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Jamestown Gazette

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The People's Paper.

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Government Shutdown?

It's Business as Usual – Mostly

Contributing Writer

Walt Pickut

The U.S. Congress will not let the President spend money the country cannot pay. Blame the President – President Abe Lincoln, that is – and most of the presidents before him.

A 150-Year Battle

After the Civil War, Congress passed the Anti-Deficiency Act. U. S. presidents had spent vast sums of unbudgeted money for 100 years. That practice forced the Congress into massive, unpredictable spending. Add the 1974 Congressional Budget Act, and the result is a 150-year spending battle between the President and Congress. The most recent skirmish is the December, 2018, Partial Government Shutdown.

This is not a new problem, but the Questions-of-the-Day the Jamestown Gazette asked were: Does it matter to us? And if so, how much?

"Serving the people is not a partisan issue," was a statement we heard echoed over and over by the region's citizens and elected officials. *For another view on this topic, please see "Win, lose or cooperate" on page 8 of this edition.*

Local Effects

Chautauqua County Executive George Borrello told the Jamestown Gazette last week that at the present time the county's overall economy and services have felt very little impact, "... though I do not mean to minimize the personal impact on the small number of hard-working and vital federal employees affected in the county," he added.

Most local banks, for example, according to Borrello, have created cash-flow forbearance procedures for furloughed (temporarily on unpaid leave-of-absence) and the working but unpaid federal employees with mortgages and loans coming due. "We've seen this before, so we have some ways to help. Nobody wants to see anybody get hurt."

"We are, however, waiting on word from the Essential Air Services Program," Borrello said, "related to the Department of Transportation shutdown. Every day of delay is a day later in returning airline service to Jamestown."

Jamestown's Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Bret Apthorpe, said, "So far, we [regional school officials] have heard no warnings of shortages in supplies or funding for school breakfast and lunch programs. Huge warehouses are already full and it would take quite a while for everything already in the pipeline to be used up."

Jeff Smith, heading Jamestown School's dietary services, adds to Apthotpe's confidence by pointing out that almost all of the school system's meal programs rely on local sources. And current stocks would take a long time to be depleted.

"There will be little to no impact to the State of New York or Chautauqua County," New York State Assemblyman Andy Goodell reported, "unless the shutdown is a long one." He defined a "long" shutdown as a length of time measured in months. Goodell also referred to a full pipeline of reserves, and added that the State of New York is funding much of the federal shortfall to keep many services in operation. He noted the example of New York keeping the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island Federal Parks open, based on eventual federal reimbursement.

In Perspective

The United States' annual budget weighs in at approximately $4 trillion. The specific funding issue that has triggered the current partial budget shutdown is about $5

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Heritage to Host Job Fair & Open Interviews

Article Contributed by

Heritage Ministries

Heritage Ministries will host a job fair on Monday, January 14 from 12:30 to 3:30 pm in its Heritage Living location at the Chautauqua Mall (next to JcPenny).

Individuals will be able to learn more about careers located within Heritage, including N.A.T's/C.N.As, RNs, LPNs, housekeeping, unit attendants, dietary aides, and maintenance.

Human resources representatives from all of the Heritage facilities will be on hand to answer questions and will also be conducting open interviews. For further information, please call 716-763-0075 or visit www.heritage1886.org/careers.

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FINDING YOUR FAMILY *with Janet Wahlberg*

Adoption

Contributing Writer

Janet Wahlberg

A little over 2 years ago my DNA presented me with a second cousin who was adopted. He and I have been messaging back and forth regarding possibilities and resources that might be helpful. So far, we've only figured out a possible location for one of his parents. Then 2 weeks ago at a party, I met a lady who is helping a friend trying to figure out his birth parents. So…. Long story slightly shorter, this month I will be sharing my meager knowledge of ways to locate birth parents.

One source of information that could be very helpful is that every state is required to provide "non-identifying" information to an adult adoptee. Non-identifying information is health and other family background information which is commonly exchanged or otherwise made available to other members of the adoption group. It does not include "identifying" information such as names, addresses, birth dates and telephone numbers. While this will not provide those specifics that you might want, it may provide clues that will lead you in the right direction. For more details on this, google, "information that an adoptee is entitled to" or "How do I find my biological parents?"

The Family Search WIKI has some helpful suggestions and links. Go to Family Search and use the Search Tab to select the WIKI. When it opens, type adoption into the search box. When this opens, select the first option titled, United States Adoption Research. At the bottom of this page there is a list of states to select from that will assist you in identifying what records are available as well as the challenges that each state may have.

If you have not done your DNA, you might want to do so. There are the three big companies Ancestry, 23 and Me, and Family Tree. Family Tree is a bit different than the other two in that it does y-DNA. As y-DNA follows the male line it can be helpful in locating a potential surname. For those of you who have had your DNA done at Ancestry you can use GED Match to move your results to Family Tree. The Family Tree magazine December 2017. Volume 18, Issue 7 has an article on Finding Your Birth Family with DNA that offers a much more detailed look at using DNA for our search and might prove helpful

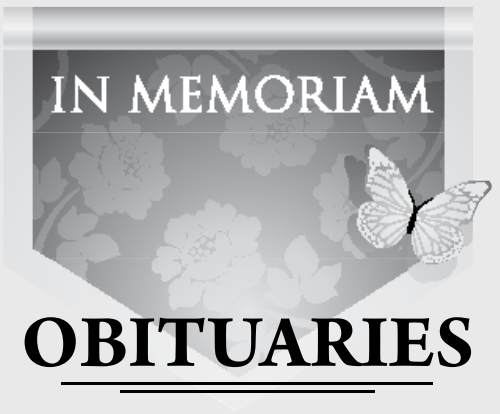
You might also wish to try one of the web sites listed below for more information on using DNA to locate birth parents:

- DNA Detectives on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/groups/DNADetectives/
- DNA Adoption - step by step instructions, www.dnaadoption.com
- DNA Testing Advisor - testing advice from Richard Hill. www.dna-testing-advisor.com

A couple of final thoughts. Do not forget to take a look at Cyndi's List. It offers several sites specific to adoption research. Check out Facebook and other Social Media sites as there are many groups that share your interest in the adoption process. Type "looking for birth parents on social media" into google for some possible sites. Or type "finding my birth family" into the search box on Facebook for a listing of several groups.

As you take on this project, be prepared for the fact that even if you are able to solve the question of who your birth parents are, they may not want to meet you. As difficult as this might be, you will need to respect their wishes.

To read Janet Walberg's previous genealogy columns or to delve deeper into her writings and insights for searching out and recording your own family's genealogy, please go to jamestowngazette.com and visit Janet's own web page.



OBITUARIES

December 23rd, 2018

Burchard H. Lyon, 86, of Sherman
Spitzer Funeral Home

Ellen R. Hitchcock, 86, of Russell
Lind Funeral Home

Allen R. Jaynes, age 94, of Westfield
Mason Funeral Home

Kathleen A. "Kathy" Himes, 70, of Ellington
Falconer Funeral Home

Edward N. Buseck, 80, of Stockton
Mason Funeral Home

December 24th, 2018

Mary Ann "Mem" Kocur, 92, of Lander
The Donald E. Lewis Funeral Home

Marilyn Pollino, 83, of Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Richard A. Williams, 89, of Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Mazie Loverme, of Jamestown
Hubert Funeral Home

December 25th, 2018

Burtis D. Hallberg, 83, of Ellery
Lind Funeral Home

Debra (Yates) Gibbons, 65, of Ripley
William D. Elkin Funeral Home

Richard W. Ferguson, 80, of Lakewood
Lind Funeral Home

Paul Harland Wood, 87, of Mayville
Freay Funeral Home

Robert J. Alexander, 67 of Jamestown
Hubert Funeral Home

December 26th, 2018

Jerry Lee Sweet, 75, of Panama
Spitzer Funeral Home

R. Lawrence "Larry" Fransen, 76, of Lakewood
Lind Funeral Home

Richard P. Furlow, 69, of Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Ingeborg "Inky" Hedin Remais, 95, of Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

December 27th, 2018

Franklin W. "Frank" Ross, 78, of Kennedy
Lind Funeral Home

Linda M. Paterniti, 69, of Jamestown
Hubert Funeral Home

Henry Huf, 90, of Jamestown
Falconer Funeral Home

Franklin W. Ross, 78, of Kennedy
Lind Funeral Home

Jacqueline A. Velotta, 54
Freay Funeral Home

December 28th, 2018

Jack A. Young, 68, of Steamburg
VanRensselaer & Son Funeral Home

Robert H. Welsh, 67, of Celoron
Lind Funeral Home

Mattie States, 82, of Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Robert H. Welsh, 67, of Celoron
Lind Funeral Home

Roberta L. Peterson, 73, of Frewsburg
Lind Funeral Home

Edward J. Sealy, 78, of Jamestown
Falconer Funeral Home

Richad L. Selden, 77, of Bemus Point
Lind Funeral Home

December 29th, 2018

Theodore Winkleman, 73, Westfield
Mason Funeral Home

Violet J. Betts, 87, of Kennedy
Falconer Funeral Home

December 30th, 2018

Daniel J. Caruso Sr., 69, of Bemus Point
Falconer Funeral Home

Rocco Miano, 84, of Jamestown
Hubert Funeral Home

Terry J. St. Clair, 66, of Jamestown
Falconer Funeral Home

William C. Swanson, 92, of Lakewood
Lind Funeral Home

Roger F. Bigney, 89, of Celoron
Lind Funeral Home

Phyllis Jean Harris, 97, of Bemus Point
Lind Funeral Home

December 31st, 2018

David B. Bailey, 79, of Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

Douglas L. Fairbanks, 77, of Forestville
Riles & Woolley Funeral Home

January 1st, 2019

Garrett J. Fardink, 65, of Jamestown
Lind Funeral Home

James Roberts, 84, of Jamestown
Hubert Funeral Home

Shirley Main Segerlin, 84, of Jamestown
Hubert Funeral Home

Lois S. Isaacson, 91, of Bemus Point
Lind Funeral Home

Robert F. Gauggel, 66, of Jamestown
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January 2nd, 2019

Elinor L. Ferry, 92, of Forestville
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Sydney Baker, 88, of Westfield
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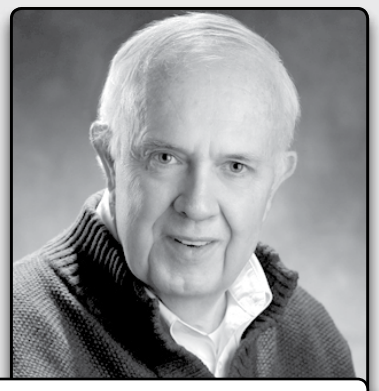
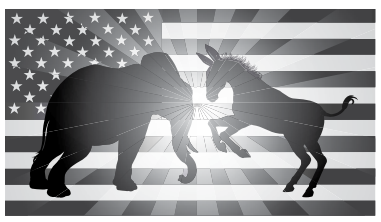
Words of Wisdom

Contributing Editor
Walt Pickut



Win, lose, or succeed?



