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FREE WEEKLY
Chautauqua
INSTITUTION

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Welcome Summer

Volume 3 • Issue 24 | June 22, 2026



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CHAUTAUQUA INSTITUTION KICKS OFF THE SUMMER SEASON

Contributed by

Chautauqua Institution

When the world feels noisy, complicated or uncertain, there are places that help us pause, think and reconnect. Chautauqua Institution is one of those places. For generations, people have come to Chautauqua to explore ideas, enjoy world-class music and spend meaningful time with family and friends along the shores of Chautauqua Lake. This summer promises to be one of the most inspiring yet.

Across nine weeks, visitors will hear from leading voices shaping our world, experience unforgettable concerts and

enjoy the unique rhythm of life that makes Chautauqua unlike anywhere else. Whether visitors return for a week of ideas, a weekend of music or simply a few days to recharge, your place here is waiting.

Some conversations stay with you long after they end. At Chautauqua, the morning lecture is more than a talk: it's the beginning of a week of discovery, discussion and new perspective. This summer, the Chautauqua Lecture Series will feature voices exploring the most important questions of our time — from democracy and media to science, culture and the future of our world. Imagine starting your morning with a thought-provoking lecture, spending the afternoon by the

lake and ending the day with a concert under the Amphitheater lights.

That's a day at Chautauqua.

While the days at Chautauqua are chock full of engaging activities, lectures and beautiful scenery, there's nothing like Chautauqua by night, especially when it features a summer evening concert at the Chautauqua Amphitheater. As the sun sets over the lake and the music begins, the entire community gathers for a night that feels both intimate and unforgettable. This summer's lineup features extraordinary artists across genres — from classical and jazz to contem-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

A WORLD-CLASS EXPERIENCE IN OUR OWN BACKYARD

Editor-in-Chief

Katrina Fuller

As a life-long resident of Chautauqua County, I can see why tourists flock to our area every year during the warm summer months. We have beautiful lakes and waterways, incredible parks and green spaces and a plethora of attractions that anyone would be thrilled to take in during our more temperate weeks. There is one experience I can think of in particular that offers visitors a bit of all of these all in one: Chautauqua Institution.

Chautauqua Institution comes alive during this time of year, offering world-class speakers and presenters, incredible musical, theatrical and artistic events and activities over the summer months and breathtaking grounds to boot. From the excellent shops and eateries to the famous



CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

**Live CHQ. Love CHQ.
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This Week Around Town

MONDAY, JUNE 22

Splash Bemus - Live Music with Shawn 6 PM-8 PM
60 Lakeside Dr. | Bemus Point
For Info: splashbemus.com

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

Southern Tier Brewing Co - Zeke's Music Trivia | 6 PM
2072 Stoneman Circle | Lakewood
For Info: lakewood.stbcbeer.com

Labyrinth Press Company - Trivia Tuesdays | 7 PM
12 East 4th Street | Jamestown
For Info: labpressco.com

Cabana Sam's - Ledgens | 7 PM
1028 South Shore Dr. | Irving
For Info: sunsetbayusa.com

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24 - THURSDAY, JUNE 25

Splash Bemus - Live Music with Shawn 6 PM-8 PM
60 Lakeside Dr. | Bemus Point
For Info: splashbemus.com

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

Dunkirk Farmers Market 9 AM-2 PM
45 Cliffstar Court | Dunkirk
For Info: 716-338-2460 or dunkirkfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Jamestown Mobile Market 11 AM-1 PM & 1:30-2:30 PM
Prendergast Library (11) & Silvertree Seniors - Anderson Manor (1:30) | Jamestown | For Info: jfmny.org

Jamestown Municipal Band Performance | 7 PM
Allen Park | Jamestown
For Info: Allen Park Women's Club Facebook

Movies at The Reg: The Devil Wears Prada 2 | 7 PM
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts | Jamestown
For Info: reglenna.com

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

Cardio Drumming | 9 AM-9:45 AM
Dunkirk Senior Center | Dunkirk | For Info: (716) 366-7530

Lakewood Farmers Market 9 AM-2 PM
Chautauqua Avenue & Alta Way | Lakewood
For Info: 716-763-8557 or lakewoodny.gov/farmers-artisans-market

Jamestown Mobile Market 11 AM-12 PM & 12:30 PM-1:15 PM & 2:30 PM-3:30 PM
The Chautauqua Center (11) & Silvertree Seniors - Methodist Gardens (12:30) & Chautauqua Opportunities (2:30) | Jamestown
For Info: jfmny.org

Forestville Farmers Market 1 PM-5 PM
Main Street | Forestville | For Info: 716-934-8534

Southern Tier Brewing Co - Trivia Night | 6 PM
2072 Stoneman Circle | Lakewood
For Info: lakewood.stbcbeer.com

Tarp Skunks Home Game | 6:30 PM
Diethrick Park | Jamestown
For Info: jamestowntarpskunks.com

Cabana Sam's - Joe & Schmoes 7 PM
1028 South Shore Dr. | Irving
For Info: sunsetbayusa.com

Raven & Thorn - Game Night 7 PM-9 PM
26 Water St. | Fredonia
For Info: ravenandthorn.com

The Wine Cellar - Open Mic Night 9 PM - 12 AM
309 N Main St | Jamestown
For Info: The Wine Cellar Facebook

FRIDAY, JUNE 26 - SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Splash Bemus - Nicholas Nasibyan | 6 PM-8 PM
60 Lakeside Dr. | Bemus Point
For Info: splashbemus.com

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

Bemus Point Farmers and Artisans Market | 9 AM-3 PM
Lakeside Dr. | Bemus Point
For Info: 716-338-246 or bemuspointny.org/farmers-market

Jamestown Mobile Market 11 AM-12 PM & 12:30-1:30 PM
TRC Community Health Center (11) & Silvertree Seniors - Carlson (12:30) | Jamestown
For Info: jfmny.org

25 Years of Asking Questions: What is Patriotism, Really? 6 PM-7 PM
Robert H. Jackson Center | Jamestown
For Info: roberthjackson.org/event/25yaq-patriotism/

Pearl City Hops - Live Music 6 PM-8 PM
103 Chautauqua Ave. | Lakewood
For Info: groupther-happy.com

Labyrinth Press Company - Music on The Stoop - Miranda Wilcox 6 PM-8:30 PM
12 East 4th Street | Jamestown
For Info: labyrinthpressco.com

Southern Tier Brewing Co - Tequila Sunrise (Eagles Tribute Band) | 6 PM-9 PM
2072 Stoneman Circle | Lakewood
For Info: lakewood.stbcbeer.com

Bemus Point Tap House - Shot in the Dark Glow Golf Tournament 7 PM
72 Main Street | Bemus Point
For Info: bemustaphouse.com

Wicked Warren's - John Valby (Dr. Dirty) | 8 PM
119 West 3rd Street | Jamestown
For Info: wickedwarrens.com

Sunset Bay Beach Club - Sudden Urge 8:30 PM
1028 South Shore Dr. | Irving
For Info: sunsetbayusa.com

Beach Dog Grill - Living Room Jam Band 7 PM-10 PM
Wright Park | Dunkirk
For Info: Beach Dog Grill Facebook

Shawbucks - Karaoke | 10 PM
212 West 2nd St. | Jamestown
For Info: shawbucks.com

The Village Casino - We Speak Canadian | 10 PM - 2 AM
1 Lakeside Dr | Bemus Point
For Info: bemuspointcasino.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Jamestown Farmers Market 9 AM-1 PM
Third Street & Pine Street | Jamestown
For Info: jfmny.org

Fredonia Farmers Market 9 AM-1 PM
Baker Commons | Fredonia
For Info: fredoniafarmersmarket.org

Westfield Farmers & Artisans Market 9 AM-2 PM
Moore Park | Westfield
For Info: 716-753-0367 or westfieldmkt@gmail.com

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day | 9 AM-2 PM
19 Lucas Avenue | Dunkirk
For Info: 716-661-8424

Patio, Deck & Hearth Shop Public Auction | 9:35 AM
10359 Kinsman Rd. | Newbury, Ohio
For Info: scottmihalic.com

Raven & Thorn - Yoga and Wine 10 AM
26 Water St. | Fredonia
For Info: ravenandthorn.com

Movies at The Reg: The Sheep Detectives | 4 PM
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts | Jamestown
For Info: reglenna.com

Bemus Point Tap House - GoldiROCKS 6 PM-9 PM
72 Main Street | Bemus Point
For Info: bemustaphouse.com

Tarp Skunks Home Game | 6:30 PM
Diethrick Park | Jamestown
For Info: jamestowntarpskunks.com

Beach Dog Grill - Wasted Whiskey 7 PM-10 PM
Wright Park | Dunkirk
For Info: Beach Dog Grill Facebook

Steelbound - Zen City 8 PM-11 PM
30 Lake Shore Dr. E | Dunkirk
For Info: steelboundevl.com

Group Ther-Happy - Earl Wallace Band | 8 PM-11 PM
103 Chautauqua Ave. | Lakewood
For Info: groupther-happy.com

Shawbucks - DJ Xcite | 9 PM
212 West 2nd St. | Jamestown
For Info: shawbucks.com

The Village Casino - Black Widow 10 PM - 2 AM
1 Lakeside Dr | Bemus Point
For Info: bemuspointcasino.com

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

Cassadaga Farmers Market 12:30 PM-3:30 PM
Ames Commons | Cassadaga
For Info: (716) 665-8855

Beach Dog Grill - Two Towns 3 PM-6 PM
Wright Park | Dunkirk
For Info: Beach Dog Grill Facebook

Paul Leone "One Hundred and Fifty-Four Sonnets" Book Talk 5 PM-7 PM
Smith Memorial Library | Chautauqua
For Info: chq.org/visit/resources/smith-memorial-library/

Group Ther-Happy - Black Widow Duo 5 PM-8 PM
103 Chautauqua Ave. | Lakewood
For Info: groupther-happy.com

Splash Bemus - Live Music with Shawn 6 PM-8 PM
60 Lakeside Dr. | Bemus Point
For Info: splashbemus.com

Raven & Thorn - Trivia w Chris 7 PM-9 PM
26 Water St. | Fredonia
For Info: ravenandthorn.com

Sunset Bay Beach Club - Blackest Red 8:30 PM
1028 South Shore Dr. | Irving
For Info: sunsetbayusa.com

Editorial with Lori Cornell

Chautauqua is a Gift.



