Nights - Bob Seger experience w/opening act Interstate Daydream
August 10	Rat Pack Show w/Barbra Streisand Tribute
August 24	Brass Transit - Chicago Tribute w/opening

Chicago Tribute with opening act Furious George

Food Trucks:

- Mystic Smoke BBQ
- Bucket Brigade Pizza Company
- Mother Cluckers







GOLF CART RAFFLE Drawing to be held on the stage at Hartley Park August 24, 2025 • 4:00pm

Terms & Condition - Must be 18 years of age or older! Ticketholder need not be present to win! Winner accepts cart as is! All proceeds go to the Lakewood Community Development Corporation 501(c)(3)



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8

RETOOL'25 SPEAKERS AND THEMES ANNOUNCED FOR JUNE 3rd CONFERENCE

Article Contributed by

Jamestown Board of Public Utilities

Retool'25, a one-day conference scheduled for June 3rd at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel, will focus on sustainability, energy efficiency and energy innovation for small and medium manufacturers and businesses. The conference, organized by the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU), is part of the BPU's Retool WNY initiative.

Keynote speakers will include Denise Coogan, retired Environmental Partnership Manager for Subaru of America, Inc. Coogan is known for her work in developing the principles that are the basis of most zero waste programs in existence today. She uses her extensive knowledge of manufacturing facilities to sustainability programs build that reduce the collective environmental footprint, while balancing fiscal responsibility. Coogan has worked recently with the National Park Service in helping that organization with their sustainability efforts.

A second keynote speaker will be D. Evan van Hook, the Chief Sustainability Officer for Viridi Parente, a lithium-ion battery pack manufacturer with a production facility in Buffalo. In his position, van Hook helps customers deploy fail-safe battery storage systems that support corporate goals for resilience, energy transition and decarbonization. Viridi is focused

<u>C11(.11)</u>

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PIZZERIA & RESTAURANT



D. Evan van Hook, the Chief Sustainability Officer for Viridi Parente

of the Environment for the State of New Jersey.

The conference will feature a number of panels, all focused on opportunities in energy innovation that include new supply chain paths for regional manufacturers; and connections to companies that have tools to aid businesses in reducing their carbon footprint and increasing energy efficiency.

Co-presenting partners for this year's event include nonprofit NextCorps and the Scale for ClimateTech program, which is administered by NextCorps SecondMuse. and These two organizations are helping to scale up manufacturing in New York State, with a focus commercializing on clean technologies and solutions.

Jamestown BPU General Manager David L. Leathers noted the importance of this year's conference themes and their alignment with regional manufacturers.

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and commercial entities. We are excited about sharing information with and receiving input from a regional audience on ways to improve their bottom line through energy innovation and cost savings," Leathers said.

BPU Business Development Coordinator Ellen Ditonto, who is organizing the event, said she is excited about this year's speakers and themes.

"This conference will be a wonderful way for our regional manufacturers and businesses to learn first-hand about energy innovation success stories and how these can apply to their particular business," she said. "Energy innovation can help positively impact the bottom line in businesses and could open doors for new supply chain opportunities as well."

"An extended vendor fair and networking event will help





Denise Coogan, retired Environmental Partnership Manager for Subaru of America, Inc.

with matching opportunities for our contract manufacturers and companies looking for new suppliers," Ditonto added.

Tickets for Retool'25 are available at: Retool25.eventbrite.com with early bird pricing available through May 14th. In addition to the Jamestown BPU, NextCorps Manufacturing Accelerator and Scale for ClimateTech, sponsors include the Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency, Live CHQ, Shults Subaru, Buffalo Manufacturing Works and Sanfilippo Solutions.

There are still sponsorship and vendor opportunities with more information available by contacting the Ditonto at 716-661-1686 or by email: businessdev@ jamestownbpu.com.

Exploring Opportunities in Energy Innovation

on fail-safe scalable energy storage "The Retool conference is options. Van Hook formerly was focused on sustainability, energy Chief Sustainability Officer at efficiency and energy innovation, Honeywell International and all topics of critical importance to served as Assistant Commissioner our Western NY manufacturers



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nextcorps

Tuesday, June 3rd, 2025 8am - 4:30pm Chautauqua Harbor Hotel, Celoron NY

- ▶ Focused on sustainability & energy efficiency
- F Energy innovation in manufacturing
- 🤝 Spend the day & make valuable business connections
- S Learn about success stories in supply chain regionalization
- Great vendor showcase for manufacturers & suppliers

Keynote Speakers Include:

Denise Coogan, Retired Environmental Mgr, Subaru USA Dr. Evan van Hook, Sustainability Officer, Viridi Parente Rupa Shanmugam, President & CEO, SoPark Corporation Jacob Kumpon, Co-Founder & COO, KLAW Industries Kevin Hale, Director, Econ Development, NYSERDA



Warfare to show at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts



Written and directed by Iraq War veteran Ray Mendoza and Alex Garland (Civil War, 28 Days Later), Warfare (Wed., May 21 at 7 p.m.) embeds audiences with a platoon of American Navy SEALs in the home of an Iraqi family, overwatching the movement of US forces through insurgent territory. A visceral, boots-on-the-ground story of modern warfare, told like never before: in real time and based on the memory of the people who lived it. Warfare is rated R and is 95 minutes long.

Upcoming Movies at The Reg include Carey Mulligan in the music comedy The Ballad of Wallis Island (May 28 at 7 p.m.), the fantasy adventure The Legend of Ochi (May 30 at 7 p.m.), and a Jamestown Pride week showing of the 2014 historical film Pride (June 4 at 7 p.m.)

Final public input meeting for Chq-Mayville Comp Plan



Article Contributed by Town of Chautauqua Village of Chautauqua

The Village of Mayville and Town of Chautauqua invite residents, business owners, and other community members to attend an upcoming public workshop Wednesday June 4, 2025, at 6:00 pm to review and provide feedback on the draft recommendations for their joint Implementable Comprehensive Plan. The workshop will be held at the Chautauqua Lake School, and light refreshments will be served.

The Plan's Key Issues reflect what residents have identified as their top priorities: Economic Vitality, Community Livability and Housing, Land Use and Development, and Mobility and Access. Workshop attendees will have the opportunity to explore the draft recommendations in an interactive and engaging format. Participants are encouraged to share their input, offer ideas, and help refine the strategies under consideration.

This event builds on more than a year

of robust community engagement, including public surveys, interviews, pop-up events, and a business forum. In October, community members filled the Carlson Community Center to provide important feedback on the early direction of the Plan.

This Implementable Comprehensive Plan is intended to serve as a longterm roadmap, guiding local decisionmaking and investment. Current recommendations address a range of community priorities, including storefront façade improvements, future land use, growing the community's tree canopy, managing short-term rentals, and enhancing bicycle and pedestrian connections.

The June 4th meeting will be one of the final opportunities to contribute before the plan moves toward adoption and implementation. All are encouraged to attend and make their voices heard. All residents are encouraged to keep up with news about the planning process to date and notifications on ways to participate by visiting the plan website at www.chautauquamayvillefuture.com.

Mayville-Chautauqua Comprehensive Plan



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.



Scan here or visit www.chautauqua mayvillefuture.com for more information!



CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY PETS OF THE WEEK

Meet Outlaw! He's the kind of pup who'll steal your heart, your blanket, and probably your sandwich if you're not paying attention. But behind those big, mischievous eyes is a sweet, loyal soul just looking for a cozy place to rest his paws. He's dreaming of a forever home where he can trade his jailbreak days for backyard zoomies, belly rubs, and long naps by your side. Shelter No. RR179.

Hello there, I'm Jackie. My days are spent in a gentle, mellow haze, basking in the quiet moments of life. I'm the kind of cat who prefers a cozy lap to a wild chase. The world outside can be so fast, but I prefer the slower pace of a good cuddle. I'm a beacon of tranquility in a bustling world. Adopt me if you need a serene companion to bring calm and comfort to your life. Shelter No. RR179.



Chautauqua County Humane Society • 2825 Strunk Rd., Jamestown, NY • (716) 665-2209 • www.chqhumane.org • cchs@chqhumane.org

Free Books On Jamestown's **Memorial Day Parade Route**



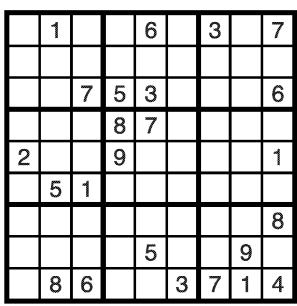
In past years, adults and kids alike have enjoyed taking home a free book after Jamestown's Memorial Day Parade. The Unitarian Church will give away books and snacks as well - again on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26 at 663 Lakeview Avenue (Christ First United Methodist Church) near the parade's finish. Anyone is welcome to take free books any time from the two book boxes - one for children, one for adults - in front of the Unitarian Church at 1255 Prendergast Avenue.



