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FREE

Penguin Paddle Returns to In-Person Slide

Belly down for the Lounsbury Adaptive Ski Program fundraiser; Great raffle prizes up for grabs!



@lounsburyadaptive

BY MARY HEYL

Get your garbage bag and get ready: the Penguin Paddle is returning for a full day of in-person fun at Holiday Valley on Saturday, February 26th! Maureen Sigeti, chairperson for the Penguin Paddle, is thrilled to chair this exciting fundraiser for the Lounsbury Adaptive Ski Program, which helps people of all abilities learn to ski.

The annual Penguin Paddle is the program's biggest fundraiser and involves participants purchasing a garbage bag and wearing it as they stomach-slide down the lower part of Yodeler slope. The event also includes a silent auction, raffle and food tent. "It's this annual fundraiser that makes the LASP possible," said Sigeti. "We buy all of our own equipment, award scholarships and pay for instructors' training opportunities through this event."

... page 04

Producer of Borderland Music Festival bringing new event to Holiday Valley

Mark your calendars for March 18-20th when Holiday Valley plays host to the Rail Rider Jamboree - a "music meets the mountains" festival with skiing, snowboarding competitions, vendors selling their wares like jewelry, t-shirts and much more, food trucks, yoga and of course a full weekend of music.

Jennifer Brazill, producer of the festival who also owns Ginger Root Productions, took time to chat with ellicottvilleNOW about some of the bands/artists on the ticket, and her passion for bringing music and the outdoors together for fans.

... page 04

VILLAGE OF ALLEGANY, NY RECEIVES SKATEPARK GRANT

The Allegany River Skatepark group, in partnership with the Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation (CRCF) and the Village of Allegany, have been awarded a grant of \$300,000 from The Skatepark Project for the construction of a permanent skatepark. Since 2018, community members have been pursuing a Built to Play Skatepark Grant from The Skatepark Project. Through hard work, communication, and rallying skateboarders and BMXers throughout the region, the Allegany River Skatepark group has raised funds, and built partnerships with local and regional organizations ... page 07

Springville Ski & Snowboard

Rentals, tuning and (NEW!) the 'Daily Adventure Box' ski-bikes



photo / Rich Rumfola

BY RICH RUMFOLA

When 'The Weather Channel' wants to show the country what a genuine lake effect snowstorm looks like, they're often found broadcasting live from the heart of the WNY snow belt in Springville, NY. It's a farm community of some size and equally distant from the area's two largest ski resorts - Kissing Bridge to the north and Holiday Valley to the south.

Enter Springville Ski & Snowboard, offering adults and children an economically priced, nearly-new fleet of rental skis and snowboards for daily or multi-day use. Owner Sam Johnston has also partnered with The Daily Adventure Box, which allows renters access to a ski-bike through a solar-powered, outdoor drop-box that's operated by cell phone.

... page 15



@thestrictlyhip

WINTER MUSIC JAM TO TAKE OVER ELLICOTTVILLE

Whether you are here to ski/snowboard, snow tube, or explore our village shops and restaurants (or all of the above!), there's no denying that Ellicottville creates a vibe that makes anyone visiting want to return. If you have yet to discover all the fun in our town, buckle up ... there's a lively weekend coming up that will give you the full experience! Ellicottville's Winter Music Jam, set for Feb. 18-20th, will feature three days of indoor live music in all the hot spots, complementing the list of outdoor fun you'll have in our active ski town ... page 08

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Publisher's PICK

Rotary Club of Ellicottville assists local food pantry with facility storage improvements



Pictured L-R: Rotarians Tony Trost and Kathy Trost, with Nancy Rogan of the Ellicottville Food Bank and Doug Anderson, Rotary president.

ELLCOTTVILLE - Over the past number of years, the Rotary Club of Ellicottville has been providing equipment and monetary support for many local organizations. Working with the Ellicottville Food Bank for over 10 years, the Club has provided quarterly financial support and various donation drives, and this year took a further step to help this great local organization. The community has seen the Food Bank grow and recent events made it imperative to improve the facility storage and efficiency, housed inside the United Church of Ellicottville.

The Rotary Club of Ellicottville, working with Val Germaine, Nancy Rogan and Reverend John Woodring of the United Church of Ellicottville and Ellicottville Food Bank, developed a list of equipment needed to accomplish this improvement. The Rotary Club of Ellicottville submitted and received a matching grant from Rotary District 7090. (The Rotary District Grant has been used in the past to support numerous projects at the Ellicottville Memorial Library, Ellicottville Central School, the Village Park and the Rotary Auditorium at the Ellicottville Town Center, to name a few).

This particular grant provided new shelving, storage containers, prep tables and freezer containers, greatly improving the Food Pantry facility. The chrome shelving, rolling carts and stainless steel tables were assembled by a group of Rotarians and friends of the Rotary including Kathleen Moriarty, Tony Trost, Kathy Trost, Jim Salamone, John Weismantel, Doug Anderson and Greg Cappelli. Nancy Rogan, Bob Germaine and Reverend John pitched in to make the assembly go smoothly. The grant also provided storage totes and freezer totes to help with storage issues.

The Rotary District 7090 provides a matching grant of up to \$2,000 to Clubs that meet the criteria annually. The Rotary Club of Ellicottville contributed \$2,500 for a total of \$4,500 to provide the new equipment for the Food Pantry which also improves the space that the Church uses for community dinners and other community functions.

"The Food Bank greatly appreciates the generosity of the Rotary Club of Ellicottville and Rotary District 709," said Val Germaine. "We have a strong relationship with the local Rotary Club that we value and hope will continue for many years."

The Ellicottville Food Bank is located inside the United Church of Ellicottville, 53 Elizabeth Street, and services the Ellicottville community with a totally volunteer staff. The Food Bank is open Monday 1:00-3:00pm, Wednesday 4:00-6:00pm and Saturday 10:00am-noon every week. For more information about the Ellicottville Food Bank and its services, please contact the United Church of Ellicottville at 716-699-4003 or email ucefoodpantry@gmail.com.

The Rotary Club of Ellicottville provides help and service to many local groups and has the designated 501(c)(3) charity organization The Foundation for Youth providing Youth programming for the Ellicottville area. Rotary International is the world's first service club organization. Its more than 1.2 million members volunteer their time and talent to further the Rotary motto, Service Above Self. The Rotary Club of Ellicottville meets every second Wednesday at 6:15pm, currently via Zoom due to the pandemic. Anyone is welcome; please visit their website at www.ellicottvillerotary.com to learn more about their organization and how you can get involved.

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EVENTS

RAIL RIDER JAMBOREE

Producer of Borderland Music Festival bringing new event to Holiday Valley



BY MELANIE HULICK

Mark your calendars for what is sure to be a fun-filled packed winter weekend in Ellicottville March 18-20 when Holiday Valley plays host to the Rail Rider Jamboree.

This is the first year for the outdoor winter music fest, in the hopes that it becomes an annual “music meets the mountains” festival with skiing, snowboarding competitions, vendors selling their wares like jewelry, t-shirts and much more, food trucks, yoga and of course a full weekend of music.

An idea that has been in the forefront of Jennifer Brazill’s mind for a couple years has finally come to fruition. Brazill, who is producing the festival, owns Ginger Root Productions and Borderland Festival. She has had tremendous success with these festivals on the west coast and ski resorts in Colorado on a much larger scale, but has always wanted to have one in Ellicottville, which incidentally is pretty much in her backyard as she grew up in East Aurora.

I got a chance to chat with Brazill recently about the festival, some of the bands/artists on the ticket, and her passion for bringing music and the outdoors together for fans.

Mostly centered on the west coast, the producer came back home to East Aurora and her parents’ home when the pandemic hit. Asking her if the Jamboree Music Fest was already planned and had to be put on hold, she replied, “It was in the idea stages when Covid hit, so it wasn’t scheduled to cancel, but it put everything on hold of course.”

“The ski niche has always been part of my brand,” Brazill told me. “I love working with ski resorts to create a niche that’s a little bit on the shoulder of their season, so as not to interfere with their really big winter weekends, but still have enough winter so there’s snow and people can get up on the mountain,” she added.

The weekend festivities start Friday evening on the 18th with a Rail Jam in the Rail Fun Park at the base of Mardi Gras lift at Holiday Valley. The Jamboree part of the festival will be Saturday the 19th with five acts performing on two stages from 2:00-10:30pm, and Sunday the 20th will end the festival with Bluegrass and Bloody Marys at the Cabana Bar at Holiday Valley.

Local, regional and national bands/acts will perform Saturday at the Jamboree, including A Girl Named Genny from Rochester, Drift Wood from Binghamton, a New Orleans style Brass Band from Buffalo, and headliners Keller Williams and Dark Star Orchestra.

“It’s a great fit to have these two headliners on the same bill,” stated Brazill. “Keller Williams I usually have as a full band, but he’s coming solo to this event. He brings a looping machine with him and he’s so super creative and quirky ... a really good guy. Dark Star Orchestra is Grateful Dead oriented,” continued Brazill, “and I’m a big Grateful Dead fan and I just love them. They’ve been around a long time and have a great draw. They sell out in Buffalo when they play there, so I know they’ll be a big hit.”