Publisher
Lori Cornell

Our loyal readers know what I'm going to say as we proudly salute Chautauqua Institution's season opening this Sunday, June 28 with the time-honored Three Taps of the Gavel: understand, appreciate, enjoy.

But the message is worth repeating.

This edition, we challenge readers from Dunkirk to Jamestown, from Frewsburg to Findley Lake, and all across our readership region, to embrace Chautauqua as our own. The Institution, an internationally renowned jewel, is literally ours to cherish. It's located within - not apart from - the Town of Chautauqua within our County of Chautauqua. Together, with Chautauqua's strong and historic nonprofit administration, we welcome an estimated 100,000 visitors to its hallowed Grounds each summer season. Chautauqua is a cherished part of our summer.

Situated on 750 beautiful acres on the northern end of Chautauqua Lake, the Institution was originally founded 151 years ago as an "educational

experiment in out-of-school, vacation learning" according to Chautauqua's historical accounts. It continues to exist based upon its four major pillars of Arts, Education, Religion and Recreation. Aligned with a mission of indelible challenge, Chautauqua stands poised for us to consider "...the best in human values and the enrichment of life through a program that explores the important religious, social and political issues of our times; stimulates provocative, thoughtful involvement of individuals and families in creative response to such issues; and promotes excellence and creativity in the appreciation, performance and teaching of the arts." As the host community, we have a front row seat, a stone's throw access, and a one-of-a-kind in THE WORLD opportunity to take full advantage of the Chautauqua experience.

As our county's leading economic driver, we also owe also owe sincere gratitude for this special asset's existence. Chautauqua Institution provides a total of \$233.1 million impact annually - including 3,208 jobs supported and \$28.8 million contributed to our state and local tax base, according to the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau archives. As the publisher of this community newspaper reliant upon small business support, I have come to understand firsthand the familiar mantra from the lions' share of our fellow small business owners. We live to thrive with our "Chautauqua summer" partnership.

Chautauqua is a Gift. Our gift. And the gates are now open. Go explore.

CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE

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

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**CHAUTAUQUA:
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Featured Writer

The Rev. Rachel Erin Stuart
 Senior Pastor, Hurlbut Memorial
 Community UMC

*"An intelligent mind acquires knowledge,
 and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge."*

~ Proverbs 18:15

This weekend begins another summer session for the Chautauqua Institution. For over 150 years, these grounds have gathered wisdom seekers and lifelong learners, deep thinkers and committed worshippers, all to make good on Proverbs' advice: seek knowledge.

At this same time of year, we celebrate the graduations of our high school seniors, and we look back on the many years that got them here. We remember school plays and music concerts. Sports victories and academic wins. We list off every silly story, every heartfelt moment, every inside joke. And we give thanks—sometimes because it was good; sometimes because we survived.

These seniors will be the first to tell us: seeking knowledge isn't easy. It has ups and downs, triumphs and tragedies. It requires a whole lot of little failures along the way. It can be exhausting as often as it is exhilarating. And it takes coming back, again and again and again.

And yet, these graduates have done exactly that. And these Chautauquans have done the same, returning summer after summer after summer.

The Hebrew Bible is full of references to wisdom. The entire book of Psalms

is bracketed by it—or at least, it was. The longest psalm, likely the finale of an early edition, is a 176-verse ode to the wisdom that comes from meditation on God's Law.

See, for the sages of the biblical period, there was no wisdom without God, and no God without wisdom. They were inextricably intertwined. The sages believed that God was the ultimate source of every form of wisdom, from the practical, everyday advice of Proverbs to the impossible theological questions of Job. To pursue wisdom was to pursue the God who made it. To pursue God was to grow in wisdom along the way. The two were so deeply linked that early Christians sometimes called Jesus "Wisdom."

We lost track of that, somehow. Somehow, "science" and "faith" became opposites. "Questions" and "belief" became enemies. The two parted ways, and many assumed it was for the best.

When I started college, I wanted to be a physicist. By the end, I was going to seminary. When I told my physics professors about my decision, nearly all of them were utterly baffled. The two fields had parted ways; to see someone stand in between them was bizarre.

But it was the way of the sages. And it's been the way of Chautauqua for 150 years. Here, we understand that myth and magic, sacredness and story make meaning for us as humans. We trust the artists in our midst to draw us into beauty and wonder and understanding. We learn from scholars and neighbors teaching anything under the sun, but we also stop under the sun to rest and to play. Because the holy is in it all, and the human is in it all—mind and soul, body and heart.

Congratulations to this year's graduates, and welcome home to this summer's learners. May we all find the joy in a life seeking wisdom together.

Grace and peace,

The Rev. Rachel Erin Stuart

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Chautauqua County Announces Funding Opportunity for Youth Sports Programs



Submitted Photo

Contributed by
Chautauqua County Youth Bureau

The Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene and Social Services (DMHSS) is pleased to announce the availability of funding through The Office for Children and Family Services (OCFS) to support youth sports programming for under-resourced children and youth ages 6 to 17. By investing in youth sports, Chautauqua County is strengthening opportunities for young people to build confidence, develop healthy habits, and connect with their communities in meaningful ways.

Eligible applicants must be from interested non-profit community-based organizations, cities, towns, and villages within Chautauqua County with a federal identification number and charity registration number. The grant will run during the program year October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027. Organizations are encouraged to apply for funding that will help increase access to quality athletic and recreational programs, reduce barriers

to participation and promote positive youth development throughout Chautauqua County. The grant may be used to fund programming that provides opportunities for youth in under-resourced communities. Program costs can include the following: Coaches/instructors/direct service staff/mentors (including training/professional development); Referee fees; Scholarships; Purchase of equipment or uniforms; Infrastructure Improvements (e.g., swimming facilities, fields, fences, storage, lighting); Instruction or coaching necessary to support youth's ability to participate in team sports; Facility/field space.

The application period for the Youth Sports grant closes July 9th at 3:30 p.m. The Request for Proposal (RFP), which outlines all criterion, is available online at chautauquacountyny.gov/YouthGrantFunds, it may also be requested by emailing kimballn@chqgov.com. Funding decisions and awards will be based upon New York State Office of Children and Family (OCFS) guidelines.

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**“What Is Patriotism, Really?”
examines the complexity in
showing love for country**

Contributed by

Robert H. Jackson Center

Professor Helen Knowles-Gardner, Research Director at the Institute for Free Speech, will speak Friday, June 26, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Robert H. Jackson Center. Her presentation will address what it means to be patriotic as part of the Center’s 25 Years of Asking Questions lecture series.

From flag-waving to flag-burning, Americans have long debated whether patriotism requires obedience or allows for dissent. Inspired by West Virginia v. Barnette, this program explores competing visions of patriotism and the role of free expression in a democratic society. In his opinion, Robert H. Jackson famously argued that no government can prescribe what shall be orthodox in matters of opinion, placing liberty at the center of American identity.

Registration and additional information are available at the Jackson Center’s website.

<https://www.roberthjackson.org/event/25yaq-patriotism/>



We are thankful to Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union for sponsoring this series. Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union supports individuals and organizations that impact, empower, and achieve within our community.

About the Speaker

Helen Knowles-Gardner is Research Director at the Institute for Free Speech, a scholar of American law and politics, and Managing Editor of the

Supreme Court Historical Society’s Journal of Supreme Court History. A former political science professor of nearly two decades, she has written extensively on the First Amendment and freedom of expression.

She is the co-author and editor of multiple books on free speech, including Judging Free Speech: First Amendment Jurisprudence of U.S. Supreme Court Justices and Free Speech Theory: Understanding the Controversies. Her broader scholarship includes work on Supreme Court jurisprudence, including a book on Justice Anthony Kennedy’s approach to liberty. She holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Boston University and a B.A. in American Studies from Liverpool Hope University. For a full bio, please see the Institute for Free Speech website.

About the Robert H. Jackson Center

Founded in 2001, the Robert H. Jackson Center is a registered 501(c)(3), nonpartisan organization dedicated to education and discussion about national and international law and justice issues and the legacy of Robert H. Jackson. The Center envisions a world where the universal principles of equality, fairness, the rule of law, and justice prevail. The Center offers free programs for all ages and welcomes visitors Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 305 East Fourth Street in Jamestown, NY.



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The opinions expressed by guest speakers, panelists, and authors do not necessarily reflect the views of the Center, its Board, and supporters.

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Public Invited to Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation's 40th Annual Meeting and Footprints Award Presentation

Contributed by

Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation

The Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation (NCCF) invites the public to the 40th Annual Meeting on Monday, June 29, at 4 p.m. The event will be held at the Science Center, located on SUNY Fredonia's campus. Join us as we celebrate 40 years of impact, partnerships, community investments, and accomplishments.

During the meeting, NCCF will present the **George B. Weaver Jr. Footprints Award to John and Marilyn Hemmer of Westfield** in recognition of their outstanding contributions to philanthropy and service within our community. Additionally, elections for new Board and Voting Members will take place.

The meeting will be followed by a catered reception. While RSVPs are appreciated, they are not required. We encourage the public to attend the meeting and stay afterward for an opportunity to mingle and connect

with others. To express your interest in attending, please contact the NCCF at 716-366-4892 or via email at nccf@nccfoundation.org. You may also RSVP online at nccfoundation.org.

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



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WILLOW CREEK THRIFTY TREASURES



Submitted Photo

Contributed by
Community Support Group of Southwestern NYS

A Non-Profit Thrift Store has been a dream of The Community Support Group of Southwestern NYS for over 17 years. Over the years we have considered different locations in the town of Clymer, but nothing has ever worked out. The buildings were either not ideal, (ex: on several floors / not handi capped accessible, needed extensive repairs) or were just out of our price range. The building we now have is perfect with ample parking and owner financed.