New York Drabble by John Brantingham

I follow the raccoons' prints through the snow with my eyes onto a picnic



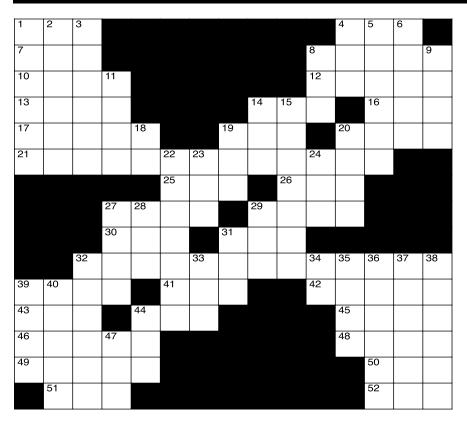


Here's How It Works:

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 vou name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Level: Advanced

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 4. British thermal unit
- 7. Afflict
- 8. Refrain from harming
- 10. Galls
- 12. Leg bone
- 13. Rhine distributary
- 14. Recipe measurement
- 16. Chap
- 17. Useful book
- 19. Mountain Time
- 20. Snakelike fishes
- 21. Places where people live
- 25. US, Latin America, Canada
- belong to
- 26. Periodical
- 27. A type of sense

- 29. A way to get possession of
- 30. Everyone has one
- 31. Body art
- 32. Mr. October
- 39. Abba ___, Israeli politician
- 41. Head movement
- 42. Jeweled headdress
- 43. VCR button
- 44. A way to change color
- 45. Basketball move
- 46. Upright stone slab
- 48. Forest-dwelling monkey 49. Pulsate steadily
- 50. Negative
- 51. Sino-Soviet bloc (abbr.)
- 52. Unit of work

Tuesday, May 20 Cuban w/ choice of side \$11.50 + tax

Wednesday, May 21 Homemade Chicken & Biscuits

w/ real mashed potatoes Full: \$11.25 + tax | Half: \$8.25 + tax *\$.50 extra for separate packaging

table to find whatever it is raccoons search for in the coldest part of winter. I suppose they're looking for what any of us would, some food, some warmth, the end of loneliness. I'm no tracker, but it looks to me like two sets of prints, so maybe these little creatures found some of that at least. It's the dream I would have for them if I daydreamed hopefully about raccoons. My thoughts are about my own love and warmth. In that, we are the same.

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

Thursday, May 22 Homemade Meatloaf Dinner Full: \$11.25 + tax | Half: \$7.25 + tax

Friday, May 23 1/3# Burger Topped Your Way w/ choice of side \$10.25 + tax

Monday, May 26 CLOSED - Happy Memorial Day!

716-483-1875 1284 E 2nd St · Jamestown M: 8am-1:30pm | T-F: 8am-2pm

Sandee's Café in Riverwalk Center Brooklyn Square • Jamestown 716-720-5216 | M-F: 7am-2pm

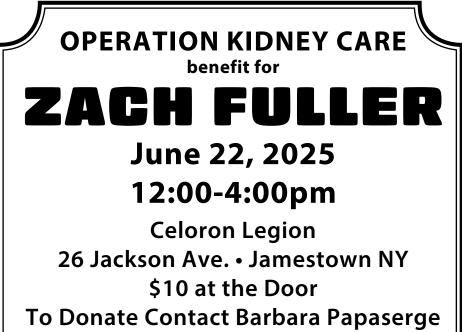
sandeescatering.com



CLUES DOWN

1. Island 24. Type of tree 2. Pittsburgh ballplayer 27. Witnessed 3. Chemical compound 28. Popular breakfast food 4. Indicates density of data (abbr.) 29. Mahal 5. Mesas 31. BoSox legend Williams 6. Wild, long-legged sheep 32. Professional drivers 8. Engine additive 33. Atom or molecule type 9. "CSI" actor George 34. The Constitution State 11. Stony waste matter 35. Chest to store clothes (Scottish) 14. Thyroid-stimulating hormone 36. Type of solution 15. Pores in a leaf's epidermis 37. Speaker 38. Specifying 18. Digraph 19. Married woman 39. Formerly (archaic) 20. Peripheral 40. Wiseman and Krom are two 22. Northern Italy city 44. The bill in a restaurant 23. Klutz 47. Tennis shot

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE xx

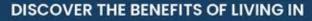


716-613-3424

In collaboration with Brothers by Choice, we are hosting a spaghetti dinner benefit for my son, Zachary Fuller, on June 22 at the American Legion. This past January, Zachary was diagnosed with Minimal Change Disease, a kidney disorder, at only 38-years-old. The condition causes the delicate structures in the kidneys, known as "fingers", to break away, impairing his ability to regulate protein. Zach is currently undergoing dialysis three times a week and has begun a medication regimen to help manage the nausea he has been experiencing. As a result of his condition, Zach is unable to work at this time.

My son, along with his wife, Heather, and two sons, Hayden and Logan, would greatly appreciate any support that our community may lend. Please consider making a monetary or business donation in the form of gift certificates or products to help us organize the planned basket auction for his benefit. Physical donations may be dropped off at the address above or please call for pick up.

CHQOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE



Spots Filling Fast for 67th Allegany Nature Pilgrimage



For those who love the outdoors and want to learn more about it, the 2025 Allegany Nature Pilgrimage is the place to be May 30–June 1. More than 120 naturalist-led nature walks, field trips and classes fill the weekend with activities for all ages, like this Splash Hike, where you can learn while you cool off. (Photo credit: Jennifer Schlick)

Article Contributed by Audubon Community Nature Center

Enjoy a weekend learning about all things outdoors at the Allegany Nature Pilgrimage in Allegany State Park, Friday, May 30 through Sunday, June 1.

This annual outdoor learning experience combines fun with a variety of nature-oriented activities, welcoming all ages and the experienced naturalist as well as the inquisitive beginner.

In western New York State's Cattaraugus County, Allegany State Park's more than 60,000 acres abound with plants and animals.

From short nature walks and talks to day-long field trips and everything in between, your biggest challenge will be choosing from the more than 120 programs offered.

The nature topics include trees, flowers, ferns, insects, birds, salamanders, reptiles, tracks and signs, mammals, astronomy, geology and ecology. There are also classes in yoga, journaling, making corn husk dolls, disc golf and more. With many family and childfriendly opportunities, programs vary in length and may be a walk or seated talk. The complete list is at AlleganyNaturePilgrimage.com/ Walks-Talks.

Eyes of Aldo Leopold" on Friday and Julie Lundgren offering "Allegany's Natural Wonders" on Saturday. A world traveler with his Houghton University ornithology students, Knapp will share the perspective of Leopold, the renowned American naturalist, forester, ecologist, conservationist, environmentalist - and more. Lundgren will guide a virtual expedition into Allegany State Park, the largest protected forest land in New York outside of the Adirondacks and Catskills.

A weekend pass is \$45 for adults, \$20 for full time students, \$6 for ages 12-17, free for 11 and under. Adult day passes are \$23.

Spots are filling fast. For all the details and to register for this outdoor adventure, visit AlleganyNaturePilgrimage.com. Walk-in registrations can be made in person at Camp Allegany in the Red House Area.

Rooms have been secured at the

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The evening Big Tent speakers are Eli Knapp presenting "From Chicken Coop to Nature Snoop: How to See Nature Through the

White Pine Lodge in Salamanca, just 10 minutes from Allegany State Park. Call 716-945-7600 and request the "Allegany Nature Pilgrimage" reduced rate.

The Allegany Nature Pilgrimage is made possible through the efforts of Allegany State Park, Jamestown's Audubon Community Nature Center, Buffalo Audubon Society, Rochester's Burroughs Audubon Nature Club, and Erie, Pa.'s Presque Isle Audubon Society.

New Neighbors Coalition Manager Addresses Rotary



Momina DiBlasio, left, New Neighbors Coalition Manager at St. Luke's Church was welcomed to explain the program to the Rotary Club of Jamestown members by Club President Mario n Beckerink.

Article Contributed by **Rotary Club of Jamestown**

The guest speaker at the Rotary Club of Jamestown's weekly meeting recently was Momina DiBlasio, Manager of the New Neighbors Coalition program housed at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. This program is an immigrant support ministry connected to Journey's End refugee relocation services and Momina discussed her work in the Jamestown community to settle legal community members who have been forced to leave their native homes due to violence and instability.

Momina has a Bachelor of Arts in Music from George Mason University and a Master of Public Administration from State University of New York Brockport. Currently, she serves on the Education Solution Team of the Chautauqua County Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Coalition (IDEA), and was a mayor-appointed member of the City of Jamestown Commission on Human Rights from November 2020 to November 2023. Momina and her spouse moved to the north side of Jamestown from Northern Virginia in 2020. She is so grateful to have found her way to this tightknit community and looks forward to their future in Western New York, with their three dogs.

experience regarding the challenges non-American born individuals may face, her passion lies with promoting language-accessibility, pushing for immigrant equity, and advocating for cultural humility in her professional and personal life.

details providing about In the coalition and its support programming, she explained how the coalition was created in 2022, serving as a continuation of the Journey's End Program, which helps in the greater Buffalo area, along with other areas of Western New York. She said that since 2022, the coalition has assisted 125 individuals who've resettled in the Jamestown area. These "new neighbors" come primarily from Democratic Republic of Congo, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua. She added that these individuals are Asylum seekers from other countries, not those who are undocumented. She also indicated that all funding for the coalition programming comes from the NYS Office of New Americans Immigrant Resource Program Grant.

Congressman Nick Langworthy Announces Winner of the 2025 Congressional Art Competition for New York's 23rd District

Article Contributed by Office of Congressman Nick Langworthy

Congressman Nick Langworthy (NY-23) announced the winner of the annual Congressional Art Competition for New York's 23rd Congressional District, Camryn Battaglia of Clymer High School. Her winning artwork, titled "Concord," will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for the remainder of the year.

