

CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE



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Eat Fresh, Eat Local

Volume 3 • Issue 21 | June 1, 2026

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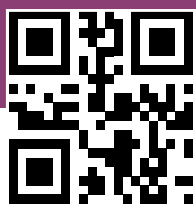
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FOR THE LOVE OF FAMILY FARMS

Contributing Writer

Will Lively

Enjoyable Acres | Photography by Vawter Vision

Bemus Point Farmers & Artisans Market

Fridays, 9 AM-3PM

The Bemus Point Farmers & Artisans Market, which also serves as the kickoff to its busy summer season, takes place lakeside in Village Park and offers a variety of local food, goods, and activities. From henna tattoos, face painting, dirty sodas, and live music to baked goods, produce, meat, and prepared foods, the market offers fun for everyone and delivers. Unique in its lakeside location and proximity to local shopping, the farmers market is pet-friendly and the perfect spot to bring the family to start the day, whether you plan to wander through the tents and shops or use the adjacent boat ramp for an afternoon on the lake. Those interested in becoming vendors can take advantage of their free vendor spaces by applying on the village website.

Cassadaga Farmers Market

Sundays, 12:30 PM-3:30 PM

Hosted in Cooperation with the nonprofit Citizens for a Better Cassadaga (CBC) and the Fredonia Farmers Market, the Cassadaga Farmers Market features vendors from both the Fredonia market and those unique to Cassadaga. Located near Cassadaga Beach on Lower Lake, the farmers market is a resident-run initiative, with current CBC President Cindy Flaherty saying residents appreciate the market and welcome visitors looking to enjoy a summer afternoon in the quaint village. The market, which runs Sundays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., serves as the perfect way to enjoy the town before the locally famous lakeside concert series on the Cassadaga Floating Stage, which

runs after the farmers market on select Sundays from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Ms. Flaherty says that much of the audience attends in their boats, which makes Sundays in Cassadaga another wonderful way to get out on the water this summer.

Dunkirk Farmers Market

Wednesdays, 9 AM-2 PM

Dunkirk, Chautauqua's Lake Erie destination city, is known as a summer draw, and its farmers market is no different. Besides vendors offering meats, eggs, and produce, there are also local craftspeople, baked goods, food trucks, community organization tables, and a selection of musical guests. However, Dunkirk also focuses on making the farmers market accessible to all by participating in the New York State Agriculture and Markets Fresh Connect Program to improve the diets and offer fresh food to underserved populations. Through Fresh Connect, which is also offered in Jamestown and Fredonia, the Dunkirk market can double the value of SNAP benefits up to \$50. Fresh Connect has drawn a wider customer base to the market, benefiting farmers, ranchers, and community members, and includes one day each season where those in underserved communities who are not on SNAP, such as veterans and seniors, can come to the farmers market to receive \$50 in Fresh Connect coupons for use on approved food items. Dunkirk's market already has a full complement of meat and produce vendors but is accepting applications from vendors offering other products. Information on the Dunkirk Farmers Market and its programs can be found on the Dunkirk city website and the Dunkirk Farmers Market Facebook page.

Forestville Farmers Market

Thursdays, 1 PM-5 PM

The Forestville Farmers Market was founded in 2024, following the dissolution of the Village of Forestville and its incorporation into the Town of Hanover. Residents, including Aimee Rogers, formed the group Imagine Forestville to preserve the former village's historic buildings and revive the once-bustling community they had known as children. Using a survey of residents conducted at the time of dissolution, they decided to establish a farmers market to bring visitors and needed capital to the village area. The project has been a success, and the market attracts people to Main Street during the summer season to enjoy the walkable community, its vendors, historic buildings, and local businesses. The market has live music and welcomes any interested local musicians to play, fostering an open mic feel that enlivens the hamlet on Thursday afternoons and has spawned further events, such as a concert at the American Legion in Forestville on July 16th at 6:30 p.m. Imagine Forestville has built upon the success of the market, making improvements to the downtown area and recently having been awarded a grant from the New York State Main Street Program to further improve and make space for current and future businesses. The market is always fielding vendors, and those interested can contact Nancy Adams Fry at (732) 310-3331.

Falconer Farmers & Artisans Market

Sundays, 11 AM-2 PM

When Nikki Pierce joined the Falconer Village Board, she knew she wanted to relaunch several Falconer parks

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

**Live CHQ. Love CHQ.
Read CHQ.**

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THIS WEEK AROUND TOWN

MON, JUNE 1 - SAT, JUNE 6

Half-Off Book Sale | All Day

Prendergast Library | Jamestown
For Info: prendergastlibrary.org
or 484-7135 ext. 2226

MONDAY, JUNE 1

One Laugh at a Time: A National Comedy Center Memory Café 10 AM

National Comedy Center | Jamestown
For Info: ComedyCenter.org/MemoryCafe

TUESDAY, JUNE 2

Cozy Crafters | 1-3 PM

Patterson Library | Westfield
For Info: pattersonlibrary.org

Tween Tuesday | 4:30-6 PM

Prendergast Library | Jamestown
For Info: prendergastlibrary.org
or 484-7135 ext. 2226

Curiosity Club: "Vibe Flow" 5:30 PM

Prendergast Library | Jamestown
For Info: prendergastlibrary.org
or 484-7135 ext. 2226

"Gladius" In Concert | 6 PM

Ellington Town Park (Rain Location: Ellington Farman Library) | Ellington
For Info: ellingtonlibrary.org

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

Milkbone Tower for Dogs!

11:30 AM (Ages 0-3)

& 3 PM (Ages 6+)

Prendergast Library | Jamestown
For Info: prendergastlibrary.org
or 484-7135 ext. 2226

Movies at The Reg: I Swear | 7 PM

Reg Lenna Center for The Arts
Jamestown
For Info: reglenna.com

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

Forestville Farmers Market

1 PM-5 PM

Main Street | Forestville
For Info: 716-934-8534

Teen & Tween Advisory Board 4 PM

Patterson Library | Westfield
For Info: pattersonlibrary.org

Teen Lounge | 4-6 PM

Prendergast Library | Jamestown
For Info: prendergastlibrary.org
or 484-7135 ext. 2226

Fireside Lecture Series with CCHS - Dr. Thomas Hegna, SUNY Fredonia | 6 PM

Patterson Library | Westfield
For Info: pattersonlibrary.org

Sunset Bay - Jade Giambrone 7 PM

1028 South Shore Drive | Irving
For Info: sunsetbayusa.com

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

Bemus Point Farmers and Artisans Market | 9 AM-3 PM

Lakeside Dr. | Bemus Point
For Info: bemuspointny.org/farmers-market
or 716-338-2460

First Friday Westfield | 5-8 PM

Main St. | Westfield
For Info: tourchautauqua.com/events/first-friday-westfield

Knights of Enchanted Dreams - Miss Pearl City Gay Pride Pageant | 7 PM

104 W. 2nd St. | Jamestown
For Info: JamestownPrideFBPage

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

Ellington & Conewango Valley Townwide Yard Sales | All Day

Ellington and Conewango Valley

Bottle and Can Drive | 8 AM-2 PM

5007 Thornton Road | Ellington
For Info: EllingtonTownPicnicFBPage

Jamestown Farmers Market 9 AM-1 PM

Third Street & Pine Street | Jamestown
For Info: jfmny.org

Bemus Point Village-Wide Yard Sales | 9 AM-2 PM

Bemus Point
For Info: facebook.com/

events/1834702260821101

Audubon Photography Club 10-11 AM

Audubon Community Nature Center
Jamestown
For Info: auduboncnc.org

Pride Month Opening Ceremony Flag Raising | 10 AM

Robert H. Jackson Center, 305 E. 4th St.
Jamestown
For Info: JamestownPrideFBPage

Fenton History Center Historic Walking Tour | 10 AM

Christ First United Methodist Church Parking Lot | Jamestown
For Info: fentonhistorycenter.org/events.

Children's Program - Lego Club 10:30-11:30 AM

Patterson Library | Westfield
For Info: pattersonlibrary.org

All-Ages Crafting - Macrame Feathers | 1:30-3:30 PM

Prendergast Library | Jamestown
For Info: prendergastlibrary.org
or 484-7135 ext. 2226

Movies at The Reg: Hoppers 2 PM

Reg Lenna Center for The Arts
Jamestown
For Info: reglenna.com

Group Ther-Happy - Earl Wallace Band | 8-11 PM

103 Chautauqua Ave. | Lakewood
For Info: GroupTher-HappyFBPage

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

Cassadaga Farmers Market | 8-11 PM

Ames Commons | Cassadaga
For Info: 716-595-3007

First Sunday Story Time 12:30-1 PM

Audubon Community Nature Center
Jamestown
For Info: auduboncnc.org

Group Ther-Happy - Ryan Melquist | 8-11 PM

103 Chautauqua Ave. | Lakewood
For Info: GroupTher-HappyFBPage



Photography by Vanter Vision

Editorial with Lori Cornell

THE BROCCOLI WARS



Publisher
Lori Cornell

Perhaps one might argue that Farmers Markets, farm stands and farm stores provide that same sense of fascination with edible natural beauty. The colors, the plenty, the freshness seems to call out to us upon entry. You know what I mean. So, answer that call and enjoy eating fresh and local all summer long. Be grateful for the farmers out there who work long, hard hours to provide, and remember what a privilege it is to live in an area where we have access to so many fresh markets only a few short miles away. Consider the benefits to our local economy, the positive impact on our global environment and the health of your family to boot!

As if that's not already enough, many of our local markets have now become community events in and of themselves. Several have artisans, entertainment, food trucks and more. They are destination locations beyond delicious fruits and veggies - including many with homemade baked goods, locally raised meats and cheeses, freshly produced coffee, honey, maple syrup and on and on. In the tents, fun and delicious are plenty! See our Farmers Market schedule on page 8 of this edition and please remember to patronize our local Farm Stores like Brigiotta's, Haff Acres, Peterson Farms, Tuscany and Randolph Peaches & Cream as well.

I love to tell the story of my kids and their friends fighting over broccoli in our garden when they were little. We had built a small, raised bed in our side lawn that soon became fuller of weeds than veggies, but for whatever reason, the broccoli thrived and was plentiful - for about a day. Until it was wiped out in one fell swoop by ravenous tweens.

The whole ordeal made me smile for obvious reasons. Had I served up a fresh plate of chicken fingers and grocery-store broccoli to any one of those kids in any other setting, the broccoli fantasy would have likely been lost. Maybe a couple of them would have eaten it if doused in ranch, but I'll bet none of the kids would have devoured their plates with the same excitement as they had my garden.



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Thursdays at 5:00 pm

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MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 32
Bemus Point, NY 14712

PHONE

716-720-1845

EMAIL:

cornell@CHQgazette.com

WEBSITE:

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Saturday, June 6, 2026 • 8AM-2PM

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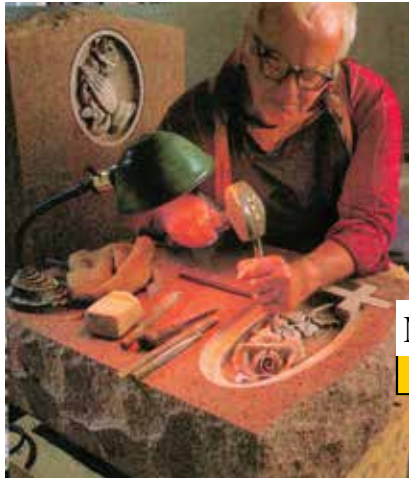
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Faith Matters

THE TIME TO EAT WELL.
THE TIME TO LIVE WELL.



