

ellicottvilleNOW



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Costumes, Floats and Good Times!

The Mardi Gras Parade & Winter Carnival celebrations are making their way back to downtown Ellicottville



It is perhaps one of the most fun and zany events of winter. An event that invites both locals and visitors to put their creative minds to work in preparation for the biggest party of ski season. An event that encourages individuals and groups to choose their theme, plan their costumes, and parade through Ellicottville's business district, while spectators line the streets, cheering for their favorites.

Following a two-year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Ellicottville's Mardi Gras Parade is back on the schedule, and organizers of the event are anticipating a record turnout, as many have expressed how much they've missed this iconic festival.

Coinciding with Holiday Valley's Winter Carnival weekend, the Mardi Gras Parade is set for Saturday, March 12th, starting promptly at 6:30pm.

... page 04

Town Will Discuss Re-source Officer Grant Funding with Ellicottville Central School

Ellicottville Police Officer-in-Charge Don Auge presented Superintendent Robert R. Miller's request for a 10-month officer at the school. He said the District has obtained a three-year \$65,000 grant to pay an officer to aid in school-family communications, but he had no specific grant information.

Auge said the school district can't provide a county Sheriff's deputy with a car so he has turned to the Town to seek a different arrangement. Security is a concern because of "a couple" threats in the past couple of years.

... page 11

KELLER WILLIAMS: HITTING THE SLOPES AT HOLIDAY VALLEY

Singer/songwriter Keller Williams will be co-headlining the Rail Rider Jamboree alongside Dark Star Orchestra on Saturday, March 19th at Holiday Valley. The first-time festival will run Friday through Sunday with lots to see and do outdoors. His show in Ellicottville will be a solo performance, accompanying himself on bass, drums, guitar and more through a technique called "live phrase sampling" or "looping". ellicottvilleNOW had the pleasure of talking one-on-one with Williams, about his music, his two kids, soccer, and how he hopes to get out on his skis while down here ... page 07

A School Bus Story

West Valley Bus #88 enjoys retirement across the Atlantic



SUBMITTED BY JEFF BABBITT

Have you ever wondered what happens to a school bus once it retires? West Valley Central School's Bus number 88 served the district well for 14 years, logging 115,493 miles transporting students across the rural countryside.

Upon Bus 88's decommissioning last summer, it was sold to Don Brown's Bus Sales in Johnstown, NY. "We've sold buses all over the world," said Nick Tarbox, regional sales manager at Don Brown's. "It's quite common for private individuals to purchase old buses and convert them into various applications to fit their lifestyle."

Bus 88 was found by one such private individual, Steve Rowe, from the country of England in the United Kingdom.

... page 17



THE 4TH ANNUAL BOARDROOM BANKED RETURNS

On March 6th, the staff and friends of The Boardroom Snowboard Shop will transform part of Holiday Valley's Champagne slope into a banked slalom course with 8 high-octane turns where competitors can test their skills in a timed format to see who the fastest riders on the course are. And while the competition aspect of the event is appealing, this really isn't about winning and losing. Instead, it's about cultivating a scene and making sure that snowboarding in Western New York continues to thrive ... page 03

RAIL RIDER JAMBOREE

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Publisher's PICK

Boardroom Banked Returns to the Slopes of Holiday Valley



By DASH HEGEMAN

There was a time, specifically in the years prior to the 1998 Nagano Olympic Games, where snowboarding was much less socially accepted than it is today. In those days, snowboarders were rebels and embraced a counterculture attitude that was not appreciated by much of the general public. However, after Nagano, where 19-year-old Ross Powers won the Bronze medal in the Halfpipe competition, people started to embrace the sport in ways that just years prior seemed unrealistic and very unlikely. But as competitive snowboarding became more socially acceptable, some of that counterculture rebellion that snowboarding was known for began to dissipate. For better or for worse, snowboarding was growing up.

One thing that will never change though, is the fact that snowboarding is, at its core, about community. Back when resorts first started allowing snowboarders to ride the lifts, if you saw another snowboarder in the lifeline, even if you didn't know them, you were immediately friends.

Cultivating that sense of community is something that The Boardroom Banked Slalom was created on. Entering its fourth year of existence (it would've been the fifth year but for obvious reasons, it took a year off last season) the event has grown in participation and fundraising levels each year. It was created, in part, as a way to ensure that the Western New York snowboard community stayed in touch with one another; so that girls and boys, men and women, people of all ages were able to celebrate the sport they love and have a really fun time doing it!

