



CHAUTAUQUA GAZETTE



CHQgazette.com | L. Cornell and Company, LLC

A Celebration of Comedy's Hometown

Volume 2 • Issue 29 | Week of August 4, 2025



LIVE IN JAMESTOWN:
AUGUST 7-10, 2025

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AUG 8

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JON STEWART, BILL MURRAY, SNL STARS HEADLINE FESTIVAL 50+ EVENTS OVER FOUR DAYS IN COMEDY'S HOMETOWN

Contributed by
National Comedy Center

The hometown of one of America's most beloved comedy legends is once again transforming into the epicenter of laughter as the National Comedy Center's Lucille Ball Comedy Festival returns August 7-10, offering more than 50 events over four unforgettable days. The star-powered lineup includes Jon Stewart, Bill Murray, and Saturday Night Live's James Austin Johnson and head writer Streeter Seidell, along with some of the nation's top stand-up comedians – all converging in Jamestown, NY, where Lucille Ball was born and where comedy is not just remembered – it's experienced in bold, living color.

Jon Stewart headlines the Saturday, August 9 sold-out show at Northwest Arena, bringing his razor-sharp insight and stage presence back to Jamestown. Stewart's return to live stand-up has been a highlight of the comedy landscape, and his festival appearance is one of the summer's most anticipated.

"Jon Stewart is one of the most influential comedic voices of our time — providing his signature social commentary at a pace responsive to the news cycle, while deeply thoughtful about our shared humanity," said Journey Gunderson, National Comedy Center Executive Director.

The festival's final night – Sunday, August 10 – also at Northwest Arena, will feature a Stand-Up Showcase with top touring comedians, followed by a Rock 'n' Blues concert with Bill Murray and His Blood Brothers. Joining Murray are award-winning musicians Mike Zito and Albert Castiglia, along with guitarist Jimmy Vivino, former band leader for Conan O'Brien, delivering an unforgettable blend of music and comedy.

"Bill Murray entered our comedy consciousness in 1977 and never left," added Gunderson. "Whether

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

THE GREAT AMERICAN INVENTION: LAUGHTER AS AN ACT OF HOPE

Contributed by
Jordan Nicholson

America has given the world its fair share of exports — fast food, denim, the assembly line — but only a few cultural inventions can truly be called original to the American spirit. Stand-up comedy, jazz music, and baseball are three such creations. Each of them was born out of struggle, improvisation, and rebellion. Each was shaped by immigrants, outcasts, and dreamers. And each continues to hold a unique place in our national identity.

Comedy, like jazz and baseball, is more than just a pastime. It's a reflection of who we are — our contradictions, our absurdities, our triumphs, and our failures. It is woven into the American day-to-day, just as much as checking the baseball scores or humming a Coltrane riff on the way to work (whether you know that's what you're doing or not).

But comedy does more than entertain. It illuminates. It agitates. It changes us.

Stand-up comedy — as an art form — is uniquely American. It began in vaudeville halls, grew up in smoky nightclubs, and exploded in the counterculture of the 1950s and '60s with performers like Lenny Bruce, Dick Gregory, and Mort Sahl, who weren't just telling jokes, but telling the truth. They turned the stage into a pulpit, a protest, a mirror held up to a country wrestling with civil rights, war, censorship, and its own uneasy conscience.

But what elevates comedy, and puts it in this rare trio of American cultural contributions, is its ability to provoke social change. Much like Jackie Robinson changed baseball — not just as a player but as a symbol — comedians have often been the first to challenge societal taboos. Dick Gregory used humor to dismantle segregation. Joan Rivers talked about abortion and aging

when no one else would. George Carlin questioned the government's control over language and morality. Dave Chappelle, Ali Wong, Hannah Gadsby, and Hasan Minhaj have carried that torch into the present day — using jokes to ask serious questions about identity, power, and inclusion.

This spirit of disruption and joy wasn't confined to the nightclub stage. Lucille Ball brought it into America's living rooms with I Love Lucy. She wasn't just a comedic genius — she was a pioneer. As a woman running her own production company in the 1950s, Lucy broke industry barriers and turned domestic mishap into a high art form. Her brand of physical comedy, sharp timing, and boundless charm made the everyday feel extraordinary

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

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

This Week Around Town

MONDAY, AUGUST 4

Memory Cafe | 10 AM

National Comedy Center
Jamestown
For Info: comedycenter.org/memorycafe

Music on the Pier: Kody & Herren/Fuzzy & The Rustbelts
6 PM

Dunkirk City Pier | Dunkirk
For Info: cityofdunkirk.com/residents/festivals_events

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

Dunkirk Community Picnic

11 AM - 1 PM
The Salvation Army | Dunkirk
For Info: tcchealth.org

National Night Out

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Falconer Fire Department | Falconer
For Info: natw.org

Cat Video Fest | 7:30 PM

1891 Fredonia Opera House
Performing Arts Center | Fredonia
For Info: fredopera.org

Music at the Point Sunset
Series: The Freeze | 6 PM - 8 PM

Point Gratiot Park | Dunkirk
For Info: cityofdunkirk.com/residents/festivalsevents

Movies at The Reg:
Everything's Going to Be Great
7 PM

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

Cardio Drumming | 9 AM

Dunkirk Senior Center | Dunkirk
For Info: 716-467-5306

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7
Jamestown Community Picnic

11 AM - 1 PM
The Chautauqua Center
Jamestown
For Info: tcchealth.org

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7 - SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

Lucille Ball Comedy Festival
National Comedy Center
Jamestown
For Info: comedycenter.org

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

Little Explorers (Ages 3-8 w/an adult) | 10 AM

Audubon Community Nature Center | Jamestown
For Info: auduboncnc.org

Jamestown's Hidden Alleys Tour | 10:30 AM

Fenton History Center | Jamestown
For Info: fentonhistorycenter.org

Classic Car Show (at Mayville's Saturday Evening Market)

4 PM - 8 PM
Train Depot | Mayville
For Info: 716-269-4129

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9 & SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

7th Annual Heron Trail Run 5k Weekend

The Heron Farm and Event Center
Sherman
For Info: runsignup.com/Race/Info/NY/Panama/HeronTrailRun

Behind the Laughs: SNL Head Writer Streeter Seidell and Cast Member James Austin Johnson Take the Stage at the National Comedy Center



Contributed by
National Comedy Center

As Saturday Night Live celebrates its milestone 50th anniversary, the National Comedy Center is hosting a special on-stage discussion during its comedy festival with two of the show's most prolific comedy talents: head writer Streeter Seidell and cast member James Austin Johnson. Known for their standout work in shaping the show's recent seasons, Seidell and Johnson will offer a behind-the-scenes look at the creative process that drives one of television's most iconic comedy institutions.

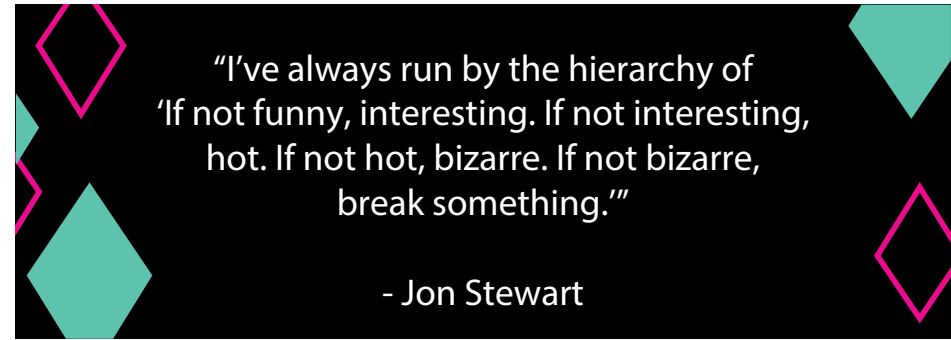
Seidell currently serves as one of SNL's head writers and has co-written many of the show's most memorable and viral sketches in recent years – often alongside his longtime writing partner Mikey Day. He rose to prominence as a founding contributor to CollegeHumor, bringing his internet-savvy comedy voice to SNL in 2014 and quickly ascending to the role of head writer. His work has helped shape some of SNL's most talked-about sketches, including the viral "Alien Encounter" series with Kate McKinnon, the hilariously surreal "Beavis and Butt-Head" parody, and the now-iconic "David S. Pumpkins" Halloween sketches starring Tom Hanks. He also co-wrote the widely acclaimed "Washington's Dream" sketch – featured during Nate Bargatze's hosting appearance – in which George Washington reacts to the customs and contradictions of a newly formed America. Original cue cards from that sketch are now on display at the National Comedy Center as part of its expanded Saturday Night Live exhibit.

Comedian and actor James Austin Johnson joined SNL in 2021 and has quickly emerged as one of the show's most versatile cast members. Known for his sharp, imaginative character work – including viral impressions of Joe Biden, Adam Driver, and Donald Trump – Johnson is frequently featured in the show's cold open, leading SNL's take on current events with standout performances. His film and TV credits include voicing "Pouchy" in Pixar's Inside Out 2 and the Grinch in Wonderly's podcast series 'Tis the Grinch Holiday Podcast, as well as roles in Barry, Better Call Saul, She Said, and Hail, Caesar!, plus a cameo in the acclaimed Bob Dylan biopic A Complete Unknown.

"I'm thrilled to be joining my friend Streeter Seidell as we bring a little bit of Studio 8H to Jamestown," said Johnson. "It's an honor to be part of the National Comedy Center's festival and to talk about comedy and the beautiful chaos of making Saturday Night Live."

That expanded Saturday Night Live exhibit – commemorating the show's 50-year legacy – offers an immersive look at its creative energy and fast-paced weekly production. Seidell and Johnson's appearance during the Lucille Ball Comedy Festival underscores the Comedy Center's commitment to spotlighting not only performers, but also the visionary talents behind the scenes.

Their on-stage conversation on Sunday, August 10th will explore how sketches evolve from pitch to live performance, what it's like to produce comedy under the pressure of SNL's demanding schedule, and the thrill of creating for the biggest names in entertainment.



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Editorial with Lori Cornell

Our Hometown Pride



Owner & Publisher
Lori Cornell

Let me state the obvious: The National Comedy Center is outstanding. Go.

And its annual Lucille Ball Comedy Festival? Equally impressive. Don't miss it.

But beyond the undeniable fun, and the very real medicine of laughter, let's pause to appreciate what this place truly means to us. Why does the National Comedy Center matter so deeply?

Consider the accolades: It's been named one of Time Magazine's "World's Greatest Places," one of U.S. News & World Report's "Top 20 Family Weekend Getaways," and USA Today's #1 "Best New Museum".

And when you find yourself strolling down Washington

Street on any given day, just before crossing the Chadakoin, pause and glance to your right. Take in that stunning tribute to comedy, and remember what used to be there: rubble, blight, and potential nearly forgotten. Be grateful. Take stock. This is our town.

On a personal note, and as living proof, I'm deeply thankful to Journey Gunderson, the Center's exceptional executive director, for leading such a remarkable institution. Among the many benefits the National Comedy Center brings to our community, one especially meaningful to me is its nationally recognized college internship program.

This summer, my son Ben, an Arts Management major, didn't have to travel far to gain a standout professional experience. Instead, he spent the summer working with a world-class organization, right here in his hometown. At the end of this month, he'll head back to Miami University of Ohio with hands-on experience that will shape his career.

The National Comedy Center:

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LIVE IN JAMESTOWN:
AUGUST 7-10, 2025



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SUN AUG 10



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THE ORIGINAL 12

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AFRICAN PEANUT BURGER 12

Grilled patty, over easy egg, scratch made apricot jam, and spicy peanut sauce.