"Congratulations to Camryn Battaglia, our winner of this year's Congressional Art Competition for her piece, 'Concord,'" said Congressman Nick Langworthy. "I thought her artwork truly represents NY-23 since we are home to the largest Concord grape belt in the U.S. and I'm pleased that it is representing our district in the Capitol. My office received numerous outstanding entries, showcasing the incredible talent of our high school students in Western New York and the Southern Tier. Thank you to all who submitted artwork, and



"Concord" by Camryn Battaglia

a special thank you to the faculty of St. Bonaventure University's Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts for lending their expertise and judging this competition."

Scan code to see full gallery of the finalists. This competition is open to all high school students and is sponsored by the Congressional Institute. Since

the competition began in 1982, more than 650,000 high school students have participated.





In her role with the New Neighbors Coalition, Momina feels a strong commitment to advocating for and supporting marginalized individuals, across all spaces, in a way that is rooted in intersectionality and inclusivity. – As an immigrant with firsthand

The key responsibilities of the coalition include volunteer coordination, providing necessary and helpful information to new arrivals so they can better navigate within our local community and make appropriate connections, and informing and educating the public on who benefits from the program. Some of the challenges our new neighbors face includes language barriers, transportation, housing, employment, adjusting

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22



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Jamestown BPU will be closed on Monday, May 26 Garbage & Recycling will not be collected

The Yard Waste Site, 1001 Monroe Street, will be closed on Saturday, May 31, to allow for Saturday collection of garbage and recycling.



MENTAL HEALTH FROM DIFFERENT VIEWPOINTS

ONP COUNTY DEPAP

nal Hyg

Article Contributed by

Rachel Ludwig MSW Project Coordinator, Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene

"Time flies!" What does that mean to you? A quote attributed to Steve Jobs further develops the expression: "Time flies, but it never goes backwards. Make the most of every moment." Another perspective is provided by this Thomas Hardy quote: "Time changes everything except something within us which is always surprised by change."

As we recognize the specific weeks of May as Mental Health Awareness Month; the third week is Older Adult Awareness Week. Mental health is important throughout our lives, at every moment and every stage. We are all aging every day. This is a fact. Aging is a change process and there is some predictability in the constantness of change. As we age, our experiences may include additional life changes with our mental health, our physical health, and our relationships. According to the National Institute of Mental Health; "One in five Americans will experience mental illness in their lifetime. And

nearly 15% of adults age 50 and older have some

type of mental health disorder." The World Health Organization points out that "By 2030, one in six people in the world will be aged 60 years or over" and that *"loneliness and social isolation*

are key risk factors for mental health conditions in later life."

The most common mental health diagnoses for older adults are depression and anxiety. As we are more experienced in years, life events such as coping with a serious illness or losing a loved one may be faced. Many people adjust to these challenges as life changes, and some may experience feelings of grief, social isolation, or loneliness. When these feelings persist, they can lead to deteriorating mental health, such as depression and anxiety.

> There are effective treatment options for older adults to manage their mental health and improve their quality of life. While depression and anxiety are common, they are not a normal part of aging. These disorders are treatable. It can

be difficult to know what to reach out for help. Recognizing the signs and talking with a health care provider are often the first steps to getting treatment. Mental illness and physical illness are connected in ways such as level of activity, quality of life, and ability to take care of themselves. Whatever age you are today as you read this article, take a few moments to consider your mental health. If time is flying, how is your attention focused? We hope that you will take the precious time to stay well and stay well-informed! Resources on this topic can be found

https://e4center.org/resources/ at: where you can find tools for community resources and toolkits and how to speak up against stigma for older adults' mental health. https://screening.mhanational. org/ where you can take a mental health screening and learn more about mental health. https://www.nia.nih.gov/ is a searchable quality information about healthy aging and common concerns. Additional information on mental illnesses can be found on the Additional information on mental illnesses can be found at: https://www.nimh.nih.gov/ health/topics . Lastly, the American Society on Aging provides a center point for many additional resources https:// asaging.org/mental-health-awareness



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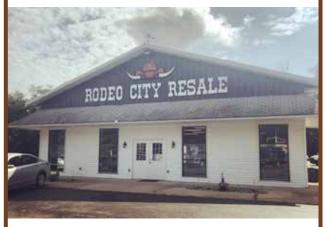
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May 19, 2025 **15**



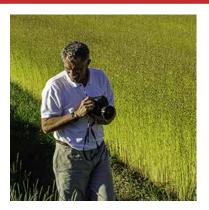
NORTH SHORE ARTS ALLIANCE'S 2025 ART TRAIL: A DRIVING TRAIL

The 17th annual Art Trail will take place on Saturday and Sunday May 24th and 25th from 10a-5pm both days over Memorial Day weekend. Creating a driving Art Trail is a unique and engaging way to experience a diverse range of artworks while enjoying a scenic drive. There are 14 hubs, with new stops in Jamestown, Bemus Point, Portland, Fredonia and off of NY Rt 394 in Mayville. This year's Trail features 31 North Shore Arts Alliance artist members showcasing art that ranges from paintings to textiles, pottery to sculptures, and photography to jewelry.

"We as artists do work that is personal. The annual Chautauqua Lake Erie Art Trail Open Studio and Gallery Tour is an opportunity to visit places where we live and create. We find inspiration in one of the most beautiful, picturesque regions of New York State. As you travel to visit us, see what we see every day — verdant vineyards and fields, lush forests, rolling hills, and spectacular shorelines along Lake Erie and Chautauqua Lake." Says Marcia Merrins, NSAA President.

Starting at the north end of the map, we suggest beginning in Fredonia as you work your way through beautiful countryside, quaint villages and historic towns.

STOP 1 TOM ANNEAR'S ART STUDIO 43 Central Avenue, Fredonia



Tom Janik is a retired chemistry professor. Along with his career in chemistry, Tom has had a lifelong interest in photography starting at the age of 11 with a Brownie camera. Tom's photography is centered on landscapes and the natural world. Tom has a recent book of Lake Erie photographs available to see and/or purchase.





STOP 2 WALLY LATIMER'S STUDIO 165 Cushing Street, Fredonia

Wally Latimer "I am inspired by colonial, biblical, Norse, shake and other historical craftsmen when I make my oval wooden boxes. The wood I use is sourced from significant local trees: the Forest Hill Cemetery, Eagle Street, George Weaver's home, Temple One, the Post Office and the unbelievable figured and spalted maple planted by Squire White and his son Devillo in the early 1800s at the White Inn. My work includes traditional bride's box, presentation boxes for graduates, music boxes and I am always learning to create different styles of these beautiful wooden boxes."

STOP 3 KNITTI GRITTI WORKS 42 Rosalyn Court., Fredonia





Marcia Merrins a potter and clay sculptor, is a juried artist at several prestigious craft shows throughout Western New York. An award-winning mini documentary was produced of her work. Marcia sculpts a wonderful menagerie of wood fired and raku animal pieces, from hippos to elephants, that are fun and collectible. Marcia also creates signature pieces that are quirky themed, including bright and sassy "footed bowls". She is drawn to whimsy and her work reflects what she finds in contemporary footwear and clothing. Fairy houses are new in the studio and adorable. She recently launched a solo exhibition "Soulful Sculpture: Where Art Meets Personality" at the Octagon Gallery in Westfield.

June Burns, a wood artist, along with Tony Burns, have been creating scroll saw art puzzles since 1984. All of their work is both their design and creation. Each puzzle is individually cut by hand on a scroll saw, sanded, stained and painted, resulting in a unique, three-dimensional work of art. With respect to our natural world as well as human-kind our work is safe and non-toxic. "Our designs reflect our love of nature as well as the people. Many new designs each year are inspired by the colors and shapes that surround us. It is our joy to share our journey and our mission to put a smile on the faces we meet." says June.

Thomas Annear

Adventure meets quiet contemplation in my paintings. From the snow capped peaks of the Tetons to the old growth forests of Western New York his paintings capture the grandeur and beauty of the American landscape. With a Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting from Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University, my career has shifted over the years from political and abstract pieces to paintings that focus on contemporary uses of the environment. For nearly twenty years, I have sought to capture the unique geography, weather patterns, and natural resources of Western New York through my plein air paintings.

Ronnie Lafferty, a painter, says "I am a watercolor artist painting in a realistic style. I use a limited palette to paint a variety of subject matter and approach each painting uniquely. Achieving a harmony within the painting is important. Life is a miracle, each life is unique and I hope the viewer sees that. Our world is always changing, especially the sky and seashore. I love the way the natural world reveals itself in different times of the day, different seasons and cycles and with varying human influences. My hope is that you will find them peaceful to view. I intend to honor the Creator in everything I do. Working primarily from photographs in my studio to create paintings from personal experience I also accept commissions. I hope to resume giving instruction in 2024 through the Art Start program at Fredonia First Church."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

ART TRAIL 2025 SATURDAY, MAY 24 - SUNDAY, MAY 25 · 10AM-5PM



Seri Beeson - original purses & jewelry



- Reno Pottery 6007 Centralia-Hartfield Rd, Dewittville Jim and Pat Reno - porcelain pottery
- The Sheep Barn 5155 Morris Road, Mayville · John Gerber - photography · Nancy Wehr - photography

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Janet Mandel Art Studio 747 Abbey Road, Kennedy

· Janet Mandel - songbird and wildlife paintings & cat portraits

Edgewater Art House 712 W. 8th Street, Jamestown

716-969-5741

- · Susan Gutierrez acrylic paintings · Susan Simmons oil paintings Sandra Maggio (5/24, 5/25 only) - photography
- Nancy Nixon Ensign Studio 1464 Trask Road, Jamestown · Nancy Nixon - acrylic paintings, mixed media 716-640-9762

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Stop 3: Knitty Gritti Works



Continued from page 15

Susan Forrester-Mackay, a painter, says "I am a child of the sixties when beauty, love and peace were going to change the world. I create artwork because the beauty of the process is the best mindaltering state I have ever known. The need to touch, feel, respond and communicate human emotions within the landscape of the human form is enormous. The subject of human beings and their interactions is an endless source of fascination for me; hence, most of my work is figurative and evocative, focusing on the variety of everyday human gesture." Unfortunately, Susan had an accident and won't be able to participate Memorial Day weekend, but she will be at this hub for Labor Day weekend.

