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PROFILES IN HOPE



Editor-in-Chief
Katrina Fuller



A breast cancer diagnosis can bring fear, uncertainty and months of difficult treatment. It can also reveal the strength of a community through the people who offer care, encouragement and a steady hand along the way.

For Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Gazette is proud to feature local women who have chosen to share their experiences in their own words. Their stories speak to the challenges of the disease, the support that helped them through it and the ways life can change afterward.

Read their stories on page 14 of this edition.



THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUR MAMMOGRAM



Featured Writer
Eileen Bertando, UPMC
Mammography Department Supervisor





UPMC Chautauqua Mammography Department Staff: From left to right: Brianna Ingerson, Brooke Mareri, Eileen Bertando, Britta Johnson, Emily Zamborik.

For many people, scheduling a mammogram can feel easy to put off—especially when life is busy or the appointment feels uncomfortable to think about. But taking this simple step is an act of care for yourself and for the people who love you. Mammograms give you and your health care team important information, and they can offer peace of mind when results are normal or help guide timely care when follow-up is needed.

Why do mammograms matter? A mammogram is an X-ray image of the breast used to look for signs of breast cancer, often before a lump can be felt or symptoms appear. While no screening test can prevent cancer, regular mammograms can help find breast cancer earlier, when treatment is of-

ten more effective and options may be less intensive.

Early detection can save lives. Breast cancer can sometimes grow silently. Mammograms are valuable because they can detect changes in breast tissue before a person notices anything unusual. According to public health guidance, regular mammograms can lower the risk of dying from breast

cancer and can help doctors begin treatment at an earlier stage.

One in eight women in the United States will develop breast cancer during her lifetime. It is important to note that when breast cancer is diagnosed at an early, localized stage, the five-year survival rate is greater

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

FRIENDS OF THE GAZETTE

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 MEMBERS!
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This Week Around Town

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2- SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

Enchanted Forest | 6 PM-8 PM
Audubon Community Nature Center | Jamestown
For Info: auduboncnc.org/events

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

When ‘Fake News’ Is True: Grover Cleveland was a Big, Fat Liar | 11 AM-11:50 AM
Williams Center Room S204-ABC | SUNY, Fredonia

Audubon First Friday: Mycoblitz | 11 AM-12 PM
Audubon Community Nature Center | Jamestown
For Info: auduboncnc.org/events

1916 Silent Film Snow White with Live Score | 7:30pm
1891 Fredonia Opera House |Fredonia
For Info: www.fredopera.org.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Jamestown Sportsman Show | 9 AM-4 PM & 9 AM-3 PM
150 W 4th St | Jamestown
For Info: york-pennshows.com

Panama Rocks Fall Foliage Festival
Panama Rocks | Panama
For Info: panamarocks.com

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

Book Fair & Basket Raffle | 9 AM-1 PM
996 Forest Ave. Ext. | Busti
For Info: facebook.com/events/1744058636631009

Audubon Photography Club | 10 AM-11 AM
Audubon Community Nature Center | Jamestown
For Info: auduboncnc.org/events

Forestville Fall Festival | 10 AM-3 PM
Forestville High School Gym | Forestville
For Info: (716) 359-3436 or (716) 868-902

Village of Lakewood Fall Festival | 10 AM-3 PM
Chautauqua Avenue | Lakewood

1st Annual Oktoberfest | 12 PM-8 PM

8305 W Main Rd | Westfield
For Info: grapediscoverycenter.com

SUNY Fredonia Bicentennial Lecture | 1pm
891 Fredonia Opera House |Fredonia
For Info: www.fredopera.org.

Forestville American Legion Meat Party | 6 PM
6 Cedar St | Forestville
For Info: (716) 359-3436 or (716) 868-902

JCC Jayhawks Pink the Rink | 7 PM
Northwest Arena | Jamestown

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

"Dance, Dance, Otherwise We Are Lost" with Sukanya Burman | 10:30 AM
Jamestown Unitarian Church | Jamestown
For Info: uujamestown.org/calendar

Forestville Chicken BBQ | 12 PM
18 Chestnut St | Forestville
For Info: (716) 359-3436 or (716) 868-902

The Western New York Chamber Orchestra presents “Meditations” | 3 PM
King Concert Hall | SUNY Fredonia
For Info: fredonia.edu/tickets

GRAPE DISCOVERY
CENTER OCTOBERFEST
PAGE 10

PANAMA ROCKS FALL
FOLIAGE FESTIVAL
PAGE 8



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Breast cancer
is the most common form
of non-skin-related cancer in
women and the second-leading
cause of women's cancer
deaths in both the
United States and Canada

Sources: American Cancer Society, Canadian Cancer Society

Editorial with Lori Cornell

Breast Cancer Awareness



Publisher
Lori Cornell

This edition, we are grateful to partner with the WCA Foundation in honor of October's upcoming Breast Cancer Awareness Month.*

Our hats off to this laudable Foundation and so many others in our community dedicated toward prevention.

Whether you have a personal connection to breast cancer or not, the high rate of incidence in Western New York warrants our full attention and pause. Thank you for joining us in honoring the courageous women (and men!) who have battled - or are currently battling - this lifechanging challenge.

As I entered my friend Kim Carlson's beautiful store "Peapod & Juniper" last week, her wall-hanging popped right out in my periphery and into my editorial heart for this edition. I don't think there could be more perfect words to describe our collective perception of life and perhaps give encouragement to those like the beautiful women brave enough to share their stories and the incredible network of community supporters all proudly featured here within.

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GAZETTE

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*"Life is amazing. And then it's awful.
And then it's amazing again.
And in between the amazing and the
awful
It's the ordinary and mundane and
routine.
Breathe in the amazing,
Hold on through the awful,
And relax and exhale during the
ordinary.
That's just living
Heartbreaking, soul-healing,
Amazing, awful, ordinary life.
And it's breathtakingly beautiful."*

LR Knost



OCTOBER BREAST CANCER AWARENESS
PREVENTION MONTH EVENT SCHEDULE

JCC JAYHAWKS PINK THE RINK

JCC Jayhawks vs Niagara University
Saturday, Oct. 3 • 7:00 PM

Northwest Arena • 319 W. 3rd St., Jamestown
Basket Raffles • 50/50 • Silent Auction - Game Worn Jersey
National Anthem Sung by Fan Favorite Doug Allen

- **Runnings Ladies Night – Wednesday, October 7 • 4:00-7:00 PM**
720 Fairmount Ave. Jamestown
Purchase a Shopping Bucket for \$5.00 and receive 20% off on most store items.
Craft Vendors • Food Trucks including: Mystic Smoke, The French Fry Guy, Hope Smoothies, You Take the Cake
- **LUV Auto Group will be donating \$100 for every car sold at LUV Toyota and Jamestown Honda throughout the month of October.**
- **LUV Auto Group - Pink after Hours Night
Tuesday, October 20 • 5:30- 8:30 PM**
215 East Fairmount Avenue, Lakewood, NY
Guest Speakers • Give Aways • 50/50 • Prizes • Food & Beverages
- **Rotary Club of Jamestown
Monday October 26 • 11:45 AM -1:00 PM**
DoubleTree, 150 West 4th Street, Jamestown, NY
Lunch & Speaker featuring Dr. Nabeela Patail, MD, UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Chautauqua • Free Lunch with reservation by Thursday, October 20.
RSVP to WCA Foundation at 716-664-8665 or email Emily Cama, camaes@upmc.edu.
- **Buddy Brewster's Ale House – Breast Cancer Awareness Dessert Promotion – Month of October** - Lakewood and Fredonia Locations
Purchase a special dessert through the Month of October with proceeds to benefit breast cancer patients at UPMC Chautauqua.



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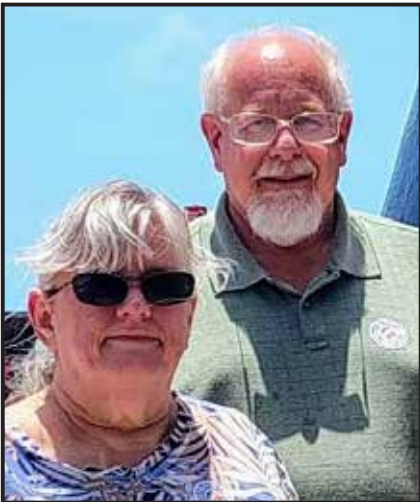


Faith Matters

OUR JOURNEY

Featured Writer

Pastor Charlie Robertson
West Portland Baptist Church



Nancy & Pastor Charlie Robertson

As a pastor, I know ministry involves providing support and help to people as they endure the difficult events in life. This includes illnesses. Serving people in churches since 1987, a wide variety of illnesses and injuries came to those I ministered to. Also, as a volunteer EMT since 1991, in the setting of an ambulance, I joined in the actual battle against physical problems if for only a few minutes of time.

With October's arrival, it is the month of the year we focus on one of those illnesses, breast cancer. This is my wife Nancy's and our family's story.

In the fall of 2017, Nancy had her annual mammogram. Due to the history of her mom having breast cancer in the mid-1980's, and her sister having breast cancer also, Nancy was under scrutiny to keep her from the same problem. After the routine testing was done, her Physician Assistant told her "something was not quite right" in an area she noticed. Nancy agreed to go to Windsong in Hamburg for enhanced mammography. We both thought little would come of it, but making extra certain is fine.

In January 2018 when the phone call came, and the message was that it is probably stage 1 breast cancer, the

concern and path for the year was set. Next came more tests and biopsies, surgery, radiation treatments, and then the beginning of 5 years of estrogen blocking drugs and close monitoring.

We had to tell our 2 children, one living in Florida and the other at college in Pennsylvania. Our daughter in Florida was expecting our first grandchild, and he would arrive early, on the morning of Nancy's cancer surgery. While in the waiting room for Nancy to be prepared for surgery, I got the text that he had been born. I saw Nancy before they took her into surgery and told her she was a grandmother. It is amazing how life can be filled with utter joy and deep concerns in the very same moment.