There's an old farm boy fable about two long-tailed cats who met face-to-face while walking along the top of a fence. Neither would let the other pass, and neither would back down. So they clawed each other to death. Problem solved!

That fable taught us boys that nobody wins some cat-fights. The fight becomes the whole issue. The better alternative to "Win or Lose" is "Cooperate." Of course everybody knows cooperation is not possible, if you're a long-tailed cat on a fence -- or maybe an American politician in the 21st century. The problem seems to be that each of those two species of critter seems to think it is always right. And right is always better than getting where they're going. Once there's a fight to win, the issue becomes "Who wins?" instead of whatever the real issue is.

The Jamestown Gazette's cover story this week says the cats have not yet clawed each other to death and the bystanders – us – haven't been hurt much yet by the flying fur. But that is not the whole story. In the present political environment we are all acting like, or we are spectators of, those cats on the fence. The real issue might not be about political parties, or fences, or billions of dollars, or hoards of immigrants. The catfight has distracted us from the real issue.

Ask why thousands of people are on the run. Which media outlet, or documentary moviemaker, or author has told us what has terrified them so? That would be like asking those two cats where they were headed in the first place. Consider what it would take for you to grab your spouse and children and hardly more than what's on your back and start walking a couple of thousand miles in the wind, rain and sun. Nobody does that for fun, or even to steal the lowest-paying jobs from "real Americans." They are fleeing from human disasters of unimaginable proportions – poverty, oppression, violence and corruption beyond our imaginations. They might not be running toward our borders as much as they are running from their own.

The question, then, should not be about letting them in, or keeping them out. Why is nobody talking about how can we help make it better for them to stay happily in their own homeland? Or have we simply given up trying to put out fires, save foundering ships, or teaching people how to fish? The real battle is not anywhere near the U.S.-Mexico border, and it is especially nowhere near Washington, D.C. There is a reason to offer refuge, of course. We helped people who escaped from California's terrible fires last year, but we also worked very hard to put out the fires. The fires were big news. Sadly, the terrors people are escaping from in Central America are almost entirely ignored and unknown, not news at all. If we want to save our borders – a good idea – it might start by putting out the fires that people are fleeing from.

Rather than fighting over which cat can have its way atop the fence, maybe both of them should get off it and find a better way. We don't need a winner, we need a government. Tell your favorite cat to wage peace, not war. It's not about winning or losing, it's about real goals and cooperation.

Enjoy the read.

Walt Pickut

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The People's Paper.

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Jeffrey Barkstrom ..... Natural Health
Joan Lindquist ..... Remembering Brooklyn Square
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Pastor Shawn Hannon ..... Faith Matters
Steve Sorensen ..... The Everyday Hunter
Vicki McGraw. ..... Join Me in the Kitchen

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JOIN ME IN THE KITCHEN *with Vicki McGraw*

Contributing Writer
Vicki McGraw

Happy New Year, friends! I hope you all had a peaceful and enjoyable holiday season, as did my family and I. Every year, the month of December (and for that matter, the whole year) seems to go by more quickly than we remember previously. When the New Year dawns, I look around and see things that I have put off until tomorrow, and lo and behold, tomorrow is here!

I don't know about you, but during the chaos of the holiday season, I tend to create piles. Piles of unopened mail, piles of things that need to be put away, piles of new Christmas "stuff", and lists…lists of projects to be begun or those to be finished. During my busy season, there never seems to be a time to catch up and finish what I have begun. My New Year's Resolution this year is to do just that…catch up! I have spent the last week cleaning, organizing, sorting and throwing away many of the odd things that I, in my over worked (and somewhat pack-rat) state of mind thought I couldn't or shouldn't part with.

I actually started this current project while I was making a shopping list. Usually, I will just glance at the shelves and see what spaces are empty, and thus, thinking that I need this or that, go out and buy it. I do so without taking into account the fact that I may already have an extra this or that in the storage closet up or down stairs, I just haven't taken the time to look beyond the obvious!. Haven't you ever thought you needed bread, only to discover an extra loaf or two in the back of the freezer in your basement (or the like)? I was sure I needed baking soda, so I picked up a box, only to find three in my pantry cupboard! While having an extra on hand is not a bad idea, having several not only takes up more space, but frequently I can't use it all before the expiration dates draw near. I hereby resolve to "shop my cupboards" before I shop at the store! I'd rather keep extra money in my wallet than extra stuff on my shelves!

Speaking of looking through my cupboards, I find that the New Year is always a great time to purge them of not only outdated, but otherwise "icky" or "why did I think I needed this" items. I will occasionally buy something that sounded great on an impulse, or I bought because it was on sale or I had a coupon, only to find it still sitting around months later. Just because something may have a long shelf life doesn't mean it will last forever! These items should be used, given away or tossed! Here's an off the wall idea…how about hosting a kitchen cupboard party! Have each guest bring a bottle of wine and a grocery bag of goofy stuff from their pantry, cupboards, fridge or freezer that they no longer want or need. Lay out everyone's goodies on a table and see what kind of snacks – or even meal- everyone can come up with! If you have even one creative person in the room, I'll bet you will come up with some really great ideas (and perhaps maybe sample a few different wines)! At the end of the night, let everyone refill their bag with the things that may still remain. Remember, what is useless to one may be precious to another!

So dear readers, my hope is that this year will be one of peace, creativity and organization!

To read more of Vicki McGraw's commentaries on good cooking, fine recipes and perfect party treats, visit www.jamestowngazette.com and click on Join Me in the Kitchen's own page. The Jamestown Gazette is proud to present our county's most creative and original writers for your enjoyment and enlightenment.

Back of the Cupboard Nachos

- 1 bag of tortilla or corn chips
- 1 can condensed cheese soup or cheese sauce mix
- Or 1 small block of Velveeta type cheese, melted
- 1 box rice-a-roni type side dish (any brand and flavor)
- 1 can beans (black, pinto, kidney, etc)
- 1 packet of taco or chili seasoning

Also, add if you have…

- 1 tomato, diced
- 1/2 onion, diced
- Sliced olives
- Lettuce, shredded
- Shredded cheese
- Sour cream

Cook rice following box directions, substituting taco or chili seasoning for seasoning packet in the box. Once cooked, add beans if desired.

On a large platter, layer chips, rice and beans, cheese product (soup/sauce/melted Velveeta) and additional ingredients as desired and repeat layers. If adding lettuce or tomatoes, do so AFTER baking!

Bake at 350* for 5-10 minutes to heat chips and melt cheese.

Peterson's Candies
A Sweet Tradition Continues

Contributing Writer
Walt Pickut

Peterson's Candies, famed for years locally for everything chocolate, is under new ownership this year. But the same time-honored traditions and secret recipes are still behind every tasty bite.

Jeremy and Liz Gruber are the new owners at Peterson's candies, still located at 743 Busti-Sugar Grove Road in Jamestown, NY, behind the famous, huge candy canes that still flank its door. The Grubers bought the business from Steve and Chris Frankson in 2018. Steve and Chris bought the shop in 1990 from Steve's dad, who bought it from the Petersons in 1976. The Frankson family owned and operated the store for 42 years.

Steve Frankston passed away unexpectedly last year while he and Chris were in the process of selling the business. Jeremy and Liz stepped up and closed the sale, reopening just in time for Christmas.

"We had little experience in this business," Liz said, though she had briefly worked for the Franksons years before. "I'm a schoolteacher and a librarian. Jeremy was a comptroller at a company in Pennsylvania. But we felt this business would be perfect for our family, which includes our five-year-old son, Jonah. Taking over this business was definitely a leap of faith."

A New Challenge

"Our biggest challenge," Jeremy added, "was that we were kind of pressed for time on the learning curve. We wanted to fill our cases for Christmas." With a big smile and his arm around Liz, he said, "and we did! We sold out, and then we made everything you see here now," he said, pointing to display cases already well refilled just before the New Year.

Chris Frankson has stayed on as a hands-on consultant to help the Grubers learn the craft of chocolate making. And Dad Winston Frankson – "Win," now 92 – came back to help them learn a few more fine points of the art.

"This is a gourmet candy shop," Jeremy said. "We have something special of just about every kind. And for the few things we don't make in-house, like the dozen flavors of colorful fruit slices, we buy only the very best to share with our customers.

Old Time Skills

"Fine chocolate can be temperamental," Liz said. "It's a kind of skill you have to learn by doing. You can't even find it in the Frankson's secret recipe book. Win had worked for the Betty Dixon candy company for 30 years before coming here, so he knew some of the best tricks in the industry and passed them down. And when you have an expert like Mrs. Frankson also teaching you, you learn things you can't find in any book."

"It's been nice having Win around," Jeremy added, "because he can tell us some of the nice 'touch-and-feel' things that make the difference. When they come out looking like this," he motioned toward the display cases, "that's when you know you're good, but we're still working on it."

Including all the different seasonal varieties – candy canes, Valentine's Day candy, Easter candy, ribbon candy, fresh made caramel corn every day, and more – Petersons offers hundreds of varieties of special treats. Chris still does all the molding of the chocolates while Jeremy and Liz continue to learn all the new techniques. "They are younger," Chris said, "and they have the energy. They have enthusiasm, and it's all good."

Keeping Old Favorites

"Were not changing the things that people know and love about Petersons Candy," Jeremy said. "We might introduce some new flavors over time," Liz added, "but were not taking away anything. That's because the Franksons got it right, and we know that." Eventually, we may add county fairs and shows to our repertoire, though, and we are developing a website, and a twitter presence, which will both be new."