Featured Writer

Rev. Luke Fodor

Rector, St. Luke's Church, Jamestown

We have very little time these days to pause and consider time and its faculties. We imagine that with the push of a button we can get our limitless needs met—products will show up at our doors and even the essential food we eat can be dashed to our doors.

Recently, however, I have begun a daily practice of opening myself to time rather than attempting to conquer it. Through Centering Prayer, I am learning to surrender to God by setting aside the constant stream of thoughts, worries, plans, and distractions that occupy my mind. The practice is simple, but not easy. It asks me to sit in silence and trust that God is present even when I am not accomplishing anything. As the psalmist writes, "For God alone my soul in silence waits."

Perhaps because of this practice, I have become increasingly aware of the delicate relationship between time and food. For generations we have been promised that supermarkets can provide for our dietary needs regardless of season or place. Strawberries appear in January. Tomatoes arrive in February. We are

encouraged to believe that food simply exists, detached from weather, soil, sunlight, labor, and time itself.

In his essay, *The Pleasures of Eating*, Wendell Berry observes that many of us think of ourselves merely as consumers rather than participants in agriculture. Food becomes an abstraction rather than a gift that emerges from creation through patience, labor, and care. As such, we "mostly ignore certain critical questions about the quality and the cost of what they are sold: How fresh is it? How pure or clean is it, how free of dangerous chemicals? How far was it transported, and what did transportation add to the cost? When the food product has been manufactured or 'processed' or precooked, how has that affected its quality or price or nutritional value?"

Berry's point is not simply economic. It is spiritual. Summer reminds us otherwise. Gardens grow in their own time. Fields ripen when they are ready. Farmers Markets fill with produce because creation has reached a moment of abundance, not because we demanded it.

There is a spiritual lesson in this. Much of what matters most cannot be rushed. Faith, wisdom, healing, and relationships all require time to grow. As we enter this season of abundance, I invite you to take the time to eat well. Visit the Farmers Market. Learn who grows your food. Notice what is in season. Give thanks before you eat. In a culture obsessed with speed, eating locally and seasonally can become a small act of resistance—a reminder that some of God's greatest gifts can only be received in their proper time.



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Tribute to Internationally Renowned, John Denver!

Contributed by
Yankee Bush Productions

On Friday, June 12, 2026, at 8 pm, a fantastic Tribute to Internationally Famous and Beloved, John Denver, will be performed by the country's number one Denver tribute artist, Ted Vigil. Vigil embodies the late, great music icon in looks as well as voice with an unforgettable performance. Denver's own lead guitarist, Steve Weisberg, has described Vigil's act as "uncanny." The most heard comments after a show are "I can't believe how much he looks and sounds like John Denver! It really took us back!" Expect to hear Denver's most beloved hits, including "Take Me Home, Country Roads," "Leaving on a Jet Plane," "Annie's Song," "Rocky Mountain High," "Back Home Again," "Thank God I'm a Country Boy," "Sunshine on My Shoulders" and many more in this exquisite tribute to the sorely missed artist. Catch the next best thing to the original - catch Ted Vigil's Tribute to John Denver at the Struthers Library Theatre, Warren, PA, Friday, June 12, 2026!

Henry John Deutschendorf, Jr. took his stage name from the beautiful capital city of his favorite state, Colorado. Later in life, Denver and his family

settled in Aspen, Colorado and his love for the Rocky Mountains

inspired many of his songs. One of the world's best-known and best-loved performers, John Denver earned international acclaim as a songwriter, performer, actor, environmentalist and humanitarian. Denver's career spanned four decades and his music has outlasted countless musical trends and garnered numerous awards and honors. He received numerous CMA & AMA among other music awards during his career. Despite winning the Country Music Association's (CMA's) Entertainer of the Year Award in 1975, he was not inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame because there was some controversy over his reputation as a folk-rock artist rather than a traditional country musician. However, he was inducted into the Songwriter's Hall of Fame in 1996 and in the Colorado Music Hall of Fame in 2011. And in 2007 - "Rocky Mountain High" became the declared state song of Colorado. John Denver's first and one of his most famous # 1 hits was "Sunshine on My Shoulders," which topped the Billboard Hot 100 in early 1974. He had three other U.S. # 1 singles: "Annie's Song," "Thank God I'm a Country Boy," and "I'm Sorry,"

making "Sunshine on My Shoulders" his first of four chart-toppers. In his career, Denver had 34 hits on Billboard's Adult Contemporary Chart, including 18 Top 10s, nine of which reached Number One. The (9) Number One songs place him in a tie for #8 in the chart's history with Neil Diamond & Michael Bolton.

John's first starring role was in a 1977 film called *Oh God!* which also starred George Burns. At the time, *Oh God!* was the highest grossing comedy ever. The film has stood the test of time and is still well received by critics and audiences alike. Other movies he made were *Walking Thunder*, 1997, and *Savant* in 1998. Denver also had numerous television appearances and specials and music videos throughout his career.

Denver was one of the first artists to share an environmental message through his music, beginning with the Tom Paxton-penned song, "Whose Garden Was This?" This was the first in a long line of songs that he recorded about the environment. He contributed his talents to the benefit of many charitable and environmental causes and received numerous civic and humanitarian awards over the

years. Fans responded to his heartfelt urgings about ecology, peace, and compassion on his records and at live performances.

Denver also received recognition from many governments for his concerts to raise awareness of global hunger problems. In 1976, he co-founded The Windstar Foundation, a non-profit environmental education and research center to address global issues such as hunger, climate change, sustainable food sources, and other global issues and to work toward a sustainable future for the world.

Don't miss experiencing Ted Vigil's tribute to this iconic entertainer & humanitarian, John Denver! Join us Friday, June 12, 8 pm, for Ted Vigil's LIVE Tribute to John Denver at the beautiful, historic Struthers Library Theatre, Warren, PA! Give a gift of music to yourself, your friends or your family! This show has reserved seating. All seats are \$35 each. Purchase your tickets today online at strutherslibrarytheatre.org or in Warren, PA at the Library Theatre Office, 302 W. 3rd Ave., or call the office @ (814) 723-7231, 10 am - 5 pm, Mon. - Fri. Tickets are always available at the door!

Yankee Bush Productions ★ presents ★ A Tribute to Hall-of-Famer John Denver

Performed by
Ted Vigil
Fri., 6/12, 8pm
at the
Struthers Library Theatre
Warren, PA



- Annie's Song
- Back Home Again
- Rocky Mt. High
- Leavin' on a Jet Plane
- Sunshine on My Shoulders
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**CCIDA Board Approves \$200,000
Working Capital Loans for Grape
Juice Pouch Processing**

**Funding will help local grape growers
cooperative diversify and expand into concord
juice pouch market**

Contributed by

**County of Chautauqua
Industrial Development
Agency**

At its May 26, 2026 meeting, the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA) Board of Directors authorized \$200,000 in working capital loans to WMC Grape Juice, LLC doing business as Lake Erie Juice Company of Westfield, NY.

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Westfield Maid Cooperative, Inc., WMC Grape Juice (WMC), has purchased the former DeHavens Dodge City building, located 7505 E. Route 20 in Westfield with plans to renovate and convert the space into a fruit juice pouch filling and packaging facility.

WMC will produce clean label, American grown, "New York Grown and Certified" 4 oz., 100% concord grape juice filled pouches, branded as Good n' Grapey, for institutional distribution to school districts, food banks, and more. The \$2,615,000 investment will include a processing and packaging line, with the future opportunity to expand. In a unique arrangement, as a member-owned cooperative, initially the operation will be manned by its member-owners. Hiring will commence in year two with 3.75 jobs estimated, growing to 17 jobs by year six.

An innovative new packing style developed with assistance by Cornell AgriTech, the stand-up, single serve, peel-open neck pouches (no straw), filled with 100% Concord grape juice, are noted for being "kid-friendly" and "spill-resistant" with reportedly rave reviews by testers so far.

Noting that CCIDA and Chautauqua County have been working to develop the startup project with Westfield Maid over the past several years, Mark Geise, Deputy Chautauqua County Executive for Economic Development and CCIDA CEO said, "This working capital financing fulfills the loan funds' intended purpose of facilitating the development of capital projects which improve the tax base and provide new jobs." Geise continued, "We are delighted to support this significant new agriculture-based project in Westfield and northern Chautauqua County."



Submitted Photo

WMC Grape Juice, LLC - doing business as Lake Erie Juice Company - will produce 100% concord grape juice filled pouches, branded as Good n' Grapey, for institutional distribution to school districts, food banks, and more. The announcement comes following the approval of working capital loans from the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency during its May 2026 board meeting.

Additional startup assistance for the project has been provided by New York Small Business Development Center at Jamestown Community College, Empire State Development, Farm Credit East, USDA's Rural Development Guarantee, and others, including assistance championed by Chautauqua County Executive Paul "PJ" Wendel, New York Senator George Borrello, retired New York Assemblyman Andy Goodell, and retired New York Senator Cathy Young.

In earlier stages of development, Westfield Maid Cooperative entered the New York Concord Grape Innovation competition hosted by Cornell AgriTech in 2022. Competing in the "Best New Concord Beverage" category, WMC won first place and was awarded \$20,000 for their Good n' Grapey juice pouch, with grant proceeds being used toward startup expenses.

"We believe this product will secure our grower Member farms' futures by reducing current dependency on a single customer in a single market while also positioning us for profitable sales growth in diversified niche markets for concord grape juice," said Bob Patterson, Westfield Maid Cooperative President. In short, the grower cooperative intends to vertically integrate from vine to school and institutional customers.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

Zonta Club of Jamestown Honors Kayla Crosby, Stacey Hannon, Betsy Hite-Burgeson, and Elizabeth Rowe-Baehr with Women in Leadership Awards



Submitted Photo

Pictured left to right are Kayla Crosby, Elizabeth Rowe-Baehr, Betsy Hite-Burgeson, and Stacey Hannon.

Contributed by Zonta Club of Jamestown

The Zonta Club of Jamestown is proud to announce this year's Women in Leadership Award recipients: Kayla Crosby, Stacey Hannon, Betsy Hite-Burgeson, and Elizabeth Rowe-Baehr. At the club's May Program meeting, each honoree was recognized for outstanding leadership, professional achievement, and deep commitment to service in the Jamestown region.

Kayla Crosby is an accomplished educator, administrator, and community leader with a strong record of academic excellence and civic engagement. She holds a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Gannon University, a Bachelor of Science in Elementary and Special Education from St. Bonaventure University, and an Associate Degree from Jamestown Community College, graduating with highest honors at every level. Kayla currently serves as Executive Director of #IntegrityFirst, Inc. and is also Team Market Owner, General Manager, and Coach for the Lake Erie/Jamestown Jackals, where she blends leadership, mentorship, and community engagement through sports. Her previous roles at Jamestown Community College include Director of Campus Life, Residence Director, and interim leadership positions focused on student development and engagement. Kayla is deeply involved in regional equity and advocacy work, including participation in the Chautauqua County I.D.E.A. Coalition, Jamestown Human Rights Commission, JCC Leadership Council (Chairperson), JCC DEI

Task Force, American Association of University Women, and the Suicide Prevention Alliance of Chautauqua County. She resides in Jamestown with her husky, Grace, and values her role as "Aunt Kay" to her nieces and nephews.

