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HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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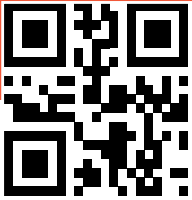
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**NATIONAL
HISPANIC
HERITAGE
MONTH**

September 15 - October 15



BORIQUEA



Featured Writer

Norma DeJoy

“Portensen bien!” You might hear me say that expression to Hispanic students as I walk down the hallways of any JPS school. In short, the phrase means be good, and for me, that means be better than good! My comment is usually met by a shocked expression to which I follow up with, “Soy Boriqua!” meaning I’m Puerto Rican. That phrase is usually met with a smile and a brief conversation. It’s a real ice-breaker. My name is Norma Iris Cortes DeJoy Morales Serrano Vera (I could go on thanks to Ancestry.com). This month—like every month— I happily celebrate my Hispanic roots. My dear friend Lori Cornell asked me to share my story, so I’ll try to paint a picture.

Both of my parents were born and raised in Utuado, Puerto Rico. During one of the great migratory waves, my parents moved to Western New York in 1953 to seek employment and build a proverbial better life. Just imagine the challenges they faced in a strange, new place trying to learn a new language, so far away from the rural life they knew. But they did it, and raised me and my other ten siblings. Yes, I have ten siblings—six brothers and four sisters. Money was tight, hand-me-downs were common, but my parents’ focus on a strong Catholic upbringing, a Catholic school education, and high academic expectations set the standards for us all. And we did not fail, or else face



Submitted Photo

Norma DeJoy supporting students at Jamestown High School

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WHY WE CELEBRATE

Featured Writer

Richard J. Morrisroe

Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates Hispanic and Latino history and culture, especially as experienced here in the United States, in communities such as Jamestown, Dunkirk, Buffalo and Erie. Celebrated between September 15th and October 15th, Hispanic Heritage Month recognizes the multiple ways we have contributed to American culture, history and industry.

Yes, I am Hispanic too. While my paternal last name is Morrisroe, as the grandson of Irish immigrants who settled in Chicago, my maternal last names are Concepcion Figueroa, representing the lineage of both my mother’s father and mother from Vega Alta, Puerto Rico. ‘



Submitted Photos

Trip to Puerto Rico, Jan. 2025 • Richard J. Morrisroe

In this brief article, I will use the words Hispanic and Latino interchangeably. But each word has its own meaning and connotations and can be politically charged depending on one’s perspective. Both refer to people who have roots in Latin America and Spain. Latin America includes much of the Caribbean, South and Central America. We are a people

of mixed heritage—Native American customs, words and culture blended with Spanish language, culture and history, and stirred with African blood, rhythms and spiritualism. There is no one type or race of a Hispanic. Nor one nationality. We come from over 18 countries and the US island

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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This Week Around Town

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Wine on the Trail | 6 PM
Cassadaga Lakes Nature Park
For Info: chautauquawatershed.org

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Cinema Series: Sketch
7:30 PM
1891 Fredonia Opera House
Performing Arts Center | Fredonia
For Info: fredopera.org

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

County Executive PJ Wendel
Presents 2026 Executive
Budget | 6:30 PM
Chautauqua County Legislative
Chambers | Mayville
For Info: chautauquacountyny.gov

Sprout Film Festival | 7 PM
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts
Jamestown
For Info: reglenna.com

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

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

Night at the Museum | 6 PM
French Creek Yorker Museum |
Sherman
For Info: 716-761-6781

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

International New York Film
Festival | 10 AM - 9 PM
Robert H. Jackson Center
Jamestown
For Info: inyfilmfest.com

MHA Art in Recovery Exhibit
6 PM
The Undercroft of St. Luke's
Episcopal Church | Jamestown
For Info: stlukesjamestown.org



Movies at The Reg: The Bad
Guys 2 | 7 PM
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts
Jamestown
For Info: reglenna.com

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 -
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
Fall Fest
Hideaway Bay Resort | Silver Creek
For Info: hideawaybayresortny.com

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER
27-SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Busti Apple Festival
10 AM - 5 PM
Busti Historical Society
Jamestown
For Info: facebook.com/
bustihistoricalsociety

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
Nature & Wellness Weekends 2
PM-9:30 PM
The Heron Farm & Event Center
Panama
For Info: theheron.org

Movies at The Reg: The Bad
Guys 2 (Sensory Friendly)
2 PM
Reg Lenna Center for The Arts |
Jamestown
For Info: reglenna.com

Stomp Out the Stigma 5k
6 PM
Jamestown Airport | Jamestown
For Info: runsignup.com/
Race/NY/Jamestown/
StompOutTheStigmaRace

The Great Gatsby Dinner Party
6 PM
Splash | Bemus Point
For Info: splashbemus.com

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
Nature & Wellness Weekends
2 PM-9:30 PM 9:30 AM-2 PM
The Heron Farm & Event Center
Panama
For Info: theheron.org

Lauren Turner: Spirituality &
Re-wired Brains | 10:30 AM
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Jamestown
For Info: UUJamestown.org/
calendar

Magic Beans | 4 PM
Wicked Warren's | Jamestown
For Info: Wicked Warren's
Facebook Page

Why We Celebrate

Continued from Front Page



Rich at age 11 with his mother
and her Puerto Rican folkloric dance group in the mid 1980's.

commonwealth of Puerto Rico. And in the United States, we have blended and intermarried with people from every part of the world.

Hispanic Heritage Month began as a week-long celebration under President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1968, and 20 years later was expanded to a month by President Ronald Reagan in 1988. That timeframe coincides with explosive Hispanic population growth between 1960 and today. According to U.S. Census figures and the Pew Research Center, since 1970, when Hispanics made up 5% of the U.S. population and numbered 9.6 million, the Hispanic population has grown more than sixfold to 22.4 million in 1990 to over 62 million today. That's roughly 19% of the U.S. population. Even in mostly rural Chautauqua County, the Hispanic populations have grown markedly in Dunkirk and Jamestown, and can be found throughout the county, especially the migrant farm workers who work in the vineyards, the dairy and grain farms.

My mother arrived from Puerto Rico to Chicago in 1968 as an English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher. And my wife's parents came from the Dominican Republic in the 1960s to Manhattan before settling in the Bronx. They were part of this influx that helped power American agricultural, industrial and service sector growth in the last half of the twentieth century. Like all other immigrants that came before them, they came to work, to dream, to create and to start their own businesses. And like all of us, some rely on social services and have lost the drive to succeed. Hispanics are human, like everyone else.

Those who founded Hispanic Heritage chose the middle of September to the middle of October as the period of celebration to



Hispanic Morrisroes celebrating the Bills.

include multiple Hispanic countries' independence days, when they broke free from colonial powers Spain and Portugal much as America did from England. The countries that celebrate their independence during this time includes Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, Chile and Belize.

According to the Smithsonian Institute, "Hispanic Heritage Month is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on the unique voices and experiences of Hispanic/Latino Americans and recognize their history, journeys, and achievements. Hispanic Heritage Month also provides opportunities to showcase the cultural influences the Latino community has had on the United States. From entertainment and sports to business and science, Latinas and Latinos enrich our society."

What would America today be without tacos, empanadas, athletes such as Alex Rodriguez and Manu Ginobili, actresses such as Jennifer Lopez and Sofia Vergara, and the many people who toil in hotels, fields, factories and hospitals day in and day out? Words like compadre, simpatico and cerveza are well known throughout our country, not just in the big cities.

Understand that Hispanic Heritage Month is about inclusion and contribution, not exclusion or

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

“By celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, we enrich America and invite all to celebrate with us.”

- Richard J. Morrisroe, Esq.

Editorial with Lori Cornell

¡Feliz Mes de la Herencia Hispana!



Owner & Publisher
Lori Cornell

¡Hola, mis amigos Hispanos! Tenemos mucho orgullo de celebrar el Mes de la "Hispanic Heritage" en esta edición del Gazette. Espero que todos los que lean puedan aprender algo

nuevo e interesante. Ahora, mi español no es tan bueno, pero hace muchos años, cuando yo era una niña, estudié en España y Puerto Rico. Esta experiencia fue una de las más memorables de mi vida, no solo porque los lugares fueron increíbles, sino porque me encanta la gente y la cultura Hispana.

Espero que, como comunidad Chautauqua, todos nosotros podamos tener una mayor apreciación por la diversidad del mundo que nos hace tan hermosos.

CHAUTAUQUA
GAZETTE

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Featured Writer.....Pastor Alfonso E. Pagan
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Thursdays at 5:00 pm

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Brought to you by: L. Cornell and Company, LLC

Hispanic Pride
of Chautauqua County

- Estimated Hispanic/Latino population (as of 2023) 11,800 people (~9.3% of the county)
<https://datausa.io/profile/geo/chautauqua-county-ny#demographics>
- Hispanic/Latino population grew from 8,241 in 2010 to 11,769 in 2020 an increase of about 42.8%
<https://datausa.io/profile/geo/chautauqua-county-ny#demographics>
- The city of Jamestown is home to 3,843 Hispanics as of 2020.
https://data.census.gov/profile/Jamestown_city%2C_New_York?g=160XX00US3638264&
- Among the Hispanic/Latino population (as of 2021) 73.05% are of Puerto Rican origin 8.56% Mexican 5.09% Dominican 4.34% South American 4.15% Central American
<https://beautifydata.com/united-states-population/acs-5yrs/hispanic-origin/2021/acs-pop-info-by-hispanic-origin-per-county/new-york/chautauqua-county/>
- For Chautauqua County overall (2019-2023) about 9.0% of persons age 5 and over speak a language other than English at home.
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/chautauquacountynewyork/COM100222?utm>



Why We Celebrate

Continued from Page 2

replacement, as some seem to fear, that somehow, we lose our American culture by celebrating others. This is myth, not reality, promulgated and pushed by those with agendas and fear of difference. It fits within the realm of other cultural holidays such as Columbus Day (originally celebrated for Italian contribution), St. Patrick's Day (a day for all to be Irish) and Dyngus Day (a Polish tradition filled with pussy willows and squirt guns,

sausage and pierogies); and months that highlight the contributions of women, African Americans and we all celebrate the 4th of July, American Independence Day. Hispanics—both those here for generations and those recently arrived—strive for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. By celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, we enrich America and invite all to celebrate with us.

