



CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE



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Community Showcase Series: Gerry-Ellington

Volume 2 • Issue 28 | Week of July 28, 2025

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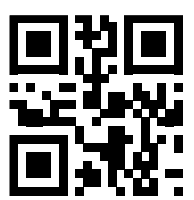
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COMMUNITY SHOWCASE: GERRY AND ELLINGTON Ride into August with Tradition, Grit and a Touch of the Unexpected

Contributing Editor

Katrina Fuller

Tucked along the winding roads of eastern Chautauqua County, the neighboring towns of Gerry and Ellington may be quiet on the map, but in spirit and story, they're anything but. Steeped in tradition and surrounded by woods, fields and community pride, these two rural towns come alive in the final stretch of

summer by offering everything from classic rodeos to heartfelt hometown gatherings and more.

In Gerry, the town's biggest event, and perhaps the region's most famous, is the Gerry Rodeo, celebrating its 80th year this August. Held July 31 through August 3 at the Gerry Volunteer Fire Department grounds, the rodeo draws hundreds of spectators and cowboys and cowgirls from across the country,

competing for more than \$40,000 in prize money. The event blends high-octane competition with warm community hospitality, serving as both a beloved tradition and a vital fundraiser for the volunteer fire department. For more on the rodeo and other events, visit: <https://www.gerryrodeo.com/>.

Local businesses are also a highlight in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

OUR PROUD HISTORY

Featured Writer

Paul Cooley

Back in 1945, many thought that the idea of a rodeo in Gerry wouldn't succeed for even one year, but they were certainly wrong. For this Wednesday, July 30, the historic Town of Gerry will celebrate the opening night of its 80th annual professional rodeo, the longest running PRCA rodeo east of the Mississippi! For four days, this quiet little town becomes "The Rodeo Capital of the East" as approximately 225 professional cowboys and cowgirls from more than 30 states roll in and pay their entry fees to compete for more than \$50,000 in prize money in four performances.

The event, sponsored by the Gerry Volunteer Fire Department, got its start when a former working cowboy named Jack Cox moved from the West to Gerry and suggested a rodeo as a way of raising money for the newly



formed fire department. In spite of the doubters, his dream became a reality. Members of the department and other volunteers turned four acres of swampland into an arena and parking lot within 70 days, just in time for the arrival of the renowned Colonel Jim Eskew and the livestock that first year. Bleachers were borrowed from

area schools and portable lights were rented.

In those early days, the stock arrived by train in the middle of the hamlet, traffic was stopped, and the animals were herded down the middle of Route 60 to the rodeo grounds by

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This Week
Around Town

SATURDAY, JULY 26 -
SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

Cattaraugus County Fair
Cattaraugus County Fairgrounds
Little Valley
For Info: cattarauguscofair.com

MONDAY, JULY 28 -
THURSDAY, JULY 31

**Say Yes! Kids' Improv
Workshop | 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM**
National Comedy Center
Jamestown
For Info: comedycenter.org/sayyes

TUESDAY, JULY 29

**Movies at The Reg:
Materialists | 7:30 PM**
Reg Lenna Center for the Arts
Jamestown
For Info: reglenna.com

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

**Music at the Point Sunset
Series: Footstep | 6 PM - 8 PM**
Point Gratiot Park | Dunkirk
For Info: cityofdunkirk.com/
residents/festivals_events

**Movies at The Reg: Jane
Austen Wrecked My Life | 7 PM**
Reg Lenna Center for the Arts
Jamestown
For Info: reglenna.com

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30 -
SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

Gerry Rodeo | 8 PM
Gerry Rodeo VFD Grounds
Dunkirk
For Info: gerryrodeo.com

THURSDAY, JULY 31 -
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

Great Rhythm Revival
The Heron Farm and Event Center
Sherman
For Info: jimdonovanretreats.com

THURSDAY, JULY 31

Cardio Drumming | 9 AM
Dunkirk Senior Center | Dunkirk
For Info: 716-467-5306

**Music on the Pier: Mayflower
Hill/Tequila Sunrise Eagles
Tribute | 6 PM**
Dunkirk City Pier | Dunkirk
For Info: cityofdunkirk.com/
residents/festivals_events

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

**Bee Board Display Opening
5 PM - 7 PM**
Audubon Community Nature
Center | Jamestown
For Info: auduboncnc.org

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1 -
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

Sherman Day
Village of Sherman
For Info: facebook.com/
ShermanNYDays

Ellington Town Picnic
Town Center of Ellington
For Info: facebook.com/
ellingtontownpicnic

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

Sherman Day 5K Run/Walk
Village of Sherman
For Info: facebook.com/
ShermanNYDays

Cat Video Fest 2025 | 7:30 PM
1981 Fredonia Opera House
Performing Arts Center | Fredonia
For Info: fredopera.org

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

**Bemus Point Summer Fest
4 PM - 8 PM Sat, 11 AM - 6 PM Sun**
Bemus Point
For Info: visitbemuspoint@gmail.
com

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

First Sunday Story Time
Audubon Community Nature
Center | Jamestown
For Info: auduboncnc.org

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TOWN OFFICIALS

The Clerk holds office hours from 9am - 3pm Monday,
Wednesday, and Friday, from 1pm - 7pm Tuesday and
Thursday, and is closed on all legal holidays.

Clerk/Tax Collector: Katie Conti
716-287-2026
Supervisor/Cemetery Coordinator: Karen Bifaro
716-287-2026 EXT 2 • supervisor@ellingtonny.org
Assessor: Roxanne Aucoin
716-664-0749 • aucoinrox@gmail.com
Town Council Member: Kevin Colburn
716-287-2743
Town Council Member: Barbara Beightol
716-287-3907
Town Council Member: Bradley Griffith
716-287-3748
Town Council Member: David Brainard
814-434-3128
Highway Superintendent: William Green
ellihighway@ellingtonny.org
Code Enforcement Officer: Melanie Eddy
rosko3737@gmail.com
Justice: Jeffry Crossly
716-287-2026 EXT 4
Dog Control Officer: Jennifer Eaker
716-397-7017


PROUDLY SERVING
GERRY


TOWN OFFICIALS

Town Board Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of
every month at 7:00 PM at the Gerry Town Hall.
The Clerk holds office hours from 8am - 4pm Monday and
Wednesday, 12pm - 6pm Thursday, and 12pm - 4pm Friday.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Registrar: Jodie Fehlman
townofgerryclerk@yahoo.com • 716-985-4715
Deputy Town Clerk: Jean Myles
Assessor: Kevin Okerlund
kpo@fairpoint.net • 716-962-9455
Town Supervisor: Richard C. Heath
richardheath@gerryyny.us
Deputy Supervisor: Jamie Ansell
Town Council Member: Gary J. Swan
Town Council Member: Todd Wissman
Town Council Member: Kasey Fanara
Historian: Peggy Heath
Town Attorney: Andrew Robinson Jr.
Town Justice: Kevin Sirwatka
Court Clerk: Wanda Crossley
Building & Zoning Officer: Jeffery Swanson
716-450-7453
Dog Control Officer: Jeff Johnson Jr.
716-720-2882
Highway Superintendent: Brian T. Anderson
highwaydept@gerryyny.us

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Editorial with Lori Cornell

Showcasing Gerry & Ellington



Owner & Publisher
Lori Cornell

Happy anniversaries to two great summer traditions! The Gerry Rodeo celebrates its 80th year and the Ellington Town Picnic opens for its 112th time! Both this weekend. The Gerry Rodeo holds the distinction of being the longest continuously running rodeo east of the Mississippi,

while the Ellington Town Picnic is the longest running in the United States!

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, yes, DO check them out. Together, these neighboring communities host two of Chautauqua County's most unique and historic events that epitomize all the small town, rural charm we have to offer. And don't forget Sherman Day, also this weekend, which we proudly showcased last week in all its glory.

Please check out our special features from each of these hardworking organizing teams inside here and plan your entre into August (already!!). Saddle up and Enjoy the Picnic!

CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE

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SUBMISSION DEADLINES
Thursdays at 5:00 pm

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Every Child Has a Story Let's Give That Story A Good Ending

Meet Manuel: By the time Manuel was 9 years old, he had gone through 4 different foster homes, each with the best intentions for him...to provide a safe place where he could build confidence and feel secure while his forever home was found. Each foster home Manuel was placed in was not adequately equipped to care for a child with severe ADHD and who suffered from night terrors.