Our goal is to provide low-cost necessities for our community members and at the same time raise funds for community programs and support other organizations and needs in our community. Examples being - The French Creek Free Library, Summer Recreation - including swim Lessons for children in The Corry YMCA, The Volunteer Fire Department, Youth Sports, and Educational Programs Etc.

Vicky Stetson from North East, PA has mentored us for the last two years. She managed 4 N.I.N.E., a very successful

Non-Profit Thrift store, for over 23 years. 4 N.I.N.E. provides many programs for the North East Community.

In 2024 we also visited several Non-profit thrift stores in Berlin, Ohio. We were able to receive tours and speak with store managers who answered our many questions.

Our store is operated by a volunteer staff of about 40. All the credit for our success goes to our volunteer staff. Without our amazing, dedicated, giving, kind, caring volunteers we would be out of business! We are united to improve lives in our communities. The amazing thing we did not foresee when we took on this program was the effect it would have on our volunteer community. Many friendships have evolved over the past year between many people who barely knew each other before volunteering. It has truly been a rewarding social experience for all.

We are open Thursdays and Fridays 11-7 and Saturday 9-2

Our Drop Off Room is open 24/7 where anyone can leave good usable goods for us to sell in our store.



A curated kitchen boutique with cookware, cutlery, kitchen gadgets, utensils, sustainable items & gifts.

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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) 665-8855

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@falconerny.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

Fredonia Farmers Market

Saturdays, 9 AM–1 PM
year-round

Baker Commons, Fredonia

Each Saturday morning, the historic village square opens on Church Street for the entire community to come together to purchase locally grown vegetables, fruits, meats and dairy products. Baker Commons has long been associated with our county's rich agricultural heritage and a bustling tribute to local entrepreneurial spirit. Several summer vendors accept EBT, NYS Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) checks, WIC Vegetables and Fruit checks. Market patrons can also purchase \$5.00 gift certificates and credit card tokens from the Market Manager.

Accepts: SNAP, Fresh Connect, FMNP checks
fredoniafarmersmarket.org

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.

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Jamestown Farmers Market

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Saturday, June 27th
Wasted Whiskey 7-10 pm

Sunday, June 28th
Two Towns 3-6 pm

Wright Park, Dunkirk, NY



CRAFT PIZZA BAR & TAVERN

UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Earl Wallace Band • 8-11

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

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Saturday, June 27th
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UPCOMING EVENTS:

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June 27
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June 28
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- JUNE 26** Sunset Bay Beach Club
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lakewood.stbcbear.com/events

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Stepping into Summer with all new access at Allen Park



Roslyn Sisley, Chris Prinzi, Sarah Shelters, Carol Drake and Cindy DiNapoli planting trees in Allen Park.



The completed stairs with railings and lights.



Cutting the ribbon on the new stairs at Allen Park.

Contributed by
Allen Park Women's Club

While many consider Memorial Day weekend to be the unofficial start of the summer season, for members of the Allen Park Women's Club, it's not really summer until the first outdoor concert at the Goranson Bandshell in Allen Park.

For over 70 years, the Jamestown Municipal Band has performed in Allen Park - long before the bandshell was even constructed in 1966. **This year's concert series kicks off on Wednesday, June 24 at 7 p.m. The band will perform seven themed concerts each Wednesday through August 5.**

Since 1964, the Allen Park Women's

Club has operated a concession stand at the concert, selling drinks, snacks, and most notably, its famous fudge.

Over the years, money raised from the concession stand has been used to support the Club's charitable efforts throughout the community, such as purchasing coats in the winter for children through the Salvation Army, awarding camperships to youth at the Boys and Girls Club, and supporting the local chapter of Blue Star Mothers. The Club is also an annual sponsor for the City of Jamestown's Easter Egg Hunt and Halloween events.

On August 13, the Club will hold a Drive-Thru Chicken BBQ Fundraiser in Allen Park. Tickets are \$18 each and will include a barbecued chicken half, buttered potatoes, baked beans, a roll

and butter. Dinners will be prepared by Weidner BBQ out of Eden, NY. Tickets will be available at the concession stand this summer, or by contacting a member of the Club.

In Allen Park, the Club works closely with the City of Jamestown Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department to identify needs within the area. In recent years, the Club has helped fund the installation of new playground equipment, plant flowers and trees, and update the kitchen building and pavilion areas.

This past fall, cement stairs were installed at the Goranson Bandshell. This project was funded by the City of Jamestown and Chautauqua Region Community Foundation with a significant contribution from the Club. While

improving the park's accessibility, the stairs were accompanied by a railing and new lighting to enhance the area's safety.

In addition to the concession stand and various fundraising events, the Club has received generous support from individuals and organizations who make charitable contributions to The Allen Park Women's Club Non-Endowed Fund at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.

The APWC is always seeking new members to join its community initiatives and membership is open to women with a Jamestown address. For more details on upcoming events, visit the Allen Park Women's Club Facebook page or stop by the concession stand this summer.

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DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

TUESDAY, JUNE 23

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Primary Candidates:

Aaron Gies vs. Kevin Stocker

For more information, please visit the CHQ County Board of Elections



DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY SET FOR JUNE 23 IN NEW YORK'S 23RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



Contributing Writer
Jordan Nicholson

Voters in New York's 23rd Congressional District will head to the polls on Tuesday, June 23, to decide the Democratic nominee for Congress. The winner earns the right to face incumbent Republican Congressman Nick Langworthy, who is unopposed for the GOP nomination.

New York utilizes a closed primary system, meaning only voters who are registered Democrats may vote in the Democratic primary. Likewise, only registered Republicans may vote in Republican primaries. Unaffiliated voters and members of other political parties are not eligible to participate in either party's primary election.

The Democratic primary features two candidates: Aaron Gies of Olean and Kevin Stocker of Buffalo. Both candidates have spent the past several months campaigning across the sprawling district, which stretches from Chautauqua County and the Southern Tier to portions of Erie County.

Gies, a college professor from Cattaraugus County, has centered his campaign on affordability, lowering costs for working families, strengthening communities, and investing in public services and infrastructure. He has said he plans to focus on health care,

housing, job creation, and aid to farmers.

This is Gies's first run for a major political office. Gies also has the endorsement of the Working Families Party for the November general election.

Stocker, an attorney from Erie County who owns property in Ellicottville, has emphasized government accountability, democratic institutions, and advocating for working families. His campaign message focuses on reducing the influence of political insiders and ensuring elected officials remain accountable to voters.

Stocker has been a frequent candidate for public office. He previously ran for the Democratic nomination in the 140th Assembly District in 2020, the Republican nomination for the 60th State Senate District in 2016, 2014, and 2012, and in 2010 he was the Republican challenger to longtime Democratic Assemblyman Robin Schiminger.

The 2014 State Senate primary saw Stocker oust incumbent Mark Grisanti for the Republican nomination, only for Grisanti to mount an independent bid in the general election, splitting the Republican vote and handing the election to Democrat Marc C. Panepinto with just 31.5% of the vote. Early voting is already underway and continues through June 21. Primary Day is Tuesday, June 23. The Democratic winner will face Langworthy in the November general election.

Jordan Nicholson is a Gazette Contributing Writer and Chautauqua County-native with more than twelve years experience working with both major parties at every level of elected government.



Aaron Gies
aaronforny23.com



Kevin Stocker
stockerforcongress.com

VOTE
AARON GIES
IN THE
DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY
BY **JUNE 23RD**



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"I was raised in a working family; my dad ran a small business, my mom worked in a school. I learned that the system only works when it is fair. I've spent my life serving communities: as a teacher, nonprofit leader, and person of faith. Now, I'm running for Congress to make life affordable again—because if you work hard, you should be able to get ahead."

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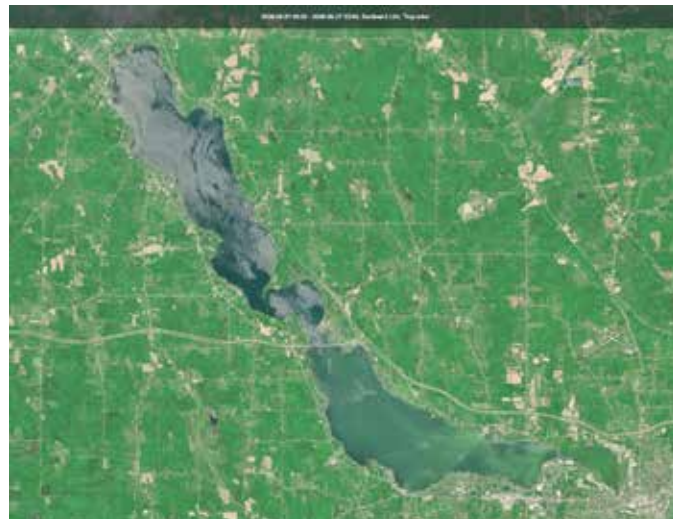
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Chautauqua Lake South Basin Algal Bloom Season Has Begun



One of the earliest bloom sightings taken by Sentinel satellite on May 27, 2026

Abundant nutrients in the water feed algal blooms. Killing growing, aquatic plants with herbicides releases their nutrients to the water.

Help reduce nutrients across the watershed:

- Keep our stormwater on land
- Buffer any water's edge with native plants
- Reduce fertilizer and herbicide use

Do not use copper-based herbicides which increase blue-green algae that can be harmful.



www.cccwaters.org

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The Devil Wears Prada 2 and The Sheep Detectives to show at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts



Contributed by
Reg Lenna
Center for the Arts

Meryl Streep and Anne Hathaway star in *The Devil Wears Prada 2* - Wed., June 24 at 7 p.m. Almost twenty years Miranda, Andy, Emily and Nigel—Streep, Hathaway, Emily Blunt and Stanley Tucci return to the fashionable streets of New York City and the sleek offices of *Runway Magazine* in the eagerly awaited sequel to the 2006 phenomenon that defined a generation. *The Devil Wears Prada 2* is rated PG-13 and is 119 minutes long.