Come out and embrace our winter season and celebrate getting back to festivals, music, shopping, food and more. All with the backdrop of one of the most beautiful villages in western New York! You don’t want to miss this! For more info and to purchase tickets, head over to holidayvalley.com or railriderjam.com.

Teaser: ellicottvilleNOW is excited to interview the festivals headliners! Keep tabs in upcoming issues for one-on-one’s with Keller Williams and Dark Star Orchestra!

PENGUIN PADDLE

Fundraiser for the Lounsbury Adaptive Ski Program returns to in-person format



BY MARY HEYL

Get your garbage bag and get ready: the Penguin Paddle is returning for a full day of in-person fun to Yodeler hill at Holiday Valley on Saturday, February 26th! Maureen Sigeti, chairperson for the Penguin Paddle, is thrilled to chair this exciting fundraiser for the Lounsbury Adaptive Ski Program, which helps people of all abilities learn to ski.

In 1987, Bill Lounsbury, a ski patroller at Holiday Valley, lost his leg to cancer, but continued to ski using hand-held skis, inspiring all who knew him. When he passed away, many donations were made in his honor, and the money was used to start the LASP, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and chapter of Disabled Sports USA. The program’s mission is to “deEMPHASIZE the disABILITY” and serves individuals between the ages of 5 and 75 of all physical and mental abilities, ranging from paralysis, muscular dystrophy and multiple sclerosis to autism, Down’s syndrome, cerebral palsy and spina bifida, as well as veterans. The program consists of volunteer instructors who work with students in affordable, private lessons at Holiday Valley.

The annual Penguin Paddle is the program’s biggest fundraiser each year and involves participants purchasing a garbage bag and wearing it as they stomach-slide down the lower part of Yodeler slope. The annual event also includes a much-anticipated silent auction, raffle and food tent. “It’s this annual fundraiser that makes the LASP possible,” said Sigeti. “We buy all of our own equipment, award scholarships and pay for instructors’ training opportunities through this event. This entire program wouldn’t be possible without the support of the Ellicottville community and Holiday Valley!”

LASP Director Bill Bredenberg is now in his fourth year of leading the program and is looking forward to another successful Penguin Paddle. “We’re so grateful to Holiday Valley for their support, not only of this fundraiser, but the entire program,” he said. “From donating prizes for the Paddle to providing a beautiful place for this program, we could not do this without their support.”

Sigeti knows first-hand what a life-changing experience the LASP is for both the students and the volunteers. She first became acquainted with adaptive ski programs through her mother, who is a volunteer with an adaptive ski program in the Syracuse area. “My mom put me in touch with Mary Ellen Racich, who was the director of the LASP for about 20 years,” Sigeti explained. “I’ve always been involved with volunteering through the Special Olympics (mom was a coach for that!), and I fell in love with the work that the Lounsbury program was doing.”

For Sigeti, as well as other volunteers, the program is rewarding and fun! In her words, “You can really bring what you love to your volunteer work. This is a great example of it: people who love to ski helping other people learn. It’s a wonderful program!”

For the past six years, Sigeti and her husband have been volunteering with the Penguin Paddle, and she is excited to chair this year’s event. Despite the pandemic, last year’s Penguin Paddle still took place but through a virtual format in which participants did a belly slide wherever they happened to be and participated in the raffle and silent auction online. Speaking of last year, Sigeti said, “It was very, very successful, but it’s just nothing compared to an in-person event with a DJ, the penguin slide, and the energy!”

She is pleased to share that this year, “We are going to be running, to an extent, as usual. We’ll have the food tent set up, penguin slide races, raffle, and silent auction, and scav-

“Penguin Paddle” continued page 20

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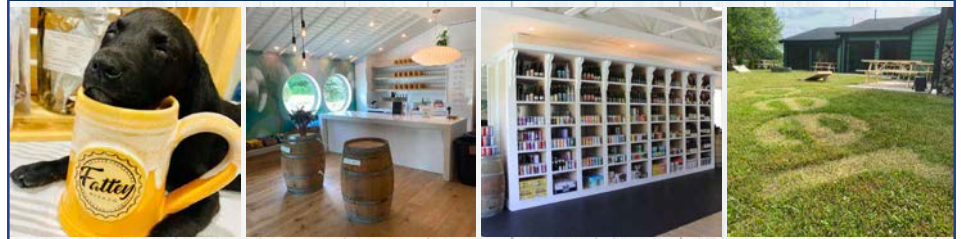


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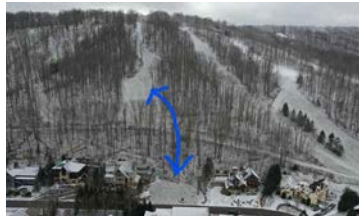


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RECREATION

VILLAGE OF ALLEGANY RECEIVES SKATEPARK GRANT

Allegany River Skatepark receives \$300,000 Built to Play grant from The Skatepark Project

VILLAGE OF ALLEGANY, NY - The Allegany River Skatepark group, in partnership with the Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation (CRCF) and the Village of Allegany, have been awarded a grant of \$300,000 from The Skatepark Project for the construction of a permanent skatepark in the Village of Allegany. A grant-signing ceremony took place on Wednesday, January 26 at the Allegany Village Building, 106 E. Main St., Allegany, NY 14706.

The Built to Play Skatepark Grant provides \$250,000 for the skatepark construction, and an additional \$50,000 for environmental features to be incorporated into the design of the skatepark.

Since 2018, community members in the Village of Allegany have been pursuing a Built to Play Skatepark Grant from The Skatepark Project (formerly known as The Tony Hawk Foundation). Through hard work, communication, and rallying skateboarders and BMX-ers throughout the region, the Allegany River Skatepark group has raised funds, and built partnerships with local and regional organizations.

“On behalf of all of us at CRCF, we want to congratulate the Allegany River Skatepark on receiving this grant,” said Karen Niemic Buchheit, CRCF executive director. “This grant will have a remarkable footprint and will provide a first-class space for recreation for youth and adults in the area to enjoy skateboarding, bmx and more.”

Village of Allegany Mayor Gregory Pearl was one of the first supporters of the skatepark effort. “A skatepark will build community and be a positive asset to ensure that our area youth can thrive,” Mayor Pearl remarked.

Jennifer DeLong, lead community advocate for the Allegany River Skatepark, has shown that all it takes is a small group of individuals with a vision to keep a dream alive. She shares that “it was a long road with a lot of hours of hard work in our spare time outside of work and family, but it will all be worth it to see this free recreational facility that our young people will be able to use for decades to come.”

Trevor Staples, Built to Play Project Manager for The Skatepark Project says, “For over three years, we at The Skatepark Project have been working alongside the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation to help communities like the Village of Allegany get their kids active



Pictured: Allegany River Skatepark advocates, led by Jennifer DeLong (center) with Mayor Gregory Pearl and TSP project manager Trevor Staples.

and outdoors. The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation has seen the need for public skateparks in the region, and provides funding for those communities that wish to work to develop them.”

For more information on the Allegany River Skatepark and how you can help, please follow @alleganyriverskatepark on Facebook and Instagram. To learn more about skatepark grants, go to skatepark.org.

DISC GOLF FOR ALL AGES

Fundraising efforts gearing up for Franchot Park children's disc golf course

OLEAN - The Twin Tiers Disc Golf Association [TTDGA], inspired by the idea and efforts of group member Dave Haynes, is gearing up fundraising efforts for a 9-hole disc golf course that is designed with youth and novice players in mind. The course, being installed near Franchot's Children's Memorial Garden this summer, will also extend the garden's mission by including trees and landscape stones that memorialize children in the layout.

“Remembering children that have passed away while providing something positive for today's youth seems fitting,” Haynes said.

The youth course – the first of its kind in Cattaraugus County – hopes to feature two tees for each hole. One tee location will make each hole more challenging and is designed for youth between the ages of nine and thirteen; while a second tee location will make the holes more manageable for kids between the ages of four and eight.

TTDGA is a volunteer-based nonprofit group responsible for the installation of the county's first full-sized 18-hole disc golf course last year in Olean's Gargoyle Park. A new youth-oriented course ties directly into their stated mission of growing disc golf in the Twin Tiers with a focus on youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

“This course will be easily accessible on bike or by foot to so many of Olean's residents. The course is free to play and – with a disc that costs between \$10 and \$15 – can easily be played by people of any ability level,” said TTDGA President Rich Longer. “Only a toss across the border, Bradford is bringing disc golf to residents at Callahan Park and our hope is that these initiatives provide an opportunity for outdoor recreation and socialization for families and generations to come, while introducing Twin Tiers Youth to a sport they can grow to love for a lifetime.”

The Council approved the Franchot proposal in November, pledging to match donor fundraising for the project. “This would be great for families to walk over with their kids,” said Council President John Crawford. “One thing we want to see is if our tax money goes into taking care of a park, for that park to get used. This group has put blood, sweat and tears into this, and they have done a great job.”