Some of the old favorites include rich, creamy peanut butter squares. "We hand-make the peanut butter right here," Liz said, "as well as all the other creams and jellies. Another favorite is the 'Haystack,' milk chocolate over maple cream wrapped in coconut. And Jeremy completely makes the roasted almond butter crunch from scratch. "We are really proud of it," Liz said. "We learned from the best."

"Chocolate covered sponge candy is the hardest one to keep on the shelves," Jeremy said. "It's our most popular item. The process to make sponge candy is intricate and fascinating to me. We also regularly make fresh fudge."

"When you're buying here you're buying from a family-owned business. You know where the things you're buying are coming from," Liz promised. "That's not something you can get in the big box stores. Come on in for a real sweet deal."

To learn more, stop in at 743 Busti-Sugar Grove Rd, Jamestown, NY 14701 or call (716) 487-1595.

4-H Announces Annual Green Tie Affair Fundraiser

Courtesy Photo

4-H youth Tracie Keller, Shyla Nace, Jesse Morse, Melinda Waag, and Katherine Fortna manned a serving station at the 2018 4-H Green Tie Affair.

Article Contributed by

Chautauqua County Education Coalition

Cornell Cooperative Extension Chautauqua County's 4-H Youth Development Program is excited to announce the 7th Annual Have a Heart for 4-H Green Tie Affair on Sunday, February 24, 2019 at the Chautauqua Suites in Mayville. The fun begins at 3:00pm with a basket raffle and bake sale. Dinner is served at 5:00pm and the pie auction will follow dinner. This year's meal includes barbecue chicken, cornbread, baked beans, a vegetable, and mashed potatoes and gravy. This year's event has a country-western theme and guests are encouraged to wear Western dress.

The Green Tie Affair has become a necessary fundraiser for 4-H in Chautauqua County since losing major funding from the County in 2012. This year 4-H hopes to raise $25,000 that will directly fund 4-H programming in 2019. 4-H serves 300 youth with life-skills programming year-round. An additional 1,000 youth participate in one-time programming each year. 4-H connects youth to hands-on learning opportunities that help them grow into competent, caring, contributing members of society.

The event draws between six and seven hundred guests annually. Tickets are now available for $20.00 from 4-H members or at the 4-H Office located at 3542 Turner Road in Jamestown. Ticket price increases to $25.00 after February 8, 2019. Table sponsorships are available for $200.00. Table sponsors receive eight dinner tickets, basket raffle tickets, a custom centerpiece sign, recognition on a thank you banner, on the placemat, and in local press. Call the 4-H Office at 716-664-9502x214 or visit cce.cornell.edu/chautauqua/greentieaffair for more information. Monetary and basket raffle donations are being accepted at this time as well and may be dropped off at the 4-H Office.

Chautauqua County 4-H would like to thank the community for their continued support of positive youth development in Chautauqua County.

The 4-H Youth Development Program is one of many programs offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County (CCE-Chautauqua). CCE-Chautauqua is a community based educational organization, affiliated with Cornell University, Chautauqua County Government, the NYS SUNY system, and the federal government through the United States Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. For more information, call 716-664-9502 or visit our website at www.cce.cornell.edu/chautauqua. Cornell University Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame Announces Banquet Ticket Locations

Article Contributed by

Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame

Chip Johnson, chairman of the 38th annual Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame Induction Banquet has announced the locations where tickets may be purchased for the February 18, 2019 event.

Jamestown Cycle Shop, 10 Harrison Street, Jamestown; Matt's News, 93 E. Third Street, Dunkirk; and the Chautauqua Sports Hall of Fame, 15 W. Third Street in Jamestown, are the official distribution sites. Tickets can also be ordered by phoning Johnson at 485-6991. The price per ticket is $50. CSHOF members receive a $5 discount.

Inductees for the Class of '19 are Cheryl Bailey, Tiffany Decker, Vince Gullo, Chuck Johnston, Jack Harper, Luella Kye, Michael Lopriore, Bob Palcic and mark Weaver.

The Lakewood Rod and Gun Club, 433 East Terrace Avenue, Lakewood, will again host the CSHOF banquet. Hospitality begins at 5:00 P.M. with dinner to follow at 6:00.

Chautauqua Regional Youth Symphony Application Deadline is Friday, January 11

Courtesy Photo

Article Contributed by

Chautauqua Regional Youth Symphony

Only a few days remain for talented and motivated music students to apply for participation in one of three Chautauqua Regional Youth Symphony (CRYS) orchestras for the spring term.

Friday, January 11, 2019, is the deadline to sign up for this opportunity that will certainly enhance music skills and could even change a student's life. (A current CRYS board member met her husband when they were both CRYS students, so you never know!)

Prelude Strings rehearsals start Friday,January 18, 4-5 p.m. for beginning string players (NYSSMA level I).

Young Artists Orchestra (YAO) rehearsals begin Saturday, January 19, 9-10:30 a.m., for intermediate (levels II and III) string, woodwinds, brass, and percussion students.

Advanced string, woodwinds, brass, and percussion students (levels IV, V and VI) in Chamber Orchestra start rehearsing on Saturday, January 19, 10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

All rehearsals are at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 35 West Fairmount Avenue, Lakewood.

The season will conclude with the Spring Gala Concert, Sunday, May 19, 2019, at Chautauqua Institution's Elizabeth S. Lenna Hall, widely regarded as the premier performance venue in the region.

CRYS has significantly expanded its instruction this year. Students will be directed by acclaimed Music Director and Conductor Bryan Eckenrode and coached regularly by staff teachers and periodically by outside professional educators.

Southwestern Central Schools Director of Orchestras for grades 5-12 Marie Karbacka and Infinity Visual and Performing Arts Instructor Cody Hiller are now staff Prelude Coach and String Coach, respectively.

Additional coaching will be offered by SUNY Fredonia School of Music faculty Marc Guy in brass; Sarah Hamilton, woodwinds; Kieran Hanlon, lower strings; and Kay Stonefelt, percussion. Erie Junior Philharmonic Overture and Chamber Strings Instructor Jennifer Jansen will coach upper strings. These professional musicians all have both extensive performance and teaching backgrounds.

CRYS students pay tuition, and tuition assistance is available. Interested students can apply at CRYouthSymphony.com. Fall 2018 Chamber Orchestra members need not reapply.

To learn more about CRYS and its programs for young musicians, visit the website at CRYouthSymphony.com or the Chautauqua Regional Youth Symphony's Facebook page. For more information, call (716) 640-1391 or email chautauquarys@gmail.com.

CHAUTAUQUA REGIONAL YOUTH SYMPHONY

Faith Matters

To apologize or forgive... that is the question

Contributing Writer
Pastor Scott Hannon
St. John Lutheran Church Amherst, NY

"I can't do it, Daddy!" my daughter screamed at me as she buried her face in my neck.

"Yes, you can," I gently assured her. "You can do it."

"No! I can't!" she said, "It's too hard! It hurts!" Her tears and runny nose pooled on my collar. Her arms clung around my head while her legs locked onto my torso. Her grip was so tight I didn't need to hold her at all.

I kept reassuring her, "You can do it. You can do it. It's not that hard. It's not going to hurt. You can say, 'I'm sorry'."

"No, I can't!" she screamed and sobbed, "I can't say that!"

I needed her to apologize to her brother for something trivial, and yet, somehow significant. I was caught in one of those parenting moments where you want to teach your kid a lesson, but you also feel tempted to buy them ice cream so they knock their tantrum off.

She was relentless and persistent. Apparently, she couldn't say sorry… and she had a million excuses why: the lights were too bright, there were too many people around, she can only apologize to girls not boys, it would hurt too bad, etc.

Finally, when the time was right, a barely audible squeak whispered, "I'm sorry."

In that moment, the room changed. Tears ceased to flow. The crying and sobbing came to an end. Brother and sister were reunited. Their father took a breath. Pain became play. Sadness turned to gladness. And the room that was "too bright for apologizing" got a little bit brighter.

As we transition from Advent to Epiphany and as we end one calendar year and begin another, it seems appropriate to reflect on just how important and how hard it is to say, "I'm sorry." Apologizing is not an easy thing to do and even the strongest people often struggle to admit they were wrong. Regardless of age we all have excuses: it's too bright, it's too visible, too many people will see, we only apologize to some people and not others, it will hurt to bad, etc. Still, the scriptures repeatedly call us to repent – to name past sins and apologize for pain caused. Now, the sound of that likely leaves many of us clinging to our egos the way my daughter clung to my neck. Nevertheless, we are called to trust in grace and let go. Unfortunately, experience suggests many necessary apologies will go unuttered this time of year.

Bear with each other and forgive one another… Colossians 3:13

I was at work when my kids had their squabble and after it was over I opened the Bible to the text assigned for the upcoming Sunday. It read: *Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you* Colossians 3:13. What struck me as I read and reread this text was not just the timing (it's funny how the right scripture tends to find us at the right time), but also how much pressure was placed on the person doing the forgiving (and NOT the person doing the repenting). See, my parenting style is based on a wronged and gloating child hoarding it over their sibling who made a mistake until they are humbled to a point of submission. Here, scripture seems to suggest there is an easier route… bear with one another and forgive.

My guess is that every single person reading this, regardless of age, is holding onto something someone did to him or her. We are hurt and we are afraid of hurting more, and so, we hold back our forgiveness until the offender appropriately apologizes. Scripture offers us another route: forgive first.

There is no question that apologies can lighten a room. I have seen it. Scripture promises us that forgiveness works that way too. And so, if you're hoping for a brighter 2019, if you're eager to feel less pain and experience more joy, may you have the courage to heed the call of St. Paul in Colossians: let us bear with each other and forgive each other.

Like apologizing, forgiveness can seem too hard. Forgiveness can seem like it will hurt too much, but like I encouraged my daughter, St. Paul encourages us now:

You can do it. It won't hurt. You can say, "I forgive you."

May 2019 be a year or grace and renewal.

May your days be filled with reconciliation and peace.

May we cling to God's grace and not ego.

