



CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE




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Take me out to the Ballgame

Volume 2 • Issue 21 | Week of June 9, 2025

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Take Me Out to the
Ball Game

THIS SUMMER

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Season Schedule**

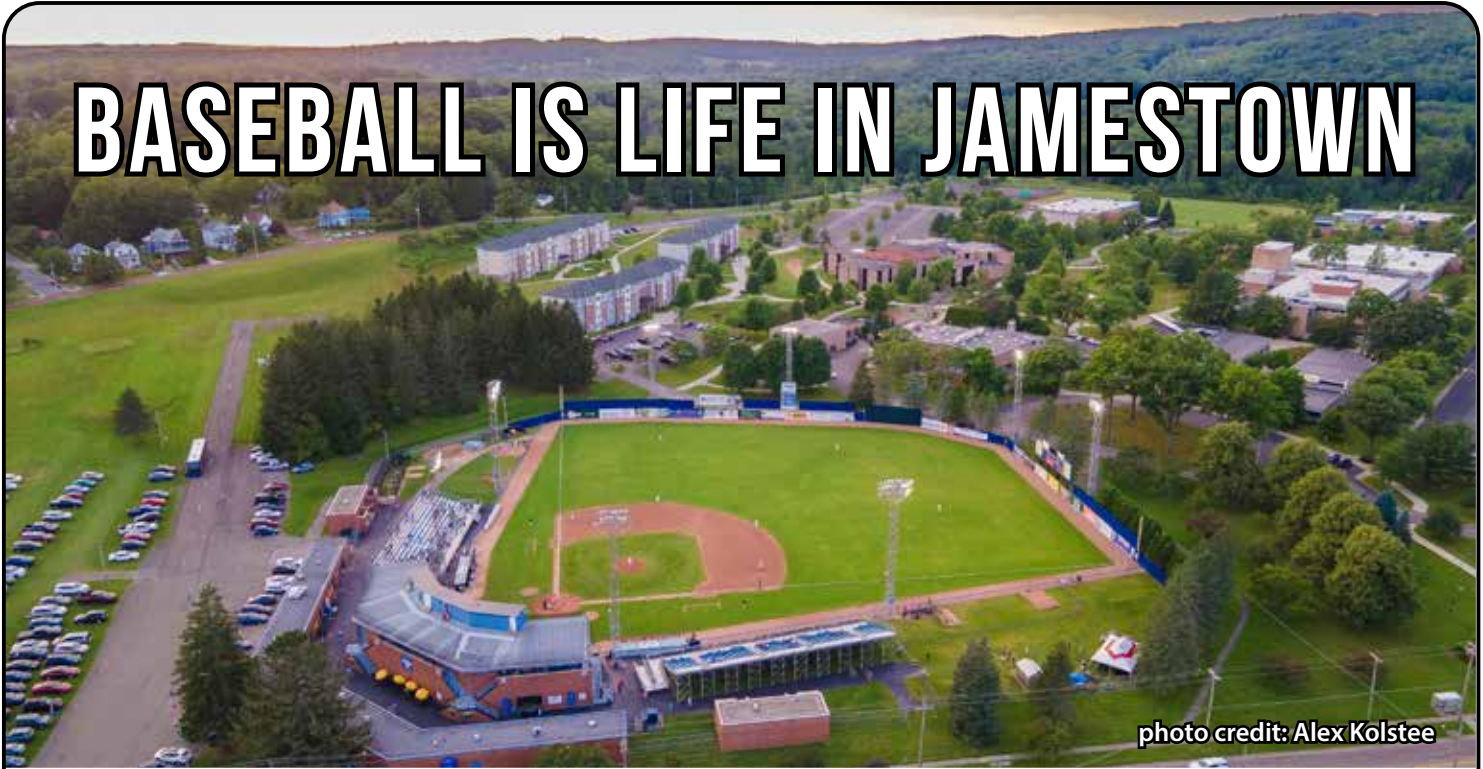


photo credit: Alex Kolstee

Featured Writer

Christian Dolce

General Manager &
Director of Business Operations
Jamestown Tarp Skunks

Baseball has always been a staple in Jamestown and throughout Chautauqua County. From the Jamestown Jimmies in the late 1930s, the Jamestown Jammers in the 1990s and 2000s to the current team, Jamestown Tarp Skunks, baseball has long been intertwined with the spirit of the city and a beloved sport for its

residents.

For me, it has been part of my life for as long as I can remember. Growing up just a mile from Diethrick Park, I vividly recall countless summer nights cheering on the Jamestown Jammers. But as a kid in the stands, I never imagined that one day I'd be leading the very organization that helped create so many of those memories.

What started as a summer internship in 2021 has exploded into nearly a half a million dollars in community support

over the last three years of my tenure as General Manager of the Jamestown Tarp Skunks. Now entering its fifth season, this team has brought baseball back to life in Jamestown. With it, a buzz and sense of community alliance has been renewed. When the Jamestown Jammers' final seasons saw declining attendance and lost momentum without minor league affiliation, the future of baseball here felt uncertain. But thanks to a vision

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Featured Writer

Jerry Lee

Brand & Marketing Officer
Chautauqua Region
Community Foundation

"Dad." "Pops." "Old man." In the summer of 1989, whichever name I called my father likely preceded my asking the question: "Are we going to the game?" The chances were pretty high anyway...as were the chances we were, in fact, going to Russell E. Diethrick Jr. park that evening for a Jamestown Expos game. I'm pretty sure we hit 'em all that year.

I've often looked back at that summer as the best of my life. Seriously, to a 12 year-old boy, what's not to



John Lee, 1989

love about a summer spent wearing your favorite baseball cap, filling up

on popcorn and slushies, and rubbing elbows with professional baseball players? I got the chance to befriend more than a handful of amazing athletes, who, at the start of their Major League journey, had somehow already mastered the art of making a kid's day... signing baseballs, taking photos, and giving high fives when they cross the stadium concourse before and after each game.

In hindsight, it matters not that the team won the New York Penn League championship that year. It matters not that they won a single game, to be honest. What matters is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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This Week Around Town

TUESDAY, JUNE 10

Memory Cafe: Lips Poppin Productions | 10 AM - 12 PM

Reg Lenna Center for The Arts
Jamestown
For Info: 716-484-7070

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

**Dunkirk Farmers Market
9 AM - 2 PM**

Dunkirk Senior Center
For Info: cityofdunkirk.com

Joseph Ellicott: A Historical Portrayal | 1 PM

Fenton History Center |
Jamestown
For Info: fentonhistorycenter.org

THURSDAY, JUNE 12

Cardio Drumming: A Fun-filled Exercise Event | 9 AM

Dunkirk Senior Center
For Info: 716-366-7530

WIN in Business: "Marketing 101 & Social Media Foundations" Luncheon

11:30 AM
Jamestown Community College,
Carnahan Building, Room 120
For Info: 716-338-1024

FRIDAY, JUNE 13 & SATURDAY, JUNE 14

Yassou Festival Fri 11 AM - 10 PM & 11 AM - 9 PM

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church | Jamestown
For Info: stnicholasjamestown.org

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

Local Author Appearance: Joan Wahl | 11 AM - 1 PM

Good Neighbor Bookstore
Lakewood

A Slice of History: Bob's Pop-Up Court

12 PM - 4:30 PM
Robert H. Jackson Center
Jamestown
For Info: roberthjackson.org

Art & Architecture On Screen: Michelangelo: Love and Death 1 PM

1891 Fredonia Opera House
Performing Arts Center
For Info: 716-679-0891, ext. 3

Cinema Series: The Amateur 7:30 PM

1891 Fredonia Opera House
Performing Arts Center
For Info: 716-679-0891, ext. 3



CELEBRATE FIVE YEARS THIS SEASON WITH THE TARP SKUNKS



Featured Writer
MacKenzie Greene
Tarp Skunks College Intern

The Jamestown Tarp Skunks are thrilled to have Frank Jagoda III as the new manager for the 2025 season. A Dunkirk native, Jagoda brings extensive experience from collegiate baseball and professional roles with the Tampa Bay Rays and Minnesota Twins. With deep roots in Chautauqua County, he returns to Diethrick Park with a passion for developing players and building a winning culture. The organization is confident that his leadership will help guide the Tarp Skunks toward a Perfect Game Collegiate Baseball League championship and a strong presence in the community.

The Tarp Skunks are back and better than ever for the 2025 season in the PGCBL. Whether it's a firework show, \$2 Night or a Community Buyout Night, there are countless events and promotions for the entire community to enjoy at Russell E. Diethrick, Jr. Park. The Tarp Skunks are happy to have five Community Buyout Games during the summer. On Sunday, June 22; Sunday, June 29; Friday July 11; Thursday, July 17; and Sunday, July 25, all fans can get into the game for free thanks to the Greater Chautauqua Federal Credit Union, Jamestown Community College, Wegmans, LIVE CHQ, Collaborative Childcare Solutions and Culture Care Senior Living. These are games you do not want to miss, and the Tarp Skunks would love to have a packed stadium of fans cheering them on.

Another fan favorite promotion that the Tarp Skunks are offering

this summer is \$2 Nights. On these days, fans can purchase bleacher tickets for only \$2, as well as \$2 hot dogs and beers. Although the Tarp Skunks have already had one \$2 Night, there are three more times this promotion is offered in June and July. These games are on Monday, June 23, Monday, July 7, and Monday, July 21 at 6:30 p.m.

There are more exciting nights planned during June. On Saturday, June 21, the Tarp Skunks are hosting a Kids Camp Day/Night presented by Univera Healthcare and Builders Exchange of the Southern Tier. In addition to this event, the Tarp Skunks are excited to have a Youth Baseball and Softball Night on Friday, June 27, presented by Logistics+.

To kick off July, we have one of the most exciting events of the season. On Thursday, July 3, the Tarp Skunks are presenting a Firework Night with the help of Jamestown Mattress Company. If you don't have a chance to catch the fireworks on July 3, do not worry because the Tarp Skunks host a Christmas in July Fireworks Night on Friday, July 25. This night is also a buyout game and is presented by Collaborative Children Solutions and Culture Care Senior Living. Make sure to catch the fireworks nights because they are one of the Tarp Skunks' favorite events to host!

The Tarp Skunks have a few more exciting nights planned during July. On Sunday, July 13, there is will be a "Bark at the Park" event presented by Purina. Fans can bring their dogs down to Diethrick Park for a fun night of baseball. On Thursday, July 17, the Tarp Skunks are happy to host another buyout game for First Responders & Medical Healthcare Professionals Night presented by LIVE CHQ. This is a great opportunity to recognize the important job that healthcare workers do. The Tarp Skunks host one more event on Saturday, July 19, and it is the Strike Out Cancer Night.

The Jamestown Tarp Skunks are so excited to host these events for their fans and the community. Visitors and residents alike will want to catch the Tarp Skunks in action this summer.



photo credit: Alex Kolstee



Editorial with Lori Cornell



You knocked it out of the Park, Christian Dolce!

Owner & Publisher
Lori Cornell

There are a million different directions we could go with this special editorial honoring our fathers and Jamestown baseball. So many Diethrick Park legends - athletes and leaders alike - to whom we could pay tribute, starting with the stadium's namesake, Father Baseball himself, Russell Diethrick. There are All-Star fans and founders like Sam Teresi, Randy Anderson, Greg Peterson, Scotty James and more. There are big name players of the past, such as Randy Johnson, and the hometown players of today including: Chase Haglund-Frewsburg; Blake Herman - Gowanda; Branston Lindquist-Falconer; Brady Berdine - Warren; and Jameson Walsh - Lakewood.

But in this editorial, we will focus our attention on Christian Dolce, General Manager of the Jamestown Tarp Skunks for the last three seasons. To us, Christian epitomizes

a hometown hero - not only for being the on-the-ground, nuts-and-bolts technician to resurrect baseball in Jamestown - but also, for so well-representing a generation of young professionals that have chosen to return and make Chautauqua County their adult home. Our community is the fortunate recipient of his talents and time, working year-round to build up a program for which we may continue to love and enjoy. We are so thankful for such young professionals that make Chautauqua County the place they want to raise their families and to strengthen our community in their own unique ways. Christian is one of those most exemplary movers and shakers whose dedication today will ensure Jamestown's baseball legacy long into the future.

Baseball lives on; Diethrick Park is full and alive; and among the many due credit, we applaud this very special hometown son! This Father's Day, Jamestown Council President Tony Dolce deserves to be so proud. Aren't we all!