Know CASA: Manuel's CASA volunteer worked with social services to find a family that had experience with children who suffered from the same conditions. Today, Manuel is thriving in a new home with foster parents experienced in his special needs.

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JOB DESCRIPTION:

The Library Director is responsible for all operations and activities. They will oversee and evaluate educational and cultural programs, collection development, supervision of staff and volunteers, and the care of the library's grounds and facilities. They will recommend policies and goals to the Board of Trustees. They must be a positive and flexible individual who enjoys working with people of all ages and backgrounds, have outstanding communication, interpersonal and leadership skills.

REQUIREMENTS:

Must have an associate's degree or higher in a related field and 3+ years of experience in an administrative/supervisory position. Strong knowledge of library technology, digital resources, budgeting, and community engagement strategies.

POSITION DETAILS:

32 hours per week. Salary starts at \$28,288 and is based on education and experience. Two weeks of annual vacation and up to 40 hours of annual sick time.

TO APPLY:

Email cover letter, resume, and 3 professional references to director@myerslibrary.org
or Mail to: Myers Memorial Library | 6 Falconer Street, Frewsburg, NY

Applications will be accepted until August 31st. The Library Board of Trustees will then start the review process and contact qualified candidates for an interview.

Trivia

1. Name of Gerry's soon-to-open, beautifully renovated and refurbished, Rodeo-themed new watering hole?
2. Among Chautauqua County's most trusted go-to home builders, headquarters in the Town of Gerry.
3. In what year was the town of Gerry formed?
a) 1812 b) 1868 c) 1925.
4. What three present day towns were once part of Gerry?
5. The town of Gerry was named after which man who became US Vice President in 1812?
6. In what year was the first Gerry Rodeo held?
a) 1945 b) 1975 c) 1995
7. What was the original name of The Ellington Grandview building?
8. Who designed the first bandstand located in the Ellington Town Park?
9. The Town of Ellington was formed when it separated from the Town of Gerry in what year?
a) 1824 b) 1845 c) 1900
10. In what month does the Town of Ellington host their annual town picnic?

1. Crooked Stick 2. Hell & Andrew's Construction 3. A
4. Ellington, Cherry Creek, and Charlotte 5. Elbridge Gerry 6. A 7. The Mountain
Depot 8. E. Henri Kelli 9. 1824 10. August



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July 17

Nancy J. Newhall, 93
Portland
Lind Funeral Home

Luis D. Lugo, 51
Riccardi's Funeral Home

Verna Tedesco, 84
Rochester
Lind Funeral Home

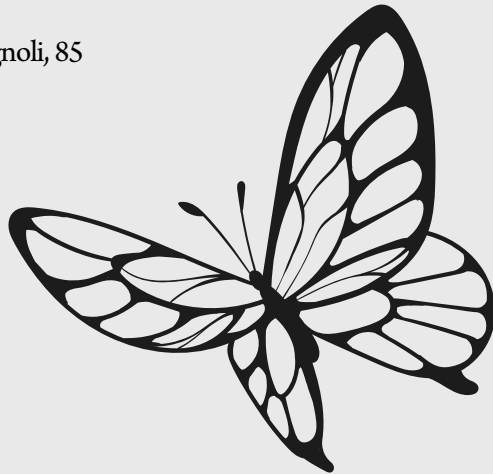
July 18

Gay E. (Johnson) Cordosi
Davidson, 79
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

July 19

Billie Jean Huberyt, 73
Ashville
Riccardi's Funeral Home

Constance M. "Connie" Mignoli, 85
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home



James Buttafarro, 74
Jamestown
Riccardi's Funeral Home

Russell E. Thielges, 54
Jamestown
Riccardi's Funeral Home

July 20

John J. Greenland Jr., 71
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

July 21

Jeanette M. Armstrong, 80
Falconer
Falconer Funeral Home

July 23

Kenton L. Johnson, 72
Falconer
Falconer Funeral Home

Faith Matters

Being a Good Neighbor in Ellington



Featured Writer

Jennifer Delahoy

Chaplain, Ellington Fire Dept.

In the Gospel of Luke there is a discussion between Jesus and a legal expert. The legal expert asks Jesus, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus knew that this man was a student of the Law so he asked him: "What is written?"

The lawyer responded, "You shall love the Lord your God with all of your heart and soul and mind and strength, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Jesus replied: "You are correct. Do this and you shall live." But the legal expert persisted with his questions, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus answered with a story. A man was making the trip from Jerusalem to Jericho when he was attacked by robbers. The criminals not only robbed the man, they stripped him of his clothes, beat him half to death and left him on the road.

The first two people to pass by were a priest from the local temple and a Levite, who had responsibilities in the synagogue. In the back of both of their minds was the thought that according to temple law whoever touched a dead man was considered unclean for seven days. If either man would have touched him, neither would be able to fulfill their religious obligations for a week. So, both men in turn passed by on the other side.

But a Samaritan, as he traveled along, saw the man, had compassion for him, administered first aid, used his

own donkey as an "ambulance" and took him to an inn where he took care of him. If that was not enough, the Samaritan paid the innkeeper two days wages and promised to reimburse him for any other expenses when he returned.

Jesus concludes his story with, "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

The story of the Good Samaritan looks at how people respond when trouble hits. Some people want to look away and deny that something bad has happened. Others recognize that something bad has happened, but they don't want to get involved or get too close to those involved.

However, I can't help but think about the women and men in my community who do not hesitate to lend a hand when needed. The Ellington Volunteer Fire Department is made up of people who give of their time and ability unselfishly to others as they serve their town and county, they are the good Samaritans of our time.

Good Samaritans are very much needed in our towns and in our world, people who are willing to perform acts of kindness at great sacrifice to themselves, ready each day of their life to respond to someone in need.

The task of dealing with pain and suffering in the world can seem so overwhelming that we might not know where to begin to make a dent in the needs of others. Such thinking can be an excuse for inaction. Being a neighbor does not require meeting every need on your own, it's about building a supportive and caring community.

When Jesus was done telling the story he asked the lawyer, "Which one of these three was a neighbor to the man who encountered thieves?" Then the legal expert said, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Jennifer Delahoy

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HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY,



**ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT!**

Faith Matters

Gerry: Great Town, Greater God.



Featured Writer

Melody Overend

Congregational Care Coordinator
Gerry Methodist Church

Located right in the center of Gerry, NY, we gather as brothers and sisters in Christ at Gerry Methodist Church. In this great town that we know and love, we gather for prayer, worship, study, fellowship, and mission.

We believe in the power and importance of prayer as Jesus taught us. Luke 5:16 tells us *'But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.'* We strive to follow Jesus' teaching by example and spend quality and intentional time to pray.

We start everything off with prayer, including our Sunday mornings where we gather at the front doors to pray together before the service even begins. During this time of prayer, we pray for our own hearts, our church, and our community. That includes you.

With the upcoming infamous Gerry Rodeo, we know that many people will be traveling to our little town to gather with friends and family for a night of entertainment. We know that others will be performing in physically demanding competition, and we want them all covered in prayer. For the full month of July, our mission team

has been praying for the volunteers, visitors, animals, and participants of the 2025 Gerry Rodeo.

We read in Luke that the disciples also want to learn how to pray, and Jesus teaches them what we know as the Lord's Prayer. Jesus goes on to tell the disciples ... Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. {Luke 11:9}

We seek God's overwhelming presence among our community year-round and especially when we have so many visitors gathering here. We don't do this for recognition or our own good but for God's glory and for others to experience God in a deep and intimate relationship.

As God's children we lift up our great town to our greater God for His glory, our good, and other's gain. We take these prayers that are offered up to the Lord, and also ask that He fill us with His Spirit as He filled Jesus. That we might go out on mission to serve one another and to share God's love.

The mission field is ripe. The mission field is coming to us! We will have thousands of people right here in our home town, and the time is now. We have the opportunity and obligation as Christians to show Jesus' love to strangers and friends alike, and it starts with prayer. Praying for one another, showing God's love in grace and truth, and serving one another with humble hearts.

If you already know Christ as your Lord and Savior, we ask you to join us in prayer and service. If you are wondering who this great God we serve is, we pray for you, and we welcome you.