On March 6th, the staff and friends of The Boardroom Snowboard Shop will transform part of Holiday Valley's Champagne slope into a banked slalom course with 8 high-octane turns where competitors can test their skills in a timed format to see who the fastest riders on the course are. And while the competition aspect of the event is appealing, this really isn't about winning and losing. Instead, it's about cultivating a scene and making sure that snowboarding in Western New York continues to thrive.

"We wanted to create a snowboard-only event - by snowboarders, for snowboarders," Spencer Timkey of The Boardroom said. "In the years prior, we felt like the event scene in Western New York was starting to get stale. Rail jams are great, but we wanted to create something that the everyday snowboarder could not just compete in, but have a good time doing it. The Banked went from a throwaway idea to a staple on the WNY event circuit. And while we understand it's not a banked slalom in the traditional sense — we're not pretending to be the Legendary Banked at Baker — it's just a fun event and a great day that welcomes all snowboarders."

There will be four divisions to compete in. Grom (age 15 and under), Men's, Women's and OG (age 35+). The fastest riders will win some great prizes and custom trophies but everyone involved will enjoy some fantastic food and drinks while they celebrate all things snowboarding. The Boardroom is raffling off stellar prizes like a 2023 Lib Tech Jamie Lynn '96, custom prints from legendary Lib Tech team photographer Tim Zimmerman, signed pieces from Buffalo Bills tight end Dawson Knox and much more.

Additionally, proceeds from The Boardroom Banked will go to P.U.N.T. Pediatric Collaborative, a nonprofit that provides families in Western New York facing pediatric cancer with programs that offer financial, practical and emotional support in their time of need. According to Timkey, P.U.N.T. was chosen because of the outstanding work it does. "Our connection with P.U.N.T. stems from our friendship with Maddie Szaicher, an Ellicottville native and unbelievable person. The work they do is so substantial, and so admirable, that we want to raise as much money for them as we possibly can.

Rider participation is capped at 125 so go to The Boardroom's website, www.boardsandpowder.com, and register today. For more information and registration, head to The Boardroom's website or Instagram handle @boardroomeville. Day-of registration is not guaranteed so register today! Discounted Holiday Valley lift tickets are available.



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LOCAL NEWS

SMOKE AND SAVOR

Cigar and bourbon pairing at The Silver Fox to offer new flavors, experiences



By MARY HEYL

A Western New York native and registered nurse by trade, Susan Baryza has always loved the village of Ellicottville and recently fulfilled her dream of opening her own business there: she shed, he shed. As the name implies, the boutique at 22 Washington Street has a variety of pieces and gifts for men and women alike. What sets this boutique apart from other businesses is its unique offering of cigars – a niche market that Baryza noticed had been missing from the village shopping scene.

Now in her second year of business, Baryza is excited to work with Michael Nickolson, owner of the Silver Fox Steakhouse, to host Smoke and Savor, a cigar and bourbon pairing, at the restaurant on Friday, March 11th from 6:00-8:00pm. “Even if you’re new to cigars or consider yourself a regular, this will be a great event to try something new and get together with friends,” said Baryza. “Cigars are an art; they’re cut a certain way, lit a certain way. There’s an etiquette behind it, so this can be an introduction to that if someone is new to the experience!”

Baryza first met Nickolson as she was preparing to open her shop in 2020, the year after her son passed away. “I was a director at a hospital running a cardiology department,” Baryza said of her former career. “After my son passed away, I knew I needed to do something different. Healthcare wasn’t for me anymore, and I think you need to be able to pivot and still move on. My family really needed me, and they were so supportive of this dream of mine.”

When Baryza was planning to open her shop, Nickolson, who also owns his own construction company, was working on EBC Tap + Bottle & Taqueria next door. “That’s where my husband and I got to know him, and he definitely helped us a time or two,” she recalled. In October of 2020, she shed, he shed opened.

When Baryza began purchasing cigars, she noted that there was a steep learning curve, especially with regards to state licensure requirements. However, “The knowledge I’ve gained from it and working with reps from different cigar companies has been amazing. There’s actually an art to smoking them. It’s sophisticated, and I’ve come to the conclusion that every day, I become more and more excited about learning about them!”