Trivia

1. In what year was the first official Father's Day celebrated in the U.S.?
2. Who is credited with founding Father's Day in the United States?
3. Which U.S. president made Father's Day a national holiday?
4. In what year did Father's Day become a permanent U.S. national holiday?
5. What color rose is worn to honor a living father?
6. What country celebrates Father's Day on March 19, the Feast of St. Joseph?
7. What was the original proposed day for Father's Day?
8. Which U.S. state was the first to officially recognize Father's Day?
9. In which country is Father's Day known as "Vatertag"?
10. In what country is Father's Day known as "Festa del Papà"?



1. 1910 2. Sonora 3. Smart Dodd 4. 1972 5. Red 6. Spain 7. June 5 8. Washington 9. Germany 10. Italy

CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE

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Thursdays at 5:00 pm

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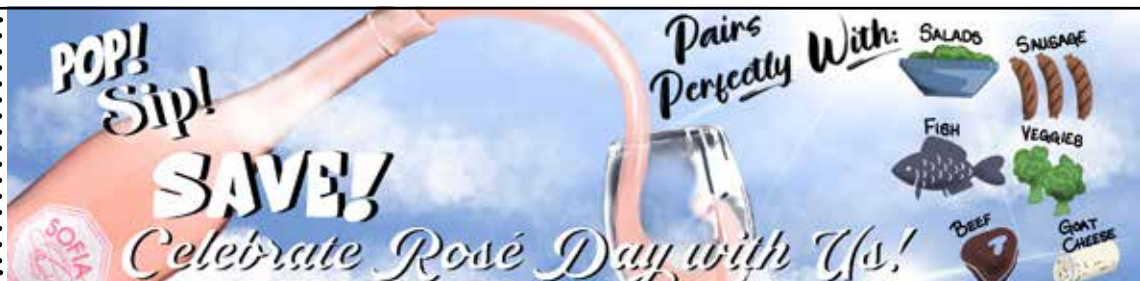


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Featured Writer
Pastor Matt Wolfe
First Baptist Church

Surely it's not just me. We've all done it: listened in while someone nearby talked on the phone to a friend or coworker. And as we eavesdropped, we only heard that one party's replies, comments, and questions. Yet when it was all said and done, we were able to effectively piece together the general gist of the unheard party's input, not flawlessly but adequately.

Studying the Bible is a lot like that experience, especially when it comes to certain genres (types of literature) we find within its pages. In a way, we're listening in on one side of a conversation. We are reading the words of one of God's scribes, prophets, or apostles. We don't necessarily know everything about the original audience (the unheard party), but we can still reasonably piece together the gist of the other party's involvement in the conversation.

In our fifth and final installment in this series on personal Bible study, we'll consider a few more genres of Scripture where this idea of becoming good "eavesdroppers" applies.

First, let's think about epistles. Epistles are letters from early church leaders to congregations and/or individuals in specific cities or geographical regions. As such, they are occasional documents. That means epistles are written because something has happened, is happening, or is about to happen. When reading an epistle, try to do so in one sitting, as you would any personal letter you received. That way you're "overhearing the entire conversation." Look for repeated themes, developing arguments, and any clues in the text that might help you piece together the specific occasion(s) that prompted the author to write this letter. As you get a better picture of what was taking place then, you can then start to ask yourself questions related to your life now. Questions like, What were the recipients of this epistle failing to understand about God and his loving intentions for them? What timeless truths did the author of this

letter share with his audience then? If history tends to repeat itself, how might I be needing to hear these same timeless truths today?

Next, let's talk a bit about Psalms. Like the epistles, the psalms are occasional documents in that specific events in the lives of God's people inspired their composition. But unlike the epistles, where the one side you're overhearing is God's toward his people, the psalms allow you to overhear God's people's perspective toward him. And unlike the epistles, which are more literal, communicating through straightforward prose, the psalms are more lyrical, communicating their truths through poetry. Like so many songs we sing today, the psalms are written to reach the mind through the heart. So when you read a psalm, don't expect technical precision. Expect artistic expression. Look for lots of imagery, metaphors, repetition, hyperbole, etc. Don't expect too much of an individual psalm. Like any song, it can't exhaustively treat a given subject, be it ethical or theological. And don't be surprised when a psalm leaves you with a sense of wanting more or even unresolved tension. The psalms don't always have "happy endings." That is by design. It's part of the artistry of poetry. It's not always written to give you the final answer to a dilemma but to get you thinking and, hopefully, praying. Indeed, one of the most beautiful things about the psalms is the fact that God saw fit to preserve the very songs that record his people's "wrestlings" and doubts with him. It's his way of saying to you, "I get it. I know life is tough. Look and see that you're not the first to struggle. Let's talk about it together."

Finally, let's consider Wisdom Literature. We're talking here about Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon. While these books can be challenging reads, they're also rewarding ones so long as you keep a few key guidelines in mind. First, when it comes to Proverbs, remember that you're dealing with short wisdom sayings not exhaustive treatments on a given subject. Think "bumper sticker" rather than "legal

contract." Is it possible to think of exceptions to a given proverb? Sure, but that's not the point. The point is to communicate helpful words of wisdom and warning in short, easily memorized sayings that will encourage you to live with a healthy awareness of who God is and what he wants for the people he's created in his image. Second, in relation to books like Job and Ecclesiastes, understand that much of what's said by the individual characters speaking within the storyline is inadequate or even seriously flawed. These flawed statements (by Job's friends or by "the preacher" early on in Ecclesiastes) are part of the plotline and tension that is eventually resolved in a satisfactory way. But you have to listen to the entire conversation to get the point. So keep reading.

Much more could be said about each of the above 3 genres. And we haven't even touched on other



prominently featured genres like Gospels, parables, the prophets, and apocalyptic literature,* but hopefully you've been encouraged to see Bible study as something that's accessible. Most importantly, my prayer is that you'll "overhear" the voice of the God who loves you in those sacred pages. (*If you'd like to further explore the study of the Bible's varied genres, I highly recommend Kristie Anyabwile's primer on transformative Bible study entitled Literarily.)

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

In Loving Memory

May 28

Sunshine Renee Little , 41
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Michael A. Cady, Sr., 81
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

May 29

Marleen Nelson, 83
Bemus Point
Lind Funeral Home

May 30

Giovanni Colletti, 82
Jamestown
Riccardi's Family Funeral Home

Judith L. Page, 71
Jamestown
Riccardi's Family Funeral Home

May 31

Bette. A. Peterson, 75
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Patricia Sherman, 75
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

June 1

Sandra Swanson, 80
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

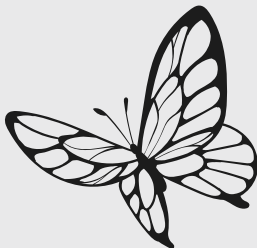
June 3

Walter E. Packard, 85
Falconer
Falconer Funeral Home

William J. Buck, 66
Falconer
Lind Funeral Home

June 4

Alvin D. Crandall, 81
Jamestown
Falconer Funeral Home





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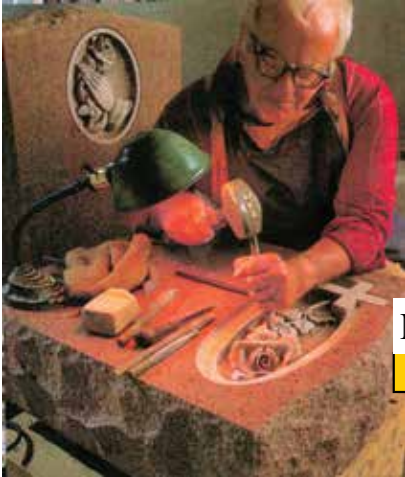
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Happy Father's Day

Continued from Front Page

how much I loved that place... the fence by the dugout, the top row of the bleachers, and the grass by the JCC parking lot, where I often searched post-game for home run balls, how much that place was a second home for my Dad and me.

Throughout the games, my Dad would explain the finer rules to me - like the nuances of the infield-fly rule. Between innings, he poetically argued how a condiment-loaded hot dog can hold its own against a fine-dining meal anywhere. At all other times, he was the one holding the programs, the baseballs, and the newspaper clippings, remembering just whose autograph I still needed for each one. He was the one who introduced me to each player; the one who read the player bios and

told me where the guys grew up. He told me when the slugger was coming to bat and when to watch for a double-play. My Dad was the conductor of that summer, and he saw to it that I fell in love with America's game. If you ask him, though, he'd probably say he was just being a good dad.

The Jamestown Expos will always have a place in my heart. Russell E. Diethrick Jr. Park will have an even bigger place. That said, the value of both lies in how much they allowed a boy and his father to live their best life and have their best summer that year. As much as I was surrounded by guys I adored, and giants I looked up to, the hero of 1989 didn't wear a jersey.

To John Lee. Dad. Pops. Old Man. "Happy Father's Day."

HAPPY Father's DAY

NICK!



The Chautauqua Gazette wishes a Happy Father's Day to our best layout designer ever, Nick Trussalo!

Chautauqua Region Quilt Guild

will be meeting Wednesday, June 11 at the Busti 5 Corners Community Church, formerly Busti Federated Church in Busti. 3-6 is our community sew time when we work on quilts and prepare quilt kits for members to take home. Participants may come at any time during that time frame to lend a helping hand. Refreshments are available from 6:00-6:30 when our meeting starts. June's program will be a trunk show of miniature quilts presented by Faith Swanson and Birgit Hanson. They have several fun little quilts to show along with some tips and techniques for using those tiny scraps and leftover bits. Visitors and new members are always welcome. Come join us.



YASSOU FESTIVAL



Athanasios Bakas
South African native/Yassou Grillmaster
SUNY Fredonia International Program



1st Row: Chris Cheronis, Angie Turner, Dora Turner Linkerhof, Antonia Linkerhof
2nd Row: Tatiana Piaschyk, Sophia Rusakis, Aubrie Newburg, Melina Singleton, Antonia Linkerhof, Dmitry Piaschyk, Aristea Theofilactidis, Elle Theofilactidis, Hudson Anderson.
3rd Row: Alexis Singleton, Theo Singleton, Stavros Singleton, Stathi Theofilactidis, Aleko Theofilactidis, Remy Anderson, Lazaros Theofilactidis

Opa! A Day at the Yassou Greek Festival: A Feast for the Senses

Featured Writer
Courtney Theofilactidis

Every June, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Jamestown, NY invites the community to experience the vibrant sights, sounds, and flavors of Greek culture during our annual Yassou Greek Festival. Whether you're of Greek heritage or simply curious, attending the Yassou Festival every Father's Day weekend is an unforgettable cultural experience that offers something for everyone.

A Warm Greek Welcome

When you arrive, we'll greet you with a smile! Our many dedicated volunteers—generations of St. Nicholas members and friends from the Jamestown community—are here to help make this annual event special. Need something? Just ask someone in a STAFF t-shirt.

We encourage newcomers to try our traditional foods, explore our culture, and join in on a dance or two. At St. Nicholas, we're proud to share our heritage and hospitality with you.

A Culinary Journey

No Greek festival is complete without food—and we've got plenty! From savory to sweet, the offerings are truly mouthwatering. Be sure to try:

- **Gyros and Souvlaki** – Grilled meats served with warm pita and creamy tzatziki.
- **Spanakopita** – A flaky spinach and feta pie, a Greek classic.
- **Greek Salad** – Crisp greens with Kalamata olives and our house-made dressing.
- **Baklava, Kourabiedes, and Loukoumades** – Sweet cookies and honey-drenched treats that melt in your mouth.

All of our food is made with love, following recipes passed down through generations. You can truly taste the tradition in every bite.

Music and Dancing

Throughout the day, lively Greek music, by the Ageans of Rochester, NY fills the air. Performances by our Yassou dancers showcase the richness of Greek history and

regional pride through traditional dance. Dancers will perform on Friday, 5PM and 8PM and again on Saturday, 1PM, 5PM and 8PM.

Don't be shy—guests are always welcome to join the fun at the end of each performance! Grab a hand and try the famous kalamatiano (12-step) dance. No experience is required—just a willingness to celebrate!

Culture and Faith

Beyond the food and festivities, we invite you to take a guided tour of our church at 2 PM and 4 PM with our parish priest, Rev. Fr. Stephen W. Gousios. Learn about the icons, architecture, and deep symbolism of the Greek Orthodox faith—an essential part of our cultural identity.