Friday, August 1st

Alumni Dinner at Stanley Hose Fire Department

Social Hour 5:00 pm Dinner 6:30 pm

Corn Hole Tournament at Edmunds Park 6:00 pm

Bonfire at Edmunds Park 7:00 pm

Vendors at Edmunds Park till Dark

Live Music at Cooler

7:00pm - "Shadyside"

Saturday, August 2nd

SCS Basketball 5K Run/Walk 8:30 am

Vendors Open at 9:00 am

"Free Little Library" Ribbon cutting 10:15 am

Ticket Raffle at Firehall 10:00 am - 3:00 pm (closed during parade)

Parade 11:00 am

Wild Eagle Chicken BBQ at Firehall 12:00 pm till Gone

Community Church Chicken BBQ at Church 12:00 pm till gone

Games & Prizes with Local Merchants

Candyland Games on Miller Street

Bounce Houses, Ax throwing, Dunk Booth & Games at

Edmunds Park 12:00 - 4:00 pm

Volleyball Tournament 1:00 pm

Duck Race at Edmunds Park 2:00 pm

Cow Chip Bingo 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Horse & Wagon Rides at Yorker Museum

Petting Zoo & Longhorns at Yorker Museum 12:00 - 4:00 pm

Live Music at Cooler 12:00 - 11:00 pm

12:00 pm - "Fractures"

3:30 pm - "Brian Chase"

8:00 pm - "Juvenile Characteristics"

Sunday, August 3rd

Car Cruise-In at Edmunds Park 12:00 - 4:00 pm

Vendors 12:00 - 4:00 pm

Live Music at Cooler

1:00 - 4:00 pm - "Michael Aarons"



Lake Cottage Household Sale

3479 Old Fluvanna Rd. Jamestown (Fluvanna)

Wed July 30, 3-7:30 / Thurs July 31, 9-6 / Fri, Aug 1, 9-5

For details see www.estatesales.net/NY/Jamestown/14701/4585503

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Prices not given ahead of sale



ELLINGTON TOWN PICNIC

AUGUST 1-3, 2025

112TH ANNUAL ELLINGTON TOWN PICNIC

Contributed by
Town of Ellington

This year marks the 112th Ellington Town Picnic, making it the longest-running town picnic in America. Though the event was briefly paused during the World Wars and the COVID-19 pandemic, it has remained a community tradition for over a century. This year, the Ellington Town Picnic takes place annually on the first Saturday in August, with festivities also extending to the Friday evening before and the Sunday following. This year's celebration is particularly special, as it also honors the 100th anniversaries of both the Ellington Freeman Library and the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department.

The very first Ellington Picnic was held in August of 1905 and was originally called "The Town Picnic and Reunion of Students of Ellington Academy." Eventually, the student reunion portion was separated into its own organization, now known as the "Ellington School Mates Reunion." The event became solely a town picnic, where families would gather in the park, bringing their own food and enjoying it together in true picnic fashion, seated on the grass and surrounded by neighbors.

At the time, Ellington was still in the horse-and-buggy era, and without electricity, the picnic was a daytime-only affair. That changed in 1914 when

electricity was introduced to the community. Soon, electric lights were added to the park, allowing the Picnic Association to expand the event to include a talent show on the Friday night before the main day. Top performers from that show were, and still are, featured during the Saturday festivities. Over the years, floats and parades were occasionally added, and a guest speaker was once a tradition.

Today, the Ellington Town Picnic features an array of family-friendly entertainment, including sports, contests, a variety show, baseball games, and water battles. One of the highlights of the picnic was the baby show, with more than fifty babies entered in 1970 alone. A panel of three women judges the babies in various categories, and winners receive fun and festive prizes. Throughout the grounds, local organizations run a variety of concession stands, adding to the festive atmosphere. The day concludes with a community dance held at the I.O.O.F. Hall.

The picnic is organized by the Ellington Town Picnic Association, a nonprofit group dedicated to keeping this tradition alive. If they earn just enough each year to cover expenses and set aside a bit for a rainy day (which, from time to time, does happen), they consider it a success. Their longtime slogan says it all: "A Full Day of Fun and Entertainment – Come and see old friends and make new ones."



Submitted Photos



1910 Parade



1910 Picnic



1968 Baby Show



1908 Town Picnic



1910 Horses

112th ELLINGTON TOWN PICNIC

AUGUST 1-3, 2025

Friday Evening, August 1st

- 5:00 Vendors Open**
- 5:00 Music by "Paper Tiger" (Mixed Music)**
- 6:00 Fire Truck Pull** hosted by Ellington Volunteer Fire Department On Mill Street in front of the Post Office. Registration closes at 5:45.
- 7:00 Music by "Happy Days Band" (50's Music)** Prize for Best 50's Costume!

Saturday, August 2nd

- 9:30 Registration for Baby Show** (Babies newborn to 18 months)
- 10:00 Baby Show at the Fire Hall** (Babies newborn to 18 months)
- 10:30 Pet Show** (Pets should be on a leash or in a carrier)
- 11:00 Wood Cutting Contest**
- 11:30 Chicken BBQ** by Ellington Volunteer Fire Department
- 12:00 Children's Games** - Meet at the Band Stand
- 12:30 Music by "North Shore" with Pat Cook** (Country Music)
- 1:00 Amusements by "Bounce About Inflatables" Open**
- 1:00 Registration for Decorated Cupcake Contest at the Fire Hall**
- 1:30 Family Bingo at the Fire Hall** Donated Prizes
- 2:00 Winners of Cupcake Decorated Contest Announced in the Park**
- LIVE Auction for Cupcakes in the Park** (Proceeds benefit Town Picnic)
- 2:30 Music by "Karl and Mark's Revolution" (Mixed Music)**
- 3:30 Presentation by Ellington Farman Library and Ellington Fire Department**
- 4:00 Petting Zoo in the Park**
- 4:30 Smorgasbord Dinner at the Fire Hall** by Town Picnic Association
- 5:00 Parade Line-up at Town Ball Field**
- 6:00 Parade down Main Street**
- 7:00 Music by "Bottoms Up" with Brian Hicks (Mixed Music)**
- 10:00 Fireworks Display**

Sunday, August 3rd

- 10:00 Church Service in the Park** Picnic to follow, EVERYONE WELCOME!

Rainbow the Clown
Fireworks by Gibson Fireworks

Bounce About Inflatables
Sundance Kids Petting Zoo

The Grandview - of - Ellington

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GROWING UP IN IDYLIC ELLINGTON

Contributed by

Loren Kent

Lifelong town resident
& community leader

Ellington was an idyllic place during the “ancient” 1970s. It was a rural, agricultural, community-centered town, and it remains so to this day.

In days gone by, students at Ellington Elementary School, like many others in communities across our county, took part in a number of school programs, singing and acting in skits for the parents and community members who cared to attend. The school was the center of identity for many Ellington residents from the 1950s to the 1980s.

There were many busy school days spent practicing for the school’s annual Sixth Grade Graduation Ceremony. Rehearsals took place until Alice Hoffman, the music teacher, was satisfied. Ms. Hoffman was a great, round woman many locals may recall fondly from their childhoods. She was a tremendous talent when seated at her piano. Year after year, the graduation ceremonies were a testament to her dedication and musical skills.

Ellington’s school was also a testament to its namesake, Rudolph Donn. Mr. Donn served as the school’s sixth-grade teacher and principal for many years, but he was much more than that. Rudy Donn was a giant of a man. He was an ardent champion of children in our community and has been deeply missed since his passing.

However, Ellington was more than a community-centered place during the 1970s, '80s, and '90s. It was a great place for a kid to call home. During our summer vacations, my friends and I would often walk along the railroad tracks between Conewango Valley and Cherry Creek. It was an excursion

that usually took all day and provided much adventure for young imaginations. A typical afternoon spent walking along the tracks often involved imaginary battles between railroad engineers and bandits attempting to rob the train.

Occasionally, the tracks would cross a roadway, but mostly they stretched across vast rural farmland, creeks, and streams. There were no houses in sight along much of the trek. No cars or trucks were present to disrupt our selfish play. This is what folks are referring to when they say “back in the day.” Life was good, and we had everything we needed—the summer sun overhead and our sneakers on our feet.

The highlight of Ellington’s community-centric social calendar was, and continues to be, the Annual Ellington Town Picnic. As I look back, I recall many festive town picnics. There were square dances on warm summer nights, called by local legend Glen Wakefield. Local church groups would host food stands, a sweet corn booth, and even a pie booth. The Fire Department was on hand for many years, hosting events like water-cannon barrel competitions, which were always fun to watch!

Recent additions to the Town Picnic roster include Saturday evening fireworks and multi-denominational Sunday church services in the town square. This year, the Ellington Town Picnic will be held once again, August 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in Ellington’s historic Town Square, and we welcome everyone to come and take part.