Pictured: Area youth participating in a youth disc golf clinic led by the Twin Tiers Disc Golf Association in 2021.

Donations can be made to the Public Disc Golf Course Fund at CRCF, 301 N. Union St., Suite 203, Olean, NY 14760 or online at www.cattfoundation.org. For hole sponsorship and children's memorial inquiries, contact djhaynes526@gmail.com. The Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation is the area's supportive, responsive and trusted community foundation.

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Live music to take over Ellicottville Presidents Day Weekend



@thestrictlyhip

ELLICOTTVILLE - Whether you are here to ski/snowboard, snow tube, or explore our village shops and restaurants (or all of the above!), there's no denying that Ellicottville creates a vibe that makes anyone visiting want to return ... again and again. If you've already experienced our slice of snow Heaven this winter, that return trip for you is just around the corner! If you have yet to discover all the fun in our town, buckle up ... there's a lively weekend coming up that will give you the full experience!

Ellicottville's Winter Music Jam, set for Feb. 18-20th, will feature three days of indoor live music in all the hot spots, complementing the list of outdoor fun you'll have in our active ski town. With 15+ performers on deck covering a variety of genres, it will prove to be a good challenge trying to check them all out.

"We can't think of a better way to celebrate a holiday weekend than right here in Ellicottville," said Jessica Wallace, business development manager for the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce, which produces the event. "The snow at both our ski resorts has been amazing, and to add in a full bill of live music, it's the perfect pairing!" Here is just a sampling of what you can look forward to:

GROSH: Friday, 7:00pm @ Balloons ... Grosh is a high energy rock band from Buffalo, NY featuring Grace Lougen (guitar), Josh English (drums), Megan Brown (vocals), and Dylan Hund (bass). With influences from bands such as Led Zeppelin and Pearl Jam, the band writes music that is visceral, heavy, and inspiring. Megan's acclaimed vocals, teamed with Grace's intense guitar solos, will leave you with no doubt that these musicians were born to perform.

TUI OSBORNE: Saturday, 6:00pm @ Madigan's ... Ellicottville's very own Tui is no stranger to the acoustic stage. The St. Bonaventure rugby coach and founder of Rakavii Rugby knows how to handle a guitar just as well as a ball. As a solo performer, Tui's sound is reflective of the reggae movement and is known for spreading the island vibe throughout western New York.

THE STRICTLY HIP: Sunday, 8:00pm @ Finnerty's ... Masters of the music of The Tragically Hip, The Strictly Hip have spent years and thousands of performances respectfully and accurately recreating the music of Canada's most popular rock band with painstaking attention to musical detail. Originally conceived in 1995 in St. Catharines, Ontario, The Strictly Hip is now based in Buffalo, NY performing for The Hip's rabid American fan base. The Strictly Hip regularly perform to sold out venues on both sides of the border and have created a loyal fan base of their own.

Other performances you'll want to keep an ear out for include The Short Bus (Friday at the Gin Mill), Business Time Trio (Saturday at Ellicottville Brewing Co.), and Maria Sebastian (Sunday at Holiday Valley). After a full weekend of stellar bands, you may just build up your own confidence to perform, in which case Madigan's will close out the weekend with karaoke, Sunday beginning at 9:00pm. Pure entertainment!

"We guarantee one day isn't going to be enough for anyone coming to visit during Winter Music Jam," said Wallace. "Our town has accommodations for all budgets and lifestyles - from hotels and condos to country chalets and bed & breakfasts; why not make it a winter weekend getaway? We're at the peak of ski season; come out and enjoy the snow, kick back with a glass of wine or a fine craft beer, shop our unique retailers, dance the night away to all the great live music ... we're certain it will be a weekend for the books!"

For a full line-up of this year's Winter Music Jam, or to view lodging and dining options, go to ellicottvillenyc.com. Follow @visitellicottville on IG to stay connected.

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- 21 Intense Milk Night Rail Jam

FEBRUARY 2022

- 2 Tell A Friend Freeride Tour
- 12 Intense Milk Night Rail Jam
- 25 Telestock Telemark Day
- 26 Penguin Paddle Fundraiser

MARCH 2022

- 6 Boardroom Banked
- 12-13 Winter Carnival
- 18 Rail Rider Night Rail Jam
- 19 Intense Milk Day Rail Jam
- 19 Rail Rider Jamboree Music Festival
- 20 Foxfire Super G
- 26 Pond Skimming



Scan to view the entire 2022 Events Calendar



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BUSINESS

VANDYKE AGENCY OPENS OLEAN LOCATION

Husband & wife team of Great Valley acquire Chamberlain Home Realty/On Point Property Management

BY MARY HEYL

Timing is everything; it's an adage that's been applied to everything from landing a joke to a business deal. For Todd and Ciji VanDyke, perfect timing is what transformed a seemingly impossible pre-pandemic dream for their real estate agency into a reality just a couple of weeks ago.

Since 2015, the VanDyke Agency has been making a name for itself as a trusted real estate agency throughout the Southern Tier. "We started with a very small office in Salamanca," Ciji explained. "In 2017, we purchased the Great Valley office; we had more agents who were joining us and we needed more space."

Shortly after opening, the VanDyke Agency grew their business to include property management and long-term rentals, in addition to real estate sales. "We have about 85 units that we manage in and around Salamanca," she said. "We also began doing vacation rentals in Ellicottville, and in 2018 we had the opportunity to do some rentals in Chautauqua."

The VanDykes always wanted to expand into the Olean area, and in 2020, they were about to make this dream a reality. Ciji recalled, "We were all set up with an office location in Olean - we had signs and everything. It was January of 2020; we were ready to hit the ground running, and then COVID hit. That halted that plan!"

2020 and 2021 were such unpredictable years for the VanDykes and their three children, who were involved in remote learning for much of that time. "We just couldn't commit to being in Olean in 2021," Ciji explained. "Todd or I - one of us - always had to stay with the kids, and I can't tell you how many times we did remote learning in the office because of no high-speed internet at home!"

As if the challenges of educating three children at home during a pandemic weren't enough, the real estate industry faced several restrictions in the spring of 2020. For the VanDykes, March 20, 2020 will forever be an unforgettable day. "The government said real estate is now considered non-essential as of March 22," Ciji recalled. "From that point on, we had absolutely no idea what the future held. It was a really scary time to not know when our business could operate moving forward. Fortunately, that only lasted for 10 days before we were considered essential and could offer limited services."

Over the next several months of 2020, the VanDykes worked through a variety of limitations that gradually eased. "First it was no in-person showings allowed, but we could Face-time a client. This is one of the reasons why we invested so heavily in virtual tours!" Over time, restrictions were lifted to include two people on a tour for a certain length of time, and gradually expanded to relatively normal practices.

Despite the changing COVID regulations, the VanDykes were thrilled to see that the real estate market not only survived the pandemic, but actually grew. "Real estate is just abso-



Pictured L-R: Joe and Sherry Chamberlain with Ciji and Todd VanDyke.

lutely phenomenal," said Ciji. "I've been in so many multiple offers in the last 18 months - it's great if you're a seller!" She added that those who are in the market to buy a house are competing with many more people than pre-pandemic times due to supply and demand. "Right now in the Great Valley area, there are nine houses on the market, and normally we'd have over 30."

All over the country, the real estate market has been hot, Ciji pointed out, and the reasons are varied but mainly pandemic-related. Since March of 2020, "People's criteria have changed," she explained. Not only has she seen people looking to get out of densely populated cities, but she's also noticed people in rural areas looking to move closer to town. "Some people want to be in the country, but their home has to have high-speed internet access and cell service because they're working remotely or their kids are learning at home. Other people need bigger spaces or different layouts because they now need a home office."

While initially, the pandemic put the brakes on the VanDyke's dream of opening an Olean office, it also gave them the capital to invest in an exciting opportunity. On Feb. 1, the VanDykes acquired Olean-based Chamberlain Home Realty and On Point Property Man-

"VanDyke Agency" continued page 20

ELLICOTTVILLE TOWN PLANNING BOARD NOTES

New owners seek to reopen Ashford Junction Restaurant

BY KATHLEEN KELLOGG

The Ellicottville Town Planning Board has scheduled a Feb. 28th public hearing on a special use permit application to reopen a restaurant, ice cream parlor and retail store at Ashford Junction.

The Board met in person Jan. 24th in the Town Center for the first 2022 session. Village Attorney Richard Stanton attended the meeting as interim staff planner.

Owners Melanie and Michael Korzeniewski under the business name of Winkorz LLC, of East Otto, hope to operate Ashford Junction Depot from Thursday through Sunday. Food will be served in a rural setting at the intersection of State Routes 242 and 240, east of Ellicottville.

The location also overlooks an operating rail line, was run as an eatery and antique shop in the past and, according to local lore, housed a motorcycle repair business around World War II.

Application documents state there will be no changes to the water, sewer and parking, or to the structures, which include small outbuildings and two parking lots to accommodate about 24 cars.

The main two-story building is handicap accessible from either parking lot and has been

shuttered for about two years.