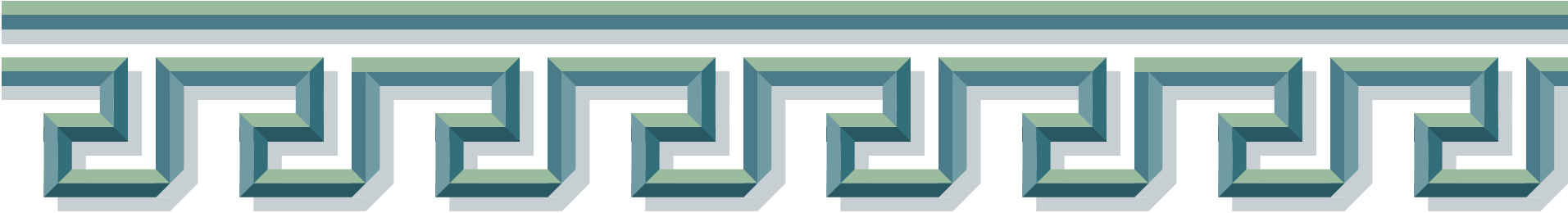
Lazaros & Courtney Theofilactidis with their children Aleko & Aristea

Family-Friendly Fun

The Yassou Festival is great for all ages. Kids love dancing on the stage, while adults can relax with a Greek wine, cold beer, or iced frappé under the big tent. There's something here for everyone—from food and music to faith and fellowship.

Why You Should Go

The Yassou Greek Festival isn't just about fun—it's about connection. You'll leave with a full stomach, a happy heart, and maybe even a few





YASSOU FESTIVAL



Raegan Anderson, Aristeia Theofilactidis, Elle Theofilactidis, Melina Singleton, Aubrie Newburg, Remy Anderson



Elle Theofilactidis, Courtney Theofilactidis, Alexis Singleton, Aristeia Theofilactidis, Kathy Theofilactidis, Tiffany Theofilactidis, Melina Singleton



Chris Cheronis, Angie Turner, Dora Turner Linkerhof, Antonia Linkerhof



Aleko Theofilactidis, Dmitry Piaschik, Sawyer Anderson, Asher Anderson, Hudson Anderson

new Greek phrases.

So on Friday, June 13 and Saturday, June 14, when you hear the sound of bouzouki music, laughter, and a joyful “Opa!” coming from our front lawn—don’t hesitate.

Step inside, dance a little, and savor the spirit of Greece.

the beloved Yassou Festival, often dancing the 12-step all the way home.

In 2016, her life changed forever — not only did she marry Lazaros Theofilactidis, but she also joined one of Jamestown’s most cherished Greek families. Courtney quickly became an active member of the St. Nicholas community, serving on the church council, helping to bake traditional Greek dishes, and volunteering for the monumental community effort that is the Annual Greek Fest.

Courtney Bush Theofilactidis grew up in Jamestown and returned to her hometown after earning her master’s degree. During her high school and college years, she attended

Now, years later, she takes pride in sharing these rich traditions with her and Laz’s children, Aristeia and Aleko, passing on the legacy of faith, culture, and celebration.



41st Annual



Father’s Day Weekend

Friday, June 13th • 11am - 10pm
Saturday, June 14th • 11am - 9pm

UNDER THE BIG TENT

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Equestrian Trail System

Chautauqua County Historical
Society

Chautauqua County Humane
Society

Chautauqua County Rural
Ministry

Chautauqua County Youth
Hockey Association -
Jamestown Lakers

Chautauqua Home
Rehabilitation &
Improvement Corp.

Chautauqua Hospice and
Palliative Care

Chautauqua Institution

Chautauqua Lake Association

Chautauqua Lake Child Care
Center

Chautauqua Lake Community
Sailing Foundation

Chautauqua Lake Partnership

Chautauqua Lake Rowing
Association

Chautauqua Leadership
Network
- Chautauqua Opportunities

Chautauqua Rails to Trails

Chautauqua Region
Community Foundation

Chautauqua Safety Village

Chautauqua Sports Hall of
Fame

Chautauqua Striders

Chautauqua Watershed
Conservancy

Chautauqua Youth Symphony

Child Advocacy Program

Clymer - French Creek Free
Library

Clymer Area Historical Society

Community Connections at
Findley Lake

Community Helping Hands

Community Music Project

Concord Grape Belt Heritage
Association

Cornell Cooperative Ext. of
Chautauqua County

Creche

Darwin R. Barker Library and
Museum Association

Dunkirk Camp and Conference
Center

Dunkirk Public Library

Dunkirk-Fredonia Meals on
Wheels

Ellington Farman Library
Association

Family Service of the
Chautauqua Region

FeedMore WNY

Fenton History Center

Finn's Furever Feline Rescue

Fluvanna Community
Historical Society

Fluvanna Free Library

Girl Scouts of Western New
York

Harmony Historical Society

Heritage Ministries

IMPACT Campus Fellowship

Infinity Visual and Performing
Arts

James Prendergast Library

Jamestown Chapter NSDAR/
Partridge-Sheldon House

Jamestown Community
College Foundation

Jamestown Community
Learning Council

Jamestown Farmers Market
- Jamestown Pride

Jamestown Skating Club

Jamestown YMCA

Kennedy Free Library

Labyrinthine Ways Peace Park

Lake Shore Family Center

Lakeshore Humane Society

Lakewood Kitten Rescue

Lakewood Memorial Library

Legal Assistance of Western
New York

Love In the Name of Christ
of Southern Chautauqua
County

Marvin Community House

Mary E Seymour Memorial
Free Library

Mayville Library

Mental Health Association in
Chautauqua County

Minerva Free Library

Myers Memorial Library

National Comedy Center

National Equine Institute of
Growth Through Healing

NCCYHA Steelers - Youth
Hockey

Northern Chautauqua Canine
Rescue

Northern Chautauqua
Community Foundation

Northwest Arena

Options Care Center

Patterson Library

Pip-Skey's Foundation
for Homeless
Animals

Prevention Works

Rays the Barr
Foundation

Reg Lenna Center for
the Arts

Robert H Jackson
Center

Roger Tory Peterson
Institute

Rooted MTB

Shadows Veterinarian
Relief Trust

Sherman Historical
Society

Sinclairville Free
Library

Sonshine Fund

St. Luke's Episcopal
Church/New
Neighbors Coalition
- St. Susan Center

Sukanya Burman Dance

The Bemus Point-Stow Ferry

The Lawson Center

The Relief Zone

The Resource Center

The Waterfront Foundation at
The Chautauqua Center

Together We Bloom

UCAN City Mission

Underground Railroad
Tableau-Repl. Statue

Union Relief Association of
Westfield, NY

United Way of Chautauqua
County

Vets Finding Vets

WCA Foundation for

Hillman Cancer Center at
UPMC Chautauqua

Westfield Memorial Hospital
Foundation

Westfield Stray Cat Rescue

Winifred Crawford Dibert Boys
& Girls Club of Jamestown

YWCA Jamestown

YWCA Westfield



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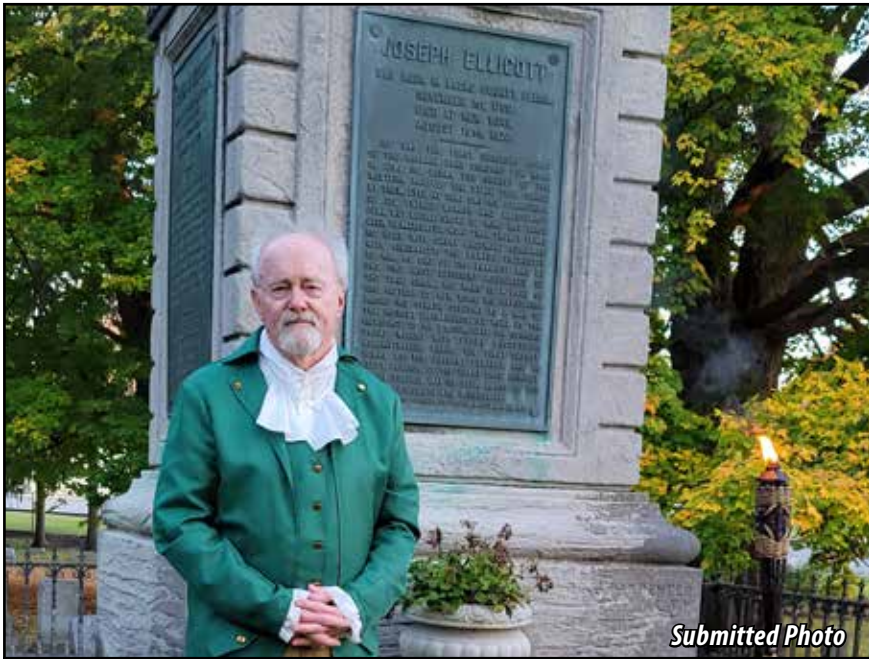
Participating organizations are subject to change.

Follow us on social media throughout the day for updated totals and prize announcements!

GIVEBIGCHQ.ORG

@CRCFOne

Fenton History Center Presents Joseph Ellicott, A Historical Portrayal



Dennis Upton as Joseph Ellicott

Contributed by
Fenton History Center

The Fenton History Center's upcoming midday talk is about Joseph Ellicott and the Holland Land Company. The talk is Wednesday, June 11 at 1 PM at the Fenton History Center, 67 Washington St., Jamestown. The talk is free and open to the public.

The presenter, Dennis Upton, is a retired elementary teacher, with over 20 years of improvisational comedy experience. Mr. Upton says, "Additionally I have performed in many dinner theatre presentations and on several stages in the area. You might find me as Santa Claus at the Buffalo Zoo or doing role playing simulation work with various Buffalo universities and Roswell Park."

He will portray Joseph Ellicott

who is interwoven in the WNY local history story. Mr. Upton added, "However, very few people today know much about the man who surveyed and organized this part of New York State when it was a wilderness at the beginning of the 18th century. Ellicott was also instrumental in bringing the Erie Canal to Western New York."

Dennis Upton will take you back to 1824 as he brings Joseph Ellicott to life in this living portrayal using maps and artifacts. For more information visit, josephellicott.com.

The Fenton History Center's lecture series continues Wednesday, July 9 at 7 p.m. when author Wendy Lewellen discusses her book, "Rails to Trails: Namesakes and Trailblazers Along the Trail".

Volunteer!

Article Contributed by
Carol Hay

We are fortunate to be graced with invaluable nonprofit organizations in Chautauqua County. It's important to be aware of these organizations, their missions, and the opportunities within many to volunteer our time, utilize our skills, and offer help on projects, events and activities. Knowing what each organization does, what segment of the population it serves, and how it operates helps us determine which organizations we want to support.

Whether our interests align with children, youth or adults there are nonprofit organizations that serves that population. Often nonprofits help each other by collaborating on activities that benefit both organizations. Early in January, members of two organizations, Creche and Zonta, spent a few to several hours volunteering at Community Helping Hands. Creche is a local nonprofit whose mission is to help children and youth in the community in many ways including supporting educational opportunities, providing emergency supplies, and fundraising to contribute to enrichment activities. Zonta is an

organization that advocates for and works to build a better world for women and children locally and around the world. Volunteers from these two organizations helped to clean storage areas, sort clothing and restock the retail clothing racks at CHH. By working together, we can share information, better understand each other's mission, and build a more supportive community for everyone.

It's impossible to know about every nonprofit in Chautauqua County, but the print media as well as Facebook posts, flyers on bulletin boards, and word of mouth can get you started learning about nonprofits and how you might help them fulfill their missions. Financial donations are always needed, but volunteering your time and skills is also important. Often, families can volunteer together so children learn the value of giving back to their community.

Have a passion? Asking neighbors, friends, and co-workers might help connect you with an organization that needs your skills. We can help others while doing something we enjoy and improve our community all at the same time.

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Happenings at the Fenton History Center!

LECTURE SERIES
WED. JUNE 11
1:00 PM
Dennis Upton
Joseph Ellicott:
A Historical Portrayal
Held in the Fenton Mansion dining room; Free and open to the public

80TH ANNIVERSARY 1945 Jamestown TORNADO
EXHIBIT OPENING
WED. JUNE 11, 2025
at 7:00 PM
at the Fenton Mansion
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Historic Tours
Jamestown's Industrial Past
Sat. JUN 14
@ 10:30 AM
\$8 for Members
\$12 for Non-Members
Meet at the Fenton Mansion parking lot.