STOP 4 21 BRIX WINERY 6654 West Main Road, Portland



Carrie Tredo Sheffield, a mixed media artist, is inspired by the natural world around her. She says "I create pieces with an organic feel, using color and shape to intertwine a new story with lingering history. I create pieces that are constructed in layers, weaving together unique narratives that connect viewers to emotions past, present, and future. I am inspired by movement and view my creativity as a journey of exploration. As I find inspiration in the world around me, I also discover myself. My expression represents hope, determination, and second chances, as I pursue art in everything."



Patrick Stokes,

a photographer, says "I consider myself a portrait photographer whether my subject is a person or a landscape and I approach both with wonder, curiosity, and awe. I started my photographic journey in a dark room at 14 and over the years drifted in and out of capturing images over the years. Being a tech fan, I picked up my first digital camera in 2001 and progressively began to grow my passion for capturing images anew. With the advent of cell phone cameras and computational imagery I took the leap into fine art photography with the acquisition of state-ofthe-art lenses and cameras. Photography to me is time traveling and as an avid traveler and sci-fi enthusiast I hope someday a millennium from now someone will discover one of my images and be transported back in time. Please follow my explorations on Instagram or visit my website."



Seri Beeson, s a fabric artist, and owner of COSO Studios. COSO Studios focuses on casual, everyday objects of adornment and holding. Current fixations are hand-crocheted jewelry with "found" pottery, glass, and stone and a huge assortment of handmade crossbody bags of varying sizes from upholstery fabrics. Seri says "Just as birds collect fantastical found treasures, my goal is to create items you will enjoy gathering for your own personal collection, or share with those you love."



Sarah Brown Millspaw is a watercolor illustration artist, lives on a small farm outside of Westfield, New York. Passionate about nature, animals, and the joys of childhood, these themes often surface in her whimsical work. Sarah has been creating art her whole life and has been painting full time since 2020. In recent years, turning her watercolor paintings into surface patterns and fabric designs has become an integral part of her creative process.



Brian Millspaw, is a furniture designer/maker specializing in wood seating. His passion for crafting high-quality and unique wood furniture pieces drives him to create exceptional seating solutions for modern living spaces. With a keen eye for detail and a commitment to excellence, he brings together craftsmanship and design to deliver furniture that stands out. His story is rooted in a deep appreciation for the art of woodworking and a dedication to creating functional yet beautiful furniture pieces.

STOP 5 ORTAGE HILL ART GALLERY 6439 Portage Road, Westfield



Audrey Kay Dowling, Audrey Kay Dowling, a painter and ceramic artist, says "I use my work to convey a deep appreciation of the natural world. Form is beautiful, color

is exciting, movement is visually stimulating, and texture and patterns open inspire me to express myself. I enjoy using many different art mediums. I attended SUNY New Paltz where I received my BS in Art Education. I also have an MS degree from SUNY Fredonia. I continue to expand my artistic education through several ceramic, painting and printmaking workshops. After teaching for 30 years, I am now a full time award winning artist and gallery owner of Portage Hill Gallery."



David Gregor,

is a photographer who specializes in black and white photography. His work encompasses an array of genres and moods. His street photography

emphasizes the human form contrasted against the urban backdrop's rigid geometry. At the same time, he is also frequently drawn to more organic, whimsical and absurd themes. An avid traveler, David enjoys documenting the people and places he encounters around the globe.

Miriam Mayshark,



is curious about almost everything, behavior, beauty, color, nature, the firmament, bees, inventions and so on. When I paint, I am exploring what I observe

and what I imagine. I seem to be asking the viewer, "What about this?" My medium is watercolor but most often soft pastels. Sometimes, I combine the two. I often paint from memory or lucid dreaming.



Tim Sivertsen, an artist working with charcoal, pastel and acrylics, says "I've been working on several different tangents of late. There is a developing series of monochromatic



Karen Taverna,

an enthusiastic jewelry designer, is an artist whose creations are as vibrant and diverse as the natural world itself. Karen finds endless inspiration in the earth's raw beauty, channeling her reverence for the elements into her stunning enamel, copper, silver, and gemstone designs. Through her work, Karen hopes to inspire others to embrace their own creativity and to find beauty in the world. Her passion for art and jewelry is a matter of heart, reflecting a vibrant spirit, colorful palette and slightly bohemian style. pastel/charcoal landscapes on paper. There is also an ongoing series of fanciful figures in motion (pastel and acrylic). I've also pulled up a number of older, unfinished (unresolved) pieces out of my past and am attempting to rework them. It's very interesting to pick up a piece put to the side years ago and revisit my thought processes at the time. I also have an ongoing series of monocromatic pastel portraits of females in the works.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Chautauqua Gazette

Arts & Education

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STOP 6 RENO POTTERY

6007 Centralia-Hartfield Road, Westfield

Jim and Pat Reno, have been making pottery for over 40 years at their location at 6007 Centralia-Hartfield Rd., Dewittville, NY. They are open daily by chance or appointment, and can be reached at 716-753-7551 or preno@fairpoint.net. Their website is www.renopottery.com. Stop by to see their new,

highly decorated designs, which include Woodpeckers, Dragons and Rhinos.







STOP 7 THE SHEEP BARN 5155 Morris Road, Mayville

John Gerber, is a photographer and believes a good photograph is a portal: sometimes to a different place, sometimes to a different time and sometimes into the soul of another person--or all those things together. I have had the good fortune to pursue a number of careers: professional orchestral musician, curator of Native American art, art history professor, fly-fishing instructor and most recently retired sheep farmer and sugar maple producer here in Western New York. All have informed my photography. Recently I renovated my sheep barn into a studio and gallery space. I spend my time traveling, flyfishing and photographing the world.

Nancy Wehr is a photographer who lives in Westfield, NY.

Denise De La Cerda, is an oil painter, illustrator and tattoo artist, specializing in paintings of dreamlike images based upon what is already familiar, from the natural world. Denise has done two paintings that were used as album cover art by the rock band Kansas, as well as a painting for the band's 50th anniversary poster.

STOP 8 CYNTHIA NORTON'S STUDIO 14 Whittier Ave, Chautauqua



Cynthia Norton, grew up in Chautauqua, NY and graduated from the San Francisco Art Institute in 1969, earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with honors and a major reer has included a range of artistic pursuits. Since 1987 she has headed her own in sculpture. Her company, Cynthia Norton Designs, producing hand-painted textiles and specializing in hand-painted clothing for sophisticated, artistically inclined women (and sometimes men). The mission is to help people look their

best with beautiful clothing that reveals the artist's hand, imparts vitality, is comfortable and easy to care for, suits the individual and allows her (or him) to shine.

STOP 9 LMNOP GALLERY 108 West Main St, Sherman



Peter Hamilton, Peter is a skilled wood craftsman, whose unique designs include wall hanging wooden art and stylized creative furniture with great form and function. Peter says "Many of my wood pieces have been made from found materials: discarded cherry headboards; table parts; cabinet doors. Of course, various wood species from a kiln-dried lumber company nearby. Salvaged lamp parts. For the carpentry,

selection, and keen attention to the grain color of wood is utmost. I like including steam-bent components to the work. Much of my work reflects a mood at the time, or a particular detail that carries onto another piece, or a frivolous impulse to make mock sticks of butter, or a representative subject in sculpture. Brass, copper. I have works with motion, they spin and turn."





Get a Passport at any location and collect stamps. The more stamps you collect, the larger gift certificate you could win, top prize \$100. Redeemable with any artist on the Trail. Drop your card at any Hub to enter to win.

May 19, 2025 **19**

Susan Gutierrez, is a painter

living in Jamestown, NY. She says

"Chautauqua County has been my

home for over 40 years. Through

STOP 10 BEMUS MARKET 12 Main Street, Bemus Point



Melissa Meyers loves to explore new ideas, new media, and use materials in ways they were not intended for. Sometimes even with good results. Her inspiration is found mainly in nature, which abounds in Chautauqua County. She works in traditional mediums, as well as alcohol inks, photography and mixed media. She graduated from Buffalo State College with a degree in Design, and learned to transfer her skills to digital when art started moving into new platforms.