GARLIC MUSHROOM SWISS BURGER 13

Grilled patty, garlic butter, grilled mushrooms, swiss cheese, and vegan garlic mayo.

THE SWEET KAHUNA 12.5

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HANDHELD
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SHAREABLES

CHIPS & SALSA 7
LAB NACHOS 15

Corn tortillas covered in cheddar sauce, chili bean mix, red onion, black olives, pickled jalapeno, salsa, and sour cream topped with cheddar jack.

SPINACH
ARTICHOKE DIP 11

Scratch-made spinach and artichoke cheese dip served with yellow corn tortilla chips.

HUMMUS DIP 8.5

Scratch-made hummus with grilled flatbread and sweet red bell peppers.

MEDITERRANEAN
PLATE 13

Scratch-made hummus, whipped feta with honey, sweet peppers, garlic stuffed olives, grilled flatbread, and crackers.

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SPICY CAULIFLOWER
BITES 13

Roasted cauliflower tossed in Buffalo sauce topped with bleu cheese crumbles on a bed of baby spinach with a side of vegan ranch.

THAI LETTUCE
WRAPS 12

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WAR FRIES 12

*AVAILABLE AFTER 4PM

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*AVAILABLE AFTER 4PM

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cup 6 / bowl 8 / quart to go 12

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HOUSE SALAD 6

CAESAR SALAD 8

RICE & BEANS 4.5 / 6.5

STREET CORN SALAD 5

BROCCOLI MAC SALAD 4.5

ZAPP'S POTATO CHIPS 3

* no combo deal

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Coconut cream soy milk blend with turmetic, ginger, cinnamon, and vanilla. Hot or iced.

90s CHAI LATTE 7

Spicy chai concentrate and milk of choice, hot or iced. Add espresso for a dirty chai.

DEWDROP LATTTE 6.5

Espresso, lavender syrup, vanilla, and milk of choice. Served hot or iced.

COOKIE BUTTER LATTE 6.5

Espresso, scratch-made cookie butter syrup, milk of choice, and caramel. Hot or iced.

CAMPFIRE COLDBREW 6.5

Cold brew coffee, toasted marshmallow, and chocolate sauce topped with marshmallow whipped cream.

TROPICAL FIZZ 5

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YODA SODA 5

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Seasoned brown rice, our hot bean mix, cheddar jack, baby spinach, salsa, sour cream, and Frank's Red Hot.

HAVANA SHAKEDOWN small burrito 7.5 / large burrito or bowl 13 / salad 16

Seasoned brown rice, black beans with lime, avocado, carrots, sunflower seeds, greens, agave, salsa, and Frank's Red Hot. Add sour cream?

EVEN MORE GREEKER small burrito 7.5 / large burrito or bowl 13 / salad 16

Greek-Style chickpea and cucumber salad, kalamata olives, feta, baby spinach, diced tomatoes, sunflower seeds, tzatziki, and hummus.

VIN DIESEL small burrito 7.5 / large burrito or bowl 13 / salad 16

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FLATBREADS

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GET SHORTY 14

Scratch-made red sauce topped with mozzarella and plenty of fresh basil finished with an Italian three cheese blend and a drizzle of olive oil.

GOODFELLAS 15

Loaded with our house-made spinach artichoke dip, roasted red peppers, mozzarella, and an italian three cheese blend.

MYSTIC PIZZA 16

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JOE VS. THE VOLCANO 14

Scratch-made guava lime BBQ sauce, chedar cheese, sliced pineapple, pickled red onion, and jalapeño slices.

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smartphone camera
to see current food &
drink menus and to
place an order



Pat's Pen with Pat Locke

My Day with Teensy



Contributing Writer

Pat Locke

Although it's been 22 years, the memory is still fresh. In 2003, my husband Bill and I had the honor of escorting Marilyn "Teensy" Borden during her visit to Jamestown for the annual Loving Lucy Festival. She was vibrant, gracious, and full of stories; not just about her twin sister Roz and their shared life on stage, but about the legendary Lucille Ball herself. With this year's Comedy Festival celebrating the 75th anniversary of Desilu Studios, it feels especially fitting to remember one of Lucy's most memorable supporting stars and our unforgettable weekend with her.

Rosalyn and Marilyn Borden, best known as "Teensy" and "Weensy", were born on May 29, 1923, in Hartford, Connecticut. The identical twins began singing and performing at age three and would go on to appear in dozens of television shows, nightclubs, and USO tours from the 1950s through the 1980s. Though Roz passed away in 2003 and Marilyn in 2009, they remain beloved for their iconic appearance on I Love Lucy.

Fans will remember them from the Season 4 episode, "Tennessee Bound," which aired January 24, 1955. In the episode, Lucy and the gang find themselves in a rural jail with the Borden Twins playing the cheerful yet mischievous daughters of the sheriff. Tennessee Ernie Ford guest-starred as Cousin Ernie, and the episode was penned by the show's powerhouse writing trio: Bob Carroll Jr., Madelyn Pugh, and Jess Oppenheimer. It was directed by William Asher and filmed at Desilu's Cahuenga Boulevard studio in Hollywood.

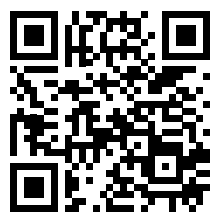
When Marilyn came to Jamestown in 2003 (her first visit without Roz), she shared personal memories of filming that episode and working with Lucy both

on and off the set. She spoke with genuine affection about her sister, who had passed away just months before, and opened up about the professionalism and humor Lucy brought to every scene. Marilyn returned in 2005 for Lucy-Desi Days, when Barbara Eden served as headliner.

Although they never authored a book, the Borden Twins had enough stories to fill one. Over the years, they shared stages and screen time with entertainment legends including Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis, Sammy Davis Jr., Andy Williams, Bea Arthur, Jimmy Durante, and Bob Newhart. Despite never becoming household names themselves, they were part of television history and proud of it.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of Desilu Studios, the production company founded in 1950 by Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz. Desilu, which later produced classics like Star Trek, Mission: Impossible, Mannix, The Untouchables, and The Lucy Show, became the largest independent television production company in the country before it was sold to Gulf + Western and absorbed by Paramount in 1968.

To honor Desilu's legacy, this year's Comedy Festival will feature a Desilu Ball at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Jamestown. It's a celebration of not just Lucy and Desi, but also the unforgettable characters and performers, like Marilyn and Roz, who helped bring their storytelling to life.



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.

BIRTHDAY PARTY



LUCILLE BALL
AUG. 9 • 11AM
 LAKE VIEW CEMETERY, JAMESTOWN, NY
FREE

Please join us in celebrating Lucy's Birthday at her final resting place. Tom Andolora and The Lake View Cemetery invite you to a free celebration of Lucy's Birthday.

This is the fourth year Lucy Fans from around the country have gathered for a party. Everyone is invited. There will be music, games, prizes, party favors, and cupcakes!

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In Loving Memory

July 24

Nova L. Casten, 100
Falconer
Falconer Funeral Home

July 27

John Holly Scroxton, 90
Bemus Point
Lind Funeral Home

Jonathan R. Jones
“Pryme Time”, 46
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

July 28

William B. Allshouse, 76
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Lisa J. Lowe, 63
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Barbara A. Carlson, 93
Akeley, PA
Peterson Funeral Home

July 25

James Frederick McElrath, Sr., 90
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

John Massey, 84
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

July 26

Lianne D. Edborg, 55
Lakewood
Lind Funeral Home

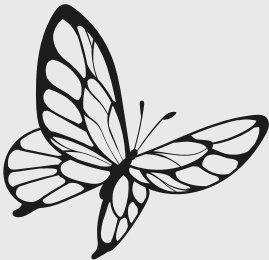
Linda McMillen, 71
Greenhurst
Lind Funeral Home

July 30

Michael A. “Beef” Merwick, 61
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Kathleen A. Close, 65
Bemus Point
Riccardi’s Funeral Home

Virginia Heck, 97
Bemus Point
Lind Funeral Home



Submitted Photo

Audubon Little Explorers Learn About Nature in Color, Pattern, Texture This Saturday

Bring your 3 to 8-year-old(s) to Audubon Community Nature Center’s Little Explorers this Saturday, August 9, 10-11:30 a.m., to learn about “Nature in Color, Pattern, and Texture.” After a short lesson indoors, head outside to look for camouflaging animals, identify the many different shapes and patterns hiding in fields and forests, and decide why plants and animals have certain textures. A snack is provided after the hike and a craft is offered if there is time. To learn more and make reservations by Thursday, visit AudubonCNC.org/Events. The Nature Center is at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown and Warren.

Faith Matters

Legacy is No Laughing Matter



Featured Writer

The Rev. Luke F. Fodor
Rector, St. Luke's Episcopal Church

This week, Jamestown hosts the Annual Comedy Festival and honors the legacy of one of its most famous former denizens, Lucille Ball. Although there will be plenty of laughs and lots of fun as locals and visitors gather to lift their spirits through the narrative power of comedy, the importance of the festival and the legacy it honors is significant.

We live in a culture obsessed with the now — the next post, the next trend, the next success. But legacy is no laughing matter. It's not built overnight, and it's not about popularity or perfection. It's about the quiet, consistent ways we show up and embody our values to shape the lives around us.

Legacy is what we leave behind when the spotlight fades, the stories others tell, the habits we've passed on, the love we've shown, the justice we've pursued, and the laughs we have shared. It's the fingerprints of our faith, our integrity, our service.

With the Comedy Festival, our attention is drawn to the legacy of one former resident. Still, there are many

other past residents, both known and unknown, who have made a lasting impact that makes our city a great place to live. In my ministry at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, I work to steward the impact of parishioners, famous and ordinary alike. For instance, the current 1894 Medina sandstone building was built with a bequest from Mary Prendergast in honor of her deceased daughter, Catherine. It was a sibling building to the James Prendergast Library, also donated by Mary Prendergast to commemorate her son James, who also predeceased her.

When I walk around this City and through St. Luke’s Church, I see the impact of countless other people who sacrificially contributed to the building of the future. They gave so future generations—us—could experience the abundant care. They gave to inspire us to give.

What we build today, in our families, our churches, our communities, matters deeply, not just for us but for those who come after. Legacy isn't about being remembered. It's about having made a difference. So let’s live like it matters. Because it does.

As the City of Jamestown celebrates the legacy of Lucille Ball with laughter, fun, and vibrancy, the people of St. Luke’s are inviting the community to tour its historical building, given by the founder of Jamestown’s daughter-in-law, on Saturday, August 9th. The first tour starts at 10 A.M. and the second at 1 P.M., with tours lasting approximately one hour. All are welcome to the free tour.



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“Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath..”

- George Carlin

JPS Remembers Former JHS Principal McElrath



Submitted Photo

McElrath at the 1994 "McElrath Gymnasium" dedication ceremony.

Contributed by
Jamestown Public Schools

The Jamestown Public Schools family is mourning the loss of longtime Jamestown High School Principal James F. McElrath, Sr. who passed away on Friday, July 25 at the age of 89. Beloved by students and colleagues alike, "Mr. Mac" served the district for 26 years, most notably spending 18 years leading JHS prior to his retirement in 1994.

"Anyone who chooses to spend their career in education aspires to leave the type of legacy that Mr. McElrath left on the Jamestown community," said JPS Superintendent Dr. Kevin Whitaker. "His service as an educator, administrator, and school board member reflected a lifelong commitment to students, families, and the betterment of our schools. The naming of the JHS 'new gym' in his honor in 1994 is a testament to the impact that he made. We are deeply saddened by his passing and our hearts are with his family and loved ones."