We experienced the encouraging words of the Lord in the Bible, our prayers and the prayers others prayed for us, and the love of Christ through the Holy Spirit were as sufficient for us as they had been for those we had ministered to in past years. The test of our faith is not only to determine what the scriptures say is true and declare that to others, but to also see our faith strong when are in trials ourselves.

The gospel centers on Jesus providing forgiveness through His suffering for us on the cross, to those who believe. We have enough sin we commit to need to experience His love and forgiveness. The Bible also shows Jesus cared for the earthly needs of people. Jesus healed countless numbers, wept with the sorrowing, and loved everyone who came to Him searching for truth and answers regardless of the messes in their lives. Those of us who believe, are blessed with the same Jesus in our troubled chapters of life.

When we were facing breast cancer and needed the Lord's help, He never let us down. Now, over 8 years later we are thankful to God there has been no of recurrence of cancer. Nancy still has other physical needs she trusts daily in the Lord to help with, and He is faithful. As a closing challenge she stresses the need for self-examines but not as a substitute for mammograms as scheduled. It would have been a longer time before a physical exam would have exposed what the mammogram did. By then the cancer would have advanced in size and seriousness. Please take the time to have any scheduled tests your doctor orders.

Also, spiritually if you don't have a personal relationship with God through Jesus for troubles here, and a place in Heaven when this life is over, please consider the love of Christ who opens His arms to receive whoever will believe by faith and call upon Him.

Pastor Charlie was raised in eastern NY close to the Vermont border. While at Cairn University near Philadelphia he met and married Nancy. He returned to eastern NY with Nancy and served as pastor of 2 rural churches in that area. In 2013 he accepted the position of pastor at West Portland Baptist Church in Westfield. He also continues in EMS as an EMT-CC with Portland Fire Department.

A MESSAGE FROM KRISTIN MELVILLE

Executive Director, WCA Foundation



Featured Writer

Kristin Melville

Executive Director, WCA Foundation

The WCA Foundation is proud to partner with an outstanding group of organizations and local businesses to recognize October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This important month is dedicated to education, early detection, support, and hope for those impacted by breast cancer.

Breast cancer affects approximately 1 in 8 women during their lifetime, making it one of the most common cancers among women. The encouraging news is that when breast cancer is detected early, before it advances, the five-year survival rate is more than 99%. These statistics reinforce the importance of annual mammograms and regular screenings, which remain among the most effective tools for detecting breast cancer at its earliest and most treatable stage.

Throughout October, the WCA Foundation will offer a variety of activities focused on breast health awareness, prevention, survivorship, and support. Together, we will celebrate survivors, honor loved ones and encourage both women and men throughout our community to prioritize their health

through regular screenings.

The funds raised through these efforts are critical to advancing breast health services in our community. One of the Foundation's most significant initiatives has been partnering with generous donors to enhance and renovate the Mammography Department at UPMC Chautauqua. We recognize that for many women and men, a mammogram can be an emotional and anxiety-producing experience. This renovation has been thoughtfully designed to create a more welcoming, private, and comforting environment that restores dignity, respects privacy, and provides peace of mind for every patient. We are pleased to share that the planning and design phases are nearing completion, and renovations will begin once the remaining funds are secured.

As we come together this month, I encourage you to learn more about breast health, participate in our Breast Cancer Awareness Month activities, and support efforts to advance breast health services in our community. Every gift helps invest in resources, technology, and patient-centered spaces that make a meaningful difference in the lives of local women, men, and their families.

Most importantly, if you are due for a screening, please schedule your annual mammogram. It is one simple appointment that could save your life. Early detection remains our strongest defense against breast cancer and taking that step today could make all the difference tomorrow.

Thank you for joining us in raising awareness, supporting individuals and families impacted by breast cancer, and helping to ensure that exceptional breast health services remain available close to home.

BOOK FAIR HIGHLIGHTS LOCAL AUTHORS & ARTISTS

Contributed by
Busti Church of God

Busti Church of God and Hazeltine Public Library present a Book Fair & Basket Raffle, Saturday, October 3 from 9 am to 1 pm. The public is invited to interact with authors and artists, ask questions, see writing prompts, and get signed copies of work published. New and seasoned authors and artists include Julia Casselman, Jen Kilburn, Lana Keller, Sally Ferguson, Jessie Andersen, Steve Sorensen, Julia Thompson, Alicia Will-sie, Darla Grieco, Mollie Lyon, Heidi Mercier, Emily Stepansky, Arlene Coullter, TJ Buck, Joe Sanifilippo, and Dan Weisbrod.

The Book Fair & Basket Raffle is a fundraiser for the Busti Church of God Uganda Team, leaving for Africa next spring to present eye clinics. Led by Pastor Roy Ferguson, and under the supervision of Dr. Donna Morhous,

the eye clinics bring relief with an otherwise unavailable service to most people in third world countries. Busti Church of God has been sending teams to Uganda since 2010. Over 65 people have gone once, some have been back multiple times. Proceeds from a Food Café featuring home-made treats, souvenirs from Uganda, and a basket raffle from authors and lo-

cal businesses will all go to the Uganda Team. Everything purchased from authors and artists will go toward their expenses.

Free parking and admission. The celebration will

be held in the Busti Church of God Family Life Center at 996 Forest Ave. Ext.

Follow the event page for more information and author bios: www.facebook.com/events/1744058636631009

For questions, call Sally Ferguson at (716) 488-1254.



DID YOU KNOW?

Most women who develop breast cancer have no identifiable risk factors other than being female and getting older. Whether you have risk factors for breast cancer or not, it's important to get screened. Regular checkups and mammograms are the best way to catch breast cancer early.

<https://share.upmc.com/2025/10/breast-cancer-meaning/>



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POWERED BY PINK, DRIVEN BY PURPOSE

How Cummins JEP employees turned breast cancer awareness into a lasting tradition of hope and community impact



Contributed by

**Cummins Jamestown
Engine Plant Women's
Empowerment Network**

For nearly two decades, compassion, creativity, and teamwork have transformed one awareness event into a powerful employee-led movement.

A Tradition That Grew with Every Act of Kindness

Nearly 20 years ago, the Cummins Jamestown Engine Plant Women's Empowerment Network launched a Breast Cancer Awareness Event with a simple goal: to educate employees and encourage conversations about breast health. What began as a modest awareness effort soon became something much larger—an annual tradition powered by the passion, generosity, and personal stories of employees across the plant.

Each year, the campaign begins with a specially designed Breast Cancer Awareness T-shirt. Employees purchase and proudly wear the shirt, creating a visible wave of support throughout JEP. The design is more than apparel; it is a shared symbol of solidarity with those fighting cancer, admiration for survivors, remembrance of loved ones, and hope for a future without breast cancer.

Employees Make the Difference

At the heart of the event is an employee-led basket raffle held in the plant cafeteria. Every basket is donated by an employee, a team, or a department, and volunteers keep the fundraiser running across all three shifts. The result is a welcoming event filled with creativity, friendly excitement, and a strong sense of community.

Education remains central to the campaign. Representatives from local healthcare organizations are invited

to share breast health information and connect employees with helpful resources. This blend of awareness and action keeps the event rooted in its original purpose while expanding its reach.

Employee Perspective

"Breast Cancer Awareness events are important to me because I have family members who have been affected by breast cancer. Early detection through regular screening is key to saving lives. I am passionate about raising funds through our BCA events so that we can make a meaningful impact in our community."

—Brelynn Ball

Local Support, Lasting Impact

Proceeds from the annual fundraiser support local breast cancer care through the WCA Foundation and Warren General Hospital. That impact is possible because employees continue to give their time, creativity, and resources year after year. Every donated basket, purchased shirt, raffle ticket, volunteer shift, and shared story adds another thread to a tradition built by the entire plant.

Leadership Across Every Shift

JEP WEN is co-led by Melissa Pollino and Dori Highhouse, supported by a core group of approximately 30 employees representing all three shifts. Together, they coordinate the many details behind the campaign while creating opportunities for others to participate in meaningful ways.

The annual Breast Cancer Awareness Event is more than a fundraiser. It is a reminder of what can happen when employees unite around a cause: awareness becomes action, generosity becomes care, and one event becomes a legacy of hope.

Together, JEP turns pink into purpose—and purpose into impact.

Framed in Pink Bowling Over Breast Cancer



Patti Reed, Sue Lamb, Kristy Moore, Julie Abramson, Marcia Derby. (Missing Brooke Ludwiczak, Megan Ludwiczak, Corin Derby and Corin Derby.)

Featured Writer

Julie Abramson

My late mother, Sue Lamb, and her friend Oleta Hannon, began Framed in Pink Bowling Over Breast Cancer in 2009 under the name Bowl for a Cure. Their goal was always to make a difference while doing something they loved: bowling! Proceeds at that time went to the Susan B Komen Foundation.

In 2014, my sisters Marcia, Patti, Kristy and I joined our mother in partnering with the WCA Foundation to further expand her efforts. We rebranded the event to Framed in Pink Bowling Over Breast Cancer. Through endowments, proceeds stayed local and helped support local breast cancer care & treatment at UPMC Chautauqua. Year after year, over 140 bowlers supported the cause, as well as local businesses and individuals through monetary and basket raffle donations.

In 2021, my mother passed away due to complications unrelated to breast cancer, but we have worked hard to continue her legacy, with the goal to raise funds for local breast cancer care and prevention. This charity and our community meant everything to my mom. It was the way she always showed up for others, the compassion she held, and the light she brought into every room, that made everyone feel valued. Sue Lamb's legacy continues to inspire and uplift all who have had the privilege of knowing her.

Since 2014, Framed in Pink Bowling Over Breast Cancer has raised thousands of dollars in partnership with the WCA Foundation. My mom's goal and passion was to raise \$10,000 - \$15,000 a year. Following the recent closure of Jamestown Bowling Company, the Framed in Pink committee decided this year to instead hold a cornhole tournament in September. We are so grateful for all who made it another huge success!