STOP 11 BEMUS POINT LIBRARY 13 Main Street, Bemus Point



Jackie Damore, a painter, features Chautauqua Lake, its birds and animals. She says "its surrounding landscape, the changing seasons, and the changing weather and light of each day provide me with a never ending source of inspiration for making paintings that attempt to capture a unique combination of those elements. I've become most attracted recently to the aesthetics of tonalism and trying to incorporate this concept into my landscape and lakescape paintings. A limited color palette creates a sense of unity that appeals to me aesthetically and as I progress with this direction my paintings reflect this shift. Of course this doesn't apply to my bird paintings... I just love the variety and elegance of birds and try to paint them in whatever colors God made them."



Lisa Summerfield, began painting four years ago at a local acrylic class with a friend, transitioning to watercolor after discovering its beauty. Coming from a family of crafters, I've always been surrounded by creativity. Though I initially considered art school, I pursued nursing, married and raised three children. Now, I'm reigniting my passion for art, particularly flowers and landscapes, inspired by nature.

STOP 12 JANET MANDEL'S ART STUDIO 747 Abbey Road, Kennedy



Janet Mandel, received her training in fine arts from Mercyhurst U. in Erie, PA. She began her career as a fashion illustrator, and received national acclaim in fashion, fiber arts and portraiture before focusing her work exclusively on wildlife. Her wildlife work has been published and sold by the National Audubon Society, National Geographic Society, Smithsonian Institution and HSUS among others. She has

STOP 13 EDGEWATER ART HOUSE 712 W. Eighth Street, Jamestown



my art I try to capture the life and energy that surrounds us. I use mostly a palette knife to pay tribute to the beauty that encompasses this region. My paintings are a way to share an experience; a recollection; a moment. I hope that my paintings can be a conduit for viewers to recall a memory, stir an emotion, or

transport them somewhere familiar."



Susan Simmons, a painter as well, paints landscape, figurative and abstract paintings in oil, acrylic, and watercolor. She received her most recent award in Jamestown's Roger Tory Peterson's 2022 Inaugural Plein Air Festival. Susan paints from life, photos, and imagination, and is quite diverse in her styles. Her fine arts and graphic arts studies include Miami Dade Community College, Everett Community College, and the

University of Texas at Austin where she attained her bachelor's degree in fine art. Susan surprises her clients and admirers with unique artistry, utilizing both her fine arts and graphic arts backgrounds, and continually evolves to create inspiring and often intriguing artwork. Susan resides in Jamestown, New York.



Sandra Maggio, a photographer, is a native of Fredonia, NY, Sandra prefers a smartphone camera to reframe the natural world as she sees it, using minimal technological effects. Through this technique, nature is visualized in the mind's eye of the artist, then expressed through the photograph, to create a dialogue with the viewer.

STOP 14 NANCY NIXON ENSIGN'S ART STUDIO 1464 Trask Road , Jamestown



Nancy Nixon Ensign, a painter, has lived along the East Coast for over 22 years, in Cleveland, New York City, Orlando, Rochester, and Tampa. "I returned to the countryside of my childhood in 2001. Past curator, gallery owner, and scenic artist, I have been curating the Patterson

Library Octagon Gallery in Westfield, NY since 2002. I create paintings in abstract and collage. Each painting is unique

showcased her work for over 25 years at wildlife and fine art shows throughout the northeast U.S. and has recently opened her studio locally by appointment or special event.

and hopefully reflects the beauty of the world around us telling a story along the way. I try to seize the essence of the landscape in my paintings and transport viewers alongside me on my creative voyage."

he North Shore Art Alliace Art Trail is a unique occasion to get an amazing look into the creative processes of highly talented and skilled artists, all located in Chautauqua County. Returning this year, is a chance to win one of 8 gift certificates, redeemable with any of the artists on this year's trail. They vary in value from \$25 to \$100. In order to win, when you visit any location pick up a passport card at the first stop. Go to each stop on the trail for a unique stamp on your passport. When all hubs have been visited, simply drop the card at the last stop. If you

can't get to all stops, hang on to your card and finish the trail on the Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day in September. A completed passport will enter you into a drawing for a \$100 gift certificate. If you can do 5 stops, you can enter to win a \$25 gift certificate. More details are on the passport card.

Route too long or not feasible for you? Using your cell phone camera, take a picture of this QR code to find our website with an Interactive map and links to each of the artists websites so you can check out their art. This way you can create your own driving trail finding works that speak to your heart, for keeping or gifting, created by the very hands of the artists you met along the way.

Mark your calendar for this free event, and the one on Labor Day weekend, August 30 and 31, they take place free of charge, rain or shine. Come support our local art community and take a day to just enjoy. Hope to see you there!

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JAMESTOWN YOUNG PROFESSIONALS TO HOLD "POP-UP PICKLEBALL" NETWORKING EVENT



Article Contributed by Jamestown Young Professionals

The Jamestown Young Professionals (JYP) invite community members to their annual "Pop-Up Pickleball" networking event, taking place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 22, 2025, at Michael LaGrega Memorial Field in Lakewood.

Whether you're a seasoned player or brand new to the sport, this casual, active get-together is open to all skill levels — and it's free to attend! Bring a friend, significant other, or colleague to enjoy a lively evening of friendly competition and professional networking.

If you've never attended a JYP event before, this is the perfect opportunity to meet members, learn about upcoming initiatives, and find out how to get involved in supporting your local community.

There will be six pickleball courts available, with JYP members offering brief demonstrations and instructions for anyone who hasn't played before. Equipment is limited, so participants are encouraged to bring their own paddles and balls. A few loaner sets will be available on a first-come basis.

"Our Pop-Up Pickleball event is not only an event focused on fun, but it's also a chance to build relationships with other young professionals that strengthen our professional and local communities," said Katie Castro, Director of Advancement for United Way of Chautauqua County. "Whether you're new to the area or looking to grow your network, this is an event you won't want to miss." helping shape JYP's most dynamic events.

"Pop-Up Pickleball is all about creating space where people feel welcome to connect, move, and just have fun," Baglia said. "Chautauqua County is full of incredible people doing meaningful work, and I love that we can bring them together in a way that feels both laid back and intentional."

To keep things moving, shorter games will be played in the event of a large turnout.

No registration is required—just show up ready to connect, play, and have fun!

For more information, follow Jamestown Young Professionals online at Facebook.com/ JamestownYoungProfessionals and Instagram.com/ JamestownNYYoungProfessionals.

Questions? Suggestions? Email us at: JamestownYoungProfessionals@ GMail.com.

JYP IS POWERED BY UNITED WAY

Jamestown Young Professionals is a network of United Way of Chautauqua County that is designed to attract, grow, and mobilize the next generation of leaders in our community. The events are designed to provide meaningful networking opportunities, professional development, and volunteer opportunities, all of which are crucial for shaping and retaining well-rounded, successful professionals who contribute to the betterment of this community.

JYP events are open to everyone and have been underwritten this year through a generous sponsorship by Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union.



C H A M B E R C O R N E R

Official Introductions – a New Networking and Advocacy Opportunity

Article Contributed by

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

The CHQ Chamber is pleased to help local businesspeople connect with their elected representatives in a brand-new way.

We have restructured our advocacy events this year to provide an improved experience for all involved. One of the new events we are trying out is an informal networking event designed to allow businesspeople to have one-onone conversations with local elected officials during a program we're calling Official Introductions.

This reception-style event will be held at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel, 10 Dunham Avenue, Celoron, Tuesday, June 17 from 5-7pm.

The CHQ Chamber personally invited local elected representatives from the federal, state, county, town, city, and village levels. To date we have received positive responses from over 30 municipal and state officials.

This is a tremendous opportunity for businesspeople to meet directly with their representatives. The CHQ Chamber is not creating a heavily structured agenda for this program. Instead, we want to foster direct communication between the business community and our government officials. This event directly meets our mission to build vital connections, provide professional resources, and champion our local businesses in Chautauqua County.

The price to attend is just \$35 per

person. Your registration includes heavy appetizers and a cash bar, as well as support for the year-round activities of the CHQ Chamber. Registration is open now through our online calendar at www.chqchamber.org. Please RSVP by June 10.

Official Introductions is sponsored by Brooks-TLC Hospital System, County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Corporation, DFT Communications, LaBella Associates, National Grid, Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union, UPMC Chautauqua, Jamestown Community College, The Media One Radio Group, Observer, and The Post-Journal.

Business After Hours with the Tarp Skunks

Join us this month for a special 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 free 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.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

A new local favorite, The Fizz Fix, will be on site this year whipping up custom flavored sodas for purchase, including a special pickleball themed drink.

Pop-Up Pickleball was first proposed last year by JYP Planning Team member Catherine Baglia, who continues to coordinate and organize the event each year. A licensed realtor with Howard Hanna Holt and owner of 716 Media Solutions, Catherine brings her creativity, energy, and deep commitment to community growth into everything she does — including The motto of JYP is **Connect. Build. Transform.** More than anything, we're interested in meeting with the existing stakeholders in this region and fostering the next generation of stewards for this community.

About Jamestown Young Professionals The Jamestown Young Professionals is a community-based group which welcomes everyone of all ages who are interested in both networking as well as leveraging personal and professional connections for the betterment of Chautauqua County.