Stacey Hannon has been a lifelong contributor to the Jamestown community, known for her energy, warmth, and ability to bring people together. A graduate of Jamestown High School, she was active in Girl Scouts and the marching band, where her enthusiasm and willingness to try new experiences first became evident. Professionally, Stacey hosted the popular "Dial a Deal" radio program on WKSJ for six years and went on to develop several entrepreneurial ventures. She also founded and served as editor of the Jamestown Gazette, a publication dedicated to highlighting local businesses, nonprofit organizations, and community achievements. Her work helped elevate countless individuals and events across the region. In civic life, she served as president of the Rotary Club of Jamestown from 2009-2010 and has remained actively engaged in community promotion, fundraising, and volunteer efforts throughout her career. Stacey and her husband, Mark, raised three children — twins Shawn and Scott, and daughter Shavonne.

Betsy Hite-Burgeson has served as Supervisor of the Gardens and Landscape Department since 2015, where she leads environmental stewardship, horticultural education, and conservation programming. Her involvement in the "Gloves on Gardening" initiative has brought

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

— BEMUS POINT —

VILLAGE-WIDE YARD SALES

Saturday, June 6th

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CHAUTAUQUA FARMERS MARKETS

Cassadaga Farmers Market

Sundays, 12:30 PM–3:30 PM
Summer Season

Ames Commons, Cassadaga

Enjoy both local vendors and those from the Fredonia Farmers Market in the ideal spot to enjoy a quiet Sunday afternoon before heading to the concert on the lake series on the locally famous Cassadaga Floating Stage, which runs select Sundays beginning at 5 p.m.

Accepts: SNAP, FMNP, Fresh Connect
716-595-3007

Falconer Farmers & Artisans Market

Every Other Sunday 11 AM–2 PM

June 14-September 20

32 W Main St, Falconer

A reborn market which serves as the foundation of several community events, including the season closing FALLconerFEST on September 20th. Enjoy weekly staples and a rotating selection of vendors.

716-665-4400
clerk@falconer.ny.gov



Dunkirk Farmers Market

Wednesdays, 9 AM–2 PM
June 10 - October 14

45 Cliffstar Court, Dunkirk

A bustling market that serves as yet another reason to enjoy Chautauqua County's hub on Lake Erie this summer, the Dunkirk Farmers Market offers local meat, eggs, and produce as well as craftspeople and live music.

Accepts: SNAP, Fresh Connect, FMNP
dunkirkfarmersmarket@gmail.com
716-338-2460

Forestville Farmers Market

Thursdays, 1 PM-5 PM
May 28 - October 15

Main Street, Forestville

A growing market in a quaint, walkable community featuring farmers from Forestville, offering local meats, fresh produce, artisan bread, poultry and eggs and handcrafted items.

Accepts: SNAP, Fresh Connect checks
716-934-8534

Lakewood Farmers Market

Thursdays, 9 AM–2 PM
June 18 – September 3

Chautauqua Avenue & Alta Way, Lakewood

A close-knit community market with fresh local meat, produce, and craft vendors, as well as special guests each Thursday.

Accepts: FMNP
lakewoodny.gov/farmers-artisans-market | 716-763-8557

Bemus Point Farmers and Artisans Market

Fridays, 9 AM - 3 PM
May 29–September 4

Lakeside Dr., Bemus Point

A market offered in the lakeside Village Park featuring local meat, produce, baked goods, as well as special events and activities such as live music and face painting. Enjoy the adjoining shops and restaurants or use the boat ramp for a day on the lake.

bemuspointny.org/farmers-market
716-338-2460

Jamestown Farmers Market

Saturdays, 9 AM–1 PM
June 6–November 21

Third Street & Pine Street, Jamestown

More than just a place to shop, the Jamestown Farmers Market is a community hub to connect with local farms and artisans. Located in the heart of downtown Jamestown. Visit the website for special events and themed weeks.

Accepts: SNAP, Fresh Connect, FMNP coupons | www.jfmny.org

Westfield Farmers & Artisans Market

Saturdays, 9 AM–2 PM
May 23-September 26

Moore Park, Westfield

Voted #1 market in WNY. Find everything from organic produce & pasture-raised meats and eggs to fresh baked breads, pies, pastries & more. You'll find locally handcrafted artisan items while enjoying the beautiful, historic and shaded Moore Park with live music.

Accepts: FMNP
westfieldmkt@gmail.com
(716) 753-0367

Jamestown Mobile Market

Various times and locations in south Chautauqua County
June - September, additional dates through Fall/Winter

The Mobile Market offers a selection of produce and goods from the same farmers and vendors as the traditional Saturday Jamestown Farmers Market at various locations around south Chautauqua County during the week. See detailed schedule online.

Accepts: SNAP, Double Up Food Bucks, Fresh Connect, FMNP coupons
www.jfmny.org



Randall Wiltsie
Owner: rwiltsie@outlook.com

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BEMUS POINT FARMERS' AND ARTISANS' MARKET



FRIDAYS 9AM-3PM
MAY 29 - SEPTEMBER 4

VILLAGE PARK BEMUS POINT NY

Eat Fresh, Eat Local.

Continued from Front Cover

initiatives, including the once-popular farmers market. The Falconer Farmers & Artisans Market has since become a community staple offering produce, baked goods, Amish goods, and artisanal crafts. Located in Davis Park in Falconer on Sundays, the market has become the springboard for other community events, with vendor fees going towards the end-of-season family community night also in Davis Park. Similarly, the last day of the market, September 20th, serves as the Falconer fall festival, FALLconerFEST, a “family-friendly end-of-season bash.” The Falconer market is always looking for new vendors, and those wishing to apply can contact village clerk, Cindy Capastrani. Ms. Capastrani’s contact information, as well as information on the farmer’s market and other Falconer community events, can be found on the village’s website and Facebook.

Jamestown Farmers Market

Saturdays, 9 AM - 1 PM

According to Kristen Bentley, Jamestown Farmers Market’s Community Engagement Coordinator, the market leverages its relationship with St. Luke’s Episcopal Church and the regional hub’s support to serve the community by “creating stronger local food systems.” This includes an excellent Saturday market that runs nearly year-round, as well as programs that serve farmers, vendors, and customers across the metro area. Two examples of this network approach include the Mobile Market, which serves areas of food insecurity with a weekly mobile

farmers market, and its innovative use of grant funds. The Jamestown market was recently awarded a farmers market resiliency grant, which they used to improve services, but also passed on to farmers through microgrants. Ms. Bentley said that these funds were distributed based on community feedback, including Western New York’s short growing season and the subsequent shortage of local produce in spring and fall, as one of the customers’ primary concerns. To address this shortage, the market distributed \$23,000 to local farmers through the Greenhouse Microgrant Program, enabling them to extend the growing season and increase produce supply in the colder months. Other programs and services include the community garden, a farm share program, and food boxes for seniors and Medicaid recipients. Details on the various programs, mobile market dates and locations, and applications for volunteers, vendors, and musicians can be found on the Jamestown Farmers Market website.



Toboggan Hill Farm | Photography by Vanter Vision



Carlberg Farm | Photography by Vanter Vision

Lakewood Farmers Market

Thursdays, 9 AM-2 PM

The Lakewood Farmers Market, a labor of love for organizer Taryn Wilson, brings healthy doses of vendors, guests, and events to the village’s charming lakeside location. Wilson describes the community of vendors as tight-knit, and although they have continued to grow since the market’s founding eight years ago, “it is important for me that we remain a community market.” That said, Ms. Wilson welcomes vendors and guests from around the region and, in addition to produce and crafts,

also has a yellow tent featuring special guests each week. This year’s program includes the police department’s K-9 unit, authors, farmer presentations, and a photographer for the last week of the year. The first two weeks of the year, the Lakewood market also offers free reusable printed canvas tote bags filled with community fliers and coupons, fittingly printed by a former vendor who expanded into a permanent location. Ms. Wilson has formed the market into a small-business percolator of sorts, offering vendor spots for \$15 a week, with the option to stay for the week or the entire season. This creates a rotating roster of vendors and gives home crafters who might shy away from larger markets an opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of a community market.

Westfield Farmers & Artisans Market

Saturdays, 9 AM-2PM

Westfield Farmers & Artisans Market, so-called because it includes both a farmers market and a flea market, was begun 20 years ago by a group of residents who sensed a need in the community. Kate Mayer, the current president of the group, was one of the original founders and said the market focuses on ensuring visitors have an enjoyable experience with a breadth of offerings unique for a small-town market. By guaranteeing 40 vendors through its full-time vendor program, the market ensures customers have an ample selection of produce, meats, baked goods, food trucks, and both antique and artisanal goods from local craftspeople. Located in downtown Westfield’s picturesque Moore Park, visitors can enjoy a stroll among the vendor booths under tree-lined paths while listening to a variety of local musicians. Market information, as well as vendor applications, can be found on both the Westfield Farmers and Artisans Market Facebook page and the Village of Westfield’s website.



JMJoy Farms LLC | Photography by Vanter Vision

Chautauqua County's Seasonal Standouts

Featured Writer

Sofia Russo

As farm stands open across Chautauqua County, the growing season follows a familiar rhythm: strawberries in June, sweet corn by July, tomatoes in August, and grapes as fall approaches. Shopping locally allows you to enjoy these crops at their peak, all while supporting the farms that shape our region.

In **early June**, the season begins with fresh spring crops like asparagus, lettuce, spinach, peas, and rhubarb, alongside the long-awaited arrival of strawberries, one of the county's most celebrated early-season fruits.

By **early to mid-July**, the variety expands rapidly. Zucchini and summer squash become abundant, blueberries begin to ripen, and the first waves of sweet corn start appearing at roadside stands.

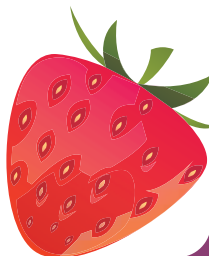
In **late July and August**, the season reaches its peak. Stands are filled with sweet corn, juicy tomatoes, cucumbers, beans, and peppers, offering the freshest flavors of summer as the crops are most abundant. This is when local produce is at its most plentiful, and when many farms harvest daily.

As the season shifts toward **late summer and early fall**, Chautauqua County's agricultural identity truly shines. Along the Lake Erie shoreline, part of one of the largest Concord grape-growing regions in the world, grapes begin to ripen and take center stage, supporting local farms, processors, and wineries. Apples and other late-season crops follow closely behind, rounding out the harvest.

From rhubarb and strawberries to zucchini, sweet corn, and grapes, every part of the season offers something unique! Visiting local produce stands isn't just about freshness, it's about supporting a local food system that defines Chautauqua County.

JUNE

strawberries
asparagus
lettuce
spinach
peas
rhubarb



JULY

sweet corn
zucchini
summer squash
blueberries
snap peas
peaches



AUGUST

tomatoes
sweet corn
cucumbers
beans
peppers
turnips



FALL

grapes
blackberries
raspberries
pears
pumpkins
winter squash



Peace, Hope and Joy with Linda Kent

GARDENING



Featured Writer

Linda Kent

I miss my vegetable garden. I miss the therapy of digging in the dirt. The satisfaction of watching the plants grow from seeds or seedlings to producing food and the sweet taste of that fresh harvest.

