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Winter Wonderland Reasons to Love Chautauqua County this Winter

Submitted by:
Walt Pickut

Chautauqua County is the perfect winter wonderland!

Lake Erie's wintery gift – nearly 10 feet of the best lake effect snow almost every year – makes Western New York a winter wonderland for snow sports and attractions. From skiing to snowmobiling and from snowshoeing to horse drawn sleigh rides and ice fishing, Chautauqua County is once again in the business of delighting local snow lovers and attracting tourists from across the USA.

And naturally, every school child who knows where to find a decent hill is enjoying this winter's heavy snowfalls, too, whether with a sled, a toboggan, an inner tube or an old garbage can lid. Nearby ski slopes now offer tubing and snowboarding runs for more family appeal, and professional ski instruction for snow bunnies to experts.

Downhill Snow Sports

Alpine skiers say that a good winter in Chautauqua County is an easy match for any of Colorado's best known ski towns.

"We haven't had to make snow since January," said Peek'n Peak Director of Mountain Operations, Brad Gravink, reporting great skiing



Bill Farr, Robert Bertch, and Nolan Farr.
(Photo courtesy of Rich Farr taken between Randolph and Little Valley)

with eight lifts and 27 slopes on a 30- to 50-inch base and packed powder (as of mid-February). "Our lodge, hotels and condos are doing a great business too," Gravink added. He has worked at Peek'n Peak since 1963 when his father built the resort, so Brad knows snow. He predicts an outstanding winter.

Regionally, winter fans usually count on the ski season lasting through late March and early April, especially with state-of-the-art snowmaking equipment and expert grooming

everywhere. Holiday Valley Resort in Ellicottville adds 58 ski slopes in a wide variety of skill classes and 13 lifts to the region's total, along with snowboarding and tubing lanes, and three base lodges and guest rooms. Holiday Valley also lengthens their popular ski season with extensive snow making and grooming systems.

Ellicottville is also home to HoliMont – North America's largest private ski area devoted to family skiing. **Continued on Page 10**

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One of Our Own! Joni Blackman

Article Submitted by
Melinda Centi

"I wouldn't call myself a workaholic, but I'm just short of that. Anything that doesn't get done, I'm the one to take care of it," explained Joni Blackman, Executive Director for the Fenton History Center.

Blackman has been a part of the Fenton staff for over 14 years, beginning her career as a part time bookkeeper that would later evolve into an appointment for Executive Director in 2004. Blackman is a 1977 graduate of Jamestown High School and has attended Allegheny College and most recently, Jamestown Community College in 2002 with a degree in Computer Information Systems.

What Blackman loves most about working in



Joni Blackman, Executive Director for the Fenton History Center.

Jamestown is the close-knit feel of friends and neighbors. "The size of Jamestown is nice. You don't feel like you're a stranger anywhere. If I

broke down on the side of the road, someone would help me, and chances are I'd know them. It's such a great community to be in,"

stated Blackman. Blackman has two daughters, Caitlin, 29, and Christine, 26 who reside in Buffalo. "They grew up with the Fenton, which was great" stated Blackman.

In her free time, Blackman enjoys time with her partner, Dennis Wright who works for BOCES in adult education and is Coordinator for the Family Learning Zone at the Gateway Center. They have been together for over five years and share a passion for horses. Wright owns six horses, two of which, Luke and Lady, are Haflinger Arabs and a special part of Magic Moments Carriages which Wright has run for the past 30 years. They can be seen at events all over the county. Blackman and Wright enjoy going to festivals that Magic Moments Carriages are involved in and being a special part of the community.

As Executive Director at Fenton, Blackman oversees a staff of six individuals, many with over 20 years of experience in special collections and archives at the Fenton History Center. **Continued on Page 5**

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Stephen Carlson visits with second graders from Fletcher Elementary.

JHS Senior, Stephen Carlson, Visits Fletcher 2nd Graders

Article Contributed by
Jamestown Public Schools

“What is your favorite book?” asked a Fletcher Elementary School second grader to JHS Senior Stephen Carlson.

“Where the Red Fern Grows,” said Stephen. “It’s kind of sad but it’s about dogs and I love dogs. Reading is so important. But just as important is that you must do all your work in elementary school so you can succeed in high school and then college.”

Stephen recently visited Fletcher Elementary School second graders to help emphasize the importance of hard work and doing your best everyday.

“Stephen Carlson is the epitome of a role model. He was a great representative to our students,” said Fletcher second grade teacher Shannon Osborne. “There seems to be a disconnect between the elementary schools and the high school. By having high school students talk with elementary students, we are allowing our students to see, and hear, about choices they will soon have. It is important to let the students know that we are all a part of the Jamestown Public School community.”

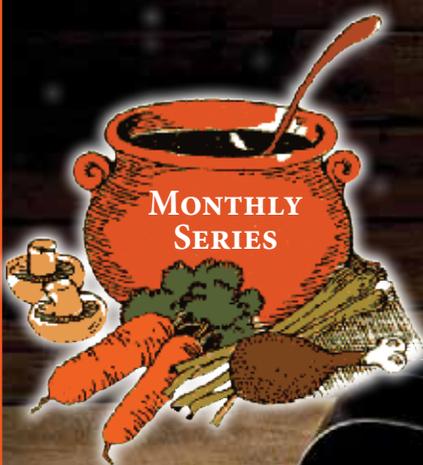
Stephen also believes it’s important to build community. “It is important for the elementary school students to have role models to look up to. It is also important for JHS students to give back to the community and one way we can do that is by helping our younger students succeed. It was really cool to see the student’s reaction and how excited they were to hear from me.”

Stephen talked about school and the importance of studying, listening to teachers, and performing academically. He also talked about having good character traits and always doing the right thing. Stephen stressed the importance of extracurricular activities like athletics, music, student council and volunteering in the local community to help make students well-rounded individuals for college and life.

“The students loved it,” said Mrs. Osborne. “Stephen gave such a strong message on work ethic, obtaining goals and making smart choices. More importantly, he did so in a manner that the students could relate to. He was able to connect his experiences at the high school with our PBIS system at Fletcher School. The students kept coming up with questions to ask even after he left.”

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Editor's Message



Get Lost



The scientific theory I like best is that the rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline luggage. Thank political satirist Mark Russell for that pearl of wisdom.

I guess getting lost isn't usually a good thing. We have a standing joke in my house about "lost." When I can't find something, I'm sure to hear, "Well, it must be someplace!" The only answer to that is to point out that if I ever find "Someplace" I'll be the richest man in the world. If that's where everything winds up, it must be very crowded there by now.

Then look what happened to young Hansel and Gretel, the little brother and sister team who got themselves lost in the deep forest. Eventually they were invited to dinner by a cannibalistic old witch living in a house made out of gingerbread and candy. They only found their way home after roasting that nasty witch in her own oven. Getting lost could get a bad name from things like that.

But sometimes getting lost can be a very good thing.

Sometimes it's the things we love and can't explain that get us lost in wonder, lost in beauty, lost for words that can never quite explain the thing. That's why the Jamestown Gazette invites you outdoors this week to

get lost in our own Winter Wonderland.

Wonder isn't a luxury though. It might even be a necessity. British journalist and poet G. K. Chesterton said, "We are perishing for want of wonder, not for want of wonders."

One of the greatest pleasures of our Chautauqua County winter wonderland – whether you are high up on a snowy slope, a half mile out in the middle of Chautauqua Lake with a tip-up balanced over a hole through a foot of crystal blue ice or bundled up warm with a special friend on a wintry sleigh ride – is simply getting lost in the beauty of it all.

Lost in an enchanted winter landscape, you can be as far from the world's troubles as in a dream, in a time all your own, a time outside of time. It's the kind of lost Henry David Thoreau might have meant when he said, "Not until we are lost do we begin to understand ourselves."