The 250-stick humidor is located at the register in the he-shed area, and popular brands include Acid Cigars, Cohiba, and Macanudo. Baryza said, “There are cutters, small travel humidors, and cigar holders to take on the golf course that fit in a pocket or golf bag. I always take recommendations. I’m learning along the way!”

For the Smoke and Savor event, Baryza will be featuring some bourbon barreled cigars, including a milder cigar for those who may be newer to smoking, and a couple of surprises. “I’m not planning to go too full-flavored - I’ll keep it mild to medium and probably feature some cigars that people wouldn’t normally purchase.”

Nickolson knows exactly which bourbons he’ll be serving and is eager to do so in the space that provided several years of enjoyment for cigar smokers. “I turned 21 in October of 1974, and my dad and I opened the Silver Fox in December of 1974,” he recalled. “We’re working on our 48th year. Upstairs used to be the cigar bar until the ban on indoor smoking.”

Now, the upstairs area is open for dining and private parties, and Nickolson is looking forward to seeing it being used similar to the way it was in 1974.

New York state allows businesses to host two indoor smoking events per year through special

“Smoke and Savor” continued page 21

MARDI GRAS PARADE

Following a two-year absence, an iconic event is returning to downtown Ellicottville



ELLICOTTVILLE - It is perhaps one of the most fun and zany events of winter. An event that invites both locals and visitors to put their creative minds to work in preparation for the biggest party of ski season. An event that encourages individuals and groups to choose their theme, plan their costumes, and parade through Ellicottville’s business district, while spectators line the streets, cheering for their favorites.

Following a two-year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Ellicottville’s Mardi Gras Parade is back on the schedule, and organizers of the event are anticipating a record turnout, as many have expressed how much they’ve missed this iconic festival.

“In March of 2020, just one week before our Mardi Gras celebration was set to take place, our nation’s leaders declared a public health emergency, and businesses and events were ordered to shut down to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus,” remembers Brian McFadden, executive director of the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce. “Now, two years later, with vaccination rates increasing and mandates being lifted, we are excited to bring back the Mardi Gras Parade, and we’re looking forward to celebrating this iconic event with our friends again - safely.”

Coinciding with Holiday Valley’s Winter Carnival weekend, the Mardi Gras Parade is set for Saturday, March 12th. Registered participants will gather in the parking lot at Katy’s Café before 6:00pm and will march down Ellicottville’s main drag promptly at 6:30pm, ending at the Gazebo. Applications to participate are now available on the Ellicottville Chamber’s website and you must pre-register to be in the parade.

“We’ve already received a number of applications, and we’re very close to finalizing all of the fun details for the ‘Best of’ contests,” said Jessica Wallace, the Chamber’s business development manager. “We can’t wait to see what everyone has in store for their costumes and float decorations. Our local businesses always go above and beyond, and we anticipate a good crowd to cheer them on.”

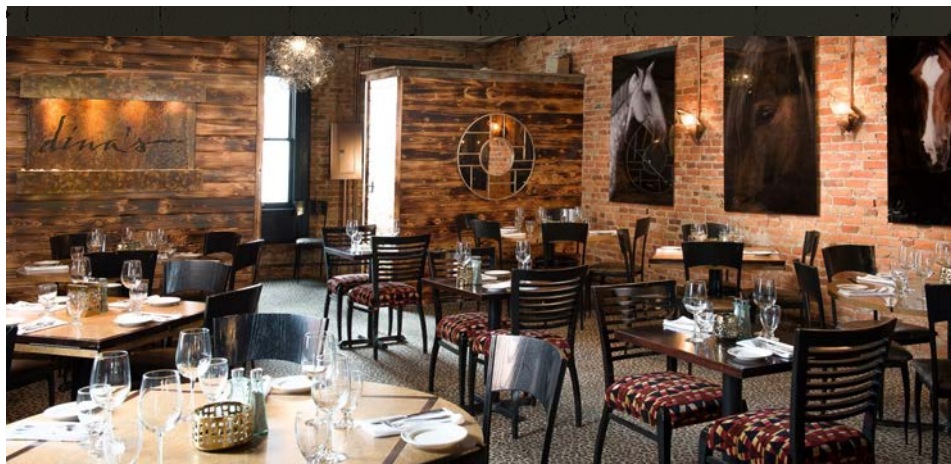
The culmination of the Mardi Gras Parade is the crowning of a King and Queen, decided on by spectators who will applaud for their favorite. Not only will the King and Queen claim bragging rights, they will also be invited to lead the Winter Carnival Costume Parade down Mardi Gras slope the following day at Holiday Valley.