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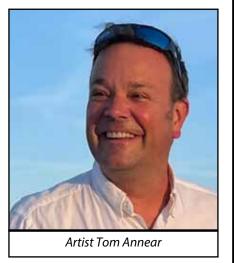
PAINTINGS OF REPOSE: LANDSCAPES EXPLORING CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY **BY LOCAL FREDONIA ARTIST**

Article Contributed by Living Glass Gallery

Artist Tom Annear is currently exhibiting his plein air paintings of Chautauqua County at Living Glass Gallery, Westfield, NY. Many know Tom's work for his exquisite and typically delicate depiction of nature and his notable representation of sunsets and prepossessing skies. "Paintings of Repose: Exploring Chautauqua County" focuses on the changing light and weather conditions that transform our area throughout the course of the year. Tom's artwork allows the viewer to feel and encounter what it is like to live in Chautauqua County, to indulge in our unpredictable weather, yet love our topography seemingly unconditionally. He admirably depicts the sky, and light in a deliberate approach to make every painting appealing, giving the viewer a place to pause in restful contemplation of memories in having experienced the view of Lake Erie shores or the vineyards and orchards from local farms, and those hikes through the SUNY College Woodlots.

Originally from Alexandria, Virginia, Tom Annear, moved to Fredonia in June 2000. Tom graduated with a BFA in painting from Rutgers University. His work has shifted from political and abstract pieces to paintings that explore contemporary uses of our environment.

"Over the past twenty-four years, I For more information, please visit have been completing a series of plein



air paintings that celebrate the beauty and history of Western New York. Through these works I have sought to capture the unique geography, weather patterns, and natural resources of Chautauqua County and beyond. Increasingly conservation, land-use, and sustainability issues have become central to my work.

Instead of simply recording these landscapes, I've allowed the contours of the shoreline, fields, and hills; the trees and vineyards; weather; and the seasonal changes of light and color to inform the works. I hope this exhibit will give viewers insight into both the subtle and dramatic interplays of light and shifts in weather that are happening all around us."

Visit Tom and his fascinating artwork at his Artist Reception on Friday Evening May 23, 6-8pm at the Living Glass Gallery, 50 Main Street, Westfield.

www.LivingGlassGallery.com

JAMESTOWN



New Neighbors Coalition Manager Addresses Rotary

Continued from page 12

to a new community, healthcare barriers, and interacting with organizations or agencies that are ill-equipped. The coalition works to help overcome these challenges and make it easier for the new neighbors to adjust and assimilate.

Momina also addressed new challenges that have recently surfaced since the new administration took over in Washington. She indicated that refugee resettlement in Jamestown (and mostly nationwide) has stopped due to the administration ending the federal resettlement program. She also indicated that

MATTRESS

Immigrants in the area are fearful of engaging with us and the wider community. And she said that funding cuts across many sectors will make it more difficult for the coalition to provide direct services or emergency funding. Despite these new challenges, the coalition remains committed to helping anyone who is new to our community.

She also invited everyone to attend an interfaith service at St. Luke's, scheduled for June 20, and which will coincide with World Refugee Day.

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Infinity Inspires: A Creative Legacy for Chautauqua **County's Future Artists**

Continued from Front Page

As the Chautauqua Gazette celebrates the North Shore Arts Alliance Art Trail this week, it's fitting to shine a spotlight on Infinity's growing visual arts programs and the powerful ripple effect they've had on the creative community. Since 1998, Infinity has helped ignite a passion for the arts in thousands of students through lessons, group classes, and mentorships-many of whom have gone on to become professional artists, educators, and creative leaders in Chautauqua County and beyond.

"Infinity is about so much more than art instruction," says Executive Director Shane Hawkins. "We're cultivating a creative community where young artists can explore their passions, build confidence, and grow into the next generation of changemakers and culture-shapers in our region."

Infinity's visual arts program includes drawing, painting, sculpture, illustration, mixed media, and more. Students from ages 3-21 work one-toone with professional teaching artists in their private lesson. Students also have plentiful group class experience options to learn technique and practice selfexpression.

Infinity programming is designed to grow with students over time. Younger students may start with foundational classes like Art Explorers or Kids Photography Camp, while older students participate in skill-building intensives, themed workshops, and even Independent Study. Many are given the opportunity to display their artwork in Infinity's online or in-house galleries or through community art events.

Infinity ensures that these opportunities are available to all interested studentsregardless of financial circumstances. Through a robust scholarship program that awards more than \$40,000 annually, the organization works to level the playing field and remove barriers to participation. Annually, 25-35% of Infinity students receive need-based scholarship support, helping to ensure that every young artist has the chance to explore their creative potential.

Hawkins explains. "Talent isn't limited to those who can afford it. We don't want a family to have to say no to individualized art instruction because of cost."

Infinity's 14,000-square-foot facility includes dedicated art studios stocked with materials and equipmentensuring students have the tools they need to dive into their craft.

Infinity's talented team of art instructors brings a wide range of professional expertise to the classroom. Students are mentored by experienced artists including Ashley Pickering, Renee Boardman, Vince Liuzzo, Cathy Panebianco, Dana Nordlund, and Debbie Penley-all of whom are practicing creatives in their own right. Their mentorship provides students with not only technical instruction but also firsthand insight into the life of a working artist. This team's guidance helps students stretch their creativity and build a foundation for future artistic pursuits.

The program's long-term impact is evident in the number of students who return to Infinity as adults-not just to visit, but to lead. Currently, eight members of Infinity's staff team are former students, a testament to the deep connection and sense of purpose the organization instills. Many of these individuals started as beginners in private lessons and now serve as instructors and mentors, helping the next generation find their creative voice.

Longtime staff member Stephanie Rogers' journey with Infinity began as a scholarship-supported student in 2002 at the age of 15. Just five years later, in 2007, she joined the program staffand has remained with the organization ever since.

"Infinity opened doors for me that I didn't even know existed," she shares. "As a teen, it gave me a place to



Artist, Meridith Kimball

them through every season of life."

Infinity also serves as a launching pad for future opportunities. Many students use their time at Infinity to build strong visual art portfolios for college admissions, summer intensives, or gallery submissions.

One current student, Serenity, who studies with Cathy Panebianco, was recently selected to showcase their artwork as part of the ArtScapes Banner Project, a public art installation currently on display throughout downtown Jamestown. Projects like this give young artists a chance to experience what it's like to share their work with the community—and to see themselves represented in public spaces.

The organization's impact now stretches even further thanks to Pearl City Clay House—a contemporary craft studio and community art space located just across the street from the Infinity Center. Operated by the same nonprofit team, Pearl City Clay House serves adults, families, and visitors with hands-on experiences in pottery, clay hand-building, and modern crafts like fiber arts and bookbinding.

that keep arts education accessible for children and teens in Chautauqua County.

"Pearl City Clay House has quickly become a vibrant extension of our mission," Hawkins says. "It benefits working artists, community members, and tourists by keeping creative expression flowing across generations and community sectors."

Several Pearl City Clay House instructors and studio members are participating in this year's North Shore Arts Alliance Art Trail, further emphasizing the connection between Infinity and the regional arts scene. Infinity's youth programming, and the extension of community programming at Pearl City Clay House ensures that the local arts community is not only thriving in the present, but also investing in its future.

Infinity's commitment to the next generation of artists is deeply rooted in the belief that art is not a luxury it's a necessity. Whether it's a quiet moment in front of an easel or a room full of laughter in a group class, every experience adds up to something bigger:

"Accessibility is core to who we are,"



belong and grow. And now, as a staff member, I get to help create those same experiences for the next generation of students."

That next generation includes her own children. Stephanie's kids have both participated in lessons and classes at Infinity, continuing the legacy of creativity and connection that the organization makes possible.

"It's special to watch my kids benefit from the same space that helped shape who I am," she says. "Infinity truly is a generational program—it meets students where they are and stays with

Under the leadership of Program Director Debra Eck, Pearl City Clay House has become a creative hub for artists of all levels. Debra, an internationally recognized book and paper artist, brings years of teaching experience and community-building vision to the program.

Pearl City Clay House was created not only to provide accessible art opportunities for all ages, but also to serve as a sustainable earned-income stream that supports Infinity's youth programming. Every purchase and class registration helps fund the programs creative agency, emotional resilience, and a lifelong sense of belonging.

As the North Shore Art Trail invites visitors to explore studios and meet artists where they create, Infinity proudly celebrates its role in helping young artists discover their voices, build portfolios, and imagine a future in which they can thrive right here at home.

Because for Infinity, art isn't just a subject-it's a lifeline. And every student who walks through their doors adds one more stroke to Chautauqua County's colorful and creative future.

Paint CHQ Accepting Apprenticeship Applications

to Train the Next Generation of Skilled Mural Artists – Applications Due June 1st

Article Contributed by

Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth

Paint CHQ is proud to announce the launch of its Paint CHQ Apprenticeship Program, a handson initiative designed to equip individuals with the skills, knowledge, and real-world experience necessary to develop large-scale murals.

Local artists who are interested in learning more about how to install a mural may apply to participate in the Paint CHQ Mural Apprentice Program. The Paint CHQ Mural Apprentice Program will offer aspiring artists an opportunity to garner valuable experience installing large-scale mural. Applications are now open and will be accepted through June 1, 2025.

Eligibility requirements include:

- Applicant must be 18 or older, or have parental permission
- Applicant must reside in Chautauqua County, NY



Applicant MUST be able to volunteer some hours to this apprentice program during Paint CHQ mural festival: September 7 – September 13, 2025

"This is an excellent resume builder for an aspiring muralist," said Alexandra Hall from A H Public Spaces Consulting, who's been brought in to oversee the Paint CHQ initiative. "Apprentices will be paired with experienced muralists and asked to help assist in the mural installation during the mural festival. Apprentices may learn how to scale a design to fit a building, learn about different mediums, and expand their artist-network!"