In another matter of new business, the Board asked for more information and tabled a special use permit application for an accessory apartment at 5 Sundance Road.

Ellicottville property owner Dean Groff, and his representative Jim Uhrinek of Little Valley requested a permit to convert an existing 23x23-foot garage into a two-bedroom guest suite.

Code Enforcement Officer Kelly Fredrickson said the Board reviewed the application and found it lacking in information on the size and adequacy of the water and septic systems for expanded occupancy.

A 2022 annual meeting schedule, for regular business meetings on the fourth Monday of each month, was adopted by the board as follows: Feb. 28, March 28, Apr. 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, Aug. 22, Oct. 24, Nov. 28 and Dec. 26.

The Ellicottville Town Planning Board's next regular meeting will be held in person in the Town Center, 28 Parkside Dr., at 6:00pm on February 28. For information about upcoming meeting times and to view meeting materials, visit ellicottvillegov.com and scroll down on the Home Page.

APPOINTMENTS

NEW HEAD GOLF PROFESSIONAL

Kyle Benish to take over position at Holiday Valley, effective April 1st



ELLCOTTVILLE - Holiday Valley President and General Manager, Dennis Eshbaugh, recently announced that Kyle Benish will become the Head Golf Professional of the Double Black Diamond Course at Holiday Valley starting April 1, 2022. Benish will take the place of Steven Carney, a PGA Master Golf Professional, who was Holiday Valley's Director of Golf and Summer Operations for 17 years. Carney will become a PGA Ambassador for Holiday Valley.

Kyle Benish has worked at Holiday Valley for 17 years and during that time he continually improved his playing and teaching skills as he progressed through the PGA organization. Benish started as Holiday Valley's 1st Assistant Professional in 2004 and has been a PGA Class A Member since 2010, culminating in 2019 when he earned his designation as a PGA Certified Professional. Kyle is enrolled in the PGA Specialized Program working toward his Executive Management Certification. Benish has also served as the Assistant Golf Coach and Lead Instructor for the St. Bonaventure University golf team and as the 1st Assistant Golf Professional at Worthington Country Club in Bonita Springs, Florida.

Among his many affiliations and committees, Benish is a Certified PGA Coach/ADM Certified, a member of the Western New York PGA (WNYPGA) Board of Directors, Chairman of the Junior Golf/Growth of the Game Committee and a member of the Tournament and Hall of Fame/Awards Committees. Benish has been recognized as Assistant Golf Professional of the Year a record three times by the WNYPGA and has been featured in PGA Magazine twice.

During his tenure, Steve Carney built a solid foundation for golf at Holiday Valley including overseeing a total renovation of the course in 2005-2008, encouraging youth and women golfers with special introductory clinics, hosting group outings and tournaments and making the course profitable. The Holiday Valley course serves a combination of resort guests, members and local golfers, and Carney created a culture to successfully navigate those challenges.

When expressing his enthusiasm for the game and Holiday Valley golf, Benish said, "I look forward to the future here at Holiday Valley. I am excited to be a part of continuing to create a fun atmosphere for people to enjoy our wonderful golf course and build on the high level of service we have come to expect. I will continue to provide the newest styles of equipment and merchandise in the award-winning golf shop and stay on the cutting edge of technology in our industry."

To learn more about Holiday Valley golf, visit holidayvalley.com.

GOACC Elects New President

OLEAN - Jason Crisafulli will serve as this year's board president for the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce (GOACC) Board of Directors. Crisafulli is retired from Kinley Corporation which he served as President. He has been a member of the board since 2018. GOACC also announced the balance of officers for the 2022 year: Vice-President, Adam Jester, Southern Tier Technical Services, LLC; Secretary, Shavonne Henderson, Community Bank, NA; and Treasurer, Rich Yeager, Olean Area Federal Credit Union. Last year's board president, Vicki Blessing, Vice President, Leasing & Development at Park Centre Development, will continue to provide leadership as ex-officio. GOACC is located at 301 North Union Street, Olean, NY, phone 716-372-4433.

MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

Cornell Cooperative Extension welcomes Shannon Rinow



JAMESTOWN - Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties have partnered together to bolster the Master Gardener Volunteer program in each of our counties. While the program in Chautauqua has been successful for several years now, it lacked the dedicated staff support that it deserves. Cattaraugus is currently redeveloping a Master Gardener Volunteer Program. "The Partnership just made sense," remarked Dick Rivers and Emily Reynolds, Executive Directors. "Partnerships like this help Cornell Cooperative Extension meet the needs of the residents of our counties."

CCE is very excited to welcome Shannon Rinow as Program Coordinator. She has provided a brief biography to introduce herself.

"My name is Shannon Rinow, and I am so excited to begin this new adventure as your new Master Gardener Volunteer Program Coordinator for Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties! Since I was a young girl, gardening and agriculture have been a passion of mine. I recall helping tie posts at my grandparent's grape farm at a young age and harvesting vegetables and flowers from their home garden. I have had my own garden for the past decade, and each summer as the sweet smell of peonies return after a long winter, it always brings me back to those younger years helping at my grandparents' farm.

"In recent years, I co-own and operate a small suburban farm, Bee Happy Farm & Apothecary, alongside my husband, Mike and two sons, Mason (13) and Kyle (19), where I am a beekeeper and raise livestock (pigs, sheep, goats, poultry). We love the quirky personalities of our animals and have learned so much as their caretakers. Each day is an adventure and always something new! My family and I are in the process of relocating to Ashville, NY from Amherst, NY, a suburb right outside of Buffalo. We purchased a small fixer-upper farm where we plan to expand and grow organic vegetables and cut flowers. In my free time, I enjoy speaking to our community about the importance of honeybees and advocating for environmental and land stewardship. On any given day, you can catch me bottle feeding an orphaned piglet, nursing a sick chicken back to health or caring for new ducks in my living room! There is always something to do or someone in need, and I would not want it any other way.

"I recently learned to crochet and have a fondness for spinning wool (I am still learning!) and making homemade soaps and wreaths. I love the simple joys of homesteading and no matter how many days, months, and years go by, I am equally as excited to get fresh eggs from my chicken coop as the first day! Cornell Cooperative Extension has been an invaluable resource to me, and I am grateful to be a part of giving back to our community."

Mrs. Rinow will begin her work with CCE in February, please join us in welcoming her. She can be reached at smr336@cornell.edu.

The Master Gardener Volunteer Program is one of many programs offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cattaraugus County (CCE-Cattaraugus). CCE-Cattaraugus is a subordinate governmental agency with an educational mission that operates under a form of organization and administration approved by Cornell University as agent for the State of New York. It is tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The association is part of the national cooperative extension system, an educational partnership between County, State, and Federal governments. As New York's land grant university Cornell administers the system in this state. Each Cornell Cooperative Extension association is an independent employer that is governed by an elected Board of Directors with general oversight from Cornell. All associations work to meet the needs of the counties in which they are located as well as state and national goals. For more information call 716-699-2377 or visit www.cce.cornell.edu/cattaraugus. Cornell University Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.



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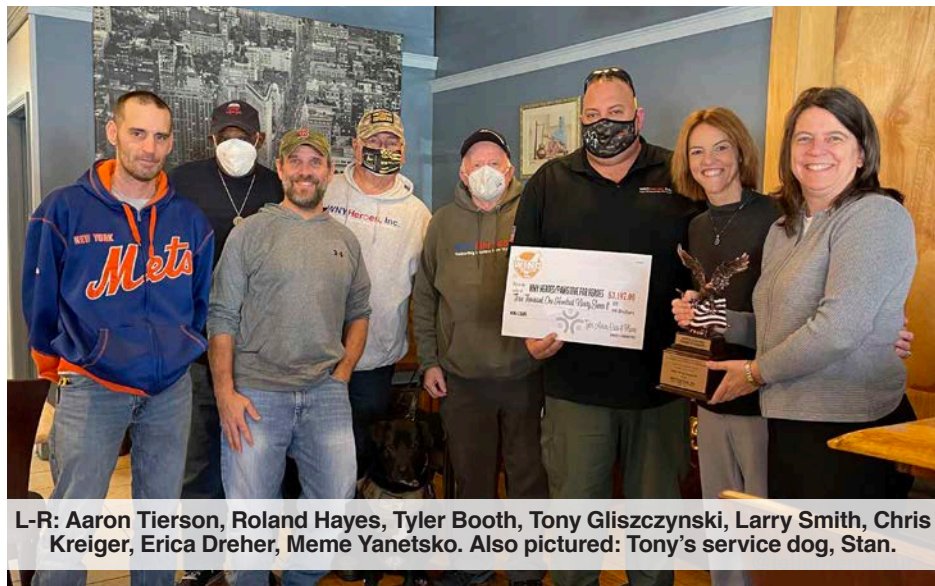
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REGIONAL

WING CRAWL FOR A CAUSE

GOACC event raises money for WNY Heroes / Pawsitive for Heroes



L-R: Aaron Tierson, Roland Hayes, Tyler Booth, Tony Gliszczynski, Larry Smith, Chris Kreiger, Erica Dreher, Meme Yanetsko. Also pictured: Tony's service dog, Stan.