Let your snow shovel be your artist's paint brush this winter. And as always, enjoy the read.

Walt Pickut
Editor
The Jamestown Gazette

Jamestown Gazette

The People's Paper.

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J.F. HillPicture Privateer
Janet Wahlberg.....Finding Your Family
Joanne Tanner.....Down to Earth
Lisa Schmidtfrerick-Miller.....Chaut. Co. Safety Board
Pastor Scott HannonFaith Matters
Pastor Shawn Hannon.....Faith Matters
Vicki McGraw.....Join Me in the Kitchen

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

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Information- info@jamestowngazette.com
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AD DEADLINES: Thursday at 4:00 pm
production@jamestowngazette.com

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Landscape
Feb. 23, 7pm
JCC, 525 Falconer St., Jmst
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Now-March 18
3rd on 3rd Gallery
116 E Third St., Jamestown
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The Warhol Effect Exhibition
Feb. 9-21, 23-28 11am - 3pm
JCC, 525 Falconer St.,
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AUDUBON NATURE

EVENTS:
Feb 16: Snow Camp 9-3
Feb 21: Ducks and Dinner
2pm
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HISTORY:

Fenton History Center
67 Washington St., Jmst
716-664-6256

MOVIES:

Movies at the Reg:
Feb. 18 @ 7pm **Birdman**
Feb 21 @ 8pm & 25 @
7pm: **The Theory of
Everything**
Feb 28 @ 8pm & Mar 4 @
7pm: **Selma**
Mar 7 @ 8pm & Mar 11 @
7pm: **Into The Woods**
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MUSIC:

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Feb 26, 6:30pm-8:30pm
Reg Studio Theater
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Ireland's Caladh Nua
Sun. March 8 @ 7pm
Reg Lenna
Center For The Arts
116 East 3rd Street,
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SEASONAL EVENTS:

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THEATER:

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By Flamenco Vivo-
Carlota Santana-Director
Tue., Feb. 24, 7:30
Reg Lenna Center for the
Arts
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WARREN PA EVENTS:

THEATRE:
STRUTHERS LIBRARY
THEATRE:
Arms and the Man
Feb. 19, 20, 21-8pm
Feb 22-2pm
The Last (Potluck) Supper
Sat. March 7, 8pm
302 West Third Ave.,
Warren PA
814-723-7231

BINGO:

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Pictured are (L to R): Winifred Crawford Dibert Boys & Girls Club of Jamestown Board President Rex McCray, 2014 Exceptional Service to Youth Award recipients Gary Loll and Lori McGowan, and Club Board Vice-President Douglas Nelson.

Boys & Girls Club Recognizes Board Members for Exceptional Service

Article Contributed by
Boys & Girls Club of Jamestown

The Winifred Crawford Dibert Boys & Girls Club of Jamestown recently held its annual dinner and awards program, recognizing board members and officers for their dedication and service to youth.

Board President Rex McCray expressed appreciation for the commitment of time and effort contributed by the entire board serving on committees, fund raisers and in particular with the Club's 75th Anniversary celebrated throughout 2014.

United Way Executive Director Tory Irgang commended the Club board and staff for their dedication to providing essential services for youth and families in our community, and for the organization's 75 years of rich history.

Board officers continuing terms of service in 2015 include President Rex McCray, Vice President Douglas Nelson, Treasurer Edith Bensink and Assistant Treasurer Gary Loll. Christine Melice was recognized and thanked for completion of two terms of service as Club Secretary, and will continue to serve on the board.

Lori McGowan and Gary Loll, each received the Exceptional Service to Youth Award, the local Club's highest honor presented to a board member each year.

President Rex McCray noted that "There was no question that both of these individuals were deserving of this special recognition for 2014. Their efforts, while often in the background and in very different ways, produce incredible results in fund raising and special projects, all to benefit the kids we serve at the Club."

Mrs. McGowan is a child and adolescent psychiatric clinical nurse specialist with Jamestown Pediatric Associates and Mr. Loll is a retired IBM software engineer.

Kristine Brombacher and Rhonda Johnson, each former board members with the organization, were introduced as accepting new terms of service in 2015. In addition to the officers and honorees noted above, board members continuing to serve with the organization are Ronald Basile, Kenneth Brown, Bruce Dudgeon, Carrie Edwards, Richard Farrell, Mark Nelson, JoAnne Ottoson, Tammy Piazza, Timothy Piazza, and Susan Stancombe.

Continued from front Page...

One of Our Own!

Joni Blackman

"Every day is different and there have been some challenges to overcome, but we have a great staff here. They know their stuff." Blackman boasted about her team.

"Most executive directors enjoy making sure the board of directors have direction and follow their lead. You have to be open to everything and make your own decisions to back them up. There's a fine line to balance managing the board while they're your bosses. They do a lot of work and my board is great," Blackman said.

Some of her duties involve development work including fundraising, overseeing and assisting with exhibits, research of history, managing the Fenton History Center website, and marketing most of the events for the

center. One of her latest projects has been putting the Hall House Research Center together with the help of dedicated volunteers and researchers.

Blackman is also Vice President of the Board for the Prendergast Library, along with Vice President for the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau, where she has been a member for the past three years. She works closely with the Renaissance Center involving the Branding Initiative and Jamestown Up Close in the planning department. Her latest project with them involves the history of the Jamestown Riverwalk.

"Jamestown has everything you need. From the friendly people to the changing seasons, it's just a great place to be."



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Edited by Margie E. Burke

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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.

(Answer appears elsewhere in this issue)

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Celebration Planned for International Women's Day

Article Contributed by
AAUW

The Jamestown Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and the Zonta Club of Jamestown will co-host an International Women's Day Celebratory dinner on Friday, March 6th, in the Sarita Weeks Room of the Arts and Science Building on the JCC campus beginning at 6 pm. The celebration is open to the public and will feature a panel of local female elected officials. Reservations can be made by emailing christina.alesia@gmail.com or calling 716-499-0362 before February 27th. Dinner is \$25 per person.

The goal of the program is to help identify, mentor, support and elect more women to local, state and national government. Women's voices and interests continue to be underrepresented on the local and national stage. We need to ensure that viable educated women run for political office and assume a more proactive role in our communities. The gender gap in political engagement has remained stagnant. Statistically, women are less likely to write to their representatives, speak up at town hall meetings, be interested in learning about and discussing politics and run for public office. When women run, they tend to do about as well as men. But they aren't as likely as men to want to run in the first place. It's important to encourage women to pursue an active role in community issues and national policies that impact their lives and those of their families.

Included on the panel will be Nancy Barger, Paula Dejoy, Kimberly Ecklund, Maria Kindberg and Lisa Vanstrom who have all had experience in some form of elected political office. The panel will be an opportunity for guests to understand the joys and challenges of elective service and to ask questions from the participants. We hope to get a better understanding of how women's approach to issues differs from men and why that difference is important in representative government.

The UN General proclaimed March 8 as the UN Day for Women's Rights and International Peace in 1977. The day aimed to help nations worldwide eliminate discrimination against women. It also focused on helping women gain full and equal participation in global development. International Women's Day is held annually on March 8th to celebrate women's achievements.

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. Zonta Club is an international women's service organization dedicated to advancing the status of women locally and globally.

This program is also supported in part by Jamestown Community College and a program grant from AAUW NYS.

If you are interested to learn more about Zonta Club of Jamestown, please visit www.zontajamestown.org.