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In Loving Memory

September 10

Rosario D. "Dave" Riotto, 98
Lake Clear
Lind Funeral Home

September 11

Nancy E. Bottomley, 89
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

David Parinella, 69
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Phyllis M. Weise, 93
Panama
Lind Funeral Home

September 12

Earl E Matteson, 73
Jamestown
Riccardi's Family Funeral Home

Charlotte D. Roederer, 80
Indianapolis
Lind Funeral Home

Edmond F. Rumiano, 88
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Mark H. Sorenson, 70
Perrysburg
Falconer Funeral Home

September 13

Carol Jean Giunta, 85
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Robert Beckstrom, 99
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

September 14

Jeffrey A. Zentz, 52
Jamestown
Falconer Funeral Home

David E. Conner, 70
Frewsburg
Peterson Funeral Home

Jeanette F. "Jan" Tuller, 85
Jamestown
Peterson Funeral Home

James C. Larson, 38
Busti
Lind Funeral Home

September 15

Walter E. Carlson, 83
Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home



Faith Matters

GOD'S WONDERFUL PLAN



Featured Writer
Pastor Alfonso E. Pagan
Sublime Gracia Church
1633 Martin Rd. Jamestown

Now the Lord had said to Abram:

“Get out of your country,
From your family
And from your father’s house,
To a land that I will show you.
² I will make you a great nation;
I will bless you
And make your name great;
And you shall be a blessing.
³ I will bless those who bless you,
And I will curse him who curses you;
And in you all the families of
the earth shall be blessed.”
-Genesis 12:1-3

Emphasis Mine.

What a wonderful promise for a wonderful plan. God’s plan of salvation and redemption began with the calling of one man, Abraham, the father of many nations and the father of the faith. Then God called a family. This one of the reasons He is called the God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob. Then, after calling a family, He called a nation, Israel, out of the house of bondage. He called them from “the iron furnace,” as stated in the scriptures in Deuteronomy 4:20: “But the Lord has taken you and brought you out of the iron furnace, out of Egypt, to be His people, an inheritance, as you are this day.”

From this nation, Isarel, came the one where the promise of Genesis 12:3 would be fulfilled: “In you all the families of the earth will be blessed.” Jesus of Nazareth, savior of the world, who came to seek and save that which was lost. Every earth family was lost and we all, like sheep, have gone astray. We have turned, everyone, to his own way, and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. It is in Him, Jesus,

where this promise comes to pass. Every race, ethnicity and religion is a part of this family of God. I’m from a Spanish-speaking decent, and since Hispanic Heritage month is here, I would like to tell you a bit about how my family came to be in this community.

First, I want to let you know that I love Jamestown. It is my hometown, even though I was not born here. I was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, a beautiful tropical island in the Caribbean. I came here in March of 1983 with my mom and three other siblings. I must say the people of Jamestown welcomed my family and I with open arms and made me feel welcome here.

Jamestown is a city of immigrants, and I was able to see how that was true by how many good people went out of their way to help us and make us feel right at home. I know my family was blessed as in Genesis 12:3 because of the generosity of complete strangers who were the fulfillment of that promise made thousands of years ago. Many of these strangers were Bible-believing and God-fearing people. I will never forget a Catholic nun who took us under her wings. I wish I could remember her name, but she was so kind to us and went out of her way help complete strangers. She was one of so many that reached out to my new Puerto Rican family with kindness and love. I will never forget it. I’m forever grateful.

Next time you see a stranger, a foreigner or someone that does not talk like you or look like you, be the fulfillment of that promise, be blessed by being a blessing. If you know Jesus like I do, bring them to church this Hispanic Heritage month so that their family could be blessed. And in you, all the families of the earth shall be blessed!

God has a wonderful plan to save the world. All families, all races, all ethnic groups — they all make up the Kingdom of God. That is what this wonderful plan looks like, and it is all there in the gospel: Jesus the hope of the world! Amen!

In His Service.
Pastor Al

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Infinity's Holiday Art Market Returns for 2025 – Calling Artist and Handcrafting Vendors!

Contributed by
Infinity Visual
& Performing Arts

The holiday season in Jamestown wouldn't be complete without a little sparkle, and this year Infinity Visual and Performing Arts is bringing back one of the community's favorite traditions: Infinity's Holiday Art Market, happening Saturday, December 13 from 10am–4pm at two festive locations—the Infinity Center (301 E. 2nd St.) and Pearl City Clay House (220 E. 2nd St.).

With free admission and a full day of local shopping, hands-on activities, and holiday cheer, the Art Market is the perfect place to check off your gift list, enjoy the cozy glow of the season, and support both area artists and Infinity's mission of providing arts education for Chautauqua County youth.

A Call for Local Artists and Makers

Infinity is now inviting local artists, makers, and handcrafters to apply as vendors for this year's market. More than 20 spaces will be available at the Infinity Center, offering artisans the chance to showcase their work to holiday shoppers seeking one-of-a-kind gifts. From pottery and jewelry to fine art, fiber, woodworking, and festive décor, the Holiday Art Market highlights the incredible creativity of our region.

Interested vendors can find application details at www.infinityperformingarts.org or by contacting Infinity at artmarket@infinityperformingarts.org.



Two Locations, Double the Cheer

- **Infinity Center (301 East 2nd St.)** – Shop 20+ artist vendors, take part in raffles, and enjoy concessions while exploring a festive indoor market atmosphere.
- **Pearl City Clay House (220 East 2nd St.)** – Discover a new “100 Gifts Under \$100” exhibition, where shoppers can pick up affordable, original works of art perfect for holiday gifting. Guests can also enjoy walk-in activities like Paint Your Own Pottery and Self-Guided Clay Bucket Projects for an added creative experience.

A Celebration with Purpose
Infinity's Holiday Art Market is more than just a festive shopping experience — it's a celebration of community creativity that gives back.

Vendors keep 100% of their sales, so every purchase directly supports local makers. Infinity raises vital funds for youth arts education through vendor registrations, free-will donations, raffle baskets, and hands-on activities like Paint Your Own Pottery, Bucket Projects, and more.

When you shop, play, and create at the Art Market, you're not only bringing home unique gifts—you're also helping ensure that children and teens in Chautauqua County continue to have access to life-changing arts education.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 13, and join us for a day where holiday magic meets local creativity. Whether you're shopping for gifts, making art alongside family and friends, or simply soaking in the festive spirit, Infinity's Holiday Art Market is a must-attend celebration of community, creativity, and cheer.

For more information, vendor applications, or event updates, visit www.infinityperformingarts.org or www.pearlcityclayhouse.org.

Boriqua

Continued from Front Page



Norma and her daughters Maddie & Pam

the “chancla”-- my mom's flying shoe that could be launched at 30 mph with remarkable accuracy.

After graduating from Dunkirk High School, I eventually earned a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in English at SUNY Fredonia, which led to an English teaching position at Jamestown High School. I taught there for twenty-eight years and served as department Chair for part of that time. I am now an Instructional Coach for Jamestown Public Schools, and during the summer, I work for the New York State Education Department as an Education Specialist designing State assessments.

I have two daughters: Pamela is a first-grade teacher at Love Elementary School. Previously, Pam served as the Vice President and Academic Dean at Jamestown Business College and championed the college's Bilingual Medical Transcription Program, working hard to find meaningful employment for Latinas. My other daughter Madeline is on her way to becoming a music librarian. Tooting her own Hispanic horn, Madeline, was the first student to earn the Seal of Biliteracy at Jamestown High School and

also participated in the Puerto Rican Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute, a program I advised at JHS which helps students learn leadership skills and leads to an opportunity to compete for a college scholarship. I am so proud that both my girls sought and still seek ways to celebrate their Latin American roots to improve the lives of others.

My identity as a Latina informed many of the paths I pursued and continue to pursue. As a parent, I raised two strong and proud, educated Latinas. As a teacher, I try to help Hispanic students understand how advantageous it is to be bilingual. As an Episcopalian, I am devoted to inclusion and understanding. Decades ago, it wasn't so easy. For example, I remember as a child frequently hearing the derogatory word “spic.” I haven't heard that word in a long time, but there remains much work to do as we learn to be respectful of every race and ethnicity.

In broad strokes, that's my story. So, whenever you see me, say hello or hola, both are perfectly fine salutations because proudly soy Boriqua.

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Kiwanis to Celebrate 105th Anniversary



Submitted Photo

Kiwanis Past President Fred Larson, President Wendy Wilcox, Past President Chuck Nazzaro, Tony Sabino representing Landmark Restaurant

Contributed by

Jamestown Kiwanis Club

The Jamestown Kiwanis Club will celebrate its 105th anniversary with a dinner at the Landmark on Tuesday October 7.

The Jamestown Club was formed in 1920 just five years after Kiwanis was born in Detroit.

As a service club, Jamestown Kiwanis over the years has supported Salvation Army programs, the Jamestown Boys and Girls Club, Babe Ruth Baseball and JAYS Soccer among many other youth programs.

The Jamestown Club has sponsored the Jamestown High Scholl Key Club going back at least to the 1960s. The Key Club is the high school version of Kiwanis. Kiwanis members and Key Club members often work side by side to benefit the community.

At least 3 Mayors of Jamestown over the last 6 decades were Kiwanis members; Stan Lundine in the 1960s, Steve Carlson in the 1970s and 1980s and Sam Teresi for all 20 years he was Mayor.

For over 40 years the Jamestown Kiwanis Club has sponsored an annual community-wide affordable blood testing program.