Officially announced earlier this year, Paint CHQ is a new public art initiative intended to highlight and bring new interest to communities in Chautauqua County. The project is being coordinated by the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG), in collaboration with the Chautauqua County Department of Planning & Development. It will culminate with a County-wide festival the second week of September that involves the creation of large public murals in Dunkirk, Falconer, Sherman, and Westfield. As part of the initiative, Professional artists have been selected to create the artwork. Both the artists and the specific locations will be announced this summer.

The goals and purpose of Paint CHQ include highlighting community assets, embracing the value of public art investment, bringing visitors to Chautauqua County communities, encouraging economic growth, building a foundation for more public art investment, and improving quality of place. To sign up for the Apprenticeship Program or to learn more about the Paint CHQ Festival in September, visit ChooseCHQ.com/PaintCHQ. Inquiries about the program can also be sent via email to project coordinator Rebecca Wurster at WursterR@chqgov.com, or call 716-363-3620.

About CCPEG - The Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG) serves as the main convener of economic development partners and resources to advance key projects that achieve economic prosperity in Chautauqua County. It also serves as the catalyst and broker of resources for advancing economic prosperity efforts and is the central coordinating entity for the formation, retention, development, and attraction of quality jobs and advancements to the quality of life. It is an initiative of the Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation (CREDC). For more information visit CHQPartnership.org.

Let's Celebrate Sweet Sounds & Even Sweeter Treats!

May is Better Hearing Month and The Hearing Place invites you to join us for our first annual Ice Cream Social!

"Making Hearing Health a little Sweeter" in our community Friday, May 23rd from 12pm – 4pm

> Join Us for a fun, FREE afternoon of: • Ice cream with your favorite toppings! • Mingle with friends and community members

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The Chautauqua Gazette extends its sincere gratitude to the schools across Chautauqua County that submitted information about their board of education candidates for our 2025 election coverage. Your involvement helps keep our community informed and engaged in the decisions that shape our local education system. By sharing this information, you play a vital role in fostering civic participation. Thank you for your partnership in serving the voters of our region!

BEMUS POINT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Eric Martin has been a Bemus Point School District resident since 1989. He is employed by Erie 2-BOCES as a School Counselor. Eric is married to Robin Martin and has two children: Connor and Graham. Eric graduated from Maple Grove in 2007. He is a social member of the War Veterans Recreation, Inc, Lakewood Rod and Gun Club, and Jamestown Adult Hockey League.



Louis Riccardi has been a Bemus Point School District resident since 2017. He is the owner/director of Riccardi Family Funeral Homes. Louis is married to Jennifer and has five children: Samantha, Nicholas, Christian, Maxwell, and Caterina. Louis graduated from N.C.C. with a degree in Applied Sciences. He is a member of th eFuneral Directors Association, Celtics Club, and is the former president of Bemus Point Midget Football from 2021-2023.

Eric Rinaldo has been a Bemus Point School District resident since 2022. He is employed by the United Way of Chautauqua County as a Community Impact Manager. Eric is married to Tonja Rinaldo and has two children:

Brody and Lucas. Eric graduated from Southwestern Central School. He is a member of the IDEA Coalition and

Homeless Coalition.Football from 2021-2023.





Lauren Ryan has lived in the district since 2009 with her partner, Larry, and their children, Margaret and Kristopher, both students at Maple Grove High School. A JCC graduate, she currently serves as the Recruiter for Chautauqua County, focusing on workforce development and connecting people with meaningful employment. Lauren has served on the Board for three years, including the past year as Board President, advocating for a collaborative approach that benefits the students, staff and community.

CASSADAGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Aaron Richner, currently serving as Board President, he has lived in the district since 2002. He wants to continue to help develop budgets and projects that will help sustain and grow Cassadaga Valley into the future. He hopes to strengthen academics and financially responsible while giving our students and community the best facilities possible.

FREWSBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



Brad Swanson, is a local business owner and active member of the Frewsburg Central School District community, where he lives with his wife, Amy, an elementary teacher at Love School in Jamestown, and their two children, who attend Frewsburg's elementary and middle/high schools. Deeply invested in youth development, Brad serves as a coach for multiple sports teams, including Frewsburg Modified Baseball and Football, and holds leadership roles with Diamond Dawgs Travel Baseball and Frewsburg Little League.

Randy Beckstrom has been a proud resident of Frewsburg for the past 30 years and is the parent of three children. Over the years, Randy has been actively involved in our community's sports programs, contributing both time and passion. He's served as a coach for the Frewsburg Middle School football team as well as various Little League and Babe Ruth baseball teams.

Poly Hanson, no info provided

JAMESTOWN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT



Frank Galeazzo, aan incumbent, is seeking his third term. He currently serves on the board's Policy and Finance committees. Mr. Galeazzo and his wife, Elizabeth, have been City of Jamestown residents for 20 years and have two children: Bradley, a 2022 JHS graduate, and Ashlyn, a senior at JHS. Mr. Galeazzo is a graduate of SUNY Alfred State and is currently the Information Services Manager at the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities. He was previously involved in local and regional PTA organizations.



Joseph Pawelski, an incumbent, is seeking his fourth term and was elected vice president of the board in 2024. Prior to his last three terms, Mr. Pawelski served for 20 years, the last five years as president, retiring from the Board in 2008. He lives in Jamestown with his wife, Casey, and is the father of two children, Tom and Carrie. Mr. Pawelski is retired after 40-plus years as a financial advisor, consultant and planner.





SOUTHWESTERN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kenneth Macdonald, a Lakewood resident is parent of two Southwestern Elementary students. A communications consultant with experience across corporate, government, and nonprofit sectors, Macdonald aims to strengthen community engagement and support a positive, inclusive school culture. He has lived in the district for five years with his spouse, Polly Hampton, a Southwestern alumna. Macdonald coaches youth soccer and contributes communications expertise to local organizations like YWCA Jamestown and the Robert H. Jackson Center.



Zonta Club of Jamestown **Donates to Girl Scouts**



Zontian Jodi Swindell presented a check for \$500 to Jina Costa at the Girl Scouts of Western New York. Zonta, whose mission is to build a better world for women and girls, proudly supports the work of the Girl Scouts for the young girls in our community. For more information about the Zonta Club of Jamestown go to www.zontajamestown.org.

Chamber Corner

Continued from page 21

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.

Two More New Members for 31 in 31

The CHQ Chamber continues to work towards increasing our membership by 31 members in 31 days throughout Small Business Month. With two new members in the past week we are up to eight new members so far. The Daisy Farm in Fredonia is a new member, as is SOLT Café and Spa in Jamestown. 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.

HERITAGE PARK EARNS PRESTIGIOUS 4-STAR OVERALL QUALITY RATING FROM THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS)

Article Contributed by Heritage Ministries

Heritage Park, a leading provider of skilled nursing care in Jamestown, NY, is proud to announce that it has received a 4-star overall quality rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). This rating reflects the high standards of care, safety, and quality of life provided to residents at Heritage.

The CMS star rating system is a comprehensive tool designed to help consumers, their families, and caregivers compare nursing homes based on a variety of important factors. These factors include health inspections, staffing levels, and quality measures, which assess different aspects of a nursing home's performance. An overall rating of 4 stars signifies that Heritage Park performs well above average compared to other nursing homes across the nation.

"The significance of the 4-star rating and what it means for the residents and staff is huge!" said Jessica Burkhouse, Nursing Home Administrator of The Park. "This achievement is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our entire team, who are committed to providing compassionate, personcentered care every day. We are incredibly proud of this recognition and will continue to strive for excellence in all that we do."

The 4-star rating indicates the Heritage Park has demonstrated strong performance in several key areas:



• Health Inspections: This rating reflects the facility's performance during state health inspections, which evaluate compliance with federal regulations related to resident safety and quality of care.

• Staffing: This rating considers the number of caregiving staff available at the nursing home, including registered nurses, licensed practical/vocational nurses, and certified nursing assistants. Higher staffing levels often correlate with better quality of care.

•Quality Measures: This rating is based on a set of measures that assess various aspects of resident care, such as the prevention of pressure ulcers, falls, and infections, as well as improvements in residents' physical and functional status.

Heritage Park remains dedicated to providing a comfortable, safe, and enriching environment for all its residents. This 4-star rating from CMS underscores the facility's ongoing commitment to quality and continuous improvement.

About Heritage: Heritage has long been a cornerstone of the community, offering comprehensive healthcare and living solutions to meet the diverse needs of its residents. With a foundation rooted in faith and service, Heritage remains committed to delivering exceptional care and creating a brighter future for all.



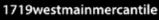
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COALITION OF MUSEUMS UNVEILS "ON OUR 250TH" a national call for shared dreams and aspirations for the nation.

Contributed by **Robert H. Jackson Center**

As the United States approaches its 250th anniversary in 2026, the Robert H. Jackson Center, in partnership with The New York Historical and Made By US, launches On Our 250th—a dynamic, nationwide initiative celebrating our collective heritage and inspiring a forward-looking dialogue. On Our 250th invites Americans of all ages to share brief messages that convey their hopes for our nation on this momentous anniversary online and in person at participating museums.

