



ALLEGANY STATE PARK

page 17

FREE WINTER EVENTS!

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ELLICOTTVILLE SNOWED-IN



WINTER BLUES WEEKEND

page 04

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LOCALLY OWNED AND PUBLISHED ❄️ JANUARY 2020

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LOCAL SKI COMPANY UNVEILS PRODUCT LINE

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... PAGE 08



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ICE JAM SILENT DISCO AT HOLIDAY VALLEY: A FUNDRAISER FOR ROCK AUTISM

Imagine walking into an event and seeing people dancing ... but not hearing any music. You can see the DJs - there are three of them - and they're into it, spinning tracks and vibing to some mysterious beat you can't hear. Then you see the partygoers - there are hundreds of them - wearing wireless headphones, color coded to the different DJs. Imagine this scenario, and then come experience it. The Rock Autism ICE JAM Silent Disco comes to Holiday Valley's Main Lodge on Saturday, February 8th ... page 03

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Publisher / Designer
DesignPerks of Ellicottville,
Brenda Perks
Office: 716.699.9816
designperks@gmail.com

Assistant Designer
Meaghan Lucarelli
info.designperks@gmail.com

Advertising Sales
Brenda Perks
Direct: 716.244.7573
designperks@gmail.com

Evan Evans, sales / distributor
Direct: 716.474.6812
evane716@aol.com

Team Writers
and Photographers

Spencer Timkey
Mary Heyl
Greg Culver
Anjanette Nicolazzo
Melanie Hulick
ANF Visitors Bureau
Jaimie Woodarek
Clara Kosinski

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Publisher's PICK

ICE JAM Silent Disco at Holiday Valley to help fund Rock Autism organization's music and film programs



By SPENCER TIMKEY

Imagine walking into an event and seeing people dancing ... but not hearing any music. You can see the DJs - there are three of them - and they're into it, spinning tracks and vibing to some mysterious beat you can't hear. Then you see the partygoers - there are hundreds of them - wearing wireless headphones, color coded to the different DJs. Imagine this scenario, and then come experience it. The Rock Autism ICE JAM Silent Disco comes to Holiday Valley's Main Lodge on Saturday, February 8th.

Silent Disco, an event planning company out of Buffalo, has created a party and festival experience unlike any other. Everyone wears headphones in lieu of speakers blasting music, with lights corresponding to the DJs they are listening to. If you want to listen to EDM or Hip/Hop, you simply hit the button on your headphones.

Rock Autism, the non-profit Western New York organization that uses music and the arts to make a profound difference in the lives of those on the spectrum, has partnered with Silent Disco and Holiday Valley to bring the ICE JAM to Ellicottville. Already an established presence with their Rock Autism Music Festival held each summer, the Rock Autism organization continues to create events unique to the area.

"I'm friends with the owner of Silent Disco, and we saw each other at an event recently," said Rock Autism's Max Muscato on how the idea of the event came about. "We talked about how this was something we could incorporate into Rock Autism's overall goal - Silent Disco is very sensory friendly, because people can control the audio. We try to come up with something new every year, and we're here for this."

Rock Autism's goal is to blend music with industry-level programs to create opportunities for people with autism in the music and film industries. Money raised from events like the ICE JAM and Music Festival goes directly into these programs - creating new opportunities every day.

"Using Silent Disco is great because besides being sensory friendly, there's no noise ordinance," Muscato said. "Everyone is using headphones. When you're all vibing on the same channel, you kind of congregate into these groups. If you want to take a break from the music, you simply take your headphones off and go to the bar for a little bit. It's really cool and really different."

Rock Autism and Silent Disco approached Holiday Valley for this idea a few months ago, and the resort was all ears. Resorts around the country host winter music festivals all the time, and that's where Muscato would eventually like to take this.

"We have such a great relationship with people in Ellicottville," Muscato said. "They've been so receptive to everything that we want to do. It's easy when you have the support of a community like that. We're actually moving the location of next summer's Rock Autism Music Festival to Holiday Valley, across the street from the resort by the golf range (site of the lacrosse fields). And we'll have some exciting news to share regarding a headliner very soon."

The ICE JAM will have three live DJs - Edalo (playing EDM), Scafetta (playing hip/hop and R&B) and BANDO (Top40 and throwback hits). It takes place in the Main Lodge at Holiday Valley on Saturday, February 8th from 10:00pm-1:00am. This event is for individuals 21 and over. Tickets are \$20 pre-sale, \$25 regular and \$30 at the door. Winter Theme Decorations by Jeremiah Schmelling. Learn more by searching the event on Facebook or go to holidayvalley.com or rockautism.org.



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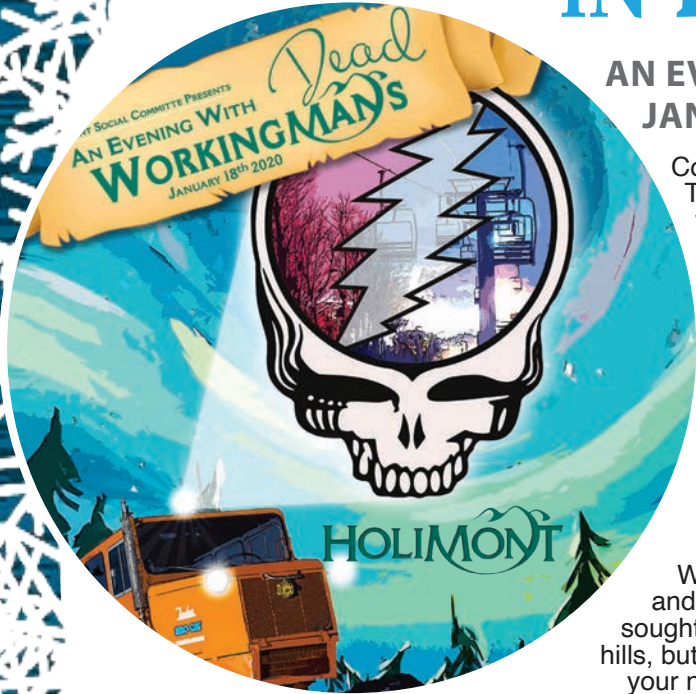
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WINTER BLUES WEEKEND
JANUARY 17th-18th | EVL