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WCA Foundation Endowments Help Secure the Future of Local Health Care



L-R. Megan Barone, UPMC CHQ Development Director, Tammara Hodges, UPMC CHQ, VP of Operations, Dave Foti, Dave Munella, IA, Kristin Melville, Executive Director WCA Foundation, Pete Morgante, Joe Paterniti, both IA, and Dr. Nabeela Patail, Oncologist, UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Chautauqua.

Contributed by WCA Foundation

The WCA Foundation was established 44 years ago through a single estate gift that created an endowment fund for the WCA Hospital, now UPMC Chautauqua. Today, the WCA Foundation has grown and stewards 50 endowment funds with assets totaling more than \$23 million, reflecting decades of philanthropic investment in the health and well-being of our community.

What is an endowment and why is it important? An endowment is a permanent investment in the future of a charitable organization. The original gift is invested and maintained in perpetuity, while a portion of the earnings is distributed annually to support the donor's intended purpose. By generating reliable, long-term income, endowments help strengthen an organization's financial stability and ensure continued support for its mission for generations to come.

One of the greatest advantages of an endowment fund is its ability to grow over time. Donors, family members, friends, and community supporters can continue adding to a fund through personal gifts, memorial contributions, estate plans, fundraising events, and other charitable efforts. Sometimes, even the smallest acts of generosity, from community fundraisers to a child's lemonade stand, can help grow an endowment and expand its impact.

Many donors are drawn to endowment giving because of their sustainability and long-term reach. Rather than helping one individual or meeting a single need, an endowment can support countless patients and families for years to come. As the fund continues to grow, so does its ability to provide care, comfort, education, and hope.

Endowment funds established through the WCA Foundation remain local. Earnings from these funds directly support UPMC Chautauqua and the patients they serve, helping to ensure that high-quality health care remains available close to home.

"My children and I established the Brad and Becky Van Riper Digestive System Cancer Endowment Fund after Brad passed away in 2018 at the WCA Foundation" said Becky Van Riper-Brooks. "Brad spent his life caring for others. An endowment fund named in his memory continues that legacy by helping patients and families facing cancer, today and for generations to come."

"Endowment funds are one of the most meaningful ways donors can make a lasting impact on local healthcare," said Kristin Melville, Executive Director of the WCA Foundation. "Whether supporting a specific program or addressing UPMC Chautauqua's greatest needs, endowments provide resources that help patients year after year. Donors appreciate that these funds can continue to grow through additional gifts and community support, increasing their impact over time. Most importantly, these gifts stay right here in our community. Endowments transform generosity into legacy, ensuring that quality healthcare remains strong for future generations."

For More Information
Kristin Melville, Executive Director
WCA Foundation
716-664-8665
melvillek@upmc.edu

To learn more about endowment funds and how they support healthcare at UPMC Chautauqua, visit www.wcafoundationjamestown.org or contact Kristin Melville, Executive Director, WCA Foundation, at 716-664-8665 or melvillek@upmc.edu

The Importance of Your Mammogram

Continued from Front Page

than 99%.² It is also important to recognize that approximately 85% of women diagnosed with breast cancer have no family history of the disease.³

Getting a mammogram is quick and simple. Most appointments take about 20 minutes from start to finish. If you are at average risk for breast cancer, the American Cancer Society recommends that you have a mammogram every year starting at age 40. If you are at higher risk, you may need to begin screenings earlier or have screenings more often. Talk with your doctor to create a screening plan that is right for you based on your personal risk factors.

If you are due for a mammogram or are unsure when to start screening, schedule a conversation with your health care provider. Ask about your personal risk, the best screening schedule for you, and whether additional imaging is recommended. By staying informed and keeping up with the screening that is right for you, you are taking a caring, proactive step toward protecting your breast health.

At UPMC Chautauqua, we use Genius 3D Mammography, which detects 41% more invasive breast cancers and reduces false positives by up to 40%. This

technology lets doctors view breast tissue layer by layer, making fine details easier to see and less likely to be hidden by surrounding tissue.

Making an appointment is a simple and important step you can take for your health. Ask your physician for an order, then call to schedule the screening that is right for you. At UPMC Chautauqua, we offer screening and diagnostic mammograms, breast ultrasounds, stereotactic and ultrasound-guided breast biopsies, and breast MRI services.

Taking time for a mammogram is a small step that can make a meaningful difference. If you have been putting it off, consider this your gentle reminder: your health is worth the appointment, and you do not have to wait until something feels wrong to check in.

Take a moment to schedule your mammogram—this simple call can be an important step in caring for yourself. To make an appointment, please call 716-664-8448.

Sources: 1 American Cancer Society, "Key Statistics for Breast Cancer"; 2 CDC, "U.S. Cancer Statistics Female Breast Cancer Stat Bite"; 3 National Breast Cancer Foundation, "Breast Cancer Facts & Stats."

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Women

Ages 40 Through 74 at average risk for breast cancer should

Get a Mammogram Every Other Year

according to U.S. Preventive Services Task Force 2024 guidelines.



DID YOU KNOW?

Current recommendations from the American Cancer Society and other organizations advise that women begin screening mammograms at the age of 40 and continue routinely every 1-2 years. Women identified as high risk may need to begin screening much earlier and should talk to their health care providers.

<https://share.upmc.com/2025/10/breast-cancer-meaning/>

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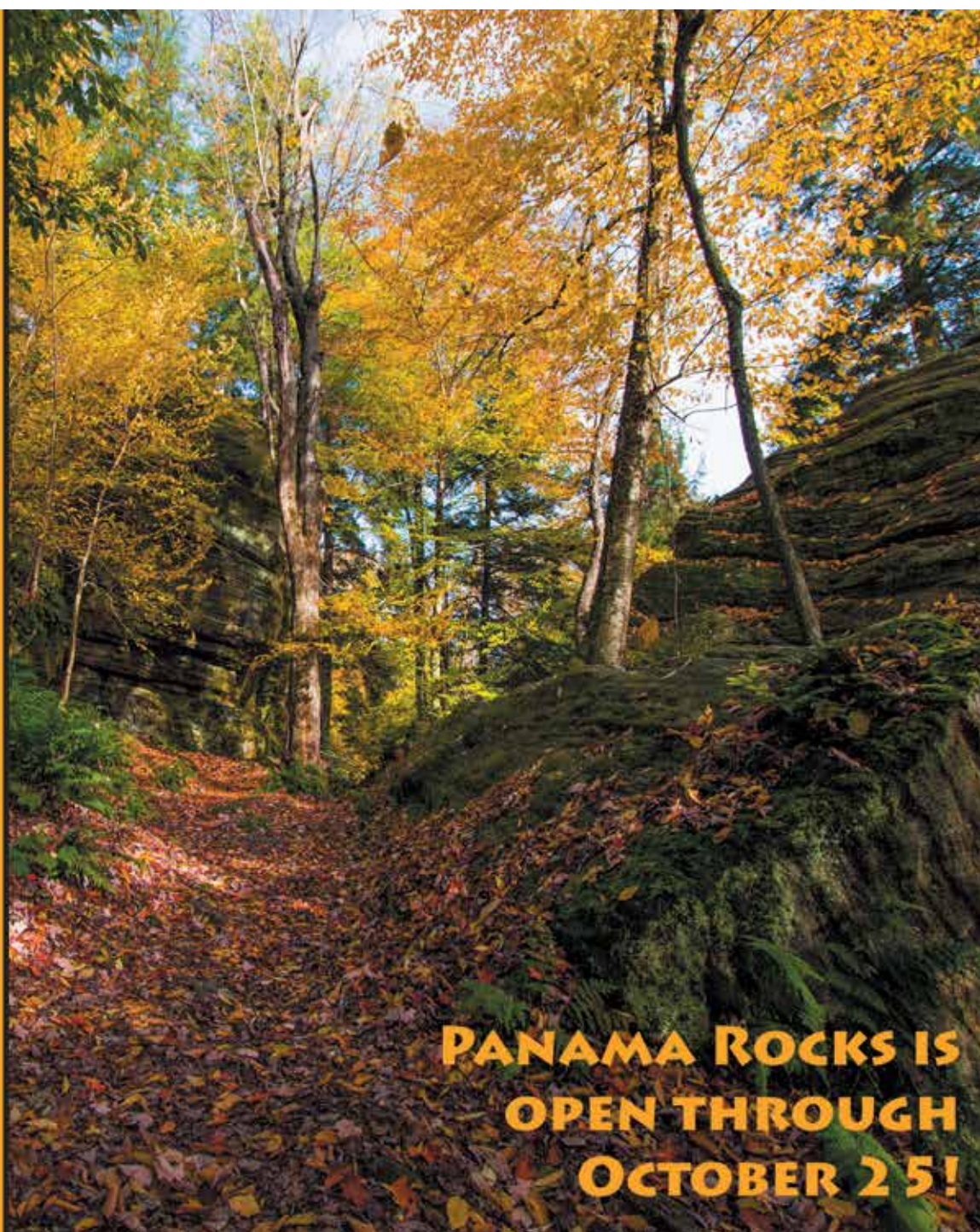


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Robert H. Jackson Center Invites Public to Final Chapter of 80 Years of Nuremberg Symposium Series

Closing virtual program, "After Nuremberg: What Do We Carry Forward?," invites community reflection on justice, accountability, memory, and the rule of law.

Contributed by
Robert H. Jackson Center

The Robert H. Jackson Center invites the public to the virtual closing program of 80 Years of Nuremberg: An International Reflection, a year-long international symposium that began in November 2025 and has explored the legacy of the Nuremberg Trials and their continuing relevance to justice, accountability and the rule of law today.

The final event, *After Nuremberg: What Do We Carry Forward?*, will take place virtually on Friday, Oct. 9, 2026, from noon to 1 p.m. EDT. The program brings the series together after months of examining the path to the trials, the people and institutions involved, the courtroom, the evidence and testimony, Robert H. Jackson's role, and Nuremberg's continuing legacy.