Gazette readers might recognize me, as I have traveled all over the world and written many travel articles for local publications. I hold close to the adage that there’s no place like home, and I find it to be remarkably true about Ellington—the only place I have ever called home.



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GERRY RODEO

JULY 30 - AUGUST 2



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Our Proud History

Continued from Front Page



In the early days of the Gerry Rodeo the stock arrived by train, and with the help of town residents, the animals were herded down Route 60 to the rodeo grounds. Now the stock arrives by modern semis as the Gerry Fire department bring professional rodeo to Western New York for the 80th consecutive year, July 30 – August 2.

volunteers, making for some exciting moments. Today, the stock arrives by modern semi-trucks, but the excitement of rodeo time still fills the air. Several hundred volunteers of all ages pitch in to make the event possible each year, filling jobs from painting fences to serving the famous beef barbecue dinners.



Colonel Jim Eskew & Jack Cox
circa 1945-1949

The Gerry Fire Department felt from the beginning that their rodeo should be "top-notch", so they have always contracted for a rodeo sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys' Association (PRCA). The contractor for this year's event will again be Painted Pony Championship Rodeo of Lake Luzerne, New York, owned by the husband-and-wife team of Shawn and Shana Graham. They have been producing rodeos for more than ten years at their home location in Lake Luzerne as well as sponsoring rodeos across the Northeast.

Over the years, constant improvements have been made to the rodeo facilities, such as lighting, displays and fencing. The old dining hall has been enlarged, refurbished and air-conditioning has been added to accommodate the hundreds who come each year just to enjoy the world-famous beef barbecue dinners.

Today, the rodeo consists of the same competitive events it did 80 years ago: bareback bronc riding, tie-down roping, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, steer wrestling, team roping, and cowgirls' barrel racing, with a new eighth event, cowgirls breakaway

roping, being added for the fourth year. This year, there will be a return of a free kids' rodeo at 4:00 pm on Saturday, August 2, where kids from ages 3-8 can compete in the arena in rodeo-related games supervised by professional rodeo cowboys and cowgirls.

This year's rodeo runs for four nightly performances at 8:00 pm, Wednesday, July 30 – Saturday, August 2, in the arena located five miles north of Jamestown on Route 60. Barbecue dinners are served each evening at 5:00 pm. Additional information is available by phone at (716) 985-4847 or 1-888-985-4847 or online at www.gerryrodeo.org. The website for information about Painted Pony Championship Rodeo is www.paintedponyrodeo.com.

Paul K. Cooley is a retired teacher of English and Journalism at Cassadaga Valley Central School and a life member of the Gerry Volunteer Fire Department. This will be his 62nd year of working at the Gerry Rodeo, where he serves as the Rodeo's Media Coordinator and runs one of the concession stands for the Fire Department.

GERRY RODEO

JULY 30 - AUGUST 2

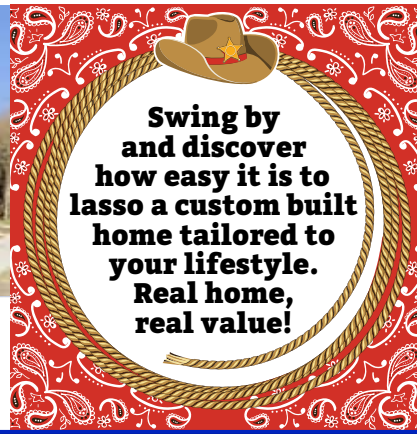


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HISTORIC GERRY

Featured Writer

Peggy Heath

Town of Gerry Historian

The first settlers arrived in the area now known as Gerry around 1810, including surveyor Amos Atkins and his brother-in-law, Stephen Jones, who built the first log cabin in what would become the town. On June 1, 1812, Gerry was formally established from a portion of Pomfret, and at the first town meeting, Major Samuel Sinclair, namesake of nearby Sinclairville, was elected as the town's first supervisor.

Influenced by the many early settlers from Vermont, the town and its post office were initially called "Vermont." This name remained in use until approximately 1876, when it was officially changed to "Gerry" in honor of Elbridge Gerry, the fifth Vice President of the United States.

Religious life in Gerry began around 1818-1819, with services led by Elder Jonathan Wilson. These early gatherings laid the foundation for Methodist and Baptist congregations, eventually leading to the establishment of the broad-based Gerry Free Church in 1867.

In June 1871, the Dunkirk, Allegheny Valley & Pittsburgh Railroad brought the first passenger train to Gerry, which marked a significant milestone in the town's development.

That same decade, in 1876, the Gerry Grange #412 was organized. The Grange building, constructed in 1916, still stands today and serves as the current Gerry Town Hall.

On January 1, 1893, the first

Strong Veneer Mill was built near the railroad tracks. It was soon recognized as a leading producer of veneer in the United States. After a fire in August of that same year, the mill was quickly rebuilt. It remained in operation until February 1918, when it was destroyed by fire once again. Local accounts suggest that a German spy, spotted around the mill after employees had left for the day, may have set the blaze. At the time, the plant was producing dashboards for Curtiss Aeroplanes as part of the war effort. The mill was never rebuilt.

In 1884, Walter Sellew established the Gerry Seminary. Four years later, in 1888, he donated property for the construction of a children's home. By 1899, a new facility was also built to care for the elderly. Over time, additional land was donated or acquired to expand the campus. Although the Children's Home closed in 1965, the Home for the Aged remained operational. In 1970, a new nursing home was built on the property, now known as Heritage Village.

The Gerry Fire Department was organized in 1942. In 1944, the department purchased land to host a rodeo, and by 1945, had signed a contract with Colonel Jack Eskew of JE Ranch to present a dinner and rodeo show. The stock arrived by railroad, and the event has continued every year since. Now celebrating its 80th year, the Gerry Rodeo holds the distinction of being the longest continuously running rodeo east of the Mississippi.

From its early days as a frontier settlement to its traditions that continue today, Gerry boasts a rich and resilient history. Its legacy of community and innovation shapes the identity of this significant corner of Chautauqua County.

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Happy 100th Birthday,

FARMAN FREE LIBRARY CENTENNIAL

Featured Writer

Cindy Wragge

Library Director, Farman Free Library

The Ellington Farman Library Association is celebrating our 100th year of serving the Town of Ellington and the surrounding communities as a free reference and circulation library. In celebration and to thank everyone for their support of our fundraisers, attendance at our programs, and use of the service the Library provides, the Ellington Farman Library is holding an open house, August 16, 2025 from 10:30am to 1pm. The program starts at 11am with refreshments to follow.

In 1921, a group of Ellington citizens joined to create a Library Association with funds from Laura Farman Heydenreich. The Farman Free Library Association received its Certification of Incorporation from the State of New York in January 1922. The first location was a tiny one room building on West Main Street. The building once housed the law office of Theodore Case and was donated by Lucy Case and Cora Hill. Following renovations, the Library opened its doors on August 12, 1925 with Miss Grace Farman as the first librarian.

The Library joined the Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System in 1960. This gave our patrons access to the collections in 36 member libraries. Our patrons could request a book from another library; have it delivered to the Ellington Farman Library and return that book to any of the 36 member locations.

By 1972 the Library had out-grown its one room building. In September 1972 the library moved to the former Ellington Grange Building on the Town Square, previously the Bailey and Son Dry Goods Store. For 30 years the Library served the public at this location, holding plays and programs on the second floor and book check-outs on the first. With the increased collections and the addition of public computers it became evident that this building no longer suited the needs of the Library.

On October 8, 2003 the Board of Trustees took ownership of the former Lock, Stock, and Barrel Country Store located on the corner of the Town Square,



Original Library



Second Library



Current Library

previously the Red and White Grocery Store and the Eigenbroadt Grocery and Hardware Store. Remodeling of the interior made the building handicapped accessible while maintaining many of the historic features of the prior occupants. The Library re-opened on May 3, 2004 with a Children's room, handicapped bathroom, public computer room, and room for the growing collection of books and magazines and videos.

The Library continues to make improvements to the exterior and exterior of our building while we continue to serve our patrons interests and needs.

The improvements to the Ellington Farman Library would not have been possible without the support of the local foundations and the New York State Assembly members and Senators, its many volunteers, and the public.