67 Washington Street, Jamestown, NY 14701 (716) 664-6256
www.FentonHistoryCenter.org

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Pat's Pen with Pat Locke

Father's Day



Contributing Writer

Pat Locke

On Father's Day, we pause to recognize a presence often felt more than spoken, steady as the turning of the seasons. Where Mother's Day is draped in the soft pastels of affection and memory, Father's Day hums with a quieter gratitude.

Fathers come in many different forms: biological, adoptive, stepfathers, grandfathers, uncles, mentors or even a friend who steps in and becomes a father-figure. Fathers are often times the late-night worriers, the homework helpers, the disciplinarians and the dream-encouragers by inspiring one to do one's best, not out of criticism, but rather a strong belief in their offspring's potential. Fathers teach responsibility, respect and integrity.

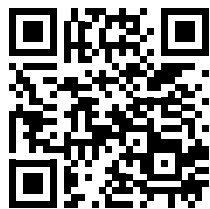
Some teach with words while others lead by example. Many fathers do both without ever asking for recognition. They show up through long shifts and silent sacrifices, in unglamorous acts of devotion such as fixing things around the house. They teach us how to ride a bike or how to drive a car. Fathers show up at games, recitals and parent-teacher meetings. Fathers give advice or pep

talks during tough times telling his family that he is proud of them and saying "I love you" even if it's not frequent. Fathers give hugs and pats on the back to express "good job" and fathers hold their child's hand when they're young and learning to walk. As they grow and seek independence a father still holds their hand in his heart, forever.

Today, we honor their effort and their resilience. We remember those fathers who are no longer with us. The fathers we miss whose influence lingers in every value we carry, every lesson we pass down.

To all who father, in any form, we thank you. The world is better because you care and because you cared.

Happy Father's Day.



Many of you know me as a personal friend and as author of this special column, "Pat's Pen". But I also invite you enjoy my unique blog that features people, places, and preservation in our community. To those who already follow my blog, thank you. To those who might have interest, simply tap on the word, FOLLOW upon entering the blog site: offshoremuse2023.blogspot.com. I appreciate your help in increasing my readership.

Sincerely - Pat Locke.

Zonta Club of Jamestown Honors Scholarship Recipients



Submitted Photo
Kimberly Delcamp and Quinn Putney

Contributed by Zonta Club of Jamestown

The Zonta Club of Jamestown, dedicated to building a better world for women and girls, recently honored seven exceptional young women at a special program meeting held at the Celoron Harbor Hotel. These students were recognized as recipients of Zonta-funded scholarships, which support young women who demonstrate leadership in their schools and communities and are pursuing careers in business, entrepreneurship, or other professional fields.

The club proudly supports six distinct scholarships, made possible through the generosity of donors and administered by the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation (CRCF). The scholarships are awarded annually to students who embody the Zonta mission.

During the program, two scholarship recipients—Kimberly Delcamp of Westfield and Quinn Putney of Mayville—were introduced along with their guests. Each shared insights about their academic journeys, career aspirations, and the people or experiences that have had a meaningful impact on their lives.

The remaining five recipients, who were unable to attend in person, submitted written reflections that were read aloud by members of

the Zonta Scholarship Committee. These recipients are Gabriella Demorest, Raylynn Digirolamo, Caylee Ames, Julianna Main, and Holly Morgenstern, each of whom has demonstrated exceptional promise and a strong commitment to personal and professional growth.

The Zonta Scholarship Committee is composed of members Julie Dudgeon, Cheryl Gray, Beth Jermain, and Christine Melice, with Michelle Tambascio and Carol Hay serving as co-chairs.

All Zonta scholarships are managed through the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation. Individuals interested in supporting the future of young women in the region are encouraged to contribute to the scholarship funds. Donations can be made in memory or honor of a loved one by visiting onlinecrcf.org or calling the CRCF office directly.

Young women seeking financial assistance to pursue higher education are invited to apply for Zonta scholarships through the CRCF's annual scholarship application process.

For more information about the Zonta Club of Jamestown and its mission, please visit www.zontajamestown.org or reach out to the club at PO Box 913, Jamestown, NY, 14702.

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CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY PETS OF THE WEEK



Joey

Joey is a good-natured, loyal, happy-go-lucky guy who loves his food, toys, and friends more than anything in the world. He is eager to learn and is down for anything! Long walks, running, hiking, playing fetch, or snuggling on the couch, Joey is all in. Shelter No. RR179.

Wilma is known for her sweetness, friendliness, and unwavering loyalty. She adores a good chin scratch and a cozy lap to curl up on. Wilma is quite the charmer, always ready to greet you with a purr and a nuzzle. She's not one for mischief, preferring to laze around and keep you company. Shelter No. RR179.



Wilma

FROM YOUTH TO 80: A LIFETIME OF IMPACT AT THE JAMESTOWN YMCA



Contributed by
Cameron Hurst
Jamestown Area YMCA

At 80 years old, Jon Nelson isn't slowing down. A lifelong Jamestown resident, Jon has faced more than his share of physical challenges — including six joint replacements — but still shows up at the YMCA almost every morning.

"This place keeps me going," Jon says simply. "If I had to do my rehab at home, I probably wouldn't do it. But coming here — it gives me structure, accountability, and people."

Jon's connection to the Jamestown Area YMCA dates back nearly seven decades to when he was just a kid tagging along with his dad.

"I started coming with my dad when I was a kid," Jon recalls. "There was a space just for kids to hang out, and before long, I was getting involved in activities and meeting people from all over."

One of those early connections — with a Jamestown High School student named George Banks — left a lasting impression and hel-

ped Jon feel right at home.

Over the years, the Y became a constant in Jon's life. He played handball for years before joint issues forced him to scale back. Now, his workouts are simpler — light cardio, walking, stretching — but they're just as essential.

More than the equipment or the routines, though, it's the people who keep Jon coming back.

"The girls at the front desk greet you with a smile. The members talk to each other. You walk in and you feel like someone's happy to see you," he says. "You don't get that everywhere."

He treasures the sense of community at the Jamestown Y. It's where he's built lifelong friendships, and where he continues to set goals — including traveling to play new golf courses and giving back to hospitals that have supported him.

When Jon turned 80 earlier this year, he said he felt something simple but meaningful: a desire to say thank you. He penned a four-page letter to the Y staff to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

FIND YOUR REASON TO GIVE. FIND YOUR Y.




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Eventz by Scott

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Father's Day around the world

Contributed by
Metro Creative

Many countries around the world celebrate Father's Day, but not all of them do so in June. The most common date for Father's Day celebrations is the third Sunday of June, when the U.S. and Canada celebrate the holiday. In 2025, that day will be June 15th. Many European countries with sizable Catholic populations, such as Spain, Italy and Portugal, celebrate Father's Day on March 19th, which is known as St. Joseph's Day on the Catholic liturgical calendar. St. Joseph was the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus Christ, so he is

widely recognized as the patron saint of fathers. In Scandinavian countries, Father's Day is the second Sunday in November, which many believe to be an attempt to boost the economy during a month when retail businesses are not particularly busy. In Germany, Father's Day is tied to Ascension Day, which comes on the fortieth day of Easter. Australia and New Zealand celebrate dads on the first Sunday of September, while Brazil celebrates Father's Day on the second Sunday of August. No matter when Father's Day falls, the holiday marks a great time to show dads just how special and loved they are.



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TARP SKUNKS 2025

OUR HOMETOWN



34 CHASE HAGLUND

Frewsburg, NY

Height: 6'0
Weight: 190
Bats/Throws: R/R
Year: Freshman
Position: INF

18 BLAKE HERMAN

Gowanda, NY

Height: 5-9
Weight: 185
Bats/Throws: R/R
Year: Freshman
Position: C/RHP

45 BRANSTON LINDQUIST

Falconer, NY

Height: 6-2
Weight: 220
Bats/Throws: R/R
Year: Freshman
Position: C

31 BRADY BERDINE

Warren, PA

Height: 6-1
Weight: 185
Bats/Throws: R/R
Year: Freshman
Position: RHP

17 JAMESON WALSH

Lakewood, NY

Height: 6-0
Weight: 215
Bats/Throws: R/R
Year: Freshman
Position: RHP

TARP SKUNKS CURRENT ROSTER

Player	POS	B/T	Ht	Wt	Class	Hometown
Matthew Dumas	OF	L/L	5-7	135	Sophomore	
Ty Lagoni	3B/SS	R/R	6-0	190	Sophomore	
Cole Schwochow	LHP	L/L	5-11	183	Sophomore	
Eddie Dolansky	C/RHP	R/R	6-2	185	Freshman	
Eric Weeks	UTIL	R/R	6-0	188	Sophomore	
Jack Bracken	RHP	R/R	6-5	220	Freshman	Cherry Tree, PA
Justin Bremner	LF	R/R	6-0	200	Sophomore	
Anthony Serrano	RHP	R/R	5-11	170	Freshman	Columbia, TN
Easton Barnett	RHP	R/R	5-9	173	Freshman	Smyrna, TN
Aiden Nolasco	SS/2B	R/R	5-10	180	Sophomore	
Niko Frizell	OF	R/R	6-3	190	Freshman	
Nolan Smith	1B/RHP	L/R	6-2	200	Sophomore	
Jasean Brown	RHP	R/R	5-11	197	Sophomore	Greensboro, NC
Jakob Haynes	C/1B	R/R	6-3	215	Sophomore	
Jameson Walsh	RHP	R/R	6-0	215	Freshman	
Blake Herman	C/RHP	R/R	5-9	185	Freshman	
Nathan Borchardt	C/1B	L/R	6-0	200	Sophomore	
Dom Costello	OF	L/L	6-3	205	Sophomore	
Colin Bolla	LHP	L/L	6-1	200	Freshman	
Christian Pencek	RHP	R/R	6-4	175	Junior	
Nick Ianniello	RHP	R/R	5-11	190	Senior	Penfield, NY
Sam Rickman	RHP	R/R	6-1	190	Freshman	
Landon Castor	RHP	R/R	6-3	241	Sophomore	
Cohen Harris	RHP	R/R	6-2	216	Sophomore	
Brady Marshall	UTIL	R/R	5-11	170	Freshman	
Cole Swift	MIF	R/R	5-9	185	Sophomore	
Brady McGuire	3B/SS	R/R	6-0	180	Freshman	
Brady Berdine	RHP	R/R	6-1	185	Freshman	Warren, PA
Will Taylor	LHP	R/L	6-5	195	Freshman	
Chase Haglund	INF	R/R	6'0	190	Freshman	Frewsburg, NY
Mark Holm	LHP	L/L	6-1	180	Freshman	Bracebridge, ON
Daniel Thomas	RHP	R/R	6-0	205	Senior	
Jase Rutkowski	LHP	L/L	5-11	170	Freshman	
Phillip Messina	C	R/R	5'10	205	Junior	Dunkirk, NY
Branston Lindquist	C	R/R	6-2	220	Freshman	
Brenden Kline	RHP	R/R	6-4	200	Junior	
Karl Ralamb	RHP	R/R	6-4	225	Sophomore	Las Vegas, NV
Quinten Shewmaker	LHP	L/L	6-0	165	Sophomore	
Hunter Bell	LHP	L/L	6-2	185	Freshman	Rockport, MI
Joaquin Rodriguez-Co	1B/RHP	L/R	6-6	230	Freshman	





tarpskunks.com

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

HOME
AWAY

MAY/JUNE

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

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

Thursday, May 29 - 6:30pm
Opening Night & Tailgate Festival Concert
Presented by: 3 C's Catering - Jamestown Awning
and Porcelain Bus Drivers
Tuesday, June 3 - 6:30pm
\$2 Night - \$2 Hotdogs, Beer & Bleacher Tickets
Thursday, June 5 - 6:30pm
Tuesday, June 10th - 11:00am
Wednesday, June 11th - 6:30pm
Friday, June 13th - 6:30pm
Kids Carnival Day at the Park Game
Bounce Houses, Games and More!
Thursday, June 19th - 6:30pm
Saturday, June 21st - 6:30 pm
Kids Camp Day/Night
Presented by: Univera Healthcare
& Builders Exchange of the Southern Tier
Sunday, June 22nd - 4:00pm & 6:30 pm
Greater Chautauqua Federal Credit Union
Community Buyout Night - All Tickets FREE
Monday, June 23rd - 6:30 pm
\$2 Night - \$2 Hotdogs, Beer & Bleacher Tickets
Friday, June 27th - 6:30 pm
Youth Baseball/Softball Night
Presented by: Logistics
Sunday, June 29th - 4:30pm & 6:30 pm
Jamestown Community College
Community Buyout Night - All Tickets FREE

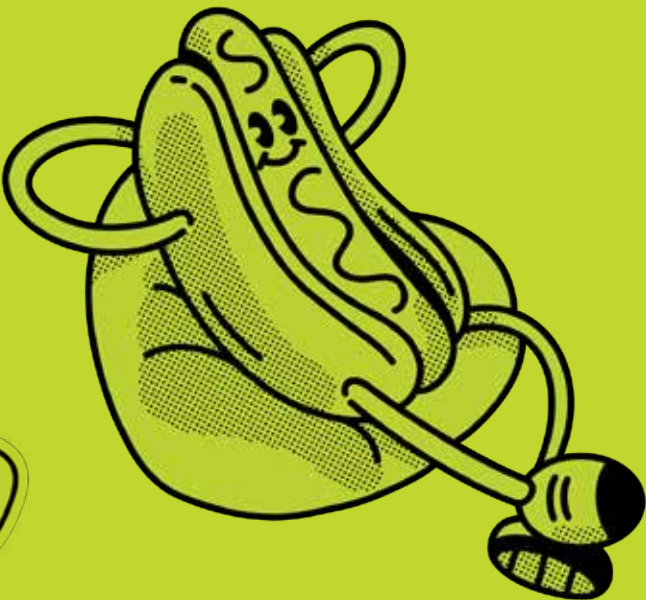
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Exciting Season for the Tarp Skunks

Continued from Front Page

led by former Mayor Sam Teresi and current board member Greg Peterson, Jamestown rallied. In 2019, 50 local investors stepped up to help launch a community-owned team built on more than just baseball. The idea that the Tarp Skunks will offer a family-friendly opportunity for all that is engaging, exciting, inexpensive and fun for all who attend games at Diethrick Park was born.