For the Club's 75th Anniversary in 1995, the Club adopted a mission statement that "The Jamestown Kiwanis Club is an organization of community leaders whose primary purpose is service to youth."

Former members of Jamestown Kiwanis are cordially invited to celebrate the 105th Anniversary. Reservations can be made by September 30 with Kiwanis Past-Presidents Chuck Nazzaro: chuckn@netsync.net or Sam Teresi: steresi99@gmail.com.

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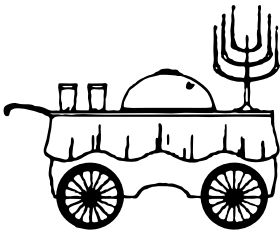
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The evening includes a delicious buffet with a carving station, local beverage tastings, and a cash bar.
The price includes a complimentary bottle of local wine on each table and also supports the year round work of the CHQ Chamber.
Our mission is to build vital connections, provide professional resources, and champion local businesses in Chautauqua County.

Please reply at www.chamberrsvp.org by September 25.

Please support our event sponsors:



Support Local Businesses and Enter to Win!

When you visit our awardees and honored businesses by October 2 you can be entered to win a \$200 ShopLocalCHQ Gift Card! Visit the businesses and organizations listed as award recipients and milestones and do a quick GPS check-in through our online game pass at www.chqchamber.org/experiences. Once you have checked in at 10 locations, you can complete your entry form. The winner will be drawn randomly from all completed entries. There is no purchase required.

Find the game online by using this QR code or at www.chqchamber.org/experiences.



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CHAMBER CORNER

Support Our Awardees and Win a ShopLocalCHQ Gift Card

Article Contributed by

Daniel J. Heitzenrater

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
President and CEO

Between now and our Business Awards Banquet, October 2, you can show your support for the businesses we'll be recognizing and enter to win a \$200 ShopLocalCHQ Gift Card from the CHQ Chamber. You don't have to purchase anything, just do a quick check-in through our online game and when you have enough points collected you can enter the drawing.

It's incredibly easy to get into this drawing! Visit www.chqchamber.com experiences and click Sign Up on the CHQ Chamber Celebration Passport. Go to "checkout" and enter your contact information then click "complete order." You do not have to buy anything to participate; this is just the signup process. You'll get a text with a link to access the pass, and from there you can save the link to your home screen or just access the pass through your text message thread. There is no app added to your phone.

When you're near any of the businesses receiving awards or being recognized for milestone service years you can just check in through the passport. When you have collected 50 points by checking in at ten different organizations, you can redeem those points to enter the drawing.

The prize will be drawn randomly from all completed entries just after noon on Thursday, October 2, and the winner will be announced at our CHQ Chamber Business Awards Banquet that evening. You do not need to be at the banquet to win – but it's a great evening if you'd like to attend!

Participating businesses and organizations are as follows: Bemus Point Golf Club & Tap House, our Business of the Year; Jamestown Board of Public Utilities, Business Champion Award; West Main Mercantile in Falconer, Emerging Business of the Year; The White Inn in Fredonia, Hospitality Business of the Year; Porter-Blair Cleaning & Co. in Jamestown, Service Business of the Year; Triple E MFG & Design Inc. in

Sherman, Producer of the Year; and Chautauqua County Rural Ministry in Dunkirk, Not-For-Profit of the Year. Our milestone recognition organizations are also included: Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier, 125 years; Westfield Nursery & Garden Center, 90 years; Jamestown Community College, 75 years; Gebbie Foundation, 60 years; Kiwanis Club of Westfield-Ripley, 55 years; Falconer Power Sports, 50 years; Peaceful Designs in Westfield and Shawbuck in Jamestown, each 30 years; Elegant Edibles Catering in Jamestown, 25 years; Maple Springs Tree Service, 20 years; Betts Insurance Agency, Concord Quilting Studio, and Lake Shore Center for the Arts all in Westfield and all celebrating 10 years; and Chautauqua Soap Company in Jamestown, Full Strength Coffee Co. in Westfield, Stella: A Kitchen and Bar in Lakewood, and Whizz-n-Smash in Dewittville all celebrating five years.

Celebrate Local Business with the CHQ Chamber!

The CHQ Chamber Business Awards Banquet is the largest gathering of businesspeople in Chautauqua County each year! This year will be no exception, so if you're looking for a great networking experience as well as a chance to walk our brand-new blue carpet for a photo opportunity, join us at the Williams Center at SUNY Fredonia on Thursday, October 2.

We are proud to be recognizing high-achieving businesses and organizations from all across the county, as well as honoring service to the community ranging from five to 125 years. But this evening is about more than awards, it's about making connections and showing your support for local business. Tickets to the Business Awards Banquet are \$65 per person, which includes a complimentary bottle of local wine on each table. You can reserve a full table of eight for \$470 – a savings of \$50. Your admission pays for your dinner, and helps to support the year-round work of the CHQ Chamber.

This spectacular event would not be possible without our sponsors:

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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- Sonia Sotomayor



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does not require contempt or
disrespect for other cultures.”**

- Cesar Chavez

CASA OF CHAUTAUQUA ANNOUNCES FALL VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Contributed by
**CASA of
Chautauqua County**

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Chautauqua County would like to announce its fall volunteer training to be held on Wednesdays in October and November. Training will be held in the Sid Compton Room located in the Chautauqua Municipal Building in Mayville. Those wishing to attend training should call CASA at 716-753-4123 to enroll.

Each year in Chautauqua County, hundreds of children are abused, neglected or abandoned by their families. Many of them are removed from their homes and placed in foster care or residential facilities. Their cases are brought before a Family Court Judge to decide on matters involving custody, permanency and more. CASA volunteers are instrumental during this crucial time. The CASA volunteer ensures these underserved children are not looked over in the overburdened child legal and welfare systems. They make sure the child’s best interests are a priority and all services are being met. Oftentimes, the CASA volunteer is the one stable adult presence in that foster child’s life.

In 2024, 38 volunteers at CASA of Chautauqua County advocated for the needs of 44 abused and neglected children. However, there is still more work to be done. Studies show that foster children who have experienced a CASA volunteer are more likely to find permanency, more likely to receive the quality educational services needed and less likely to fall victim to teen pregnancy, among countless other potential outcomes.

CASA of Chautauqua County is in need of more volunteers to assist in advocating for these children. Volunteers are everyday people and from all walks of life who possess a variety of professional, educational and ethnic backgrounds. They have one common denominator... a passion for changing a child’s story for the better. Volunteers are appointed by a judge to provide a voice for the best interests of a child in court and to offer children trust and advocacy during complex legal proceedings. They help ensure the judge has a

better understanding of the other parties in that child’s life such as foster parents, teachers, physicians, attorneys, social workers and others.

CASA volunteers must be 21 years of age and commit to about 8-10 hours a month on their advocacy. Pre-service training is approximately 36 hours of classroom instruction on topics including CASA roles and responsibilities, the child welfare system, needs and development of children, trauma, mental health, poverty, professional communication, cultural competence, educational needs, permanency and more.

Classes meet weekly for a hybrid online and in-person format. Candidates must pass a criminal background clearance which includes a Criminal History Record search, State Criminal Record search and National Sex Offender Registry search. Volunteers are asked to advocate for their case until permanency occurs, which is about one year.

To learn more about CASA volunteer opportunities please contact either Kathy Park, executive director at 716-753-4123 or casachautauqua@gmail.com, Laurie Winkler, case advocate supervisor at lwinklercasa@gmail.com or visit www.chautauquacasa.com.

Tax-deductible donations can be made by sending a check to CASA of Chautauqua Co., Inc. at 2 Academy Street, Suite 5, Mayville, NY 14757. CASA of Chautauqua County is a 501 (c) charitable nonprofit organization and a United Way Community Partner.

About CASA of Chautauqua
The mission of the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Chautauqua County is to provide an independent voice in court, advocating for the best interest of abused and neglected children in the pursuit of finding safe and permanent homes. CASA of Chautauqua County, Inc. relies on highly trained volunteers who are appointed by a Chautauqua County Family Court Judge to advocate for children in court. These volunteers work with relevant agencies and parties in order to advocate for the best interest of the child. With the information provided by the CASA volunteer, Family Court Judges are better able to make informed decisions as to what is best for the child.



New Shepherd/Servant Leader Appointed Kennedy 1st United Methodist Church

Contributed by
Kennedy 1st United Methodist Church

Kristian “Kris” Snyder began as the Shepherd/Servant Leader of Kennedy 1st United Methodist Church on July 1, 2025. Our church services have been led by members of the worship committee for a few months until he was assigned to our church.

Kris is from Ripley and is familiar with the rural, farming life so he readily relates to the congregation since it too is a farming community.

Kris is a graduate of Chautauqua Lake Central School and received certification in PC Pro, Network Pro, Microsoft Office, and PowerPoint through E2CCB’s (BOCES) Information Technology program.

Within our Cornerstone District Kris has served as an Ad Board member, Youth Representative, PPRC (pastor parish relations committee) member, church secretary at South Ripley church, Youth Group Coordinator, sound system operator, lead acolyte and has attended numerous annual conferences and other trainings that have been offered or that he has coordinated. He continues to be active in youth ministries within the Cornerstone District. Recently Kris went to Ontario, Canada to meet with a church that is working to be a part of the Upper New York Annual Conference. Our Cornerstone District is helping to equip their laity with Lay Servant Training



Kristian “Kris” Snyder, Shepherd/Servant Leader of Kennedy 1st United Methodist Church

Kris believes in meeting people where they are, creating safe spaces, and listening to them. This is especially important during this time of turmoil within the United Methodist faith with several churches disaffiliating from the United Methodist Church in general to become either a Global Methodist Church or an independent, non-denominational church. Our church remains a United Methodist church. One of Kris’s goals is to help bridge gaps for those who have experienced pain or disconnection from the church due to disaffiliation, hurt, or generational trauma. Another educational goal is to receive his certification as a Certified Lay Minister with a specialization as a Caring Congregation Minister within the Upper New York Annual Conference.