Community Showcase: Gerry and Ellington

Continued from Front Page

Gerry, as much as part of the success of the community as its local attractions. **Heil & Andrew's Construction**, located at 4226 NY-60 in Gerry, is a home building construction company that has been in the area since 1996. The company, owned by Steve Heil and Jim Andrews, focuses on custom building, home design, new home construction and more. For more on Heil & Andrews Construction, visit <https://www.heilandandrewsconstruction.com>.

Crooked Stick Bar and Grill is an up-and-coming business in the area, located at 4003 Route 380 in Gerry. The new "watering hole" will feature a fully renovated bar, an outdoor patio and handcrafted furnishings. Those interested in following its development can visit [crookedstickbar](https://www.crookedstickbar.com) for more information.

Nearby, Ellington offers its own brand of late-summer magic. This year marks the 112th Ellington Town Picnic, making it the longest-running town picnic in America. The Ellington Town Picnic takes place annually on the first Saturday in August, with festivities also extending

to the Friday evening before and the Sunday following. The 2025 celebration is particularly special, as it also honors the 100th anniversaries of both the Ellington Freeman Library and the Ellington Volunteer Fire Department.

Though small in size, Ellington supports several homegrown businesses and services that keep the local spirit thriving. **The Grandview of Ellington** is one of those breathtaking destinations, located at 1116 West Hill Road in Ellington. The family-owned venue has a spectacular view, beautiful grounds and an even more impressive facility that can be used for banquets, parties, weddings and more. For more, follow them on Instagram or Facebook under "The Grandview of Ellington."

As summer fades into its homestretch, both communities offer more than just events. Whether you're saddling up for the rodeo or clapping along at the Ellington parade, these towns remind visitors and residents alike what it means to be part of something rooted, real and truly local.

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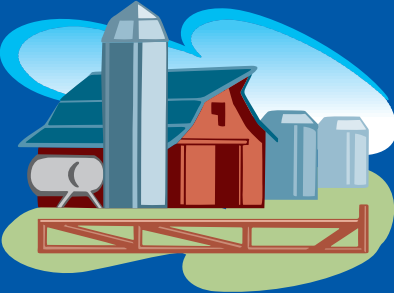
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PASSION FOR PEN

Contributing Writer

Ryan Chambers-Leonard

In a country with a strong emphasis on sports in schools, opportunities for kids interested in writing can often feel particularly lacking. We seem to have reached a point where many other extracurricular activities have almost been cast aside in favor of sports. While many American schools offer Journalism classes, they are often reserved for seniors. As such, underclassmen are not as strongly encouraged to explore writing opportunities.

Growing up with this experience myself, I had little to no outlets for my interest in writing, considering that I hadn't yet begun writing for this Gazette (an opportunity most people don't get at my age), and my school did not yet have a Newspaper Club. Naturally, I took it upon myself to request the formation of a Newspaper Club at Maple Grove. Throughout the 2024–2025 academic year, the club published five total editions, which featured dozens of students, numerous sections, and biweekly meetings. For the people who

participated in the paper, we finally got to express our writing skills without having to wait until senior year.


Why is it so important to support our young writers before their senior year? Because we want real people writing. If we don't give the next generation that outlet for writing, they might just give up on it. In today's age, many students resort to some form of Artificial Intelligence. Newspaper clubs remind kids that being able to write is so incredibly important. When you sit down for a job interview, potential employers aren't going to ask you to prompt ChatGPT; they'll ask you to write something with your own two hands. Preserving the literacy and ability of our youth is crucial, and it starts in schools. A.I. (especially ChatGPT) has seemingly taught kids that basic tasks can just be automated for them and that is harming society in the long term. Once these students hit post-secondary education, they start relying on A.I. to perform these basic tasks.

Fostering an environment in schools that accommodates as many potential interests and professions as possible remains an ongoing effort. If we want to continue being a society that doesn't rely on robots and A.I. to perform our everyday work, we must ensure we protect the interests and skills of our youth. Personally, I'm proud I was able to do that in my own community.

Submitted Photo

Hazeltine Library Now Hosting Special Art Exhibition

Artist Rachel Brown puts the finishing touches on her display at the Hazeltine Public Library; her work is on display until mid August. Brown paints local landscapes and creates structural pieces from old vinyl records. She has recently won the 2025 Curator's Award for Artistic Excellence in Depicting Nature for her work "Clouds Over Chautauqua", part of the ArtScape Banner project in Jamestown. She is mostly self-taught but has taken classes at community college in Maryland, Arrowmont, in Gatlinburg, TN, and Chautauqua Institution. She also had instruction from Cecil Rhodes when he taught in Bemus Point. She is a member of the North Shore Arts Alliance. A local resident now, she traveled the world with her family while her father worked in the foreign service. Her mother Sara is also an artist and has been a major influence. Rachel says her paintings, "reflect an emotional response to the wild and tamed landscapes of our county. I work to capture the stillness of the moment, a sense of time passing and promises of changes to come." The Hazeltine Public Library is located at 891 Busti-Sugar Grove Road, Busti, and is open six days a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1 to 7 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. To 5 p.m. And Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The library can be reached at 716-487-1281.




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Town of Ellington

Last summer, the Town of Ellington, New York, celebrated its bicentennial. As part of this milestone, community members reflected on the town's defining features, most notably the historic and charming Ellington Town Park. With its central location and fascinating historical ties, the park stands as a symbol of the town's enduring spirit.

The story of Ellington's park begins in 1833, when Elisha Beardsley, acting as land agent for Benjamin Vail, surveyed Lot 29 and reserved a portion of it as public land. Though the area had been used informally as a park for decades, it wasn't until May 12, 1876, that the State of New York officially designated the site as a public square. By then, it had already become a gathering space for the community. In fact, Moses Miles Ferrin had planted the trees surrounding the park as early as 1869. In its earliest days, a hitching post fence circled the park so settlers could tie up their horses upon arriving in town.

A key landmark within the park, the bandstand, was constructed around 1870. It was designed by the talented E. Henri Kelli and built by H. B. Larabee, with funds raised through private donations. Kelli, a gifted designer even in his youth, left his mark on the town in more ways than one. He is credited with designing the steeple of the Ellington Congregational Church, a local home, and the gazebo still standing today on the Lucy Risler property across from the Ellington Hotel and town barn.

The Town Park has could be described as the heart of Ellington; a place for hosting picnics and festivals, and enjoying everyday moments of leisure. From its days as a horse hitching ground to a community greenspace surrounded by trees and music, it remains a core element of Ellington's identity.

As Ellington steps into its third century, the park continues to stand as a gathering place for future generations to connect, celebrate, and continue writing Ellington's story.

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WMH Foundation Announces New Treasurer

*Contributed by
Westfield Memorial
Hospital Foundation*

Westfield Memorial Hospital Foundation Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Daniel K. Hocking of Westfield, NY as the treasurer of the hospital foundation board of Directors.

The son of missionary parents, Hocking was born and raised in Bangui, Central African Republic and understands the importance of giving back to one's community.



Submitted Photo

Daniel K. Hocking

"On behalf of the Foundation, I am delighted to have Dan Hocking as the newest treasurer on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors," said Dr. Kathryn S. Bronstein, president of the Foundation's Board.

"Dan's diverse expertise, unwavering dedication, and shared commitment to the mission will be instrumental in guiding the Foundation's efforts through our annual campaign and beyond. I am confident Dan's contributions along with my fellow board members will inspire meaningful progress and drive transformative changes in the communities we support," she said.

Mr. Hocking is quick to note: "Together, we will make a lasting impact on the well-being and future of community members we are privileged to serve. It has been a distinct privilege to serve on the Westfield Memorial Hospital Foundation board for the past several years. My wife, Beth and I profoundly value the Foundation's vital mission to support the hospital in providing essential care to Westfield and the surrounding communities.

"I am excited and honored to take on this new opportunity to serve as Treasurer on the board. I look forward to bringing my experience to this capacity and contributing to the Foundation's crucial financial stewardship. I'm looking forward to continuing collaborating with Patty DiPalma and my esteemed colleagues on the board," Hocking continued.

The hospital Foundation BOD would also like to thank outgoing Treasurer Christine Adams, CPA, who joined the WMHF BOD as Treasurer in September of 2020. Her extraordinary tenure began during the pandemic leading the Foundation during its establishment of the WMH Foundation: 'The Little Hospital That Could' Endowment.

"Chris's level of expertise coupled with her warm personality will be greatly missed," remarked WMHF Executive Director Patricia Gaughan DiPalma. "We were lucky to have her guidance and support for as long as we did," she continued.