That vision came to life in 2021. After the long, difficult stretch of the pandemic, the Tarp Skunks’ debut season brought energy roaring back to Diethrick Park. I’ll never forget that opening night line stretching halfway down Falconer Street. Under the leadership of then General Manager Jacob Kindberg and manager Jordan Basile, we welcomed thousands of fans and even won the regular season Western Division title.

In 2022, I returned as Assistant of Business Operations during my senior year of college. By the winter of 2023, I was honored to be named General Manager and my mission was clear: to make Tarp Skunks games a premier destination for people in the community. In 2023, the Tarp Skunks Kids Club was created, more promotions were added and over the last two seasons the results have been staggering. With all-time highs in Season Tickets, Sponsorships, attendance, merchandise, and concessions, our organization is on pace to shatter those marks in 2025. The community support has been undeniably evident and I couldn’t be more thankful for our investors, sponsors and fans for entrusting me to lead this movement.

What matters most to me, though, is the impact we’re making on kids. Whether it’s school visits with Whiffy,



Christian Dolce

community parades, fireworks nights or special events like Carnival Night and Christmas in July, we’re creating lifelong memories. The relationships that I have built with local kids year after year who can buy that affordable \$5 ticket or get in for free thanks to our Whiffy Fund has been very special. It often reminds me of myself and the joy that filled me when I would enter the gates of Diethrick Park. Making baseball accessible to all kids and youth baseball/softball players has been a main focus for our organization. With the creation of our “Whiffy Fund”, any kid who wears their uniform to the park can attend for free. Baseball in Jamestown is something that everyone should be able to enjoy, and thanks to the supporters of our Whiffy Fund, 5,000 kids this summer will be able to come to the park free of charge.

As we celebrate our fifth season, I’m constantly reminded of how special this community is. The support we’ve received from fans, sponsors, investors, and families has been nothing short of incredible. Thank you for making the Tarp Skunks more than just a baseball team. You’ve made us a part of Jamestown’s fabric and we invite you to come make memories with us this summer.

CCIDA THANKS DIXON FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

Long-time CFO to Retire after 19 years of Working at County Development Agency

Contributed by
County of Chautauqua
Industrial Development
Agency

The County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA) is saying goodbye to its longtime Chief Financial Officer. On Tuesday, Mark Geise, Deputy County Executive for Economic Development and CCIDA CEO, along with the rest of the CCIDA staff and Board of Directors, recognized outgoing CFO Richard Dixon for his decades of work with the agency.

Dixon first joined the CCIDA in 2006. Since then, he’s had primary responsibility for financial management and human resources of the Agency, including the development of the CCIDA annual budget and cost allocation plan, oversight of the general ledger, accounts payable, accounts receivable, and payroll. He has also worked closely with Chautauqua County Government, Empire State Development, and area industry leaders to develop and fund expansion and retention projects within Chautauqua County. According to Geise, Dixon has played a major role in all economic development activities in Chautauqua County as a behind-the-scenes orchestrator of many high-impact deals that have had reoccurring impacts for the local economy.

“During his time with the CCIDA, Rich has had an unmatched track record as an accomplished economic developer with extensive financial and operations management experience,” Geise said. “His leadership and



Submitted Photo

Richard Dixon, longtime CFO of the CCIDA, will be retiring on June 1, 2025, after 19 years of service with the Agency.

dedication are directly related to the creation and retention of thousands of jobs and the investment of billions of private dollars in Chautauqua County. From achieving an A+ risk rating with our loan portfolio, to securing a \$10.5 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, to developing our industrial parks, to saving companies like SKF and assisting those like Cummins, Wells Enterprises, Southern Tier Brewing and Maplevale Farms, Rich has proved effective at every turn. Put simply, it would be impossible to list every single project he was involved with during his time with the CCIDA.”

While working as CFO of the CCIDA, Dixon has also been associated with several regional and state organizations. He has served on the NY Power Authority’s Economic Development

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



The CCIDA board and staff recognized retiring CFO Richard Dixon during the May CCIDA board meeting on Tuesday, May 27. Dixon will be retiring on June 1, 2025, after 19 years of service with the Agency. From left to right: Shelby Bilske, CCIDA CFO; Mark Geise, CCIDA CEO; Dixon; Paul “PJ” Wendel, Chautauqua County Executive; and Gary Henry, CCIDA Board Chair.

TARP SKUNK COACHES



Frank Zagoda, Manager
Jamestown Tarp Skunks



Allende Gil, Assistant Coach
Jamestown Tarp Skunks



The 2025 Jamestown Tarp Skunks & their biggest fan, Scotty James

Opera House Cinema Series to Feature Open Captions on Tuesdays



Beginning in June, the 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center will screen films with open captions as part of its Cinema Series. The captions will be visible during Tuesday evening screenings only. Movies to be featured in June include The Amateur, The Accountant 2, and The Last Rodeo.

Contributed by Fredonia Opera House

The 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center will begin screening films with open captions as part of its Cinema Series. The captions will be visible during Tuesday evening screenings; Saturday evening screenings will remain without captions.

“A number of our patrons have requested we consider having captions visible for our films, especially for films in which the actors have heavy accents,” says Opera House Executive Director Rick Davis. “So, we have been talking with moviegoers and also seeking input on social media; and beginning with our June movies, we will display captions on films for our Tuesday night screenings.”

Davis notes that many, but not all, patrons engaged in discussion expressed interest in having the option to view movies with the captions. “That’s why we’re just doing this on one of our two movie nights.” He adds that this will be done on a trial basis throughout the summer months to determine overall acceptance by audiences.

Davis notes that the request for captions is not a new one. In fact, he

says, the conversation about hard-to-understand dialogue has been circulating for quite some time. Some in the industry point to poor sound mixing as the culprit. Others suggest it’s the result of conscious decisions by film directors; Christopher Nolan is an oft-cited example in whose films dialogue often seems just more than a whisper. Still others maintain an increase in the use and volume of sound effects is at fault. This debate has gotten more prevalent in just the past few years.

Whatever the cause, says Davis, audiences are taking notice and in some instances, staying out of movie theatres. “Several of our patrons have said they prefer watching movies at home where they can turn on their TV’s closed captions. We’re hoping to bring them back into the theatre,” he adds, “at least on Tuesday nights.”

The 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center is a member-supported not-for-profit performing arts center with a mission to “present the performing arts for the benefit of our community and region ... providing access to artistic diversity ... and high quality programming at an affordable price.” It is located in Village Hall in downtown Fredonia. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.fredopera.org.

WIN in Business Hosts “Marketing 101 & Social Media Foundations” Luncheon Featuring Marketing Expert Erica Rose

Contributed by Jamestown SBDC

The Small Business Development Center at Jamestown Community College invites business professionals, entrepreneurs, and community members to its upcoming WIN in Business luncheon event, featuring guest speaker Erica Rose, founder of XO Erica Rose Social Media Marketing and Rose & Grace Studio, presenting: Marketing 101 & Social Media Foundations.



Erica Rose

This engaging session will take place on Thursday, June 12, 2025, at Jamestown Community College, Carnahan Building, Room 120, located at 241 James Ave., Jamestown, NY.

- Event Schedule:
- 11:30 AM – Lunch served and networking begins
 - 12:00 – 1:00 PM – Guest Speaker Presentation
 - Cost to attend: \$18 (payable by check or credit card)

WIN in Business is a monthly program open to anyone working in the small business sector. It offers a welcoming space to exchange ideas, share experiences, and address common challenges over lunch. Each session begins with participant introductions—where attendees are encouraged to share one thing about their business—followed by a presentation from an experienced guest speaker. Bring your business cards and take advantage of this valuable opportunity to connect with other professionals in the community.

In “Marketing 101 & Social Media Foundations,” Erica Rose will cover the foundations of a strong social media strategy, share real-life time-saving tips to help you avoid burnout,

and teach you how to market your business more efficiently, without spending hours online. You’ll also learn how to design engaging, on-brand visuals, repurpose your e-newsletter into multiple social posts, and create bite-sized content that gets results. Plus, one lucky participant will receive a live Instagram audit for personalized feedback and guidance!

Erica Rose is the founder of XO Erica Rose Social Media Marketing and Rose & Grace Studio, where she helps small business owners gain visibility and build marketing strategies that create real impact.

As an expert in community-focused marketing, content strategy, and brand visibility, Erica is dedicated to empowering entrepreneurs to show up authentically. With a hands-on, non-cookie-cutter approach, she transforms marketing from an overwhelming task into an intentional, results-driven strategy.

This program is sponsored by Community Bank, NA. Pre-registration is required. To reserve your spot or learn more about the WIN in Business program, contact the SBDC at 716-338-1024 or visit www.sbdcc.org.



Business of the Week

Celebrating Local Businesses & Giving them the Spotlight!

A Slice of Heaven: The Landing at Bemus Point Offers Sunset Views, Summer Fun



Contributing Editor
Katrina Fuller

that beckons visitors to have a good time.

“Significant investment in the last three years has gone into a complete grounds upgrade. It’s absolutely beautiful space—first-class seating, fire tables and fire pits, great lighting, safe and accessible boat dock parking,” he said. “We are introducing enhanced features to include our new Member Grilling Station... I hear a rumor about plans for a new stage – stay tuned!”

The Landing offers two types of membership: grounds and marine which are designed to give locals and out-of-towners alike a way to experience the best of Bemus Point.

“It’s kind of a gateway to all things Bemus,” Skerl explained. “We refer to waterfront Bemus Point as ‘a little slice of heaven,’ and we offer an opportunity to elevate their summer, whether you currently live on the lake or not.”

He added that The Landing also allows members to park their boats. Members can pull up to The Landing, spend time on the grounds, or go enjoy the many restaurants, shops and other enticing offerings of downtown Bemus.

A standout perk is the Landing Pass, which unlocks a variety of discounts and freebies at nearby restaurants, bars and retailers. “Many of the members come from outside the Bemus Point area, so we are trying to promote more commerce in our great little town, and the member gets some great savings,” Skerl said.

For those who like to enjoy a beverage on the waterfront during the summer, Skerl said this is the place to be, as it is “Bring Your Own Beverage.”

“People save a ton of money, you know, not having to spend \$18 bucks a drink now,” he joked.

His love of Bemus Point and

all his fond memories from over the years really motivated him to create The Landing, according to Skerl. This passion project is more a labor of love than anything.

“It’s not a profit piece, it’s more of a civic piece. I wanted to clean it up and have it blend into the town,” Skerl said.

The grounds are family-friendly, and events are tailored to bring people together, such as corn hole tournaments, karaoke nights, cookouts and The Bemus Bash on July 4. Skerl said this is his favorite event out of the many they hold over the summer months.