May we know the joy of forgiveness and…

"whatever [we] do, whether in word or in deed, [may we] do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him." (Colossians 3:17)

For more inspiration and insights from Pastor Scott and Pastor Shawn's past columns, please visit www.jamestowngazette.com and click on the Faith Matters page. The Jamestown Gazette is proud to present our county's most creative and original writers for your enjoyment and enlightenment.

JHS Raider Reader Book Swap

Courtesy Photo

Article Contributed by
Jamestown Public Schools

The JHS Raider Reader Book Swap was held to help provide books to students and staff for the holiday break. The swap is sponsored by Raider Readers, the JHS book club. It is held for two days, twice a year in the JHS Library. Students bring books from home that they have read and are willing to swap. They go to the library and trade each of their books for others that look interesting to them.

"The Book Swap at JHS allows students to pick new books to enjoy, while recycling old ones for others," said JHS student Allyson Buck. "This year, I choose books to give as Christmas gifts. Because the selection changes each set, you never know what you may find! It is a great program to have at our school."

"The Book Swap gives kids, who might not have much exposure to books, a chance to see a broad variety of reading material. It's fun, it's free, it's cool!" said Mike Tuccio, JHS Social Studies Teacher

The books on the tables change every set, so there's a constant turn over all day long; hopefully, the students will find something of interest to read over break.

"As teachers, we want to show students that we value reading, so we encourage the kids to bring a book from home that they don't want anymore and trade it for one at the Book Swap. If a student does not have a book to trade, we have a stash of donated books that we give them. The goal is to encourage outside reading for fun," said Barbi Price, Raider Reader Advisor.

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Government Shutdown?
continued from Page 1

billion, or just over one-tenth of one percent (0.13%) of the country's total projected spending.

One legislator within New York State noted that the recent replacement of the Tappan Zee Bridge, for example, connecting the towns of South Nyack and Tarrytown across the Hudson River, cost nearly $4 billion.

The State of New York alone manages $100 billion of federal funds, 20 times the size of the item currently blocking U.S. government operations. The amount in question in Washington is not seen by legislators as a "budget buster."

Many local individuals and elected officials contacted by the Gazette for this story note that the partial government shutdown is bi-partisan. As a result, a solution will require the same.

"Our students are graded on whether they "play well with others," one Jamestown educator said. "Maybe it is too simplistic, but shouldn't our elected officials do the same?"

What is Closed?

Federal lawmakers have already funded most of the government through the 2019 fiscal year. These funded services include the Department of Defense, Postal services, Education, Veterans Affairs, Energy, Labor, Health and Human Services, the Legislative branch, and the Bureau of Reclamation.

The agencies unfunded on December 22 when the partial shutdown began, make up only about one-quarter of the federal government.

Overall, nine federal departments and smaller agencies have been closed. This has furloughed more than 380,000 federal workers. Another 420,000 employees, deemed "essential," will work without pay until a funding bill is passed, then they will receive back pay.

New York State Assemblyman Goodell also points out that, though it may be little comfort now, the backlog of work will require significant overtime pay to catch up on. This benefits workers but illustrates one of the many ways a shutdown is expensive to recover from.

Still Working?

The following is a partial description of the disrupted services. The full list is far more complex, including a mosaic of paid, unpaid and furloughed workers. This list is illustrative only, not exhaustive.

The President, Supreme Court and Congress will be paid, but Senators and Representatives can voluntarily give up their salary during a shutdown. Many have done that in the past. Which ones have done so at present is not yet clear.

Particularly critical locally, at the **Department of Agriculture (USDA)**, more than 60 percent of federal workers remain on the job. Meat, poultry and processed egg inspection services remain, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits for January, the Child Nutrition Programs, including School Lunch, School Breakfast, Child and Adult Care Feeding remain in operation, along with Forest Service law enforcement, emergency and natural disaster response.

At **Homeland Security**, most employees are deemed essential in Customs and Border Protection, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Transportation Security Administration, the Coast Guard, and the Secret Service.

The Justice Department will continue criminal litigation. Some civil cases may be postponed. Federal prisons will continue to operate.

At **Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**, only about 340 out of 7,500 employees are considered essential. Public housing authorities are not federal but some funding is, so operating hours may change.

The **Commerce Department**'s Bureau of Economic Analysis and the Census Bureau are not publishing economic data. Law enforcement officials will continue to protect marine fisheries. Weather warnings will still be issued.

The **Office of Personnel Management** has prepared and distributed advice to federal workers on how to deal with landlords, mortgage lenders, and other creditors.

The **Federal Communications Commission (FCC)** regulates radio and television broadcast, and cable systems. It has suspend most operations. Office of Inspector General will continue.

U.S. Coast Guard paychecks have ended until the government reopens.

The **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** shutdown is estimated to disrupt up to 40,000 home sales each month.

At the **Interior Department**, the National Park Service has closed some national parks while a few are operating with a skeleton staff with no visitor services, restrooms, facility and road maintenance, and trash collection.

At the **Transportation Department**, almost half of the 55,000 employees are on leave. The Federal Aviation Administration has 24,200 working, including Air Traffic Control. The Highway Administration's 2,700 employees are funded by other sources. Hazardous material safety inspections and accident investigations continue.

In the **Executive Office of the President**, about 1,100 of the office's 1,800 employees are on leave, including most of the Office of Management and Budget, which helps implement budget and policy goals.

Federal Employees Furloughed or Unpaid

Agriculture	100,000
Commerce	46,600
Executive (Pres.)	1,100
Homeland Security	240,000
HUD	8,000
Interior Dept.	70,000
Justice	116,470
State Dept.	745,550
Transportation	54,710
Treasury	91,870

Sidebar 1

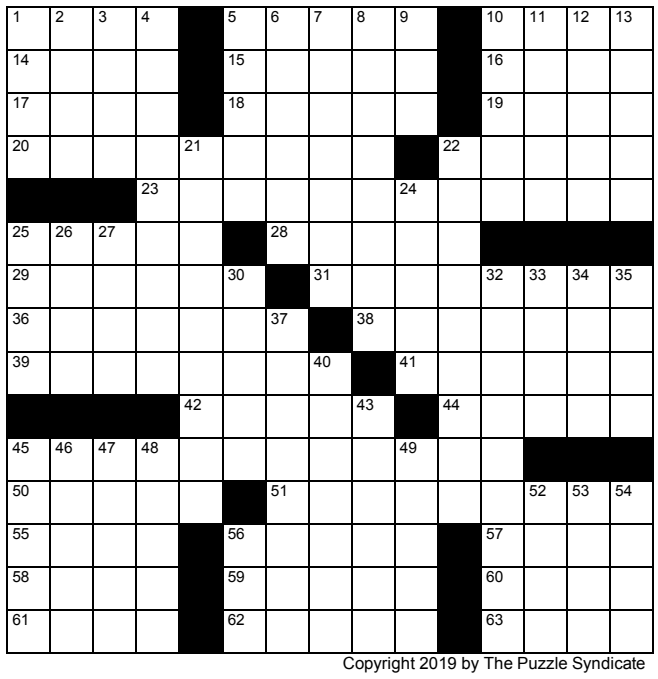
Action Needed

The local consensus among elected officials concerning the partial government shutdown is that it is not yet critical "on the street." A small but important number of federal employees within the county, however, are in danger of lost or delayed income. They should be of special concern for the community's assistance.

Quoting one [unnamed] local elected official, "Nobody wins when the two parties are "Playing Chicken" on the highway, racing toward a head-on collision at 90 miles an hour. The question is not who will or should swerve first, but why are they playing the game in the first place?"

The suggestion has been made that all voters contact their representatives and insist on bargain-and-compromise instead of a fight-to-the-death and winner-take-all. The fight distracts everybody from the issues that need solving. Write, phone, or email, and stay involved.

The Weekly Crossword
by Margie E. Burke



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ACROSS
1 Conn. neighbor
5 Herringlike fishes
10 Leave in, to an editor
14 Ancient Andean
15 "Water Lilies" painter
16 Fiesta fare
17 Go to great heights
18 Itsy-bitsy bits
19 How one might run
20 Spanish gentleman
22 Mac maker
23 Wife, jokingly
25 Hindu soul
28 Aspen aficionado
29 Word after pocket or loose
31 Deliberate destruction
36 They may be pulled
38 Dilbert's workspace
39 Erotic
41 Early English comedy, "____ Gurton's Needle"
42 "Get lost!"
44 Minuscule
45 Accept responsibility
50 Unaccompanied
51 Weatherman offerings
55 Lose steam
56 Parlor piece
57 Beat badly
58 Clothing line
59 Certain exams
60 Frank Herbert sci-fi series
61 Nothing but
62 To the point
63 A whole bunch

DOWN
1 Catchall abbr.
2 Forest ox
3 Wound covering
4 Minuet-like dances
5 Clothing size
6 Monopoly purchases
7 Polar parkas
8 Possessed one
9 Ave. crossers
10 Kind of infection
11 Buccaneers' home
12 Reason for a food recall
13 Representative
21 Spiny lobster
22 Like Cirque du Soleil performers
24 Fix, in a way
25 Plays a part
26 Quaker's "you"
27 "Death in Venice" author
30 Son of Cain
32 They're punched at work
33 Top of the heap
34 Secluded valley
35 Mysterious: Var.
37 Guaranteed
40 Russian urn
43 Diego Rivera creations
45 Weighty put-down
46 1979 sci-fi classic
47 Snorkeling sight
48 Hostile force
49 Have a hunch
52 Music category
53 Spotify selection
54 Hearty dish
56 URL punctuator

SUDOKU
Edited by Margie E. Burke

Difficulty: Easy

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		9	5		3			
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HOW TO SOLVE:
Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

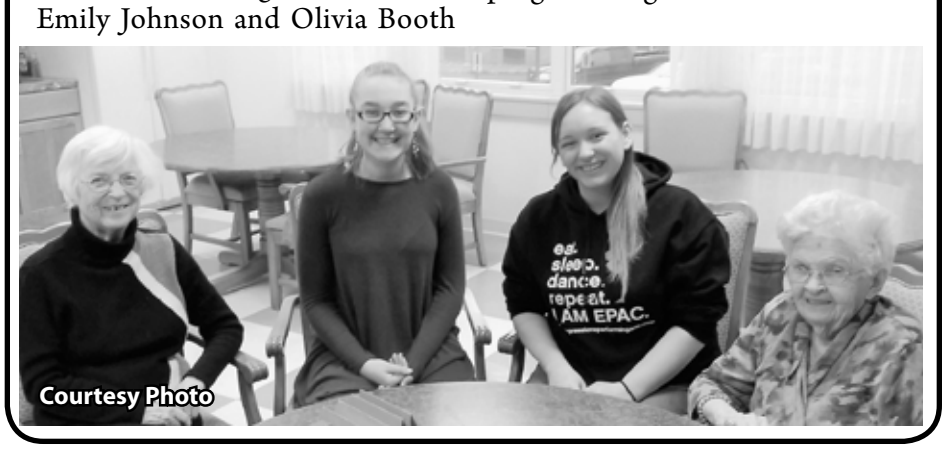
Puzzle Solutions Located on Page 16

Falconer FBLA Students Visit Hultquist Place Assisted Living Program Residents

Article Contributed by

Lutheran Social Services

Students from Falconer Central School's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) club visited with residents at the Hultquist Place Assisted Living Program at Lutheran after the holidays to mingle, share their high school experiences and hopes for future careers in business, and have some fun creating winter crafts. Emily Johnson and Olivia Booth visited from FCS, pictured here with Ann Marie Olson and Erma Desmond, residents at Hultquist Place. Being a member of FBLA helps young students prepare for careers in business through academic competitions, leadership development, educational programs, and community volunteerism and service projects. Different students from Falconer's FBLA club come in the beginning of each month to participate in programming with the residents.