Winters in Ellicottville are known mostly for the skiing and boarding. What makes Ellicottville one of the most sought-after places to go for winter fun is not only the ski hills, but what can be done when Jack Frost has nipped at your nose and the slopes have worn you out. Why head back to the condo and rest when there's excitement taking place downtown in the village?



Come Jan. 17th and 18th, restaurants and bars throughout the village will offer some of the region's best Blues bands, all free for your listening pleasure. One performance you'll want to make sure you catch is Mark Winsick, appearing Saturday, Jan. 18th at Madigan's (36 Washington St.) from 7:00-10:00pm. That energetic and audience pleasing philosophy has made this guitarist, singer and songwriter a mainstay on the live music scene. Mark was inducted into the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame in 2010, an honor he shares along with the Goo Goo Dolls, Ani DiFranco, Take 6, Rick James, Grover Washington, Harold Arlen and 10,000 Maniacs just to name a few. He fronts his own quartet which plays original compositions, traditional standards by BB King, Elmore James, and Muddy Waters, contemporary favorites by Stevie Ray Vaughan, Keb Mo and Eric Clapton, and rock n roll, Americana, R&B and funk selections. Winsick and his band always show up to play with a spirit that gets the crowd moving.

Just one of many live performances set to take place during Ellicottville's Winter Blues Weekend, the 2020 Winter Blues music schedule continues to grow and can be accessed at www.ellicottvillenyc.com. Check back often for updates and plan your Ellicottville trip and Blues stops around town.

MOUNTAIN SKI FEST
JANUARY 24th | 8:00AM-5:00PM | HOLIDAY VALLEY

Mountain Ski Fest is a day full of skiing, snowboarding, activities and camaraderie for skiers or riders (age 21+). Ski Fest includes ski and snowboard demo equipment from local shops, recreational racing, breakfast, lunch and beer & wine tastings. Take part in the Vertical Challenge/Scavenger Hunt, enjoy live music, and just have fun being outdoors and on the snow!

Bring a non-skiing friend and included in their package for the day will be a free lesson, rental and beginner area lift ticket. This fun day is hosted by Holiday Valley's all-star coaching team including Snowsports Director Allie Doro and head race coach Miguel Azcarate.



Discounted lodging rates are available for Thursday night at the Inn at Holiday Valley for Mountain Ski Fest participants. To register for this year's Mountain Ski Fest, head to www.holidayvalley.com.

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WINTER BLUES WEEKEND

Fri., Jan 17th
TOM MAKER | 7-10pm

Sat., Jan 18th
MARK WINSICK | 7-10pm
KARAOKE | 9:30pm

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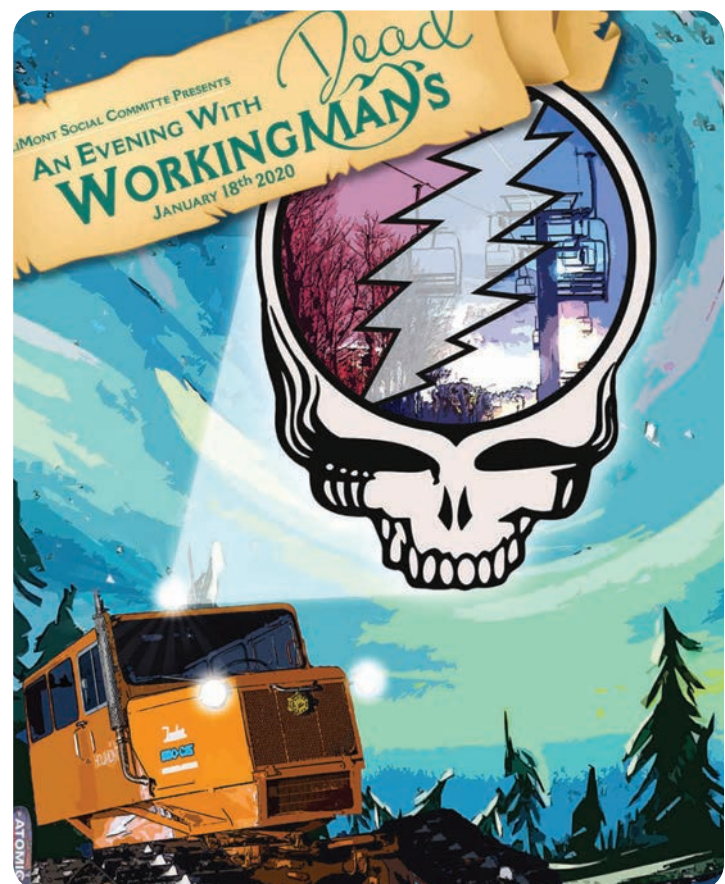
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SNOW TRENDS

NEW LOCAL SKI COMPANY UNVEILS PRODUCT LINE THIS SEASON

EVL SKIS: Made of Wood, Fiberglass, East Coast Badassery and Victory Juice; Available Exclusively at The City Garage

BY ANJANETTE NICOLAZZO



After an encounter with ski instructor Oliver Blackman at Smuggler's Notch during the winter of 2014-15, local Ellicottville couple Melanie Mitchell and Wade Knott started discussing the idea of designing and building their own skis. Oliver jumped cliffs with Wade and showed Melanie how to find that "playful line" through some truly gnarly terrain – and he did it on skis he made in his garage.