In *The Sheep Detectives* (Sat., June 27 at 4 p.m.) George (Hugh Jackman) is a shepherd who reads detective novels to his beloved sheep every night, assuming they can't possibly understand. But when a mysterious incident disrupts life on the farm, the sheep realize they must become the detectives. As they follow the clues and investigate human suspects, they

prove that even sheep can be brilliant crime-solvers. *The Sheep Detectives* is rated PG and is 110 minutes long.

Upcoming Movies at The Reg include a 30th anniversary showing of Christopher Guest's mockumentary comedy *Waiting for Guffman* (July 1 at 7 p.m.), Leo Woodall and Dustin Hoffman in the caper thriller *Tuner* (July 15 at 7 p.m.) and Chiwetel Ejiofor and Renate Reinsve in the hit psychological horror film *Backrooms* (July 17 at 7 p.m.)

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

MHA Welcomes Peer Specialists Buddy Carlson & Jessica Crooks



With funding from the Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene, Mental Health Association (MHA) Peer Specialists Buddy Carlson and Jessica Crooks work two mornings a week in the Chautauqua County Jail. Because of their personal struggles with addiction, both are excited to be helping others through the same experiences they had. The facilities grant from the Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation has enabled purchasing air conditioning units for the MHA's Dunkirk recovery center; the computers being installed are available to the public, and staff can help with job applications, apartment searches, etc. A grant from the United Arts Appeal of Chautauqua County will support the MHA's 2026 Art in Recovery Exhibit. At the MHA's June recovery luncheon, the meal was prepared and served by members of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Jamestown: Heidi Bird, Alison Espin, Sandy Harle, and Sandy Kearney. For locations, hours and services of the MHA's Jamestown and Dunkirk recovery centers, call (716) 661-9044 or visit MHACHautauqua.org or [Facebook.com/MHACHautauqua](https://www.facebook.com/MHACHautauqua).

SUDOKU

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

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																
11																			
16																			
19																			
25																			
28																			
34	35	36	37																
39																			
43																			
49																			
53																			
56																			
60																			

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 5. Requesting
- 11. Give temporarily
- 12. Excitedness
- 16. Armed Forces branch
- 17. Actor Harris
- 18. Middle Eastern capital
- 19. Air hostesses
- 24. Partner to "Pa"
- 25. Percussion instrument
- 26. Popular computers
- 27. Reduce light
- 28. Asian mountain range
- 29. Every one of two or more
- 30. Absence of difficulty
- 31. A public announcement of a proposed marriage
- 33. Whittles
- 34. Impact
- 38. Serviceman
- 39. A French river
- 40. Prehistoric people
- 43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
- 44. ___ Clapton, musician
- 45. Ancient Greek sophist
- 49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- 50. Singer Hansard
- 51. A way to disentangle
- 53. Atomic #93
- 54. Manifesting approval
- 56. Indigo bush
- 58. Former AL MVP Vaughn
- 59. Off-Broadway theater award
- 60. Fencers
- 63. Small Eurasian deer (pl.)
- 64. Relating to passerine birds
- 65. Arrange systematically

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Colorless fluid
- 2. Of a main artery
- 3. Photographer's tool
- 4. Blues Traveler hit "But ___"
- 5. Grew older
- 6. Not the leader
- 7. ___ Lang (country singer)
- 8. A driver's license is one
- 9. Nests of pheasants
- 10. Wildebeests
- 13. Equal to one quintillion bytes
- 14. Japanese three-stringed lute
- 15. Type of cat
- 20. It cools your home
- 21. The ancient Egyptian sun god
- 22. Pouches
- 23. German trigraph
- 27. Form of Persian
- 29. Measurement unit
- 30. Body part
- 31. Bridge building degree
- 32. Indicates position
- 33. Political action committee
- 34. Snack food
- 35. Front part of a quadruped
- 36. Locate
- 37. Pitching statistic
- 38. ___, myself and I
- 40. City in Utah
- 41. They play in the trenches
- 42. "Can't Touch This" rapper ___ Hammer
- 44. Type of tree
- 45. Performers
- 46. Slang for mistake
- 47. More open
- 48. Most slick
- 50. Needles
- 51. University of Dayton
- 52. Atomic #11
- 54. Large fish of the mackerel family
- 55. Not any
- 57. ___ and behold
- 61. Popular sports highlight show (abbr.)
- 62. "The Great Lakes State"

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Much More Than A Summer Gig: Chautauqua Institution Provides Lasting Economic Impact



Editor in Chief
Katrina Fuller

When people think of Chautauqua Institution, they may first think of lectures, pastoral views or concerts. However, Chautauqua Institution impacts Chautauqua County in more than cultural and social ways: the institution has a significant economic impact, according to the Chautauqua Institution Economic Contribution Analysis from Chautauqua Institution and the Chautauqua Property Owners Association. According to the report, released in 2023, the institution draws over 100,000 visitors to the area in the summer alone.

The draw of visitors and tourists aren't the only important figures noted in the report. The report estimates a value-added impact of \$129.3 million in total, along with a \$28.8 million state and local tax impact and over 3,200 jobs supported and sustained. Overall, the total economic impact is reported as \$233.1 million.

Likewise, the report shows that the property owners themselves strongly affect the county's tax revenue, including \$10.4 million in property and school taxes paid by 1,175 property owners. Charities also benefit from these specific residents as they report \$5.2 million in volunteerism and charitable giving from this sector.

While Chautauqua Institution has long been a bastion of cultural, artistic, musical and educational inspiration in our area, it appears that is has a large economical impact as well.

Chautauqua Institution Kicks Off Summer Season

Continued from Front Page

porary favorites. Plan a weekend or a few days around the performances you don't want to miss. With performances by artists including Sutton Foster, Kelli O'Hara, Trombone Shorty, Renée Fleming and Béla Fleck, the season pairs music with moments of connection.

Every summer at Chautauqua is different — shaped by the people, ideas and performances that fill each week with discovery. But one thing stays the same. The feeling of sitting in the Amphitheater as the evening air cools, hearing music rise across the grounds, or leaving a morning lecture with a new perspective on the world.

When the world feels uncertain, there's still a place to think clearly. Each summer, Chautauqua brings together voices including Ken Burns, Henry Louis Gates Jr., Norah O'Donnell and Neil deGrasse Tyson — for

conversations across perspectives.

A season of ideas, performance and community on the shores of Chautauqua Lake. A place to step away from the noise and experience something shared.

A summer community built around thoughtful dialogue, cultural experience and connection across perspectives. From leading thinkers to world-renowned artists, Chautauqua is a place to listen and learn — together.

Experiencing this for yourself for a night, a few days or a week is easier than ever with hotel packages and special experience packages available here: <https://www.chq.org/visit/accommodations/athenaeum-hotel/athenaeum-hotel-specials/>. For more information on events and activities, visit discover.chq.org and for listings of concerts, visit concerts.chq.org.

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Chautauqua Institution: A World-Class Getaway In Our Own Backyard

Continued from Front Page

Brick Walk that winds through the main area of the grounds and the incredible Bell Tower that sits like a sentinel on the shores of Chautauqua Lake, there is something lovely for everyone at Chautauqua.

Yet, many local residents may leave the joys of the institution to tourists. This year's season kicks off on June 27 and ends on Aug. 30, with a full calendar of educational, exciting and enlightening happenings. The institution, just a short drive from the population centers of our county, has many opportunities for local residents to experience a truly unique summer "staycation."

But, some may ask, what about the gate fee? While it is true there is a gate fee and parking fee most of the season, there are specific times the gate fee is waived and visitors can wander the grounds and take in events without cost. For example, area residents can visit the institution on Chautauqua County Day on July 17 and enjoy free gate admission and parking from 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Likewise, Sunday gate admission is always free, and parking at

the institution's lots is free until 5 p.m.

With weekly themes such as "Icons and Instigators: Women Who Changed the World," "Breaking the News: Charting a New Media Landscape," and "The 2026 Election: What's at Stake," Chautauqua Institution has a jam-packed calendar that is sure to offer something for everyone. Notable guests include (but are not limited to): Jamestown native Natalie Merchant; Rainn Wilson; Wynonna Judd and Melissa Etheridge; and many more. For a full events calendar, visit www.chq.org.

Whether you enjoy music, lectures, masterclasses, theatre, opera, dancing or a simple stroll down the Brick Walk, Chautauqua Institution has a place for you. Maybe yours is on one of the famed benches in the Amphitheater. Or on a park bench in Bestor Plaza, curled up with a book from the Chautauqua Bookstore. Maybe your chosen seat is on the sandy beach where you can hear the Bell Tower's bells ring out across the lake. No matter where you're sitting, a seat at Chautauqua Institution is sure to give you a good view.



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UMBRELLAS - (8+) Treasure Garden 11' Flex Auto Tilt Umbrellas various colors, (5+)Treasure Garden 9' FLEX Auto Tilt Umbrellas various colors, (15+) Treasure Garden 11' Auto Tilt Umbrellas various colors, (20+)Treasure Garden 9' Push Button Tilt Umbrellas various colors, (3) Treasure Garden 7.5' Push Button Tilt Umbrella, Treasure Garden 13' Cantilever Umbrella with rolling base, (10+) Treasure Garden 10' x 13' Cantilever Umbrellas with Standard base or rolling base, (3)Treasure Garden 11' Easy Track Umbrellas, Frankford 854FMA Monterey 9' Auto Tilt Umbrella, Frankford 864FMA Monterey 11' Auto Tilt Umbrella, Frankford 876FMA R Monterey 8.5" x 11' Auto Tilt Umbrella, (40+) Umbrella Bases.