We had a huge garden when we lived in our house. I stayed home with the kids. To save money, I cooked from scratch, sewed the kids' clothes or thrift shopped, and planted a garden. I froze beans, carrots, peas, corn, beets, and tomato sauce for years. The potatoes went into the dirt and stone basement. I made pickles from cucumbers and braided onions to store for the winter.

I miss all that. Well, maybe not the freezing part, that was a lot of work. However, the vegetables supplied us all year long, especially the beans, they always grew the best. The pumpkins

were also a bonus, and some years we even supplied our friends.

There's something special about growing your own food. Doing the work of preparing the soil and planting the seeds. Watering, weeding, and fertilizing. Learning when and how to plant what vegetables. To watch the progress of the plants in their different cycles and the challenges they presented. It was so therapeutic to go out and weed, creating order from the chaos of the unruly, untamable weeds. I loved it.

I miss it now that I live in an apartment. I do plant flowers and enjoy that beauty, but it's not the same as feeding yourself. That's why I'm grateful for those who still do. Veggie stands pop up during the summer, selling or giving away their excess efforts. Jamestown has several great permanent farm stands that showcase locally grown produce, which is a real blessing to people like me. Different localities, including Jamestown, have Farmer's Markets at least once a week where local vendors get together to sell their fruit, vegetables and other wares. I'm grateful for these places. They keep that homegrown goodness alive for people like me.

"Farming is a profession of hope."

~ Brian Brett



Hey! Want Your Farm or Business Featured on Chautauqua Grown?

We are currently in the process of updating the Chautauqua Grown website including our local food map and directory. Chautauqua Grown serves as a hub for discovering local agriculture and connecting residents and visitors with locally grown, raised, and produced food across the county.

If you operate a farm stand, agricultural business, or sell locally produced products, we'd love to include you! Help us keep this community resource accurate and up to date, contact us to be added or update your listing by emailing chautauquaag@cornell.edu, or by calling (716) -664-9502 ext. 203.



Photography by Vanter Vision

Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) Returns for 2026

Contributed by

Ellen Colasuonno MS RDN
Nutrition & Wellness Educator

• Jamestown: 107 Institute St., Suite 220, Jamestown, NY 14701

If there are any coupon booklets remaining after these public distributions, they will be made available for walk-ins at our three office locations after Monday July 21st. So be sure to head out to one of our public distributions so you don't miss out!

The Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program makes it easier for income eligible older adults to enjoy locally grown produce while supporting our farming community. If you or someone you know may qualify, we encourage you to participate. If you would like more information about eligibility or distribution dates, call NY Connects at 716 753 4582.

Check out our website at <https://chq.gov.com/office-aging> to see all the programs and services offered. Additionally, by signing up for our communication system, if you are not already registered, will provide you with information at your fingertips. We send messages about the current programs you may be interested in through your preferred communication method: text, email, or an automated call. If you are not already signed up to receive these messages, just call us at our NY Connects line 716-753-4582.

By making simple and healthy choices on a daily basis, you will be well on your way towards achieving total wellness. We know the healthy choice is not always the easiest choice, but small changes can make a big difference. Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services offers Nutrition & Wellness programs to support you in your journey toward total wellness. Call NY Connects at 716-753-4582 for more details and information about any of the Nutrition and Wellness programs provided by Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services.

SNAP-Ed materials are funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Some of these materials have been funded in whole or in part by grants from the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA), and/ or the Administration on Aging (AOA) and/ or Administration for Community Living (ACL). Nothing herein is intended, nor should be construed, as an endorsement by the State of New York.

The Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program, also known as SFMNP, is returning to Chautauqua County this summer. This program helps increase access to fresh, affordable produce for older adults while also supporting our local farmers. Fresh fruits and vegetables are such an important part of healthy aging.

SFMNP is a United States Department of Agriculture program administered through New York State Agriculture and Markets in coordination with the Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services. Eligible older adults receive a coupon booklet valued at \$25 that can be used at participating local farm stands and farmers markets.

To qualify, individuals must:

- Be 60 years of age or older
- Meet the following income eligibility guidelines for 2026:
 - Household size of 1: less than \$2,460.50/month
 - Household size of 2: less than \$3,336.17/month
 - Household size of 3: less than \$4,211.83/month

Coupon booklets are limited to one per eligible person and are distributed on a first come, first serve basis while supplies last. Booklets are distributed by the Office for Aging Services between mid-July and September 30, or until all booklets have been claimed. Due to funding changes, there will be fewer distribution locations this year.

Farmers Market Distribution Dates:

- Dunkirk Farmers Market – Wednesday, July 8 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- Jamestown Farmers Market – Saturday, July 11 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- Fredonia Farmers Market – Saturday, July 11 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

After the farmers market distribution days, remaining booklets may be picked up at any of the three Office for Aging Services locations:

- Wednesday, July 15th from 9AM-1PM
 - Dunkirk: 51 E. Third Street, Suite #2, Dunkirk, NY 14048
 - Mayville: 7 N. Erie St., Hall R. Clothier Building, Mayville, NY 14757

Chautauqua AGRICULTURE



1. How many farms are located in Chautauqua County?
2. What is an annual event that showcases the local farming community?
3. What is the most popular grain consumed by humans?
4. How many acres in Chautauqua County are dedicated to vineyards?
5. What 18th-century invention revolutionized the process of planting seeds in rows?
6. What is a major crop grown in vineyards in Chautauqua County?
7. What insect is known for its role in pollinating crops?
8. Approximately how many dairy cows live in Chautauqua County?
9. What farm animal is capable of running a 7-minute mile?
10. What industry is the largest employer in the world?

1. Over 1,500 2. The Chautauqua County Fair 3. Wheat 4. More than 23,000 5. The seed drill 6. Grapes 7. Bees 8. Over 30,000 9. A pig 10. Agriculture

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CHQ Reads


LIBRARY CORNER

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


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


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

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

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


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


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


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

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


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


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

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

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

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


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


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

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


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

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

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

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

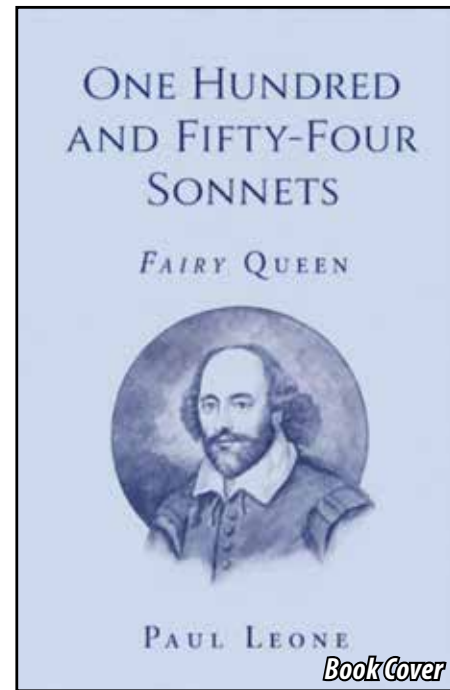
 **Sinclairville Free Library**
15 Main St. Sinclairville 14782
716-962-5885 • sinclairvillelibrary.org
Hours: M/TH 2-7 W 9-5 F 10-4 Sa 10-1

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

Paul Leone Artist Talks June 9 and 10 at Patterson Library and Lakewood Memorial Library

Contributed by
**Chautauqua County
Historical Society**

Paul shares selections from One Hundred and Fifty-Four Sonnets, featuring romantic, whimsical, and humorous works inspired by William Shakespeare. This is his homage to Shakespeare. All are welcome to attend a session at Patterson Library on Tuesday, June 9th at 5:30 PM or Lakewood Memorial Library on Wednesday, June 10th at 5 PM.



Book Cover

SPECIAL EVENTS IN JUNE

CASSADAGA LIBRARY

Friday, June 19 | 5 PM
Beginner's Yoga

Saturday, June 27 | 10 AM
Beginner's Yoga

ELLINGTON FARMAN LIBRARY

Tuesday, June 2 | 6 PM
"Gladius" in concert at the Ellington Town Park (rain location is inside the Ellington Farman Library). Don't miss is free concert, Gladius is an award-winning composer and accomplished classical/ flamenco style guitarist who soulfully shreds on the electric (Phil Keaggy)

HAZELTINE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Sunday, June 7 | All Day
Summer Programs begin at HPL – contact the library for more details.

Thursday, June 11 | All Day
Hazeltine Public Library through GiveBig CHQ.

Your support helps us add books, movies and more to our collection. Find GiveBig CHQ online and look for Hazeltine Public Library.

Thursday, June 11 | 10:30 AM - 1 PM
Medicare Answers and Health Care Plan information – Walk-ins welcome, call 716.340-0969 for an appointment.

Monday, June 29 | All Day
Summer Lunch Begins – details and sign up information at YMCATeam@gamestownymca.org

LAKWOOD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Wednesday, June 10 | 5 PM
Author visit by Paul Leone

MYERS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Tuesday, June 16 | 5 - 8 PM
Annual Sidewalk Chalk Contest – Artists and spectators are welcome to join us for our 5th annual Sidewalk Chalk Contest on Tuesday, the 16th . This year's theme is "Jurassic Jungle. We will have chalk available, but feel free to bring your own as well as something to kneel on. There will be prizes for the winners! All ages welcome!

Fri, June 26 - Sat, June 27 | 10:30 AM

Get ready for some puzzling fun! Our Family & Friends Puzzle Race is coming up, and it's time to put your teamwork to the test! Five teams will battle it out to complete a 500-piece puzzle. Contact the Myers Library to register your team. info@myerslibrary.org

PATTERSON LIBRARY

Visit www.pattersonlibrary.org for a full list of events or visit our FB page.

Tuesdays | 1 - 3 PM
Adult Program - Cozy Crafters – work on any handicraft

Saturdays | 10:30 - 11:30 AM
Chidren's Program -Lego Club

Thursday, June 4 | 4 PM
Teen & Tween Advisory Board

Get to Know
Your Local

LIBRARY ABC



LIBRARY SPOTLIGHT

Patterson Library

Contributed by
**Chautauqua-Cattaraugus
Library System**

For more than a century, Patterson Library has been part of daily life in Westfield. The historic library, located on South Portage Street, first opened in 1896 and moved into its current building in 1908. Today, it remains one of the village's most recognizable landmarks.

Many visitors pause the moment they step through the front entrance. The building's grand interior, century-old atmosphere, and historic curiosities give Patterson Library a feeling unlike a modern commercial space. It is a library, but it is also a place where people gather, slow down, and spend time.

One of Patterson's most unique spaces is the Octagon Gallery. Since 1971, the gallery has hosted rotating exhibits featuring regional artists and has become an important cultural destination in the community.

Families know the library especially well for its Children's Room and youth programming. Summer Reading returns July 1 through August 12 with programs every Monday and Wednesday at 11 a.m. and Friday Guest Readers at 10:30 a.m. Children and families can look forward to visits from magician Cris Johnson, the Erie Zoo, the Chautauqua Fish Hatchery, and many more activities throughout the summer.

The library's annual Book Sale will take place July 16-18 and continues to be a favorite summer tradition for many local readers. Thousands of books and media items will be available at affordable prices.

Another major event is the Patterson Library Benefit Auction on August 19. The auction helps support library programs, collections, and care of the historic building. Community support through these events helps Patterson continue serving residents of all ages.

In addition to summer events, Patterson Library offers regular book clubs, craft groups, public computers and Wi-Fi access, local history resources, and programs throughout the year. A full calendar of events and programs can be found at www.pattersonlib.org.