“We do just a fabulous July 4th Bash. People join just to go to that party,” he said. “We bring in some great, great music and we have another eight to ten events.

We do sunset sip and paints and yard game tournaments. We just do goofy stuff to get people to have some fun.”

For Skerl, the mission is simple: bring people together to enjoy Bemus Point the way he’s cherished it for decades. Visitors can unwind, relax and take in what Skerl looks forward to every summery night in this beloved space: the sunset.

“We have the best sunsets anywhere in Western New York,” Skerl said. “The Landing gives you the best front-row seat every night for a heavenly masterpiece.”

For more information on membership, events and more, visit www.thelandingbpt.com or follow them on Facebook under “The Landing at Bemus Point” or Instagram under “thelandingbpt.”

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This “Little Slice of Heaven” is a must-visit for summer fun and the best sunset views on the lake! Bring your family, friends and a cooler to enjoy our lake club amenities. The Landing is the ultimate upgrade to your summer experience on the lake.

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59 Lakeside Drive Bemus Point, NY

Tucked into the heart of Bemus Point’s central business district, where the lake laps the shore and the air hums with the sounds of summer, sits The Landing—a not-so-secret summer retreat that feels like a little slice of heaven. Founded by Thomas Skerl, a longtime lake enthusiast with a soft spot for sunsets and memory-making, The Landing is a membership-based lakeside club, but it is also a passion project turned lakeside refuge for friends, families and fireworks.

“I have spent over 40 years enjoying this lake and creating so many memories that it made sense to continue that for others when the lot became available,” Skerl said. “Family, friends and fun are what The Landing is all about and you immediately sense that when you spend time on the grounds. It doesn’t get any better than to have fun with your family and friends!”

The space itself was once the home of the iconic Bemus Pops Floating Stage, a beloved local landmark that left behind an empty, nostalgic lot.

“The land went mostly vacant and unused, and we wanted to bring back some energy, live music, and fun that was synonymous with this property,” Skerl said. “You can’t always bring back the magic, but you can certainly try.”

Over the past three years, Skerl has poured energy, resources and sheer dedication into transforming the space into something welcoming and vibrant. The space is now a welcoming area along the lakeside

LOCAL ROMANCE AUTHOR JOAN WAHL WILL BE APPEARING AT THE GOOD NEIGHBOR BOOKSTORE JUNE 14

Contributed by
Good Neighbor Bookstore

Local romance author Joan Wahl will be appearing at the Good Neighbor Bookstore in Lakewood on Saturday, June 14th from 11 am to 1 pm.

Joan’s dream of becoming a published author came true in 2023 when she partnered with Yellow Rose Romance Books to bring her vision to life.

Joan is the author of Summer Love in Music City and Falling for Autumn, books one and two in her Music City series.

The idea for her series was a result of the convergence of three of her favorite things – the television show Nashville, which aired from 2012 to 2018, her love of country music, and Hallmark movies.

The television show inspired Joan and her daughter to travel to Nashville and visit filming locations

from the show as well as iconic locations such as the Country Music Hall of Fame, the Opry, the Ryman, the Bluebird and the Loveless Café. Her books bring authentic flavor to the settings since she has visited all the places her characters also visit. She has enjoyed many a legendary biscuit from the Loveless Café, a must stop every time she visits Nashville.

Summer Love in Music City is the story of Summer, the quintessential “girl next door.” She is a small town librarian who meets Brody, a famous country music superstar, backstage after one of his concerts. She feels an instant connection to him, and compares it to feeling love struck, rather than simply star struck. Brody has concerns about someone loving him despite his fame, rather than because of it. Summer’s concern is how loving Brody will not only affect her life, but the lives of her family members. Will the price of Brody’s fame be too much for her to handle? A love song he writes for her

changes the trajectory of their romance in unexpected ways.

Summer has a twin sister, Autumn, who is the main female character in book two. Autumn’s love life has been impacted due to her sister being linked to someone famous. The men she meets are after one thing, an introduction to Brody. When she enters into a marriage of convenience with Spencer, she agrees to the rules, and then wants to change them as her feelings for Spencer and his children grow and evolve. The stability she craved has turned into something more, but a series of misunderstandings makes them question the depth of their feelings for one another. It will take a grand gesture to make them both realize where they belong.

For anyone who enjoys the love stories of Summer and Autumn, there are many characters that make appearances throughout the entire series.

There is a twin theme that runs



local romance author, Joan Wahl

throughout the books. Brody has twin sisters, Brennan and Bailey, and they will each have their own story. Much like Summer and Autumn, their love stories will feature unconventional meet-cutes and a series of unexpected twists and turns.

Following her appearance at the Good Neighbor Bookstore on June 14th, Joan will be giving a presentation at the Dunkirk Public Library on Wednesday, June 18th at 6:00 pm.

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Public Invited to NCCF's 39th Annual Meeting and Footprints Award Presentation

Contributed by
Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation

The Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation (NCCF) invites the public to the 39th Annual Meeting on Monday, June 23, at 4 p.m. The event will be held at the Science Center, located on SUNY Fredonia's campus. Join us as we celebrate our impact, partnerships, community investments, and accomplishments.

During the meeting, NCCF will present the George B. Weaver Jr. Footprints Award to Jim and Sue Mintun 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 \$23 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.



"A hot dog at the ballgame beats roast beef at the Ritz."

- Humphrey Bogart



Submitted Photo

Lips Poppin Productions to perform at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts' Memory Café and Jumpstart to Third Thursday This Week

Drag Queen company Lips Poppin will perform for The Reg's Memory Café Tues., June 10 at 12 p.m

Lips Poppin Productions (featuring **Exxxotica Splash**, **Justin Time** and **Katrina Twerk**) established in Jamestown, NY, brings the best of the best in the business! With glitz, glam, wigs, makeup, costumes, comedy, dancing and drama, these performers are must-sees full of talent, excitement and laughter.

Memory Café at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts is a **FREE** respite and arts program for people with forgetfulness or other changes in their thinking (including cognitive decline, dementia or Alzheimer's) as well as their care partner, family, or friends. Participants are welcome to enjoy music performances, crafts and easy, appropriate activities to spark friendly social interaction. Light refreshments and sandwiches will be provided. All attendees can choose to participate or simply observe.

Patrons are asked to register for the Reg Lenna Memory Café ahead of time by emailing rsvp@reglenna.com or calling The Reg Box Office at (716) 484-7070 with the names and number of attendees. A suggested (but not required) donation of your choosing would support the Reg Lenna Memory Café, payable by cash, check and credit card. Enter the building through the Reg Lenna awning entrance (108 E. 3rd St.) next to Art Cloth+Craft. The Media Arts Studio is elevator-accessible.

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

JHS Students Showcase Civic Readiness Projects at Jackson Center



JHS senior Jarren Cotter delivers his civics project presentation on soil erosion at the Robert H. Jackson Center. Cotter is one of the first 18 JHS seniors who will graduate with the NYS Seal of Civic Readiness.



JHS senior Conner Dean delivers his civics project presentation on giving back to JHS teachers and staff at the Robert H. Jackson Center. Dean is one of the first 18 JHS seniors who will graduate with the NYS Seal of Civic Readiness.



Submitted Photos

JHS senior Kate Kathman delivers her civics project presentation on installing a kiosk at a local park at the Robert H. Jackson Center. Kathman is one of the first 18 JHS seniors who will graduate with the NYS Seal of Civic Readiness.

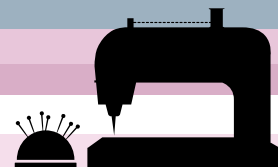
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Area Students Invited for a Fine Pairing: Pizza and a Civics Lesson

Contributed by

Robert H. Jackson Center

Step into the role of judge. What would you decide if you were the one wearing the robe? Join us at the Robert H. Jackson Center for **A Slice of History: Bob's Pop-Up Court**, a hands-on mini-exhibit, **Saturday, June 14, noon – 4:30 p.m.**

In Bob's Pop-up Court, visitors will hear short arguments on real-world civic dilemmas and cast their rulings. This event is part of Civic Season, a nationwide initiative from Made By Us that connects history with action from Juneteenth to July 4. The Center is also partnering with Pizza to the Polls for the day's refreshments.

Should schools be allowed to punish students for off-campus social media posts? Can teens be trusted with the right to vote at 16? What about National Anthem Protests? After making judgements, students will add their voice to the Justice Tree with a personal reflection and make a civic pledge for the year ahead. Snap a selfie in our makeshift courtroom,

and, if feeling bold, record your verdict for social media.

Free pizza and snacks will be available for participants while they last; first come, first served!

About the Robert H. Jackson Center:

To learn more about the extraordinary local, national, and international contributions of Robert H. Jackson, the public is invited to visit the Center from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday at 305 East 4th Street in Jamestown, NY or online at roberthjackson.org. Docents are available to provide tours from 10 - 2 Monday through Friday, Saturdays between Memorial Day and Labor Day, and by appointment. Donations are welcome to support the free programs the Center provides to all ages throughout the year.



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CHAMBER CORNER

CHQ Chamber Welcomes New Members

Article Contributed by

Daniel J. Heitzenrater

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
President and CEO

The CHQ Chamber is always pleased to welcome new members, and the past month has brought a flurry of them. A broad variety of local businesses have joined since May 1, bringing our total membership to 916 across Chautauqua County.

From Dunkirk we added Tastefully Simple. Hagan Business Machines from Erie, PA has re-joined the CHQ Chamber. From Falconer we welcome new members the Builders Exchange of the Southern Tier and Chautauqua Bargain Bins. Beyond Support Network and The Daisy Farm joined the Chamber from Fredonia. In Jamestown we have these new members: Always Open Design, Another Guy's Fries, Lifted Dispensary, Mr. Appliance of Jamestown-Warren, Personal & Home Development LLC, Ray's Ride LLC, and SOLT Café & Spa. In Lakewood new members are Chautauqua Medical Aesthetics and Cotton Thistle Boutique. From Silver Creek Lakeside Financial Coaching has joined the Chamber, and Impact Internet from West Seneca has joined as well.

These seventeen businesses represent a cross-section of our economic sectors in the region, and a few more new members are still pending. While we did not reach our very aggressive goal of 31 new members in 31 days during the month of May, we did reach out to businesspeople throughout the region and made many new connections. During our Small Business Week walks in communities throughout the county we personally visited 500 small businesses of all types. Ultimately, this is a solid way to build both membership and awareness of the CHQ Chamber, and meets our mission to build vital connections, provide professional resources, and champion our local businesses in Chautauqua County.

We want to thank members that referred local businesses for membership over the past month including 3 Lakes Café in Cassadaga, Bag & String Wine Merchants in Lakewood, the Chautauqua Gazette, Good Bargains Chautauqua in Jamestown, Lakewood Community Development Corporation, and Main Street Mercantile in Falconer. The ongoing support we receive from our

current members is evident and we are grateful for the input and participation at our events and programs throughout the year. Membership in the CHQ Chamber is both affordable and valuable, and it's easy to join online any time at www.chqchamber.org.

Nominations Open for the CHQ Chamber 2025 Awards

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 Awards Banquet, which is scheduled for October 2 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. In addition, multiple businesses may be recognized for milestone service years that end in a 5 or 0.

Nominations are open through August 1. All nominations must be submitted through our online form at www.chqchamber.org/2025-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 "supercommittee" of volunteers from across the County and will be approved by the CHQ Chamber Board of Directors.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

Reg Lenna Center For The Arts Announces Hiring of Anthony Merchant as WRFA's New General Manager

Contributed by

Reg Lenna Center for the Arts

The Reg Lenna Center for the Arts is proud to announce the appointment of Anthony Merchant as the new General Manager of 107.9 FM WRFA-LP.

The Jamestown native has been involved in the low-power, non-commercial radio station for many years, first as a volunteer in 2009, and then when he was hired in 2021 as a board operator for Jamestown Tarp Skunks games. Merchant was then brought on as the station's Arts & Entertainment Producer in 2022, hosting programs such as Arts On Fire and Local Rush Hour. Since 2016, he also has produced and hosted The Power Chord Hour Podcast on WRFA's airwaves.

Merchant will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the radio station, providing access to the arts, cultural and education programming; and a forum for the discourse of public affairs.

He previously was employed as on-air talent for Cross Country Communications in Jamestown and was a Producer/Host at 88.9 WCVF in Fredonia.

Reg Lenna Executive Director Hillary Meyer said, "We look forward to Anthony ushering in the next era of WRFA. His long history with the station puts him in a prime position to continue the programming that the community enjoys while working on ways to support this valuable part of the organization."