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TABLES / CHAIRS / SOFAS: Seaside Coast Line Monterey Adirondack Chair Poly, Seaside Coast Line Monterey Adirondack Chair Rocker Poly, Seaside Traditional Porch Rocker Poly, Seaside Greenwich Rocker Poly, Telescope 21" End Table, Telescope Two Tier End Table, Homecrest Liberty Chat Chair, Homecrest Liberty Swivel Rocker Chat Chair, Woodard Nico Lounge Chairs, Tropitone End Table, Woodard Cortland Cushion Lounge Chair, Castelle Berkeley Cushioned Sofa, O.W.LEE Monterra Mini Spring Base Lounge Chair, Telescope 23" Round Table, Patio Renaissance Coffee Table, Tropitone Coffee Table, Lane Venture End Tables, Tropitone Milo 20" Round Side Tables, Lane Fulton 24" Round Tables, Castelle Biscane Deep Seat Sofa, Woodward New Century Bench, Telescope Gardenella Armless Chaise Lounge, Telescope Belle Isle Supreme Swivel Rockers 2-Piece Set, Telescope Aruba II Supreme Stacking Arm Chair 4- Piece Set, Hanamint Mayfair Coffee Table, Hanamint Tuscany Coffee Table, Hanamint Berkshire Ice Bucket Table, Hanamint Berkshire 24" Round Tea Table, Hanamint Berkshire 24" Square End Table, Hanamint Berkshire Bench , O.W Lee Avana Sofa, And Much more.

POOL SIDE SEATING / ACCESSORIES: (2) Pool Stoolz 32" Sqaure-Red, (10+) Pool Stoolz 20" Sqaure various colors, Telescope Gardenella Armless Chaise Lounge 2-Piece Set, Telescope Gardenella Chaise Lounge with Arms 1-Piece Set , (3) Handmade Hardwood Mantels, (4) Stoll 48" Mantel Shelves, (100+) Throw / Toss Pillows Various Sizes and Colors, (100+) Cushions Various Sizes and Colors, Ornamental Mantel Pieces, Decorative Plants.

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CHAMBER CORNER

Nominations Open for the 2026 CHQ Chamber Business Awards

Article Contributed by

Daniel J. Heitzenrater

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
President and CEO

The CHQ Chamber will once again honor a variety of local businesses and organizations that are doing outstanding work and nominations are open now. Anyone may nominate a business or organization to be recognized during the CHQ Chamber Business Awards Banquet, which is scheduled for October 8 at the Williams Center at SUNY Fredonia.

Award categories are designed to include businesses and organizations in a number of fields. One award will be given for Emerging Business of the Year – a newer or growing business that has demonstrated vision and/or filled a need in Chautauqua County. There are four business sector awards that will recognize outstanding service, production, growth, or community involvement for Hospitality Business of the Year (restaurants, attractions, lodging); Service Business of the Year (retail or service such as financial, insurance, legal,

etc.); Producer of the Year (manufacturing, agriculture, or construction); and Not-For-Profit of the Year (and outstanding nonprofit organization).

The Business Champion Award will be presented to an organization that has contributed most to the economic development, quality of life, and stability of Chautauqua County. The Business of the Year Award will be presented to a business that has demonstrated outstanding leadership in employee growth, product development or exemplary service.

Nominations are open through July 31. All nominations must be submitted through our online form at www.chqchamber.org/2026-award-nominations. Preference will be given to nominees that are members of the CHQ Chamber, and all information must be complete in the application. Nominations will be reviewed by a committee of volunteers from across the County, including prior years award winners, and will be approved by the CHQ Chamber Board of Directors.

Chautauqua County Seeks to Empower Young People Through Youth Development Program Funding



Submitted Photos

Contributed by

Chautauqua County Youth Bureau

The Chautauqua County Youth Bureau is pleased to announce the availability of funding to support programs that promote positive youth development for young people under the age of 21.

The funding provided by The Office for Children and Family Services (OCFS) and administered through the Department of Mental Hygiene and Social Services (DMHSS), is designed to strengthen programs that help youth build the skills, relationships, and experiences necessary to thrive in school, work, and their communities.

“Investing in our young people is an investment in the future of Chautauqua County,” said Carmelo Hernandez, Commissioner of Social Services. “These programs help youth develop confidence, resilience, leadership skills, and a sense of connection to their communities, laying the foundation for lifelong success.”

OCFS encourages municipalities to fund a wide variety of youth development programs including, but not limited to, the following:

- Citizenship and Civic Engagement (youth leadership, cultural competency, race equity, etc.).
- Community (youth activism, mentoring, community service, etc.).

- Economic Security (career development, life skills, etc.).
- Physical and Emotional Health (seasonal activities like summer camp, opportunities for creative expression, etc.).
- Education (“out-of-school time” programming to support educational engagement like drop-out prevention services, etc.).
- Safe Harbour/Anti-Trafficking activities, prevention, and supports.
- Family Supports (conflict resolution supports like restorative practices, etc.).

Eligible applicants should be from interested non-profit community-based organizations, cities, towns, and villages within Chautauqua County with a federal identification number and charity registration number. The grant program will run during the program term of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027.

Organizations interested in applying should review the funding guidelines and application materials available through the Chautauqua County Youth Bureau at chautauquacountyny.gov/YouthGrantFunds. The materials can also be requested by emailing kimballn@chqgov.com. The application period closes July 9th at 3:30 p.m. Funding decisions and awards will be based upon New York State Office of Children and Family (OCFS) guidelines.



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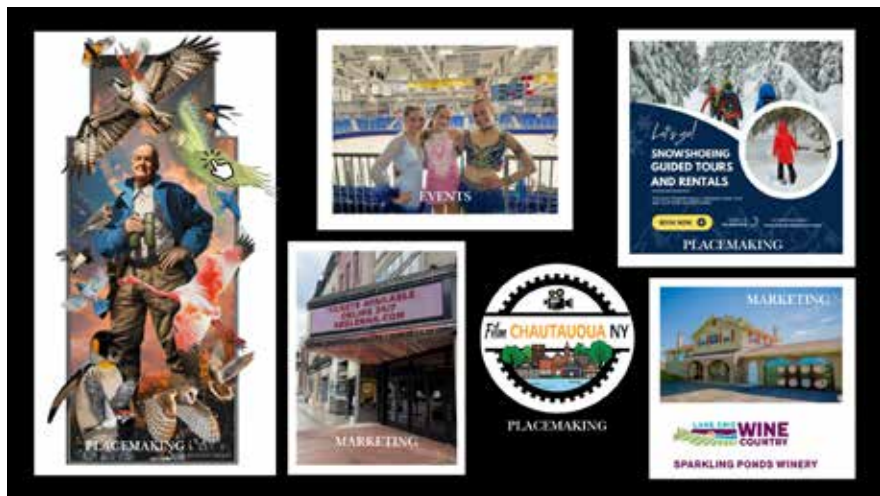


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Applications Open July 1, 2026 for Chautauqua County's 3% Tourism Product Development Grant Program



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

Organizations, municipalities, businesses, and entrepreneurs are invited to apply for Chautauqua County's 2027 Tourism Product Development Grant Program, a funding opportunity designed to support projects that attract visitors, strengthen tourism experiences, and drive economic growth throughout the county.

In 2024, tourism generated more than \$300 million in economic activity in Chautauqua County, supporting approximately 4,500 jobs and producing nearly \$24 million in local tax revenue.

The **3% Occupancy Tax Tourism Product Development Grant Program** is designed to enhance Chautauqua County's visibility as a visitor destination and increase interest in the region's diverse attractions, experiences, and communities. By supporting innovative tourism initiatives, the program provides local businesses, entrepreneurs, municipalities, and organizations with opportunities to develop and promote experiences that attract visitors while contributing to long-term tourism growth and economic development.

Applications for programs and initiatives to catalyze awareness of Chautauqua County as a tourism destination are accepted online annually between July 1 and October 1 for funding in the following year. We are looking for projects that help attract visitors, particularly overnight guests, and highlight what makes Chautauqua County unique. The goal is not only to attract visitors, but also to create memorable experiences that encourage them to return again and again.

The **Tourism Product Development Grant Program** is funded through the County's 5% Occupancy Tax, which is generated from the rental of lodging units within the County. Sixty cents of every occupancy tax dollar (3%) support tourism initiatives, while forty cents (2%) is dedicated to improving and maintaining local waterways. Each year, a portion of the tourism allocation is reserved for Tourism Product Development Grants. Grant categories are reviewed and updated annually to reflect changes in the County's tourism economy and to align with local and regional development

priorities.

This year, two grant categories will be offered: Placemaking & Attraction Development and Marketing & Event Development. Funding levels, guidelines, and restrictions vary by category. Awards will be determined through a competitive application, review, and ranking process. Grant requests must be for a new project or a significant expansion or enhancement of an existing project.

Strong applications will focus on new or significantly expanded projects that create distinctive and memorable visitor experiences. Collaborative tourism projects that align attractions and events around shared goals and complement rather than replicate existing efforts are strongly encouraged.

Projects that capitalize on the shoulder seasons, demonstrate a path toward long-term sustainability, and show the potential to attract both public and private investment are especially encouraged. Applicants must include a plan for follow-up and demonstrate measurable outcomes, particularly increases in visitation from outside Chautauqua County. Reporting on these outcomes will be required as part of the final project report.

Applications will only be available online through the Planning and Development website at planningchautauqua.com. Hard-copy applications will not be accepted.

Eligibility: Not-for-profit organizations, municipalities and other governmental entities, businesses/corporations, public or private schools, and property owners located within Chautauqua County.

Match Requirement: 1:1

Funding:

- Placemaking & Attraction Development: Awards up to \$15,000
- Marketing & Event Development: Awards up to \$10,000

Ineligible applications include projects focused on operational expenses, routine maintenance and repairs, general business growth or operations, locally focused initiatives, and projects that do not demonstrate a direct tourism benefit. A single project may receive funding for a maximum of three years.