The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 Decked out
5 Put up with
10 Humdrum
14 Confused state
15 Sculpted form
16 Celeb's wheels
17 Freeze opener
18 Kind of personality
19 Rainbow goddess
20 Arctic sight
22 Curbside buy
24 Proof of purchase
26 Rend
27 Hard to find
29 Neighbor to Norway and Belarus
33 Paint applicators
38 Muscle malady
39 Countless years
40 Fragrant compound
42 Eye up and down
43 Alex Haley saga
45 Magazine for high school girls
47 Do a grand jury's job
49 Make over
50 Invoice stamp
52 Antenna spot
57 Way beyond wacky
61 Still too green
62 Composer's creation
63 Cold War threat
65 Skip over

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69					70						71			

DOWN

1 Parlor piece
2 Jousting weapon
3 Early Mexican
4 Free of frost
5 Union walkout
6 Cargo unit
7 Type of exam
8 Basketry twig
9 Attic window

10 Driver's concern
11 Former Italian coin
12 Surrounded by
13 Firefighting need
21 Well-ventilated
23 Cross to bear
25 Roof support
28 Keyboard key
30 Aromatic herb
31 Atoll component
32 Congregation's cry
33 Rani's garb
34 Lowly laborer
35 Medieval crucifix
36 Italian appetizer
37 End for good
41 Bridge call

44 Car radio button
46 Palindromic time
48 Acrobat's attire
51 "Credit or ___?"
53 "The Road Not Taken" poet
54 Item used in both kitchens and darkrooms
55 Surmise
56 "I Won't Back Down" singer
57 Big name in canned fruits
58 Long story
59 Football play
60 Extinct bird
64 Game piece

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FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA Trivia

1. T/F: In 1989, the Future Farmers of America changed its name to the National FFA Organization.
2. Where was the 80th National FFA Convention held?
3. What are the official colors of the FFA?
4. At which convention was the FFA Creed adopted?
5. How many FFA jackets are manufactured every year?
6. When was the National FFA Foundation, Inc. founded?
7. When is the fiscal year of the organization?
8. Where is the treasurer stationed?
9. Other than the President (and the Chaplain in the Pennsylvania FFA), what officer speaks during closing ceremonies?
10. What order should medals/awards be placed under the name on an FFA jacket.

ANSWERS: (1) False (2) Indianapolis, Indiana (3) National Blue and Corn Gold (4) Third Washington (5) more than 50,000 (6) 1947 (7) September 1 through August 31 (8) by the emblem of (9) Secretary (10) highest degree; highest office; highest award

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Faith Matters

From Ashes to Rehab



Contributing Writer

Pastor Shawn Hannon

Hope Lutheran Church, Arcade, NY

I've never lived in a house built more recently than 1920. Sure there were a few college dorm rooms or apartments along the way, but every place I've ever called home has been home to many people before me. Maybe that's why I'm so drawn to the HGTV Show "Rehab Addict." The host, Nicole Curtis, has a thing for old homes too. But her interest goes far beyond just liking old homes. Nicole likes to see old homes shine like new (although she probably wouldn't use the word 'new' to describe it herself). Each season she takes an old home that hasn't felt love in a long time, and cleans it up, polishes it off, and restores it to its original beauty.

But Nicole's not the only one with a season for making old things new again. This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. It's a day in the church year that starts the beginning of our own season of renewal. We all know what happens to houses when they aren't constantly maintained, but isn't the same true for our personal lives? For our spiritual lives? Dust collects figuratively and literally as our Bibles sit on their shelves. Our spirits feel the stagnant air of complacency. We hide behind the allure of routine while our souls long for God to do something new. Our lives, once fruitful and beautiful and full of life, begin to resemble death. The baptismal water that once marked our new life in Christ is now only recognizable by the water stains from old leaks and traumas. We sit while our facade masks the sin we feel within until it too bears

the marks. And then, to add insult to injury, instead of being told we look great (as we have become so accustomed), we are jarred awake with a harsh reminder as a pastor smears ash on our foreheads proclaiming, "Remember you are dust." And instantly we are aware of how far we have fallen.

But that is not the end. Well, it is the end, sort of, but it's not the end because for us the end is a new beginning. Every house Nicole Curtis rehabbed was on someone else's list to condemn. Every house she restores, many others thought were dust and to dust needed to return. But from the rubble she brought those homes new life, and so too the season of Lent starts by reminding us of our state, but that is not where it leaves us. Through our Lenten disciplines of fasting, almsgiving and prayer we are rehabbed. Layers of paint from years of hiding our pain are stripped only to reveal something more beautiful than we remember. Our builder, our architect, our spiritual designer goes to work on us and makes us shine like new.

Lent is here, and God is a rehab addict. Nicole Curtis famously says, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. These houses... I was that beholder. Where others saw demise and blight, I saw a wonderful house enriched in history and full of handcrafted detail." This Wednesday as you begin your season of Lent, I pray that you may hear God speak those words directly to you. You are beautiful in God's eye. Where others see blight, God only sees a wonderful soul enriched in history and full of his own handcrafted detail. May God make you new, and resurrect you this Easter to a new and more radiant vision of his glory.

For more inspiration and insights from 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.



Pictured, representatives from JSBA, hockey supporters, JSBA figure skaters, heart center and hospital staff and community supporters joined together at a press conference to announce the inaugural 24-Hour JamesHOCKEYtown Ice Hockey extravaganza that will take center rink for 24 straight hours of ice hockey games starting at 7 p.m., February 27, ending February 28 at 7 p.m. To purchase tickets, register for hockey or more information, go to www.jamestownarena.com.

A Pace-Maker Event

*Article Contributed by
WCA Hospital*

Let's team up for 24 hours of ice hockey while joining forces to support local heart care was a statement made during a press conference held at the Jamestown Savings Bank Arena (JSBA) on Friday, January 30, when Brian Cersosimo, JSBA general manager, announced the inaugural 24-Hour JamesHOCKEYtown Ice Hockey extravaganza that will take center rink to support the WCA Heart Center and Kraft Hockeyville for 24 hours of non-stop ice hockey games and family fun for everyone.

To purchase event tickets, register your family, friends and neighbors for a hockey team, or more information, go to <http://www.jamestownarena.com/24-hour-hockey.html>. A portion of the proceeds will benefit new heart technology at the WCA Heart Center.

The event, scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, February 27th, and continue non-stop through Saturday, February 28th at 7 p.m., will be held in conjunction with Kraft Hockeyville, an annual competition sponsored by Kraft Foods, the National Hockey League and the NHL Players' Association in which communities are invited to compete to show their commitment to the sport of ice hockey. Chautauqua County residents are encouraged to go on-line and nominate the local rink at krafthockeyville.com and vote Jamestown Savings Bank Arena their community rink for hockey.

"No matter your age, young or old, this first-time hockey spectacular is sure to be a big crowd pleaser," Brian Cersosimo, supporting team owner of the Xpress Southern Tier Hockey team said. "We will wow the crowds with non-stop ice hockey that starts at 6:30 p.m. February 27th with a ceremonial puck drop to kick off the opening game and end at 7 p.m. Saturday, February 28th with a closing ceremony that will bring 24 hours of straight hockey to a close.

A portion of proceeds from event will support the WCA Heart Center. "February is American Heart Month and we thought this would be a natural fit to use this event opportunity to raise awareness of heart disease," said Brian who was treated at the WCA Heart Center. "I lost my Dad two weeks ago to heart disease and my wife passed away at a very young age to the same illness. She was too young to worry about heart disease. A heart survivor myself, I understand the importance of raising community awareness that by adopting simple lifestyle changes and recognizing the early signs and symptoms of a heart attack we can live a long heart healthy life. This event is a chance for us to bring two incredible establishments together that, among others, is the life blood and heart of this community."