40 S. Portage St. • Westfield, NY 14787
716-326-2154 • director@pattersonlib.org
www.pattersonlib.org

SPECIAL EVENTS IN JUNE CONT.

Thursday, June 4 | 6 PM

Fireside Lecture Series with CCHS – Dr. Thomas Hegna, SUNY Fredonia, will present, "The Geological History of Western New York."

Tuesday, June 9 | 5:30 PM

Author visit by Paul Leone

Friday, June 12 | 10:30 AM

Storytime with Ice Cream Making Demo! Last storytime until September. (Ages 3-5)

Friday, June 12 | 5 - 7 PM

Octagon Gallery Opening - Steve Swank
13Walls: Katherine Kepner "Remember Places" on display until July 3rd

Monday, June 15 | 5 PM

Planning for the Future: Estate Planning Basics with Jeffrey McCormack and Veronica Van Next of Manning & Napier

Tuesday, June 16 | 3 PM

Chef Jim and German cuisine

Thursday, June 25 | 6:30 PM

Embroidery Hour: all skill levels welcomed, bring your own project

PRENDERGAST LIBRARY

To learn more, visit Prendergastlibrary.org to view our programming calendar or call 484-7135 ext. 2226

Thursdays | 4 - 6 PM

Teen Lounge – Teens 14-18 are invited to enjoy snacks in the lobby, take over Makerspace with their own ideas, listen to music, experience with blacklights, and lounge & chat.

Mon, June 1 - Sat, June 6

Half-Off Book Sale during the library's regular hours. Hardcover books-\$2, adult paperpack - .50, and all other items are half off. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday shoppers can fill a bag for \$10.

Tuesday, June 2 | 4:30 - 6 PM

Tween Tuesday! Ages 10-13 are welcome to drop in to learn to play Dungeons and Dragons, hang out, and eat snacks.

Tues, June 2 & Tues, June 9 | 5:30 PM

Curiosity Club: "Vibe Flow" – learn to move with intention with this group of dancers who are featured at the Blue Heron and other festivals. Props provided.

Wednesday, June 3

11:30 AM (ages 0-3) & 3 PM (ages 6+) Milkbone Tower for Dogs! Join the Chautauqua County Humane Society to learn how to construct a delicious Milkbone Tower using dog safe "glue" alternatives and animals available for adoption.

Saturday, June 6 | 1:30 - 3:30 PM

All-Ages Crafting featuring making Macrame Feathers. No cost and held in front of the main entrance, weather permitting.

Friday, June 12 | 4:30 - 6:30 PM

All Ages Movie Night, welcoming everyone to join for a viewing of Kung Fu Panda 4 and eat snacks! No cost and held in the library's Fireplace Room.

Saturday, June 13 | 1:30 PM

Meet & Make: Yarn Spinning. We will be using top whorl spindles to spin your very own yarn.

Tuesday, June 16 | 5:30 PM

Curiosity Club: "Thule Swedish Folk Dance" – a traditional dance group dedicated to preserving Swedish heritage through performances.

Thursday, June 18 | 5:30 PM

Meet and Make: Wet Felting. We will be using roving (wool fibers), hot water, soap, and friction to create textile art.

Wednesday, June 24 | 5:30 PM

Teen Game Night – Drop in to learn to play Dungeons and Dragons, hangout, and eat snacks! Intended for ages 14-18.

Saturday, June 27 | 11 AM - 2 PM

Community Block Party and Summer Reading Celebration! All are invited to attend the annual Community Block Party to enjoy community organizations, The Artisan Market, Outdoor Play Area, Special Booksale, Food Trucks and Live Music. Pick up Summer Reading packs and information as well.

Tuesday, June 30 | 5:30 PM

Curiosity Club: "Yassou Dancers," A Greek Dance troupe of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. At this workshop, we'll demonstrate and teach 2 basic dances that are common at Greek cultural celebrations.

RIPLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY:

Saturday, June 27 | 11 AM
Summer Reading Kick-Off Party!

BOARD MEETINGS: *All open to the public*

Ahira Hall Memorial Library
3rd Friday of each month,
9:30 AM

Bemus Point Public Library
3rd Tuesday each month,
5:30 PM

**Darwin R Barker Library
Association**
3rd Wednesday of each month,
4:00 PM

Dunkirk Public Library
4th Tuesday of July, September,
November 4:15 pm

Hazeltine Public Library
4th Tuesday of each month,
5:30 PM

Myers Memorial
3rd Tuesday of July, Sept, Nov,
6:30 PM

Patterson Library
2nd Thursday of July, Sept, Nov,
7:00 PM

**Prendergast Library
Association**
3rd Thursday of June, August,
October, December, 5:15 PM

Ripley Public Library
4th Wednesday each month,
6:00 PM

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I Swear and Hoppers to show at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts



Stills from *I Swear* and *Hoppers*.

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

I Swear (Wed., June 3 at 7 p.m.) is based on the life story of Tourette's Syndrome campaigner John Davidson, MBE. Set within 1980s Britain, the story follows him throughout his troubled teens and early adulthood, and explores this little known and entirely misunderstood condition, along with his attempts to live a 'normal' life against the odds. *I Swear* is rated R and is 121 minutes long.

Hoppers (Sat., June 6 at 2 p.m.) is Disney/Pixar's newest animated feature. Animal lover Mabel seizes an opportunity to use a new technology to 'hop' her consciousness into a life-like robotic beaver and communicate directly with animals. As she uncovers mysteries in the animal world beyond anything she could have imagined, Mabel befriends charismatic beaver King George and must rally the entire animal kingdom to face a major, imminent human-threat: smooth-talking local mayor Jerry Generazzo. *Hoppers* is rated PG and is 105 minutes long.

Upcoming Movies at The Reg include a special showing of the 1995 comedy *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar* (June 10 at 7 p.m.) - presented with Jamestown Pride, a 30th anniversary showing of the documentary chronicling the history of gay men and lesbians in cinema - *The Celluloid Closet* (June 12 at 7 p.m.), Ryan Gosling in the spring sci-fi hit movie *Project Hail Mary* (June 17 at 7 p.m.), Anne Hathaway and Meryl Streep in *The Devil Wears Prada 2* (June 24 at 7 p.m.) and Hugh Jackman in the family comedy/mystery *The Sheep Detectives* (June 27 at 4 p.m.)

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

42nd Annual

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Father's Day Weekend

Friday, June 19th • 11am - 10pm

Saturday, June 20th • 11am - 9pm

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Jamestown PRIDE



FRIDAY, JUNE 5 - MISS PEARL CITY GAY PRIDE

7 pm: Miss Pearl City Gay Pride Pageant (Knights of Enchanted Dreams, 104 W. 2nd St.)

SATURDAY, JUNE 6 - FLAG RAISING

10 am: Pride Month Opening Ceremony: Flag raising, local speakers & voter registration (Robert H Jackson Center, 305 E. 4th St.)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10 - MOVIES AT THE REG (116 E. 3rd)

6 pm: Live Entertainment Pre-Show starring Sabrina White and Co.
7 pm: Movies Showing: *To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything!* Julie Newman

FRIDAY, JUNE 12 - COMEDY, DRAG & DANCING (119 W. 3rd)

8 pm: LGBTQ+ Comedy, Drag and Late Night Dance Party (Wicked Warren's Jamestown) \$17.85 online / \$15 at the door / 18+ Event. Info & Tickets:

SATURDAY, JUNE 13 - PRIDE FESTIVAL - DOWNTOWN JAMESTOWN & WINTER GARDEN PLAZA

9 am: Yoga with Andrea DiMaio of Ample Movement (S. Burman Studio, 106 E. 2nd)
9 am - 3 pm: Street Vendors and Jamestown Farmer's Market Open (3rd St. & Main)
10-11:45 am: Live Music & Registration for Rainbow Walk Foot Parade (Winter Garden)
12- 1:30 pm: Pride Kick-off: Rainbow Walk, Speakers, & Lips Poppin' Productions (Walk departs from and returns to Winter Garden)
1:30-2 pm: Sukanya Burman Dance Company (Live dance at Winter Garden)
2 - 2:40 pm: Knights of Enchanted Dreams Entertainment (Winter Garden)
2:40 - 3 pm: Youth Plaza Party with Line Dancing (Winter Garden Plaza)
3 - 3:30 pm: ShowTyme Productions (featuring Justin Tyme & Sons, Winter Garden)
4 - 5 pm: Jtwn Pride 3rd Annual Variety Show (Wicked Warren's 119 W. 3rd St.)
5 - 6 pm: Queens on the Patio (Lips Poppin' at Brazil Craft Beer & Wine, 10 E. 4th)
6 - 8 pm: Pride Day Show (Youth friendly/clean event @ Knights of Enchanted Dreams, 104 W. 2nd St.)
8:30 pm: Pride After Dark - Burlesque & Drag Review (The Pearl City Sirens & ShowTyme Productions, DJ Bad Weekend @ Sneakers Bar, 100 Harrison St. / \$10 at the door / 21+ Event)

SUNDAY, JUNE 14 - PRIDE SUNDAY

10 am: Pride Sunday Service (St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 410 N. Main St.)

Facebook: Jamestown Pride
Instagram: @JamestownPride
Interested in Volunteering? Scan here to join the crew!



Jamestown Pride Returning for 6th Annual Celebration

Contributed by
Jamestown Pride

Jamestown Pride returns for its 6th annual celebration, with a full week of events leading to the festival weekend on June 13, 2026. This year's events are planned around the theme: "Courageous Together. Proud Forever." For people who would like to participate in this year's festival, there are many ways to get involved: First, volunteers are essential in making the festival possible, with more than 100 volunteers needed over the course of the festival weekend. Interested volunteers can sign up at tinyurl.com/JamestownPride2026Volunteer.

Second, community members are invited to don their Pride finest for the 3rd annual Rainbow Walk at the Pride festival on June 13th: A "Pride Parade on Foot", the Rainbow Walk begins at Winter Garden Plaza. Walkers are invited to dress in their most fabulous rainbow attire and gather at 11:30 a.m., then walk through the festival. Groups and individuals are also invited to create "Foot Floats." Local drag

performer Exxxotica Splash (Lips Poppin' Productions) will MC the walk and perform at Winter Garden Plaza following the procession. Individuals and organizations interested in participating in the Rainbow Walk can register at tinyurl.com/RainbowWalk26.

Finally, Jamestown Pride's weeklong events begin this weekend with its annual Progress Pride flag raising on Saturday, June 6th at 10 am at the Robert H. Jackson Center. The event will include local speakers, refreshments, and the community spirit and civic engagement that is essential to the work of Jamestown Pride.

To that end, Jamestown Pride 2026 is made possible by community support and sponsorships, with special thanks to Title Sponsors Evergreen Health, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, and the Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County.