"Rather than introduce another topic, this closing program creates space for participants to consider the larger questions Nuremberg raises about justice, accountability, responsibility, memory, and the rule of law," said Elizabeth Hosier, RHJC's Director of Programs. "The conversation will invite audience members to reflect on what surprised them, what challenged their assumptions, how different pers-

pectives shaped their understanding of the trials, and what Nuremberg asks of us today."

The program will close with a special video featuring several voices reading the first page of Robert H. Jackson's closing statement at Nuremberg, leaving the community with one last question: What do we carry forward?

Date: Friday, October 9, 2026

Time: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. EDT

Program: *After Nuremberg: What Do We Carry Forward?*

Format: Virtual event / Zoom webinar

Also scheduled as 17:00 BST in England; 18:00 CEST in Germany and 11:00 a.m. U.S. Central Daylight Time.

The public is encouraged to attend this final program and register for the Zoom webinar at roberthjackson.org/event/closing-ceremony. Additional information about the full symposium series is available at roberthjackson.org/80-years-of-nuremberg-an-international-reflection.



ROBERT H.
JACKSON
CENTER

Opera House To Screen the 1916 Silent Film *Snow White* with Live Score



Contributed by
**1891 Fredonia Opera House
Performing Arts Center**

The 1891 Fredonia Opera House Performing Arts Center will present a screening of the 1916 silent film *Snow White* with a live original score performed by Leslie and Barbara McMichael, on Fri., Oct. 2, at 7:30pm. Harpist Leslie McMichael also will give a brief talk about the film and her work in composing the score.

This special screening in celebration of NATIONAL SILENT MOVIE DAY on Sept. 29, is the not the first time this long-lost theatrical version of *Snow White* was screened in the area. It actually was screened right here at what then was the Grand Opera House on Jan. 18, 1918.

Everyone knows Disney's 1937 animated film classic, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*; but few are aware that a teenage Walt Disney growing up in Kansas City saw this original silent movie of the fairy tale, which inspired him to blaze a path in filmmaking and make his own version 21 years later.

Like all silent films, *Snow White* was made on flammable nitrate film stock; and for many years, it was rumored to have been destroyed in a vault fire. But a single theatrical print was discovered

in the Netherlands in 1992; and, a heroic restoration was performed by the George Eastman House film archive.

Seattle Harpist Leslie McMichael will perform her original score live on the concert harp for this 63-minute film, alongside her sister Barbara on viola. The Northwest Film Forum commissioned McMichael to compose a new score for *Snow White* in 2016; and the film and McMichael's live music premiered at opening night of Children's Film Festival Seattle that year. Since then, the old film and new live score have toured across the country.

General Admission tickets are \$18, \$15 (Opera House Members), and \$10 (Students). They 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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GRAPE DISCOVERY CENTER HOSTS FIRST OKTOBERFEST

Contributed by
Grape Discover Center

Time to get your OOM-PAH on. Gentlemen, button up your lederhosen and ladies, don your dirndls if you happen to have the garb. Join the festivities as the Grape Discover Center, located at 8305 Main Street in Westfield, teams up with Hofbrauhaus Buffalo and Wardynski's Meats of Buffalo to present its first Oktoberfest event.

Mark the calendar for Saturday, October 3, 2026, and join in the fun beginning at noon. The event runs until 8 p.m. and will feature German beer on tap, live music by Living Room Jam Band beginning at 3:00 p.m., and traditional Oktoberfest food. Some of the menu offerings include: Bratwurst, kraut, wieners, and don't forget dessert, Black Forest Torte and the ever-popular Concord grape pie.

Entry tickets to all the festivities are only \$10 and entitles the ticket holder to one free beer. (Proof of age may be required to receive your beer.) Staying for the entire event? Purchase the \$20 ticket that includes one-half chicken, Bavarian potato salad, dinner roll and

a beer, along with a chance to win the door prize of the day (It's a biggie!). And, we haven't forgotten the children. A special "meal deal" has been created that includes the choice of a hot dog or hamburger, chips, grape juice or soda for only \$10. Parking is free.

Join us for this family-friendly event. Live music and fun activities for the children will ensure a good time will be had by all. Bring your favorite lawn chair, relax and enjoy! (Coolers containing food, alcoholic beverages and other beverages are not permitted to be brought onto the grounds.)

Tickets are available online at www.grapediscoverycenter.com, or at the Grape Discovery Center. Fall hours at the Center are Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (716-326-2003) Purchase tickets the day of the event at the registration table near the entrance to the Discovery Center and receive your entry wrist band. All ticket holders must have a wrist band.

Practice up on a traditional German toast, "Zicke zacke, zicke zacke, hoi, hoi, hoi". So it's guten tag, Prost and we'll see you at Oktoberfest!



Pierre Chagnon Named 2026 Recipient of the John D. Hamilton Community Service Award

Contributed by
**Chautauqua Region
Community Foundation**

The Chautauqua Region Community Foundation celebrated a lifetime of service Friday evening as Pierre Chagnon received the 2026 John D. Hamilton Community Service Award, surrounded by family, friends and members of a community he has spent decades serving.

Presented annually since 1994, the John D. Hamilton Community Service Award recognizes an individual whose dedication, leadership and service have strengthened community spirit and enhanced the quality of life throughout the Chautauqua region. The award honors the legacy of John D. Hamilton, whose lifelong commitment to civic leadership continues to inspire generations of volunteers.

Throughout the evening, guests reflected on the remarkable breadth of Chagnon's service and the quiet, steady leadership that has made him a trusted presence within organizations across Chautauqua County. Among the evening's most meaningful moments were kind words shared by Pierre's children, Jenelle and Marc, who offered a personal perspective on the man behind the many years of community involvement and the example of service he has set for his family and others.

"Working together is the theme for tonight's celebration," said Laura Otander, Chair of the John D. Hamilton Community Service Award Committee. "There are few people who have demonstrated the ability to work with a team to accomplish significant impact more than Pierre Chagnon."

When Chagnon took the microphone, he did what one might expect from a servant leader, he highlighted those who mentored him and whose example of leadership he has tried to emulate. "Each Board that I served on provided



an opportunity to learn from others," shared Chagnon. "I am naming a small number of the people who have supported, encouraged, and mentored me as a way to share this recognition."

Over the course of more than four decades, Chagnon has served as a director, board member, board chair, committee chair or president for an extraordinary number of local organizations. His leadership has helped guide economic development initiatives, strengthen educational institutions, protect Chautauqua Lake and the county's natural resources, advance community development, support youth programs and improve local government.

"When we pause to think of John Hamilton and the recognition awarded in his name, we can't help but think that someone like Pierre; someone who is versatile, thoughtful, continuously learning, and rarely declines an opportunity to serve is a perfect selection," added Tory Irgang, Executive Director of the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.

Individuals who wish to share congratulatory sentiments with Pierre or make a gift in his honor are encouraged to visit <https://crcf.me/pierre>.

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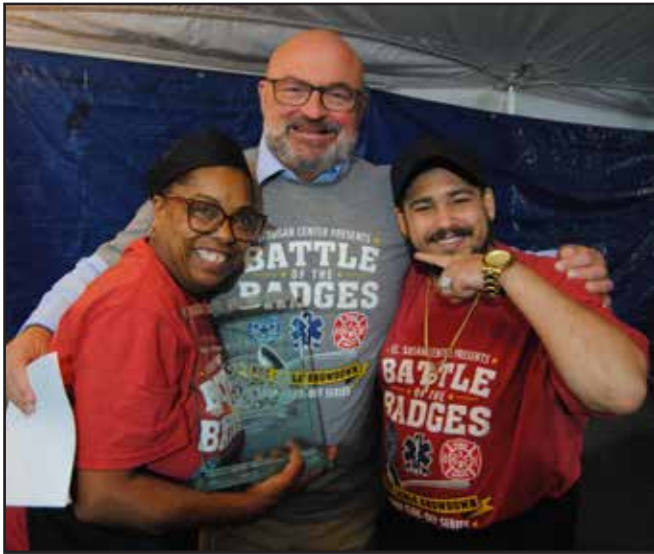
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"Spicy, Spirity & Success" Crowned 2026 Battle of the Badges Champions



Left to right: Jessica Velasco, David Brainard, Cherie Rowland, PJ Wendel, Kim Ecklund, Camille Hodnett, Brian Mayo



The County Executive celebrates with the Winners

EMS team Spicy, Spirity & Success, featuring Camille Hodnett and Patrick Graham, won St. Susan Center's 2026 Battle of the Badges cooking competition by two points. The four-week fundraiser supported the center's need for a commercial walk-in freezer. Pictured from left are Jessica Velasco, David Brainard, St. Susan Center Executive Director Cherie Rowland, Chautauqua County Executive PJ Wendel, Jamestown Mayor Kimberly Ecklund, Hodnett and Brian Mayo.

Fredonia Democracy Project Program Tackles Press and Deception

Contributed by
SUNY Fredonia

What happens when a news story is dismissed as false but turns out to be true?

That question will be explored when the American Democracy Project at SUNY Fredonia hosts a program with writer and presidential historian Jeff Schober on Friday, Oct. 2, from 11 to 11:50 a.m. in Williams Center Room S204-ABC.

Schober, a retired English and journalism teacher from Frontier High School and co-founder of BuffaloTales.net, presents "When 'Fake News' Is True: Grover Cleveland was a Big, Fat Liar."

The event is free and open to the campus and community. Light refreshments will be served during the event.

Schober explores "a remarkable episode" from President Grover Cleveland's second term in office. After Cleveland underwent a secret medical procedure, a journalist reported the story — only to have the president and those around him deny the account and discredit the reporter. Schober's presentation uses the episode to examine presidential communication, journalism, credibility, and the challenges citizens face when determining what information they can trust.

Dr. Angela McGowan-Kirsch, chair of Fredonia's American Democracy Project and associate professor of Communication, hopes this program will



Jeff Schober, a writer and presidential historian, will present "When 'Fake News' Is True: Grover Cleveland was a Big, Fat Liar" in a program hosted by the American Democracy Project at SUNY Fredonia.

give students an opportunity to "think critically about the information they encounter and the important role an informed public play in a democracy."