The congregation is thankful to have Kris as our Shepherd/Servant Leader and will be having a welcome brunch for him on October 5 immediately following our worship service which begins at 10:00.

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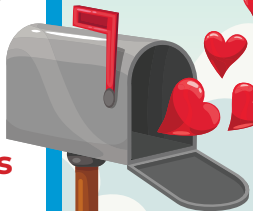
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51ST ANNUAL BUSTI APPLE FESTIVAL

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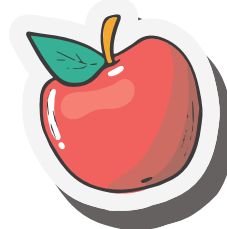
YOU'RE INVITED TO THE 51ST BUSTI APPLE FESTIVAL!

Contributed by
Busti Historical Society

The Busti Apple Festival will once again fill the Busti Historical Society's 1850 campus on the last weekend in September. "We have been working on adding more vendor space, expanded electric service and better drainage in the vendor area and drainage in the parking lot - all to make the two day event better this year," said Brad Buck, Board President, "the Apple Festival will be Saturday and Sunday, September 27 and 28, from 10 AM to 5 PM each day. And we are always looking for volunteers to help at the event." New this year is a schedule of events to make sure visitors don't miss a demonstration or the restored mill grinding grain. The Hazeltine Library staff are holding a story time both days. The schedule will be posted on the Apple Festival Facebook page prior to the festival.

rides, wagon rides, food trucks and a children's area filled with old-fashioned toys.

The festival features many volunteers who will be demonstrating old-time everyday activities that are no longer done by hand. To be a demonstrator, please email bustihistorical@gmail.com. "We welcome anyone that is interested in everyday tasks from the mid-nineteenth century. If you would like to learn any of the tasks, please let us know," said Victoria Parker, Demonstrator Committee. She added, "new this year, wear your historic inspired costume to the festival! Over the years our volunteers have dressed in colonial or Victorian era outfits to help set the atmosphere. This year we would like to invite our guests to join us, so break out the hoop skirts and top hats and come join the fun."



Of course, many visitors come for apples, cider and homemade fruit pies. The Busti Cider Mill is a vendor at the festival selling bags of apples and gallons of cider. The Country Store, which is filled with handmade items benefits the Busti Historical Society.

The Busti Historical Society received grant funding for the campus improvements from the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation and the Hultquist Foundation. A free parking area is from the Busti-Sugar Grove Rd, just south of the Busti 5-point intersection. Admission is still only \$5 at the gate for adults, children under 12 are free. "The Busti Apple Festival is held rain or shine, and we ask that you leave your pets home," he added, "we are encouraging families to start a new tradition of taking a fall photo at the festival using one of our fall sceneries."

The event features the restored 1836 grist mill. The mill is one of only a few working mills left in the northeast. Along with the mill is the miller's house which is being lovingly restored to its 1846 elegance. Flour and corn meal, all ground at the mill, will be available for purchase. The mill will be running throughout the festival with educational tours available. "The campus also has a museum about Busti history with several hands-on exhibits for children. Even if you have been to the museum every year - this year will be different," says Joni Blackman, Director, "we are adding a shuttle service this year to help move people around the campus. It looks like a train and is donated for the event by Brad Buck, Board President."

Sponsors for the event are The Bucket, Wilcox Brothers, Brad Buck Trucking, The Lakewood Rod & Gun Club, the Bear Lake Inn and the Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union.

Up to 150 craft and food vendors will fill the campus from the 1836 grist mill to the new parking area. Over 125 hand-made craft vendor spaces are available with an added area for commercial and non-profit vendors. There is pony

Additional information can be found on the Busti Historical Society's Facebook page, [facebook.com/bustihistoricalsociety](https://www.facebook.com/bustihistoricalsociety) and the website, www.busti-historical-society.weebly.com.



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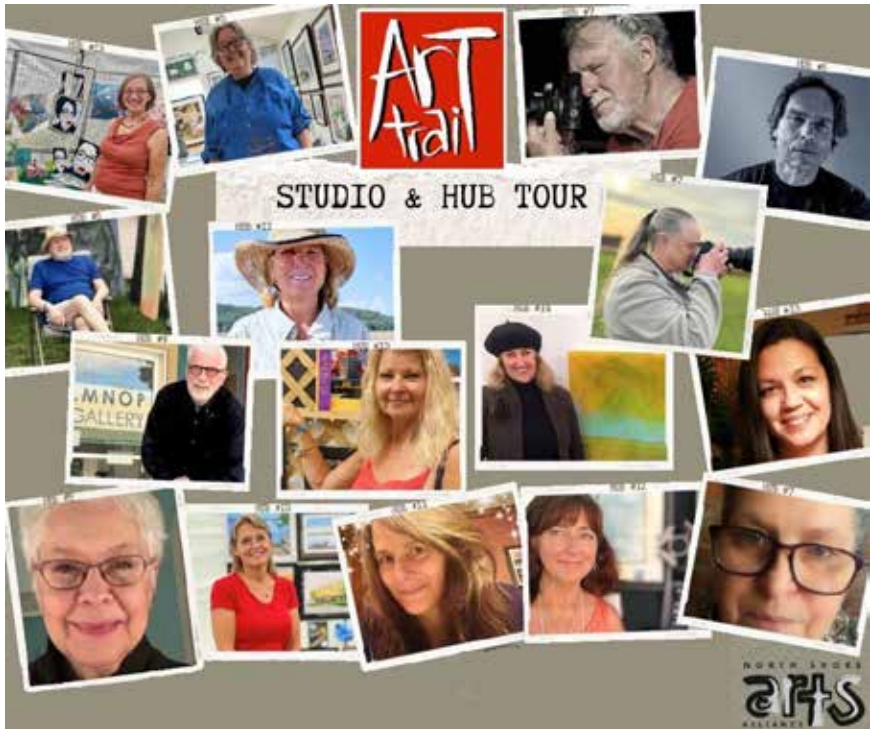
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www.Busti-Historical-Society.weebly.com



2025 Art Trail Sees Strong Growth with a 20% Increase in Overall Traffic in Chautauqua County



Contributed by
North Shore Arts Alliance

Chautauqua County, NY, Sept. 2025 — The 17th annual Art Trail, hosted by the North Shore Arts Alliance, has concluded with resounding success, reporting a 20% increase in visitor traffic over last year, affirming the event’s growing popularity and the strong community interest in arts and culture across the county.

Event Highlights:

- This year’s Art Trail, held over the Memorial Day Weekend (May 24–25) and again during Labor Day Weekend (Aug 30–31) featured 30+ artists across multiple studios and hub locations countywide.
- The range of art forms showcased included pottery, painting, ceramics, fabric art, jewelry, mixed media, photography, wildlife themes, woodworking and unique 3D wooden art puzzles.
- New hub locations and nontraditional venues made the trail more accessible and drew larger audiences.

Traffic Increases:

- Artists saw increased exposure, with many noting higher sales, more commissions, and stronger connections with visitors.
- Media attention expanded, with outofcounty visitors coming from Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Ohio, Maryland, and beyond.
- Niagara/Erie Counties had a 24% increase of people coming in from those areas, Upstate NY in general had a 5% increase. PA and Ohio had increases of 34% and 18% respectively. The largest increase came from other states with an 85% increase. The only decreases came from within Chautauqua County itself – a 16% decrease and no traffic at all this year from Canada.

Some of the venues on the Trail this year included:

- 21 Brix, Portland
- Bemus Library & Bemus Point Market, Main Street Bemus Point (new in 2025)
- Janet Mandel Studio, Kennedy
- The Sheep Barn, Mayville (new in 2025)
- Edgewater Art House, Jamestown (new in 2025)

Quotes:

“We’re thrilled to see such strong growth,” said Melissa Meyers, Vice President of the North Shore Arts Alliance and CoChair of the Art Trail. “The 20% traffic increase shows how much people around and outside Chautauqua County are embracing the arts. Expanding hubs and including more varied venues has clearly paid off.”

“For many of our participating artists and businesses, it was the best show yet,” said Marcia Merrins, owner of Kniti Griti Studios and President of North Shore Arts Alliance. “We met new patrons, sold more work, and felt an energizing sense of community.”

The community engagement was up as well, with patrons turning in 23% more passports than last year. Patrons collect stamps on a passport picked up at any location. They visit hubs and studios to collect stamps on their passport. It’s good for both Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends in order to allow patrons to be able to visit all locations in the County. We had 8 prize drawings awarded, with congratulations to the top winners of the \$100 gift certificates: Lacie Anderson of Jamestown, and Otis Barber of Sinclairville. Other winners are: \$75.00 gift certificates - Cricket Branstronn of Russell PA, and John Reid III of Gates Mills, OH; \$50.00 gift certificates to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

Chamber Corner

Continued from Page 9

AHN Westfield Memorial Hospital, Brooks-TLC Hospital System/ Kaleida Health, Cattaraugus County Bank, County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency, Lake Shore Bank, Jamestown Community College, and Media One Radio Group.

You can register online now by visiting www.chamberrsvp.org.

Made in Falconer is October 4

For the second year in a row the CHQ Chamber is proud to present Made in Falconer, Saturday, October 4.

Made in Falconer is as an open house at local manufacturing plants. It’s an opportunity for the public to see where and how things are made. Manufacturers participating are Dahlstrom Roll Form at 221 Lister Avenue, Ellison Bronze at 125 West Main Street, Falconer Printing at 55 East Main Street, Fancher Chair at 121 South Work Street, Hanson Sign Co. at 82 Carter Street, and Stuart Tool & Die at 6500 North Work Street. Tours will begin every half hour at each location, making it easy

for visitors to go from place to place.