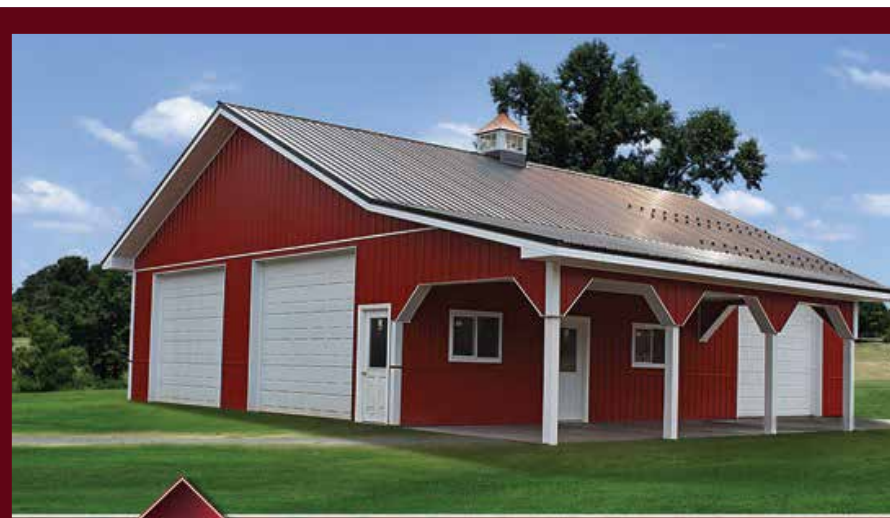
For more information, review the FY 2027 Guidelines at planningchautauqua.com, or contact Stephanie Nick at (716) 661-8214 or nicks@chqgov.com.

Chautauqua County to Host Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day in Dunkirk

Free disposal event helps residents safely discard hazardous household chemicals



This free service is open to households only. Commercial businesses are not permitted to participate. Residents can bring a variety of hazardous household materials for safe disposal, including: Used antifreeze; Fluorescent tube lights; Flammable adhesives and solvents; Paint thinner and mineral spirits; Deck cleaners; Pool chemicals; Non-empty aerosol cans; Herbicides and pesticides; Chemistry sets and flammable floor polish; Latex and oil-based paint. To participate, residents must complete a registration form listing the materials they plan to drop off. Registration forms are available online at chqgov.com/landfill/hazardous-waste-collection-schedules and will also be available at the event. This collection event is sponsored by Chautauqua County, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Storer's Container Services, and Chautauqua County Hazmat. A second collection event will take place on Saturday, August 29, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chautauqua County Department of Public Facilities Building, 454 North Work Street in Falconer.



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Become a Part of the Babe Ruth World Series

Contributed by
**Babe Ruth World Series
Jamestown**

Jamestown Babe Ruth World Series committee announced they are looking for the following items for the upcoming 13-Year-Old World Series held at Diethrick Park from August 15th -22nd.

- Buyouts for the last (2) days are available for multiple sponsors and individual. Cost for Tuesday August 18th is \$2500 and 4 games with many benefits. The cost for Friday August 21st playoff games is \$2000.
- Host Family Ambassadors to serve a regional champion team as the local ambassadors to help with information on the area, help guide them during their stay, and be their cheerleaders during the tournament.
- Diamond Girls – 13-year-old girls to serve as an ambassador and participant in the World Series as a local connection. Ambassadors will be announced

prior to each game and participate in all WS events.

- Volunteers to help during the tournament play at Diethrick Park with souvenirs and other items.

This year marks the 21st time Jamestown has hosted a World Series since 1980 and the first ever 13-Year-Old World Series. This year's participants will include an International Team representing Puerto Rico.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the tradition of the World Series, please use the contact information listed below.



Jamestown Babe Ruth World Series
PO Box 1103 | Jamestown, NY
info@jamestownworldseries.org
716-664-0405

American Chemical Society Penn-York Section Recognizes 2026 Outstanding Students



The Penn-York Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) honored regional chemistry students at their recent annual awards night. High school teachers in the Penn-York section, which covers the western Southern Tier of New York and the adjacent area of Pennsylvania, were invited to select their outstanding chemistry students. The teachers, students and their families, and ACS members gathered for dinner at Moon Brook Country Club in Jamestown. Students honored at the event and their schools included (from left) **Cassandra Launier, Frewsburg; Leah Waite, Forestville; Savannah Moore, Falconer; Lucas Glover, Portville; Angelica Mullen, Cassadaga Valley; Jacob Kujawa, Springville-Griffith; Eve Kushmaul, Chautauqua Lake; and Meredith Smyth, Eisenhower (Russell, Pa.).**

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- Vendors
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- DJ Sorry and DJ Frankie
- Beer & Wine tents
- Laser light show finale

JULY 2, 2026
CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
2:00-10:00PM
A FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT!

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Ph/Txt: 716-777-3451

Chautauqua County's Local Driving School

- NY State DMV 5-Hour Prelicensing Course In-Person or Through Zoom
- Insurance/Point Reduction / Driver Safety Course
- Rehabilitative Driver Evaluation, Coaching, and Skills Assessment

Enroll online at local webpage:
www.DrivingSchoolTime.com

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

P	A	C	A	A	S	K	I	N	G				
L	O	A	N	G	I	D	D	I	N	E	S		
A	R	M	Y	E	D	D	U	B	A	I			
S	T	E	W	A	R	D	E	S	S	E	S	M	A
M	A	R	A	C	A	M	A	C	S	D	I	M	
A	L	A	Y	E	A	C	H	E	A	S	E		
				B	A	N	N	S	P	A	R	E	S
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S	W	O	R	D	S	M	E	N	R	O	E	S	
				O	S	C	I	N	E	S	O	R	T

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Our general scholarship application is open until July 15th, with one hundred and sixty-seven scholarships available to graduating high school seniors and current college students from the Chautauqua Region. Don't miss out - apply today at: crcf.me/moneyforcollege

2025 RESULTS

691 RECIPIENTS
66% RECEIVED AWARDS
\$1.93 MILLION TOTAL
\$3,0483 AVERAGE



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HOME
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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

Russell E. Diethrick, Jr. Park
485 Falconer Street • Jamestown, NY
716-705-5600



The Chautauqua Gazette congratulates the Class of 2026 and offers best wishes as Commencement Ceremonies take place this week. All Chautauqua County High Schools were invited to submit a recognition page in this special feature.

Zonta Club of Jamestown Honors Scholarship Recipients



Picture L to R are Katrina Schrantz, Hannah Gullo, Melissa Thies, and Heather Phillips

Contributed by

Zonta Club of Jamestown

The Zonta Club of Jamestown recently recognized several outstanding women as recipients of its annual scholarships and awards during the club's May Program Meeting. Each recipient received a \$1,000 scholarship in support of her educational and professional goals.

Hannah Gullo was awarded the Mary Lou Costanzo Scholarship. A 2018 graduate of Fredonia High School, Gullo earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, summa cum laude, from Case Western Reserve University in 2022. She is currently enrolled in the three-year Nurse Anesthetist Program at Columbia University.

Heather Phillips received the Anne H. Crowe Scholarship. Phillips currently works as a registered nurse and recently completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. She is continuing her education as she pursues certification as a Nurse Practitioner.

Katrina Schrantz was awarded the Mary Bargar Scholarship. A 2025 graduate of Falconer High School, she recently completed her first year at Cornell University, where she is studying Animal Science.

Melissa Thies also received an Anne H. Crowe Scholarship. She is pursuing a bachelor's degree in Community and Human Services with a minor in

Healthcare Management. Thies has dedicated 25 years to serving others through her work with Heritage Ministries.

Several scholarship recipients were unable to attend the meeting but were also recognized for their achievements.

Sara Godfrey received the Verna Nelson Scholarship. She recently earned a master's degree from Columbia University, specializing in International Economic Policy and Middle Eastern Studies. She currently works in New York City as an economist for Oxford Economics.

Onnalee Nellis was honored with the Young Women in Leadership Award. A graduate of Jamestown High School, she is currently attending the University at Buffalo.

Janie Swanson also received the Verna Nelson Scholarship. She is completing her fourth and final year of medical school at SUNY Upstate Medical University and is preparing to begin her medical career.

The Zonta Club of Jamestown is proud to support women pursuing higher education, professional advancement, and leadership opportunities. Through its scholarship program, the club continues its mission of empowering women and improving opportunities for women and girls in the community and beyond.

2026 Stanley A. Weeks Braw Caddie Clan Award for Excellence awarded to Lucas Arnone

Contributed by

Stanley A. Weeks Braw Caddie Clan

The Stanley A. Weeks Braw Caddie Clan (BCC) Award for Excellence Selection Committee has awarded this year's scholarship to Lucas Arnone, son of Nate and Laura. The award ceremony took place on Thursday, June 18th, at Moon Brook Country Club. Attendees included family members, coaches, teachers, friends, the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation staff, and members of the Clan. The event honored Stanley A. Weeks, the Clan's members, history, and traditions, as well as previous scholarship recipients. Clan brothers from across the nation continue to support the scholarship, share news about it, and organize annual reunions.

This scholarship is recognized as one of Western New York's most prestigious Scholar-Athlete Awards, honoring students for academic achievement, well-rounded excellence, diligence, and leadership. The committee was pleased to evaluate seven qualified candidates this year. Lucas was selected based on his outstanding academic record, active engagement in learning groups, insightful essay, and volunteer service with various organizations. He graduated near the top of his class, was inducted into the National Honor Society, achieved placement on the JCC Dean's List, and received the St. Bonaventure Scholarship.

Lucas plans to attend Northern Arizona University to major in business. His part-time role at Target as a general merchandise expert and team trainer further demonstrates his leadership and decision-making skills. Lucas participated in soccer, cross-country, track, and hockey, serving as captain in each sport.

The committee noted excellent commendations. One JHS teacher wrote: "From his amazing work ethic to his super-friendly personality, he is an ideal student who happily works within cooperative learning groups." Another teacher added, "Lucas is a talented academic who is joyful and adds a wonderful sense of humor and honesty in class as he shares how subject matter connects to his life."

His essay was particularly insightful. He reflected on his experiences as a



Submitted Photo

student-athlete, connecting life lessons to personal growth and teamwork. He emphasizes that leadership is not about recognition, but about setting an example through hard work, perseverance, adaptability, communication, and collaboration. Leaders challenge themselves and inspire their teammates to do the same. All of the above are reflections of the Clan's core values, striving to become one's best self.