Courtesy Photo

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or in person at: 701 Rouse Ave, Youngsville, PA

EOE

Audubon Taking Birdseed Orders Through Monday, January 14

Article Contributed by

Audubon Community Nature Center

Give your feathered friends a mid-winter treat and stock up on their favorite birdseed at a special price. Audubon Community Nature Center (ACNC) provides birdseed at a discounted rate at sales twice a year.

Monday, January 14, 2018, 5 p.m., is the deadline for ordering birdseed and related treats from ACNC's Winter Birdseed Sale, providing value for you and supporting Audubon.

The most popular seeds and mixes are available for you to stock up for the rest of winter and into spring. Conewango Blend, unique to Audubon, was developed to attract favorite and common winter species of the region such as chickadees, cardinals, and titmice. There are also suet cakes for woodpeckers and a mix to attract finches.

To place your order, call (716) 569-2345 during business hours, stop by the Nature Center, or order online at audubooncnc.org/shop.

Pick-up at Audubon is Saturday, January 26, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. You won't even have to get out of your car, as volunteers will cheerfully load the fresh seed, direct from the supplier, right into your trunk. Please call (716) 569-2345 ahead of time if you cannot pick up your order on that day.

As an additional bonus, come into the Blue Heron Gift Shop that day and receive a 10% discount on all merchandise, including a wide assortment of bird feeders and bird houses.

Audubon's own Conewango Blend is available year-round in the Blue Heron Gift Shop in the Nature Center and at Ashville General Store, Ashville, N.Y.; Bridgeview One Stop, Bemus Point, N.Y.; Ekey's Garden Centre, North Warren, Pa.; Hamlet Farms, Sheridan, N.Y.; Herbs R4U, Jamestown, N.Y.; Howe's True Value, Warren, Pa.; Lakewood Apothecary, Lakewood, N.Y.; Lighthouse Point Grocery, Mayville, N.Y.; Ace Hardware Oneida Lumber, Warren, Pa.; Russell Veterinary Hospital, Russell, Pa.; and Wegmans, Lakewood, N.Y.

Courtesy Photo

Feeding and watching birds, like this male Hairy Woodpecker, can bring optimism to our days and introduce young people to the natural world.

Audubon Community Nature Center is at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown, New York, and Warren, Pennsylvania. Hours for the Nature Center building, with its live animals, exhibits, and Blue Heron Gift Shop, are Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Sundays 1-4 p.m. Bald Eagle viewing and trails for hiking, snowshoeing and cross country skiing are open dawn to dusk every day.

To learn more about Audubon and its many programs, call (716) 569-2345 during business hours or visit audubooncnc.org.

Audubon Community Nature Center builds and nurtures connections between people and nature by providing positive outdoor experiences, opportunities to learn about and understand the natural world, and knowledge to act in environmentally responsible ways.

Free computer classes to be held at Prendergast Library

Article Contributed by

James Prendergast Library

The library will offer two computer classes this month – Introduction to Word and Computer Basics.

All computer classes at Prendergast are free of charge. Walk-ins are welcome as space allows, or call to register at (716) 484-7135 ext. 225.

Introduction to Word will run on Friday, January 11, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. This class will be taught by Joanna Sorenson, a library associate and instructor at JCC. Introduction to Word will teach the basics of Microsoft Word, including program features, creating documents, formatting text, and more.

Computer Basics will be held on Friday, January 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and will be taught by Oliver Chenard, a library associate. This class will familiarize students with computers and cover how to turn a computer on, use a keyboard, and start navigating on a desktop. No previous experience with computers is needed for this class.

Questions about our computer classes? Call the Information Desk at (716) 484-7135 ext. 225. Prendergast Library is located at 509 Cherry Street; computer classes are held in the public computer center.

JCC Small Business Development Center Welcomes New Director

Article Contributed by

Jamestown Community College

Courtney Curatolo is the new director of the Small Business Development Center at Jamestown Community College. She looks forward to maximizing the small business development environment within our three county region using her past experiences in both the corporate and nonprofit sectors. Curatolo's background includes strategic planning, leadership training, government affairs, public relations, community outreach, and development and implementation of public -private partnerships. She is a published author on the topics of leadership development, civic engagement, and effective facilitation and sustainability of public - private partnerships.

Curatolo's professional and community volunteer efforts have also included extensive involvement focusing upon social responsibility, civic engagement project management, leading and managing diverse collaborative initiatives through her work with government entities, educational institutions and local businesses for the purpose of building a foundation for mutually beneficial organizational, economic and community outcomes.

Curatolo holds a B.A. in Political Science from American University, M.A. in Public Administration from Florida Gulf Coast University, and a Ph.D. in Education Research and Methodology with a focus on Adult and Community Educational Leadership from Florida Atlantic University. She is also a graduate of the Leadership Collier, Class of 2007 and Leadership Florida, Class 27 and the co-founder of Leadership Hendry and Glades Counties.

Curatolo has received numerous accolades for her efforts including "Top Five New Leaders in Palm Beach County, Naples Journal "Trailblazer," Naples Journal "One to Watch," Gulfshore Business "Movers and Shakers," and Gulfshore Business "40 Under 40, Saluting Southwest Florida's Rising Stars."

While Curatolo has lived and worked in Florida for the past 25+ years, she was born in Western New York.

Courtesy Photo

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Jamestown Community College (JCC) vision is to create economic sustainability for all New Yorkers – one business at a time. The SBDC delivers high quality business counseling and training to clients looking to start a business or improve the performance of an existing business. Services are free and confidential and include a range of management and technical assistance from business plan development, accounting guidance, productivity enhancement and export assistance to loan information, marketing, and financial planning among other services.

AMERICA'S SBDC NEW YORK

The Chautauqua County Education Coalition awarded $100,000

Parents As Teachers home visitor, Laury Marshall engages Mother, Amber Schrader and her son Austin Calabrese in learning activities during a home visit in the Southwestern School District.

Article Contributed by

Chautauqua County Education Coalition

The Chautauqua County Education Coalition (CCEC) was recently awarded a $100,000 grant by the Cummins Foundation to expand Jamestown Community Learning Council's (JCLC) Parents as Teachers (PAT) program throughout Chautauqua County School Districts.

PAT is an evidence-based program designed to enhance child development and school achievement through parent participation in developmentally appropriate early childhood activities facilitated by home/school liaisons during home visits. It can serve families throughout pregnancy until their child enters first grade. There are three primary goals of PAT: increase parent knowledge of early childhood development and improve parenting practices, provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues, and increase children's school readiness and success.

Research indicates there are "windows of opportunity" from birth throughout the early years when learning takes place more easily. Parents As Teachers helps parents become more aware of these stages of development by providing information that helps to nurture and support the cognitive, emotional, social and physical well-being of children. Developmental strengths as well as possible delays can be more easily recognized when parents understand what to expect during each stage of development and how to capture the teachable moments in everyday life that will encourage their child's growth in all learning domains.

The CCEC is a dynamic public-private partnership made up of 125 stakeholders representing 70 organizations and is the catalyst for collaboration around four components within Chautauqua County's educational system: Early Childhood, Middle School to High School Career Pathways, Current Employer Needs and Community Collaboration. Through a community process the Chautauqua County Education Coalition identified the Parents as Teachers program as a catalytic project in early childhood for Chautauqua County. Jamestown Community Learning Council has been delivering PAT for over 18 years to hundreds of community families with funding from school districts and local foundations. Through the securement of these additional grant funds PAT services will be offered at Brocton and Dunkirk Central School for the very first time. Additionally, Frewsburg, Jamestown and Southwestern Central School District programs will be expanded with the ability and intent to grow over time. The overall goal to this project is to help children achieve school and life success with increased educational achievement through parent engagement. Districts self-selected by participating in the program through the Erie 2 BOCES CoSer Agreement.

With the endorsement of PAT by the CCEC and with the support of BOCES chief administrators a CoSer (Cooperative Services) proposal was put forth and approved by New York State Education in January 2018. PAT has now become recognized by the NYS Education Department as a program eligible for BOCES CoSer aid to school districts seeking to make the program available in their community. "A milestone that was finally realized after over a decade of effort by numerous community supporters who stayed the course bring this longtime goal to fruition. The generous grant from the Cummins Foundation was truly the icing on the cake that helped superintendents bring the program to their districts," states JCLC executive director, Rosary Kolivas. All in all, this project is anticipated to reach 86 families in Chautauqua County and is a true testament to community collaboration.

Justin Hanft, CCEC executive director further adds that, "the primary purpose of the Coalition is to align resources and build capabilities to meet the evolving workforce requirements of the community. To that end, the CCEC is building partnerships through evidence-based projects, like Parents as Teachers, to assure that Chautauqua County is "community ready" for opportunities that advance our learning system and lead to job retention and job growth."