Schober is vice president and a trustee of the Buffalo Presidential Center, whose mission includes increasing public awareness of Western New York's contributions to the presidency and national affairs. In addition, he is the author of 10 books.

The program is sponsored by SUNY Fredonia's American Democracy Project (ADP) with support from a Faculty Student Association grant. In conjunction with the program, a voter registration drive will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Williams Center.



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Fredonia Chamber Choir Featured in October WNYCO Program



The Fredonia Chamber Choir joins the Western New York Chamber Orchestra for “Meditations” on Sunday, Oct. 4 at 3 p.m. at the State University of New York at Fredonia.

Contributed by
SUNY Fredonia

The Western New York Chamber Orchestra opens its 2026-27 season at SUNY Fredonia with a program titled “Meditations.”

The concert, which takes place on Sunday, Oct. 4 at 3 p.m. in King Concert Hall, will feature the Fredonia Chamber Choir under the direction of Dr. Vernon Huff, director of choral activities at Fredonia.

Tickets are available 24/7 at www.fredonia.edu/tickets and by phone (716-673-3501) or in person at the Campus Ticket Office in the Williams Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

The program features favorites from composers Gabriel Faure and Vaughan Williams, along with newer choral music from Morten Lauridsen.

The Chamber Choir will be featured on Lauridsen’s “Lux Aeterna,” while WNYCO violinist Gretchen Fisher will be the soloist on Williams’ “The Lark Ascending.”

The Western New York Chamber Orchestra, led by Artistic Director and Conductor Glen Cortese, is an ensemble in residence at the Fredonia School of Music. It is comprised of professional musicians from throughout Western New York and northwest Pennsylvania.

Sukanya Burman Dance Founder Speaking Sunday

Dance, Dance, Otherwise We Are Lost” is Sukanya Burman’s message when she speaks this Sunday at the Jamestown Unitarian church. The curator of the recent Jamestown Dance Festival that had sold-out events is an Indian American dancer, choreographer, educator, and cultural producer currently based in Jamestown.

An adjunct professor at Alfred University, she is a recipient of multiple NYS Council on the Arts Artist Awards and other recognitions. Burman says that while dance is often seen primarily as entertainment or celebration, it has also helped communities preserve memory, navigate change, and find connection during difficult times. Drawing from her broad dance experiences, she invites her audience to consider how movement can deepen understanding of one another and remind them of our shared humanity, interdependence, and responsibility to remain present to the world around us.

All are welcome to the 10:30 service and coffee hour that follows at 1255 Prendergast Avenue.
To participate virtually, use the link at UUJamestown.org/calendar.





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ANNUAL BROWNS BACKERS OF JAMESTOWN NY'S DONATION SUNDAY



John Foti and Sandy Foti representing the CHQ Open Arms Foster Closet



(L to R) Alex Scott, Diana Scott, and Dana Scott representing the 18th St. Pantry in Jamestown



Browns Backers of Jamestown NY Members Dewey Thomas, Chad Waddington, Buzz Montagna representing the Browns Foundation.

Featured Writer

J Paul Lombardo

In this area of Western New York, there is a large following of the Buffalo Bills, as is understandably so, but let's not forget about the loyal Browns Fans. The Browns Backers Club is unique in that we annually hold "Donation Sunday" in an effort to use our fandom for a higher purpose. We meet at our designated Viewing Establishment, Waddington's Tavern, which also offers other NFL games besides Cleveland on its half dozen big screen televisions. Since circa 2010, eleven years after becoming chartered with the Browns Backers Worldwide, the Backers of Jamestown has made donations totaling over \$32 thousand to the Browns Foundation, along with over 25 charitable groups within Chautauqua County. We are dedicated to cheering, but we have also committed ourselves



Browns Backer Kim Touhey and Executive Director of St. Susan Center, Cherie Rowland



Chautauqua Sports HOF and Browns Backers Member Mike Anderson, Browns Backers Member T. J. Weimer, Chautauqua Sports HOF President Randy Anderson

toward assisting community groups. Each game week, we share great food and great fandom, with great guests, having a great time, cheering, commiserating, raising money. We are very proud to be able to help make our community better. We would love to welcome anyone interested to join us in the Dawg Pound.

FORESTVILLE FALL FESTIVAL

Contributed by

Fall Festival Committee

The annual Forestville Fall Festival will be held on October 3 from 10 am – 4 pm and October 4 from 10 am – 3 pm inside the Forestville High School Gym. The show will take place rain or shine and there is no admission charge. The craft show features handmade goods from artisans, commercial vendors, nonprofit organizations, community groups, locally grown apples and delicious foods. Free children's activities will be offered both days that include pumpkin painting and games. Anyone may enter the chili cook-off on Saturday by bringing at least 5 quarts of named homemade chili in a crockpot by noon. Some vendor spaces are still available for the event for \$40. If interested, contact (716) 359-3436 or (716) 868-9020.

The committee decorates the downtown area for this event. We invite you to come and enjoy the sights, sounds,

smells and tastes of autumn. From the beautiful foliage to the shops, produce stands or wineries, you're sure to find something you like on your trip. Other featured activities taking place during the weekend include a meat party at the Forestville American Legion on Saturday at 7 pm - 6 Cedar St, and a chicken bar-b-que at the Forestville Fire Department on Sunday at noon until sold out - 18 Chestnut St.

Offering more than the craft show weekend, the Fall Festival Committee focuses on assisting with local area needs and activities. In addition to the Fall Festival, they annually co-sponsor the Halloween Parade/costume contest and Santa's visit with the fire department. Each year two scholarships are also awarded to Forestville seniors who are actively involved in community service. Other donations include first aid kits to the Forestville Hiking Trail, in coordination with Imagine Forestville and clock renovations. The committee also supports the food pantry, fire department, and other community needs.



Forestville Fall Festival

Oct. 3rd & 4th 2026

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Saturday October 3rd

- ✿ Craft Show 10-4pm
- ✿ Chili Cook Off—enter at 12 noon Sat. (Minimum 5qt pot) Please name your Chili!
- ✿ Legion Meat Party 7pm

Sunday October 4th

- ✿ Chicken Barbecue ... 12^{pm} till sold out Forestville Fire Hall
- ✿ Craft Show 10am—3pm

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Breast Cancer Awareness MONTH

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Amy Roehrig



Tell us a little about yourself and your life outside of your experience with breast cancer.

I am a mother of five children and a grandmother. I retired from UPMC after 30 years of working in the cardiology department. I love reading, watching the Buffalo Bills and spending time with family.

When were you diagnosed with breast cancer, and what do you feel comfortable sharing about your diagnosis and treatment?

I was first diagnosed in February of 2016. I had a lumpectomy and radiation treatment. It made me very tired. I had found the lump myself and it never showed up on mammograms. Then, ten years later, in May of 2026, my mammogram showed a small area that could be cancerous. When the results of the biopsy taken came back positive, I decided to have a full mastectomy. Luckily, that removed the cancer, which was only stage one, and I do not need radiation or chemotherapy at this time.

What helped you most during treatment and recovery, whether it was family, friends, medical providers, community resources or something else?

The biggest help for me during my recovery and treatments was my family, my friends and Dr. Chang.

What is something about experiencing breast cancer that you wish more people understood?

Cancer is a very scary word, but you can beat it.

How has your experience shaped the way you look at life today?

I don't take a single moment for granted.

What would you want someone who has recently been diagnosed, or someone who has been putting off a recommended screening, to know?

You can save your own life. It's scary, but it's not the end of the world.

What brings you joy today, and is there anything else you would like readers to know about you or your story?

My life brings me joy. I want others to know in 2020, my husband was diagnosed with colon cancer and went through surgery and chemotherapy. I have been the patient and the caregiver and the biggest takeaway I know is that early detection saves lives.

Sherri A. McCall

Tell us a little about yourself and your life outside of your experience with breast cancer.

I am a nurse, a mom of three adult children and a runner. I enjoy running anywhere my feet will take me. I recently completed the Sydney Marathon in Australia. I had completed the Berlin Marathon last fall when I returned, I had to turn my focus to taking care of me.

When my mom was 50, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. I remember going with her to the surgeon that gave her two options. She could have a modified radial mastectomy or a lumpectomy, but she may need radiation and/or chemotherapy. She was adamant she didn't want the latter, so she had the mastectomy. As a nurse, I was there to help my mom during her recovery. I remember her feeling like she was less of a woman since she only had one breast now. She did get a prosthesis, but it just was not the same.

Because of this family history, my medical providers started the annual mammograms when I turned 40. As I have gotten old and my breasts are what they call, "dense" they started doing ultrasounds as well. Then it went to every other year having a CT scan of the breasts. I underwent a couple of biopsies that were negative. I was being monitored so close that when I was diagnosed with breast cancer it was found very early.

When were you diagnosed with breast cancer, and what do you feel comfortable sharing about your diagnosis and treatment?

I was diagnosed in the fall of 2025 and had a lumpectomy in November. I guess a part of me has always been waiting for the "other shoe to drop". I knew it was coming; it was just a matter of time. I was quickly set up with a wonderful surgeon who explained everything to me. I was referred to a radiation oncologist and a medical oncologist. All of which were empathetic and supportive. I wasn't worried, I was ready for my next steps. Thankfully, I did not require radiation or chemotherapy.

What helped you most during treatment and recovery, whether it was family, friends, medical providers, community resources or something else?

My family was with me for all my follow up appointments after my lumpectomy. Unfortunately,



my husband was diagnosed with prostate cancer two days before my diagnosis. So as a family, we rallied together and were ready to fight and take on this awful diagnosis together. Our friends, neighbors, co-workers and church family were also a huge support to us.

What is something about experiencing breast cancer that you wish more people understood?

Breast cancer screening is easy. Breast cancer can be detected early and treatment can be simple. Getting those annual mammograms are key. Do your monthly breast exams and when in doubt get it checked out. You are worth it.

How has your experience shaped the way you look at life today?

We are not promised tomorrow. I will live each day to the fullest.