Online, messages between five and 50 words can be posted to onour250th.org where visitors can share their messages with sticky notes that will be displayed on-site later this year. The number of participating museums is expected to grow as 2026 approaches. Offering a megaphone to Americans of all ages and backgrounds, this campaign reflects a long American tradition of citizens using their voices, harkening back to Patrick Henry's historic call for unity: "I am not a Virginian, but an American."

RHJC President Kristan McMahon project beautifully said, "This illustrates the strength that exists when we're working toward common goals, and how much more we agree on than we may think. I believe we can each see our wishes in these hopes for America. I appreciate this project's particular focus on the younger generations. Justice Jackson said 'Statecraft in America is youth's for the taking. There is no reason why they should delay a single day in contributing their part to public opinion.' 'On Our 250th' creates a meaningful opportunity for people across the country to state their dreams, discover these connections and collectively envision our future."







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""If I could say it in words there would be no reason to paint."

- Vincent Van Gogh

CHQ Professionals Group to Host Networking Event at the White Inn

'Understanding the Generational Mix at Work' Scheduled for May 30

Article Contributed by

Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth

The CHQ Professionals Group is excited to announce a special networking and professional development workshop scheduled for Friday, May 30 and open to professionals from across the Chautauqua Region. "Understanding the Generation Mix at Work" is a workshop intended to provide valuable insights into navigating today's multigenerational workplace. It will be facilitated by Cindy Aronson, owner and principal of Cindy Aronson Training and The Comedy-Code.

The event will be held on Friday, May 30 from 8 a.m. to noon at The White Inn in Fredonia. Attendees will enjoy a morning of learning, networking, and breakfast—all for just \$5.

Open to all professionals, the workshop offers a unique opportunity to build skills, make connections, and gain a fresh perspective on generational dynamics in the workplace.

"We're thrilled to welcome Cindy back," said Leslie Wille, co-chair of the CHQ Professionals Group. "Her last workshop was one of our most popular, and attendees left with practical tools they could use right



The CHQ Professionals Group brings together professionals from across the Chautauqua Region to network and develop workplace skills. The group's next event is May 30 at The White Inn in Fredonia and feature professional development coach Cindy Aronson.

away. This session promises to be just as engaging and insightful."

"We created this event to bring people together across industries and generations," said Monica Simpson, cochair of the CHQ Professionals Group. "Whether you're just starting out or have years of experience, this workshop will offer practical takeaways and a fresh perspective on how we all work better together."

This event is sponsored by Cattaraugus County Bank, The White Inn, and Larson-Timko Funeral Home.

CHQ Professionals Group is an initiative housed under the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth and aligns with CCPEG's effort to build and strengthen workforce readiness and development In addition to hosting educational, volunteer and networking events, the Professionals also distributes a monthly newsletter, shares local job postings, and is actively seeking partnerships related to workforce development.

For more information or to purchase tickets, email CHQprofessionals@gmail.com, call 716-363-3770, or visit ChooseCHQ.com/CHQProfessionals.

About the CHQ Professionals Group - The CHQ Professionals Group, housed under CCPEG, aims to provide social, civic, educational, and networking opportunities for professionals at every stage of their careers. For more information, visit ChooseCHQ.com/CHQProfessionals.

About CCPEG - The Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG) serves as the main convener of economic development partners and resources in Chautauqua County. As an initiative of the Chautauqua Region Economic Development Corporation (CREDC), CCPEG acts as the catalyst for advancing economic prosperity, focusing on job creation, retention, and quality of life enhancements. For more information, visit CHQPartnership.org.



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Chautauqua County's Gail Miller Receives "Women of Distinction" Award from Senator George Borrello

Ceremony in Albany celebrated extraordinary women from each Senate District



Article Contributed by Office of George Borrello NY Senate District 57

Retired educator and civic leader Gail Miller was honored as a 2025 recipient of the New York State Senate's "Women of Distinction" award during a ceremony at the Legislative Office Building in Albany. Senator George Borrello nominated Miller for the award, which recognizes women who have made outstanding contributions to their professions and communities and who serve as role models for others.

"Gail Miller has devoted her life to serving others — as an educator, mentor, and volunteer," said Senator Borrello. "Her impact on children and families throughout Northern Chautauqua County has been truly profound. At every step, her mission has been clear: to uplift, empower, and enrich the lives of those around her. It's a privilege to recognize her as the 2025 Women of Distinction honoree for the 57th Senate District."

A graduate of Lake Shore Central High School and St. Bonaventure University, Gail served for 31 years as a remedial reading teacher in the Dunkirk City School District. She pioneered innovative approaches to literacy education, including co-creating a multi-aged reading classroom and founding the school's beloved Community Reading Day, which brought professionals into classrooms to promote the joy of reading. Beyond the classroom, Gail was a fixture at school events, lending her time and talents to the annual talent show and creating a warm, welcoming environment for every student.

Since retiring, her commitment to

service has only grown. A devoted member of First United Church in Silver Creek and an active member of Silver Creek Kiwanis, Gail has played key roles in organizing the Annual Golf Tournament, Children's Fair, and Christmas Toy Donation program - all aimed at uplifting and supporting local families.

She also serves as Secretary and longtime board member of the Boys & Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County, where she co-chairs major fundraisers and helps shape meaningful experiences for the Club's youth. From designing programs that spotlight the accomplishments of local children to ensuring every event reflects the Club's mission, Gail brings dedication to everything she does.

"Gail Miller embodies the spirit of community service—not with words, but through action," Senator Borrello said. "She builds it, strengthens it, and inspires those around her to do the same. She is the kind of unsung hero this award was made to celebrate."

INFINITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS KICKS OFF GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT LOCAL YOUTH ARTS ACCESS



Left to Right: Makayla Santiago-Frobel (Board Vice President), Jessica Mack, Jacob Brock, Justin March (Board President), and Jason Stronz (Board Treasurer) sign Infinity's 2025 Annual Campaign letters.

Article Contributed by Infinity Visual & Performing Arts

With pens in hand and a deep belief in the power of the arts, members of the Infinity Visual and Performing Arts Board of Directors gathered this week to personally help sign hundreds of letters to launch the organization's 2025 Annual Campaign.

This marks the beginning of Infinity's yearly grassroots effort to sustain its mission: providing consistent,

affordable access to music and arts education for more than 1,000 students each year across Chautauqua County. Infinity's staff and Board members are working together to share the stories and successes of Infinity students and to invite

the community to be part of that story.

"Infinity has always been about people—our students, our instructor mentors, our team, and our community," said Shane Hawkins, Executive Director. "This campaign is a reflection of that. It's built on the generosity of neighbors who believe in the creative potential and future success of our youngest community members." performance opportunities, and mentorship experiences that define the Infinity experience.

During the 2023–2024 program year, Infinity provided 10,834 private lessons and more than 1,200 group classes in music, art, dance, and theater. Students come to Infinity through strong word-of-mouth, family referrals, and year-round community outreach. The organization prides itself on offering a welcoming, inclusive environment where young people can safely explore and grow.



Board President, Justin March, shared, "We are proud to be hands-on in this work—not just approving budgets, but showing up to be part of the process. It's an honor to help launch this campaign and support a

program that changes lives."

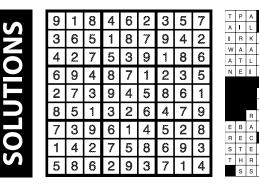
Infinity's Annual Campaign runs through the end of June. Updates and stories from the campaign can be found at www.infinityperformingarts.org or by following Infinity on Facebook or Instagram. Community members who wish to support Infinity's mission can learn more by visiting www. infinityperformingarts.org or calling

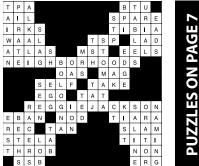
Gail and her husband, Robert, have raised two children and now enjoy time with their grandchild. Her life is a testament to the power of education, service, and compassion.

The New York State Senate's "Women of Distinction" program honors women from across the state who have made outstanding contributions to their communities and beyond. (716) 664-0991.

Infinity is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and fundraising is a vital part of what makes its programming possible. Each year, community contributions help sustain the scholarships, group classes,

For 26 years, Infinity has remained committed to helping students Explore! Experience! and Excel! in the arts—with support from the community that believes in them.





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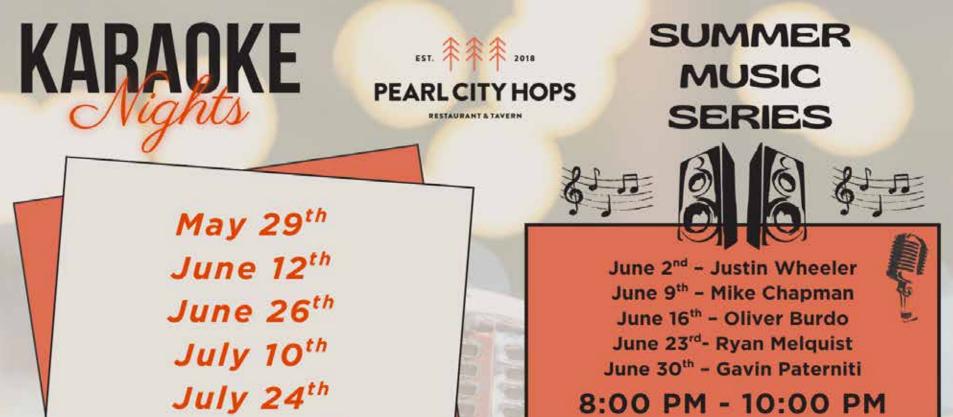


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