The JPS Board of Education held a moment of silence in honor of McElrath prior to the July 28 meeting.

McElrath arrived in Chautauqua County in 1957, spending 10 years at Panama Central School before becoming an English teacher at Washington Junior High School. After spending a year as an administrator at Cassadaga Valley Central School, he returned to JPS in 1970 as principal of Jefferson Junior High School. He became the principal of Jamestown High School in 1976.

In his 18 years as the building's leader, McElrath helped bolster the school's academic, athletics, and arts programs. During his tenure, he helped the high school earn accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, supported the national and world travels of the JHS Marching Band and A Cappella Choir programs, worked with former JHS athletic director Komo Tane to bring Jamestown into the Erie County Interscholastic Conference, collaborated with the Chautauqua Striders to develop Strider Field, and assisted in the development of the "new gym" in 1986.

Upon his retirement in 1994, a student-led effort helped rename the building "McElrath Gymnasium." Following his retirement, he spent three years as a member of the Jamestown Public Schools Board of Education and eight years as an at-large member of the Jamestown City Council.

In 2023, McElrath returned to Strider Field for a special ceremony with members of the JHS Class of 1980, which unveiled two new benches in honor of McElrath and his late wife Marianne, who served as the clinic director for Chautauqua County Mental Health.

"It is so nice to be here with you," McElrath told the group. "I am honored and humbled at the same time. ... I feel as if I could still be your principal. It was 43 years ago that I spoke to you at graduation at Chautauqua, and I said to you: you will be successful. And every one of you has been successful. I remember you very well as evidenced by tonight and what's more important: you remember me by this. I thank you."

August 4 Memory Café Marks Lucille Ball's Birthday at the National Comedy Center

Contributed by
National Comedy Center

Caring for someone with memory loss takes strength—and sometimes, a shared laugh can make all the difference. That's why the National Comedy Center hosts a free Memory Café on the first Monday of each month, designed for individuals living with dementia, Alzheimer's, or other memory-related conditions—along with their caregivers, family members, and care partners.

The next Memory Café will take place on **Monday, August 4 at 10am** — an opportunity to share in laughter, connection, and the support of a welcoming community, as we mark Lucille Ball's birthday week here in her hometown.

Participants can explore the museum's interactive exhibits at their own pace, rekindling joyful memories through beloved shows like *I Love Lucy*, *The Carol Burnett Show*, *The Dick Van Dyke Show*, and *Saturday Night Live*—along with legendary artists such as Johnny Carson, Carl Reiner, Mel Brooks, Betty White, Richard Pryor, Don Rickles and The Smothers Brothers. From timeless sketches to unforgettable characters, the experience inspires connection through the power of laughter.

These monthly gatherings create meaningful experiences for individuals living with memory loss, while offering caregivers and family members a comforting space to relax, connect, and feel supported—providing a break from daily routines and reminding everyone that they're not alone on this journey.

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Rock the Lake 2025

Mark your calendar for Lakewood's concerts this August 10 & 24!

Lakewood Community Development Corporation Brings Music to Hartley Park

Article Contributed by
Lakewood Community Development Corporation

Lakewood Community Development Corporation (LCDC) will continue its Rock The Lake summertime concert series at Hartley Park in Lakewood this Sunday, Aug. 10, 2-5pm. LCDC is working hard to bring the community together for an unforgettable summer of live music and lakefront fun - all for FREE!

The series kicked off in July and boasts four concerts throughout the summer, featuring a dynamic lineup that brings something for everyone. Concertgoers enjoy a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere, from their boat or on the shore, with plenty of room to spread out, dance, and soak up the sun. Food trucks are also on-site, providing local flavor. With Rock The Lake, LCDC provides a space for neighbors to connect and the community to come enjoy the beautiful lakefront offered at Hartley Park.

Artist Lineup for August:

August 10 – Rat Pack Show with a Barbra Streisand Tribute

August 24 – Brass Transit – Chicago Tribute with opening act Furious George

Food Trucks:

Mystic Smoke BBQ
Tita's Dogs
Chachy's Lemonades

Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and their best summer vibes.

No tickets or registration are required. For more information visit, <https://lcdcny.org/> and Instagram (@lcdc_wny) to stay up to date on the show details and participate in our giveaways leading up to the show.

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

Thank you to Rock the Lake sponsors!

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"A Toast to the Rat Pack"

Drift back to a tuxedoed, glamorous era where the famous rubbed shoulders with the politicians and partied hard. Frank, Sammy & Dean, all around entertainers injected their songs into a lifestyle that everyone wanted. The lights dim, the room quiets and the announcer says "ladies and gentlemen, direct from the bar... Dean Martin!". Dean opens the show with a few songs and some relaxed humor, introduces Sammy to kick up the energy, then Frank appears to belt a few great standards. The guys then take the stage together to sing and joke their way to a fun finale, including audience interaction along the way.

"A Toast to the Rat Pack" takes you on a musical journey featuring the greatest hits from the legendary Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, and Sammy Davis Jr. This production will treat you to Sinatra classics including "Come Fly With

Me", "Lady is a Tramp", "My Way", and "New York, New York"! Sway to the soothing sounds of Dino with great songs like "Volare", "Everybody Loves Somebody Sometime", and "That's Amore"! And from the dynamic Sammy Davis Jr... "That Old Black Magic", "Mr. Bojangles" and "Candy Man"! These guys not only sing like their heroes, they physically resemble them on stage, share their unique mannerisms and even banter like they re at the Sands taking part in the "Summit".

With a talented cast, Sebastian Anzaldo, Andy DiMino and Lambus Dean as "Frank, Dean and Sammy", take a trip back to the glamorous, hot, sparkling nights of Las Vegas. Experience world famous recordings, great laughs and the spirit that brings the music and lives of these legendary characters together again!



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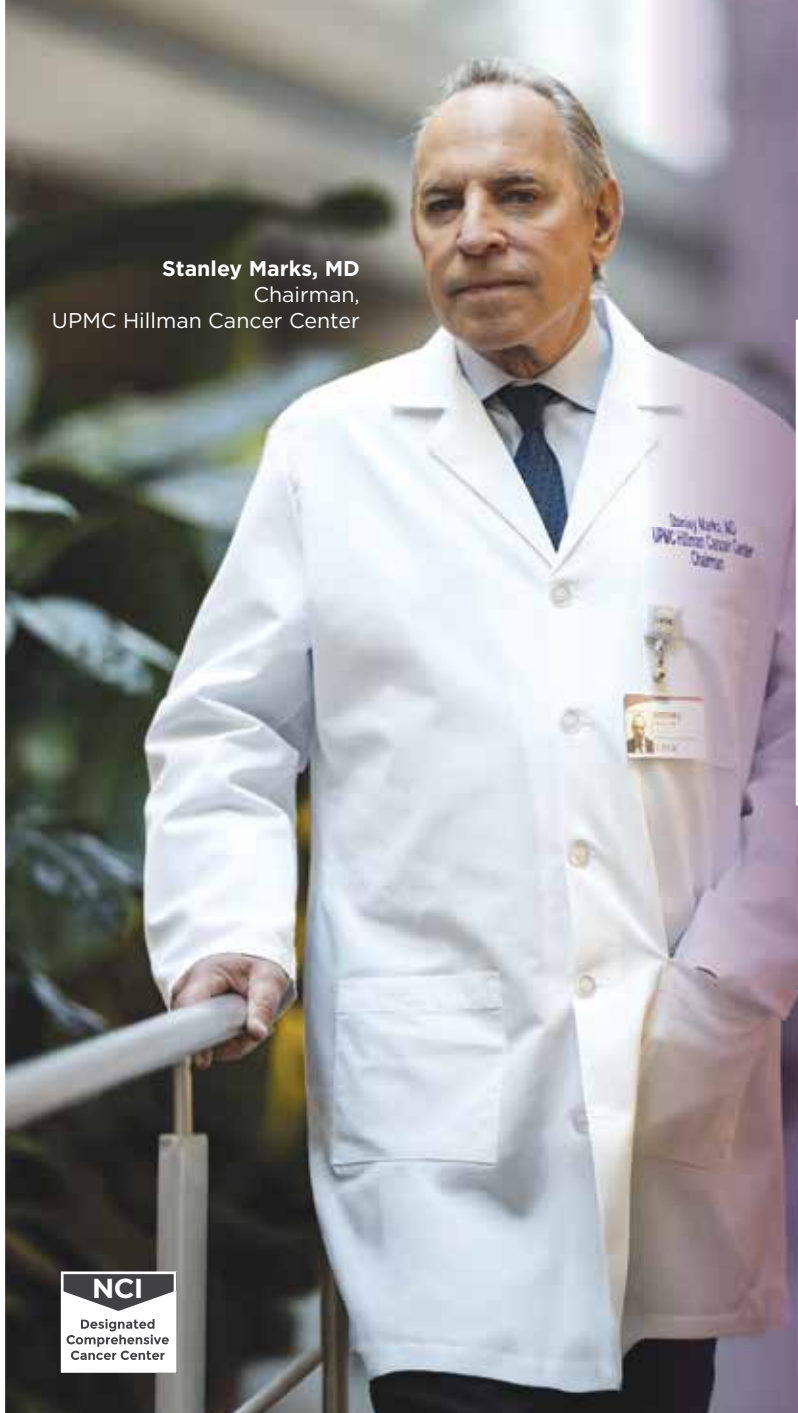


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Lucile M. Wright Air Museum to Reopen



Submitted Photo

John Watkins (Trustee), Dennis Webster (Curator), Ellen Maternowski (President), Rick Rupprecht (Vice president and treasurer)

Contributed by Lucile M. Wright Air Museum

The Lucile M. Wright Air Museum in the Hotel Jamestown Building will reopen to the public on Friday, August 1st under the curatorship of Dennis Webster.

The Wright Museum's mission is to cultivate an interest in aviation among young people, along with preserving the area's aviation history and honoring the legacy of Lucile M. Wright, a 20th century aviation pioneer in Chautauqua County.

Wright Board President, Ellen Maternowski, said, "We are delighted to have the museum open once again, and to have Dennis Webster as our curator. Dennis is poised to build on the fine work of our previous curator, Mark Cole of Warren, Pa." Cole died unexpectedly in the summer of 2024.

Webster, who spent many years announcing on WJTN radio in Jamestown, is excited about the new work, saying, "I hope families will take a few minutes during the summer season to find us in the Hotel

Jamestown Building and see what we have to offer."

The museum has a full size experimental helicopter on display, a retired hot air balloon and basket, two flight simulators, and many other artifacts from over a century of powered flight. The Wright Museum also offers a background explanation of the 'TDR-1,' the wooden drone aircraft built and tested at the Jamestown Airport in World War II.

The museum is located on the first floor of the Hotel Jamestown. Admission is free. People of all ages are welcome. Young children should be appropriately supervised, as there are vintage items exhibited throughout the facility.

Hours: Friday 10 AM to 1 PM & 2 to 4 PM, Saturday 9 AM to 2 PM.

Final admission ½ hour before closing. Hours may vary at times. Check museum website.

Additional information is available at the Wright Air Museum's website: www.lucilemwrightairmuseum.org.

Artists and Locations Announced for Inaugural Paint CHQ Mural Festival

September Event will celebrate new public murals in four Chautauqua County Communities



The artists for the event.

Contributed by Chautauqua County Partnership

The Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG) and Chautauqua County Department of Planning and Development (CCDPD) are pleased to announce that five world-renowned muralists have been selected to paint four large-scale, public murals during the inaugural Paint CHQ mural festival, slated for the second week of September 2025.