Funding for the program is provided by a grant from the Cummins Foundation as well as district and other local foundation sources.

Audubon Little Explorers Learn About "Under the Snow"

Article Contributed by

Audubon Community Nature Center

How do animals survive the winter?

You and the three- to eight-year-old child(ren) in your life can find out at Audubon Community Nature Center's Little Explorers on Saturday, January 12, 10-11:30 a.m.

This month Little Explorers will learn all about the amazing world hidden deep "Under the Snow." The program includes a lesson followed by outdoor exploration and a snack. If time and weather allow, a craft is included.

During the winter, animals do all sorts of creative things to survive the cold and snow. While some animals migrate or hibernate to escape the weather, others burrow deep under the snow to stay warm.

Come learn about how these creatures build their tunnels, build a tunnel of your own, and then head on out to see if you can find some of these amazing animals in action. The program takes place rain, snow or shine, so be sure to dress for the weather.

The fee for Little Explorers is $8 for adults, $6 for Nature Center members and children. Reservations are required by Thursday, January 10, 2019, and can be made by calling (716) 569-2345 during business hours or online through the Programs page at audubooncnc.org.

Audubon education programs are funded with support from the Carnahan Jackson Foundation, Jessie Smith Darrah Fund, Holmberg Foundation, Hultquist Foundation, and Lenna Foundation.

Audubon Community Nature Center is located at 1600 Riverside Road, one-quarter mile east of Route 62 between Jamestown, N.Y., and Warren, Pa. The three-story Nature Center building contains interactive displays, a collection of live animals, and the Blue Heron Gift Shop.

Building hours are Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Sundays 1-4 p.m. The 600-acre wetland preserve, with more than five miles of trails for hiking, snowshoeing, and cross country skiing and Liberty, the non-releasable Bald Eagle, can be visited from dawn until dusk daily.

To learn more about Audubon and its many programs, call (716) 569-2345 during business hours or visit audubooncnc.org.

Audubon Community Nature Center builds and nurtures connections between people and nature by providing positive outdoor experiences, opportunities to learn about and understand the natural world, and knowledge to act in environmentally responsible ways.

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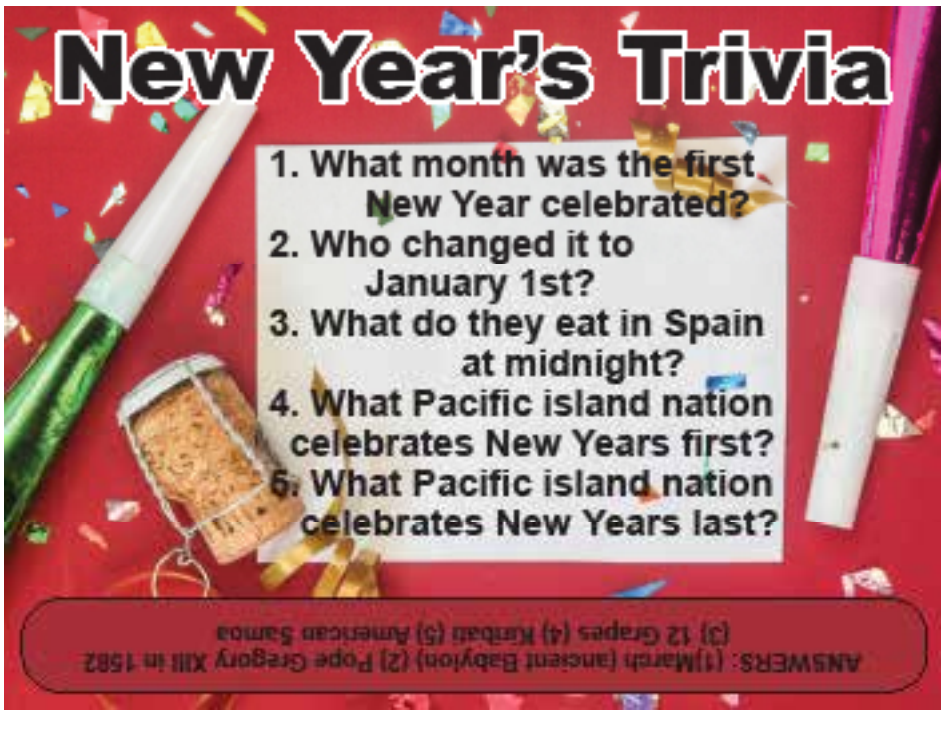

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STATE WIDE

New York StateWide Senior Action Council, Inc

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Article Contributed by

NY StateWide Senior Action Council

NY StateWide Senior Action Council is a grassroots organization made up of individual senior citizens and organizations from all parts of New York State. Our services, provided by experienced and certified counselors, are **free.** We provide information to elders and their families so that they can make the best possible healthcare decisions on issues such as Patients' Rights; Health Insurance Services and Benefits; Prescription Drug Coverage, Services; and Medicare & Medicaid Fraud Prevention. Also, we partner with local Area Offices of Aging to provide health insurance counseling. **Our toll-free Medicare, Patients Right and Medicare Fraud Helpline can be reached at 1-800-333-4374.**

StateWide's Patient Advocates Program offers free presentations in the community and Telephone Teach-ins every month. The next session is on **January 22, 2019**, from 10:00am to 11:00am. The topic being discussed is "Helping Older Persons and Caregivers Obtain Community Based Services and Long-Term Care." **For more information on how to join this call, please call our toll-free helpline at 800-333-4374.**

StateWide's 2019 Health Care Calendars are available. These are valuable tools to keep track of your doctors' appointments and to identify which preventative services are completely paid for by Medicare one time per year. Services such as: preventative screenings, such as, Abdominal Aortic Aneurism Screening, Cardiovascular Screening, Colorectal Cancer Screening, Depression Screening, Diabetes Screening, Glaucoma Screening, Hepatitis Screening, HIV Screening, Lung Cancer Screening, Breast Cancer Screening and Prostate Screening. **To find out more about preventative services that Medicare pays for and to order your free calendar, contact NY StateWide at 1-800-333-4374.**

To learn more about our WNY regional meetings, or to become a member of NY StateWide Senior Action Council, or to schedule a presentation on Patients Rights or Medicare Fraud – call us at 1-800-333-4374.

Jefferson 6th Graders Create Great Depression ELA Project

Article Contributed by

Jamestown Public Schools

Jefferson Middle School sixth graders, Ruby Meyer, Mallory Atwater, Addison Zahn and Braelyn Peterson, recently created an independent project around the Great Depression and the novel, Bud, Not Buddy in Erin Knapp's class. They created a visual timeline of the Great Depression with quotes, text and pictures. They used their timeline to teach the rest of their class what they learned during their project.

"I thought this research project would be a great way to challenge some of my higher students as well as give them the opportunity to teach the class what they learned," said Mrs. Knapp. "The majority of the work was done independently, and they were always so excited to update me on their progress and what they were learning. Since the girls had to meet the requirements of the project plus keep up with the regular ELA curriculum, they really had to manage their time and work cooperatively. Overall, they did a fantastic job. I am so proud of them!"

The girls created the project based on their ELA unit and reading the novel, Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis. The novel is about Bud Caldwell, a ten-year-old orphan, living in Flint, Michigan in 1936. Since the death of his mother four years earlier, Bud has been living in an orphanage and had short stints in several foster homes. By reading the novel students learn, "What are "rules to live by?" How do people formulate and use "rules" to improve their lives? How do people communicate these "rules" to others? They read the novel closely for its figurative language and word choice, analyzing how these affect the tone and meaning of the text. They also write a literary argument essay in which they establish a claim about how Bud uses his "rules:" to survive or to thrive. Students substantiate their claim using specific text-based evidence including relevant details and direct quotations from the novel.

In their project, the girls spotlighted seven different events such as the "Bank Run" and "The Children of the Great Depression" with text, photographs and sayings from that time period. They used on-line resources and books, spending almost a week in the library researching for the project.

"We decided to do the timeline instead of a PowerPoint because we wanted everyone to be able to see it in the hallway and learn more about the Great Depression," said the girls. "We also had to write a script to use for our presentation to our class. It was really interesting learning facts and stories about the Great Depression that we would not have discovered if we hadn't done this independent project and shared them with our classmates."

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HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Erie to Unveil New Name and Brand

Article Contributed by

HealthSouth Hospital of Erie

HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Erie will unveil its new name and brand as part of its Company's name change and rebranding initiative. Beginning Jan. 1, the inpatient rehabilitation hospital will be known as Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Erie. It will continue to provide the same high-quality, post-acute care for patients overcoming a variety of major illnesses and injuries.

To commemorate the new name and brand, the hospital will be hosting a community ribbon cutting event on Thursday, Jan. 10 at 10:00 a.m. The event will be held at the hospital, located at 143 East Second St. in Erie, and the ribbon cutting will be accompanied by a statement from John Papalia, CEO of the hospital. In conjunction with the ribbon cutting, the hospital is hosting a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Our new Encompass Health brand reflects more than the change of our name. It reinforces our commitment to working together to continuously improve the care we provide our patients," said John Papalia, CEO of Encompass Health Erie. "With a focus on clinical collaboration and strengthening relationships, we will continue to play an important role in making a difference in the lives of our patients."

Birmingham, Alabama-based HealthSouth Corporation launched its new name and brand on Jan. 1, 2018 and will be transitioning its 130 inpatient rehabilitation hospitals and 273 home health and hospice locations serving 36 states and Puerto Rico through 2019. All of the Company's post-acute care service locations in Pennsylvania will migrate to the Encompass Health name and brand on Jan. 1.

About HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Erie

HealthSouth Erie is a 108-bed inpatient rehabilitation hospital that offers comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation services. Serving patients throughout northwest Pennsylvania, west New York and northeast Ohio, the hospital is located at 143 East Second Street and on the web at www.healthsoutherie.com.

About Encompass Health

As a national leader in post-acute care, Encompass Health (NYSE: EHC) offers both facility-based and home-based patient care through its network of inpatient rehabilitation hospitals, home health agencies and hospice agencies. With a national footprint that spans 130 hospitals and 273 home health & hospice locations in 36 states and Puerto Rico, the Company is committed to delivering high-quality, cost-effective care across the post-acute continuum. Driven by a set of shared values, Encompass Health is the result of the union between HealthSouth Corporation and Encompass Home Health & Hospice, and is ranked as one of Fortune's 100 Best Companies to Work For.