OLEAN - The idea to have a crawl where participants would go place to place and vote and eat chicken wings was a no brainer ... GOACC and the Olean Sports and Social Club hosted the Wing Crawl back in early November. Similar to the taco crawl held in June, a winner was chosen on who had the best wing / best taco.

But according to both organizations, the real winner was the Western New York Heroes / Pawsitive for Heroes. The committee met with the heroes in Olean last week and presented several checks to them totaling \$5,597 – enough to cover the training for a service dog to a local veteran.

Aaron Tierson, a committee member and chef from Union Whiskey, stated, “Service dogs hit home with me as a vet – WNY Heroes was chosen (as recipient) because of the wonderful service that they give to my fellow veterans. The dogs and their owners go through various courses together, properly preparing the dogs to serve those who’ve served.”

Founded in 2007, WNY Heroes works tirelessly to provide the support, assistance and resources – financial, physical and emotional – that veterans need following service to our country. The organization’s goal is to ease the transition from combat to civilian life, and eliminate the hardships and complications that too many veterans continue to experience in America today.

Chris Kreiger Sr., Iraq War Veteran, President, Co-Founder WNYHeroes, Inc. stated, “Thank you everyone for your amazing ongoing support and most of all, for believing in us. With your help, we can continue making a difference for Veterans in WNY. Once we have your Veteran and service dog identified, we will arrange a meet and greet and you can find out more about them. Again, thank you for believing in us and thank you for being our hero.”

Meme K. Yanetsko, GOACC COO, added, “Through the wing crawl itself, \$3,100 was raised. The balance was graciously donated/added to the event proceeds: Chris Dicerbo with Union Tea Café purchased a signed Buffalo Bills painting of Coach Sean McDermott for \$1,000 and Nick Dicerbo of Union Whiskey donated \$1,400 to match what was raised through the raffles.”

So what’s next: The Olean Sports and Social Group and the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce teamed up to present both the Taco of the Town Crawl and the Wing Crawl.

Tyler Booth, OSSC founder, reported, “It’s pretty interesting hearing what people are suggesting for our next crawl – some people want pizza, hamburgers, appetizers, sliders – even mac and cheese!” He continued, “Since it’s cold and winter season, the crawl coming up next may be a chili / soup crawl.” The committee reports that the next crawl menu will be announced soon and held at the end of March 2022.

Lastly, during the meeting, the WNY Heroes presented the staff at GOACC a trophy stating “Thank you for being our hero.” For more information, please call 716-372-4433 or email member@oleanny.com.

Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce, located at 301 North Union Street in downtown Olean, has been the leading business organization in the greater Olean area since 1906. Their business plan reflects activities related to lobbying local and state leaders and developing programs, to supporting workforce development, small business owners, large corporate entities, non-profit organizations, manufacturers, and area residents.

SPRINGVILLE SKI & SNOWBOARD

Offering equipment rentals, tuning, and (NEW!) the Daily Adventure Box



photo / Rich Rumfola

The McGarvey children from Arcade wait their turn on the boot-fitting bench. (L-R: Shop owner Sam Johnston, Emma, Sophia, Abigail and Christian.

BY RICH RUMFOLA

When ‘The Weather Channel’ wants to show the country what a genuine lake effect snow-storm looks like, they’re often found broadcasting live from the heart of the WNY snow belt in Springville, NY. It’s a farm community of some size and equally distant from the area’s two largest ski resorts - Kissing Bridge to the north and Holiday Valley to the south.

As far back as anyone can remember, though, Springville has never had its own ski shop to service the needs of the many snowsports enthusiasts who live in the community - that is until a couple seasons ago, when Cattaraugus native Sam Johnston opened the doors of the Springville Ski & Snowboard Shop.

Located on Rt. 219 near the Lowe’s building supply store, Springville Ski & Snowboard offers adults and children an economically priced, nearly-new fleet of rental skis and snowboards for daily or multi-day use. The shop also offers helmet rentals in adult and children’s sizes and has for sale a small selection of gloves and socks to match the most basic needs of anyone headed out to slide down the local slopes.

If you own your own equipment and it is showing signs of wear and tear, Springville Ski & Snowboard can repair dents and dings to ski and snowboard bases and melt in a fresh coat of wax that’ll have you sliding effortlessly down the hills in no time! Johnston’s tuning room is equipped with a state-of-the-art Wintersteiger tuning machine, capable of completely refreshing the bases of your skis or snowboard to the way they were when you first bought them.

For those in the mood to try one of the newest modes of winter downhill transport, Springville Ski & Snowboard has partnered with a company called The Daily Adventure Box, which allows renters access to a ski-bike (instead of wheels, there are skis) through a solar-powered, outdoor drop-box that’s operated by cell phone.

After reserving the ski-bike through the shop and downloading the app, Johnston says renters can access the box at will; thereby eliminating the need for any other assistance when checking out or returning the rental. He reviews safe operating procedures and best practices with ski-bike renters before sending them on their way.

“I like the technology of the self-sufficient Daily Adventure Box,” Johnston said. “It’s totally self-contained, solar powered and connected through the app for easy, no nonsense use.”

For shop owner Sam Johnston, now 44 years of age, the journey into the ski and snowboard world began in the seventh grade, when he joined the ski club at school and made the weekly bus ride from Cattaraugus to the local slopes of Holiday Valley.

“My neighbors got me into it,” Johnston said. “My parents didn’t know anything about it but when friends of mine suggested I try it, I loved it and we were out there as much as possible after that!”

When Johnston was 16 years old, he got hired to work the “dream job,” as a Holiday Valley ski instructor and now fondly recalls the sum total of all his paychecks from that season - it was \$91.00.

“At the end of that year, I decided I definitely loved being part of the scene, but I was going to have to make a little more money than that,” he quipped.

“Springville Ski & Snowboard” continued page 20

INSIDE THE CLASSROOM

WORLD-CLASS ANIMATION

CA BOCES program impacting regional school districts



Belfast Central School District Superintendent Wendy Butler is shown with some custom animation created through the CA BOCES Animation program.

ALLEGANY, NY - Since Fall 2021, school districts in the Cattaraugus-Allegany BO-CES (CA BOCES) region have been seeing world-class animations come to life in their school hallways thanks to new programming offered through the Information Technology Department at CA BOCES.

Through a unique partnership with Rochester Institute of Technology's MAGIC Spell Studios, the team at CA BOCES has been offering customized animation offerings to component school districts in the region.

CA BOCES Information Technology Director, Michael Graf, said he has been pleased with program development. "Our newly-created animation department and our partnership with MAGIC Spell Studios has allowed us to offer animation on a broader scale to our component districts at a reasonable price through existing CoSer structures."

MAGIC Spell Studios, LLC, is the entrepreneurial and commercial heart of MAGIC at RIT. Encompassing a fully functional film sound stage, sound mix and color correction post-production studios, a 4K Dolby Atmos theater, and several working media laboratories, MAGIC Spell Studios and their student and faculty talent have been working on various projects in local districts.

CA BOCES is currently working with several regional school districts on various projects that include animated versions of administrators and mascots, character education animated storylines, 2D/3D creations for use in sensory rooms and hallways, and custom athletic animations for digital score boards.

Allegany-Limestone Central School District is one district that has utilized animation programming this year. Superintendent Tony Giannicchi said that he has been most pleased with the opportunity to include staff and students in the process. "With project storylines and scripts created by staff and students, it was a great opportunity to include them in the animation process. This increased overall engagement."

Belfast Central School District has used animation to promote relationship-building between staff and students. Superintendent Wendy Butler said that students and the community have responded well to these new messages. "Our animated pieces have been a nice way to encourage students and bring positivity to our building - which is so important, especially now."

Randolph Central School District has also seen increased engagement with the inclusion of animation pieces. Superintendent Kaine Kelly said that the animated messages they created were aimed to help in student comprehension for a variety of messages. "In today's environment, our students are asked to understand so many messages and instructions," he said. "Our animations featuring familiar administrators and staff, and even our service dog, has helped soften messaging and bring a new sort of energy and understanding to those messages."

For more information on the animation programming at CA BOCES, contact Michael Graf at 716-376-8218.

As the regional leader in education services, CA BOCES offers state-of-the-art programs for learners of all ages and abilities as well as cost-effective shared services for 22 component school districts. CA BOCES empowers students to achieve their maximum potential by offering a wide variety of innovative programs and support that include special education, career and technical education, adult and continuing education, technology support, and instructional support services. To learn more, visit www.caboces.org.

EMPLOYEE SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship will continue to support Olean Dresser-Rand employees' children



@cattfoundation

OLEAN, - For some 60 years, the Dresser-Rand Employees Scholarship has provided scholarship awards for the children of Olean-based Dresser-Rand employees to pursue a post-secondary education.

Recently, the Dresser-Rand Employee Trust Association decided to move the scholarship fund under management of the Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation, which manages some 70 scholarship funds and makes possible over 100 annual scholarship awards for area students.