About WMH Foundation

Many are familiar with the hospital foundation's mission and how it helps the hospital remain on the cutting edge of patient care. Now in its 47th Anniversary year, the WMHF, via its generous donors, continues its philanthropy by promoting outstanding healthcare.

Our community hospital can continue to provide high quality healthcare to all the residents throughout our community and beyond. AHN Westfield Hospital (a.k.a. Westfield Memorial Hospital) is a member of the Allegheny Health Network.

For those who would like to learn more about the hospital foundation or to give to the Annual Campaign, contact WMHF Executive Director Patty DiPalma at patricia.dipalma@ahn.org; call: 716-793-2338 or visit the foundation's website at: www.westfieldhospitalfoundation.org.



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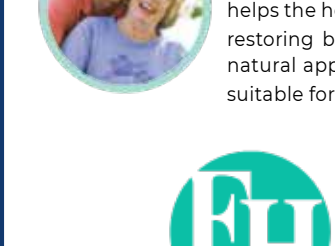



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PEER RECOGNITION:




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- Numerous presentations at international conferences
- Instructed colleagues and presented numerous grand rounds to aspiring Doctors.
- Produced numerous abstracts, guidelines, and book publications.
- Nominated by their peers and elected to serve as board members for the American Board of Neurophysiological Monitoring (ASNM).
- While serving on the board, they helped to bring about national practice guidelines and developing pediatric specific guidelines.
- One of the few selected for a podium presentation at the Scoliosis Research Society annual meeting
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TCC Health Announces Annual Community Picnics in Celebration of National Health Center Week 2025



Contributed by
The Waterfront Foundation

The Chautauqua Center, Inc., (TCC Health), a nonprofit leader in healthcare in the Southern Tier, is proud to announce the upcoming celebration of **National Health Center Week from August 3 - 9, 2025**. This special week honors the critical role Community Health Centers play in providing comprehensive, affordable, and accessible healthcare to millions across the country.

As part of the festivities, TCC Health will hold its annual Community Picnics, both from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Dunkirk Community Picnic will happen on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, at the Salvation Army on Central Avenue. The Jamestown Community Picnic will be held on Thursday, August 7, 2025, at The Chautauqua Center location at 107 Institute Street.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24



Ask the Doctor:
Nabeela Patal, MD
Medical Oncologist

**UPMC | HILLMAN
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Cancer Treatment at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Chautauqua

Q What services are available at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Chautauqua?

A We offer all medical oncology services, including chemotherapy, targeted treatments, hormone therapy, and immunotherapy. Because we are part of the UPMC Hillman Cancer Center network, patients have access to cutting-edge cancer care close to home — they don't need to travel outside of our community for medical oncology services.

Q What types of cancer do you treat?

A Our team treats all types of cancer. The most common cancers we see in our practice are lung, breast, and colon cancers. We also treat blood cancers, which include leukemia and lymphoma.

Q Why is it important to provide access to cancer care in rural communities?

A Cancer care disparities in rural areas can have long-term effects on individuals, families, and the community at large. It is important to have access to prevention and screening as rural populations tend to have higher rates of potentially preventable cancers. Due to barriers such as transportation to larger cancer centers, it is also important for our community to access appropriate treatment before cancer becomes too advanced.

Q Why choose UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Chautauqua?

A UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Chautauqua offers the services of a larger urban hospital in a smaller, family-oriented, community practice. In addition to medical oncology, we offer genetic testing, diagnostic imaging services like endobronchial ultrasound and PET-CT scans, and interventional radiology biopsy.

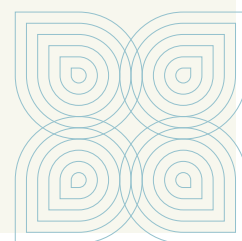
Because our providers live in this community, we have a connection with our patients that helps them and their families feel secure while also providing renowned treatment through a National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. UPMC Hillman earns Comprehensive Cancer Center status through our excellence in research across multiple branches of science and ongoing community outreach and education activities.

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HEALTHYCHQ



TCC Health Announces Annual Community Picnics in Celebration of National Health Center Week 2025

Continued from Page 23

During the two picnic events, TCC Health will be giving away free backpacks filled with school supplies to the first 300 kids in attendance at each location. Children must be accompanied by an adult, and adults must have a child with them to get a backpack.

A notable change is that the Jamestown Community Picnic will be held at The Chautauqua Center building at 107 Institute Street this year. This will give TCC Health the opportunity to showcase its state-of-the-art and growing facility, which is also home to the Waterfront Pharmacy, The Waterfront Foundation, County Office for Aging Services, and TCC Health's Pediatric Therapy Gym.

"National Community Health Center Week is a powerful reminder of the incredible impact Community Health Centers have on the lives of millions across the nation, and right here in Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Chemung Counties," TCC Health CEO Michael Pease said. "At the heart of TCC Health's mission is our unwavering commitment to enhance the overall health and wellness of our

community through prevention and treatment, one patient at a time. Our goal is to alleviate financial burdens on families and empower children for success in school, reflecting the holistic support that is central to the Community Health Center model."

In addition to the crucial backpack giveaway, the Community Picnics will offer a range of engaging and family-friendly activities. Picknickers can look forward to live music and dancing with Marty's Bubble Gum Machine; a bounce house, face painting, and photo booth with Eventz by Scott; delicious food by The Salvation Army Anew Center; and a mini farmer's market experience featuring free, fresh produce from the Jamestown Mobile Market. Valuable community resources and essential health information will also be available.

For further information and updates about Community Health Center Week and the Community Picnics, please visit our website at www.TCCHealth.org or contact The Waterfront Foundation at (716) 294-3995.



Submitted Photo

The Mayville/Chautauqua Lions Club held a successful Chicken BBQ in July, much thanks to the supporting community. Proceeds will benefit individuals with vision impairments and other special needs.

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Senior Scene with Dana Corwin

Local MLTC and Support Programs in Chautauqua County



Contributed by

Dana Corwin

Director of Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services

Chautauqua County offers several managed long-term care (MLTC) programs to support individuals who are chronically ill or disabled and wish to remain in their homes and communities. These programs provide a range of services, including medical and non-medical care, to help individuals live independently.

1. CASA (Community Alternative Systems Agency)

Operated by the Chautauqua County Department of Social Services, CASA assists residents of all ages with planning and obtaining long-term care services. CASA nurses conduct home visits to assess medical and non-medical care needs, explain available services and payment options, and make referrals to appropriate programs.

2. NY Connects: Aging & Disability Resource Center

NY Connects is a free, locally based point-of-entry service that provides unbiased information and assistance to individuals seeking long-term services and supports. The program helps assess needs, identify appropriate services, and make referrals to agencies and programs. It serves older adults, individuals with disabilities, caregivers, and others in Chautauqua County.

3. Health Homes of Upstate NY (HHUNY)

The Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene serves as a Lead Health Home, coordinating care for Medicaid beneficiaries with complex chronic health

and/or behavioral health needs. Health Home services include care management to ensure effective coordination and management of care, leading to positive health outcomes.

4. In-Home & Community Care Services

The Chautauqua County Office for Aging Services offers home and community care services designed to keep older adults safe and independent in the community. Services include housekeeping, personal care, home-delivered meals, and personal emergency response systems. The program also provides assistance with accessing Medicaid and Veterans Administration home care benefits

5. Managed Medicaid

For individuals aged 18 and older with chronic illnesses or disabilities, there is a Medicaid Managed Long-Term Care (MLTC) plan in Chautauqua County. MLTC provides services such as Personalized care management and coordination, Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Services (CDPAS), Home health care and rehabilitation therapies, medical transportation and durable medical equipment, Social and environmental support services.

If you need assistance connecting with any of these programs or have specific questions about eligibility and services, feel free to ask!

- **NY Connects Helpline:** Call 1-800-342-9871 or local numbers:
 - o Mayville: 716-753-4582
 - o Jamestown: 716-661-7582
 - o Dunkirk: 716-363-4582
- **CASA:** Contact the Chautauqua County Department of Social Services for more information.
- **Maximus:** Statewide Agency to enroll in Medicaid long-term care 1-800-342-9871.
- **Health Homes of Upstate NY:** Call 1-855-613-7659 for care management services.

Please reach out to the Office for Aging Services and NY Connects either by stopping at one of our office locations, via email at ccnyc@chqgov.com or by phone at 716-753-4582.