Oliver also inspired Melanie to stop taking her carvers into the trees; his homemade skis were wider and far more appropriate for the difficult terrain they were skiing. Their experience with him, coupled with a few more years of freeskiing, inevitably led to the birth of EVL Skis: A line of skis made for East Coast skiers who do most of their adventuring below the tree line and in less-than-ideal conditions.

THE BRAINS BEHIND THE BUSINESS

Both passionate about skiing and always looking for the next new ski, Melanie serves as the designer and builder, while Wade serves as the primary ski tuner and hardcore ski tester. Melanie says, "I tell people that I make the skis, then he makes them great." The steel for their first press was ordered in May of 2017 without the intent of making skis as a business.

It wasn't until they started receiving a wealth of positive feedback from people who tested their skis and a boatload of enthusiasm and support from the local ski community that they decided to go to market this year. Naturally, The City Garage (CG) was a perfect fit to handle their local demos.

"We were featured in the CG tent during Holiday Valley's Demo Day in December with our first two production models, the Skwerl 98 and POWSplosion 108. We had five pair of demos available with alpine or tele bindings for folks to try; it was a great day," says Melanie, "We'll definitely do it again."

You can now find EVL Skis for sale on The City Garage showroom floor. According to Trey Clauss, CG Team Leader, "These are skis, made in a ski town, by people that love to ski!" Several pair are currently available for demos and others are available for purchase.

PRODUCTION MODELS

Skwerl 98 – This original model was designed off a wish list of qualities Melanie and Wade wanted in a ski for what they call "East Coast tree skiing" – dropping through tight, steep terrain, playfully sliding around berms and dodging obstacles, and usually in sketchy conditions. Although they've made major improvements to how they manufacture skis since then, they haven't managed to improve on this already-awesome original design. Skwerl 98 is crazy fun in the trees and pretty much everywhere else, too.

"We knew they had to be really nimble, twin tipped, wide enough for variable snow conditions, early rise for riding over obstacles, long enough to provide stability, but short enough to maneuver in tight trees, a LOT of rocker in the front and back to help with maneuverability, a relatively short turn radius, sharp edges underfoot ... a lot of thought went into that design," Melanie says.

POWSplosion 108 – Making skis that were similar in shape but wider was a no-brainer for days we get a serious lake-effect storm. "Our POWSplosion 108 is so much fun for whomping into the hidden stashes of powder that collects in the trees and the troughs between bumps that we call them our 'Weapons of Stash Destruction,'" says Melanie.

What's great is these also make the piles of heavy wet snow we get during the thaws a lot of fun to ski. POWSplosion 108 combines significant tip and tail rocker with a cambered mid-section. According to Melanie, they're still nimble enough to take into the trees but just have a different feeling than the Skwerls.

PRODUCTION PROCESS

Any idea how long it takes to make a pair of skis, start to finish? You guessed it – a long time. Melanie and Wade make a combination of stock and custom skis in small batches of 5-8 pairs, with a total production of about 30-40 pairs per year. Each pair of skis takes about 80 hours of skilled labor to complete. "We've streamlined many of the steps in the production process, but we still take the time to do things that we think are important, even though they are too time consuming to do where volume is a greater consideration," Melanie says.

Ski designs start with CAD drawings for the various components – core shape, core profile (bottom and top), base material shape, finished shape of the ski – and drawings of the molds that will determine the camber and rocker of the final ski profile. Topsheet material, tipfill, graphics elements, rubber film, spools of raw edge material, sidewall material ... all must be handled, shaped, and cleaned. They work locally with Fitzpatrick and Weller to source and laminate their wood.

Next, their CNC machine cuts the material that they assemble into molds, and shapes wood and plastic into ski components. Everything goes into their heated, pneumatic press, and is carefully aligned and stacked in the right order with epoxy and composite materials, like fiberglass, carbon fiber, etc. After a process controller heats everything up to 180 degrees Fahrenheit and lets it soak until the epoxy is cured, the press is opened and out comes a pair of skis.

"Trimming and finishing the skis after they come out of the press takes just as much time as shaping the materials before they go in. Edges must be freed from excess epoxy, bases ground flat, and sidewalls shaped," says Melanie. "Finally the skis head to Wade's workshop, where he bevels the edges, sharpens them, they get appropriately detuned, and finally spend a couple of days getting reheated and soaking in the 'hot room' for optimal base conditioning, before a final coat of glide wax is applied."

GETTING PERSONAL WITH MELANIE AND WADE

Melanie and Wade have both been skiing since elementary school; Wade had the advantage of growing up in Newfane, New York, and learned to ski at HoliMont. On the contrary, Melanie lived in warmer climates until she moved to Ellicottville in 2010; she's been an avid skier ever since. In 2013, Wade joined Melanie, and as she says, "the serious ski-nerdery began." They soon started collecting various types of skis and tried to figure out how they worked.