Merchant said, "I am beyond excited to start my new role at WRFA and help usher in a new era of the station while also celebrating everything WRFA has accomplished these last 20+ years. It feels surreal to think back to being an intern at WRFA in High School to now becoming the General Manager. This station has always meant a lot to me and my biggest goal is to provide a community station that our community wants to be involved in. I am really looking forward to what comes next and all the things WRFA will accomplish."



Submitted Photo

Anthony Merchant

Merchant graduated from Jamestown High School in 2011 and then received his Associates Degree in Fine Arts: Music with a certificate for Digital Audio Production from Jamestown Community College. He then went onto SUNY Fredonia where he earned a Bachelors in Radio Broadcasting with a minor in Film Studies.

Merchant enjoys hiking, has traveled to all 50 states, and plays the bass and guitar. He also co-hosts an independent podcast, *Words And Sentences About Things And Stuff* with Gavin Paterniti.

Merchant replaces interim General Manager Julia Ciesla-Hanley, who will continue as WRFA's Public Affairs Director. His start date is Monday, June 9, 2025.

ABOUT WRFA

WRFA is a listener supported, non-commercial, low power FM radio station provided as a public service by the Reg Lenna Center for the Arts. It is dedicated to providing access to the arts, cultural and educational programming and a forum for the discourse of both national and local public affairs. Funding for WRFA comes from corporate underwriting and donations from individuals and groups in the community. It broadcasts at 107.9 FM in Jamestown and also streams worldwide at WRFALP.com. For more information on WRFA or the Reg Lenna Center for the Arts, visit their websites or call (716) 664-2465.



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

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



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BILL BLAGG FAMILY MAGIC COMING TO REG LENNA CENTER FOR THE ARTS THIS SUMMER.



Article Contributed by
RegLenna Center
for the Arts



BILL BLAGG
FAMILY MAGIC

Mesmerizing performer Bill Blagg will bring his new show *Family Magic* to the stage at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts, Sat., July 12 at 4 p.m.

Family Magic is a testament to Blagg's unparalleled artistry and showmanship. Designed to engage and entertain audiences of all ages, this spellbinding performance combines audience interaction, comedy, and incredible visual magic to create an unforgettable magic experience for all ages. He not only amazes with his incredible magical feats but he also pays homage to his great grandfather and the books that changed his life. His goal is to not only entertain and amaze but is also to inspire others, just as he was inspired.

From a young age, he was drawn to the art of magic and embarked on a journey to become one of the most captivating touring magicians and illusionists of our time. Bill's life took a magical turn when he received three treasured books from his great grandfather. These

books, known as the Harlan Tarbell course in magic, would forever change the course of his life. Filled with secrets, techniques, and the wonders of magic, these books became Bill's gateway into a world of enchantment and mystery.

Tickets (\$12 for children aged 12 and under and \$22 for adults) are on sale now at the Reg Lenna Center for The Arts box office. 716.484.7070 or in-person Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week or one hour before movies and live events. Tickets are also available online at reglenna.com.

Reg Lenna Center for The Arts is located at 116 E. Third St. in Jamestown, NY.

The Reg Lenna Center for The Arts' programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

New Neighbors Coalition Receiving Unitarian Social Justice Award

New Neighbors Coalition (NNC) Manager Momina di Blasio is the speaker this Sunday, June 15 when she accepts the T. Richard Parker Award for Social Justice at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown's 10:30 a.m. service. NNC is receiving the award and a check for \$500 for its work helping immigrants who are poor to become economically established in Jamestown. All are welcome to the service and the reception that follows at 1255 Prendergast Avenue. To participate virtually, use the link at UUJamestown.org/calendar.



Submitted Photo

CCIDA Thanks Dixon for Years of Service

Continued from page 14

"While Rich's efforts in local and regional economic development are unmatched, his compassion and friendship are also equally unmatched," Geise said. "Through his leadership, mentorship, and friendship, he has created a culture of excellence within the CCIDA. Needless to say, his professional knowledge and friendly demeanor will be sorely missed at our offices."

"It's been a pleasure to work with Rich during my time on the board of directors, including as board chair these past two-and-a-half years" said Gary Henry, CCIDA Board Chair. "Rich has provided strong financial oversight and guidance for the CCIDA and has helped to position our Agency as an economic development leader in Western New York. His historical knowledge and wisdom will be missed and difficult, if not impossible, to immediately replace. That said, the entire board wishes him a long and happy retirement. It is well deserved."

"Having worked with Rich for many years while at the CCIDA, I've found him to be the ultimate professional. His passion and dedication for our business community is equally matched by the community's love for him and his easy-going personality. Congratulations to him on his well-deserved retirement," said Mike Metzger, former CCIDA Board Member and Chair, who worked with Dixon for 16 of his 19 years at the Agency.

"Even though Rich has worked primarily behind the scenes when it comes to Economic Development in Chautauqua County, his hard work and tireless efforts have resulted in major wins for the economy and, as a result, the people of Chautauqua County. I want to thank Rich for his years of service to the CCIDA and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement," said Paul "PJ" Wendel, Chautauqua County Executive.

Upon being recognized during Tuesday's meeting, Dixon shared his appreciation for being recognized by the CCIDA staff and board members.

"I was playing baseball the day after I turned 16. My father drove up in the car and I thought we were going to go get my driver's license. Well, we

went out and got my working permit at the high school, and I ended up on Blackstone Ave., working at Jamestown Metal Products. I immediately fell in love with manufacturing," Dixon said. "Everything I've done since then, and especially here at the CCIDA, is for those people who get up and work 7 to 3, 3 to 11, and 11 to 7 and make some amazing things in this County. Through this job, I've been fortunate to go see all the amazing things we build here, and the people who help build them. Thank you everybody. It's been a great run."

Prior to joining CCIDA, Rich served as Director of Finance for Chautauqua Works and the Private Industry Council of Chautauqua County. He has also served as Director of Human Resources for Chautauqua Opportunities and the Chautauqua County Department of Social Services, and as Assistant Administrator/Accounting Supervisor for Lutheran Social Services of Upstate New York.

A native of Jamestown, Dixon received his BS degree in Business Administration from the State University of New York at Fredonia, with a concentration in Financial Management. He also holds an Associates in Business Administration from Jamestown Community College and is a NYS Licensed Nursing Home Administrator.

Dixon informed the agency of his pending retirement in the spring of 2024. At that point the CCIDA began the process to find his successor. In September 2024, the CCIDA announced that Shelby Bilskie would ultimately replace Dixon and since that time, Bilskie has transitioned into the CFO position, under Dixon's guidance. In March during the CCIDA organizational meeting, Bilskie fully assumed the title of CFO. With a new CFO in place and the transition complete, Dixon will officially retire from the Agency, effective June 1, 2025. Following retirement, he plans to spend the majority of his time with his family, which includes his wife Carol, two daughters, and three grandchildren.

Chamber Corner

Continued from page 23

A Networking Opportunity for Business and Government

Join us for a new and very special networking event designed to bring together business and government. Official Introductions is Tuesday, June 17 from 5-7pm at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel in Celoron. This reception-style event will include local elected representatives from all levels of government. To date we have received positive responses from over 35 municipal and state officials. This is a tremendous opportunity for businesspeople to meet directly with their representatives. The CHQ Chamber is not creating a heavily structured agenda for this program. Instead, we want to foster direct communication between the business community and our government officials.

The price to attend is just \$35 per person. Your registration includes heavy appetizers and a cash bar, as well as support for the year-round activities of the CHQ Chamber. Registration is open now through our online calendar at www.chqchamber.org. Please RSVP by June 10.

Official Introductions is sponsored by Brooks-TLC Hospital System, County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Corporation, DFT Communications, LaBella Associates, National Grid, Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union, UPMC

Chautauqua, Jamestown Community College, The Media One Radio Group, Observer, and The Post-Journal.

Business Builder Workshop: Presentation Matters

The next CHQ Chamber Business Builder Workshop will be held Wednesday, June 25 from 1-3pm at Lake Shore Center for the Arts, 49 South Portage Street, Westfield. The topic will be Presentation Matters. Join us for a look at the importance of how you present your business image – inside and outside your building, online, and in print. We'll look at ways to positively show off your business through images, product labels, merchandising, and more. This workshop is for any businessperson or employee that may be interested in some tips to boost your visual marketing.


Our presenters will be a powerhouse trio that brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the visual experience of business sales and marketing: Beth Margolis from Liberty Vineyards on labeling products and storefront design; Blair Koss, owner of Rosie's Workshop in Westfield on storefront display and merchandising; and Carrie Swanson of Sweeterson Farms on merchandising online and for pop-up events and vendor spaces. The workshop is free to all, but registration is required. Sign up through our web calendar at www.chqchamber.org.

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Opera House Presents Two Events This Coming Weekend



Submitted Photos

Michelangelo's *La Pieta* and Charlie Heller in "The Amateur".

Contributed by Fredonia Opera House

The 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center presents two events this coming weekend. They are the Art & Architecture On Screen film, *Michelangelo: Love and Death*, on Sat., June 14, at 1 p.m., and the film "The Amateur" on Sat., June 14, and Tues., June 17, at 7:30 p.m. The Tuesday night film screening is with captions visible on the screen.

The spectacular sculptures and paintings of Michelangelo seem so familiar to us, but what do we really know about this Renaissance giant? His genius is evident in everything he touched. Beautiful and diverse works such as the towering statue of David, the moving Pietà in the Papal Basilica of St. Peter and his tour-de-force, the Sistine Chapel ceiling, still leave us breathless today.

Through expert commentary, stunning visuals and Michelangelo's own words, this cinematic production takes a fresh look at a master artist whose life and genius are celebrated in every mark he made. The production runs one hour, 30 minutes.

In "The Amateur," Charlie Heller (Rami Malek) is a brilliant, but deeply introverted decoder for the CIA whose life is turned upside down when his wife (Rachel Brosnahan) is killed in a London terrorist attack.

When his supervisors refuse to take action, he takes matters into his own hands, embarking on a dangerous trek across the globe to track down those responsible, his intelligence serving as the ultimate weapon for eluding his pursuers and achieving his revenge.

AARP Movies for Grown-Ups calls the film a "juicy, stunt-fueled CIA cat-and-mouser." The Sun (UK) calls it "a solid thriller, worth seeing for the action." Rated PG-13 for some strong violence and language, "The Amateur" runs two hours, three minutes.

Art & Architecture On Screen is part of Arts in the Afternoon at the Opera House, which is sponsored by Dr. James M. & Marcia Merrins. The Opera House Cinema Series is sponsored by Lake Shore Savings.

For more information or for tickets, visit www.fredopera.org anytime, or visit or call the Box Office at 716-679-1891, T-F, noon-4:30pm.

The 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center is a member-supported not-for-profit performing arts center with a mission to "present the performing arts for the benefit of our community and region ... providing access to artistic diversity ... and high quality programming at an affordable price." It is located in Village Hall in downtown Fredonia. For a complete schedule of events, visit www.fredopera.org.

Department of Mental Hygiene Expands Youth Services with New Satellite Site



Submitted Photo

Left to right: Brianna Jekic (New York State Office of Mental Health), Hannah Jaroszynski (Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene), Patricia D'Angelo (Southern Tier Pediatrics), and Kayleigh Sieber (Chautauqua Tapestry) celebrate the opening of a new satellite mental health site inside Southern Tier Pediatrics.

Contributed by Chautauqua County Dept. of Mental Hygiene

The Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene (CCDMH) is proud to announce the certification and official opening of a new satellite mental health office within Southern Tier Pediatrics, P.C. This milestone marks a significant advancement in the County's commitment to accessible, timely, and community-based behavioral health care for children and their caregivers.

This new site is a satellite of the Jamestown Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene, Certified Community Behavioral Health Center. The satellite is made possible by the partnership between the New York State Office of Mental Health, the Chautauqua Tapestry Grant supported through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and a collaboration with local healthcare providers. The goal: bring critical mental health services directly into pediatric primary care—where families already receive trusted care and support.

"At Southern Tier Pediatrics, we appreciate our collaboration with the Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene and are pleased to be able to bring essential mental health services directly into our pediatric office – reducing barriers to care and supporting children and families in a setting they know and trust," said Dr. Tariq Khan, pediatrician at Southern Tier Pediatrics.