Who sustained the Braw Caddie Clan vision? Mr. Weeks founded BCC in 1930. He referred to Clan members as "all my sons"; his kinship sparked the legacy. Despite JHS fraternities being banned over 50 years ago and brothers moving across the nation, Stan and local brothers reunited the Clan through correspondence and reunions. Beautifully designed catalogs listing over 600 members, illuminating BCC's history, and highlighting and connecting distinguished brothers near and far.

The tradition lives on as Honorary Brothers (past awardees) participate in the selection process and contribute to the fund. Like all scholarship funds, this BCC scholar-athlete award benefits from collaborations with the broader community of friends, local businesses, foundations, and awardees and their parents, helping it grow to better serve. The scholarship is made possible through collaborations with the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, JHS, and the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame.

To make a lasting impact, please donate to the "Stanley A. Weeks Braw Caddie Clan Award for Excellence" (include this quote on all checks) at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, 418 Spring Street, Jamestown, NY 14701, or contribute online through the CRCF website below.

https://crcfonline.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=1134



Together, our community has raised over \$8 million to directly benefit northern Chautauqua. Now, we need you. Join the campaign today and make a difference in your community!

Scan the QR code to contribute or learn more, or visit nccfoundation.org
nccf@nccfoundation.org 716-366-4892



Connecting People With Purpose



Brocton Central

High School



Top 10 Students of the Class of 2026

1. Grace Perry
2. Lily Zappie
3. Grace Lundin
4. Christian Morello
5. Colie Bundy
6. Drew Gustafson
7. Emma VanValkenburg
8. Evie Morrison
9. Anthony Gatto
10. Morganne Kelley



Class of 2026 and the future Class of 2038!

Congratulations Class of '26

As we celebrate the Class of 2026, we would like to extend a sincere congratulations to our Valedictorian Grace Perry and Salutatorian Lillian Zappie. Earning these honors is a notable accomplishment that reflects years of hard work, grit, and dedication to academic excellence. Through countless assignments, exams, extracurricular commitments, and challenges along the way, they have consistently demonstrated a commitment to doing their very best.

While their academic achievements are certainly worthy of recognition, what makes these students truly special is the positive impact they have had on our school community. They have led by example, supported their classmates, and represented Brocton with pride and integrity. We are incredibly proud of all they have accomplished and excited to see what the future holds for them. Congratulations on this well deserved honor, and best wishes as you begin the next chapter of your journey. Your Brocton family will be cheering you on every step of the way.

~ **Mr. Micah Oldham,**
Middle/High School Principal



Valedictorian, Grace Perry

Grace Perry, a senior at Brocton Central School, is the daughter of Tammy Wilson and has an older sister, Mikaela Wilson. She currently holds a cumulative average of 96.926 and is ranked first in her class. She will have earned 19 college credits through the New Visions program upon graduation.

Throughout her high school career, Grace has demonstrated strong leadership and involvement. She has served as class secretary and treasurer of the National Honor Society, and has been an active member of Student Council, Cross Country, and Yearbook Club, where she was elected treasurer during her junior year.

Grace Perry takes great pride in her academic success. She currently attends SUNY Fredonia through the New Visions program, a partnership between Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES and SUNY Fredonia that allows high school students to earn college credit toward a degree in Early Childhood Education. In addition, Grace earned her place on Brocton's Board of Education as the ex officio student board member for the 2025-26 season. She hopes that these experiences and knowledge will aid her in achieving her goal of becoming a secondary social studies teacher.

Outside of her academic and leadership pursuits, Grace enjoys a variety of hobbies that support her interests. She enjoys going for long walks, journaling, baking, and spending time with family and friends. Grace has also developed a passion for running through her participation on the Varsity Cross Country team, she values the dedication, discipline, and sportsmanship that the team fosters.

Looking ahead, Grace plans to attend Florida State University in the fall of 2026 to study Social Science Education.



Salutatorian, Lily Zappie

Senior graduate Lily Zappie of Brocton Central School has dedicated both her academic and musical career to excellence in performance and musicianship.

Lily has a final GPA of 96.371. In the fall, Lily will begin her freshman year at Ithaca College School of Music, Theatre, and Dance as a Performance major after earning early acceptance into the prestigious program. Her long-term goal is to perform professionally in Broadway pit bands and touring musicals while continuing to play in jazz ensembles and orchestras throughout her career.

Music has been at the center of Lily's life. She has performed in an impressive 19 pit bands throughout Chautauqua County and recently had the honor of performing for the Mozart Club of Jamestown. Lily is also a member of the Jamestown Community Orchestra under the direction of John Cross. In addition, she has participated in All County Band annually, has performed for the CCMTA, and has earned recognition for numerous musical accomplishments throughout her high school years. Among the experiences she treasures most are accompanying acclaimed author and poet Kwame Alexander and the late Maritri Garrett, performances that left a lasting impact on her as both a musician and person.

While serving as a visiting scholar at Chautauqua Lake Central School for the past four years, Lily completed numerous Honors and AP courses in science, mathematics, English, and music theory. Lily had many musical opportunities and is grateful to Mrs. Jen Davis. She also attended the Ithaca Summer Music Academy on the highly competitive Performance Track, further strengthening her passion for music performance.

Outside the music room, Lily was an athlete at Brocton, playing girls volleyball beginning in seventh grade and helping her teams to playoffs twice. Lily also traveled to England and France with the Brocton Travel Club.





Chautauqua Lake Central High School



Row 1 - Quinn Vaillancourt, Madelyn Spielman, Jillian Miller, Lillian Schenk, Anna Gollhardt, Brooke Feldt, Dayne Jantzi, Grace Lundin, Molly Ulsh, Grace Winne, Isaac Ludwig, Kilee Nowicki

Row 2 - Skye Gibbons, Cynthia Murray, Gwen Murray, Lily Otto, Anna Reyda, Ragen Crandall, Ben Carlson, Lucien Dubois, Charles Vogt, Aden Gollhardt, Rodney Palmer, Telaney Walrod, Denny Rojaslopez, Collin Carlson

Row 3 - Jeanine Group, Callie Delcamp, Madisen Little, Lucy Gates, Meghan Pauley, Taylyn Stanton, Madison DeLand, Asher Olson, Cayden Rugg, Kent Messman, Brenden Treacle, Ben Siliano, Michael Horvath

Row 4 - Lillian Zappie, Abby Woolett, Evan Jones, Rylee Stevens, Devin Hewes, Nick Jacobson, Jacob Gilmore, Evan Riedesel, Jackson Seiberg, Jonathan Lyon, Carson Fairbank, Cameron Mathews

Row 5 - Gavin Zemcik, Braiden Zentz, Konrad Kochi, Caleb Swanson, Brad Conway, Phillip Powell, Clayton Smith, Trent Houser, Brayden Gibbs, Kieffer Maytum, Caleb Szymanowski, Chris Goulding

Not Pictured:

Harry Shoemaker
Roxanne Rose
Dakotah Head
Gracie Gerring
Brady Martin

Isaac Walker
Shannon Scott
Nicholas Boardman
Jennafer Erhard
Robert Pfalzgraf

Alex Bartok
Joe Burkett
Timothy Duffley Jr.
Jacob Guest
Bradley Jackson



Valedictorian, Lily Otto



Salutatorian, Molly Ulsh

Chautauqua Lake Central School Valedictorian Lily Otto, daughter of Jill and Steve Otto of Ripley, has been actively involved in a wide variety of activities and leadership opportunities throughout her time at CLCS.

Lily's participation includes Track, Spanish Club, Peer Education, Yearbook, and the National Honor Society. Through these organizations, she has contributed to numerous community service initiatives, including blood drives, food and toy drives, parking coordination for the Mayville Winter Festival, and working concession stands at various sporting events.

A dedicated leader, Lily has served as Treasurer of the National Honor Society, Assistant Coach and Manager for the track team, and Co-Editor of the Yearbook. Her academic excellence and commitment to service have earned her several honors and recognitions. As a junior, she received the JCC College Connections Student of the Year Award and the Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award. As a sophomore, she was recognized as the Runner-Up for the Chautauqua Holocaust & Social Justice Writing Award. Additionally, Lily achieved a perfect score on the Algebra I Regents Exam as a ninth-grade student.

Following graduation, Lily plans to attend Allegheny College to pursue a career in Occupational Play Therapy.

Chautauqua Lake Central School Salutatorian Molly Ulsh, daughter of Kelly and Harry Ulsh of Mayville, has been an active and dedicated member of her school community throughout her high school career.

Molly has participated in a wide range of athletic and academic activities, including tennis, basketball, softball, Envirothon, and Science Olympiad. In addition, she has been involved in the National Honor Society and Student Council.

Academically, Molly has consistently achieved High Honor Roll status every quarter and has been recognized as Student of the Month each year, reflecting her strong work ethic and commitment to excellence.

Beyond her academic and extracurricular commitments, Molly is deeply involved in community service. She serves on the Lutheran Youth of Western New York leadership team, helping organize and participate in monthly service projects. She has also contributed to community initiatives through the National Honor Society and volunteered her time working concession stands at various sporting events.

Following graduation, Molly plans to attend Penn State Behrend to pursue a career as a child psychiatrist.

Congratulations Class of '26

The rewards of watching a group of dynamic, funny, caring, dedicated, helpful, coachable, and creative students grow from seventh grade to graduation become the rewards of our careers as educators. We've been with them through the championships and in the tough losses. Challenged them, supported them, and gave them every opportunity to shine in their own way. In reflecting on these students, we also have to celebrate how they have inspired us and brought new ideas to our classrooms. They wanted to take apart a diesel engine, build a house, research clean water, and find solutions for sustaining our watershed. They wanted to go all in on athletics, robotics, and academic competitions, and push themselves toward championships. They wanted to improvise and perform, volunteer in classrooms, sew beautiful clothing of their own design, initiate internships, and create stunning art. They took what we gave them from the textbook and made it into their own meaningful enterprise. Because of this, we know that our Class of 2026 is ready for the real world; they are ready for the careers and creative endeavors ahead, and we are so very proud and grateful for their growth and achievements. On behalf of the Chautauqua Lake Board of Education, Leadership Team, and entire school family, every good thought goes with our students for fulfillment, prosperity, and continued creative success. It's a great day to be an Eagle!