What would you want someone who has recently been diagnosed, or someone who has been putting off a recommended screening, to know?

What are you waiting for? Get screened. Catch it early. If you have been recently diagnosed, know that we do have wonderful medical practitioners right in our little community that will take great care of you.

What brings you joy today, and is there anything else you would like readers to know about you or your story?

I continue to get screened every six months right now, but I am still lacing up my running shoes and getting miles under my feet. I look forward to getting out and running many of our local races, but my eyes are currently focused on the London Marathon in 2027.





Sarah Malinoski



Tell us a little about yourself and your life outside of your experience with breast cancer.

I am the proud mom of two boys, Parker and Finn. We live in Bemus Point in an old farmhouse with our dog, Millie, and our chickens, Fiona, Olivia and Chick. I serve as Director of the Schools of Performing and Visual Arts at Chautauqua Institution and have the opportunity to work with pre-professional students from around the globe alongside my incredible colleagues.

When were you diagnosed with breast cancer, and what do you feel comfortable sharing about your diagnosis and treatment?

I believe in signs. I was two years late in getting my routine mammo, due to COVID and then also the fact that there was little history in our family and my past mammos were clear. I was 44; I was healthy.

I went in for the mammo in mid January of 2023, right before I was to get squeezed the power suddenly went out. Thank God I wasn't in the machine at that point!! The nurse said this was the first time that this had ever happened, and she had been there 15 years. Interesting....

I went in for a follow-up ultrasound and then again for a biopsy. They ended up taking 15 samples that day, and I knew in my gut that something was up. Still, I held on to hope.

I got the call that nobody wants on January 27th around 1030 am while at work. "Sarah, your results came back and you have breast cancer". I listened to the rest of the call but didn't truly absorb it. I had ductal invasive cancer and needed to come in and meet with the pathologist. I'm pretty sure I cried for the rest of that day as I told colleagues and family. What helped you most during treatment and recovery, whether it was family, friends, medical providers, community resources or something else?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Kimberly McVinney



Tell us a little about yourself and your life outside of your experience with breast cancer.

I will forever be grateful for my husband, my sons, my sister, friends, and our parents for their support.

I spend more time in nature now, something that grounds me and brings me joy.

When were you diagnosed with breast cancer, and what do you feel comfortable sharing about your diagnosis and treatment?

In 2023, I was diagnosed with stage 2 triple-negative breast cancer, an invasive form of breast cancer in which the cancer cells lack estrogen receptors, progesterone receptors, and HER2 proteins. Suddenly, my life became appointments, tests, scans, treatments, medications, and decisions I never imagined I would have to make.

Following chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and surgery in Buffalo, I received radiation treatments in Jamestown. My treatment was aggressive and lasted nine months.

What helped you most during treatment and recovery, whether it was family, friends, medical providers, community resources or something else?

My husband went from being my husband to becoming my caregiver. He was there through the difficult days, the appointments, the exhaustion, the uncertainty, and everything in between.

One morning, I woke up to find pink ribbons lining the street for two blocks, hung by wonderful neighbors and friends. People checked on me, helped my family, brought meals, offered encouragement, prayed for me, listened to me, and simply showed up.

Their support helped get me through cancer.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Marissa Troxell



Tell us a little about yourself and your life outside of your experience with breast cancer.

My name is Marissa Troxell. I live in Jamestown in the beautiful spring, summer and the fall. In the winter months, my husband David and I escape to Thailand where we have a small home. Previously, we lived in Japan for 18 years teaching in Japanese universities. I love to travel with my husband, David, who is a Rotarian in the Jamestown Rotary Club, We have traveled extensively working on international Rotary projects in places like Pakistan, Cambodia, Myanmar, Tanzania and Nepal.

When were you diagnosed with breast cancer, and what do you feel comfortable sharing about your diagnosis and treatment?

I was diagnosed with breast cancer in October of 2013.

My treatment program involved surgery, chemotherapy and radiation. I was lucky and went through chemo therapy pretty easily.

Later, I had 33 radiation treatments so I thought of myself as radiantly beautiful.

What helped you most during treatment and recovery, whether it was family, friends, medical providers, community resources or something else?

What helped me the most, above all was my husband, David. He was with me for every doctor visit, every chemo and every radiation treatment. He shaved my head and told me how great I looked. And, he helped me believe in myself.

I wouldn't want to just single out David without acknowledging all of the medical community, my friends and even total strangers that would see my little bald head and give me a nod and a smile, or come over and talk to me.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Marissa Troxell

Continued from Page 15

What is something about experiencing breast cancer that you wish more people understood?
I think it's really important for people to realize that breast cancer today is not what breast cancer treatment was 30 or 40 years ago.

How has your experience shaped the way you look at life today?
Getting a diagnosis like this will change you. It's hard, it's scary but it's also an opportunity to grow, to learn and appreciate not only the people you know in your life, but also what we have here in Chautauqua County, the medical facilities we have, the screening programs we have and all the amazing people who staff them.

What would you want someone who has recently been diagnosed, or someone who has been putting off a recommended screening, to know?
I went for a routine mammogram and within 2 hours I was having a biopsy that turned out to be positive.

I am completely comfortable talking about my cancer experience, especially if it can be a help to someone.

What brings you joy today, and is there anything else you would like readers to know about you or your story?
The most important thing I learned going forward from this experience is how people are connected to people. People are good and if you can open up to them, especially when you're going through a difficult time, people will be there to support you.

Sarah Malinoski

Continued from Page 15

My sister Megan went with me to that first pathology meeting and became my "ears" when I couldn't hear through the anxiety. She was my rock the entire time.

I chose Windsong as the place where I would go to discuss surgery. The MRI I had before any decisions were made showed a larger mass than we had thought, and it was determined that I needed a mastectomy. I elected to have a double mastectomy so I didn't have to go through this ever again. The surgery was April 14, it took almost 6 hours for the mastectomy and then reconstruction. When I finally woke up, my three sisters and mom were standing there by my bed. They asked what sounded good to eat, I was ravenous as I hadn't eaten in 24 hours, so I immediately said "Stouffers Mac and Cheese" which they had in the lobby of the hospital as well as a microwave. Dreams do come true!

What helped you most during treatment and recovery, whether it was family, friends, medical providers, community resources or something else?
The biggest help for me during my recovery and treatments was my family, my friends and Dr. Levine.

What is something about experiencing breast cancer that you wish more people understood?
The side effects are brutal, I've been put into forced menopause and with

that comes early-onset arthritis in my hands and feet, lots of insomnia and weakness and also a limit to what I can eat and digest.

How has your experience shaped the way you look at life today?
Do I think about cancer coming back, of course I do. But I don't let that define my life. I now live each day with a renewed purpose and truly know what it means to "live in the present". Life is not a given, and nobody knows how long they have. I was one of the lucky ones, I beat cancer with a village behind me. I get to live to see another day, another year. There are many people, so many that I know personally, who were not given this chance.

Be kind to one another. Take stock of what is truly important in this life. For me, it is to live and love fiercely not take a single second for granted.

What brings you joy today, and is there anything else you would like readers to know about you or your story?
There are a lot of bad things about having cancer, but there are also some silver linings.

Family

My priorities have become crystal clear.

My hair has grown back way thicker than it was before.

I found out how strong I truly was

Kimberly McVinney

Continued from Page 15

What is something about experiencing breast cancer that you wish more people understood?

You don't necessarily get your old body back.

Treatment can change you physically and emotionally. Some changes are visible. Others aren't. You can experience lasting side effects. Your energy can be different. Your body can feel different.

In my case, breast cancer treatment caused permanent damage to my pancreas, resulting in a life-changing diagnosis that came as a consequence of the treatment that was helping save my life.

How has your experience shaped the way you look at life today?
Cancer changed me.

It changed my body.
It changed my health.
It changed my family.

It changed the way I look at time and the things that matter.

Sometimes, it's about learning to embrace the life you have now—and being grateful for every day you get to live it.

What would you want someone who has recently been diagnosed, or someone who has been putting off a recommended screening, to know?

If you've been putting off a mammogram, schedule the appointment. Put yourself first.

Your life is worth it!

What brings you joy today, and is there anything else you would like readers to know about you or your story?

I cherish the beauty in life and the people who surround me.

I am here. I am thankful to be alive.

Paint the Town Pink!

October is **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**



DID YOU KNOW?

Aside from skin cancer, breast cancer is the most common cancer in women, affecting 1 in 8 women in their lifetime. Men can also get breast cancer but this is rare. It is most often diagnosed in women after the age of 50, however can affect younger women as well.

<https://share.upmc.com/2025/10/breast-cancer-meaning/>



DID YOU KNOW?

A tumor is a mass of cells. The T in breast cancer staging indicates tumor size. Doctors assign a T number based on tumor size and whether the cancer has spread into nearby areas such as the skin or chest muscles.

<https://share.upmc.com/2025/06/5-stages-breast-cancer/>

FOR ALL THE PINK RIBBONS

For those who have been diagnosed with breast cancer and those who have stood by loved one's sides, we celebrate the strength in all of you. To see Marissa's story and learn more about screenings, our innovative therapies and compassionate experts, visit upmc.com/BreastCancerAwareness.

Marissa M.

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Triple Negative
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Paul M. Wendel Jr.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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pjwendel.com

Chautauqua County Executive PJ Wendel Proposes Historic Tax Rate Reduction in 2027 Tentative Budget

Putting Money Back in Your Wallet Through Fiscal Responsibility

Chautauqua County Executive Paul M. Wendel Jr. presented his 2027 Tentative Executive Budget to the Chautauqua County Legislature Wednesday evening, outlining a spending plan focused on affordability, maintaining county services, strengthening the county’s financial position and investing in the infrastructure and communities that support residents across Chautauqua County.

The proposed \$330 million budget maintains the County’s commitment to fiscal responsibility while addressing rising costs, state-imposed mandates and the financial pressures facing households throughout the county.