Last year, Wade participated in five International Freeskiing Competitions, and exceeded his goal of "not coming in last." He was fourth at Mad River Glen and sixth at Stowe against competitors Melanie says were, significantly younger. "I don't jump off the cliffs on purpose; when he does it, I tell everyone, 'That's my boyfriend!'" They are both currently members of the HoliMont Safety Patrol.

For more information on EVL Skis, swing by The City Garage at 5 Monroe Street in Ellicottville. Several pair are available for demo and others are available for purchase. Check out evlskis.com, email info@evlskis.com, or call 716-550-1215.



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Congratulations to **KELLY EVERETTS**, who's name was randomly drawn to receive the sweepstakes prize pack from December's "Celebrate the Holidays in Ellicottville" FREE contest giveaway: a one-night stay at *The Jefferson Inn*, \$200 in E-bucks to spend at sponsoring locations, and a 4-pack of weekday ski lift tickets to **HOLIMONT**. Kelly's winning ticket was entered at **Ellicottville Oasis Spa**.



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SHOP: Betsy's Consignments

Patterned after a shop in Aspen, owner Betsy Peyser continues to offer high-end fashion in Ellicottville, 24 years strong



MENTION THIS ARTICLE FOR 20% OFF YOUR NEXT PURCHASE AT BETSY'S.

By MARY HEYL

In the current era of online shopping, fewer and fewer small businesses manage to hit the two-decade mark. However, Betsy's Consignments of Ellicottville has been thriving for nearly 24 years, and owner Betsy Peyser has no plans to slow down.

Located next door to Ellicottville Salt Cave & Spa at 34 W. Washington Street, Betsy's has been a village mainstay since Peyser opened the store in 1996. A village resident, Peyser has been skiing in Ellicottville for 60 years but called Aspen, Colorado home for a time. When she returned to Ellicottville in the mid-1990s, she brought an important part of that experience with her.

"I worked at a shop out there called Suzie's Limited Consignments," Peyser explained. "Suzie was my mentor, and I run my store a lot like she did out there."

Like the famous Aspen store, Betsy's Consignments features an impressive variety of previously owned high-end clothing at prices that can't be beat. "I only take the best things, and there's something for everyone," she explained. "In Ellicottville, we have people coming in from all over - Buffalo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Rochester, Toronto, and more. A lot of the people who shop with me are the people who consign with me, so I have a really interesting mix of wonderful things in pristine condition."

Betsy's carries beautiful women's and men's clothing, outerwear, housewares and books, purses, accessories, jewelry and a small children's section. "If someone is looking for a ski parka, they can stop in here and buy one that's like brand new that one of my consignors may have only worn for a season," Peyser explained. "I'm open year 'round, and my inventory is very seasonal. Right now, I have winter and ski items until the end of the season."

Due to the influx of visitors - and consignors - during ski season, Peyser said items come in quickly, so there is always something new to check out. "Being right next door to the Ellicottville Salt Cave, which is a destination spa, people come from all over because it's different or unusual," she said. "They know it's going to be a really cool mix of items here."

Importantly, shoppers can count on high-quality brands that are in excellent condition. "People can find Ann Taylor, Brooks Brothers, JoS A. Bank, Patagonia, and more," Peyser listed. "Everything is in beautiful condition and all the clothes in my store are 100% ready to be worn."

Peyser encourages those who may be interested in consigning to call her any afternoon at 716-699-6131 or visit her store to see the variety of brands she sells. All consignors receive 50% of an item's selling price, a policy that Peyser has maintained since she opened her doors. "A lot of shops take 60 or 70% of the selling price," she said. "But I've never raised my cut over the years." All items belong to the consignor until they are sold. Unsold items remaining at the end of the season are donated to charity, though some consignors choose to pick them up.

Betsy's Consignments is open Mondays and Wednesdays from noon-5:00pm; Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10:00am-5:00pm; and Sundays noon-4:00pm. Though she hasn't jumped on the social media bandwagon or opened an online store, Peyser has found that customers' positive experiences and good word of mouth have been very effective over the years.

"It doesn't feel like it's been almost 24 years," Peyser remarked. "I live right here in the village, and I really enjoy my shop. You never know what's going to be here, but whatever is going to be here is really great."

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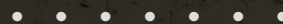
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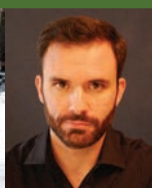
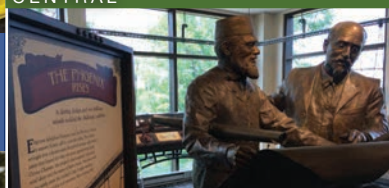
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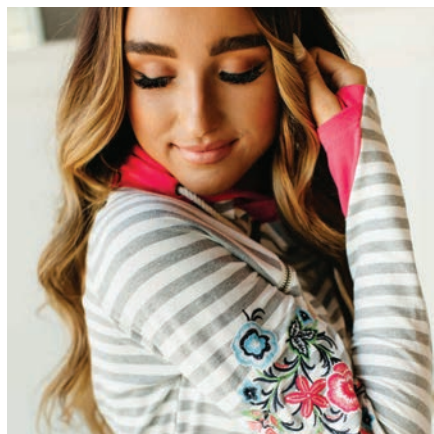
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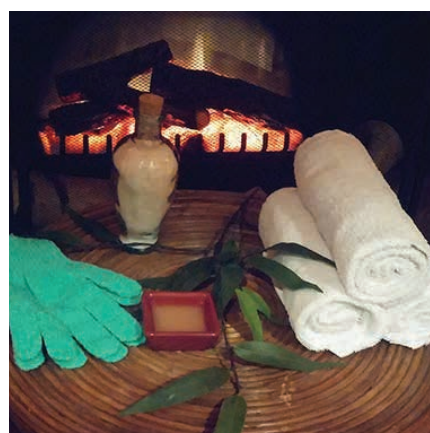
By now you've experienced some variable snow conditions on-hill. Bases get thirsty, edges grow full, and the gang at The City Garage has you covered with everything you could possibly need from Swix - from basic all-temperature wax, temperature & condition specific, and a variety of edging tools. Their experienced staff isn't afraid to get their hands dirty and show you some of the basics in the back shop as well!