Our partners in this event are the Falconer business community and the Village of Falconer, as well as Dream It Do It Western New York and the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier, Live CHQ and Choose CHQ. The County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency is sponsoring the use of the CHQ Transit Trolley for the day, so visitors can park in one spot and then easily move among the tour locations throughout the event.

Falconer restaurants and retailers will also be open for the day, and the CHQ Chamber will offer an Experiences online game so you can play along with our virtual scavenger hunt and enter to win great prizes donated by Falconer-area merchants. Every participating location will have tour maps and instructions available on Saturday, October 4.

We hope you’ll join us for this special celebration of local manufacturing, being held during Manufacturing Month, Saturday, October 4 from 10am-2pm.

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Senior Scene with Dana Corwin

Celebrating Spanish Heritage Month in Chautauqua County



Contributed by
Dana Corwin

Director of Chautauqua County
Office for Aging Services

neighborhoods.

Spanish Heritage Month is more than a celebration—it's a call to recognize the shared history and future of all Americans. We encourage everyone in Chautauqua County to attend an event, support a local Hispanic-owned business, or simply take time to learn about the stories and experiences of your Hispanic neighbors.

Each year, from September 15 to October 15, communities across the United States come together to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month—a time to honor the cultures, histories, and contributions of Americans whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America.

Chautauqua County is home to a vibrant and diverse Hispanic population, many of whom trace their roots to Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, and other parts of Latin America. Over the years, these communities have enriched our county with traditions, cuisine, music, entrepreneurship, and strong family values.

In cities like Dunkirk, where the Hispanic community represents a significant portion of the population, cultural pride is especially evident. Local businesses, churches, and organizations reflect the vibrant traditions of Latin culture.

During Spanish Heritage Month, we acknowledge the contributions of Hispanic Americans in all areas of life—education, healthcare, public service, agriculture, and the arts. In Chautauqua County, we see these contributions every day: in the educators shaping young minds, in farm workers supporting our local agriculture, in civic leaders and community organizers working to uplift

The Elderly /Senior Hispanic Population make up around 9-10% of Chautauqua County Residents. Many of these Seniors face hard times. Poverty rates are disproportionately high: 36.9% of Hispanics in the county live below the poverty line—more than double the rate for the general population. On the brighter side, 94.8% of Hispanics have health insurance, significantly higher than statewide (90.3%) and national (83.4%) averages.

Local Agencies in Dunkirk and Jamestown provide critical support, advocacy, and cultural programming year-round. Their work promotes inclusivity, preserves heritage, and empowers all generations. Many of these agencies are able to assist with translation for individuals that primarily speak Spanish. Chautauqua County NY Connects has recently hired a bilingual individual for the NY Connects Helpline.

If you need any further assistance please reach out to the Office for Aging Services and NY Connects either by stopping at one of our office locations, via email at cnyc@chqgov.com or by phone at 716-753-4582.

Trivia

1. The Spanish word “la lluvia” means what in English?
2. If someone is described as “simpático,” what does that mean in English?
3. The Spanish word “embarazada” looks like “embarrassed,” but it actually means what?
4. What does the Spanish word “el espejo” mean in English?
5. What is the English meaning of the Spanish word “el abuelo”?
6. The Spanish word “el bosque” means what in English?
7. If someone says “Tengo hambre,” what are they saying in English?
8. What does the Spanish word “el pueblo” mean in English?
9. What does the Spanish word “ojalá” express in English?
10. The Spanish verb “conducir” means what in English?

1. Rain 2. Nice/friendly 3. Pregnant 4. Mirror 5. Grandfather 6. Forest 7. I'm hungry 8. Town/village 9. I wish/I hope (it expresses a wish) 10. To drive



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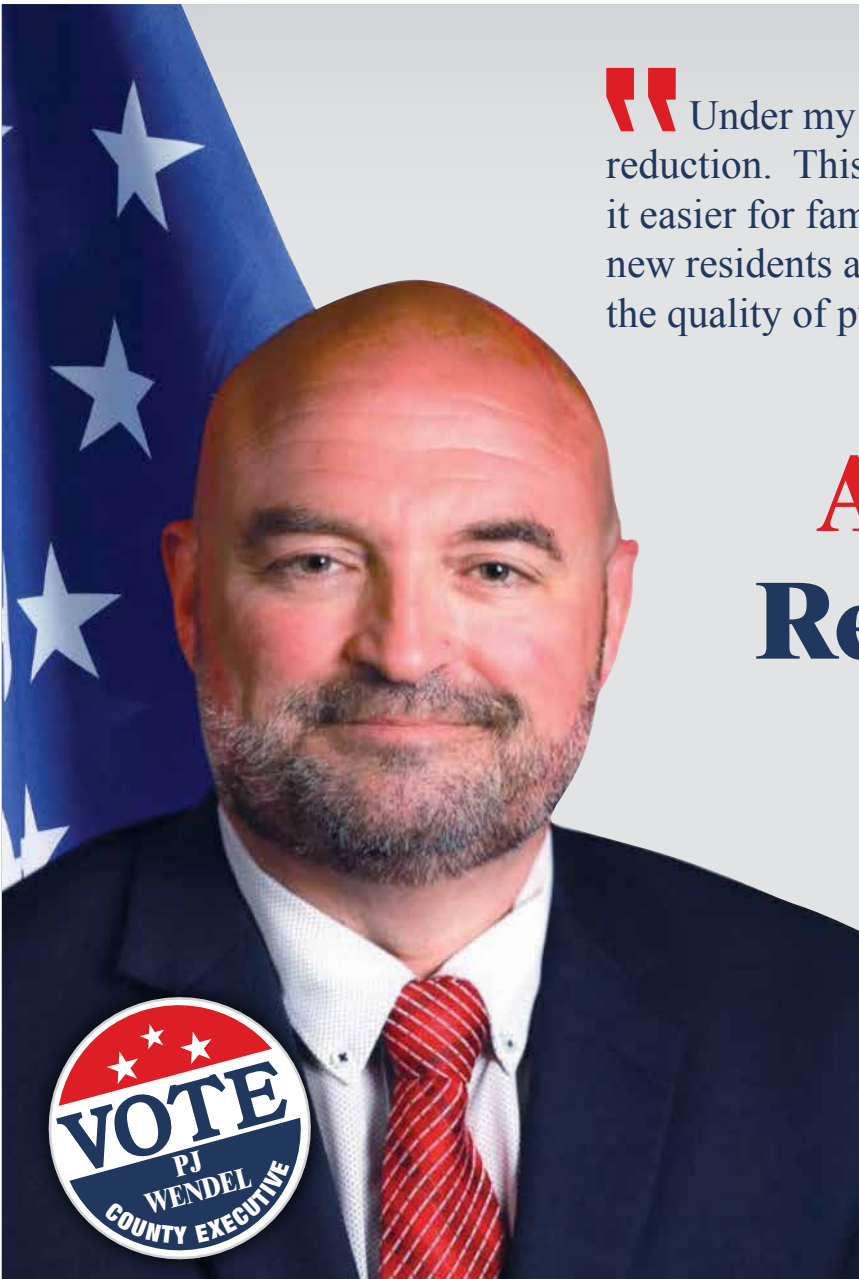
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“ Under my administration, we have produced 5 plus years of tax rate reduction. This reduction has allowed homeowners to save money, making it easier for families to manage their budgets. Additionally, it has attracted new residents and businesses, boosting local economies without sacrificing the quality of public services.” - PJ Wendel

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- ★ Continued Dedication In Strengthening Community Involvement
- ★ Collaborative Lake and Waterway Investment- Created an In Lake Management Fund For All The Lakes in Chautauqua County
- ★ Continued Ongoing Commitments To Safeguarding Our Communities.

LEGISLATOR LARSON SEEKS REELECTION

Contributed by
Legislator Fred Larson

County Legislator Fred Larson has announced he is seeking reelection to continue his fight for more jobs and less taxes in Chautauqua County.

The District 12 Jamestown Legislator said, “My number one priority as a County Legislator is economic development and encouraging job creation.”

The veteran legislator observed: “The news that Serta Mattress and approximately 100 more jobs are leaving the Jamestown area on top of the losses of 350 jobs at Truck Lite and 100 jobs at Jamestown Metal Manufacturing shows that the County’s economic development performance is inadequate.”

“Since 2010 employment in Chautauqua County has plummeted from 68,000 to 54,000 a drop of 14,000,” Larson pointed out.

“I am running for reelection to continue my efforts to push Chautauqua County and its Industrial Development Agency to focus on assisting in job creation instead of subsidizing more solar farms that create no permanent jobs,” Larson stated.

Larson also will push for three specific County tax cuts in his next term.

“First, I will continue to fight to give back to our property taxpayers at least \$2,000,000 of the County’s almost \$40,000,000 slush fund (unappropriated fund balance).”

“Second, I will continue to fight to reduce the County’s sales tax of 8% to 7 3/4% to give consumers a break and to strengthen our retail sector and create more retailing jobs in Chautauqua County.”

“Third, I will continue to fight to give more senior citizen homeowners the County’s partial real property tax exemption.” Larson concluded.

Legislator Larson is a graduate of Jamestown High School, Princeton University and Yale Law School. In addition to 38 years of private practice of law, he served as our County Attorney from 1998-2005, and Jamestown City Court Judge from 2014-2021.

Larson is a member of First Lutheran Church, a past President of the Jamestown Kiwanis Club and a Board member of the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame for over 20 years.

Legislator Larson has been married for 44 years and has two children and three grandchildren.