State Assemblyman, Andy Goodell, and Chautauqua County Executive, Vince Horrigan, echoed the sentiments of Brian Cersosimo during the press conference by expressing their excitement for what will unfold at the end of February. "When I listen to the pulse of this community, I keep hearing how important our local hospital is and how great an asset our rink is to this community," said Andy Goodell. "I am really looking forward to this event to be a real pace-maker occasion."

Attendees and hockey enthusiasts alike will experience a whole host of family-fun activities during the 24 hours of skating. "We are planning a fabulous program of fun activities that will keep everyone entertained and amused," added Brittany Mason, Director of Ticket Operations and Guest Services at the ice rink. "On the list of fun times, is a go red for women fashion show; Guys and Dolls will hold dance lessons; stand-up comedians will captivate audiences; and basket raffles, 50/50s and countless other fund-raisers will support your local hospital. You won't want to miss out! For a \$10 entrance ticket, you can enjoy 24 hours of round-the-clock, fun and entertainment that supports a really great cause!"

Guest physician at the press conference, Dr. James Cirbus, board-certified cardiologist, WCA Heart Center medical director, and team owner of the Xpress Southern Tier Hockey team, talked about the care at the WCA Heart Center and how the hospital serves the region with comprehensive heart services. "If you know anything about healthcare, you realize it's not an easy business to operate a hospital; it takes a lot just to break-even. These types of fund-raisers are necessary and I think it's tremendous that the hospital and the arena can come together collectively to raise money to support our heart center."

The Arena staff is making a strong plea for community residents to register for Kraft Hockeyville's contest. The winner of the Kraft Hockeyville contest will host an NHL pre-season game at their arena. "You don't have to attend the event to show America that you really love hockey," Brian pleaded. "Simply log onto www.krafthockeyville.com nominate the Jamestown Savings Bank Arena your community ice rink and voice your enthusiasm for ice hockey."

Limited team spots are available for hockey teams; register at jamestownarena.com today! For questions or more information contact JSBA or email brian.cersosimo@jamestownarena.com. To co-sponsor or make a donation in support of the event, contact Megan D'Angelo, WCA Director of Development, at (716) 664-8423 or Sherry Hutley, Director of Sales at JSBA at (716) 484-2624.

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St Luke's Blue Bag Donations Assist Local Agencies

Article Contributed by
St Luke's Episcopal Church

Each Sunday at the end of the 10 o'clock service at St Luke's Episcopal Church, the Deacon dismisses the congregation with the words "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!" Those words were taken quite literally one recent Sunday, as a group of parishioners formed a procession – 30 people strong – that carried 40 bags of donated items out the door, across the street and into the foyer of the YWCA's offices on North Main Street.

"The YWCA Transitional Housing program was the happy recipient of St. Luke's 'Blue Bag' donations for the month," explained Executive Director Beth Oakes, who led the procession from the church to her office. "The parishioners collected many health and beauty items as well as notebooks and pens for the residents. These are items that are not in our budget and are very much needed and appreciated." Oakes had attended the Sunday service as a show of the YWCA's appreciation of the parish's generosity and was very happy to be a part of the dramatic example that the physical donation expressed. "St Luke's is a great neighbor!" she added.

This new ministry began last fall after a box of blue reusable shopping bags was discovered, left from a previous project. The Rev Luke Fodor, Rector of St Luke's, says that when the bags were found he knew immediately what to do with them. "My previous church had a monthly collection of non-perishable foods for the local food pantry," he explains. "Coincidentally, the bags that we used to



collect the donations were blue. It only seemed appropriate that we use our bags for the same purpose – thus St Luke's 'Blue Bag Ministry' was formed." St Luke's had previously collected items for donation once a month, but this new shopping bag theme gave them the opportunity to spread their community outreach to a larger audience.

Each month the church selects a different organization to be the recipient of the parish's donations. A list of items representing needs specific to the organization's clients is composed and placed inside each shopping bag. On the second Sunday the children of the Church School distribute the bags to interested parishioners, who are then asked to by a few of the things from the list and return the bags the following week. On the third week of each month the children bring the filled bags forward to be blessed at the Offertory. After the service, volunteers take the donations to the receiving organization.

Project coordinators Cáitlín O'Reilly and Rose Papalia organize the monthly donations by soliciting recipients, generating the lists and organizing the distribution. Both women, along with former co-coordinator Hope Hill, who recently relocated to North Carolina with her family, got involved with the project after a ministry fair that was held last fall. Ms. O'Reilly, a musician and licensed Music Therapist also wrote the "Blue Bag Processional", a song that is sung when the bags are brought to the altar.

"To me, the Blue Bag Ministry is just the beginning of what I believe St. Luke's can bring to our community," said Ms. O'Reilly. "When I began attending St. Luke's I had been seeking a community of ordinary people who believe in inclusivity, honor diversity, and who want to do the extraordinary. This particular ministry can lead us to cooperative endeavors between local agencies and religious organizations... we can join together

to demonstrate love in a tangible way, no strings attached and no exceptions."

Ms. Papalia agrees. "Having attended St. Luke's for almost a year now, I am quite taken with the way the congregation is so giving, loving and thoughtful of the community" she states. "It's been overwhelming, the joy with which the people in the church have taken to this mission. The sheer amount of goods brought forward every 3rd Sunday is amazing. It feels SO good to be able to deliver these things to the organizations. Its like, 'Look! Look at how we care for you!' That's what I love about this church."

In addition to the YWCA, several area agencies have been the beneficiaries of the 'Blue Bag' ministry since its inception last fall, including the First Covenant Food Pantry, Salvation Army Anew Center, Chautauqua County Humane Society, and Toys for Tots. The Union Gospel Mission, the Chautauqua Striders, the Princess Club, and Christ First Food Pantry are among those scheduled in the coming months. Suggestions for donation recipients are welcomed and appreciated by the project coordinators.

St Luke's Episcopal Church is located at 410 North Main Street (corner of North Main and Fourth), Jamestown, NY. To suggest an organization to be a recipient of donations from the Blue Bag Ministry please call 716-483-2876, or email stluke@netsync.net For more information about St Luke's other offerings please visit their website: www.stlukejamestown.org.

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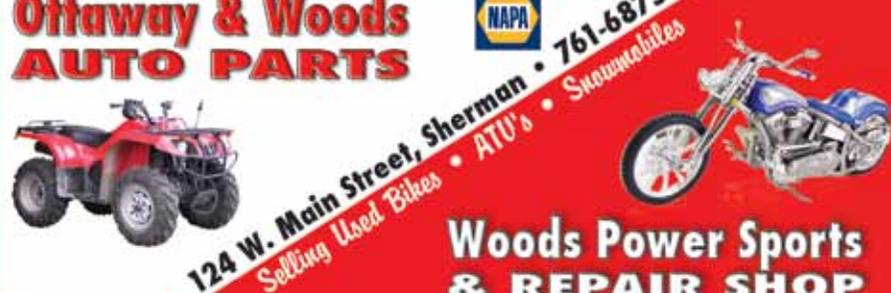
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Continued from front Page...



Vince, Hunter, and Mike Prinzbach ice fishing on Chautauqua Lake in Mayville.

Winter Wonderland

Whether natural or machine made, groomed snow blankets 700 vertical feet of slopes with eight lifts on more than 50 trails and on their Terrain Parks. On weekdays, HoliMont also welcomes non-members and groups.

The Great Lakes Seaway Trail

Chautauqua County's snowmobile trails are part of the more than 2700 miles of trails that make up the Great Lakes Seaway Trail running through 11 counties in New York's Chautauqua-Allegheny, Greater Niagara, Finger Lakes, and 1000 Islands-Seaway regions and Pennsylvania's Erie County.