For more information, visit encompasshealth.com, or follow us on Twitter and Facebook .

JHS Announces 27 Fall WNY Scholar Athletes

Courtesy Photo

Article Contributed by

Jamestown Public Schools

Jamestown High School is proud to announce that 27 athletes on the school's fall varsity sports teams qualified as All-Western New York Scholars, which are awarded by Section VI. To qualify, each senior's overall grade point must be an average of 90 or above for six semesters and be a starter or important reserve.

The WNY Fall Scholar Athletes are: Drew Boggs (football), Alex Classon (football), JonMichael DeAngelo (football), Asha deHarder (girls tennis), Christian Dolce (boys cross country), Karleigh Haines (girls volleyball), Finley Holt (football), Elyse Jones (girls swimming), Isabelle Knapp (girls volleyball), Taylor Lee (boys cross country), Macey Lundmark (girls soccer), Kaitlyn McDowell (girls swimming), Zara Miles (girls swimming), Ellyse Noon (girls volleyball), Grace Osborne (girls swimming) Lauren Peters (girls soccer), Rylee Porter (girls soccer), Sarah Russo (girls swimming), Emily Spitz (girls swimming), Allie Stockwell (girls swimming), Morgan Tracy (girls volleyball), Kara Triscari (girls cross country), Matt Rhodes (football), Zoe White (girls soccer), Camryn Wilson (girls tennis), Mia Young (girls tennis) and Joshua Zielinski (football).

"Being named to the All-Western New York Academic Team is a special honor," said JPS Athletic Director Ben Drake. "These young men and women truly epitomize what the term, student-athlete, means. Not only are they great athletes, but these seniors also maintained an overall grade point average of 90% or higher during their four years at JHS. They are great role models for our younger athletes and we are all very proud of them."

Community Donates $4,500 To Support The Relief Zone

Article Contributed by

The Relief Zone

The Relief Zone, Inc. (TRZ), received $4,500 in gift donations from local residents and area businesses that will benefit children's programming at TRZ located at 5 Frew Run and The Relief Zone Endowment Fund, administered by the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation. The monies were raised from the 2018 Christmas Memorial Tree Lighting Ceremony and TRZ Fall Fund Drive.

Since opening its doors 18 years ago, TRZ has played a pivotal role in providing assistance to families, youth, and young adults through a variety of children's programming including Kidz Jump Start Before School Program, Kidz After School Program, No School/Half Days Program, Kidz Summer Day Camp, and Cardinal Care After School Program. Donations from The Fall Fund Drive donations support these vital programs.

"We are sincerely thankful for the continued support from our donors and local businesses," said Lisa Lyon, The Relief Zone executive director. "These generous gifts ensure that participants have access to affordable, high-quality social and educational programming. Last year, we provided services for more than 300 children who enjoyed reliable and conveniently located programming at minimal cost to our families. From supporting before and after school programming to helping to fund summer camp activities, our donors help boost student success while providing a safe and supervised learning environment that gives our parents peace of mind."

Thirty donors sponsored a memorial tree during the 2018 Christmas Memorial Tree event that raised funds to benefit The Relief Zone Endowment Fund, administered by the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation. The fund was established in August of 2008 when the Board of Directors recognized that the Center necessitated a long-range financial plan to sustain The Relief Zone. The active endowment fund provides an annual return based on the size of the fund. The purpose of the endowment fund is to support the charitable efforts of The Relief Zone and its impact on the Town of Carroll's youth and families now and into the future.

"This vital endowment is a gift that keeps on giving," Lyon said. "An endowment gift is permanently invested toward growth, income, and sustainability of TRZ's future."

For more information about TRZ programming or to make a tax-deductible donation, contact Lisa Lyon, executive director, at TRZ at 716-569-2614 or visit their website at thereliefzone.org.

Solution to Sudoku:

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

Solution to Crossword:

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

WNY Tick Forums Scheduled

Article Contributed by

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County

Cornell Cooperative Extensions of Chautauqua and Erie Counties are leading a regional initiative to increase awareness of tick-borne diseases and tick management in the Western New York Region. They are offering several opportunities to participate in the WNY Tick Awareness Forum to be held on January 24th in West Seneca and February 16th in Jamestown.

Lyme disease and several other devastating tick-borne diseases are on the rise in New York due to an increase in the prevalence of ticks and human-tick encounters. The Governor and State Legislature have deemed Lyme and other tick-borne diseases a public health priority and are working to raise awareness about ticks, tick avoidance and management. Please consider joining us at either of our regional forums or online, featuring a presentation from Lynn Braband of NYSIPM, health department officials, and a panel of community leaders. This event is brought to you by the New York State IPM Program and Cornell Cooperative Extensions of Chautauqua, Erie, Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming, and Cattaraugus Counties.

Attendees who register in advance and attend one of the physical locations will receive a free tick removal kit along with light refreshments and an opportunity to participate in an interactive question and answer session. The cost to register is $5/person, and registration begins 30 minutes prior.

There are multiple ways to participate. The two main events will be held in Erie County and Chautauqua County. There will also be satellite locations to view the event or join a live stream via Facebook. Register online by visiting www.cce.cornell.edu/chautauqua at least one week in advance to receive a free tick removal kit.

Erie County: January 24th, 2019; 4pm – 6pm; West Seneca Community Center; 1300 Union Road; West Seneca, NY; Contact: Sharon Bachman, CCE-Erie County, at sin2@cornell.edu or 716-652-5400 ext.150.

Chautauqua County: February 16th, 2019; 1pm – 3pm; Frank W Bratt Agricultural Center; 3542 Turner Road; Jamestown, NY; Contact: Katelyn Walley-Stoll, CCE-Chautauqua County, at kaw249@cornell.edu or 716-664-9502 ext. 202.

We will also be live streaming each of our two in-person events at the designated times. View the event from the comfort of your own home at no cost by joining the WNY Beginning Farmers and Homesteaders group on Facebook (you will have to request to join ahead of time and will not be eligible to receive a free tick removal kit).

Cattaraugus County: Satellite Viewing of the February 16th event at the CCE-Cattaraugus,28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, NY 14731. Contact Tamara Bacho at 716-669-2377 or tsb48@cornell.edu.

Genesee County: Satellite Viewing of the January 24th event at CCE-Genesee, 420 E Main Street, Batavia, NY 14020. Contact Janice Beglinger at 585-343-3040 or jmb374@cornell.edu.

Orleans County: Satellite viewing of the February 16th event at the Trolley Building, 12690 State Rt 31, Albion, NY 14411. Contact Katie Oakes at 585-798-4265 or klo54@cornell.edu.

Wyoming County: Satellite viewing of the January 24th event at the Wyoming County Agriculture and Business Center, 36 Center St. Warsaw, NY 14569. Contact Don Gasiewicz at 585 786 2251 drg35@cornell.edu.

The WNY Tick Awareness Forum is one of many programs offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County (CCE-Chautauqua) in line with the County's 20/20 Comprehensive Plan. CCE-Chautauqua is a community based educational organization, affiliated with Cornell University, Chautauqua County Government, the NYS SUNY system, and the federal government through the United States Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. For more information, call 716-664-9502 or visit our website at www.cce.cornell.edu/chautauqua. Cornell University Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.

McClurg Museum Schedules Temporary Closure to Accommodate Renovation Work

The McClurg Museum

Article Contributed by

Chautauqua County Historical Society

The Chautauqua County Historical Society (CCHS) will close the McClurg Museum to the public beginning Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2018 to accommodate much needed renovation and restoration work on the 200-year-old building.

During the closure, the museum will not be available for tours while much-needed work takes place in the building's center stair hall. This project will complete the first stage of critical repairs identified by the historic structures report that was completed in 2015. The work is tentatively scheduled to be completed by early February.

Major structural renovations and repairs at McClurg started this past summer. In the work getting under way now, the open walkway at the top of the winding stair on the second floor level will be reinforced, the ceiling will be restored to its original configuration, and the ceiling and walls on both floors will be replastered and painted.

Extensive work is also scheduled to take place on the exterior of the building this coming spring. As part of that project, the ground on the north perimeter of the building is to be excavated so the foundation can be waterproofed and the stone and mortar joints at that level repointed. Twelve windowsills are to be replaced as well.

Major funding for the repairs includes generous grants from The Lenna Foundation, the Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation and the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.

The Village of Westfield, which owns the McClurg mansion and leases it to CCHS, provided support from a building and maintenance fund created for that purpose. In addition, through donations and carefully saving for these anticipated projects over the past few years, the Historical Society is paying for about a third of the total cost of all the work being done throughout the mansion.

The CCHS board of trustees thanks both the general public and also members of the organization for their cooperation and patience while this much-needed work take place. Anyone who wishes to use the museum for research should call in advance to schedule an appointment. For more information, call the McClurg at 716-326-2977 or email CCHS@McClurgMuseum.org.

Center Stair Hall to be Renovated

Green Comments On Cuomo Inauguration

Article Contributed by

Chautauqua County Election Commissioner and County Democratic Party Chair

Chautauqua County Election Commissioner and County Democratic Party Chair Norman P. Green attended the inauguration of Governor Cuomo on New Years Day at Ellis Island, NYC.

Green said, "A third term for Governor Cuomo is a big win for middle and working class New Yorkers. Governor Cuomo's last eight years in office have demonstrated his commitment to protecting New York's working men and women, and as we head into 2019, the Governor has already made it clear that our progress will not be obstructed. I thank Governor Cuomo for his pledge to continue to strengthen Chautauqua County and the entire Empire State."

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY PETS OF THE WEEK

Meet Halo! She is a great girl who is looking for a new home. Halo is pretty active and loves to play. She may be too active for small kids, so she should definitely meet everyone in the family. She may also be too much for cats. If your cats are dog savvy we should definitely talk. Please stop into CCHS to meet Halo soon! Shelter No. RR179.

Come to the Chautauqua County Humane Society and meet Galaxy. He is 6 years old and looking for a home with someone to love. Come meet him in the Senior Colony. Shelter No. RR179.