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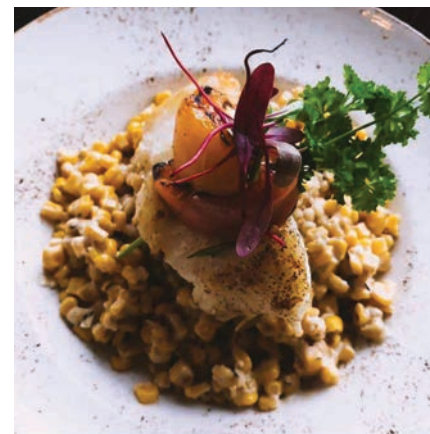
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FIRST DAY HIKE - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1st

Start your new year off right! Join us at Allegany State Park for our Annual First Day Hike - a healthy and relaxing way for people of all ages to get outside and enjoy the winter beauty of the area. The Environmental Education Department is offering two hikes this year of varying lengths and difficulty on the Quaker side of the park. Blacksnake Mountain (Site 41) on ASP RT 3 is a three-mile loop using an old railroad as part of the trail. The more difficult trail climbs to large cherry, hemlock and tulip poplar trees. The new one-mile Science Lake trail (Site 40) on ASP RT 3 meanders around the lake to the foundations of the "School in the Woods" which once occupied this area in the 1920's. Guided hikes will begin at 11:00am at Blacksnake and 1:00pm at Science Lake, however, feel free to hike either trail at anytime throughout the day.

The First Day Hike will run from 10:30am to 2:00pm. Participants should begin the hike by stopping in to register and pick up a map at Camp Turner in the Quaker area. Free hot chocolate, coffee, and tea will be provided during the event. The Friends of Allegany State Park will be serving chili and hot dogs for all our hungry hikers starting at noon. Dress for the weather and be sure to wear appropriate footwear and/or snowshoes. Hope to see you on January 1st!

FAT BIKE FUN RIDES - FRIDAYS BEGINNING JANUARY 3rd

The Allegany State Park Environmental Education and Recreation Department and the Western New York Mountain Bike Association (WNYMBA) are excited about hosting another year of Fun Fat Bike Rides on the following Fridays: January 3rd, February 7th and March 13th at 6:30pm with the ride starting at 7:00pm. Although pre-registration is not required, check-in will be in the main lobby of the Red House Administration Building. Bring warm clothes, a helmet, a headlight, and a sense of adventure. Need a bike? A limited amount of fat bikes are available at no charge. Contact 716-354- 9101 ext. 232 before noon on the day of the ride.

The 3 to 5-mile fun rides are for all levels and will last up to 2 hours, depending on the weather. Riders will wind through the Red House area of the park. All riders are invited to attend the after-ride social hosted by WNYMBA in the Red House Picnic shelter. Come by for hot dogs and door prizes.

Fat bikes are the monster trucks of the bike world. With big tires, typically 3.8 in (97 mm) or wider, they are designed for low pressure to allow riding on soft, unstable terrain such as snow, sand, bogs and mud. They have been around since the early 1900's, but it wasn't until frame builders in both Alaska and Mexico began experimenting with different frames, parts and tire widths in the 1990's that "Fat Bikes" were born.

Look for more bike rides on non-holiday Monday nights starting January 27th. Meet at the Red House Administration Building at 5:30pm with the ride starting at 6:00pm. A limited number of bikes are available free of charge for the program. Please pre-register by calling 716-354-9101 ext. 232. If there is no snow, any bike is welcomed.

WINTER SNOWSHOE HIKES - TUESDAYS BEGINNING JANUARY 7th

Join us every Tuesday evening at 4:30pm for a trek into the sunset at Allegany State Park. Beginning January 7th, Park Naturalists will lead interpretive snowshoe treks (snow dependent) or hikes if there is not enough snow. Witness a breathtaking winter sunset at Stone Tower, visit a secret beaver pond or hike along a creek. Meeting places and hikes will vary. Be sure to dress for the weather, bring a flashlight, water, a snack, and a sense of adventure. Need snowshoes? No problem, we have several pairs to rent for FREE! Please call to reserve snowshoes by noon the day of each hike. Check out our Facebook page at Facebook/AlleganyStatePark for more information and the location of the weekly hike.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKI CLINICS IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

Is trying a new sport on your New Year's Resolutions list? Starting on Friday, January 10th, the Environmental Education Department will be leading cross-country ski clinics and tours at 10:30am on the Art Roscoe trails of Allegany State Park. Cross-country skiing is an excellent low impact exercise, easy to learn, and a lifetime sport. Limited rental equipment is available free of charge. To reserve a pair of skis, boots and poles please call 716-354-9101 ext. 232 before 9:00am the day of the program. Ski clinics and tours will operate out of the Summit Warming Hut on January 10th, 17th, 24th and February 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th. All levels are welcome. If there is no snow, the program will be cancelled.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees more than 250 parks, historic sites, recreational trails, golf courses, boat launches and more, which are visited by 74 million people annually. A recent study found that New York State Parks generates \$5 billion in park and visitor spending, which supports nearly 54,000 jobs and over \$2.8 billion in additional state GDP. For more information on any of these recreation areas, call 518-474-0456 or visit www.parks.ny.gov, connect with us on Facebook, or follow on Instagram and Twitter.