Snowmobile Clubs

"January and February have been great for snowmobiling," said Don Cornell, president of the 100+ member Lake Effect Trailbreaker Club in Sinclairville. "We had a little melt in mid-February, making it hard to groom, but the temperature is back down now and there's more snow, so come on out and enjoy the trails." Cornell added that 90 percent of the grooming is done from 2am to 10am. "That shows you how dedicated the clubs are," he said. Two Trailblazer trailheads are located in Gerry and one in Kennedy.

Chautauqua County is home to more than 450 miles of snowmobile trails, one of the most extensive trail systems anywhere in the United States. They are groomed cooperatively by five snowmobile clubs with a total of almost 3,400 family memberships, 5,800 people, and more than 5,300 snowmobiles throughout the county. See page XX for all five Chautauqua County snowmobile clubs.

Across the Chautauqua County, between 150 and 200 private land owners cooperate with the clubs to allow their land to be used by snowmobilers and cross country skiers. Dedicated sledders use 16 full-size, mechanized groomers to maintain safe and smooth riding conditions. Much of the grooming is overseen by the more than 2,300 member Chautauqua Lake Snowmobile Club (CLSC). Public parking for CLSC is at Lakeside Park in Mayville, another popular trailhead for access to the trail system.

In addition to private, open farm fields, many trails follow old railroad beds, former trolley lines, heavily wooded areas and seasonal roads. Along the trailheads, service stations, restaurants and accommodations provide convenient access to amenities.

Snowmobile trail groomers also report that well kept trails become a vital lifeline for wildlife at times of unusually deep snow cover

when inability to travel and forage for food become life threatening limitations.

Safety and Courtesy First

"Stay between the stakes!" Mike Logan, president of the Sunset Drifters Snowmobile Club in Sheridan said. He was expressing a critical "rule of the road" expressed by all responsible snowmobilers in New York who want to keep the privilege and enjoyment of the sport alive. "Private landowners," Logan explained, "generous enough to allow use of their property, deserve to have their land respected."

Every groomed trail – also open to cross country skiers – is well marked with tall, colorful easy to see stakes. A single off-trail excursion can misdirect later riders and skiers onto private property and off safe trails. That is trespassing and dangerous and can lead to eviction for all future snowmobilers and skiers.

Cross Country Trails

Cross country skiing and snow shoeing follow many of the snowmobile trails throughout the county. In addition, dedicated trails through forests, open fields and meadows are maintained at Long Point State Park, Lake Erie State Park, Chautauqua Gorge State Forest, The West Side Overland Trail, Chautauqua Institution and the Jamestown Audubon Center. Evergreen Outfitters in Ashville offers guided snowshoe hikes planned around weather conditions.

Old Fashioned Sleigh Rides

Chautauqua Institution offers a nostalgic 45 minute bobsled ride through the historic grounds. Sleigh rides are offered on Saturdays and Sundays throughout January and February and run every half hour from 1 pm to 3 pm. Tickets are available at the Chautauqua Bookstore on Bestor Plaza.

Ice Fishing

Chautauqua County offers nearly 14,000 acres of outstanding ice fishing on six lakes, Chautauqua, Bear, Findley and the upper, middle and lower Cassadaga lakes. Walleye, pike, perch and many other species of game and pan fish offer the dedicated ice fisher great entertainment, good sport and the company of other enthusiasts of Chautauqua County's Winter Wonderland. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation website, <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/S0474.html>, gives all the details.



Les Johnson, owner of Hollyloft, snowshoe tromp.



Bev and Bob Lennon and family on the Rails-to-Trails.

Chautauqua County Snowmobile Clubs

1. Chautauqua Lake Snow Mobile Club
www.chautauquasnow.com
 2. Lake Effect Trailbreakers
www.trailbreakers.com
 3. Sunset Drifters
www.sunsetdrifters.net
 4. Ellery Sno-Cruisers
www.ellerysno-cruisers.org
 5. Cherry Creek Sno Goers
www.cherrycreeksnogoers.com
- Chautauqua County Trail Conditions:
800.242.4569, press 2 then 5



Jamestown High School Senior Zac Ricker

JHS Senior Zac Ricker Wins WNY Regional Poetry Out Loud Competition

Article Contributed by
Jamestown Public Schools

Poetry recitation is a competitive event as old as the Olympic Games. Along with wrestling, long-distance running, and the javelin toss, the ancient Olympics included contests in music and poetry. Jamestown High School has long been known for its award-winning music, championship sports, and accelerated academic programs, but now it looks as though it's on its way to becoming a "poetry powerhouse," as well!

In December, nineteen JHS students recited poems before an independent panel of judges in the JHS auditorium. Students were evaluated on physical presence, voice and articulation, dramatic appropriateness, level of difficulty, evidence of understanding, overall performance, and accuracy during their poetry recitation. Two JHS winners, Chiara Raimondo and Zac Ricker, headed to Buffalo to compete against other regional high school winners.

JHS Senior, Zac Ricker, won the Western New York Regional Poetry Out Loud competition at Erie Community College with his recitation of "Broken Promises" by David Kirby, "A March in the Ranks Hard-pressed" by Walt Whitman, and "Aria" by David Barber.

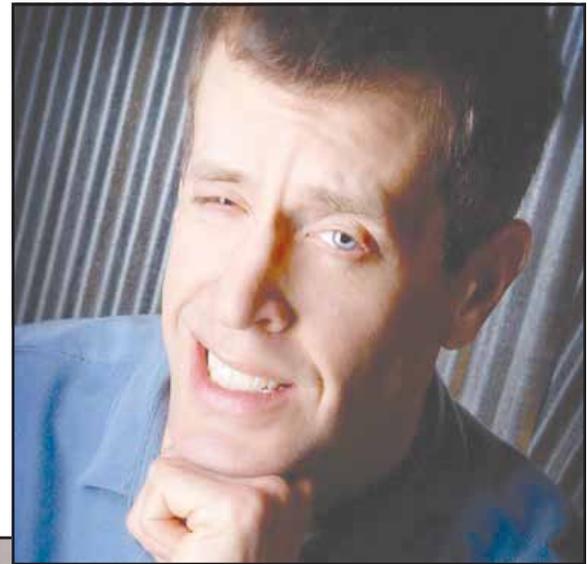
"I became involved in Poetry Out Loud through my JHS College-Level Public Speaking class, taught by Mrs. Price," said Zac. "I had never done anything like this before, but I found that I learned more about poetry, and I also realized that all

the arts have a similar relationship. I play the piano and am involved in the JHS musical. While doing so, I must make artistic choices based on how I want people to perceive the music; that is paralleled in poetry, too. By emphasizing certain words or changing my inflection, I can breathe life into a poem's story. It's been such a valuable experience."

On March 9, he will travel to Syracuse, New York with his English/ Public Speaking teacher, Barbi Price, to compete for the New York State Poetry Out Loud title. The winner of the New York State contest will then proceed to the National Finals at George Washington University in Washington DC, where the winner receives \$25,000.00.

"Zac's growth in vocal variation and dramatic performance has been tremendous," said Mrs. Price. "Part of the fun of Poetry Out Loud is seeing the students blossom as public speakers. Not only do they learn more about the beauty of poetry, but they also gain valuable skill and confidence that transfer to other activities and real-life experiences."

The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation have partnered with state arts agencies to create Poetry Out Loud, a program which invites the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word, and theater into JHS English classes. Poetry Out Loud helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage. Students who study, memorize, and perform timeless poems are immersed in powerful language and provocative ideas.



Stu McCallister



Mary Santora

Stu McCallister to Headline the JSBA's Final Stand-Up Comedy Show of the Season

Article Contributed by
Jamestown Savings Bank Arena

The Wits & Giggles Stand-Up Comedy Series will have its final show of the season on Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday night will feature comedian Stu McCallister's first performance in Jamestown, NY with Mary Santorum returning to open.