The launch of this site is on the heels of Mental Health Awareness Month and Youth Mental Health Acceptance Week, both dedicated to promoting acceptance and reducing the stigma around mental health challenges among young people. By embedding mental health services into a pediatric office, the County and its partners are helping normalize behavioral health support as an essential part of overall wellness.

"For those of you behind the scenes, you don't get to see what this is doing for the children and families in the community," Patricia D'Angelo, Southern Tier Pediatrics Practice Administrator shared. "We have the privilege of seeing the positive impact of providing mental health services in a primary care pediatric setting. This collaboration with CCDMH allows us the opportunity to show our families that we value mental health just as much as physical health. Collectively, we are removing the stigma of receiving treatment for mental health by placing it side by side with physical health."

This effort represents more than an expansion of services—it is a testament to what's possible when public agencies, medical professionals, and community leaders come together with a shared vision: to meet children and families where they are, with the care they need, when they need it most.

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Submitted Photo

Nature Photo Contest Deadline June 30 Saturday is Little Explorers

Bring your 3 to 8-year-old(s) to Audubon Community Nature Center's Little Explorers this Saturday, June 14, 10-11:30 a.m., to learn about reptiles. You can visit the live animals like Lincoln the box turtle, have a hands-on exploration of shells, scales, and skulls, and look for wild reptiles outdoors. Call (716) 569-2345 or go online to AudubonCNC.org/events by Thursday to make reservations.

With \$1,600 in prize money, Monday, June 30 is the deadline to submit your photos—or vote for your favorites—in Audubon's 2025 Nature Photography Contest. Pictured is 2024 Adult Scapes Winner "Waterfall Below Lena Lake" by Robert Nowak of Bothell, Wash. Visit AudubonCNC.org/Photo-Contest for all the details. The Nature Center is at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown and Warren.

From Youth to 80: A Lifetime of Impact at the Jamestown YMCA

Continued from page 11

demonstrate his appreciation.

"I just wanted to thank the people here who've made it feel like a second home," Jon said. "The staff, the members — they've been part of my life for a long time."

According to John Barber, Interim CEO of the Jamestown Area YMCA, Jon's story perfectly illustrates the Y's mission — one made possible through the association's annual Partner With Youth campaign, which raises funds to ensure that individuals and families of all ages and income levels have access to YMCA programs and support.

"Stories like Jon's remind us that the YMCA is here for everyone — not just kids, but older adults who are working to stay healthy and connected," said Barber. "Partner With Youth helps us celebrate and sustain those stories. It ensures we can serve people at every stage of life and truly live out our mission in the community."

Even as he reflects on the difficulty of outliving many of his peers, Jon says it's places like the Y that give him purpose.

"You stay active, you stay connected," he said. "That's what the Y does — it keeps you living."

Celebrate Father's Day in unique ways

Contributed by
Metro Creative

Father's Day is a celebration of dads near and far. Falling on the third Sunday of June each year, Father's Day presents an opportunity for families to come together and put the spotlight on fathers who work tirelessly for their children and provide them with love and support. Father's Day also is a chance to honor the men who serve as father figures or play special roles in people's lives.

It's easy for families to fall into a routine when it comes to celebrating Father's Day. Certainly dinner and gift-giving is traditional, but there are additional ways to provide Dad with the day he deserves. Explore these creative options.

Set up a scavenger hunt

Drag out the suspense of Dad getting his Father's Day gift by hiding it and requiring him to go through a series of clues to find it. When writing up the clue cards, spouses and children can reference particularly happy moments or things around the house that are representative of Dad's love. For example, a clue may read, "Here's where we like to snuggle together to watch our favorite show."

Take it outdoors

June weather tends to be pleasant, and that means Father's Day celebrations can be held outside. Everyone can select a spot that Dad loves to visit, whether it's a hiking trail or a local park, and then plan activities around the chosen location.

Go on an adventure

Father's Day can be spent engaging in something the family has never tried before that may be exciting for Dad. Maybe he's always wanted to go off-roading on quads or try his skills at hatchet-throwing? The family can get together and choose an activity Dad will find engaging and that everyone can enjoy.

Make it a beach day

Dad might just want a break from the hectic pace of life on Father's Day. This is the perfect opportunity to head oceanside. For those who don't live by the coast, a river or lakefront spot can be an ideal alternative. Frequently these are touristy areas, so it could be relatively easy to find an eatery where everyone can make a reservation for lunch or dinner after enjoying a relaxing day with waves lapping the shore.

These are just a few clever ways to celebrate Father's Day. Families can choose activities that honor fathers and ensure he is feeling all the love.

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CELEBRATING CHAMPIONS



Submitted Photo

Lady Bears Make History: Frewsburg Girls Basketball Team Honored at State Capitol for Championship Victory

Contributed by
Assemblyman Andrew Molitor (R,C-Westfield)

The Frewsburg Central School community celebrated a proud moment in its athletic history, as Sen. George Borrello (R,C-57) and Assemblyman Andrew Molitor (R,C-Westfield) honored the Frewsburg Girls Basketball Team with a joint resolution celebrating the team’s remarkable victory in the 2025 New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) Class C State Championship. The legislators visited the school on Monday, June 2 to personally congratulate the team and present each player with a copy of the resolution.

The legislation, passed unanimously in both the state Senate and Assembly, recognizes the Lady Bears’ exceptional season, which culminated in a hard-fought and historic win that brought home the first state basketball title in school history.

“This team represents everything that’s great about high school sports — teamwork, determination, and heart,” said Sen. Borrello. “They worked tirelessly, overcame challenges, and brought home a championship that the entire region is proud of. This resolution is a small way for the state of New York to say: well done, and thank you.”

Molitor, who also represents Chautauqua County, praised the players, coaches, and supporters for their unwavering dedication throughout the season.

“The Frewsburg Girls Basketball Team showed us all what can happen when talent meets hard work and a supportive community,” said Molitor. “These student-athletes are not only champions on the scoreboard — they are role models, leaders, and a source of inspiration for young people across the state.”

The resolution outlines the team’s stellar season record, playoff run, and the championship game that saw the Lady Bears showcase their skill, resilience, and team unity. It also acknowledges the leadership of Head Coach Sierra Beaver and the support of school administrators, parents and community members who stood behind the team every step of the way.

“This is more than a win — it’s a legacy,” Borrello added. “The Lady Bears have etched their names into Frewsburg history, and we are honored to help celebrate that achievement.”

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



Submitted Photos

Senator Borrello and Assemblyman Molitor Honor CSP Wolfpack’s Historic Victory

Contributed by
New York Senate

Senator George Borrello and Assemblyman Andrew Molitor presented the Clymer, Sherman, Panama “Wolfpack” football team with a joint legislative resolution commending their historic victory clinching the NYSPHSAA State Championship title on December 6, 2024. The Senator and Assemblyman were honored and proud to congratulate the incredible athletes, coaches, and supporters of the CSP Wolfpack on their win, which was CSP’s third state title in the past seven years.

It was particularly meaningful for Senator Borrello, whose nephews, Joel and Noah Skarzenski, are part of the team.

The legislators praised the team for their, “hard work, determination, and team spirit, which have inspired our entire community. You’ve shown what can be achieved through perseverance and unity — and we couldn’t be prouder to celebrate this amazing accomplishment with you.”

Way to go, Wolfpack — you’ve made Western New York proud!

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PUZZLES ON PAGE 15



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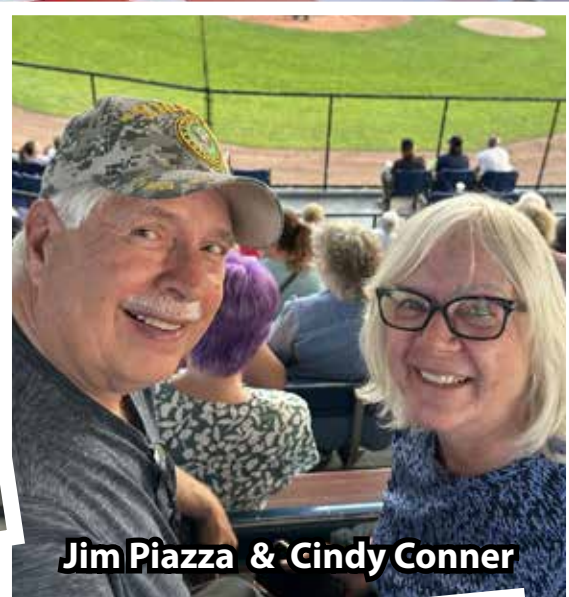
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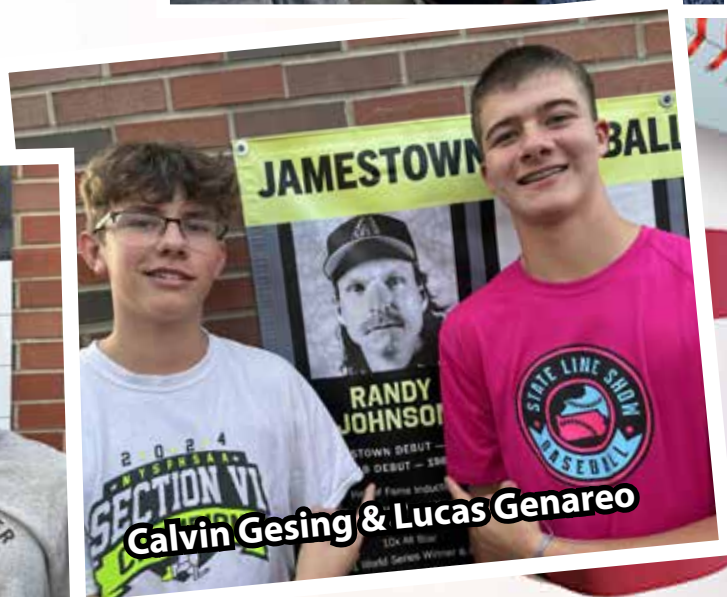
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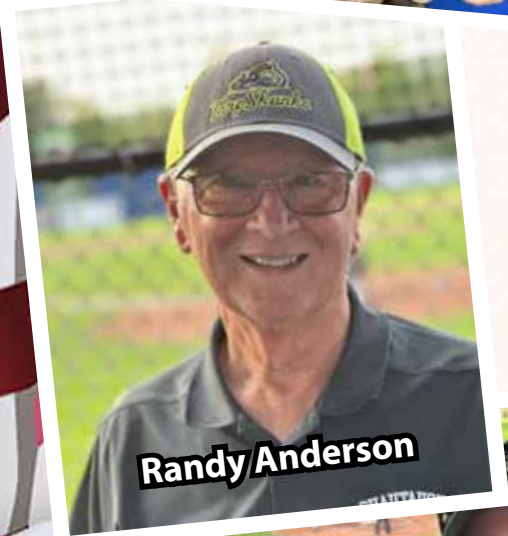
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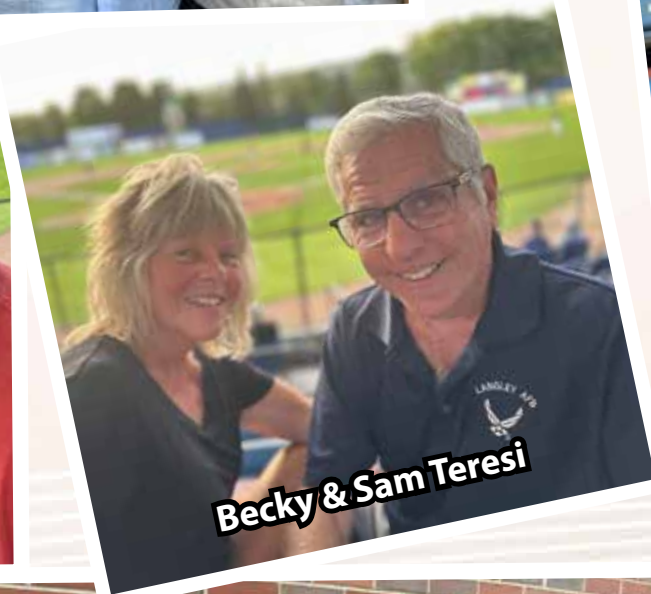
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June 26th
July 10th
July 24th
August 7th
August 21st
September 4th

7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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June 2nd - Justin Wheeler
June 9th - Mike Chapman
June 16th - Oliver Burdo
June 23rd - Ryan Melquist
June 30th - Gavin Paterniti

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM



**LUCY FEST
WEEKEND SPECIALS**
Thursday, August 7th - Ryan Melquist
Friday, August 8th - Kyle Jordan
Saturday, August 9th - SON



4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

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