Announced in February, Paint CHQ is a new initiative intended to help focus on the important role public art plays in placemaking and strengthening local communities. For the inaugural year, four communities have been selected to host the new murals: Dunkirk, Falconer, Sherman, and Westfield. Coordinating the effort is Alexandra Hall from A H Public Spaces Consulting, LLC, who has assisted with other community mural project around the country.

"The Paint CHQ Mural Festival is more than public art, it is a placemaking strategy that activates underutilized spaces, celebrates a community's cultural identity, and acts as a vibrant storytelling canvas that unites residents, artists, business owners, and visitors," said Rebecca Wurster, Chautauqua County Department of Planning and

Development and CCPEG Planning Coordinator.

After reviewing requests for qualifications from a number of candidates, the Paint CHQ advisory team settled on five different artists for this year's event:

- Dunkirk - Alain Welter (Luxembourg)
- Falconer - Mandi Caskey, aka "Miss Birdy" (Columbus, Ohio)
- Sherman - Emily Ding (Houston) and Justin Suarez, aka "Aerosol Kingdom" (Rochester, N.Y.)
- Westfield - Dom Laporte of DRIFT Mural Co. (Ottawa, Ontario)

The muralists will begin work in late August, and all four murals will be completed by September 13. The public is encouraged to visit the participating communities during the mural installation process. The Paint CHQ mural festival celebrations kick off on Friday, Sept. 12 at 5 p.m. in Westfield, with other community events in Dunkirk, Falconer, and Sherman continuing all day on Saturday, Sept. 13.

In addition to the installation of the murals in each community, Paint CHQ will also feature Artist Talks from Sept. 8 through Sept. 11. Each Artist Talk is a free event open to the public and the public is encouraged to meet with the muralists, hear about their careers, and ask questions. The full Artist Talk schedule can be found online at ChooseCHQ.com/PaintCHQ.

PAINT CHQ MURAL FEST LOCATIONS:

- Dunkirk:** The Coburn Block, 123 Central Ave.
- Falconer:** State Lanes, 16 E. Main St.
- Sherman:** The Cornerstone Restaurant, 104 E. Main St.
- Westfield:** Grace & Abe's Westfield, 14 N. Portage St.

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- SWAT & BOMB, DIVE
- K9 Demo - 6:00PM
- Car Seat Technician/ Safety Check
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**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
CELEBRATION AUGUST 5***Submitted Photo*

Falconer Firefighter Tom Galbraith, Fire Chief Keith Babcock, Firefighter Ian Webster, EPD Sgt. Mike Bergey, Falconer Mayor James Jaroszynski, Falconer Neighborhood Watch members Susan Karr Martorell and Nina Gustafson, Falconer Village Trustee Alan Gustafson, Jr. and Falconer Neighborhood Watch Leader and event organizer, Kerry Chase.

Contributed by
Village of Falconer

On the first Tuesday of August each year, millions of people gather to celebrate the National Night Out which is a community-building campaign that promotes police and residents and efforts to make our communities safer and encourage more and better relationships with law enforcement and bringing people together under positive circumstances. The first National Night Out was held in 1984 with 2.5 million people in attendance and spanned over 23 states and it has grown every year.

For the second year, the Village of Falconer and the Falconer Neighborhood Watch group will be presenting a free community celebration of the National Night Out from 5:30-7:30 PM at the Falconer Fire Department, 115 Davis St in the Village of Falconer. Everyone is encouraged to attend this event and learn about safety in the Village of Falconer.

Representatives from the Falconer Fire Dept will be on hand to give tours of the Fire Hall and there will be fire trucks and an ambulance on hand for visitors to see. EMTs from the department will be available to give glucose and blood pressure checks.

Law Enforcement partners, the Ellicott Police Department and the Chautauqua County Sheriff's Department will be there, and visitors will be able to observe a police car. The Sheriff's Department's SWAT & BOMB and DIVE team will be there to greet the guests and they will have a K-9 demonstration at 6:00 PM. They will also have a Car Seat Technician there to do a Car Seat Safety check for parents and guardians.

The Cherry Grove, PA Volunteer Fire Department K-9 Search and Rescue Team will also be providing a demonstration at 6:30 PM.

Village Mayor, James Jaroszynski was pleased to once again work with the Falconer Neighborhood Watch group to bring this event to the community. "We are looking forward to holding this event again this year. Our partnership with our Neighborhood Watch is so important. We want to continue to build our relationship with our residents, and this community event helps us showcase our commitment to safety and working with our partners in law enforcement in making Falconer a great place to live, work and play."

Kerry Chase, founding member and leader of the Falconer Neighborhood Watch and organizer of the event has been working hard putting everything together to showcase all the partners who have been and will be working together to make the evening a success. "This year, we are pleased to have our local Elliott Police Officers here and we are also very happy to have the addition of the specialized teams from the Chautauqua County Sheriff's Department on hand. It shows the strong partnership of our local fire and police agencies and how a community comes together for the common good."

Other highlights of the event include face painting for the children, school bus safety and crafts with the staff from the Falconer Library. Alan Gustafson, Jr. trustee for the Village will be on hand to provide information to residents on the Village's 2025 NY Forward application. The Village is seeking the public's input for the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

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LIVE IN JAMESTOWN: AUGUST 7-10, 2025

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2025 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE



THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

Kids Comedy Workshop

12:00 PM - LOBBY OF NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Have fun and learn more about how you can make comedy! Explore the museum through discussions and activities led by a museum educator, then try your hand at improv, stand-up, and internet humor. Ideal for children aged 6 to 12 and their families, though all ages (and audience members) are welcome!

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

Yes, And: The History of Improv

1:30 PM - COMEDY KARAOKE LOUNGE AT THE NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Saying yes, being in the moment, listening to others – not just what a therapist might tell you to do, but a *iso* an improv coach! Learn more about the history and cultural impact of improvisational theater, and how it has infiltrated and improved every other comedic format.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

Archives Encounter: Pat Paulsen for President

THROUGHOUT THE DAY - NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Explore selections from the archive of legendary comedian Pat Paulsen, including his hand-written notes and working documents. Archivists will be stationed periodically near the Page to Stage exhibit area.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

100 Years of Lenny Bruce

2:30 PM - COMEDY KARAOKE LOUNGE AT THE NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Celebrate the centennial birthday of one of the most important stand-ups of all time: Lenny Bruce! Join a museum educator in discussing and analyzing the life and works of this incredible comedian, and how he changed American comedy as we know it.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

Live From New York: It's a Talk!

3:30 PM - COMEDY KARAOKE LOUNGE AT THE NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Get the inside scoop on what it's like within the hallowed halls of 30 Rock at *Saturday Night Live*. This presentation, led by a museum educator, explores the rigorous weekly schedule, the process of taking a sketch from paper to production, and the evolution of the show over its 50-year run.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION



Tropicana Dinner: And the Winner Is...Desilu Studios

5:00 PM - TROPICANA CLUB AT THE LUCY DESI MUSEUM

Enjoy dinner in the famous Tropicana Club as we relive the moments when Desilu Studios took home the entertainment industry's biggest prizes! A buffet dinner will be served while the Tropicana stage re-creation will be open for photos with Lucille Ball's Emmy Award!

PRICE: \$37.50

August 7 Continued

Desilu's 75th Anniversary Ball

7:00 PM - DOUBLETREE BY HILTON JAMESTOWN

Spend the evening with us in your favorite Hollywood-style attire for a fun-filled event as we celebrate Desilu's 75th anniversary, including hors d'oeuvres, music, a costume contest, and more! Prizes will be awarded to the top contest winners.

PRICE: \$47.50



Comedy Late Night

8:00 PM & 10:00 PM - TROPICANA CLUB AT THE LUCY DESI MUSEUM

Comics from around the nation who have appeared on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*, *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, *Conan*, *Late Night with Seth Meyers*, *Last Comic Standing*, and more will be performing their newest, and sometimes blue-est material. This event takes place in "Ricky Ricardo's" famous night club. Beer and wine served at additional cost.

Featuring: Mia Jackson, Jay Jurden, Nathan Macintosh, Shane Torres, and Eagle Witt!

Please Note: Show contains adult content.

PRICE: \$37.50

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

Archives Encounter: Madelyn Pugh, "Girl Writer"

THROUGHOUT THE DAY - NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Learn the story of legendary comedy writer Madelyn Pugh as you explore scripts and working documents chronicling her role in the creation of *I Love Lucy* and other television classics. Archivists will be stationed periodically near the Page to Stage exhibit area.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

Lucille Ball's Hometown Tour

10:30 AM, 1:00 PM & 3:30 PM - LUCY DESI MUSEUM

An ever-popular guided bus tour of Lucy's hometown, our "Lucy Town Tours," with a friendly and knowledgeable step-on guide, will take you to places of significance to Lucille Ball in Jamestown, NY and nearby Celoron. You will see the house that she was born in, the house where she grew up, and much more.

Approx. Duration 1hr 45min

PRICE: \$27.50

Kids Comedy Workshop

11:00 AM - LOBBY OF NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Have fun and learn more about how you can make comedy! Explore the museum through discussions and activities led by a museum educator, then try your hand at improv, stand-up, and internet humor. Ideal for children aged 6 to 12 and their families, though all ages (and audience members) are welcome!

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

August 8 Continued



Live From New York: It's a Talk!

12:30 PM - COMEDY KARAOKE LOUNGE AT THE NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Get the inside scoop on what it's like within the hallowed halls of 30 Rock at *Saturday Night Live*. This presentation, led by a museum educator, explores the rigorous weekly schedule, the process of taking a sketch from paper to production, and the evolution of the show over its 50-year run.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

Tropicana Lunch: Babalu Music

12:30 PM - TROPICANA CLUB AT THE LUCY DESI MUSEUM

Enjoy lunch in the famous Tropicana Club as "Ricky Ricardo" entertains with fan-favorite video performances on the big screen! A buffet lunch will be served while the Tropicana stage re-creation will be open for photos! All attendees also receive a one-of-a-kind Babalu keepsake.

PRICE: \$37.50

Lucy-Desi Super-Fan Trivia

2:00 PM - DOUBLETREE BY HILTON JAMESTOWN

Who will be crowned 2025's Lucy Desi super-fan trivia winner? This trivia contest covers the incredible lives and careers of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz – starting with easier questions and amping up in difficulty as you compete with your peers to win a grand prize.

PRICE: \$25.00

A Scatological Movement Through Comedy

3:00 PM - COMEDY KARAOKE LOUNGE AT THE NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Let's face it – everybody farts, poops, and pees. And just about everybody finds these acts funny (at least to some degree). Join a museum educator and engage with all things scatological humor by discussing the history, creation, and reception of some of the most well-known scatological jokes.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION



Behind the Laughter: Remembering Bob Carroll Jr.

5:00 PM - DOUBLETREE BY HILTON JAMESTOWN

Step into the writers' room of *I Love Lucy* for a rare glimpse behind-the-scenes into the creative work and legacy of the comedy-writing duo of Bob Carroll Jr. and Madelyn Pugh. Join us for a special event featuring Christina Carroll, daughter of Bob Carroll Jr., as she shares personal stories and reflections on her father's creative genius and the legacy he helped to build alongside Lucille Ball and the *I Love Lucy* team. An opportunity for Q&A will be available.

PRICE: \$37.50

Tropicana Dinner: On the Lot at Desilu

5:00 PM - TROPICANA CLUB AT THE LUCY DESI MUSEUM

Enjoy dinner in the famous Tropicana Club as Lucy

August 8 Continued

and Desi give you a behind-the-scenes tour of Desilu Studios! A buffet dinner will be served while the Tropicana stage re-creation will be open for photos and attendees receive a one-of-a-kind Desilu souvenir!