For more details and event updates, visit Jamestown Pride on Facebook and Instagram @JamestownPride.



tarpskunks.com

Ticket Prices:
Reserved - \$14
Grandstand - \$9
Bleachers - \$6

HOME
 AWAY

JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 OLN 6:30pm	3 @BAT	4 @NEW	5 @NIA	6 @NF
7	8	9 OLN 11:00am	10 NF 6:30pm	11 @BAT	12 @GEN	13 NIA 6:30pm
14 ELM 6:30pm 4:00pm	15	16 @NEW	17 OLN 6:30pm	18 NF 6:30pm	19 NIA 6:30pm	20
21	22	23 @NF	24	25 BAT 6:30pm	26	27 NF 6:30pm
28 @NF	29	30 @NF				

AUB - Auburn Doubledays
BAT - Batavia Muckdogs
BUF - Buffalo Diesel
ELM - Elmira Pioneers
GEN - Geneva Red Wings
NEW - Newark Pilots
NF - Niagara Falls Americans
NIA - Niagara Ironbacks
OLN - OLN Oilers

Tuesday, June 2 - 6:30pm

\$2 Night - \$2 Hotdogs, Beer & Bleacher Tickets
Presented by: The Resource Center

Tuesday, June 9 - 11:00am

Wednesday, June 10th - 6:30pm
Bark at the Park
Presented by: Purina

Saturday, June 13th - 6:30pm

Kids Carnival Night - Bounce Houses, Games & More!
Presented by: AffinityOne FCU

Sunday, June 14th - 4:00pm & 6:30pm

Wednesday, June 17th - 6:30pm

Thursday, June 18th - 6:30 pm
First Responders Night
Buyout Night - All Tickets FREE
Presented by: Live CHQ

Friday, June 19th - 6:30 pm

Youth Baseball/Softball Night
Presented by: Logistics

Thursday, June 25th - 6:30 pm

Free Ticket Night
Presented by: Logistics

Saturday, June 27th - 6:30 pm

Kids Camp Day/Night
Presented by: Builders Exchange of the So. Tier and Unvers Healthcare

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Business of the Week

Celebrating Local Businesses & Giving them the Spotlight!

PETERSON FARM KEEPS TRADITIONS ROOTED FROM KORV TO THE GREENHOUSE



Editor-in-Chief
Katrina Fuller

For a business to stay relevant decade after decade, it helps to pay close attention. Peterson Farm, a fixture in the Jamestown area, has done exactly that, evolving its offerings alongside the community it serves while holding fast to the traditions that keep people coming back.

Owner Kaitlyn Bentley credits adaptability as a core part of the farm's staying power.

"We have stayed relevant for so long because we have adapted with the changing tastes of the community," Bentley said. "The local foods movement has really helped us, with people interested in local items when we have them in season, as well as the longer-lasting staples like honey and syrup. We work with great farms to bring all the products to our market."

Peterson Farm has also grown by stepping in where others have stepped out. When neighboring businesses have closed, the farm has taken on their product lines to ensure the community does not go without.

That commitment runs especially deep for the area's large Scandinavian

population, for whom food is central to cultural identity and celebration.

"The large Scandinavian population in town relies on us to help keep their traditions alive and well, with a lot of that centered around food at holiday times as well as in their everyday life," Bentley said. "We always try to have the items people remember having at their family homes when they were young or at the Christmas table, like the Jul Skinka, herring and korv."

If there is one product that defines Peterson Farms in the minds of local shoppers, it is the korv. The farm took over production of the traditional Swedish sausage after Pearson's Market closed, acquiring the equipment and recipes that came with it.

"We have made that ever since Pearson's Market went out of business, and we still use the equipment and the recipes that we purchased from them," Bentley said. "We make about 2,500 pounds just in October and November for our holiday season. It's something everyone is looking for to put on their table."

Alongside the korv, Peterson Farms produces house-made ham salad, ham loaf and pickled herring. The farm also handles its own beef, growing all the feed used to bring cow-calf pairs to finishing weight, then offering individual cuts as well as whole animals.

Peterson Farm's expansion into Dalahast coffee roasting came about organically, born from a conversation at the Scandinavian festival with the business's prior owners, who were booth neighbors at the time.



"Over time, while carrying their product, they were looking to sell, and we thought it would be a great addition to our offerings," Bentley said. "It has been a huge hit, keeping that passion in it."

The farm's greenhouse operation follows a similar spirit of hands-on dedication. Bentley describes the daily work of making orders, transplanting and watering as labor-intensive but deeply satisfying.

"Watching the greenhouse plants flourish and go out the door to be beautiful on someone's porch is always exciting," she said.

For Bentley, the business is as much about what it teaches as what it produces. Her children are involved in the operation, taking part in both the rewarding and unglamorous sides of farm life.

"Bringing my kids into the business and including them in the fun and not-so-fun parts of the farm to help teach life skills is very important to us," Bentley said.

As summer approaches, Bentley says the farm is gearing up for one of its most popular seasonal offerings: their garden center and local foods.

"We really have a great greenhouse selection this spring, and with summer ramping up there will be our sweet corn soon, which is very popular fresh out of the field," she said. "All the local foods are going to start rolling in soon and everything is always great."

Peterson Farms is located at 3260 Fluvanna Ave. Ext. in Jamestown and is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day during the Spring and Summer months. For more information on seasonal availability and products, call 716-483-2202 or visit petersonfarmswede.com.





Peterson Farm
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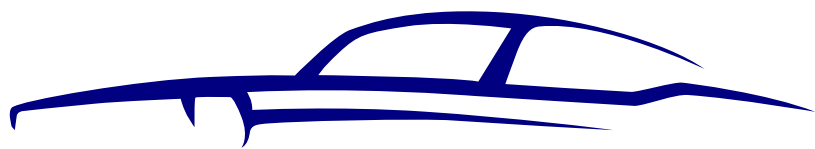
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CHAMBER CORNER

Spring Brings New Business Growth

Article Contributed by

Daniel J. Heitzenrater

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
 President and CEO

The Green Heron Farm and Event Center as they unveiled their new bath house, bringing a new level of comfort to the thousands of guests that will visit their venue throughout this season and for many years to come. And we capped off our ribbon cutting tour celebrating CHQ Chamber's own, Nichole Eckman, as she rounds out one full year of operating her brick and mortar business, **Country Charm Boutique**, in Frewsburg.

There's something about the energy in the air as a community gathers together, counts down from three, and the owner of a new business uses our oversized scissors to cut the ribbon to celebrate their grand-opening. We've had the great fortune to experience that feeling a lot this year, including five times just last week.

As we share these moments with the business owners, local dignitaries, and the community as a whole, it gives us a renewed sense of purpose, and as the number of ribbon-cuttings increases, a renewed optimism that Chautauqua County is on the rise, is a place people want to invest in, and a place where people want to realize their dreams of owning and operating a business.

There are a lot of reasons for the CHQ Chamber to celebrate a ribbon-cutting. It could be a new business, a new location, a new owner, an anniversary, or an expansion/development of the existing space. This past week was a mix of many.

We were in Lakewood to celebrate the rebranding of Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy to its new name, **Everwild Land Trust**. Meanwhile, we experienced new growth in a new space as **Mumpsimus Books** in Westfield, and **Hae Jude Custom Signs** in Silver Creek, welcomed the community into their new business homes. We also visited Sherman at the

With this in mind, we remind everyone that the CHQ Chamber offers ribbon-cuttings as a free service for both members and non-members of the Chamber of Commerce. To inquire about scheduling your own ribbon-cutting, please head to CHQChamber.org.

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Nicki Nearhoof

Bringing your ideas to life!

For Nicki Nearhoof, ownership of Hae Jude Custom Signs and Apparel is more than a business. It's a continuation of a story born in creativity and craftsmanship.

Based in Silver Creek and proudly serving Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Erie counties for more than 25 years, Hae Jude has long been a trusted name in decorated apparel, signage, logo design, and custom-built online apparel stores. When Nicki purchased the business from its original founder, Judy Hilliker, she stepped into that legacy with intention. Now in her sixth year of ownership, she continues to carry it forward by honoring what was built while developing what comes next.

Alongside her husband Tim, a fellow local business owner, Nicki is raising their young twin daughters with a deep commitment to hard work, faith, and integrity. These values are woven into every aspect of their lives and into the heart of the business. Creativity is not just a service for Nicki; it's a way to help others bring their ideas to life, whether for a business, an organization, or a neighbor with a vision.

As Hae Jude continues to grow, it is entering an exciting new chapter. A new storefront at 1040 Route 5 & 20 in Irving, next to Aunt Millie's Restaurant, along with a newly built production space closer to home, marks the next step in that journey. With strong roots and a clear sense of purpose, Nicki and her family look ahead with gratitude and determination, ready to continue serving their community and building on a foundation more than a quarter century in the making.



Nicki and her daughters, Ava Lyn and Ali Mae, with husband, Tim.

"Being a mom to Ava and Ali is more than a role - it's a calling from God, a daily reminder that even in the chaos, His love is growing something beautiful."



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Senator George Borrello Announces
Dunkirk Resident Lori Dispenza as His
Honoree for the New York State Senate
Veterans Hall of Fame

Staff Sergeant Dispenza's Distinguished
Military Service Followed by Years of Dedicated
Advocacy for Fellow Veterans



The above photo shows U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Lori Dispenza serving as the guest speaker at the Military Women's Memorial event in Washington, D.C., in 2012.

Contributed by

Senator George Borrello

Senator George Borrello has announced that U.S. Army veteran Lori Dispenza, Veterans Service Officer for Chautauqua County and a resident of Dunkirk, is his honoree for induction into the New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame. The prestigious recognition honors veterans who have demonstrated exceptional service to their country and a continued commitment to their communities.

"Lori Dispenza embodies everything this award is meant to honor, and then some," said Senator Borrello. "She answered the call to serve her country at a young age and spent more than a decade meeting some of the most demanding assignments the Army has to offer, from the mountains of Alaska to Central America to the battlefields of Iraq, where she served a grueling 15-month combat deployment in Kirkuk. She did all of that with professionalism, dedication, and distinction, earning commendations that reflect the caliber of soldier she was.

"But what truly sets Lori apart is what she did when she came home. Rather than stepping back from service, she doubled down on it, dedicating her post-military career to fighting for her fellow veterans, helping them cut through bureaucratic red tape and access the benefits they earned and so rightfully deserve. Lori is exactly the kind of person this recognition was created for, and it is my distinct honor and privilege to call her my honoree for induction into the New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame."

Originally from Portland, New York, Lori Dispenza enlisted in the United States Army in 1998 as a 92Y Supply Sergeant. Over more than a decade in uniform, her assignments took her from Alaska to Fort Jackson, South Carolina; Soto Cano Air Base in Honduras with Joint Task Force-Bravo; recruiting duty in Southern California; and Fort Drum's 10th Mountain Division. Her service culminated in a 15-month deployment to Kirkuk, Iraq, with A Company, 1st BSTB, 1st BCT. She rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant and earned numerous commendations, including four Army Commendation Medals, three Army Achievement Medals, three Army Good Conduct Medals, and the Iraq Campaign Medal with Service Star.

Following her honorable discharge in 2010, Staff Sergeant Dispenza pursued higher education, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Criminal Justice from SUNY Fredonia in 2012 and an Advanced Certificate in Veterans Services from SUNY Empire State College in 2014. That same year, she was honored to serve as a guest speaker at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial Day event in Washington, D.C.

Her post-military career has been defined by the same dedication that marked her time in uniform. She began working with the Chautauqua County Veterans Service Agency in 2014, helping veterans and their families navigate the complex process of securing benefits and support. In 2016, she joined the New York State

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

Dr. John P. Hamels Endorsed by Chautauqua County Democratic Committee for County Legislator

Contributed by
Friends of Doc Hamels

Dr. John P. Hamels has been recently endorsed by the Chautauqua County Democratic Committee to run for County Legislator for District 19 [Barcelona, Ripley, South Ripley, Shore Haven, Town and Village of Westfield]. Earlier he received the endorsement of the Working Families Party.