The Dresser-Rand Employees Scholarship Fund will provide annual scholarships to students who are the children of employees of Dresser-Rand/Siemens Energy. Eligibility will be determined by a minimum 12-month employment status at the Olean, NY campus as of February 2, 2021.

The scholarship is available to anyone who is a child of a Dresser-Rand employee meeting the scholarship's criteria, regardless of the student's school. The award amount and number of awards each year will vary. Students can apply beginning February 1 at cattfoundation.org/apply-for-scholarships.

The scholarship fund was originally established in 1955 as the "Clark Brothers Welfare Fund" in the name of the Clark Brothers Company which preceded Dresser-Rand after moving to Olean in 1912. The fund has since provided more than \$1.5 million in scholarship aid to the children of Dresser employees.

"CRCF management of the fund will not only allow for the impact for Dresser employees' families, but it is also about preserving a scholarship fund that was built and maintained entirely by Dresser-Rand employees," said Craig Maguire, Dresser-Rand Employees Trust Association official. "The trust was established by the employees to provide a payment for education and death benefits (flowers and memorials) to its Olean members and their dependents. The trust was funded entirely by the employees and managed by a committee of Dresser-Rand employees."

The employees trust fund was diligently managed by Community Bank for a number of years, said Maguire. "With the impending closure of the factories at the Olean campus and reduction in workforce, the board of trustees wanted to protect and grow the assets of the Trust," he added. "CRCF's experience and professional approach will be a perfect match to continue the mission of our scholarship program. It was very important to see the [fund's] tradition continue and keep the legacy of the hardworking employees of Dresser-Rand alive for many more generations."

For CRCF, the opportunity to manage the scholarship fund is just as meaningful, said CRCF Executive Director Karen Niemic Buchheit. "The employees of Dresser-Rand have given so much to our community for over 100 years," she said "It is an honor for CRCF to be able to continue the legacy of those employees and support the members of their family."

As an endowment fund, the scholarship is designed to last in perpetuity and will be invested for growth, said Buchheit. If there should be no more children of Dresser-Rand employees to receive the scholarship, it will be open to grandchildren or even great grandchildren one day. "It is only fitting that this scholarship be around for many, many years to come to honor the impact that Dresser-Rand and its employees have had on the greater Olean and Cattaraugus County region," said Buchheit.

Donations can be made to the Dresser-Rand Employees Scholarship Fund at CRCF, 301 North Union St., Olean, NY 14760 or online at cattfoundation.org.

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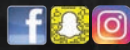
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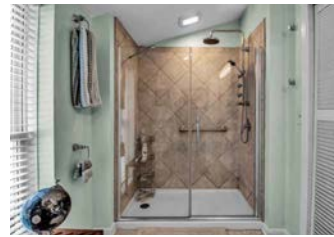


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Leave behind the worries of the world and "melt away" as British songsters Modern English once said. This custom designed Amish built home is one of Ellicottville's hidden gems that I lovingly refer to as the OG side of town because of its proximity to the old Concord Club. Situated on 40+ sprawling acres of wooded serenity, this parcel is a nature enthusiast's dream. The main entertaining area is the definition of open and airy. There is just something about living space that breeds creativity; ideal for unwinding and reconnecting to what matters. Off this area you will find an east facing deck that is perfect for soaking in the morning sun year round. Heading up to the top level is the master ensuite with an updated bathroom. On the lower level you will find a second entertaining area, utility room and another master with a walk-in closet/powder room. The way the home was designed downstairs gives off a Costa Rican summer room vibe. I imagine the walkout doors open and the summer breeze moving through the space while drifting off to the sound of silence or being consumed by a good book. Manicured paths meander through the property that overlooks its own "private" ridgeline. There are so many quiet nuances to this home that you must take in for yourself. Call for your personal tour now!

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HEALTH & FITNESS

CORE PERFORMANCE: HYDRATION DURING THE WINTER

Why is it important, the best way to stay hydrated, and what to avoid

BY KIM DUKE, CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINER

I could write countless articles on why hydration/water is so important to our bodies. It helps flush out waste, regulates body temperature and aids in brain function. Becoming dehydrated can cause headaches, fatigue and severe cramping.

Typically, we know to hydrate when we exercise and when it's hot outside. But did you know that hydration is just as important during the winter months? This is partly because the level of humidity in the air during the winter months tends to be much lower, resulting in much drier air as compared to other times of the year. In addition, the air in our homes is also drier due to home heating. These differences in air quality both inside and outside can increase our chances of becoming dehydrated.

Other factors that can lead to dehydration in the winter include:

- Cold-induced diuresis (frequent urination)
- Drinking less water because we tend to feel less thirsty
- Wearing heavier clothing which can cause us to perspire more
- Increased respiratory rates which leads to greater water loss

It is important that we stay hydrated in winter because doing so helps keep our body temperature at a constant and normal level. When there isn't enough fluid in the body, this can cause the core temperature to drop to dangerous levels. Hypothermia can set in quicker if the body is dehydrated. Staying hydrated also helps our immune system fight off colds and the flu, which are more common in the winter.

Things to avoid in cold weather to prevent dehydration include drinking too many caffeinated beverages and alcoholic beverages. Both of these are diuretics which causes your body to remove fluids from your blood at a much quicker rate than other liquids. If you're experiencing extreme thirst, reduced/dark urine for a long period of time, dizziness, a rapid heart rate or muscle cramps - then you are already symptomatic of dehydration.

Water is the cheapest and best way to stay hydrated. Unlike any other beverage, water contains no added sugar or calories. However, if you are a salty sweater, be sure to replace both sodium and fluid you lose through sweat.

Drinking moderate amounts of coffee and tea - especially herbal - can keep you hydrated. Fruits and veggies like berries, melon, oranges, grapes, carrots, celery and lettuce are also excellent choices to stay hydrated or rehydrate.

Oral hydration solutions are specialized formulas used to prevent and treat dehydration



caused by diarrhea or vomiting. These solutions are water based and commonly contain electrolytes like sodium, chloride, and potassium as well as sugar in the form of dextrose. These can be expensive and high in calories.

The bottom line: dehydration can sneak up on you quickly, especially during the colder months. Always keep a water bottle with you even during something as uneventful as driving. If you have any signs of dehydration during the winter months, it is important to seek medical attention immediately.

Kim Duke is a certified personal trainer and owner of Core Performance Fitness and Training, located at 55 Bristol Lane, Ellicottville, NY. Kim resides in Ellicottville where she raised her two sons, Zach and Nik. For more information about her studio, visit her Facebook page or hop onto her website at www.coreperformancefitness.com. Kim can also be reached at 716-698-1198.

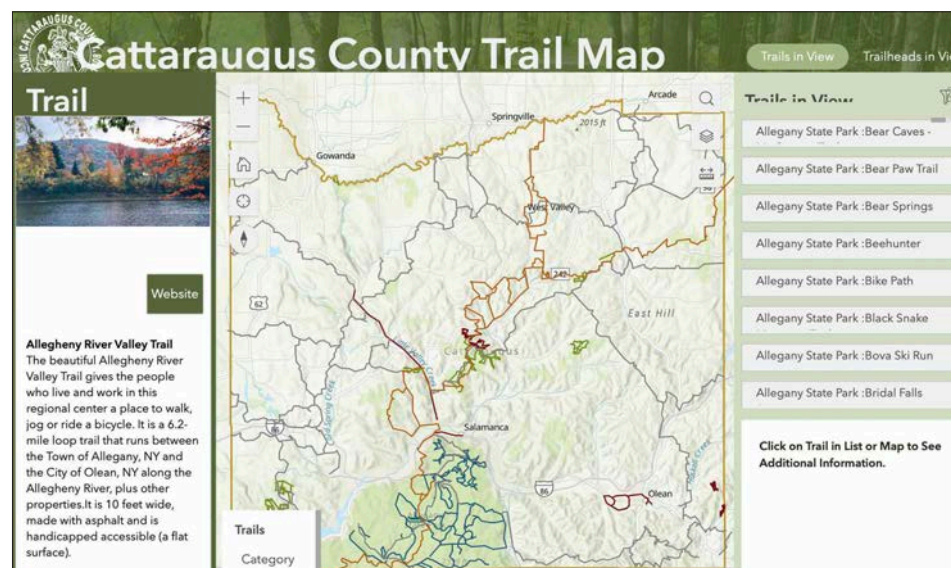
COUNTY PROMOTES PUBLIC RECREATION ON AREA TRAILS

Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism launches trail map viewer app

LITTLE VALLEY - With Funding provided by the Appalachian Region Commission, Cattaraugus County Economic Development, Planning and Tourism (EDPT) was able to contract with Barton & Loguidice to complete the Cattaraugus County Trail Mapping and Signage Project. The project intends to promote public recreation, active living and healthy lifestyles; encourage economic development by encouraging more visitors to visit, play and stay; celebrate the County's natural resources and rural character; and improve user experience and accessibility of the trail system.