Greg Carlson for Chautauqua County Clerk

Contributed by
Greg Carlson

Candidate, Chautauqua County Clerk

I’m proudly announcing my candidacy for Chautauqua County Clerk. I grew up in Chautauqua County, and after a 20-year Air Force career returned home to raise my family in our beautiful little corner of Western New York. Since retiring from the Air Force in 2016 I’ve served in county government as the Director of Veterans Services. I’m running for County Clerk because I care deeply about the long-term success of our community, and local government is the best way to make a direct impact. The county clerk’s office is an integral part of county governance, and if fortunate enough to be elected I will lead the office in continuously improving the quality, efficiency and access to essential services. This is not about implementing “change” for the sake of “change,” but rather continuously evaluating priorities and making small adjustments to better serve the public. As Buffalo Bills Coach Sean McDermott says “get 1% better each day.” But this isn’t just a one-person operation, the candidate selected by the electorate will have the privilege of leading the dedicated civil servants who are doing the work day in and day out. I believe in fostering a professional, yet family like work environment

where employees are treated with fairness and respect.

As the Chautauqua County Director of Veterans Services for the last nine-year I’ve met hundreds of county residents. But I’d like to share a little about my background for those I haven’t had the opportunity to meet yet. I was raised in Celoron, NY and graduated from Southwestern Central School in 1995. I enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1996, and after a 20-year career, serving in both the enlisted and officer ranks, retired from active service in 2016. During my military career I served in a variety of operational and leadership positions, and deployed to both Iraq and Afghanistan. While serving I was able to complete my formal education earning a Master of Science degree in Aerospace Administration and Logistics from Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Since retiring from the Air Force in 2016 I’ve been employed as the Director of Veterans Services for Chautauqua County. I reside in Lakewood with my wife Trisha who is a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at Jamestown Pediatrics, and we have a blended family of five teenagers. I would not be able to run without the loving support of my family, and all the committee members and volunteers working behind the scenes. I’m thankful for this opportunity, believe I have all the requisite skills required to be an excellent county clerk, and hope to earn you vote on November 4th!



RE-ELECT

LEGISLATOR LARSON

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FOR

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY CLERK



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“My primary focus is serving the residents of Chautauqua County. There is no singular action or talking point that leads to good governance. It’s a commitment to continuous process improvement, and putting our dedicated public servants in the best position to provide efficient and friendly customer service. My focus will be proper staffing, improved training, and easier access for our residents and customers.” -Greg Carlson

Paid for by:

Friends of Greg Carlson

Krauza for County Clerk

Contributed by
Greg Krauza

Candidate, Chautauqua County Clerk

Greg Krauza, Fredonia business owner and former Mayor of the City of Dunkirk, is excited to announce his candidacy for Chautauqua County Clerk. He continues to be active in the community serving as co-chairperson of the Fredonia Farm Festival, president of the Filling the Gap board of directors and captain of an Eleven Day PowerPlay team. Krauza has also served as the co-chair of the Jamestown Gus Macker, president of the Fredonia Chamber of Commerce and president of the NY State Mortgage Brokers Association. His service and professional activity has shown his creativity, leadership and willingness to roll up his sleeves and get the job done.

Krauza is the president of Twinstar Business Solutions , Inc., building and servicing benefits packages for businesses. He is also president of J&G Enterprises, LLC, a development company that buys distressed properties, makes all necessary improvements and sells them, providing needed housing for our area. This also gets the property back on the tax rolls.

“I am confident I have the experience, knowledge and attitude to create an environment to improve service delivery and increase revenue for Chautauqua County.” stated Krauza, he continued “ With my staff and strategic partners I have created and managed successful businesses for over 30 years.”

Krauza went on to point out three main areas his campaign will focus on.

The first is making sure residents have the most efficient, professional service delivery they deserve. The Department of Motor Vehicles, as well as all other areas the Clerk's office manages, will receive the training and support they need to be the best. The county needs to develop awareness around revenue sharing at the DMV and look to flex hours to reduce wait time.

The second is to use the office of the clerk to assist our cities, towns and villages in Chautauqua County to develop and implement strategies for structural change. This will increase efficiency and improve the way we deliver services to our residents.

“The time for small changes and business as usual is over,” Krauza said. “Taxpayers are at their limit and the only way to slow the continued exodus of people, especially younger residents and families, is to break tradition and make bold changes.”

The third is to restore civility in the debate we have regarding our local governments. If we cannot debate issues with respect and an open mind, we are doomed to a cycle of adversarial indecision. In order to achieve this, local governments must be transparent and encourage participation in the debate.

“It certainly will not be easy,” Krauza said. “This means more listening, even to ideas you may have dismissed as foolish or wrong, and try to understand the idea or concern being conveyed. Our residents are a resource with experience and knowledge; they should receive respect and appreciation.”

“My campaign will be a solution-based campaign. This does not mean we have the solutions to every issue, but we do have a commitment to using all resources available, including the people of Chautauqua County, to find and implement them,” Krauza concluded. “I believe the way we currently are operating is no longer sustainable. We have to approach each challenge with the attitude that it can be solved and look past preconceived notions. I am confident with support the leaders and residents of our County can solve any problem.”

For more information about county clerk candidate Krauza, follow him on social media including Facebook, Instagram, You Tube and X by searching ElectGregKrauzaClerk. Any inquiries to the campaign may be sent to gregkrauzaforclerk@gmail.com.

Sunday is Audubon Birdseed Order Deadline

Especially when winter is upon us, birds like this male Cardinal will appreciate your purchase of bird seed and related treats from Audubon Community Nature Center's Fall Birdseed Sale. Get sale prices with your order by this Sunday, September 28, and Blue Heron Gift Shop discounts when you make your pickup on Saturday, October 18. To place your order, go to AudubonCNC.org/events.



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Greg

KRAUZA

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Advocate and support structural change throughout the County to increase efficiency and lower taxes

EXPERIENCE COUNTS

Krauza successfully manages private sector businesses that depend on customer service, creativity and inclusive management. He has served in the public sector as councilman and Mayor of Dunkirk. Krauza has shown leadership and commitment to the community as Chairperson of the Fredonia Farm Festival, Co-chair of the Jamestown Gus Macker, past President of the Fredonia Chamber, captain of an 11 Day PowerPlay team and more!

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Greg Krauza

An advertisement for Carle for County Executive. On the left is a portrait of a smiling man with short, light-colored hair, wearing a dark jacket over a collared shirt. To the right of the portrait, the text 'CARLE' is in large red letters, 'FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE' is in large blue letters, and '= LOWER TAXES' is in large red letters. The background of the text area features a stylized American flag with stars and stripes.

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2025 Art Trail Sees Strong Growth with a 20% Increase in Overall Traffic in Chautauqua County

Continued from Page 15

Diana Pletts of Mayville, and Lauren Blore of Fairview, PA, and \$25.00 gift certificates were won by Abby Mannino of Fredonia, and Teresa Buettner from Mercer, PA.

assist with advertising. This year's Art Trail is grateful for the sponsorship of Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation along with our artists and other sponsors.

Looking Ahead:

- The Art Trail will return in the spring of 2026 during the Memorial Day weekend, with plans to further expand hubs and improve visitor experience. North Shore Arts Alliance is exploring more partnerships, possibly including collaborations with other businesses
- North Shore Arts Alliance is also working with the City of Fredonia to install an Artscape banner project, and will be putting out a call for artwork in the near future

North Shore Arts Alliance is looking to grow their membership with community members that can offer new ideas and creative input. The cost for a yearly membership is just \$35.00 for both community members and artists alike. If you would like to join or just donate to support the organization to help keep the Art Trail alive, simply go to our website at: www.nsaachautauqua.org/join.html or send a check to NSAA PO Box 233, Fredonia, NY 14063

About the North Shore Arts Alliance:

Founded in 2008, the North Shore Arts Alliance is a volunteerbased nonprofit committed to promoting visual arts and cultural engagement in Chautauqua County. Through events such as the Art Trail, gallery exhibitions, public art initiatives, and community outreach, the Alliance connects artists with the public, fosters creative expression, and helps strengthen the local economy.

Organizers plan to build upon this year's success by:

- Improving visitor wayfinding with signage, maps, and digital tools
- Increasing partnerships with local businesses, tourism bodies, and possibly education programs

The Art Trail is made possible by funding from local organizations to



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MHA Art in Recovery Exhibit at St. Luke's Friday, September 26

The Undercroft of St. Luke's Episcopal Church on the corner of 4th and Main streets in downtown Jamestown is the site for the 2025 Art in Recovery exhibit this Friday 6-8 p.m. Presented by the Mental Health Association in Chautauqua County, the works of participants like co-facilitator Brandon Griggs, pictured here, show how they celebrate their own creativity and recovery. Everyone is invited to this free event made possible in part by support from the United Arts Appeal of Chautauqua County Projects Pool Grants Program. Light refreshments will be served.





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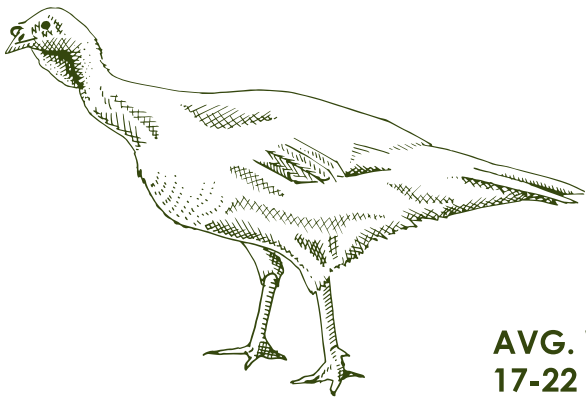


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Annie Oakley Appeared in Chautauqua County Court

Contributing Writer
Michelle Henry
Research Historian

The name Annie Oakley is synonymous with sharp-shooting, marksmanship and Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. Not as well known is her fight against a slanderous newspaper article that brought her to Chautauqua County in 1906!