~ Mrs. Rachel Curtin,
Secondary Principal / Data Coordinator



Lily Otto



Molly Ulsh



Charles Vogt



Taylyn Stanton



Lillian Schenk



Evan Riedesel



Dayne Jantzi



Anna Reyda



Brooke Feldt



Asher Olson



FALCONER

High School



Congratulations to the Falconer Central School District Class of 2026

On behalf of the Falconer Central School District, congratulations to the Class of 2026 on this incredible achievement. Today marks the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, growth, and perseverance. While receiving your diploma is a significant achievement, it is also a celebration of the journey and the countless memories you have created along the way.

As you reflect on your educational path, think about how much you have grown since your first days walking through these doors. You have developed not only academically, but also as leaders, teammates, artists, musicians, problem-solvers, and friends. You have faced challenges, celebrated successes, learned valuable lessons, and discovered strength through each obstacle you encountered. Each experience has helped shape the person you are today and prepared you for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

As you take your next steps in life, know that we are proud of all you have accomplished and excited for all that is yet to come. The future is filled with possibilities, and each of you can make a meaningful impact on the world around you.

Now, as Falconer graduates, you also join the proud and distinguished group of the Falconer alumni family. Generations of graduates have walked in these same hallways, sat in these same classrooms, and shared many of the same experiences. They have gone on to serve their communities, lead organizations, raise families, build careers, and make a positive difference in countless ways. Now it is your turn to carry that tradition forward and leave your own mark on the world.

The memories you have made at Falconer will always be a part of you, and the connections you have built here will last a lifetime. No matter where life takes you, you will always have a home here at Falconer. We will continue to cheer for your successes, celebrate your accomplishments, and take pride in all that you achieve.

Congratulations, Class of 2026. We are incredibly proud of you and cannot wait to see what your future holds.

Go Golden Falcons!

~ Adam Erickson
Falconer High School Principal





Maple Grove High School



Maple Grove Class of 2026

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Rayshawn Anderson | Gianna DiDomenico | Megan McGee |
| Camron Awiszus | Adarah Egan | Skyler Norman |
| Mae Benedetto | Owen Erlandson | Gemini Prittie |
| Lily Bohall | Bayley Godfrey | Logan Quattrone |
| Kameron Brown | Madelynn Haglund | Madilyn Seastrum |
| Nathan Cali | Alexandria Halstrom | Kamryn Seekings |
| Mesa Carlson | Tyler Harrell | Aren Suber |
| Cameron Carraher | Rylee King | Dani Trim |
| Ryan Chambers-Leonard | Alexander Koxlien | Ethan Verbosky |
| Gracie Chimera | Mattias Kraft | Katherine Verdonik |
| Liam Colburn | Jacob Lewis | Savannah Weart |
| Max Collins | Meghan Lockwood | Calvin Yeskey |
| Kaden Cooper | Austin Mason | Kyle Yohe |
| Bryanna Cornell | Aiden Maybach | |



Valedictorian, Logan Quattrone



Salutarian, Calvin Yeskey

Bemus Point Central Schools Class of 2026

The Maple Grove class of 2026 is a class that I am proud to send off into the world. This group has been innovative and collaborative throughout their time in the Bemus Point Central Schools. The pride created through the generational success and continued investment from the dragons in our district and beyond will continue to shine through these students. Graduating with a diploma from Maple Grove means something. It means you are capable. It means you care. It means that you have a strong family of resources behind you and it means that you will continue to do your best to do great things. Class of 2026, I am very proud of who you are.

~ Mr. Adam Padd,
Maple Grove Middle/High School Principal



Top 10 Students of the Class of 2026

10. Ethan Verbosky
9. Dani Trim
8. Kyle Yohe
7. Meghan Lockwood
6. Alexandria Halstrom
5. Lily Bohall
4. Katherine Verdonik
3. Mae Benedetto
2. Salutarian - Calvin Yeskey
1. Valedictorian - Logan Quattrone

The Bemus Point Central School District Valedictorian is Logan Quattrone, son of Wayne and Erica Quattrone, is a senior at Maple Grove Junior/Senior High School. Through all 4 years of high school, Logan has stayed busy with football in the fall, wrestling in the winter, and track in the spring. He maintained Honor Roll every quarter and earned the title of a Scholar Athlete thanks to his participation in varsity sports and his consistent academic record. Logan was also involved in the musical every year and a member of the school's selective chorus group beginning in 10th grade.

In addition to being a scholar athlete, Logan has been a member of National Honor Society since 10th grade, and more recently joined Student Council as the president of his senior year class. Through his academic efforts, Logan has accumulated various awards. These include the Future Leader in Science Award in 10th grade, the College Connections Student of the Year Award for 2024-2025 through JCC in 11th grade, as well as the Rural and Small-Town Recognition Award and the School Recognition Award both through the College Board National Recognition Program in 12th grade.

After graduation, Logan plans to attend Rochester Institute of Technology to pursue a degree in engineering.

The Bemus Point Central School District Salutarian is Calvin Yeskey, son of Joshua and Elisca Yeskey. Calvin has been a member and captain of the MG Mock Trial team for four years, and captain of the High School Bowl team for three. In his junior year, Calvin brought the High School Bowl team to the finals, and in his senior year the Mock Trial team was able to make it to the play-offs. He has also served as the vice president of the class of 2026 since his sophomore year. In his freshman and sophomore years, he ran track and field, and also participated in indoor track and cross country.

In Calvin's sophomore year he received the Excellence in Chemistry award and was Maple Grove's sole student to attend the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference. In his junior year he was awarded the Bausch + Lomb Honorary Science Scholarship. In addition, Calvin has also been on the Honor Roll throughout all of his high school career, and he is working towards receiving the Seal of Biliteracy for his ability to speak, read, and understand the Spanish language.

After graduation he will be attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York to study mathematics.



Silver Creek Central High School



Class of 2026 Top Ten



Valedictorian, Nathan Cross



Salutatorian, Samuel Bowers

Nathan Cross, son of Jerry and Katie Cross, graduated as the 2026 Valedictorian of Silver Creek High School.

Nathan has earned several notable awards, including NY Senate Youth Leadership Award, NY Attorney General Triple "C" Award, the RTI Science and Math Award, and twice earned the Cross-Country Black Knight Award.

Throughout his time at SCCS, he served as Treasurer for both the Junior and Senior Class, Vice President of Key Club, Student Council Treasurer, Business Club Vice President, Earth Club President, Cross Country Team Captain, and participated in Knights Against Cancer, History and Culture Club, The Chautauqua County Music Festival and Quiz Bowl.

After graduation, Nathan plans on attending Cornell University to study Viticulture and Enology.

Samuel Bowers, son of Ron and Marianne Bowers, graduated as the 2026 Salutatorian of Silver Creek High School.

Samuel has earned several notable awards, including JCC College Connections Student of the Year, NYS Business and Marketing Honor Society, and All-WNY Scholar Athlete.

Throughout his time at SCCS, he participated in Varsity Track and Field, Key Club and National Honor Society.

After graduation, Samuel plans on attending Daemen University in the BS/MS Physician Assistant Program and will participate on the Daemen Track and Field Team.

Congratulations, Graduates!

On behalf of our entire school community, congratulations on reaching this remarkable milestone. Today marks the beginning of countless new adventures.

Throughout your years here, you've grown not only in knowledge but in character, resilience, and compassion. You've stayed up late studying, supported one another through challenges, and contributed to the spirit of our community. These experiences have shaped you into the thoughtful, capable individuals you are today.

Take a moment to reflect on how far you've come. Think back to your first school days, and look at yourselves now: confident, accomplished, and ready to make your mark on the world. That transformation didn't happen by accident. It came from your hard work, your willingness to learn, and your courage to step outside your comfort zones.

To the families, teachers, and mentors who supported these graduates: thank you. Your guidance, patience, and encouragement made all the difference.

ber: don't shrink yourself to fit a space that was never meant to hold all that you are. The world will sometimes ask you to be quieter, smaller, more comfortable for others. Resist that. Your voice matters. Your ideas matter. Take up the space you deserve.

It's also okay not to have it all figured out. The pressure to know exactly who you are and where you're going is real, but it isn't a requirement. Some of the most beautiful chapters of your life will begin with uncertainty. Trust the journey, even when you can't yet see the destination.

And always remember to show up. Show up for the people you love. Show up for the opportunities that scare you. Show up for yourself, even on days when you don't feel ready — because life rarely waits until you feel prepared, and more often than not, simply showing up makes all the difference.

Congratulations Black Knights on this incredible achievement.

~ Heather Krystofiak
Silver Creek High School Principal

Silver Creek Class of 2026

Eric Arnold, Meadow Azzarella, Darius Baker, Bryce Balestrieri, Bella Banach, Kimberly Bauer, Molly Becker, Kiele Boedo, Samuel Bowers, Logan Breton, Lilly Carlson, Christian Carver, Nathan Cross, Asyriah Cruz, Aaron Davis, Gavin DeLong, Kiley Foster, Alana Gaglia, Skyla Gates, Meeya Geiogamah, Joshua Guadagno, Amelia Hammer, Ryleigh Hanner, Helle Havstrup, Madisen Hein, Irelynd Henry, Kolby Jamison, Arianna Jones, Weronika Kolakowska, Hailey Krisch, Ivan Lemke, Takoda Marr, Shylor Maybee, Nathaniel Mays, Mackenzie Mosher, Brianna Nehrbass, Ayden Nelms, Lucas Nosbisch, Alexandria Parks, Jonathan Pilski, Autumn Rice, Colton Rice, Anthony Richmond, Dominic Ruiz, Jessica Ruth, Madison Ruth, Hailie Rybij, Haleigh Salisbury, Summer Sanden, Marshall Shuart, Colin Shumaker, Emili Sikorski, Gavin Smith, Gwendolyn Souter, Hayden Stephens, Brian Stull Jr, Elisabeth Tampubolon, Amirya Warrior, Kiera Warrior, Sophie Wickmark, Alijah Williams, Courtney Wolff, Sebastian Yaskow and Ava Zahm.

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