Love Elementary Voices Featured at Tarp Skunks Games

Contributed by
Jamestown Public Schools

If you've cheered on the Jamestown Tarp Skunks this season, chances are you've sung along with a chorus of students from the city's northside during the iconic seventh-inning stretch.

Those enthusiastic voices ringing throughout Russell E. Diethrick Jr. Park belong to students from across grade levels at S.G. Love Elementary School, whose recording of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" is now a beloved staple at every home game.

The students, under the guidance of long-term substitute music teacher Anne Dolce, recorded the classic tune earlier this school year after performing it during a special assembly visit by the Tarp Skunks' mascot Whiffy and Dolce's son Christian, a 2019 Jamestown High School graduate, who serves as the team's General Manager and Director of Business Operations. Christian requested the recording after being impressed with their performance at the assembly and it's been subsequently played at every home game this season.

Love School students also performed "The Star

Spangled Banner" in-person during the "Kids Game" in June.

"It was such a joy to work with these students and watch their confidence in their singing voices grow over the course of the year," shared Anne Dolce. "Love School is a special place filled with talented students. Having the chance to learn, perform, and record this classic song gave them a fun goal to work toward, and I'm so proud of how they came together to create something special."

Christian Dolce echoed his mother's sentiments, highlighting the community impact.

"It's been wonderful to feature the voices of local students during such an iconic moment of each game," he said. "The students at Love are so talented and our community has enjoyed hearing them throughout the season. Having my mom involved made it even more meaningful, and it's just another way we're proud to connect our team with the Jamestown community."





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6 NEW 4:30pm &6:30pm	7 AUB 6:30pm	8	9	10 @NEW	11 NIA 6:30pm	12
13 GEN 4:00pm	14	15 @NEW	16 @NF	17 NF 6:30pm	18 @NF	19 NIA 6:30pm
20 @ELM	21 BAT 6:30pm	22 @GEN	23 ELM 6:30pm	24	25 NIA 6:30pm	26 @NIA
27 @BAT	28	29	30	31		

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

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Saturday, July 19th - 6:30pm
Strike Out Cancer Night

Monday, July 21st - 6:30 pm
\$2 Night - \$2 Hotdogs, Beer & Bleacher Tickets

Sunday, July 23 - 6:30 pm

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Record Amount Raised in 26th Annual "Cents for St. Susan's" Campaign



Contributed by
Jamestown BPU

Sponsors of the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) "Cents for St. Susan's" campaign recently met to learn that a record \$36,330.22 has been raised to help St. Susan Center through this year's two-month effort. The 2025 campaign raised \$928 more than in the 2024 campaign.

The 2025 fund drive signifies the 26th annual campaign led by the BPU. Since the year 2000, when the first drive was held, the BPU's effort has raised \$431,851.13 – nearly a half million – for the local soup kitchen and its guests.

Contributions in 2025 again included coins, dollars and checks collected in 50 canisters placed around our community, redeemable can and bottle donations, checks mailed to the utility and major donors who contributed \$500 or greater sponsorships.

David Leathers, BPU general manager, spoke in support of the utility's annual campaign for St. Susan Center.

"We are grateful to our major

sponsors and to members of the community who donated gifts through our campaign coin canisters," stated Leathers. "The BPU organizes this drive every year, but it is the people's generosity that provides this significant assistance for St. Susan Center."

BPU employee volunteers donated their lunch breaks to hold a June hot dog sale outside the utility Customer Service Office. The group ultimately raised \$1,217.50 for the drive, by cooking and selling hot dogs, chips, water and soda.

Local residents donated redeemable cans and bottles at Don's Car Wash and the Southside Redemption Center, totaling \$372.15.

BPU Communications Coordinator Becky Robbins, who organizes the annual fund drives, thanked the community for its donations to support the soup kitchen.

St. Susan Center Director stated "The funds raised will make a significant impact on our ability to provide essential services and meals to those in need. It is truly inspiring to see how our community comes together to support one another, ensuring that no one goes hungry."



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Spaghetti-O

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY PETS OF THE WEEK

Is your life missing a little sauce? A little spice? Maybe a noodle-shaped shadow that follows you everywhere you go? Enter: Spaghetti-O, a lovable pup with a heart as warm and gooey as your favorite childhood meal. Spaghetti-O's personality is equal parts meatball and mischief. He's round in all the right ways, spills over with affection, and occasionally leaves a trail of chaos in his wake. Shelter No. RR179.



Nature

Nature is an adult cat with a playful spirit and a mellow heart. She loves to chase after toys and is just as happy to curl up for a quiet nap. Nature has a friendly disposition that makes her easy to love, and she is always ready to make new friends! Nature wants to find her forever home where she can share her love and loyalty. Shelter No. RR179.

Showing "Jane Austen Wrecked My Life"

Jane Austen Wrecked My Life (Wed., July 30 at 7 p.m.) is a new romantic comedy from filmmaker Laura Piani. In the film, Agathe is a hopelessly clumsy yet charming young woman who works in the legendary Shakespeare & Co. bookshop in Paris, while she dreams of being a successful writer, and of experiencing love akin to a Jane Austen novel, she finds herself desperately single and plagued by writers block. When Agathe’s best friend gets her invited to the Jane Austen Writers' Residency in England, she finally has her Jane Austen moment...and is caught in a very unexpected romantic triangle. Jane Austen Wrecked My Life is rated R and is 94 minutes long.

Upcoming Movies at The Reg include Bryan Cranston and Allison Janney in the late-80's set family comedic drama Everything's Going

to Be Great (August 6 at 7 p.m.), the sci-fi sequel M3gan 2.0 (August 13 at 7 p.m.), and the live-action remake How to Train Your Dragon (August 20 at 2 p.m.)

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



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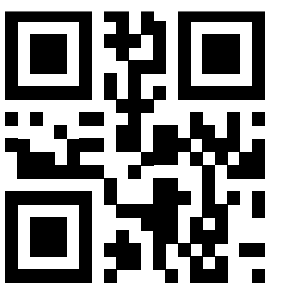
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SUDOKU

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

Here's How It Works:

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

Level: Beginner

CROSSWORD

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

CLUES ACROSS

1. Pacific standard time

4. Extracts through heating and melting

10. Express delight

11. More curvy

12. Expression of uncertainty

14. Indicates before

15. Daughter of Hera and Zeus

16. Southwestern CA city

18. Unified

22. Less attractive

23. Base of jellies

24. A large and noisy party

26. He was traded for Luka

27. Wolverine genus

28. “Happy Days” actress Moran

30. Root of taro plant

31. Student environmental group (abbr.)
34. Silk garments

36. Unique power

37. Ray Liotta cop film

39. Leak slowly through

40. Notion

41. Atomic #55

42. Fixed in one place

48. About heat

50. Type of baseball pitch

51. Seedless raisin

52. Large wading birds

53. Similar

54. Time zone

55. Atomic #34

56. Program

58. Old world, new

59. Contrary belief

60. “To the __ degree”

CLUES DOWN

1. Plain-woven fabric

2. Classed

3. Suppositions

4. Midway between south and west

5. Tropical American trees

6. Leveled

7. Published false statement

8. Adolescent

9. Junior’s father

12. Aurochs

13. Not low

17. Boxing’s GOAT

19. Short musical composition

20. Small immature herrings

21. Eavesdropper
25. Parcels of land

29. Anger

31. Irritations

32. Hindu holy man

33. Wicker basket for fish

35. Natural object

38. Transporting in a vehicle

41. A dog is one

43. Smaller portion

44. Sew

45. Belonging to a thing

46. Horsley and Greenwood are two

47. Scottish language

49. Producer

56. Exclamation of surprise

57. Russian river

Research Historian Receives State Award

Contributed by
**New York Genealogical and
Biographical Society**

Michelle Henry, Research Historian for the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation is being honored by the state's Genealogical and Biographical Society. The Preservation in Action: The Power of One award spotlights leaders and trailblazers whose innovative work inspires, educates, and has a lasting impact on the genealogy and family history field.



Michelle Henry.

Michelle Henry started her career in the history field as Director of the Chautauqua County Historical Society in Westfield, NY. In 1996 she was hired by County Clerk Sandra Sopak to organize the historical records held by the county. With numerous federal, state, and local grants, a state-of-the-art archival program was established. Chautauqua County was the first county in the United States to be recognized by the National Genealogical Society for making historical records available to researchers. In 2000, Ms. Henry was appointed County Historian, a position she held until her retirement in 2023.