On January 20, 2022, EDPT and Barton & Loguidice representatives announced on the County Wide Trail Committee Zoom Meeting, the launch of the Cattaraugus County Trail Map Viewer. The Web App link can be found at www.CattCo.org/Trails. The Cattaraugus County Wide Trail Mapping and Signage Project was designed to help promote the robust trail systems found throughout the County. One of the main objectives was the creation of a new web mapping application for viewing all of the County's trail systems for all user groups, including hikers, cyclists, cross country skiers, equestrians, and more. In addition, the project involves the development of a new signage system that will help to create consistent branding and promote the increased usage of the many trails throughout the County. These two initiatives were identified as priorities in the 2017 Countywide Trail System Plan as two of the most important improvements for increasing trail usage. The County is excited to be moving forward with promoting trail activity to allow more users to experience the beautiful natural resources that the Enchanted Mountains have to offer.

Crystal Abers, Director of the Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism states, "We are excited to have a new tool to help promote the wonderful trail systems we have in Cattaraugus County. The new Cattaraugus County Web application and signage system will help visitors and residents alike to easily access and confidently navigate trails throughout our county."



Cattaraugus County EDPT is also working on the implementation of the Signage Program. There have been funds set aside to purchase signage and kiosks for trail organizations that will increase the visibility of the trail heads, increase the safety of visitors, and to help visitors navigate the trail system. Trail organizations interested in participating in the signage program should contact Kate O'Stricker at 716-938-2320 or email kmostricker@cattco.org.

PENGUIN PADDLE

cont. from page 04

enger hunt for the kids, all per Holiday Valley and CDC guidelines. We'll be operating as they require, but we are going to be able to be back at our usual events with some possible adjustments, just to keep everyone safe."

Last year's virtual event provided new, more convenient opportunities for participation, some of which will be implemented this year! Those who win the silent auction will be able to pay for their items online at www.lounsburyadaptive.org instead of in-person at the Penguin Paddle. Raffle tickets and penguin slider race tickets can be purchased online in advance, too. "New this year, we are offering the ability to pre-purchase your lunch tickets online," Sigeti added.



These convenient online options mean more time on Yodeler come the 26th, and it's going to be a fun, busy day! Registration is open from 10:00am-1:00pm and the lunch tent will open at 11:00am until sold out. The silent auction in the tent at the base of Yodeler takes place from 10:00am-2:00pm and raffle tickets (available online or from any LASP instructor) can be purchased from now until the drawing takes place at 3:00pm on the 26th. This year's raffle prizes include a season's pass from Holiday Valley, a \$100 gift card to Lowe's Home Improvement, and a \$100 gift card from The City Garage Ski Shop, just to name a few. Tickets are 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20.

Silent auction items are donated by many businesses and individuals throughout the Ellicottville area and will be accepted up through Friday, February 25th; email LounsburyAdaptive@yahoo.com to make arrangements. Even those who can't participate in person on the day of the Penguin Paddle can contribute to the event by making a monetary donation in any amount at www.lounsburyadaptive.org.

"It's just a phenomenal event! Ellicottville is such a great area," said Sigeti. "My mom had me on skis at three years old. Skiing is just such an amazing sport, especially in this area where we live. Passing on that love to other people is such a huge reason why this program is so near and dear to my heart. It's really great that the community comes out and supports not just the Penguin Paddle, but the life-changing work of the Lounsbury program."

For more information about this year's Penguin Paddle, go to holidayvalley.com/events. Stay up to date on the Lounsbury Adaptive Ski Program by following @lounsburyadaptive on Instagram and Facebook.

VANDYKE AGENCY

cont. from page 11

agement - two companies formerly owned and operated by husband-and-wife team Joe and Sherry Chamberlain. "Their business was very similar to ours," Ciji explained of the Chamberlains' real estate and property management companies. "They opened in 2006 and have grown to include almost 200 rental units that they manage in the area. Joe and Sherry have done an incredible job, and there is so much mutual respect and admiration from one husband and wife team to another."

The VanDykes purchased the Chamberlains' building and acquired both companies, though they still own and maintain their Great Valley location. "I'm continuing to work in Great Valley where we have five agents, and Todd has been focusing on Olean. Right now, Joe and Sherry are still onboard for the time being during this transition. This is a husband and wife team who built this from the ground up and now they're handing this huge portfolio to another husband and wife team. Everyone wants to make sure that everyone is taken care of. I think it was just a perfect fit and the right timing for everyone!"

Those who are interested in buying, selling, rentals, or property management can learn more about the VanDyke Agency at www.vandykeagency.com or call 716-265-2062. "We love what we do," said Ciji. "We're so excited to expand into Olean and begin this next chapter of our business."

Snow-ga at Pfeiffer Nature Center

Join Jessie Lampack Slattery for Pfeiffer Nature Center's first adventure in Snow-ga [snow yoga]! For this inaugural offering, dress for movement but be mindful to bundle up and wear snow gear and boots as participants will be sitting and lying in the snow at times. No yoga mat needed. Cost is \$10 per person and can be paid at the time of the program. Pre-registration not required. COVID safety protocols will be followed. In the event of freezing rain, extreme weather or lack of snow, this program will be postponed. If the weather appears questionable, look for a notice on the top of Pfeiffer Nature Center's website homepage (pfeiffernaturecenter.org). This program will be held at the Lillibridge property, 1974 Lillibridge road, Portville.

SPRINGVILLE SKI & SNOWBOARD

cont. from page 15



Sam Johnston demonstrates the use of The Daily Adventure Box, a system which allows renters access to a ski-bike by way of a smart phone app.

photo / Rich Rumfola

By the following season, Johnston was working at The Ski Depot for the legendary 'Moose' (a.k.a. Chris Brown). Moose's shop was big in the industry at the time and he had two locations operating in Ellicottville. The Ski Depot was also an exclusive dealer for the Salomon brand and Johnston's exposure to the Salomon marketing team as a teenager eventually put him in a position to be chosen for a regional sales position a few years down the road.

Working in a high-volume retail/rental atmosphere, Johnston learned to quickly and accurately process a ski rental form, as well as how to mount and test ski bindings. He waxed many, many skis and boards and soon excelled at the art of the ski/snowboard tune.

Around that time, the Function Snowboard factory moved from their humble beginnings in someone's West Falls, NY barn to the epicenter of snowsports in western New York - Ellicottville. They produced their own line of snowboards and also built and labeled boards for other brands. Johnston's sister went to work for Function, as did other kids he knew, so it was just a matter of time before he ended up working there as well. It turned out to be one of the major turning points in his young life.

Johnston points to the experience of prototyping, building and testing boards with the guys who started the Function company as one of his life's great learning experiences. When Function's founders sold the company a few years later, he was hired by the new ownership group in Hood River, OR, to help them produce a new line, called Heelside Snowboards, which was focused on taking a share of the rental industry.

Johnston says he had another life-changing experience, which also came while he was living in Oregon, when he applied to be a motorcycle mechanic but was turned down for not having enough experience.

"So the first thing I did was to enroll in the Motorcycle Mechanic's Institute, where I was exposed to all kinds of technical knowledge," he said. "It was a whole new world for me - it turns out I had to learn how to accurately measure things, for starters."

In 2000, after a few more years in Oregon, Johnston moved back to WNY and started a family. He has three sons of his own who also enjoy sliding on the snow. They are Henry, age 17, Roland, 12, and Arthur, 10. Johnston currently balances a nine-to-five career in hydraulic equipment sales and repairs against keeping alive the dream of operating his own ski and snowboard shop.

Reflecting on the considerable depth of his ski/snowboard experience, Johnston quipped, "People use that line, 'A jack of all trades.' Well, this is one trade I've definitely got covered."

After spending a significant portion of his life building snowboards with his own hands, Johnston is probably the most qualified ski technician you will ever meet. He will be able to repair almost any damage to your ski or snowboard bases; he can certainly make everything you own slide on the snow much easier and he will be able to mount and test ski bindings, depending on your individual needs.

Johnston's current business philosophy was shaped in large part by his experiences growing up on a dairy farm and having to make do with the pieces of ski equipment he was fortunate enough to come by. "I was just a farm kid growing up in Cattaraugus, who loved to ski and got his first pair of skis given to him - and they were old!" he added. "I want to provide good equipment for my customers and it's going to be well-maintained and reasonably priced."

Of the many and varied positions Johnston has held over the years, however, he is especially proud of the fact that he began his journey in the industry as a ski instructor and that he still spends time once in awhile teaching children how to ski.

"I know this great family from Arcade who are customers and they asked me to take their young daughter out last season and teach her how to ski!" Johnston proudly proclaimed. "And we went out there and had a great time and I think we're going to get to do it again soon!"

Springville finally has its own ski and snowboard shop to go along with its snowy reputation. Stop by and check it out! 14214 S. Cascade Drive, Springville, NY, phone 716-225-0035. Search them on Facebook or go to www.springvilleski.com.