John Patrick Hamels (often referred to as **Dr. John Hamels** or "Doc" Hamels) is a retired educator, musician, and media personality who is actively involved in researching the mysteries of Nova Scotia.

He is best known for the following roles:

- **Oak Island Researcher:** He is a prominent figure in the Oak Island mystery community, co-producing the YouTube video podcast "Oak Island Plus" alongside author James A. McQuiston.
- **Media Host:** He hosts and produces "Chautauqua Sunrise", a weekly cable TV show and video podcast based in Mayville, New York, where he discusses a variety of topics including local history and regional mysteries. He is completing his 12th year on the air.
- **Educator:** A retired school superintendent from Ripley, New York, he holds a Ph.D. in Education from Walden University and has served as an adjunct professor at Jamestown Community College.
- **Musician:** Performing under the name "Doc Hamels", he is a veteran folk, rock, and country musician who plays guitar, mandolin, and the Irish bouzouki.

Hamels has over 50 years of public service to Chautauqua County beginning in 1974 when he started his teaching career as a Special Education Teacher for the then, Chautauqua County BOCES. Through his 29 years with BOCES he moved up through administrative posts at both the LoGuidice and Hewes Center which culminated in being



Dr. John P. Hamels

tapped for Regional Administrator for all BOCES services in southern Chautauqua County. From there he was appointed Superintendent/Chief School Officer at Ripley Central School from which he retired.

Over the years, Hamels was elected positions on the Ripley School Board for 16 years, Ripley Town Board, Ripley Fire Commissioner and Ripley Public Library. Additionally, he has served as Chairman of Chautauqua Opportunities Inc., Chairman of the Westfield Memorial Hospital, Chautauqua County Planning Board and President of the Westfield-Mayville Rotary Club. Presently he serves as the Chairman of the Chautauqua County Ethics Board, Secretary on the Chautauqua County Board for the Office for Aging Services and Board Member for the Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation.

"My main focus is to look for ways to bring our community to a healthier standard of living. Presently we are the second poorest county in NYS and access to services needs to improve. The cycle of poverty must be turned around and the root causes dealt with. We have the resources and talent to do this as long as we can all get on the same page. I have the experience and skill set to help to do just that." stated Hamels.

SUDOKU

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

Here's How It Works:

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

Level: Beginner

CROSSWORD

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

CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Egyptian bull-god | 38. Defunct European currency |
| 5. A young canine | 41. Small American songbird |
| 8. Cologne | 43. One from L.A. |
| 11. Fictional British P.I. | 45. After tenth |
| 13. Midway between northeast and east | 47. Hillside |
| 14. A place to shop | 49. Red deer |
| 15. Minneapolis suburb | 50. Partner to "oohed" |
| 16. Single lens reflex | 55. Indian musical pattern |
| 17. NY Mets great Tommie | 56. Israeli city __ Aviv |
| 18. Informal loan clubs | 57. Golden peas plant |
| 20. Habitual twitching | 59. Breezed through |
| 21. Holm oak | 60. Midway between east and southeast |
| 22. Willing to consent or submit | 61. Frameworks |
| 25. In an early way | 62. Danish krone |
| 30. Made possible | 63. Fall back |
| 31. Language in Ghana | 64. Influential Korean leader |
| 32. Relating to one's birth | |
| 33. Deep-bodied fishes | |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Bridge building degree | 34. Buddy |
| 2. Expression of sorrow or pity | 35. We all do it |
| 3. Large, stocky lizard | 36. Chicken |
| 4. Turkish leader title | 37. No seats available |
| 5. Nag | 39. Yearned to possess |
| 6. Blank | 40. Ineffectual |
| 7. Closely woven cotton fabric | 41. Explosive |
| 8. A nice shot in golf | 42. Turkish title |
| 9. Away from wind | 44. Worn near the foot |
| 10. Evergreen shrub genus | 45. Impatient |
| 12. Large African antelope | 46. Set an example for others |
| 14. Something you receive | 47. Actor Pitt |
| 19. Satisfy | 48. Instrument of torture |
| 23. Wet dirt | 51. Swiss river |
| 24. No longer here | 52. Grayish white |
| 25. Writing utensil | 53. A way to print |
| 26. Ribonucleic acid | 54. Storied college hoops program |
| 27. Consume food | 58. Midway between south and southeast |
| 28. Licensed for Wall Street | |
| 29. Alternative forms of a gene | |



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Submitted Photo

Recognitions at MHA May Luncheon

Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Jamestown prepared and served the delicious meal for the Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County's May recovery luncheon. Pictured from left are Jean Rolls, Gail Smith, Barb Visker, Doug and Connie Foster, and Betsy Trusel. Participants received certificates for achieving milestones in sobriety, becoming employed, a promotion at their work, and completing drug court. The Jamestown recovery center now has a full-time bilingual staff member to work with Spanish-speaking participants, and the Dunkirk center has added Thursday to its Tuesday and Wednesday schedule. For information about services at the MHA's recovery centers, call (716) 661-9044 or visit MHACHautauqua.org or Facebook.com/MHACHautauqua.

Assemblyman Molitor Introduces Small Business Health Plan Act to Expand Affordable Coverage Options

Assemblyman Andrew Molitor (R,C-Westfield) has introduced legislation (A.10904) aimed at reversing a troubling trend, the steady disappearance of employer-sponsored health insurance among New York's small businesses. According to a 2023 independent study, only 32% of New York small businesses offer health insurance to their employees. New York carries some of the highest health insurance premiums in the country, driven by the extensive list of state-mandated benefits that insurers are required to include in every policy. For a small business already stretched thin by taxes and regulations, those premiums are too high a price to pay.

"Small businesses are the backbone of our communities, and their employees deserve access to quality health coverage," said Molitor. "Right now, the state's one-size-fits-all approach is pricing too many of them out of the market entirely. This bill gives small businesses a real path to offering their workers something."

The Small Business Health Plan Act would create a new class of health insurance policies specifically for small business owners and their employees. Under the bill, these plans would not be subject to New York's full group health insurance requirements or its standard mandated benefits, as long as the employer contributes to the cost of the coverage. Currently in New York, there is no option for small businesses to opt out of specific parts of the full group health insurance requirements, placing too large a financial burden on small businesses leaving the employees without coverage. This bill would keep coverage more flexible and customizable.

The goal is straightforward: give small businesses access to a more competitive insurance product that they can actually afford to offer rather than leaving small business employees uninsured altogether.

Jamestown Kiwanis Club Sponsors AMBA Wellness Program

Contributed by

Jamestown Kiwanis Club

The Jamestown Kiwanis Club is sponsoring an AMBA Wellness Program on **June 6, 2026, at the Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church on 825 Forest Avenue, Jamestown, NY from 6:30 AM to 9:30 AM.** The AMBA Wellness Program includes blood tests for Coronary Disease, Liver and Kidney Disease, Anemia, Diabetes, and other types of diseases. The cost for the full AMBA panel is \$60.00. In addition, the Jamestown Kiwanis Club will collect a \$10.00 sponsorship fee which will assist various local programs for children such as the JHS Key Club, Jamestown Boys & Girls

Club, youth soccer, and vocational scholarships. The following optional tests are also available for an additional fee and require a separate script from a physician: Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA), Thyroid (TSH), Vitamin D 25, Hemoglobin A1C, and Insure Colon Rectal Kit.



Appointments are required and can be made by calling 1-800-234-8888.

Kiwanis International is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world by one child and one community at a time. New members are always welcome. For more information about Kiwanis please call Wendy Wilcox at 716-450-6874 or Chuck Nazzaro at 716-450-6492.



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Italian American Charity Golf Association Strengthens Cancer Care at UPMC Chautauqua with Ongoing Investment in Advanced Imaging

“Stamp Out Cancer in Our Lifetime” remains the mission of the Italian-American Charity Golf Association (IA), whose continued generosity is helping expand cancer care in our community.

IA board members Dave Munella and Joe Paterniti recently presented UPMC Chautauqua with a gift to complete their pledge supporting the hospital’s Mammography Department expansion project. The donation was received by Kristin Melville, Executive Director of the WCA Foundation; Tracy Gates, President of UPMC Chautauqua; and Tammara Hodges, Director of Operations.

The expansion will enhance patient-centered breast care through advanced technology, including the addition of a GE E10 ultrasound system. Updates will also improve the comfort, privacy, and overall experience for patients receiving care.

Founded 55 years ago, IA has provided longstanding philanthropic support for cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment at UPMC Chautauqua. To date, the organization has contributed more than 1.5 million to support local patients and families.

Looking ahead, IA has committed to an additional three-year investment to support continued advancements in cancer care, including a BK UroNav Transducer for prostate cancer diagnostics and the introduction of contrast-enhanced mammography (CEM). CEM is an advanced type of breast imaging that can help doctors see cancers more clearly by highlighting areas that may not show up on a standard mammogram—helping find cancers earlier and with greater confidence.

“We see the impact of the Italian American Charity Golf Association’s generosity every day—in earlier diagnoses, in greater peace of mind



for patients, and in lives changed,” said Tracy Gates, President of UPMC Chautauqua. “Their dedication helps us bring both innovation and compassion to cancer care in our community.”

The IA Charity Golf Tournament will be held June 11–13 at Holiday Valley’s

Double Black Diamond Golf Course in Ellicottville.

For more information or to support the mission, contact IAcharitygolf1@gmail.com or donate directly to www.wcafoundationjamestown.org



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Jamestown Historic Walking Tours to Start June 6

Contributed by
Fenton History Center

The Fenton History Center will once again present historic walking tours of Jamestown beginning June 6 through August 29. The tours all start at 10 AM, most starting at the Gov. Reuben E. Fenton Mansion, however some start at other points on the tour. The cost is \$8 for members and \$12 for non-members. Participants can pre-register online, in person at the Fenton, or by phone at 716-664-6256. There is a limit of 20 people for each tour. Thank you to our sponsors Rodgers Land Surveying, Ahlstrom Schaeffer, and Weber Knapp.

For the first time, history tour buffs can purchase a Full Circuit History Pass, which provides individual access to all Fenton Historic Walking Tours throughout the 2026 season. Each pass is valid for one person. The

cost is \$50 for members (regularly \$56) and \$80 (regularly \$84) for non-members. Please consider membership if you are not currently a member and are interested in a number of the tours.

The first tour is about the iconic homes along Lakeview Ave. Led by long-time Fenton member and former board member Cindy Rodgers. The tour begins at the Christ First United Methodist Church parking lot on Buffalo St. at 10 AM on June 6.

The tours throughout the summer are of Allen Park, Jamestown's Hidden Alleys, Jamestown's Industrial Past, a military tour of Lake View Cemetery, Lucy's Downtown, Churches tour, and the Ladies of Lake View Cemetery. To see the full list and times, visit fentonhistorycenter.org/events.

Audubon Photo Club and Story Time This Weekend, June 30 is Photo Contest Deadline



Audubon Community Nature Center Photography Club meets Saturday, 10-11 a.m.. To be included in the slideshow, by Wednesday, June 3 submit five photos under the meeting's themes of Trees or Water to Nature Educator Taylor Spontaneo at TSpontaneo@AudubonCNC.org. Pictured is "Nature's Aura" by Ethan Romer of Park City, Utah, an Audubon Nature Photography Contest Youth winner. June 30 is the deadline for submitting and voting on photos for the 2026 contest at AudubonCNC.org/Photo-Contest. You and your favorite 2-8-year-old(s) can go on nature reading adventures at First Sunday Story Time, 12:30-1 p.m. Then indoors and out, visit Audubon's live animals and enjoy the Nature Play Areas, including Tank the Turtle - all for free. Audubon is located at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown and Warren. To learn more about all these, call (716) 569-2345 or visit AudubonCNC.org/events.