For more information on any of the above events, contact the
Environmental Education/Recreation Department at
716-354-9101 ext. 236 or
email AlleganySP@parks.ny.gov.

EXPLORE PA

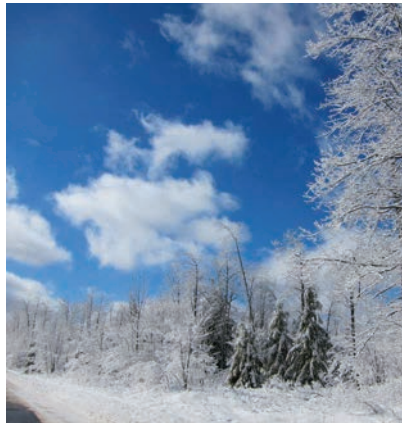
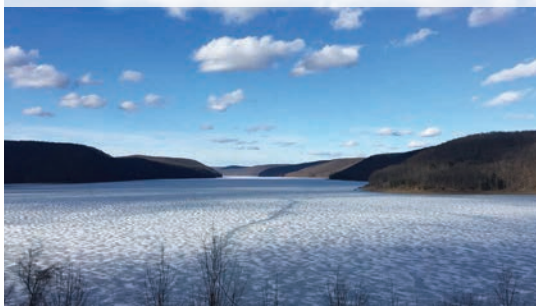


NEW BEGINNINGS & NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2020

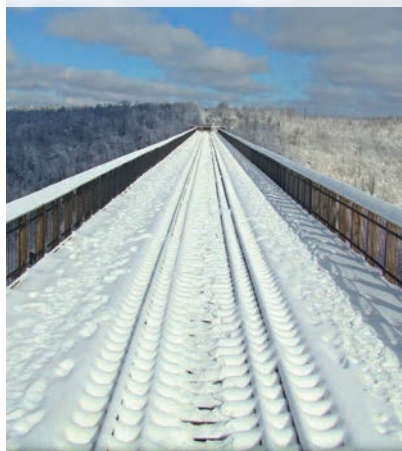
BY ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST VISITORS BUREAU

According to the Chinese Zodiac, 2020 is the year of the Metal Rat, which represents the beginning of a new day. The year of the rat is forecasted to be a successful year full of new beginnings and new opportunities. So start out by enjoying a snow day, learning to snowshoe, plan a ski getaway or explore the beauty of the Allegheny National Forest (ANF) Region by snowmobile in northwestern Pennsylvania.

Come ice fish the Allegheny Reservoir, which is well-known for big walleye, northern pike and trout during winter.



Visit the Kinzua Sky Walk at the Kinzua Bridge State Park to "Walk the Tracks Across the Sky." Open Monday-Saturday from 8:00am-4:00pm.



ACCESS THE KNOX AND KANE TRAIL FROM KINZUA BRIDGE STATE PARK.



ENJOY A SNOW DAY IN THE ANF REGION

McKean County, Pennsylvania, located just 35 minutes south of Ellicottville, NY and just 90 minutes from Buffalo or Erie, is the place to go when you want to find snow. An outdoor paradise, year-round, the Allegheny National Forest region becomes a sparkling white, winter wonderland where every day is a snow day.

The sparkle of the crisp white snowflakes will mirror the sparkle in your eyes as you enjoy a variety of fun winter activities in the Allegheny National Forest region. From cross-country skiing on the Westline Trail, snowshoeing at Kinzua Bridge State Park and ice fishing on the Marilla Reservoir, to enjoying a rowdy game of hockey at the Callahan Ice Rink, the ANF region has many entertainment options to lure the entire family out of the house this winter season.

The Callahan Ice Rink at 64 Poplin Avenue in Bradford, PA is open seasonally from the first week in November to the first week in March. The ice rink is fully enclosed and offers a heated viewing area, skate rentals, four locker rooms and a concession stand. The Callahan Ice Rink party room is an exciting idea for a birthday party or family reunion. Children and novice skaters will appreciate and enjoy gliding easily along the ice with the ice skating training aids available.

Come enjoy a hockey game at the Callahan Ice Rink, which hosts both the Bradford Youth USA Sanctioned Hockey and the University of Pittsburgh Hockey Teams. For hockey team schedules, general skating rink information or to reserve the party room call 814-368-8190.

Rev that engine on the number one most exciting snowmobile trail system in Pennsylvania located within the Allegheny National Forest. Once the season opens in late December, weather permitting, come ride on over 360 miles of groomed interconnecting snowmobile trails in the ANF and enjoy amazing winter vistas until April 1st. The ANF snowmobile trail called "The Loop" takes you along a defined trail system which loops through the forest, with trail access in multiple locations, including Lantz Corners Getaway at the intersection of Route 219 and Pennsylvania Route 6. Rent a room, unpack your things and fill-up on a delicious meal from the Barrel House & Tavern, located just next door, before taking a ride right from your own room.