Stu McCallister has been doing comedy for 8 years where he frequents colleges, comedy clubs, comedy festivals, and bars. McCallister draws humor from his life, such as his inadequacies in the dating world, how tough his name was for him as a child, his physical appearance, and owning way too many cats. He has been featured on a morning radio show in Grand Rapids, MI and part of the group Comics for Hire. McCallister's humor is a bit off-kilter, a bit weird, but a lot of funny. Mary Santora will be returning to Jamestown

to perform the opening act. Santora, is a fresh breath of femininity in the typically testosterone-packed comedy scene. Within a relatively short period of time, Santora has quickly become a fan favorite in the Mid-West with her observational, fast pace comedic style and natural charm.

The show will follow the final Southern Tier Xpress home hockey game of the regular season. The Xpress will take on the Metro Jets at 5:00 p.m. on DFT Communications Arena A and will provide a full night of entertainment for the community.

The performances will be held upstairs in the Bud Light Arena Club where food and drink will be available. Tickets for the comedy shows will be \$10 presale and \$12 day of show. Tickets can be purchased online at jamestownarena.com, by phone at 716.484.2624, or at the Landmark Chevrolet Box Office inside the arena.



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New Website Launched

Article Contributed by
**Jamestown Babe Ruth World
Series Committee, Inc.**

The Jamestown Babe Ruth World Series Board of Directors announces the launch of the official website containing details of the upcoming 13 Year Old World Series celebrating the 35th Anniversary of the first 13 Year Old World Series held here in Jamestown in 1980. The website includes information about the organization, the history of the World Series here in Jamestown, the dates and details of the event, announcements, and applications. Jamestown will be the host of the 13 Year Old World Series from August 15th - 22nd at Russell Diethrick Park. We are looking for all former participants and volunteers to celebrate this special anniversary. In addition the website contains

information and applications about becoming a Hostess and/or Host Family Ambassador. Please visit us at www.jamestownworldseries.org. The website is hosted and maintained by Earth Spark. In addition we are active on Facebook at Jamestown BRWS and Twitter @JamestownBRWS.

In addition, the Babe Ruth World Series Committee is pleased to announce the official photographer has been named. We are honored to have Dana Nordlund Photography as our official photographer for all World Series events. Dana Nordlund is a resident of Frewsburg, NY and has received various awards for his work in addition to serving as an educator in the field of photography. He is a Certified Professional Photographer and is looking forward to capturing the images for this series. Additional information on Dana can be found at www.dananordlund.com.

I ♥ my hometown!

What I love about Jamestown:

by: Susan Chiz Berenguer

Jamestown has been changing over the 22 years since I moved here and started EmSpace Technology Consulting. I've seen lots of new businesses and services open. On the other hand, we're fortunate to have businesses that "stand the test of time," and carry on through generations. Many of them are using social media and the internet in general as integral parts of their business. I find this very encouraging, as I like to "buy local" as much as possible. Finding out more about them and the events and history of the area has become much easier.

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First Years Storytime Has Openings



Everly Vezina, 2, enjoys books and stuffed animals with Library Assistant Claire Certo. Grandma Pam Shilling brought her for her initial visit to First Years Storytime, which meets at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays at Prendergast Library, 509 Cherry St., Jamestown. Activities are designed for children ages from 0 to 3 and caregivers. New participants are welcome.

SPORTS with BILL BURK

The Vus 2



Contributing Writer
Bill Burk

Déjà vu, literally translated means “seen before”. *Jamais-vu* means “never seen”, and *Presque Vu* means “almost seen”.

But we already discussed that.

There are pockets of memory I navigate as I walk into gymnasiums these days. They mingle with reality and memory and promise. I go to gymnasiums I’ve visited in antiquity (that’s what it feels like) to watch a son and a daughter play high school basketball. The smells (wooden and leathery, sweaty and occasionally popcorny), the lights, so often darker than they should be (fresh gymnasium lighting systems are almost always bottom-feeders on school budgets), and the sounds (the ring of balls bouncing and glancing off rims and glass, over-loud music that my kids might recognize, but not me, blared over tinny, inadequate speakers) are deeply familiar, almost personal.

It’s the smell and the sounds that are the most potent. I could close my eyes and use sound and smell to see this place, both in the present and the past; I could not shut off my ears and olfactory and do the same.

I’m not alone, there are plenty of parents with me, but I am maybe a little unique in that my kids play for my alma mater, on teams I used to suit up for (my son anyways). In Chautauqua County there seem to be a lot of legacies making names for themselves, daughters and sons of high-schoolers past (the “peaked in high school” Rob Lowe?), and no shortage of moms and dads who remember the gyms and the uniforms, and, hell, more than a few of the officials. It is a unique challenge to keep perspective, at least for me.

Many of us, in *Déjà vu*, can see ourselves clearly in warm-ups, pre-game on the bench, sitting nervously for player announcements in shorts not quite as baggy. I’m starting to revisit that world, electricity running through my neural pathways, down hallways of my mind right beside older, and dustier wings of my memory-mansion where I lived those experiences; the sweat, the nerves, and the pent-up excitement. It is slightly unsettling, and, frankly mentally exhausting. Last week, four games in four nights.

If there are like ten stages of grief, I count my own seven of the Vu’s. I navigate them weekly:

1. Marvel at the phenomenon. As Yogi Berra said, “It’s like Déjà vu all over again.”
2. Try to remember where I’ve seen this before.
3. Realize that, short of time travel doppelganger appearance, this is a unique experience.
4. Wonder if I’m mainlining my dad’s memories, somehow chemically, wirelessly synched up with his “cloud”. Am I seeing through his eyes in this bleacher? Is that me on that court?
5. Look around for somebody to tell.
6. Realize no one would believe me.
7. Find an anchor to reality. This is me, older. I am my dad sitting and watching and hoping for the best, but that’s not me down there. Those are my children; my daughter, my son, living their own special lives, learning their own lessons, playing their games.

I don’t know about other parents, but there is something surreal, maybe magical, about watching your child play sports.

I know it’s the same on some level for other performance venues, as my children have done their fair share of band and choir concerts, but there is something different for a sports fan to see their prodigies with a ball in their hands (with apologies to parents with a child who has the lead in the play, or a solo recital, or whatever talent presents itself to the point that a parent is sitting in the audience while their child performs with critical eyes on them).

For me the experience is a snow-ball of the ‘Vus; I live their moments as something I’ve seen before. I marvel at what they do, things I’ve never seen, as they create their own experiences decidedly novel from my past. As a reader of sports, and someone who has an idea how this chapter of the story ends, I revel in their potential, the myriad of possibilities of the person they might become, their future that I can almost see.

Stick around and I’ll explain.

To read more of Bill Burk’s reflections, astute observations and a rant or two on the wide world of sports, visit www.jamestowngazette.com and click on Bill Burk’s page. The Jamestown Gazette is proud to present our county’s most creative and original writers for your enjoyment and enlightenment.

SPORTS with CODY CRANDALL

Bills Begin Rex Ryan Era by Signing Troubled Guard Richie Incognito



Contributing Writer
Cody Crandall

Several weeks ago, I mentioned that Rex Ryan stated during his introductory press conference as the new coach of the Buffalo Bills that he wanted to turn the Bills into a “bully.” He wants the Bills to be a team that opposing teams don’t want to play for 60 minutes. In order to be an intimidating football team, physicality is a must. You could argue that on the defensive side of the football the Bills are already one of the leagues most physical defenses. However, the Buffalo Bills recently took a big step in becoming more physical on offense by signing offensive guard Richie Incognito.