A central component of the proposal is a flat county property tax levy and a proposed property tax rate of \$5.32 per \$1,000 of assessed value, a decrease of \$0.85 from the previous year. This marks the seventh consecutive year Wendel has proposed lowering the county tax rate, bringing it to its lowest proposed level since the 1976 budget, which was proposed and adopted in 1975 as the first budget introduced by a Chautauqua County Executive.

“Every dollar matters to the families, small businesses and seniors who call Chautauqua County home,” said County Executive Wendel. “Our responsibility is to protect the services our residents rely on, make responsible decisions with taxpayer dollars, and ensure county government remains affordable and prepared for the challenges ahead.”

The proposed budget was developed amid rising costs and significant unfunded mandates. Wendel noted that Chautauqua County is required to administer and finance more than 40 state-defined programs, with unfunded mandates projected to cost county taxpayers more than \$113 million in 2027. The budget also accounts for new costs associated with the administration of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Despite these pressures, the proposed spending plan maintains a focus on long-term financial stability. The county expects to maintain a fund balance of approximately 6.3 percent,

within the 5 to 15 percent range outlined in its Financial Management Plan. Wendel credited fiscally conservative budgeting in previous years and the support of the County Legislature with helping position the county to address current challenges while maintaining services.

“Responsible government means making smart decisions today so we can protect the financial stability of Chautauqua County tomorrow,” Wendel said. “We have worked to preserve our reserves, control spending and find efficiencies so that we can continue providing the services our residents need without placing an unnecessary burden on local taxpayers.”

The 2027 budget allocates funding across several major areas of county government. Human services account for 49 percent of expenditures, followed by public facilities, including water and sewer districts, at 20 percent; public safety at 20 percent; administrative services at 8 percent; and planning and economic development at 2 percent.

The proposal also includes more than \$17 million in capital projects through the Department of Public Facilities. Additional investments include more than \$70,000 in upgrades at Jamestown Community College, \$310,000 for economic development and more than \$700,000 in public safety improvements through the Sheriff’s Office and Department of Emergency Services.

Wendel also highlighted efforts to reduce costs through operational efficiencies and contract negotiations. A review of a major vendor contract resulted in the county securing the same level of coverage while reducing costs.

“Finding savings does not always mean reducing services,” Wendel said. “By challenging existing costs, negotiating responsibly and looking for better value, we can protect taxpayer dollars while continuing to meet the needs of our residents.”

The proposed budget also includes continued investments in local communities and initiatives designed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

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<https://share.upmc.com/2025/06/5-stages-breast-cancer/>

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SUDOKU

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

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
				39	40	41		42	43				
					44	45			46				
				47					48				
49						50				51		52	53
56						57				58			
59						60					61		
62						63					64		

CLUES ACROSS

1. "Wicker Man" actor Nic
5. Protection
8. Cloth worn over a shoulder
12. Ceramic jars
14. Midway between northeast and east
15. South American hummingbird
16. Platforms
18. Taxi
19. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
20. A citizen of Yemen
21. Military mailbox
22. Nuclear near reach weapon
23. Clears
26. Broken
30. Actress Lathan
31. Avid fan
32. One and only
33. Proceeding

34. River in Portugal and Spain
39. Doctor of Education
42. Defeat handily
44. Less complicated
46. Handyman tools
47. Written works
49. Castle dweller's safety net
50. Honorable title (Turkish)
51. Greatest
56. Can do
57. A place to sleep on the road
58. Member of U.S. Navy
59. 24-hour units of time
60. Actor Horsley
61. In a way, sounds off
62. Formerly (archaic)
63. Eye infection
64. Plundered

CLUES DOWN

1. William __, Buffalo Bill
2. Wings
3. Candle or lantern
4. Freedom from difficulty
5. A type of pie
6. Metrical foot
7. __ Kerr, actress
8. Nap
9. Popular singer Bocelli
10. Immune responses
11. "Mad Men" leading man
13. A citizen of Senegal
17. Philly basketball player
24. Not even
25. Measures wind speed
26. Insecticide
27. Jordan glided through it
28. Bird-like dinosaur genus
29. Expression of satisfaction

35. Big Blue
36. One point east (clockwise) of due north
37. Of she
38. Oral rehydration solution
40. Knocks off course
41. Popular cop show of yesteryear
42. Zhou dynasty state
43. Genus of gulls
44. Onion flatbreads
45. Declare as true
47. Of a lobe
48. Missouri county
49. Produced
52. Volcanic crater
53. Off-Broadway theater award
54. KU hoops coach Bill
55. Check for

Chautauqua County Executive PJ Wendel Proposes Historic Tax Rate Reduction in 2027 Tentative Budget

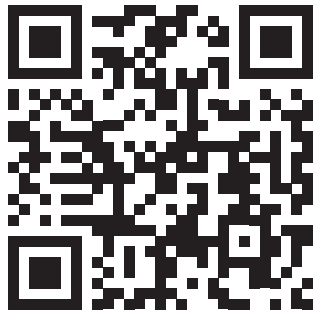
Continued from Page 18

to support long-term affordability. Wendel highlighted the county's Government Reduction Initiative, launched in 2026 to help municipalities explore voluntary mergers, consolidations and shared services. The initiative is intended to help communities address upfront costs associated with efficiency efforts while reducing duplication and improving the delivery of services.

The budget further proposes an additional \$100,000 for the county's lake maintenance fund, bringing planned occupancy tax-supported investments into focus as part of the county's ongoing efforts to support local lakes, tourism and community quality of life.

Wendel also addressed the financial impact of state-imposed mandates and outlined his continued advocacy through the New York State Association of Counties. He said he will work with county leaders from across the state to seek state support for the additional costs associated with SNAP administration and other mandates.

"Chautauqua County cannot control every cost we face, but we can control how we respond," Wendel said. "I will continue working with our state and local partners to protect taxpayers, push back against unfunded mandates, and make sure the people of Chautauqua County have a strong voice in the decisions that affect their communities."



Watch on YouTube:
<https://youtu.be/scRWPZ3gqQc>

Wendel concluded his address by reaffirming his administration's commitment to protecting essential services, strengthening county finances, expanding opportunity and maintaining Chautauqua County's affordability.

"This budget is about people," Wendel said. "It is about protecting what matters, strengthening what works, expanding opportunity and keeping Chautauqua County affordable. We will continue to invest in our communities, support our families and build a future where businesses can grow and residents can thrive."

The 2027 Tentative Executive Budget will proceed through the County Legislature's budget review and approval process. Additional information about the proposed budget is available at chautauquacountyny.gov/2027Budget. For more updates from Chautauqua County Executive PJ Wendel, visit chautauquacountyny.gov/county-executive/welcome and follow him on Facebook at @CountyExecutiveWendel.

Enchanted Forest, First Friday, Photo Club, Sunday Story Time



Don't miss the talking animals, like this pileated woodpecker, at Audubon Community Nature Center's magical Enchanted Forest this Friday and Saturday; it's reservations-only, so make yours at AudubonCNC.org/enchanted-forest. At the 11 a.m.-noon First Friday, learn how you can participate in the early-October MycoBlitz – a fun and easy continent-wide mushroom collecting event. Photography Club meets Saturday, 10-11 a.m.; submit your Signs of Fall or Leaves photos for the slideshow by Wednesday (this photo of leaves by Club member Karen Christy). You and your favorite 2-8-year-old(s) can go on a nature reading adventure at First Sunday Story Time, 12:30-1 p.m. with storyteller Claire Certo. Audubon is located at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown and Warren. For the details on all these and to make any needed reservations, call (716) 569-2345 or visit AudubonCNC.org/events.

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Chautauqua County Equestrian Trail System Celebrates Completion of "Protect the Wetlands" Trail Project

Community invited to October 6 ribbon cutting celebrating environmental stewardship, accessible outdoor recreation and community partnership.



Contributed by

Chautauqua County Equestrian Trail System, Inc.

The Chautauqua County Equestrian Trail System, Inc. (CCETS), a volunteer-based nonprofit organization, is proud to announce the completion of its "Protect the Wetlands" Trail Project in the North Harmony State Forest.

CCETS will celebrate this milestone with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) and the Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce at an official ribbon-cutting ceremony on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

The project represents a collaborative effort between CCETS, NYS DEC, the Town of Harmony and the Town of North Harmony, along with the support of generous state, regional and private funding partners.

Designed in cooperation with NYS DEC, the project reroutes approximately 1,300 feet of existing multi-use trail away from a designated wetland and onto higher, drier and more sustainable ground while rehabilitating additional problem areas along the trail corridor.

In total, the construction project included improvements to approximately 3,955 feet of trail. Work included clearing and trail preparation, installation of heavy-duty woven geotextile stabilization fabric, placement of approximately 800 cubic yards of gravel, and grading, crowning and compaction to promote proper drainage and create a durable trail surface.

The improvements help protect sensitive wetland habitat, reduce erosion and impact on water quality, and provide a safer, more sustainable route for equestrians and other trail users. This trail provides access for hunters with mobility impairments through NYS DEC's Handicap Hunter Access Program.

The project was made possible through significant grant support, including a \$206,975 matching grant through the

New York State Environmental Protection Fund's Parks & Trail Partnership Grants Program, administered by Parks & Trails New York in partnership with the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; \$25,000 from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Legacy Funds, administered by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo; and \$15,000 through the Friends of the Chautauqua County Greenways Fund, a matching grant initiative developed by the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth.

CCETS also gratefully recognizes former CCETS President Missy Whittington, whose leadership helped spearhead the project and pursue the funding opportunities that made it possible. Her early work laid the foundation for current CCETS leadership, grant writer Audrey Hager, volunteers and partners to carry the project through to completion. Construction was completed by Blum Property Services LLC, with the work overseen by CCETS and completed in coordination with NYS DEC requirements.

COMMUNITY RIBBON CUTTING — OCTOBER 6

The public is invited to join CCETS, NYS DEC and the Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce for the ribbon cutting at 11:00 a.m.

Guests wishing to enjoy a short horse-drawn wagon ride to the trailhead should meet CCETS at 10:30 a.m. at Jasper Picnic Area, 2347 Warner Road, Panama, NY.