PRICE: \$37.50

100 Years of Lenny Bruce

6:30 PM - COMEDY KARAOKE LOUNGE AT THE NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Celebrate the centennial birthday of one of the most important stand-ups of all time: Lenny Bruce! Join a museum educator in discussing and analyzing the life and works of this incredible comedian, and how he changed American comedy as we know it.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION



Stand-Up Live!

7:00 PM - REG LENNA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

A fast-paced evening of standout comedy featuring some of today's best touring comedians – seen on major network late-night shows, top comedy platforms, and stages across the country. From sharp observational humor to high-energy punchlines, this show delivers an unforgettable night of laughter.

Featuring: Erin Jackson, Adam Mamawala, Erica Rhodes, Shane Torres, & more!

PRICE: \$20.00



Comedy Late Night

8:00 PM & 10:00 PM - TROPICANA CLUB AT THE LUCY DESI MUSEUM

Comics from around the nation who have appeared on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*, *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, *Conan*, *Late Night with Seth Meyers*, *Last Comic Standing*, and more will be performing their newest, and sometimes blue-est material. This event takes place in "Ricky Ricardo's" famous night club. Beer and wine served at additional cost.

Featuring: Alex Kumin, Caitlin Gill, Dina Hashem, Nathan Macintosh, Adam Mamawala!

Please Note: Show contains adult content.

PRICE: \$37.50

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

Archives Encounter: Dick Van Dyke's Centennial Year

THROUGHOUT THE DAY - NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Get up close to memorabilia and production archives from the classic sitcom *The Dick Van Dyke Show*. Archivists will be stationed periodically near the TV Room exhibit.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

“It’s a helluva start, being able to recognize what makes you happy.”

- Lucille Ball

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Visit the Comedy Center all Year Long!

Plan Your Visit at ComedyCenter.org



2025 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

August 9 Continued

Lucille Ball's Hometown Tour

10:00 AM, 12:30 PM & 3:00 PM -
LUCY DESI MUSEUM

An ever-popular guided bus tour of Lucy's hometown, our "Lucy Town Tours," with a friendly and knowledgeable step-on guide, will take you to places of significance to Lucille Ball in Jamestown, NY and nearby Celoron. You will see the house that she was born in, the house where she grew up, and much more.

Approx. Duration 1hr 45min

PRICE: \$27.50



Kids Comedy Workshop

10:30 AM - LOBBY OF NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Have fun and learn more about how you can make comedy! Explore the museum through discussions and activities led by a museum educator, then try your hand at improv, stand-up, and internet humor. Ideal for children aged 6 to 12 and their families, though all ages (and audience members) are welcome!

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

I Love Lucy Trivia: 101

11:00 AM - DOUBLETREE BY HILTON
JAMESTOWN

Show off your knowledge of all things *I Love Lucy* in our annual fan trivia contest! *I Love Lucy* Trivia: 101 is a family-friendly contest designed with lots of laughs for casual and long-time fans alike! Fun prizes will be awarded throughout the contest

PRICE: \$25.00

George Carlin: Behind the Scenes

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM - NATIONAL
COMEDY CENTER

Join Kelly Carlin-McCall author, Emmy Award-winning producer, founder of Humans on the Verge and daughter of legendary comedian George Carlin, for a behind-the-scenes look at the George Carlin exhibit where she'll be sharing some of her favorite moments of what it was like growing up with a comedic icon.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

Yes, And: The History of Improv

12:30 PM - COMEDY KARAOKE LOUNGE AT THE
NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Saying yes, being in the moment, listening to others – not just what a therapist might tell you to do, but also an improv coach! Learn more about the history and cultural impact of improvisational theater, and how it has infiltrated and improved every other comedic format.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

Tropicana Lunch: On the Lot at Desilu

12:00 PM - TROPICANA CLUB AT THE LUCY
DESI MUSEUM

Enjoy lunch in the famous Tropicana Club as Lucy and Desi give you a behind-the-scenes tour of Desilu Studios! A buffet lunch will be served while the Tropicana stage re-creation will be open for photos and attendees receive a one-of-a-kind Desilu souvenir!

PRICE: \$37.50

Live From New York: It's a Talk!

2:30 PM - COMEDY KARAOKE LOUNGE AT THE
NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Get the inside scoop on what it's like within the hallowed halls of 30 Rock at *Saturday Night Live*. This presentation, led by a museum educator, explores the rigorous weekly schedule, the process of taking a sketch from paper to production, and the evolution of the show over its 50-year run.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

August 9 Continued



Joan Rivers Exhibit Ribbon Cutting

3:00 PM - NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Join us as Melissa Rivers cuts the ribbon on our new Joan Rivers exhibit, featuring Joan's legendary filing cabinet with 67,000 meticulously organized jokes – a powerful tribute to her trailblazing career and comedic genius.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

A Scatological Movement Through Comedy

4:00 PM - COMEDY KARAOKE LOUNGE AT THE
NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Let's face it – everybody farts, poops, and pees. And just about everybody finds these acts funny (at least to some degree). Join a museum educator and engage with all things scatological humor by discussing the history, creation, and reception of some of the most well-known scatological jokes.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION

Tropicana Dinner: And the Winner Is...Desilu Studios

4:00 PM & 5:30PM - TROPICANA CLUB AT THE
LUCY DESI MUSEUM

Enjoy dinner in the famous Tropicana Club as we relive the moments when Desilu Studios took home the entertainment industry's biggest prizes! A buffet dinner will be served while the Tropicana stage re-creation will be open for photos with Lucille Ball's Emmy Award!

PRICE: \$37.50

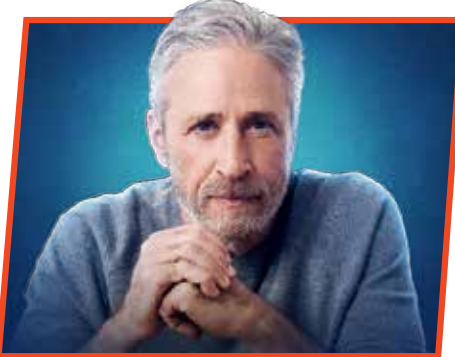
Block Party

5:00 PM - NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Join us outside of the National Comedy Center before and after the Jon Stewart show for a party like no other! Enjoy live music, beer, wine, food trucks and more!

Featuring Music By: Jim Donovan and the Sun King Warriors

PRICE: FREE



An Evening with Jon Stewart

7:00 PM - NORTHWEST ARENA

Longtime host and executive producer of *The Daily Show*, Jon Stewart redefined political satire and has become a trusted voice for a generation. Recently, he has returned to stand-up comedy, bringing his unfiltered perspective and razor-sharp observations back to the stage. His rare live appearances have been met with sold-out crowds and critical acclaim. This is a show you won't want to miss!

PRICES RANGE FROM \$67.50 TO \$177.50

August 9 Continued



Comedy Late Night

8:00 PM & 10:00 PM - TROPICANA CLUB AT
THE LUCY DESI MUSEUM

Comics from around the nation who have appeared on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*, *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, *Conan*, *Late Night with Seth Meyers*, *Last Comic Standing*, and more will be performing their newest, and sometimes blue-est material. This event takes place in "Ricky Ricardo's" famous night club. Beer and wine served at additional cost.

Featuring: Brittany Brave, Alex Kumin, Ryan Goldsher, Adam Mamawala, and Monroe Martin!

Please Note: Show contains adult content.

PRICE: \$37.50

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

Tropicana Tea and Brunch

11:00 AM - TROPICANA CLUB AT THE LUCY
DESI MUSEUM

Enjoy brunch and a sampling of teas in the famous Tropicana Club just as "Lucy & Ethel" would have with the Women's Club! A buffet brunch will be served while the Tropicana stage re-creation will be open for selfies! All attendees also receive a one-of-a-kind afternoon tea keepsake.

PRICE: \$37.50

George Carlin: Behind the Scenes

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM - NATIONAL
COMEDY CENTER

Join Kelly Carlin-McCall author, Emmy Award-winning producer, founder of Humans on the Verge and daughter of legendary comedian George Carlin, for a behind-the-scenes look at the George Carlin exhibit where she'll be sharing some of her favorite moments of what it was like growing up with a comedic icon.

PRICE: FREE WITH MUSEUM ADMISSION



Streeter Seidell and James Austin Johnson: Inside Saturday Night Live

2:00 PM - REG LENNA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

As *Saturday Night Live* celebrates its 50th anniversary, we welcome head writer Streeter Seidell and cast member James Austin Johnson for an on-stage conversation offering an inside look at the iconic sketch comedy institution.

Streeter Seidell has shaped the creative voice of *Saturday Night Live* since joining the writing staff in 2014 and rising to head writer in 2022. He's co-authored many of SNL's most talked about sketches over the past decade. James Austin Johnson has quickly emerged as one of the show's most versatile cast members, known for his sharp, imaginative character work – including viral impressions of Joe Biden, Adam Driver, and Donald Trump. Purchase includes one free admission to the National Comedy Center (including a newly expanded SNL exhibit) valid for 90 days.

PRICE: \$37.50 INCLUDING MUSEUM ADMISSION.
MEMBERS FREE

August 10 Continued

Block Party

3:00 PM - NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER

Join us outside of the National Comedy Center before and after the Stand-Up Showcase Featuring Bill Murray and His Blood Brothers for a party like no other! Enjoy live music, beer, wine, food trucks and more!

Featuring Music By: Charity Nuse (and Her Band)

PRICE: FREE



Stand-Up Showcase Featuring Music By Bill Murray & His Blood Brothers

5:00 PM - NORTHWEST ARENA

Our ever-popular Stand-Up Showcase will be followed by a Rock 'n' Blues concert featuring Bill Murray and His Blood Brothers for an evening of live comedy and music. A blues and classic rock performance along with stand-up by some of today's top talent from around the country will make this a must-see event!

Featuring Comedy By: Tony Deyo, Jakie Fabulous, Ryan Goldsher, and Andy Huggins

PRICES RANGE FROM \$37.50 TO \$143.50

PARTNER EVENTS AT PEARL CITY CLAY HOUSE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7 THROUGH
SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

Get creative at Pearl City Clay House with a variety of hands-on classes where you can craft unique souvenirs to remember your time in Lucy's hometown of Jamestown, NY. A multitude of classes will be offered throughout the week – explore the schedule and purchase tickets at ComedyCenter.org/Festival.

“You have to be able
to laugh at yourself.

Attitude is almost more
important than what
happens to you.”

- Dick Van Dyke

NATIONAL
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ComedyCenter.org/Festival

Step Inside Comedy History: Exclusive Museum Experiences During the Lucille Ball Comedy Festival



Contributed by
National Comedy Center

During the Lucille Ball Comedy Festival in August, the National Comedy Center will offer visitors exclusive behind-the-scenes glimpses into the creative process that shaped generations of comedy. Guests can experience special archive presentations, in-depth pop-up sessions, and hands-on Kids Comedy Workshops led by museum archivists and educators – all included with museum admission and designed to bring the process and history of comedy to life in new and engaging ways.

Kids Comedy Workshop
August 7 • 12:00–1:00 PM
August 8 • 11:00 AM–12:00 PM
August 9 • 10:30–11:30 AM

Led by museum educators, these fun and interactive workshops introduce children ages 6–12 and their families to the fundamentals of comedy through stand-up, improv games, and laughter-filled activities.

Yes, And: The History of Improv
August 7 • 1:30–2:00 PM
August 9 • 12:30–1:00 PM
Comedy Karaoke Lounge

Discover how the principle of “Yes, And” – the foundation of improv that encourages listening, agreement, and building on others’ ideas – has shaped the evolution of modern comedy. From its roots in theatrical games to its influence on sketch and stand-up, this session explores how improvisation became one of comedy’s most enduring and collaborative forms.