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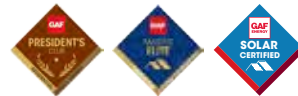
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Statement by Senator George Borrello on the State Budget: More Spending, More Taxes, More Dysfunction

New York State Senator George Borrello issued the following statement on the \$268 billion FY27 state budget that has been passed by the Legislature.

"This budget is more than two months late and stands as another example of the dysfunction, incompetence and special interest-driven politics that define one-party rule in Albany. At \$268 billion — \$14 billion more than the current budget and more than \$100 billion higher than state spending before Democrats took full control in 2019 — this budget continues Albany's dangerous pattern of reckless spending, making New York increasingly unaffordable for families, businesses and taxpayers.

This budget includes new taxes, extends so-called 'temporary' tax hikes on business and sends nearly \$8 billion in bailout money to New York City while upstate communities fight to keep hospitals and nursing homes open and hold the line on property taxes. Albany continues rewarding fiscal irresponsibility instead of demanding accountability.

At the same time, Medicaid spending has exploded to \$122.6 billion — an 89 percent increase since 2019 despite declining enrollment — and now consumes nearly half of the entire state budget. It is a runaway train that demands urgent attention. Republicans have repeatedly called for an independent audit to root out the waste, fraud and abuse that we already know is draining billions of taxpayer dollars away from the truly vulnerable populations this program was intended to serve. I brought forward exactly that amendment during passage of the health care spending portion of this budget, and for the second time, majority Democrats voted it down. At a time when taxpayers are stretched to the breaking point, that is indefensible.

I am glad the budget includes changes that will slow down some of the most unworkable parts of the Climate Act and provide New Yorkers temporary relief from mandates that are driving up costs and threatening energy reliability. Revised emissions targets, delayed cap-and-invest regulations and a five-year pause on the disastrous electric school bus mandate would never have happened without relentless Republican pressure exposing the failures and unrealistic timelines embedded in the Climate Act. While these changes are welcome, they are not a fix; they are a delay of mandates that will re-emerge to threaten affordability, grid reliability and economic competitiveness unless further action is taken.

I support the Tier 6 changes included in the budget because we need to improve recruitment and retention for critical public-sector positions. However, Albany cannot continue expanding benefits while pushing the added financial burden onto local governments and property taxpayers who are already at the breaking point. If the state mandates these costs, the state should help pay for them.

This budget is a monument to everything that is wrong with one-party rule in New York: runaway spending, higher taxes, election year gimmicks and a steady drift toward the kind of tax-and-spend socialism that has never made any state or nation more prosperous. When one party controls everything and answers no one, fiscal discipline disappears and taxpayers are left paying the price for political failure. If New York has any hope of reversing course and becoming affordable, competitive and economically strong again, it will require a different direction and different leaders who are genuinely working in the best interests of the people they represent."



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CCIDA Board Approves \$200,000 Working Capital Loans for Grape Juice Pouch Processing

Continued from Page 6

“A lot of other ‘grape juice’ marketed and sold is filtered water with white grape, apple or other fruit juices added, lacking the distinctive ‘grapey’ flavor of Chautauqua-grown concord grapes,” said Wendel. “Kids and adults love the new Good n’ Grapey flavor of we want to do everything we can to help WMC Grape Juice provide schools and other institutional customers with this healthy, pure juice option while securing dozens of local growers and their livelihood. This is a huge win-win all around.”

Westfield Town Supervisor Martha Bills said, “The most important agricultural product in Westfield’s history continues to be the concord grape, with grape and juice processing and wine making as significant economic drivers for the agriculture industry and related employment. Having Welch’s, Growers Cooperative, Mogen David and CK Natural Fruit Juice all processing or bottling locally, Westfield Maid Co-op’s new WMC Grape Juice fruit juice pouch facility is a welcome addition.” Bills continued, “We are excited for the upcoming location renovations further improving the Westfield Main Street corridor while supporting the concord grape industry.”

New York Senator George Borrello said, “I am happy to support the many grower members of Westfield Maid Cooperative and its subsidiary company, WMC Grape Juice, LLC, in successfully securing the equity and capital needed to launch their new Concord grape juice pouch packaging facility in Westfield and Chautauqua County.” Borrello added, “This innovative, value-added concept will help expand Concord grape consumption, broaden

market opportunities, and provide vital support to our grape farmers and agribusiness community. My staff and I have been working with the team for several years on this initiative and, in light of the recently canceled Refresco contracts, this is especially important timing for the grower cooperative to diversify and enter new markets.”

About Westfield Maid Cooperative/ WMC Grape Juice, LLC - Westfield Maid Cooperative, Inc. was founded in 1935 in Westfield, New York, and is a member-owned (75 member farms) for-profit cooperative with farms in New York and Pennsylvania spanning nearly 1,450 acres and yielding approximately 8,000 tons of fresh concord grapes grown and delivered annually.

WMC Grape Juice, LLC was formed in 2019 by, and is a private and wholly owned subsidiary of, Westfield Maid Cooperative, Inc. with a new DBA name of Lake Erie Juice Company. Its inception date is estimated at July 1, 2026. Their goal is to diversify markets and create value-added opportunities for NYS grape growers.

About CCIDA - The CCIDA is an economic development organization authorized and empowered by the State of New York to make Chautauqua County a better place to work, live, and visit. It facilitates development by attracting new businesses, while promoting the retention and expansion of existing businesses. Assistance in the form of incentives – tax abatements, low interest loans, and bond financing – enhances the opportunities for job creation and retention by our businesses. For more information visit ChooseCHQ.com.



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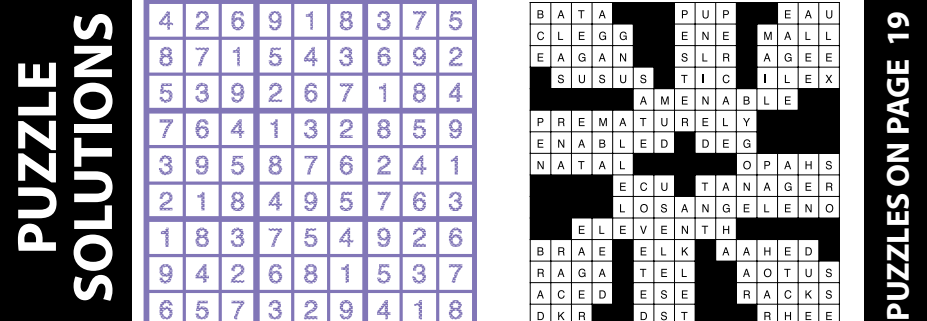
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5	3	9	2	6	7	1	8	4
7	6	4	1	3	2	8	5	9
3	9	5	8	7	6	2	4	1
2	1	8	4	9	5	7	6	3
1	8	3	7	5	4	9	2	6
9	4	2	6	8	1	5	3	7
6	5	7	3	2	9	4	1	8

PUZZLES ON PAGE 19



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Senator George Borrello Announces Dunkirk Resident Lori Dispenza as His Honoree for the New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame

Continued from Page 20

Department of Veterans' Services, expanding her advocacy statewide. Over the past 12 years, she has represented hundreds of veterans and filed thousands of claims with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. In 2025, she returned to Dunkirk as a Veterans Service Officer with the Chautauqua County Veterans Service Agency, bringing her considerable expertise home to her community.

"I am truly humbled and honored to be selected by Senator Borrello as his honoree for induction into the New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame. When I enlisted in the Army, I made a commitment to serve something larger than myself, and that commitment didn't end when I took off the uniform. Advocating for my fel-

low veterans and helping them access the benefits and support they have earned through their own service is not just my profession; it is my calling.

"So many veterans face significant challenges navigating the system after returning home, and if I can help ease that burden in any way, then I know I am honoring the sacrifices we all made together. I am deeply grateful for this recognition, and I accept it not just on my own behalf, but on behalf of every veteran in Chautauqua County and across New York State who continues to fight for the care and respect they so rightfully deserve," said Ms. Dispenza. Ms. Dispenza will be honored at a ceremony in Albany on Tuesday, May 26. A separate event in the district will be held at a future date.

Zonta Club of Jamestown Honors Four Women with Women in Leadership Award

Continued from Page 7

together volunteers, educators, and environmental advocates to address invasive species on the grounds of CI. Each week, Betsy leads educational sessions on invasive plants before guiding hands-on removal efforts, blending science education with meaningful environmental impact. Her passion for conservation has also taken her beyond local work. She participated in a Chautauqua Travels experience tracing the Monarch Butterfly migration from Western New York to the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve in Mexico, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Her knowledge and enthusiasm for Monarch conservation inspired those traveling with her and deepened appreciation for environmental preservation. Colleagues describe Betsy as a passionate educator and natural leader whose ability to inspire participation has strengthened environmental awareness across the region.

Elizabeth Rowe-Baehr is a dedicated educator at Jamestown High School, where she has built a reputation for innovative, student-centered learning and leadership development. She holds a Bachelor's Degree from North Park University, a Master's Degree from SUNY Fredonia, and completed advanced study at the University of Oxford in Medieval and Renaissance Literature. Her

academic background informs her creative and interdisciplinary approach to education. Elizabeth is the founder of the "Justice for All" course, a nationally recognized-style local initiative that partners with community organizations and the Holocaust and Social Justice Education Program of Chautauqua County. The program fosters civic responsibility, critical thinking, empathy, and student leadership through real-world engagement. Beyond the classroom, she serves in multiple leadership and advisory roles, including work with nonprofit organizations and active participation in Zion Covenant Church ministries. She is also involved in several Jamestown High School clubs and student initiatives that support leadership development. Elizabeth and her husband, Jason Baehr, pastor at Zion Covenant Church, are the proud parents of five children: Mathis, Charlotte, Asher, June, and Thea.

Each year, the Zonta Club of Jamestown honors women who exemplify outstanding leadership, service, and dedication to strengthening their communities with its prestigious Women in Leadership Award. For more information about the Zonta Club of Jamestown go to zontajamestown.org or follow the club on Facebook.

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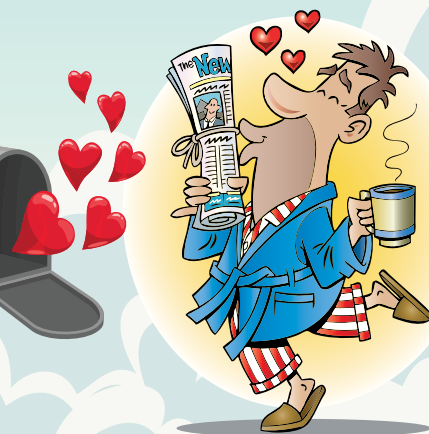
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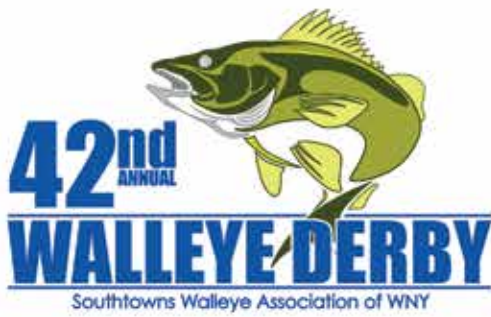
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