Guests may also drive directly to the ribbon-cutting site at 6904 Wiltsie Road for the 11:00 a.m. ceremony. Look for orange cones and flags marking the trailhead. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

CCETS is a volunteer-based nonprofit organization dedicated to creating and sustaining scenic, sustainable multi-use trails across Chautauqua County and providing opportunities for equestrians and outdoor enthusiasts to connect with nature and one another.

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**Ribbon Cutting
Oct 1st • 4pm**

Tribute to the Legendary Led Zeppelin!

Contributed by
Yankee Bush Productions

On Friday, October 9, 2026, 8 pm, a fantastic Tribute to Led Zeppelin, Lez Zeppelin, will perform all of your favorite Led Zeppelin songs at the Struthers Library Theatre, Warren, PA. There is no other band like Lez Zeppelin. Since 2004, this all-girl powerhouse quartet has captured the essence, spirit, power and seductiveness of Led Zeppelin both onstage and in the studio becoming a worldwide phenomenon. The band's explosive performances are more of a "channeling" than a tribute. In honor of the 50th anniversary of the release of The Song Remains the Same, internationally acclaimed Lez Zeppelin -- the all-female quartet known for delivering the most powerful and authentic Led Zeppelin experience and the only band personally endorsed by Jimmy Page, himself, announces a special concert series celebrating the iconic 1976 film and its legendary soundtrack. Join us and experience hits like: "No Quarter," "Dazed and Confused," "Since I've Been Loving You," and the transcendent "Stairway to Heaven" & much more! Catch the next best thing to the original Led Zeppelin - catch Lez Zeppelin's Tribute at the Struthers Library Theatre, Warren, PA, Friday, October 9, 2026!

Led Zeppelin were an English rock band formed in London in 1968. The band was comprised of vocalist Robert Plant, guitarist Jimmy Page, bass-guitarist and keyboardist John Paul Jones and drummer John Bonham. Their combination of a heavy electric-guitar sound with elements of blues and folk music established them as the progenitor of hard rock and heavy metal. They are amongst the best-selling music artists of all time, with an estimated 200 to 300 million records sold worldwide. Led Zeppelin's biggest and most iconic hit is widely considered to be "Stairway to Heaven." Released in 1971, the track became an unprecedented rock radio staple and one of the most famous songs in rock history, despite the band's famous decision to never release it as a commercial single in the US.

Led Zeppelin has collected many honors and awards. They were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall

of Fame in 1995 and the UK Music Hall of Fame in 2006. Among the band's awards are an American Music Award in 2005, and the Polar Music Prize in 2006. Led Zeppelin received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005. Four of their recordings have been inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame. They have been awarded in the United States, five Diamond albums, as well as fourteen Multi-Platinum, four Platinum and one Gold album. And in the UK, they have five Multi-Platinum, six Platinum, one Gold and four Silver albums to their credit. In 2003, Rolling Stone's 500 Greatest Albums of All Time list included five Zeppelin albums: Led Zeppelin at number 29, Led Zeppelin IV at number 66, Physical Graffiti at number 70, Led Zeppelin II at number 75, and Houses of the Holy at number 149. And in 2004, on Rolling Stone's 500 Greatest Songs of All Time list, Rolling Stone included six Zeppelin songs: "Stairway to Heaven" at number 31, "Whole Lotta Love" at number 75, "Kashmir" at number 140, "Black Dog" at number 294, "Heartbreaker" at number 320 and "Ramble On" at number 433. Also in 2004, Rolling Stone named Led Zeppelin the "14th-greatest artist of all time." The band is ranked number one on VH1's 100 Greatest Artists of Hard Rock and Classic Rock's "50 best live acts of all time." The band was honored at the 2008 MOJO (British Music Magazine) Awards with the "Best Live Act" prize for their one-off reunion and were described as the "greatest rock and roll band of all time." In 2010, Led Zeppelin IV was one of ten classic album covers from British artists commemorated on a UK postage stamp issued by the Royal Mail. And in 2012, US President Barack Obama honored Led Zeppelin with a 2012 Kennedy Center Honor.

Join us on Friday, October 9, 8 pm, for Lez Zeppelin's Tribute to Led Zeppelin, a LIVE performance at the beautiful, historic Struthers Library Theatre, Warren, PA! Give a gift of music to yourself, your friends or your family! This show has reserved seating. All seats are \$35 each. Purchase your tickets today online at strutherslibrarytheatre.org or in Warren, PA at the Library Theatre Office, 302 W. 3rd Ave., or call the office @ (814) 723-7231, 10 am – 5 pm, Mon. – Fri. Tickets are always available at the door!



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PUZZLES ON PAGE 19



CHAMBER CORNER

The Connections That Make a Difference

Article Contributed by

Daniel J. Heitzenrater

Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
President and CEO

Over the past several months, we've had the opportunity to see our mission in action. From Small Business Sit-downs and Business After Hours to advocacy events, community celebrations and gatherings like Official Introductions, each event creates an opportunity for people to meet, share ideas, build relationships, and discover ways to work together.

Those connections are at the heart of what we do. A conversation can lead to a partnership. Meeting another business owner can provide a new perspective, resource or customer. An introduction to a community leader can open the door to an opportunity. And sometimes, simply knowing there are others facing similar challenges can make all the difference.

Our mission is to build vital connections, provide professional resources, and champion our local businesses in Chautauqua County.

As we look ahead, we invite you to be a part of those connections. Attend an event. Introduce yourself to another member. Share your ideas. Tell us about your business. You never know where the next conversation might lead.

Chamber Business Awards Banquet

Join us for an evening of celebration as we honor this year's awardees and milestone recipients and recognize their outstanding contributions and achievements. Guests will enjoy a delicious buffet dinner featuring a carving station with roasted turkey breast and Virginia baked ham, penne pasta primavera with Alfredo sauce, seasonal grilled vegetables, garlic mashed potatoes, seasoned bread stuffing, mixed green salad, and assorted desserts. The evening will also feature local beverage tastings and a cash bar, with a complimentary bottle of local wine provided at each table. Tickets are \$75 per person. You may also reserve a full table of 8 for \$550 (a savings of \$50).

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

- Business of the Year - DFT Communications
- Business Champion Award - Chautauqua Lake Dental
- Emerging Business of the Year - Westfield Makerspace
- Not-for-Profit of the Year - Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation
- Service Business of the Year - Sanfilippo Solutions Inc
- Producer of the Year - Wells Enterprises
- Hospitality Business of the Year - 3 Lakes Cafe

Milestone recognition will go to Chamber members celebrating significant milestones including: 200 years- State University of New York at Fredonia & The Post Journal, 160 years - Community Bank N.A., 140 years- Jamestown Mattress Company, 135 years 1891 Fredonia Opera House & Lake Shore Bank, 125 years- Jamestown Mattress Company, 95 Years - Putnam Record Insurance Agency & Ideal Coatings, Inc., 90 Years Johnny's Lunch, 75 years - Elizabeth Warner Marvin Community House, 70 years - Jamestown Container Companies & JRSC Digital, 60 years - Alliance Financial Network, Inc, 55 years-Swan Painting, Inc., 50 years - The Wine Cellar & U.S Steam Lines LTD and The Chautauqua Belle, 45 years - Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame, 40 year - Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation, Southwest Region Small Business Development Center & Springville Door & Window, 30 years - 3 C's Catering & Festivals Fredonia, Inc, 25 Years - Robert H. Jackson Center, HBKS Financial Advisors & Thru The Grapevine Travel, 20 years - Chautauqua Lake Child Care Center, 15 years - Bag & String Wine Merchants & Portage Pie, 5 Years - Art Cloth & Craft, Ballgame Heroes & Buddy Brewsters - Lakewood.

The social hour will begin at 6 pm, with a buffet dinner starting at 6:45 and the program beginning at 7:15 pm.

This is the largest gathering of business-people in Chautauqua County each year. We hope you'll join us in celebrating all of the awardees and milestone recipients.

The Awards Banquet is sponsored by: AHN Westfield Memorial Hospital, Brooks TLC Hospital, the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency, Glenora Radio Network, Lake Shore Bank and SUNY Fredonia.

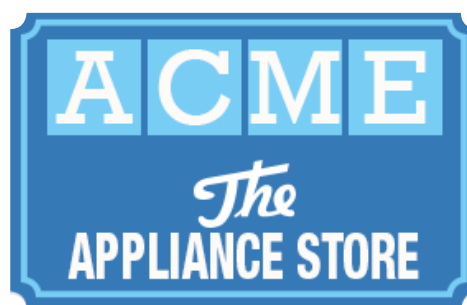
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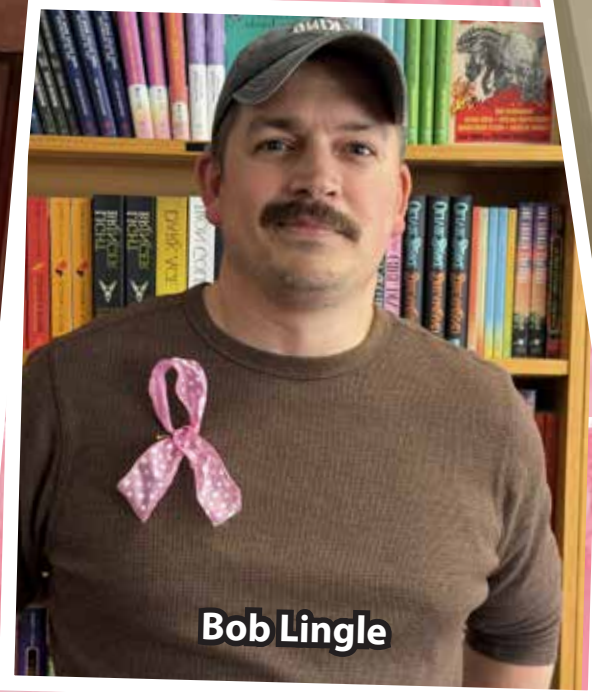
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