The ANF region offers a wide selection of snowmobile fun for both beginners and experienced trail riders. In the northern section of the ANF snowmobile loop, near Willow Bay, the trail connects to 90 miles of New York snowmobile trails through Allegany State Park. Helmets, state registration and insurance verification are required for both Pennsylvania and New York states if you decide to venture on both trail systems. Non-resident and resident registration for Pennsylvania can be found at www.pasnow.org.

To learn current weather and trail conditions in the northern section of the ANF Forest call the Bradford Ranger Station at 814-363-6000; and for the southern section of trail, phone the Marienville Ranger Station at 814-927-6628. You can find a downloadable trail map online at visitANF.com/snowmobiling-in-pennsylvania.

SNOWSHOE AT THE KINZUA BRIDGE STATE PARK

For a unique experience, visit, view and explore the amazing scenic vistas of the Kinzua Sky Walk at the Kinzua Bridge State Park, 296 Viaduct Road in Mt. Jewett, Pennsylvania. During the winter season, take advantage of the free snowshoe rentals available at the Kinzua Bridge State Park Visitor Center. If you have never tried snowshoeing, let park staff know during the rental process and they will provide a brief "how-to" and history of the sport. In January and February, the Kinzua Center is open Monday through Saturday from 8:00am-4:00pm and closed on Sundays, except on the holiday weekends of Martin Luther King Jr. and Presidents Day. In March, the seasonal hours of the Kinzua Center come to an end and the center resumes normal business hours 7 days a week from 8:00am-6:00pm.

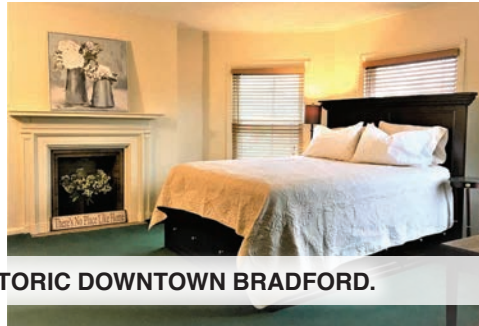
Once you have gleamed the stunning 360-degree panoramic vistas of the Kinzua Sky Walk (which is handicap accessible and extends 624 feet into the Kinzua Gorge), explore the historic towers of the Kinzua Viaduct from alternative angles while hiking upon multiple trails of various skill level. Examine wildlife in its natural habitat during all four seasons while hiking or taking a leisurely stroll on the trails of the Kinzua Bridge State



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Park, which include the Kinzua Creek, General Kane and the Knox & Kane Rail Trails.

The Kinzua Creek Trail winds down the steep side of the Kinzua Gorge. Access to this trail is off the main pathway between the skywalk and the wooden observation deck. Take care upon this trail and be sure to wear proper footwear as the complexity level is rated difficult due to steep terrain. Along this trail you will experience the aftermath of mother nature's rage, viewing tattered and torn towers which have littered the gorge ever since the tornado of 2003 ripped them from their supports. While navigating the trail and fallen towers, be sure to look to the sky for a gorgeous alternative view of the skywalk.

For a fun afternoon, stop into the Grocery Stretcher at 32 Main Street in Bradford to purchase and pack delicious items such as delectable Amish cheeses and meats or their unique gluten free sandwich option - the pickle sub. Pack your purchases into a cooler and cruise down Route 219 south to the Kinzua Bridge State Park to enjoy a leisurely hike along the Knox & Kane Rail Trail. The trail is a 7.5-mile crushed limestone surface trail open for hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and horseback riding. Bring your cooler along the hike and stop at the picnic area, located at mile marker 73 to enjoy lunch surrounded by beautiful vistas of the surrounding forestlands. The initial 4 miles of the Knox & Kane Rail Trail are handicapped accessible, while the last 3.5 miles are not handicapped accessible, due to rougher terrain. Trailhead parking in Mt. Jewett is behind the Borough office building at the intersection of Center Street and Peterson Street, and at the Kinzua Bridge State Park, with horse trailer parking available in the overflow parking lot on Lindholm Road.

The General Kane Trail, named after decorated American Civil War Veteran Thomas Leiper Kane who was the visionary behind the Kinzua Bridge, is a 1.6-mile loop hiking trail. It leads people through forested areas of black cherry and maple trees that were ravished by the tornado, as well as those that remained unharmed. This trail makes for an easy hike or convenient scenic stroll.

SKI AND STAY PACKAGES

If you enjoy the wind whipping through your hair as you speed through the snow, strapped to a single board or two skis, then plan a trip to Bradford, Pennsylvania and take advantage of the Skiers Discount rates available at the Best Western Plus Bradford Inn and the Bradford Flatiron Airbnb for Holiday Valley Ski Resort in Ellicottville, NY.

The area's premier ski destination, Holiday Valley is located just over the New York border, only a 35-minute drive from Bradford. With 60 slopes and trails of various terrain and difficulty levels, 12 chairlifts, five terrain parks and three extremely comfortable base lodges, Holiday Valley is the perfect winter escape.

The Best Western Plus Bradford Inn is located at 100 South Davis Street. A perfect "home base," the hotel is conveniently located within walking distance from the National Historic District of downtown Bradford and its many family-owned restaurants, bars and charming shops. Guests can call 800-344-4656 or walk in and ask for the Skiers Rate; the discounted rate will be \$85 plus tax for one to two adults in the room. The Skiers Rate remains valid until March 20, 2020. For more information about the Best Western visit them online at www.bwbradford.com.