Oakley (1860-1926) was America's first female superstar; she became an international sensation after a European tour that featured her shooting the ashes from a cigarette held in the mouth of Wilhelm, the Crown Prince of Germany. But she had very humble beginnings. Oakley was born Phoebe Ann Moses in 1860 in rural Darke County, Ohio. Her father died when she was young, and Annie and her siblings were sent to the county poor farm. At age 10, she was indentured to a family who treated her cruelly -- she referred to them as "the wolves." Eventually Annie ran away from them and was reunited with her mother. To help support her family, she tried using her father's rifle to shoot game. She was so successful that she was able to pay off her mother's mortgage. When a travelling shooting exhibition came through her area in 1875, Annie entered a shooting match and competed against the Tour Champion, Frank Butler. To everyone's surprise, 15 year old Annie won! She and Butler were married the next year and he soon became her manager.

Annie won instant accolades for her shooting skills. Oakley joined the vaudeville circuit, making her own conservative costumes rather than wearing more risqué dresses. At one event in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1884, Oakley attracted the attention of legendary Native American warrior Sitting Bull who gave her the name "Little Sure Shot" (she was only five feet tall). She joined Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West in 1885 and performed in the show for the next 17 years. Oakley dazzled audiences with her shotgun abilities, splitting cards on their edges, snuffing candles, and shooting the corks off bottles.

Oakley's career really took off when she performed with Buffalo Bill Cody's show at the American Exposition in London in 1887. Oakley met Queen Victoria, who called her a "very clever little girl." She wowed the British papers. In 1889 the show began a three-year tour of Europe, making Annie an international superstar.

But Annie never forgot her difficult



Submitted Photo

Annie Oakley

childhood and remained frugal throughout her life. She and Butler gave money to support orphans, widows and helped support her mother. She and Frank Butler were enjoying a quiet semi-retired life in New Jersey in 1903 when the *Chicago Tribune* (published by William Randolph Hearst) ran a salacious story, claiming she had been arrested for stealing, was financially broke, and had a cocaine habit.

Oakley was devastated. She claimed that the newspaper piece "nearly killed me" because she had always conducted herself with dignity and decorum. The story was picked up by many newspapers across the country. Although several printed retractions, that did not satisfy Oakley. She filed libel suits against every newspaper that ran the story, including the *Dunkirk Herald*.

For the next six years she and her husband did nothing but pursue damages. She said, "The only thing that kept me alive was the desire to purge my character." In September 1906, Oakley's case against Daniel Toomey, owner of the *Dunkirk Herald*, was heard at the courthouse in Mayville. Oakley testified on her own behalf and sought \$25,000 in damages. Oakley's attorney argued brilliantly, according to the *Jamestown Morning Post*, on "the injustices of the press and the newspaper men, whom he described as conscienceless." After deliberating for five hours, the jury found for the plaintiff and agreed upon a verdict of \$500.

In the end, Annie Oakley won or settled 54 of the cases, but in doing so had spent more of her own money than she was awarded in damages. In one case her award was six cents! But she had not initiated the actions to make money, rather to restore her good reputation. Annie Oakley died on November 3, 1926. Frank Butler, to whom she had been married for 50 years, died 18 days later.

Friends of the Chautauqua County Greenways to Hold Public Meeting in Cherry Creek

Various groups to present updates on outdoor recreational trail projects



Submitted Photo

The Friends of the Chautauqua County Greenways' public meeting on Oct. 1 will provide an update on a variety of trail projects, including the recent opening of the Homestead Loop trail in Boutwell Hill State Forest, which was celebrated during CHQ Trails Day on June 21. Various groups to present updates on outdoor recreational trail projects

Contributed by
Friends of the Chautauqua County Greenways

In cooperation with the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG), the Friends of the Chautauqua County Greenways (FCCG) will hold a public informational meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the Barn at Farrington Hollow (7495 Farrington Hollow Road, Cherry Creek). This meeting will provide the public with updates on various trail and waterway development and maintenance projects, along with conservation efforts throughout Chautauqua County. A recap of various activities during the summer, including the first ever CHQ Trails Day held on June 21, will also be discussed.



"There are so many incredible recreation projects that are happening right now in Chautauqua County," noted Jacob Bodway, Trail Coordinator for CCPEG. "Each trail user group has exciting updates, and this event will give everyone an opportunity to see the impact that our efforts are making throughout the county. We encourage people to come to the Barn at Farrington Hollow and ask questions about any

of our recent and future projects!" Groups to present during the meeting include Boutwell Hill Ski Club, Chautauqua County Parks Commission and Parks Department, Chautauqua County Equestrian Trail System, CCPEG, Chautauqua Rails to Trails, Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy, the Town of Mina, and Western New York Mountain Bicycling Association.

"All summer long, FCCG member groups have been hard at work—improving trails, clearing hazards from our waterways, and planning future projects that will make the county's outdoor spaces even better. It's inspiring to see just how much is happening to make our region a beautiful, exciting destination for outdoor enthusiasts, both residents and visitors alike. You'll get the first look at these efforts at this meeting!" says Twan Leenders, Director of Conservation at the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy and co-chair of FCCG.

Anyone interested in learning more about the various outdoor recreational trails in Chautauqua County is invited to attend. More details about FCCG can be found online at ChooseCHQ.com. The public is also invited to follow FCCG-related activities on the FCCG Facebook group page.

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Lauren Turner Discusses “Spirituality and Re-wired Brains” at Sunday’s Unitarian Service

This Sunday and next at the 10:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Jamestown services, Lauren Turner takes a two-part look at "Spirituality and Re-wired Brains." The retired Methodist minister says: "Spirituality is a human thing. We find it in all religions. Atheists and theists both share it. Unfortunately, recent worldwide factors are causing human brains to operate differently. This has led to a complex 'spiritual' crisis. These two weeks we will be examining some astonishing statistics and how they seem linked to changes we are seeing in social structures, religious behavior and politics. We will examine possible dangers from this trend and possible ways to deal with it." Everyone is welcome to the service at 1255 Prendergast Avenue. To participate virtually, use the link at UUJamestown.org/calendar.



SUDOKU

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	3		7				8	1
	1					2	4	9

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

[illegible]

CLUES ACROSS

1. Gas usage measurement
4. Muslim mystic
8. Towards the mouth or oral region
10. Monday (Spanish)
11. Frame for a coffin
12. Rub out
13. John __, English educator 1467-1519
15. Small round particle
16. Chilean seaport
17. News service
18. Pay for dinner
21. Glamorous city
22. Subway rodent
23. "The Raven" author
24. Buddhist festival
25. Cost, insurance and freight (abbr.)
26. Indigenous person of Thailand
27. "The Blonde Bombshell"
34. Series-ending episodes
35. Bluish greens
36. Aquatic mammal
37. Unit of measurement
38. Eye membranes
39. Indian god of dissolution
40. People of Scotland
41. Leak slowly through
42. Rock icon Turner
43. Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

1. Large hat covering
2. "From what is earlier" (Latin)
3. Celtic
4. Retirement region
5. A way to change posture
6. Touches
7. A small island
9. Rubbish
10. A citizen of Laos
12. A place to dance
14. 19th letter of Greek alphabet
15. Mild expression of surprise
17. 17th letter of Greek alphabet
19. Descriptions
20. Men's fashion accessory
23. Thieves of the sea
24. Prohibit
25. Card game
26. French and Belgian river
27. Underling
28. Downwind
29. Type of medication
30. German city
31. Animal disease
32. Martini ingredients
33. Get away from
34. Stuffed (French)
36. Type of precipitation

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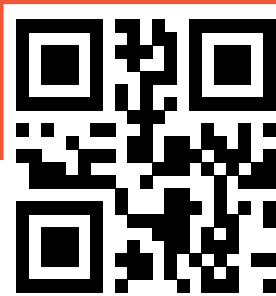
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Senator George Borrello Introduces Legislation to Toughen Penalties for License Plate Fraud

*Growing problem is frustrating victims
and resulting in tens of millions of dollars
in lost revenue***Taxpayer Costs**

Contributed by

Senator George Borrello

Senator George Borrello today announced new legislation to crack down on license plate fraud, a crime that is growing across New York State and wreaking havoc on innocent families.

“License plate fraud is not a victimless crime. I’ve spoken with constituents who have had their credit ruined, been hounded by debt collectors, and even had police show up at their homes because criminals were using their license plate numbers. It’s outrageous, it’s frightening, and it’s happening far too often,” said Senator Borrello.

In a recent investigative report by WIVB, the story of license plate fraud victims Erik Anderson and Amanda Griffin was profiled. The Jamestown couple had their old plates properly destroyed by the DMV in 2024, only to be buried under more than \$9,200 in fraudulent tolls, speeding tickets, and parking violations issued in New York City and New Jersey. Clearing their names was anything but simple. It took months of stress, endless phone calls, and outside intervention before the bogus toll debt was finally erased.

The report also highlighted the ordeal of Robert and Lorie Grover of Bemus Point, who were hit with repeated fraudulent toll charges and even had police show up at their home in connection with a \$250,000 robbery in New York City tied to their stolen plate number. Senator Borrello stressed that while these are two of the most extreme examples his office has handled, they are far from isolated. Dozens of other constituents have faced fraudulent tolls and traffic violations tied to license plate theft.

Statewide, the costs of license plate fraud are staggering. Authorities estimate that toll evasion through counterfeit and “ghost” plates is draining tens of millions of dollars from the MTA, Thruway Authority, and Port Authority. Officials in New York City reported a noticeable jump in the prevalence of ghost plates and license plate covers when congestion pricing took effect in January 2025, although revenue losses are not yet available.

Under current law, those caught with counterfeit license plates face only a misdemeanor for a first offense, a penalty so weak that most walk away with no consequences at all. Senator Borrello’s bill, S.8506, would:

- **Elevate a first offense from a misdemeanor to a Class E felony**, with up to one year in jail and a mandatory minimum fine of \$500.
- **Elevate a second offense within ten years to a Class D felony**, with 1–3 years in prison, a fine of no less than \$1,000, and a mandatory one-year license suspension.
- **Create a new Class D felony** for those with suspended or revoked licenses who use fraudulent plates, punishable by 1–3 years in prison, a fine of at least \$1,500, and an extended suspension.
- **Crackdown on repeat offenders** who obscure their plates with covers; a second violation would mean a \$500 minimum fine and a six-month license suspension.