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SENECA ALLEGANY RESORT & CASINO

777 SENECA ALLEGANY BOULEVARD
SALAMANCA, NY 14779

CLASSIFIEDS

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED: Experienced carpenters needed. Please apply in person to G.M. Nickolson Construction, Inc., located at 42 Mill Street, Ellicottville, NY 14731 or email resume and references to Michael Nickolson at gmnickolson@aol.com.

COMMUNITY

A COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE is scheduled for Friday, February 11th at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ellicottville, NY from 1:00-6:00pm. Call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit www.redcrossblood.org to schedule your appointment.

FREE COVID TESTING AT HOLIMONT: Located in the Covid Testing tent at the bottom of Sunset lift. Rapid antigen (5-10 minutes) and PCR tests (24-36 hours) available. Open to everyone. Appointment and insurance not required. Walk-up, drive-up and ski-up access. For more info and hours, visit holimont.com.

Snowshoe Hikes at Allegany State Park

SALAMANCA - Explore the woods and various points of interest at Allegany State Park. Park Naturalists will lead interpretive snowshoe treks or hikes (even if there is no snow) on Tuesday evenings at 4:30pm and Saturday mornings at 11:00am. Meeting places and hikes will vary. Snowshoes available to rent for FREE during the program. For more information and the location of the weekly hikes, or to reserve snowshoes, call 716-354-6232 or search Allegany State Park on Facebook.

SERVICES

ROVER MAKEOVERS: Professional pet grooming. Owned and operated locally by mother and daughter, Teresa Mercer and Calla Wagner. Call 716-364-2302 for an appointment. Located at 16 Elizabeth St., Ellicottville. "YOUR DOG IS OUR DOG." Dog collars and accessories also available for sale.

MARTENS CLEANING SERVICE: Local, professional carpet cleaning, deep cleans, construction clean-up, grout and tile cleaning, residential and business cleaning, rental property flips. Now booking ski seasonal rental cleanings. Call Christina Martens, 585-435-7158.

DAN KANDEFER PLUMBING & HEATING: Quality products and professional installation. Remodeling, radiant heat flooring, all service work, boiler service and furnace repairs. Residential and commercial, 60 years of experience! Serving Ellicottville and the surrounding areas. Call 716-583-2034 or 716-945-5848.

RENTALS

ERA TEAM VP REAL ESTATE & VACATION RENTALS offers over 200 privately owned and professionally managed vacation rental homes and condominiums in Ellicottville, Chautauqua Lake and Chautauqua Institution. View all of our rentals at MyTeamVP.com or call 800-344-2198 to speak with a seasoned reservationist.

TELEMARK MOTEL, LOCATED ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE SUNRISE CHAIR is open for seasonal or monthly room rentals. All rooms have private baths, WiFi and cable. \$1,000/month plus tax or \$4,000 including tax for the season. Please email tektele@gmail.com or call 716-699-4193.

REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE - LOCATION LOCATION LOCATION: At the 1.62 acre property at the entrance to Holiday Valley is home to Slopeside Bar & BBQ and the Telemark Motel. Owned by the same family for 37 years. Opportunities like this don't happen frequently! Email tektele@gmail.com for more information.

TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE: Minutes from downtown, Holiday Valley and HoliMont. 65+ acres zoned agriculture with hardwoods a plenty. Large stream for fishing with electric at property plus a trail for hiking or riding. Several acres are cleared and could be developed. Details: CENTURY 21 Balesteri, 716-837-7000.

NOTICE

ONE SEAT OPEN ON THE ELLICOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Nominating petitions for the Ellicottville Central School District Board of Education are now available. The annual election will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 to fill the seat currently held by board member, Mr. Leonard Zlockie. Nominating petitions must be filed with the District Clerk by 5:00pm on Monday, April 18, 2022.

Petitions must contain the signatures and legal addresses of at least 25 qualified voters living in the Ellicottville Central School District. A qualified voter must be a United States citizen, be at least 18 years of age, a district resident for 30 days prior to the election, with their current address on the nominating petition. To qualify as a candidate, one must be a qualified voter and a district resident for one year immediately prior to the election.

The candidate (one) receiving the highest number of votes will serve a five-year term, beginning on July 1, 2022 and expiring on June 30, 2027.

Nominating petitions are available in the District Office, between the hours of 8:00am-4:00pm (Monday-Friday) when school is in session.

SPECIAL CONDOLENCES

Kathrynanna O'Connell
Sept. 23, 1948 - Jan. 29, 2022

The delicious smells and memories from the kitchen is what brought Kathie true happiness. Whether she was stirring her Sunday Sauce, making meatballs, or baking unforgettable Italian Cookies, everything from her kitchen was created with love.

Kathrynanna O'Connell passed away on Saturday evening, January 29, 2022 at her home in Ellicottville, New York. Her final days were spent with her devoted family reminiscing about lovely moments they shared with Kathie.

Kathie, an Illinois native, moved to Ellicottville nearly eight years ago. During those eight years, the village fell in love with her gentle and kind spirit. Kathie beamed with pride about her two sons, John-Paul (Jenna) of Ellicottville, New York, and Daniel (April) of Hampshire, Illinois. Her six grandchildren, Jordan, Juliana, Jack, Thomas, Benjamin, and Josephine were the light of her life and brought her endless joy.

Kathie grew up in the kitchen learning recipes with her mother, and later enjoyed teaching and sharing those recipes with her grandchildren. Knowing her entire family would gather together for a delicious meal made Kathie giddy with excitement every time.



A memorial visitation service will be held at Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church in Ellicottville, New York on Saturday, February 26, 2022 at 9:00am. A Holy Mass will take place at 10:00am with burial immediately following at Holy Cross Cemetery. Donations on behalf of Kathie can be given directly to the family to present to Catholic Charities in honor of the adoption of her two sons.



SPORTS: ECS Lady Eagles 9-0 following Monday's victory against Pine Valley

Junior forward Allison Rowland (#11 white jersey) fights for a rebound in the waning moments of a hard-fought, 30-29 win over the Pine Valley Lady Panthers Monday evening, Feb. 7th at ECS. Lady Eagles Addison John #3 and Natalie Leiper #22 look on. Rowland's free throw with 1:26 left in regulation time brought the Lady Eagles all the way back from a seven-point deficit earlier in the quarter and knotted the score at 29-29. Rowland found herself back at the free throw line a half-minute later, where she buried the go-ahead foul shot to give her team the margin of victory in the game. With the win, the Lady Eagles remain a perfect 9-0 in league play (11-5 overall) and the clear favorite as the team heads down the stretch to the playoffs. photo / Rich Rumfola

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thenewphskiev: Who else cross country skis to @dinasellicottville for lunch? #snowday #ellicottvillenow #crosscountyskiing #family



snowbeltcannabis: Life in the Snowbelt! #evlnow #welovewinter #specialdelivery #powderpatrol



treyning4life: Sometimes life is better than vacation. Get out there and enjoy your life! @ellicottvillenow



sevenonesixer: #holidayvalley #allthewaffles #evlnow



mindy6176: Snow much fun! #bluebird #ellicottvillenow



skibikerunt: Winter is looking up! #moresnowplease #evlnow



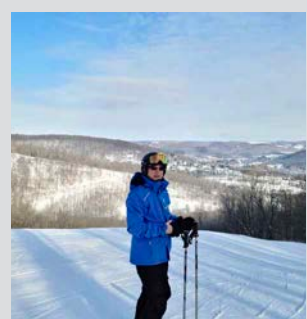
brooklynsz: These little lucky ducks. We never had snow days! Glad I got to enjoy this snow day with them! #EllicottvilleNY #evlsnowedin



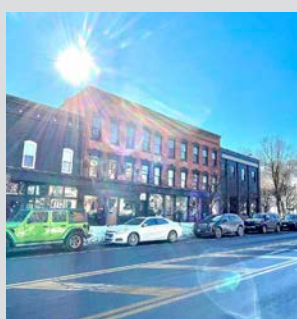
shannonlshepherd: We love our mountain time! #evlnow



robert_kuechle: @holimont #evlnow #ski #ellicottvillenow



kellyoliverbonnay012: #evlnow #holidayvalley #skiev! #winterfun



team_pritchard: Brisk but beautiful #singledigits #evlnow



holiday_valley_race_team: HVRT Athletes enjoying an amazing weekend!! #youthskiracing #downhillskiracing #evlsnowedin #evlnow

THE BOARDROOM SNOWBOARD SHOP PRESENTS:

AB Boardroom Banked

3.6.22

HOLIDAY VALLEY

A BANKED SLALOM ON CHAMPAGNE

FOUR DIVISIONS

PRE-PARTY &
REGISTRATION

TROPHIES AND
FREE SWAG

REDUCED
LIFT TICKETS

POST-PARTY ON
THE SUN DECK

LIVE DJ

RACE DAY
START
9:00am

TROPHIES TO
THE TOP 3 IN
4 DIVISIONS

GROM · LADIES · MENS · O.G.
(Original Gangsters over 35)

HELMETS REQUIRED

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT P.U.N.T.

@boardroomeville @holidayvalley @puntpediatriccancer

SIGN-UP LINKS:

BOARDSANDPOWDER.COM · HOLIDAYVALLEY.COM