100 Years of Lenny Bruce
August 7 • 2:30–3:00 PM
August 8 • 6:30–7:00 PM
Comedy Karaoke Lounge

Honoring the centennial of legendary comic Lenny Bruce, this discussion explores his fearless approach to stand-up and his role in expanding the boundaries of free speech in comedy.

Live From New York: It’s a Talk!
August 7 • 3:30–4:00 PM
August 8 • 12:30–1:00 PM
August 9 • 2:30–3:00 PM
Comedy Karaoke Lounge

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LIVE IN JAMESTOWN: AUGUST 7-10, 2025

Visit the Comedy Center all Year Long!

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2025 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Jon Stewart, Bill Murray, SNL Stars Headline Lucille Ball Comedy Festival – 50+ Events Over Four Days in Comedy's Hometown

Continued from Front Cover

you encountered his genius as a sketch comedian on SNL or came to know him through films considered 'required reading' in many households including mine, from Caddy Shack to Stripes to Ghostbusters to Groundhog Day to What About Bob and more, he's left an indelible mark and an incomparable legacy. We're thrilled to have him headline an incredible evening of music while he shares the spotlight with his phenomenal Blood Brothers band."

The laughs begin on Friday, August 8 with the Stand-Up Live! showcase held at the Reg Lenna Center for the Arts, featuring a diverse lineup of top touring stand-up comics. Known for sharp writing, bold perspectives, and fresh voices, this Friday night mainstage event is a festival favorite.

On Sunday afternoon, also at the Reg Lenna, SNL cast member James Austin Johnson and head writer

Streeter Seidell take the stage for Inside Saturday Night Live – an exclusive on-stage conversation curated for comedy's national archive. As the festival honors SNL's 50th anniversary and accession of the cue cards from the viral "Washington's Dream" SNL sketch into the museum's permanent collection, Johnson and Seidell will explore the writing, performing, and legacy of the show.

"It's an incredible honor to be invited to the National Comedy Center to talk about the craft of comedy," said Seidell. "And an even greater honor to have some of our work preserved in the Center's archive alongside that of our heroes. That honestly seems like a mistake on the Center's part – but we're going to roll with it until they realize their error."

Comedy Late Night in the Tropicana

Club continues upstairs from the Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum, with two uncensored stand-up shows nightly on August 7, 8, and 9 in an intimate club setting.

A special ribbon-cutting ceremony with Melissa Rivers will take place on Saturday, August 9 at 3 p.m. at the National Comedy Center, marking the opening of a new exhibit showcasing the legendary Joan Rivers joke file – 67,000 original jokes meticulously handwritten and categorized by Rivers over the course of her six-decade career. The exhibit offers unprecedented access to her creative process and comedic brilliance.

Throughout the weekend, Lucy Legacy events celebrate Lucille Ball's life and career, including LucyTown Tours of historic locations and I Love Lucy lunches and dinners at the Tropicana Club, with extended hours at the Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum for visitors exploring Lucy and Desi's legacy.

The celebration also spills into the streets with free outdoor block parties featuring live music. On Saturday, August 9, Jim Donovan and the Sun King Warriors perform on the outdoor stage and on Sunday, August 10, Charity Nuse and her band take the stage, along with food trucks and a lively downtown scene bringing the community together.

Across four days, the award-winning National Comedy Center will offer special activities, including kids comedy workshops and archive experiences – all included with museum admission.

With its unique blend of legacy and innovation, star power and rising talent, and national visibility grounded in a hometown story, the Lucille Ball Comedy Festival has become a bucket-list event for comedy fans nationwide – and a joyful celebration of culture and community in Western New York. For tickets, the full schedule, and more, visit ComedyCenter.org/festival.

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& HIS BLOOD BROTHERS

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SUN
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FRI
AUG 8



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Laugh, Create, Connect: A Personalized Comedy Adventure Awaits

Contributed by
National Comedy Center

At the National Comedy Center in Jamestown, NY, visitors don't just walk through exhibits –they laugh, create, and connect through a comedy experience that is uniquely their own. With groundbreaking personalization and interactive technology, the museum transforms every visit into a one-of-a-kind journey tailored to each guest's sense of humor

It all begins with a digital "Sense of Humor Profile." Guests select their favorite comedians, TV shows, and movies, which are stored on a wearable LaughBand bracelet embedded with an RFID chip. As they explore, exhibits respond with content that matches their preferences – serving up custom-curated laughs that reflect each visitor's comedic style, whether it's classic slapstick, dry deadpan, edgy satire and more.

The museum doesn't just present comedy – it invites guests to create it. Visitors can design digital cartoons and memes, perform stand-up routines in the Comedy Karaoke Lounge, re-create iconic facial expressions of legendary comics in our "Ham it Up" experience, or step into classic scenes using green screen technology. Their creations are saved and sent to them afterward as a personalized digital scrapbook of their visit.

The experience is smartly tailored for all ages. Younger guests enjoy interactive, family-friendly humor like cartoons and physical comedy, while adults can dive deeper into

classic and contemporary material – including uncensored content in The Blue Room. When visitors engage in exhibits together, the technology even identifies shared comedic tastes, serving up laughs everyone can enjoy.

Memorable moments happen often. A teenager, unfamiliar with classic television, left the Johnny Carson Immersive Experience saying, "You know what? He's pretty funny." A father and daughter once performed stand-up sets for each other – he picked comedian Mitch Hedberg, she chose John Mulaney – and spent the rest of the day cracking each other up. These shared experiences showcase how comedy connects generations.

The Comedy Center also offers a rare look at the creative process. Guests can explore original joke files from legends like George Carlin and Joan Rivers and gain insight into how comedians craft material. In The Blue Room – exclusively for guests 18 and older—visitors explore boundary-pushing material from comedy pioneers like Richard Pryor and Lenny Bruce, along with legendary comedy roasts throughout comedy history – work that challenged social norms and redefined the edges of free expression.

Popular exhibits include the Stand-Up Lounge, where visitors tap their LaughBand to instantly access stand-up clips tailored to their humor profile; the "Act the Part" green screen experience, which places guests into iconic scenes from beloved movies and TV shows; and digital stations where visitors can create their own memes and cartoons – bringing their personal sense of humor to life in creative and shareable ways.



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CHAMBER CORNER

Get Your Business Ready for Even More Summer Visitors

Article Contributed by

Daniel J. Heitzenrater

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
President and CEO

It's August, and while we've seen a lot of summer tourists all around Chautauqua County already this summer, things are about to get even busier.

This weekend is the annual Gerry Rodeo in Gerry, America's Grape Country Craft Beverage Festival at the Chautauqua County Fairgrounds in Dunkirk, the Ellington Town Picnic, Sherman Days, the Bemus Point Summer Fest, the Chautauqua Region Vintage Book and Paper Show in Mayville, the Cat Video Fest at the Fredonia Opera House, and the opening of Groundhog Day The Musical at Lucille Ball Little Theatre in Jamestown. That's just a sample of what's happening throughout Chautauqua County right now, and the next few weeks will bring even more.

The annual Lucille Ball Festival of Comedy runs August 7-10 in Jamestown featuring a sold-out Evening with Jon Stewart and a Stand-Up Showcase featuring music by Bill Murray & His Blood Brothers. Additional events include Mikey Day and Streeter Seidell from Saturday Night Live, late-night comedy, Lucille Ball trivia, and much more. You can find all the details at comedycenter.org.

Also coming up in August are the Chautauqua Lake Dragon Boat Festival in Celoron on the 9th, the Gus Macker Basketball tournament in Jamestown the 9th-10th, the Babe Ruth 13-Year-Old World Series August 16th - 23rd in Jamestown, the Summerjam on the Avenue 3-on-3 Street Basketball Tournament in Dunkirk August 16th, and the Innovative Outdoors Walleye Challenge in Dunkirk August 15-16th.

All these events draw visitors to local businesses including other attractions, restaurants, retailers, gas stations, and more. Is your business stocked and ready? Do you have the supplies and staff you need to meet a high-traffic moment? Is your signage in good condition so customers can find you? Is your social media up to date with accurate hours? Each year Chautauqua County gears up for the summer tourism season. Some weeks

(and weekends) create an even larger draw than our usual warm-weather attractions including our lakes, hiking trails, golf courses, and the summer-long Chautauqua Institution and Lily Dale program seasons.

If you are ever uncertain about upcoming events that may boost tourism and traffic for your business, we urge you to check the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau online calendar at www.tourchautauqua.com. This comprehensive calendar includes events from all over Chautauqua County and provides valuable information for visitors and residents alike.

Chamber Presents Elected Officials Luncheon August 8

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. Limited space remains for this event. Please register through the Chamber's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

Peace, Hope and Joy with Linda Kent

Blob Comedy



Featured Writer

Linda Kent

I'm a City of Jamestown girl. Born, raised and beloved. After I got married, however, I moved to the far outskirts of Sherman. Rural countryside. God's country. Roads were largely unpaved back then, and no streetlights were a huge adjustment for a girl like me. Night in the beautiful countryside is different without ambient city lights.

However, the biggest adjustment was the dirt back roads. They weren't too bad by day; except for encountering slow farm equipment, courtesy of the bustling local agriculture community. Night was for the adventurous. Deer crossed unexpectedly as well as raccoons, opossums, porcupines and occasionally, foxes. You had to stay sharp and focused at all times, especially on nights with cloud cover or no moon.

Coming home on one such night, I got the scare of my life. I was in the middle of nowhere, coming up on a turn I needed to make. About fifty feet beyond the turn, there was this white 'thing' in the road. A shapeless white blob that was slowly moving diagonally towards the corner. I hit the brakes, terrified, trying to figure out what I was seeing. It made no sense. There was no shape; no head, arms, or legs, yet it was slowly moving closer.

I sat frozen, thinking I was seeing some kind of ghost. Should I turn around and go another way? Should I gun the truck, speed to the corner, and slip past the misshapen thing before it could get to the intersection?

Not wanting my back to this thing, I made for the corner. Pressing the gas, my truck leaped towards the corner and the blob. Just as I was turning, my lights fully illuminated the ghost. It was a COW! A black and white cow of which only the white showed in my headlights from that distance.

Relief flooded through me, and I pulled over, laughing until I cried. Some farmer's cow decided to take a midnight stroll just in time to scare the wits out of this city girl!

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National Night Out Celebration August 5

Continued from Page 13

submitted this fall.

Refreshments and ice cream will be available to purchase from the Falconer Kiwanis and Cups and Cones.

As part of the celebration for the National Night Out, Village of Falconer residents are encouraged to leave their outside lights out in

solidarity to promote safety and celebrate the partnership of residents and law enforcement.

For more information, you can visit the Village of Falconer website or Facebook page or the Falconer Neighborhood Watch Facebook page. You can also visit the National Night Out website at www.natw.org.

The Great American Invention: Laughter as an Act of Hope

Continued from Front Page

In everyday life, comedy acts as both a balm and a compass. It's in the podcasts we listen to on the commute. The memes we text during lunch. The stand-up special we stream after putting the kids to bed. It gives us permission to not take ourselves too seriously, to acknowledge our flaws, and to connect with others through a shared moment of absurdity. It lives in kitchen-table stories, in watercooler recaps, in church basement open mics. It is democratic, accessible, and resilient — just like the country that birthed it.

So when we talk about American greatness, let's talk about the ability to turn our challenges into punchlines, to find light in the darkness, and to laugh our way through the hard times. Like jazz and baseball, comedy evolves — speaking truth to power, bridging cultural divides, and keeping us honest.