“Current penalties are no deterrent. Someone can slap a fake plate on their car, rack up thousands in tolls or use it to commit crimes, and, even if they are caught, walk away with a slap on the wrist. That has to end or this problem will only get worse,” said Senator Borrello.

He also pointed to the link between license plate fraud and New York City’s new \$9-per-day congestion pricing fee. “The explosion in fake plates coincided with congestion pricing. When Albany raises tolls and taxes, and then refuses to hold criminals accountable, they create the perfect storm. Honest people pay the price, both in their wallets and in their peace of mind,” said Borrello.

“License plate fraud cheats taxpayers, devastates innocent families, and undermines the rule of law. My bill makes clear: if you engage in this crime, there will be real consequences. New Yorkers deserve nothing less.”

Chautauqua County Executive Paul M. Wendel Jr. to Present 2026 Executive Budget

*Doing More for Less: County to Expand
Services While Reducing Taxpayer Costs*



Contributed by

**County Executive
Paul M. Wendel Jr.**

Chautauqua County Executive Paul M. Wendel Jr. will present his 2026 Tentative Executive Budget next week, a plan built around the theme “Doing More for Less,” showcasing how the County will deliver improved services in 2026 while lowering the financial burden on taxpayers.

The presentation will take place on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Chautauqua County Legislative Chambers, 3 N. Erie St., Mayville, NY 14757. The address is open to the public, and residents are encouraged to attend in person or watch live on YouTube at: youtube.com/@ChautauquaCounty.

“The 2026 Executive Budget reflects our philosophy of doing more with less,” said Wendel. “Through innovation, efficiency, and careful fiscal management, we are able to improve services and strengthen

our community—all while reducing the cost to taxpayers. This is about delivering real results, not simply spending more.”

As part of his address, Wendel will discuss how the County

continues to manage mandated expenses such as Medicaid and foster care, while making smart investments that improve quality of life for residents.

“Our administration remains committed to conservative financial stewardship,” Wendel added. “We are proving that government can be more effective and responsive without asking our residents to pay more. This budget is a clear example of how Chautauqua County is leading with responsibility, creativity, and vision.”

The 2026 proposal will also outline priority projects and initiatives designed to ensure long-term stability and growth for the county.

“This is more than a financial plan—it’s a commitment to our future,” Wendel stated. “We are charting a course that not only strengthens our present but also creates opportunity for generations to come.”

For more updates from Chautauqua County Executive PJ Wendel, visit chautauquacountyny.gov and follow him on Facebook at @CountyExecutiveWendel.

***“Your great strength is knowing
who you are.”***

- Oscar de la Renta

Senior Scene with Dana Corwin

Alzheimer’s Awareness

Contributed by

Dana Corwin

Director of Chautauqua County
Office for Aging Services

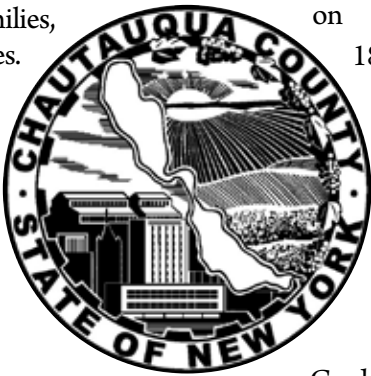
This summer, I had the privilege of attending the 2025 US Aging Conference, where keynote speaker Ken Dychtwald—founder and CEO of Age Wave in California—delivered a powerful message for the aging community. In his session, Transformation at the Tipping Point: The Future of Health, Medicine, Aging and Longevity, he declared, “...we need to stop this (Alzheimer’s) disease.”

His words struck a chord. Alzheimer’s has touched so many lives, and the challenges it presents are real for individuals, families, and communities. Dychtwald outlined several key areas that we must address if we hope to meet the needs of people today while preparing for the future:

- 1. Recognizing new age brackets as people live longer than ever before.
- 2. Managing health throughout every stage of life.
- 3. Preparing for the financial costs of aging in place.
- 4. Confronting and eliminating ageism in all areas of society.
- 5. Embracing new purpose and meaning in later life.

These are not abstract ideas—they are urgent priorities. Are we, here in Chautauqua County, prepared for the growing number of older adults in our community?

According to 2023 data, 12.7% of New Yorkers over age 65 are living with Alzheimer’s. In Chautauqua County, the number is 10.9%, making us the third highest county in Western New York. These statistics raise important questions: Do we have the infrastructure to support individuals and families affected by this disease? And if not, what steps must we take now?



We do have resources available. Caregiver support services and community engagement programs are helping families navigate the journey. Locally, we are working closely with the Alzheimer’s Association, which provides monthly educational programs on brain health and other essential topics for individuals, care partners, and families.

One of the most visible ways we come together is through the Walk to End Alzheimer’s. Each fall, Chautauqua County hosts this event to raise awareness, funds, and community spirit. This year’s walk will take place on Saturday, October 18, 2025, at Point Gratiot. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m., with vendors, information booths, and the moving Promise

Garden ceremony. The walk kicks off at 10:00 a.m.

“The Alzheimer’s Association leads the way to end Alzheimer’s and all other dementia—by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support.”

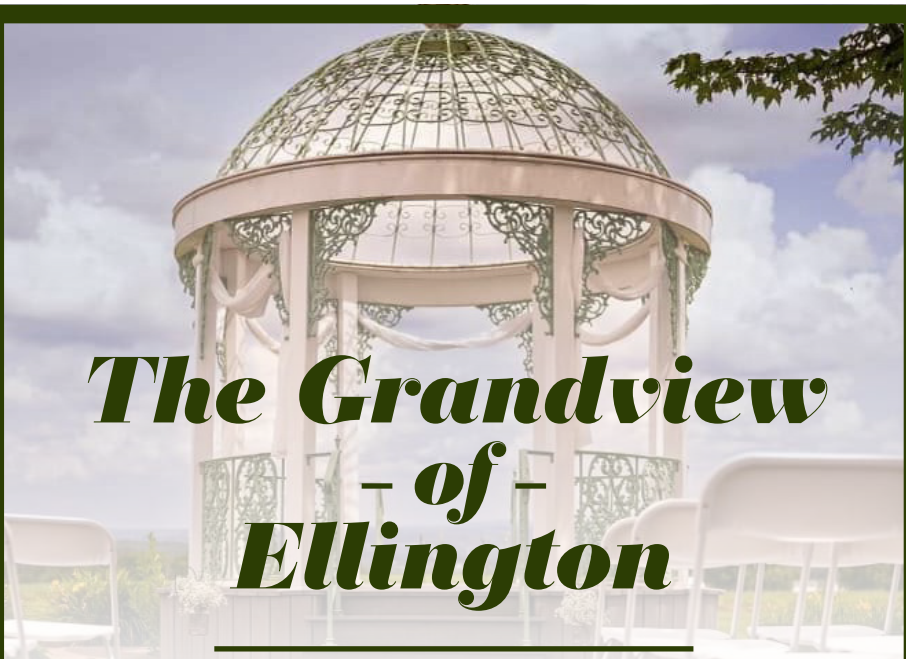
Chautauqua County needs this commitment, and we need you. Please register for the walk at:

https://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2025/NY-WesternNewYork?fr_id=18798&pg=entry&utm_source=chatgpt.com
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PUZZLES ON PAGE 25



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Common car noises and what they might be indicating

Article by
Metro Creative Connection

necessary. If a battery is not holding a charge, a new one is needed.

Squeaky or scraping windshield wipers

Squeaking and scraping means the windshield wipers are wearing down or the windshield is dirty. Clean the windshield and inspect the wiper blades to make sure they are in working order. A bad wiper and dirty windshield can reduce visibility and make driving dangerous.

Clunking sounds

Clunking sounds may indicate a few different issues. A clunking sound might indicate worn out shock absorbers, which absorb vibrations from the wheels. Damaged struts also can cause clunking. Worn out leaf spring shackles that help in off-roading conditions also can cause clunking when they bend or break.

Although there are many drivers who understand what goes on under the hood of a vehicle and the inner workings of car mechanics, there are plenty of others who might not know a spark plug from a dipstick. For the latter group, random noises when driving can be a cause for immediate alarm.

Certain noises can be innocuous and easily fixed, while others may be indicative of something more complex. Pinpointing where a noise is coming from can help vehicle owners identify the problem. Here's a list of some common sounds and what the causes might be, courtesy of Firestone, Geico and Nationwide.

High-pitched squealing

Screeching or squealing coming from the tires when stepping on the brakes likely means that brake pads are wearing down and the indicator is rubbing against the rotor. Although this is not an emergency situation, it does mean that brakes will need to be replaced sooner than later.

Humming, whining or whirring

These strange noises might have different origins. Check if the differential needs to be lubricated. A wheel bearing also could be worn out and produce a noise. In more severe cases, the transmission could be failing. The best course of action is to get a professional opinion from a mechanic.

Rattling in the wheel

If you hear rattling inside of a wheel at low speeds which stops as you drive faster, it could mean there is a loose lug nut inside of the hub cap. That wheel wasn't tightened properly the last time it was removed and replaced. Bring the car to a mechanic as soon as possible.

Flapping noise

A broken belt typically is the culprit when a vehicle makes a flapping or slapping noise. Something also may be interfering with the fan. Driving with a broken belt may cause severe engine damage, so it's important to address the issue.

Clicking

If you try to start the car and only hear a clicking sound instead of the car turning over, a dead battery is likely the cause. Such a noise also may indicate corroded battery terminals that are preventing the current from flowing. Terminals need to be cleaned. The battery should be checked and jumped, if

Squealing under the hood

Squealing can indicate worn or loose accessory belts. In newer cars it might be the serpentine belt. Belts are relatively inexpensive and easy fixes.

These are some of the sounds that vehicles can make when something is awry. Figuring out the issue can prevent further damage.

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