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Tanglewood Group Employee Recognition Awards 2018

Tanglewood Group President & CEO Nick Ferreri, Frewsburg 2018 Employee of the Year Wendy Reichard, and Frewsburg Administrator, Nicole Mucheck

Tanglewood Manor/Memory Garden 2018 Employee of the Year, Lela Perdue with TWG President & CEO Nick Ferreri

Article Contributed by

The Tanglewood Group

Employees of the Tanglewood Group gathered recently at both the Frewsburg and Jamestown campuses for the 2018 Christmas Tea and Assembly of Staff. The annual gathering is hosted by owner Nick Ferreri and COO Terri Ingersoll to show appreciation to all personnel for their service and to honor individual achievements. The luncheon was catered at both locations by Sandee's Bakery and was followed by the presentation of several special awards.

During the Jamestown gathering Ferreri also announced his excitement about the Tanglewood Group's newest 140 bed facility the 'Field of Dreams', which is under construction in Allegany, NY and set to open in July or August of 2019. The facility will be a "less step" new build, which will offer the opportunity to include new and updated features to specification, rather than retrofitting an existing building.

While the Olean location is expected to be an exciting addition to the Group's offerings, the CEO praised his employee's hard work and dedication to the needs of the residents as the organization's biggest asset.

"We can build these beautiful buildings and fill them with up-to-date technology, but you all have to run them." he told his staff. "Our employees are the heart and soul of everything we do here at Tanglewood. You are the reason for our success."

The much-anticipated announcement for both locations each December is the Employee of the Year. This prestigious award is given annually to an employee from each facility who exemplifies the company's mission of care and commitment by showing dedication to the residents needs at all times as part of their daily performance. Recipients each receive round trip airfare for two to anywhere in the continental United States and a check for $1000 to be used for expenses. Ferreri and Chief Operating Officer Terri Ingersoll announced the selection of Lela Perdue, Personal Care Scheduler at Tanglewood Manor, and Wendy Reichard, PCA at Frewsburg as the 2018 honorees.

Other awards included the company's annual Service Award, which is given each year to the employee with the longest tenure. Susan Swanson, Housekeeper at Tanglewood Manor, who has been a Tanglewood employee for 15 years and 1 month and Melissa Bruyere, HHA, Med Aide and Third Shift Supervisor at Frewsburg, who has a tenure of 11 years and 3 months were each given a watch and a trophy in recognition of their achievement.

Three individuals received "Flawless" Perfect Attendance awards for 2018. Frewsburg Dietary employee Linda Earle and Tanglewood Housekeepers Jessica Delahoy and Rebecca Johnson were awarded $600 for their flawless records. Tanglewood Housekeeper Marilou Rasmussen was also honored with the "Almost Perfect" attendance award of $500.

Surprise "Second Chance" Award winners, whose names were drawn from a pool of entries that included the names of perfect attendance awardees and employee of the month/quarter nominees for the year were Jordan Zaccaro from Frewsburg and Debra Lee, Brionna Bush, and Robert Olson from Tanglewood/Memory Garden, who each received $500.

State Assemblyman Andrew Goodell, NYS Senator Cathy Young, Deputy County Executive Mark Geise and Katrina Fuller from the office of Congressman Tom Reed were also on hand for the Jamestown campus ceremony, assisting with the drawings, and giving high praise for the quality of care that the Tanglewood Group provides to local seniors.

Senator Young, who is a Cattaraugus County resident remarked that she was happy to see the Tanglewood Group's expansion into her area, noting that the Groups high quality of care will now be available to serve three New York counties of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegeny. Young and her counterparts also thanked Ferreri for his investment in the community, and for bringing "care, comfort and joy" to the people that they serve.

Chautauqua County Camera Club show to open at 3rd on 3rd Gallery.

Article Contributed by

The Reg Lenna Center For The Arts

Members of Chautauqua County Camera Club will display their art beginning Tues., Jan. 8 at 10 a.m. in 3rd on 3rd Gallery at Reg Lenna Center for The Arts. A free public reception is open to the public from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Fri., Jan. 11. Admission during all hours of the gallery is free.

Chautauqua County Camera Club promotes the interests of photographers by bringing together those who are interested in helping each other create better photographs. Featured photographers include: D. Arlene Bonnett, Gary Bartoo, Bernadett van der Vliet and Terrie Johnson.

3rd on 3rd Gallery is located at 108 E. 3rd St. and is part of Reg Lenna Center for The Arts. The Gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Exhibitions at 3rd on 3rd Gallery are made possible by support from Arts Consulting Group. For more information visit reglenna.com. Chautauqua County Camera Club show to open at 3rd on 3rd Gallery.

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Healthy Intentions Best Borne of Humble Beginnings

Article Contributed by

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County

Cornell Cooperative Extension Chautauqua County's EFNEP Program would like to share information on Food Nutrition Labels.

Food nutrition labels are getting a makeover, which will be a big boost to anyone setting healthy eating intentions for 2019. As you shop at the grocery, explore how labels are evolving. Over time, you will find the total calories per serving is predominantly shown in large, bold type. This added visibility will make it easier to be mindful of what you are consuming each day.

Serving sizes are becoming more realistic. If you grab for a bottled beverage, the calorie counts shown on new labels are per bottle, not whatever fraction of the bottle somebody once thought was appropriate. Who drinks a third of a bottle, right? If you watch your sugar, the new labels will report sugar content in two categories: naturally occurring and added sugars.

If you are making resolutions for the New Year, start by thinking about something that is a hindrance to your enjoyment of life, and consider ways to alleviate that. When it comes to food – you don't need a strict diet! Anyone can strive to nourish their bodies a little better. One small tweak can make a huge difference. Instead of denying yourself things you enjoy, what if you work on ADDING things that really nourish your body?

Consider finding out what your recommended daily allowance is of water (at least half your weight in ounces), and aim to drink that every day. Maybe you want to add more vegetables – can you eat your daily servings of vegetables today? Maybe you want to set one healthy intention today, and another tomorrow – that's fine! It's your body, and you make the rules. Look at your gains over the course of a week. One off-day does not a failure make.

If increasing your activity level is of interest, tune in again and think about what you can do to get more enjoyment out of your days. For instance, if you experience back pain, strengthening your trunk with something like a plank practice might help. Not sleeping so great? Consider a short walk outside a few times this week and see if you notice a difference.

Whatever you do, start small and add time or intensity only as you feel ready to. Returning to that plank practice: you could begin by keeping your knees on the ground. You can also try resting on your forearms, instead of your hands. If you're looking to add more steps to your day – try walking all the aisles of the grocery store, instead of just the ones that have what you need. Get up and down off the floor at least once every day so you're better able to do it all of your days!

You're more likely to let your intention go if you get frustrated. Keep it simple and make it something that you want to do every day. Don't worry if you miss a day, but try not to let more than three go by without playing with your idea.

Patience is key. The things we most seek to change are not often things that happened overnight. It took time to get where you are, and it will take time to get where you are going. Isn't it great that to have the ability to alter your course? Set intentions with kindness and self-respect, and celebrate any opportunity to make changes.

The EFNEP Program is one of many programs offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County (CCE-Chautauqua). CCE-Chautauqua is a subordinate governmental agency with an educational mission that operates under a form of organization and administration approved by Cornell University as agent for the State of New York. It is tax-exempt under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The association is part of the national cooperative extension system, an educational partnership between County, State, and Federal governments. As New York's land grant university Cornell administers the system in this state. Each Cornell Cooperative Extension association is an independent employer that is governed by an elected Board of Directors with general oversight from Cornell. All associations work to meet the needs of the counties in which they are located as well as state and national goals. For more information, call 716-664-9502 or visit our website at www.cce.cornell.edu/chautauqua. Cornell University Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.

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Stephanie Beriso and Olivia Ruiz Win 8th Annual JHS Poetry Out Loud Contest

Article Contributed by

Jamestown Public Schools

Jamestown High School students continue to make poetry their own by memorizing poems and then reciting them in front of an independent panel of judges. On December 19, twenty-six students stood on the JHS stage, in a spotlight, reciting poetry, not for a class, but as part of the National Poetry Out Loud competition. The school-level contest winners were sophomore, Stephanie Beriso and junior, Olivia Ruiz.

"I was a great experience that I really enjoyed," said Stephanie, who recited, "I am Offering This Poem" by Jimmy Santiago Baca. "I felt sincere when I recited my poem and I'm anxious, but excited, to face the next round of competition."

JHS junior, Olivia Ruiz, recited "Spanglish" by Tato Laviera. "Coming from Puerto Rican and Ecuadorian roots, the Hispanic culture has always been a driving force in my life and being able to share it through poetry is a truly priceless opportunity," remarked Ruiz. Competing for the second year in a row, Olivia commented, "I've always been a shy, soft spoken girl but during my three years at JHS, poetry has been a huge asset to my personal growth and self awareness. I have been coached to discover parts of me that I never thought I had, such as Public Speaking. Discovering my love of Poetry Out Loud has brought me a long way, and I can't wait to grow even more because of it."

JHS students are participating in the Poetry Out Loud for the eighth year in a row as part of an exciting resurgence in poetry as an oral art form. The contest, which is open to all JHS students, requires the competitors to memorize a poem from an authorized list. Poetry Out Loud is definitely different from a poetry slam because the students are breathing new life into someone else's words and must use only their voices to make meaning of the words. They are evaluated on physical presence, voice and articulation, dramatic appropriateness, evidence of understanding, overall performance, and accuracy. This year's judges were Simone Sellstrom, Edwin Ramirez, Charlie McKenna and John Twinam.

"Poetry Out Loud helps students master public speaking skills and build self-confidence while analyzing the themes, tone and diction of a wide range of poems," said Public Speaking teacher, Barbi Price. "Studying a poem, making it your own, and then reciting it as a gift to the audience is a richly rewarding experience. This year, the very accomplished contestants interpreted their individual poems in a way that was uniquely heartfelt and poignant."

Courtesy Photo

Stephanie and Olivia are currently memorizing two more poems each before they travel to SUNY Brockport on February 5, 2019 to compete against other winners from schools across Western New York. The top two finishers of that Regional competition will advance to the New York State finals in New York City, and ultimately, to the National Poetry Out Loud competition in Washington DC. Poetry Out Loud is funded by the Poetry Foundation and The National Endowment for the Arts.

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