Because in a country that often feels divided, comedy — like a well-thrown pitch or an improvised solo — reminds us that brilliance still lives in the unexpected. And that laughter, above all, is an act of hope.



CHAUTAUQUA FARMERS MARKETS

Dunkirk Farmers Market

Wednesdays, 9 AM–2 PM
June 11–October 8

45 Cliffstar Court, Dunkirk

Shop local meats, produce, handmade soaps, and more while staying cool under the new pavilion.

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

Lakewood Farmers Market

Thursdays, 12 PM–4 PM
June–September

Chautauqua Avenue, Lakewood

Set in the heart of the historic village center, enjoy a mix of produce, baked goods, and local specialties.

Accepts: FMNP, Fresh Connect checks (most vendors)
lakewoodny.gov/farmers-artisans-market | 716-763-8557

Forestville Farmers Market

Thursdays, 2 PM–6 PM
May 13–August 26

Main Street, Forestville

A growing market featuring vendors from Fredonia, including Degolier Maple Syrup, local produce, and handcrafted items.

Accepts: SNAP, Fresh Connect checks
716-965-2921

Jamestown Farmers Market

Saturdays, 9 AM–1 PM
June 7–November 22

Third Street, Jamestown
(in front of Lucy Desi Museum)

More than a place to shop, the Jamestown Farmers Market is a community hub outfitted with longtime vendors like Abers Acres and Hidden Valley, and new favorites like Lantern's Hollow offering sustainable greens and herbs. In winter months, visit the indoor market at St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

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

Fredonia Farmers Market

Saturdays, 9 AM–1 PM
year-round

Baker Commons, Fredonia

Year-round access to local meats from Roo Haven Farms and Green Heron Growers, plus prepared foods from Pots n' Curries and specialty baked goods (including gluten-free and keto).

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

Westfield Farmers & Artisans Market

Saturdays, 9 AM–2 PM
May 24–September 27

Corner of Routes 20 & 394, Westfield

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westfieldmkt@gmail.com

Falconer Farmers & Artisans Market

Saturdays, 10 AM–4 PM
May 31–October 25

Village of Falconer Park

Visit with local vendors and shops like Persnickety Pies and browse handmade artisan goods, fresh produce, and more each Saturday throughout the summer season.

716-665-4400

Bemus Point Farmers Market

Saturdays, 10 AM - 2 PM
June 14–August 30

Lakeside Park
(by the Village Casino)

Located in the scenic lakeside village, this market is the perfect spot to shop for fresh goods while enjoying the beautiful surroundings of Bemus Point.

bemuspointny.org/farmers-market

Cassadaga Farmers Market

Sundays, 12 PM–3 PM
June - end of summer

Ames Commons, Cassadaga

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Accepts: SNAP, FMNP, Fresh Connect checks
cassadaganewyork.org
716-595-3007

Jamestown Mobile Market

Various times and locations across Jamestown
June - September

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Teacher & Non-profit Leader Aaron Gies Announces Campaign for Congress in New York's Twenty Third District

Contributed by

Aaron Gies for Congress

Today, small-town professor, non-profit leader, and democracy advocate Aaron Gies announced he is running for Congress in New York's twenty-third district. After exploring candidacy by meeting with activists and concerned citizens in partisan and non-partisan settings, Gies shared with supporters his intention to challenge Nicholas Langworthy in 2026, emphasizing the need to elect leaders who listen to and lift up those they serve.



Aaron Gies.

"We're in an affordability crisis in New York State. The American Dream is out of reach for most people," said Gies. "A government that favors those at the top isn't just wrong because it's unfair, it's wrong because it doesn't work. This crisis can only be solved by all of us together. Rural folks know how to take care of themselves. They need their government to support them, not sell them out to elite interests."

Aaron Gies is a professor and board chair of a local non-profit farm. He regularly assists in the running of his wife's veterinary practice. Born in rural NC and raised in a small town, Aaron appreciates rural life's unique challenges. As the son of a self-employed contractor and a school secretary, he learned the value of hard work and enterprise as well as education.

"I'm running for Congress because government only works when leaders put the people first," added Gies. "Nick Langworthy won't meet with his constituents. He rubber-stamps everything the Trump administration does, no matter what it means for those he serves. Tariffs and high prices are hurting our small businesses, funding cuts are killing our local hospitals and schools, and working families are struggling to pay for housing while special interests are celebrating their government largesse. Western New Yorkers and residents of the Southern Tier are hardworking, resilient, and creative.

Our government should invest in us, not exploit us for the benefit of greedy elites."

Key dynamics in NY-23:

- The district has not had a serious Democratic challenger since redistricting in 2024.
- This year, the Cook Political Report moved NY-23 from R+12 (2023) to R+10. Elise Stefanik's district, NY-21, which is being strongly contested by Democrats, is also R+10.
- Although the district is overwhelmingly rural, 60% of active voters live in Southern Erie County, which has been trending Democratic.
- Langworthy is tightly tied to Trump and extreme Buffalo Republican mega-donor Carl Paladino.
- Gies has a broad and growing coalition of support, including farmers, teachers, small business owners, faith leaders, students, veterans, and more. His approach of listening first and building consensus around existing strengths appeals to voters across a wide ideological spectrum.

Photos of Gies can be found HERE and attributed to the campaign. Follow the campaign online at www.aaronforny23.com, Facebook ([/aarongies23](https://www.facebook.com/aarongies23)), Bluesky ([@aaron.gies.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/aaron.gies.bsky.social)) and X ([@AaronGiesNY23](https://twitter.com/AaronGiesNY23)).

For more information, contact: press@aaronforny23.com.

Fredonia Opera House Selected to be Part of 30-City Pete Correale Tour



Pete Correale performing standup comedy.

Contributed by

Fredonia Opera House

The 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center has been announced as part of a 30-city national tour by comedian Pete Correale. Correale, currently a Fredonia resident, launches his *As I Was Saying* tour on Oct. 17 in Portland, OR, crisscrossing the country, and playing Fredonia on Fri., Nov. 21, at 7:30pm.

Correale has performed on numerous late night TV shows such as *The Tonight Show*, *Letterman* and *Conan* as well as filming three of his own one-hour comedy specials, *Things We Do for Love*, *Let Me Tell Ya*, and *For Pete's Sake*. He has also released two comedy albums, *Give it a Rest* and *Made for Radio*.

He is co-host of *The Pete and Sebastian Show*, a podcast with comedian and longtime friend Sebastian Maniscalco. *The Pete and Sebastian Show* is one of the most wildly popular comedy podcasts on air today. The show is nearly 10 years running, with an ever-growing fanbase and has featured guests including Bill Burr, Jay Mohr, Bobby Lee, Yannis Pappas, Billy Gardell, and more.

Aside from his podcast, Correale has been a staff writer on several TV shows, most recently *Kevin Can Wait* on CBS, and *The Crew* on Netflix.

The comedian's love for entertainment started when he went off to college. During his senior year, he took an acting class and knew immediately what he wanted to do – be in show business. This burning desire has evolved over the past 20 years into what we know it as today – a reflective comedic take

on his life and the experiences he's been through.

With a conversational delivery and his trademark disarming regular guy attitude, Correale makes you feel like you're listening to the funniest guy at a party as opposed to just another comedian on a stage. His tours continue to grow exponentially as more and more people discover him and immediately fall in love with his accessible and extremely relatable point of view. Because of this, he has evolved from being a must-see on the club scene to now a nationally recognized headlining theater act.

Most recently, he's coming off of Sebastian Maniscalco's record-breaking "It Ain't Right" arena tour where he has been capturing the eyes and ears of fans all over the country.

General Admission tickets to the show are \$30 and can be purchased in person at the Opera House Box Office or by phone at 716-679-1891, Tuesday-Friday, 12-4:30 p.m. They can be purchased online anytime at www.fredopera.org.

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.

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Support Small
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Community Volunteers Power Willow Creek Thrifty Treasures Store Opening in Clymer



Submitted Photo

Contributed by
**Chautauqua Region
Community Foundation**

The Community Support Group of Southwestern NY (CSGSWNY) is delighted to announce a pivotal moment in their mission to serve local needs, marked by the upcoming launch of Willow Creek Thrifty Treasures, a new mission-based thrift store in Clymer. This exciting project has been significantly bolstered by a grant from the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, enabling crucial foundational work for the new venture.

The CSGSWNY has long envisioned opening a mission-based thrift store to generate sustainable funding for vital community programs. The first of these, Willow Creek Thrifty Treasures, located at the newly renovated Willow Creek Pavilion in Clymer, is on track to open this summer. Proceeds from the store's operations will directly benefit essential community needs in Clymer, French Creek, and Mina, including vital programs and services like the youth summer recreation program, library, historical society, and fire department. A second store is planned for Findley Lake at a later date.

Finding the perfect location for Willow Creek Thrifty Treasures was a long search, culminating in the ideal Willow Creek Pavilion. This centrally located building, with its sizable parking

lot and ample interior space, has undergone significant renovations. The initial startup costs to get the new venture moving were largely needed to renovate and winterize the structure. The grant from the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation was instrumental in supporting the installation of the heating system and finishing the cement floors, ensuring a comfortable and welcoming environment for shoppers and volunteers alike.

The true heart of Willow Creek Thrifty Treasures, however, lies in the overwhelming community response in financial support for this project and volunteer hours. "We are so grateful to the volunteers, local companies and community for their time, expertise and support to get this project up and going," said Deb White of the CSGSWNY. "It has been a long-time dream that is coming to fruition and will benefit our community in so many ways."

In anticipation of their opening Community Support Group has hired two managers, Lisa White and Amy Marrs, to run the day-to-day operations of the store and oversee volunteers. The Community Support Group is continuing to accept donations and recruit volunteers to help ensure the store's successful launch and long-term sustainability. For more information on how you can support this project, visit the new Facebook Page for Willow Creek Thrifty Treasures or stop in-person at 492 Clymer Corry Road, Clymer NY.



The Perseids are Coming!



Submitted Photo

Perseid Meteor Shower - long exposure - NASA/Preston Dyches

Contributing Writer
Andy Felong
Public and Media Relations
Martz-Kohl Observatory

A meteor shower is a celestial event where numerous "shooting stars" streak across the night sky, appearing to originate from a single point called the radiant. This spectacle occurs when Earth's orbit passes through a trail of debris left by a comet or asteroid. The debris, called meteoroids, are often no larger than grains of sand. As these particles enter Earth's atmosphere at incredibly high speeds, friction causes them to burn up, creating the brilliant flashes of light we see.

Historically, meteor showers have captivated and mystified humanity. Ancient civilizations, such as those in China and Greece, often interpreted them as divine messages or omens. The **Perseids**, for instance, became known in medieval Europe as the "tears of Saint Lawrence." These

displays also gave rise to the enduring superstition that making a wish on a shooting star will make it come true. It wasn't until the 19th century that astronomers began to scientifically link meteor showers to comets. Today, scientists study these events to gain valuable insights into the parent comets and the early history of our solar system.

For a great viewing experience, find a dark location and allow your eyes about 20-30 minutes to adjust to the darkness. You don't need a telescope or binoculars; the meteors are best seen with the naked eye. Simply lie back and look up at a wide section of the sky. For Chautauqua County, the **Perseid meteor shower peaks on August 12-13**, offering a strong display, though a nearly full moon this year may affect visibility. You can improve your view by positioning yourself with the moon behind you. Look towards the northeast as the radiant is in the constellation Perseus.



Submitted Photo

"Bee Kind" is Audubon 2025 Shirt Fundraiser Design

Bees are incredible and fascinating insects that are essential to our planet. Featured in two Audubon Community Nature Center exhibits, they inspired "Bee Kind" as the design for the 2025 tees and sweatshirts that can be ordered now through August 18. For all the details about this great gift for yourself or someone you care about, go online and click through AudubonCNC.org events.