Incognito could possibly fill a major need for the Bills on the offensive line, which was one of the weaker aspects of the team this past season. Throughout his career, Incognito has played for the St. Louis Rams, Miami Dolphins, and he also had a brief stint with the Bills in 2009. He has started 102 games in his career, and made the Pro Bowl in 2012. But, many consider the signing of Incognito somewhat of a risk for the Bills, and here is why.

Incognito didn’t play at all during the 2014 season. A huge part of this was because he was at the center of a bullying investigation while he

was playing for the Miami Dolphins in 2013. I feel like this is what a lot of fans think of when they here Incognito’s name. He has also been known to have trouble controlling his emotions on the field at times. From numerous headbutting penalties, verbal abuse of game officials, chop block penalties, and several more unnecessary roughness penalties, he has really done it all. This is why Incognito is such a huge liability for any team. It’s a shame because he has the potential to be very good.

It was reported that before Incognito signed with the Bills he sat down with the owners of the team, Terry and Kim Pegula, Ryan and general manager Doug Whaley. Many different media outlets including Pro Football Talk and ESPN stated that Incognito told the Bills he has changed for the better after not playing last season. Personally, I really hope this is the case because I feel like he can really help this team. Hopefully he is in a better place, and hopefully he keeps the bad penalties and off-the-field drama to a minimum during his time in Buffalo. It would be nice to see his play on the field do the talking once the 2015 season gets under way.

If the Bills make any other notable moves or signings during the off-season, I will be reporting on those as well. Go Bills!

Cody Crandall is an intern at the Jamestown Gazette. To read more of his insights, commentaries, and news about the world of sports and the Jamestown Jammers, visit www.jamestowngazette.com. The Jamestown Gazette is proud to present our county’s most creative and original writers for your enjoyment and enlightenment.

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FAST TRACK TO FITNESS with CAROLYN WILCOX

Not All Calories are Equal



Contributing Writer
Carolyn Wilcox

We are nearly two months into 2015 and only 35 days until Spring! Soon it will be time to shed our winter coats and flab and enjoy all the wonderful outdoor activities the warmer weather allows.

We can make a huge transformation to our bodies in as little as four weeks by committing to a minimum of five mixed work outs a week and mindful clean eating. Remember 3,500 calories equal one pound of fat, and aim to lose no more than two pounds a week for true, long-term overall fat loss. Rather than set yourself up for failure by dieting, let's look at how you can make a significant reduction to overall body fat by understanding the basic breakdown of your daily food intake.

The three macronutrients your body needs daily are: carbs, protein and fats. They provide calories, or energy. Nutrients are needed for your body's growth, metabolism and other body functions. Carbohydrates and protein provide four calories per gram, and fat provides nine calories per gram. The only other substance that provides calories is alcohol, which provides seven calories per gram. Alcohol isn't a macronutrient because your body doesn't need alcohol to survive; although some people may disagree with this. In addition to macronutrients our bodies also need six to eight glasses

of water per day, plus micronutrients which include our daily vitamins and minerals.

Do not drop below 1200 calories per day unless instructed by a Doctor or registered Dietician. The dietary reference intakes published by the USDA recommends daily: 45% to 65% carbs, 10% to 35% protein and 20% to 35% healthy Fat. Fats are essential in helping us to absorb Vitamins A, D, E, K and carotenoids. It is recommended that daily fiber intake is around 10% of total carbs; cholesterol per day to less than 300mg, or 200mg if you have heart issues; sodium less than 2300mg per day; sugar 25g (6 tsp.) for women, 37g (9 tsp.) for men.

It is important to take these guidelines into consideration when setting up your profile in your fitness and food APPs. Every individual will have different needs depending on level of fitness activities and whether they need to burn belly fat, increase their weight, build lean muscle, pre- or post-pregnancy, diabetic and other illness, etc. Please always check with your doctor when in doubt.

A combination of cardio, strength and aerobic exercise at least five times per week plus the right balance of macronutrients for you will greatly assist in achieving your ideal weight and body shape by spring!

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The Jamestown Gazette is currently seeking a creative graphic designer that has layout skills to be a part of our team.

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National FFA Week February 21-28, 2015

Supporting our local FFA members in their efforts to educate young people with the important practice of agriculture

Future Farmers of America Chautauqua County's Future

Article Contributed by
Jamestown Gazette Staff

Future Farmers of America (FFA) say agriculture is more than planting and harvesting — it is a science. Chautauqua County FFA members, young people looking forward to agriculture as a career say it is also both a business and an art. Their purpose is to prepare future generations for the challenges of feeding a growing nation. Founded in 1928 by a group of young farmers, it is now one of the largest youth organizations in the United States, with more than 600,000 members in nearly 7,700 chapters nationwide. In the 21st Century FFA describes its members as “America’s future biologists, future chemists, future veterinarians, future engineers, future entrepreneurs and future civic leaders.”

According to NY State Assemblyman Andrew Goodell, addressing the State Assembly in Albany concerning the county’s FFA members, “Chautauqua County is home to a vibrant mix of agricultural industries. They are a very important part of our economy, from dairy farms in the southern half of the county to the vineyards in the northern half, Chautauqua County helps set the pace for New York’s agricultural economy. These young farmers are our future and their skills and talents will help us continue to be among the top producing counties in New York State.”

New York State Senator Catherine Young has said of the FFA program, “These students are learning extremely valuable lessons that will enable them to be agricultural professionals. “It is always important that we continue to ensure New York’s commitment to its agriculture industry, now and in the future. Without the hard work of these young people and groups like the FFA,” Senator Young added, “our agricultural roots would slowly disappear,”

Both Senator Young and Assemblyman Goodell were named last year to the New York State Farm Bureau’s “Circle of Friends” in recognition of their strong support for agriculture. Learn more about FFA at <https://www.ffa.org>.

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St. Susan Center Hosts February Soup and a Song

Article Contributed by

St. Susan Center

On Saturday, February 21st, Jamestown's St. Susan Center will host the second of three "Soup and A Song" events, a program combining popular local musical groups and a great dinner. Guests will be treated not only to an evening of live musical entertainment, but a meal consisting of specialty soups created by The Dinner Bell in Frewsburg and the Kitchen staff at St. Susan Center. Guests will have the choice of 5 different soups as well as various breads, desserts and beverages.

The evening's entertainment will be provided by Four His Glory, a Christian musical group from the Busti Church of God. Executive Director Jeffrey Smith says, "We are blessed to have Four His Glory performing at St. Susan Center. Our winter events are a great evening out. Music and food are the best way to beat the winter blues." All the proceeds from the events will benefit St. Susan Center, which is in its 31st year of service to the Jamestown community.

The Soup and A Song events will be held at St. Susan Center located at 31 Water Street. The public will be admitted beginning at 6:00 pm, with the entertainment beginning shortly after and playing until 8pm. Tickets are only \$10.00 and available at the door.

WHINE OF THE WEEK!

No Complaints?

I am so tired of people who complain about anything and everything. And when there's nothing on hand to complain about, they worry about everything else. What a bore! Today, I'm complaining about the complainers who don't like this winter weather. I saw somebody actually curse at a slow snow plow driver.

It takes a moron to do that. Nobody deserves more thanks this year than those hard working guys. So, complainers, knock it off and thank somebody who deserves it.
Happy Valentine's Day!



Contributed by:
Begonia Payne-Diaz

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

Solution to Sudoku

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



3rd Annual Strides for My Mind 5K Wellness Run/Walk

Article Contributed by
**Chautauqua County
Department Of Mental Hygiene**

On Saturday, May 2, 2015, the 3rd Annual Strides for My Mind 5K Wellness Run/Walk will take place at 9:30 a.m. on the campus of Jamestown Community College at 525 Falconer Street in Jamestown.