In 2011, Ms. Henry was awarded the Julia Reinstein Award for Excellence in the Field of Public History, and in 2012 she received the Wheeler B. Melius Award for Excellence in Establishing a Records

Management Program for the county. Michelle is one of only two historians in Chautauqua County who is a certified Registered Historian. She has served as a consultant for the state's Museum Collection Assessment Program, providing assistance and advice to small museums in western New York.

The county's history has been highlighted in numerous articles by Ms. Henry, published in state and regional magazines, and she has spoken across New York and Pennsylvania about local history and historical records.

Founded in 1869, The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society (NYG&B) is the oldest and largest genealogical society in New York State. Researchers can search records on the Society's website at: www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org



Free Audubon Interactive Bee Exhibit Unveiling Friday, August 1

On Friday, August 1, 5–7 p.m., local multi-disciplinary artist Wendy Bale unveils Audubon Community Nature Center's newest educational exhibit: 22 colorful, layered paper-cut images about honeybees, native bee species, and bee look-alikes. Enjoy refreshments, interact with the display, view the live honeybee hive, and visit with the artist and nature educators, all for free. Learn more at AudubonCNC.org/Events or (716) 569-2345. The Nature Center is at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown and Warren. Funding is made possible through Arts Services Inc.'s Creative Impact Fund thanks to a New York State Senate Initiative supported by the NYS Legislature and the Office of the Governor, and administered by the New York State Council on the Arts.



Submitted Photo

This Sunday is Free Audubon Story Time

Begin the last month of summer with free fun at Audubon Community Nature Center. Bring your favorite 2–8 year old(s) to First Sunday Story Time on August 3, 12:30–1 p.m. Enjoy the stories, then stay for all kinds of fun, indoors and out: Visit the live animals and play in the Nature Play Areas. Reservations are appreciated by calling (716) 569-2345 or going online to AudubonCNC.org/Events. Walk-ins are welcome if there is room. The Nature Center is at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown and Warren.

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

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

PUZZLES ON PAGE 25

FIRST FRIDAY



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CHAMBER CORNER

CHQ Chamber Connects Businesses with Advocacy Opportunities

Article Contributed by

Daniel J. Heitzenrater

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
President and CEO

The CHQ Chamber opened the year by restructuring our advocacy events, and now the third of the three planned events is quickly approaching. All are invited to attend the Elected Officials Panel Discussion at noon, Friday, August 8 at Chautauqua Suites, 215 West Lake Road, Mayville.

Our special guests for this event will be New York State Senator George Borrello, Assemblyman Andrew Molitor, and County Executive PJ Wendel. This will be a question-and-answer session for our elected officials. We encourage local businesspeople to come with questions related to state and county issues that impact our local economy and the business environment in our region. We will moderate the event and direct questions either our county executive or state representatives – or both – as the issues come up. Our goal is to maximize the benefit to our member businesses and organizations by providing a direct opportunity to meet with some of our highest-level elected officials.

The other two advocacy events offered by the CHQ Chamber this year have been well-received including our State of Business breakfast in January and the Official Introductions networking event in June. At the end of this year, we will do a thorough evaluation of these new advocacy events as we shift into planning mode for 2026. We welcome all feedback from attendees.

The cost for this buffet lunch is \$30 and pre-registration is required. Please register by August 1. The CHQ Chamber Elected Officials Panel Luncheon is sponsored by Brooks-TLC Hospital System, County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency, LaBella Associates, National

Grid, Phillips Lytle, Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union, and UPMC Chautauqua, as well as Jamestown Community College, Media One Radio Group, Observer, and The Post-Journal. Registration is open now through our web calendar at www.chqchamber.org.

Join us for First Friday in Westfield August 1

First Friday in Westfield is fun for the whole family! Enjoy open businesses along Main Street along with street vendors, food trucks, live entertainment, and more!

For the third summer in a row this traditional street party in Westfield spills into the street as the CHQ Chamber has secured a permit from the New York State Department of Transportation to close Route 20 in the village during the event. Route 20 (East Main Street) will be temporarily closed to all traffic from Portage (Route 394) to Union Street, with limited traffic from Union to Pearl Street. First Friday will run from 5-8pm, Friday August 1.

Many thanks to our series sponsors this summer: Brooks-TLC Hospital System/Kaleida Health, AHN Westfield Memorial Hospital, Full Strength Coffee Company, Larson Design Group, and the Village of Westfield.

Nominate Now for the CHQ Chamber Business Awards

Our small businesses and local non-profit organizations create a sense of community throughout Chautauqua County and provide vital goods and services for local people. Help us recognize those that are doing outstanding work!

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.

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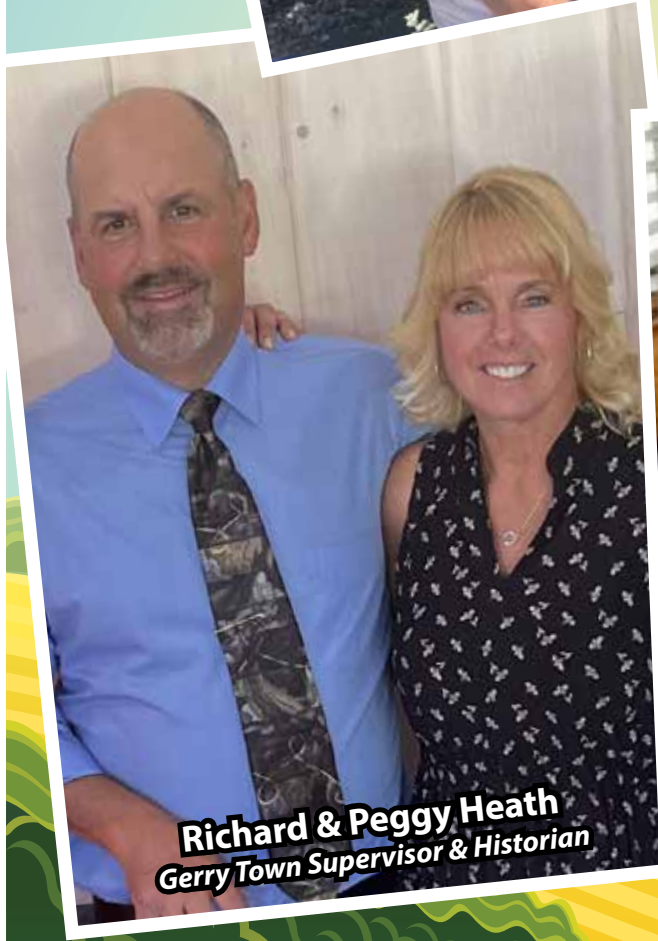
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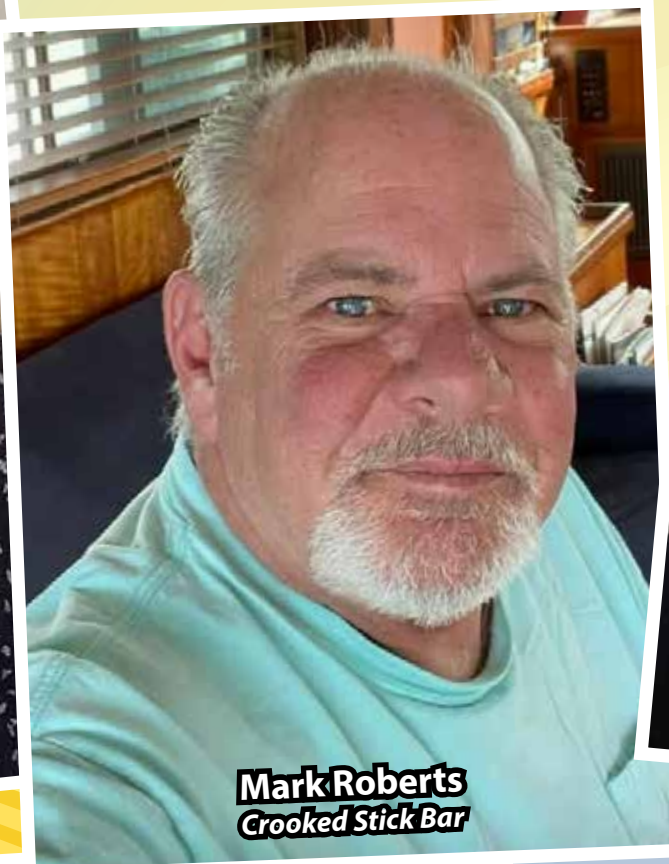
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