Stay in the Bradford Flatiron Airbnb, a one-of-a-kind historical home located in the heart of Bradford at 11 Boylston Street. This three-story brick structure built in 1906 sleeps up

to five guests, is fully-furnished and includes a fully equipped kitchen and two-stall garage for parking. Also within walking distance of multiple family-owned restaurants and unique shops, the Bradford Flatiron Airbnb is currently offering a Skiers discounted rate of \$99 with a minimum two-night stay. Valid through March 2020, request this discount when booking through Airbnb.com or contact the bed and breakfast directly by calling 814-598-8127 or visiting them on the web at www.airbnb.com/rooms/27783990.

Once the room is booked and dates set, make sure to purchase your lift tickets online at least 7 days in advance at holidayvalley.com and save big! Bring the entire family along on this venture and save; children 6 years of age or younger ski for free anytime. Simply pick up a free lift ticket at any ticket window upon arrival - children must be present.

Nervous and still learning or never tried these hilly snow sports? Starting January 2, through January 31, 2020, learn to ski or snowboard for half price with Holiday Valley's Learn to Ski or Snowboard packages for ages 12 and up. Learn-to-ski or learn-to-snowboard packages include a beginner lesson, beginner area lift ticket and rental equipment. Holiday Valley is located on 6557 Holiday Valley Road in Ellicottville, NY.

Worried about the amount of snowfall (or lack of) interrupting your trip? No need to fear as Holiday Valley currently runs the largest HKD Automated Snowmaking system in the East, and averages 180 inches of snow per season. For a real-time snow report, to view live web cam of slope activity or to purchase lift tickets call 716-699-2345.

DINNER AND A SHOW IN BRADFORD, PA

The family-owned restaurants within the Allegheny National Forest region offer a wide-selection of delectable menu items. In the City of Bradford, enjoy a fun trip back in time with the family and a good pizza pie at A Slice of the 80's, or bring your significant other out for a steak grilled to perfection or prime rib prepared from the cutting stations at Beefeeders Restaurant. Once you have appeased your appetite, step out on the town and catch a show.

The entire family is sure to enjoy Bradford Little Theatre's performance of Disney's Frozen Jr. January 10th-12th at the Bradford Area High School Auditorium at 81 Interstate Parkway. As the first musical of their 23rd Season, this spectacular, 60-minute musical is based on the 2013 Disney film and its 2018 Broadway adaptation. For more information visit www.bradfordlittletheatre.org or call 814-331-9903.

On January 11th beginning at 7:30pm catch a BCPAC sponsored show, Acoustically Speaking, at the Bromeley Family Theater at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford on 300 Campus Drive. Join Adam Pascal and Anthony Rapp for an intimate, unplugged show where they will deliver solo sets featuring both original tunes and songs that have influenced their lives, capped off by performing a few of the iconic hits from the musical RENT. For more information visit www.bcpac.com or call 814-362-2522.

Pianist Benjamin Laude will perform on January 30th at the Bromeley Family Theater at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford beginning at 7:30pm. Laude will be performing a selection of works by the famed composer, Ludwig van Beethoven, in honor of his 250th birthday. An active soloist and sought-after chamber musician, Laude is a pianist of international standing. For more information call 814-362-5113 or visit UPB.Pitt.edu/TheArts. With so many wonderful performances set to kick off 2020, get your tickets early and enjoy each show!

PLAN YOUR TRIP

To receive a useful, free travel guide full of maps, attractions, restaurants and other things to see and do in the Allegheny National Forest Region, please call 800-473-9370 or go to visitANF.com.

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escornelius80: A little love from the #lakeeffect and these boys have their first day of the season @holimont! #evlsnowedin



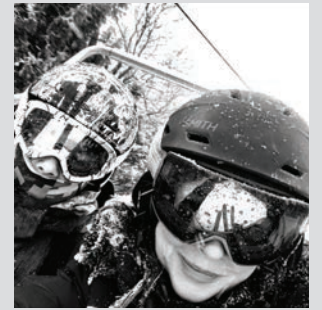
tracy_crowe: Let ski season begin! #evlsnowedin



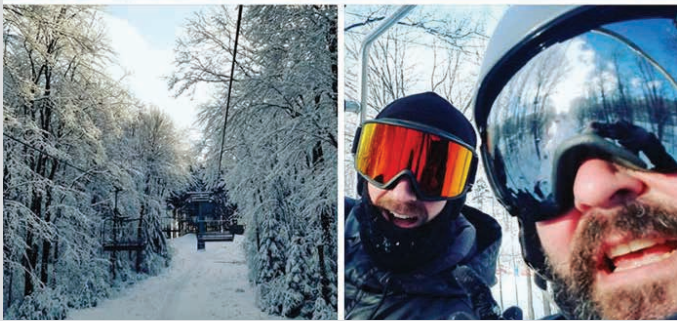
willygoat_adventures: I made the cover! #evlsnowedin #adventuredog #powderpatrol



chriscove: The New Season #skier #chairlift #winterwonderland #loveskiing #explore #optoutside #holimont #evlsnowedin



christycarus: Beautiful morning with my boys #evlsnowedin



lizzard421: Not a bad start to the season. #snowboardlifestyle digging trenches. #evlsnowedin



shannonlshepherd: Walking in a winter wonderland. #evlsnowedin



tclaus27: Powder for dinner! This kid ate it up... #evlsnowedin



yerboy: Aww yeah ... #holidayvalley #sk8evl



justmelissabee: #skiseason #holidayvalley #evlsnowedin



arnicolazzo: Ski tree looking just awesome tonight! #ellicottvillenyt #skitree #homesweethome #evlsnowedin #visitellicottville



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