The walk is being put on through the collaboration of Chautauqua Tapestry, the Department of Mental Hygiene through an Early Identification and Recognition Grant, Compeer Chautauqua and the Jamestown Community College Student Senate. The partnership came out of the groups' common goal to promote awareness of the importance of mental wellness during May which is Children's Mental Health Awareness Month.

The race will begin in front of the student union building of the JCC campus and will follow a mapped out route through Falconer. Registration and race packet pick-up will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Carnahan building with runners beginning at 9:30 a.m. and walkers at 9:45 a.m. Registration for the 5K can be done either online at <http://www.racesonline.com/events/strides-for-my-mind-5k-wellness-run-walk> or by mail by sending in a paper form along with payment to Compeer, Attention: Jann Ball, 97 Forest Ave., Jamestown, NY 14701. Paper registrations can be found and printed off at the Races Online site. Early bird registration is available for \$20 for anyone who completes an online registration by April 25, 2015. Those who register using the paper registration form or register online after April 25 will pay a registration fee of \$25. Participants under 12 years old can register

for free. The first 100 people registered will get a free t-shirt. Awards will be given to the top 3 overall males and females, and the top 3 in standard 5 year age groups according to gender.

"Last year's race was very successful and we knew we had to continue growing the event for this year," said Victoria Patti, Early Identification and Recognition Specialist. "This year we again have the privilege of working with the Jamestown Community College Student Senate. The partnership that was created with student leaders has strengthened our work. Having the support of the students at JCC enhances our efforts and will improve our outcomes. The race will be held early in May this year to bring awareness to May being National Children's Mental Health Awareness Month and to capitalize on the fact that school will still be in session. We are looking forward to another great year and hope to see both returning racers and brand new ones."

There will also be a wellness fair that will have various agencies and vendors with wellness information, products and/or services. The wellness fair will begin after the runners and walkers return and will continue until the results are tabulated and the awards are presented to the winning racers. The goal of the event is to generate awareness that mental wellness and physical wellness are of equal importance in everyone's life.

For more information on the event visit "Strides for My Mind 5K" on Facebook. Businesses or organizations interested in sponsoring the event or participating at the wellness fair should contact Ann Rosenthal by phone at (716) 753-4516 or by email at RosenthalA@co.chautauqua.ny.us

EYE ON BUSINESS



Brett Hanson, President of Hanson Sign.

Hanson Sign Companies

Article Contributed by
Julia Eppehimer

Walking into the lobby at 82 Carter St. in Falconer, it might be hard to decide what company is housed here. Signs for bagel companies and insurance companies, restaurants and churches hang on the wall; a colorful menagerie of the work produced here. This is Hanson Sign Companies, a wholesale provider of signage for businesses across the country.

"As we're driving through town, we point and say, 'That's our sign! We did that one!'" Brett Aversa, president of Hanson Signs Companies, said with a smile. "I was in Dallas last week... and I did see some signs that we sent down there, so that was kind of neat."

Chances are, most people in America have seen their work. "Our biggest national account is Edward Jones," Brett explained. "We've been doing that for about 15 years." Other big companies they've worked for include ADT, H&R Block and Farmer's Insurance. Searching through the photo gallery on their website, many more recognizable names can be found, including the Disney company.

"We have a national presence," Brett said. "I call us a big small company. It's nice for the area to have someone that has national accounts because you get a little bit of national exposure. It lets us see the rest of the country...to see what the rest of the world is doing compared to what we're doing here."

Hanson Sign Companies is certainly an asset to the local community. When Brett's father Gene Aversa bought the company from the Hanson brothers in 1988, he took the small company on Prendergast St. and, as Brett puts it, "he expanded the heck out of it." Gene increased their yearly revenues to 40 times the original value, and brought on the first of the national accounts.

Gene was working with several small companies in Jamestown at the time, helping them get started with their businesses. He contracted the Hanson brothers to produce some signs for the businesses, and was impressed with

their work. He knew the opportunity for something bigger was here.

Gene bought the company that Bob and Jack Hanson had started in 1949, bringing his son Brett on for some part time work while he studied at JCC. "About 5 years later," Brett said, "Gene bought a portion of a wholesale manufacturing company called Tri-State... From that endeavor we began the switch from retail to wholesale."

The company moved down to Falconer in 1997, where they had room for the multiple expansions they would undergo over the years. The most recent expansion involved adding channel letters to their product lines this past year. They now have seven main product lines available, including illuminated signs, channel letters, carving, sand blasting, routing, vacuum forming and thermal forming.

When national businesses like Edward Jones need a sign, they go to retail sign companies. Those retail sign companies contact Hanson Sign Companies, a wholesale manufacturer. Hanson produces the signs and sends them to the retail sign company, which will then install the sign. "We'll produce their signs for them," Brett explained.

Nationally, they work as a wholesale manufacturer, producing the signs, but not dealing directly with the companies. Locally however, they do sell retail signs. Local churches and businesses turn to Hanson Sign Companies for their advertising and signage needs.

"Everyone, everywhere always needs a sign," Brett said. "It's a business that's not going to go away. It's not going to outlive its purpose. It's a nice, consistent niche, that hopefully will be here well beyond me."

The staff of about 40 people, including several groups of family members, works hard to continue the legacy that Gene Aversa created at Hanson Sign Company. Every sign is made with a unique and well thought out design, and is a testament across the country to the work that is produced right here in Chautauqua County. Check out their work on their website, at: hansonsign.com, or call them at 716-661-3909.

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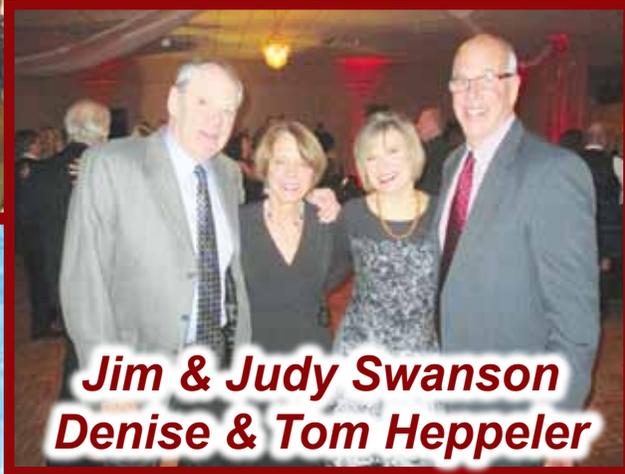
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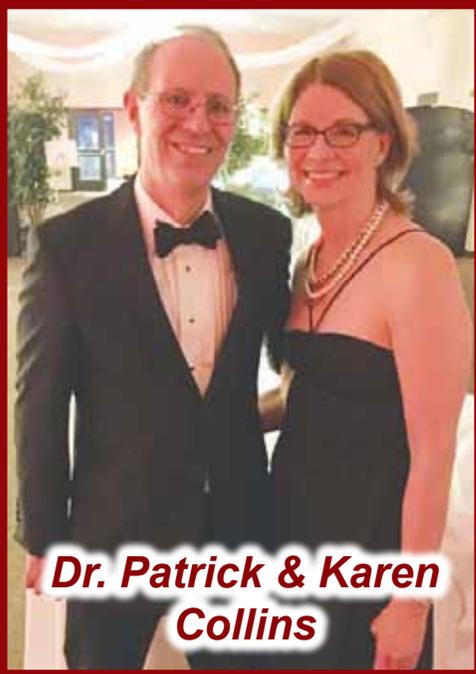


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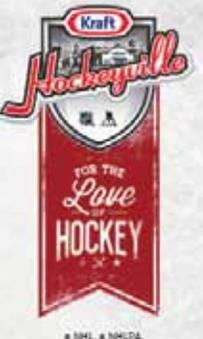


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