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sampling, shopping, and supporting the
majestic big cats we all love.



Saturday, August 9th
6pm - 9pm

SUDOKU

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

Here's How It Works:

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

Level: Beginner

CROSSWORD

	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	
13								14						15
16				17				18					19	
20		21				22				23		24		
25					26				27		28			
29				30				31		32		33		
		34	35						36		37			
38	39									40				
41					42				43					
44				45		46		47				48	49	50
51			52		53		54				55			
56				57		58				59				
60			61		62				63				64	
65		66						67				68		
	69							70						

CLUES ACROSS

1. Spiritual leaders
7. Salt
13. Fortified wine
14. Edible mollusk
16. They precede C
17. A way to compare
19. State lawyer
20. "Game of Thrones" actor Ciaran
22. Eighth month (abbr.)
23. Very willing
25. ___ ex machina
26. Satisfies
28. Mountain in New Zealand
29. A doctrine
30. Popular Dodge truck model
31. Dekagram
33. Naturally occurring solid
34. Company officer
36. Villains
38. Cricket frogs
40. One of the founders of modern psychology
41. Endured
43. A female domestic
44. You can get stuck in one
45. Partner to feather
47. Passive optical network
48. French ballet dynasty
51. Employee stock ownership plan
53. Bottom layer
55. Sound
56. Yankee great Judge
58. Dickens character
59. Late beloved TNT sportscaster
60. South Dakota
61. Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
64. Gold
65. Longtime Braves hurler Julio
67. Humor
69. Shawl
70. Hospital unit

CLUES DOWN

1. Animal disease
2. Commercial
3. Necklace materials
4. Containers
5. Investment account
6. Colorado Heisman Trophy winner
7. Dipped down
8. Head injury category (abbr.)
9. Lay about
10. Intestinal
11. Not yes
12. Caused to be loved
13. Muslim spiritual leader
15. Showing sincere conviction
18. Not in
21. Number above the line in a fraction
24. Lawn pest
26. Pouch
27. Ancient language in India (abbr.)
30. Start over
32. Wild white flower
35. Fourteen
37. Visual way to interact with computer (abbr.)
38. Side by side and facing the same way
39. Religious conflicts
42. Touch lightly
43. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
46. Violent seizure of property
47. One who supports the pope
49. Malaise
50. Body fluid
52. Inauthentic person
54. Title of respect
55. Chilean city
57. Japanese city
59. Silk garment
62. Draw from
63. Automobile
66. The man
68. Top government lawyer

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*\$5.50 extra for separate packaging

Thursday, August 7
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w/ choice of side | \$10.95 + tax
(2) Homemade Macaroni & Cheese
w/ roll & butter | \$10.95 + tax

Friday, August 8
Grilled Italian Sandwich w/choice of side
\$11.50 + tax

Monday, August 11
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\$11.50 + tax

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- Blacksmithing
- Flea Market
- Tractor Games
- Kids' Area & Crafts
- Food Vendors

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(Under 14 Free)

Friday, August 15

Senior Citizen Day!
(\$3 Gate Fee for Seniors)

- 11 a.m. Parade & Wagon Rides
- 3 p.m. Garden Tractor Pull
- 5 p.m. Tractor Pull (<1960)
- 8 p.m. Bonfire & Music by North Shore

Saturday, August 16

- 9 a.m. Garden Tractor Pull
- 10 a.m. Auction
- 11 a.m. Parade & Wagon Rides
- 12 p.m. Chicken BBQ (Stockton Fire Department)
- 12 p.m. Kids' Pedal Pull Registration
- 1 p.m. Kids' Pedal Tractor Pull
- 3 p.m. Tractor Pull

Sunday, August 17

- 9 a.m. Garden Tractor Pull
- 1 p.m. Tractor Pull
- 4 p.m. Building Fund Drawing



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Coalition Against Domestic Violence Workers Visit MHA

The Mental Health Association's July recovery luncheon picnic had visitors from the Chautauqua County Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault. Pictured from left are YWCA Empower Her Housing Director Jacqueline Cook and YWCA Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Program Director Lauren Peters, Jamestown Police Department Project Crossroads Domestic Violence Officer Emma Ward and Case Manager/On-scene Advocate Allison Murphy, and City of Jamestown Department of Development Rehab and Code Enforcement Officer/Housing Court Representative Bronson Abbot. In front is Hope, JPD Project Crossroads domestic violence therapy dog. The MHA is a peer recovery center offering support groups and individual coaching for people looking to improve their lives, deepen wellness, thrive in recovery, or support those on a recovery path. To learn more, call (716) 661-9044 or visit MHACHautauqua.org or Facebook.com/MHACHautauqua.1 p.m. The library can be reached at 716-487-1281.

Chamber Corner

Continued from Page 22

web calendar at www.chqchamber.org no later than Wednesday, August 6. 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.

Golf With the CHQ Chamber

Networking doesn't get much better than on the golf course, and the CHQ Chamber tournament is always a fabulous day of golf and camaraderie. Get your foursome together and spend a great day on the golf course with the CHQ Chamber! The annual CHQ Chamber Golf Tournament is Thursday, August 21 at the beautiful Peek'n Peak Resort. We begin the day with a shotgun start at 10am. (This is an hour earlier than last year.) Lunch is served on the course, and after a great day of golf we end with dinner. The total prize purse is \$1,000 payable in

ShopLocalCHQ Gift Cards.

Remember to add your golfer's special Super Pack for \$30 per player. The Super Pack includes two mulligans, the Ring of Fire, Play with the Pro, raffle prize drawings, and the 50/50 drawing. Please purchase your Super Pack online when you register, as prizes are drawn prior to play the day of the tournament. New this year: there will be one special golfer's raffle prize drawn at the close of the tournament.

Our tee gift sponsor is the Basil Family of Dealerships. Par sponsors are Brooks-TLC Hospital system, Cattaraugus County Bank, Chautauqua Patrons Insurance Agency, DFT Communications, Koester Associates, LaBella Associates, Lake Shore Savings Bank, National Grid, Nestle Purina PetCare, and Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union. Lunch and snacks at the turn are sponsored by M&T Bank.

It's easy to register online for the CHQ Chamber Golf Tournament when you visit www.chamberrsvp.org.

FAA Veteran Named Deputy Director of Airports for Chautauqua County John Machemer to oversee operations at Jamestown and Dunkirk airfields



Submitted Photo

John Machemer, newly appointed Deputy Director of Public Facilities – Airports, stands on the tarmac at Chautauqua County/Jamestown Airport (JHW), where he will oversee operations at both JHW and Dunkirk Airport.

Contributed by
CHQ County Government

Chautauqua County has appointed aviation veteran John Machemer to lead its airport operations as Deputy Director of Public Facilities – Airports, overseeing the management and strategic direction of both the Jamestown (JHW) and Dunkirk (DKK) airports.

Machemer, a longtime county resident, began his aviation career at the very airports he will now manage. He worked early on as a ramp technician at both locations before becoming a certified flight instructor, corporate Learjet pilot, and regional airline captain. He later held leadership roles with the Federal Aviation Administration, including as a Lead Air Carrier Principal Inspector and Front Line Manager, where he supervised safety and compliance for commercial air carriers.

"I am incredibly honored and excited to return to the Chautauqua County Airport as its new manager," Machemer said. "This is where my aviation journey began, and I'm deeply passionate about its continued success. I look forward to working with the county, airport staff, and the community to ensure our airports provide safe, efficient, and valuable services for Chautauqua County. Together, we'll partner with residents and the local business community to capitalize on the airport's strategic location near major highways and rail corridors—promoting regional economic development, supporting general

aviation, corporate travel, and exploring opportunities for new airline service at JHW. Our goal is to strengthen these airports as vital gateways for tourism and commerce in Western New York."

In his new position, Machemer will oversee daily airport operations, long-term planning, and coordination with federal and state aviation authorities. He will also play a key role in leveraging the airports' location along major highway and rail corridors to support regional development and tourism.

County officials praised the appointment, highlighting Machemer's depth of experience and local roots.

"John's return is a win for Chautauqua County," said County Executive Paul M. Wendel Jr. "He brings an exceptional mix of technical knowledge, regulatory leadership, and deep familiarity with our airports. We're confident he'll help position both Jamestown and Dunkirk as valuable economic assets for our region."

Tim Card, the county's Director of Public Facilities, said Machemer's appointment comes at a critical time for local aviation.

"John's experience spans every level of the aviation industry—from ground operations to FAA oversight," Card said. "He understands the challenges and opportunities ahead and has the leadership skills to guide our airports into the future."

Machemer officially assumed the role in June 2025.

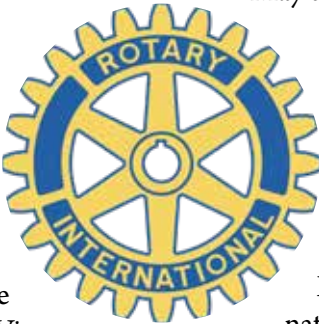
Michelle Jones Honored with Rotary's Service Above Self Award

Contributed by
Rotary Club of Jamestown

At the Rotary Club of Jamestown's recent Recognition Dinner, outgoing president Marion Beckerink honored Michelle Jones with the club's highest honor, the Service Above Self Award, for her exceptional leadership and dedication.

When incoming president Kirk Young accepted a new college presidency, Jones stepped in without hesitation. A Rotarian since 2009, Jones serves as Vice President and Office Manager at Northwest Bank in Lakewood. She has held numerous roles, including Chair of the Vision Committee and the Community Service Fund, and is a two-time Paul Harris Fellow. She's also hosted foreign exchange students and led key fundraising and volunteer efforts, including raising \$3,000 for the YWCA's Coldest Night of the Year.

Jones was also formally installed as



Rotary Welcomes
New Member
Michael Dobbins

Rotary President for 2025–2026, the fourth member of her family to hold the title. Her mother-in-law, past president Susan Jones (2011–12), presented her with a custom bracelet honoring this legacy, referencing her late husband Gregory L. Jones (2001–02) and grandfather-in-law Stanford F. Jones (1940–41) with the message: "May the fourth be with you."

The Club also welcomed Michael Dobbins, a Jamestown native who recently retired after a 22-year career as a Child Support Officer in San Diego. A graduate of Jamestown High School, JCC, and Phoenix University, Dobbins was inspired to join Rotary after attending a community event hosted by the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.

Already active in club events, Dobbins is eager to give back to his hometown through Rotary service.

Andover Wetlands Kids' Fishing Contest

Contributed by
Andover Fishing Association

Young fishing enthusiasts from Chautauqua County and beyond are invited to the annual Kids Fishing Contest on Saturday, August 16, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Andover Ponds (Route 21). Registration starts at 7:45 a.m., and entry is free.

Open to kids 15 and under, the contest features trophies for age groups 5 and under, 6–8, 9–11, and 12–15. Prizes will be awarded for the top three fish in each group, plus largest, smallest, and most fish overall. Special awards include largest bass, largest carp, and a memorial trophy

honoring perseverance in memory of Senators Jess Present and Pat McGee.

Free refreshments will be provided, and attendees can enter raffles and door prize drawings with items from dozens of local and national donors.



Event support comes from the Scio and Andover Lions Clubs, the Town of Andover, and Sports Fanatic of Hornell.

Volunteers are still needed. For details or to sign up, visit andoverwetlandskidsfishingcontest.com or call 585-593-1624 or 585-610-2241.

PUZZLE
SOLUTIONS

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

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

PUZZLES ON PAGE 27

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