A few notes to remember: The Mardi Gras Parade is a family-friendly event. No alcohol is permitted in the parade. While candy and trinkets such as bead necklaces can be handed out to spectators, marchers are asked not to throw items into the crowd. Lastly, day-of registration will not be available, hop onto ellicottvilleny.com soon and fill out the online application.

“Once you’re registered, let the fun begin!” said Wallace. “Gather your group and get started on those zany and elaborate costumes and floats. Let’s make the 2022 Mardi Gras Parade one to remember!”

For additional information about this year’s Mardi Gras Parade or if you have questions, please call the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce at 800-349-9099 or email jessica@ellicottvilleny.com. To learn more about Holiday Valley’s Winter Carnival celebration March 12-13th, go to holidayvalley.com.

The Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce provides advocacy, promotional and benefit solutions for its members - setting the standard for excellence in member service, community collaboration, business growth while achieving a high quality of life in Ellicottville and the surrounding area. For more information visit <http://www.ellicottvilleny.com>.



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INTERVIEW

KELLER WILLIAMS: HITTING THE SLOPES AT HOLIDAY VALLEY



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SATURDAY | MARCH 19

By Melanie Hulick

Singer/songwriter Keller Williams will be co-headlining the Rail Rider Jamboree alongside Dark Star Orchestra on Saturday, March 19th at Holiday Valley. The first-time festival will run Friday through Sunday with lots to see and do outdoors.

Williams is no stranger to music festivals, as he has performed at many and enjoys the whole concept of bringing music and fans together in an outdoor setting. Born in Virginia, Williams released his first album in 1994 called "Freek" and has since followed up with over 25 albums, including his newest release, "Grit". All of his albums have a one syllable title, which he says are like "a little snapshot of history, but all have a common thread."

I recently had the pleasure of talking one-on-one with Williams; we discussed his music and the impact Covid has had on it, his two kids, soccer and how amped he is for the March venue.

His show in Ellicottville will be a solo performance, accompanying himself on bass, drums, guitar and more through a technique called "live phrase sampling" or "looping" (like Ed Sheeran does). It is very unique in the sense that each show is different as the artist makes up the accompanying music before each song and that process is like watching a whole other show in itself. "I couldn't afford humans, so this was the next best thing," says Williams.

An avid skier, the singer/songwriter is hoping to fit in a few runs on slopes while in Ellicottville. "I usually don't have time to do things like that, but I think I may have an extra day around this show to take advantage of it," said Williams. I play all these beautiful ski resorts and never get to enjoy my favorite hobby, so I'm hoping to make it happen this time."

For more on Keller Williams visit: kellerwilliams.net. For information on The Rail Rider Jamboree and to purchase tickets visit: railriderjamboree.com.

A Conversation with Keller

HULICK: You are one of two headliners for the first ever Rail Rider Jamboree at Holiday Valley.

WILLIAMS: Yes, with Dark Star Orchestra. They have a built-in fan base, so a lot of people will be coming out. I love those guys and I'm excited to be on the same bill as them.

HULICK: You're into the Grateful Dead and that's what their music is based on, so this is a perfect pairing. It must feel good to be able to

start playing gigs again since the whole pandemic took that away from you. Has Covid changed things for you musically, as far as the writing and creative standpoint?

WILLIAMS: Absolutely. Just having that forced time off in 2020 was really a God-send for me because I never would have taken that time off, so it was a blessing in disguise in the sense that I really, really needed a couple months off. I think because of that it gave me time to stretch, and I definitely have come out of it way better as far as inspiration and ideas. I used that time to get the songs flowing again. It's been many years since I've had an influx of new material like I have now.

HULICK: How many shows do you typically do a year?

WILLIAMS: Normally - pandemic free - between one and 120. All weekends, usually Thursday, Friday and Saturday. With the pandemic we decided to take January and February off this year and see where things were going before we had fans buy tickets and have to return them. Other than a couple gigs I did to help a friend out, my first gig is going to be in the first part of March. Then I'll be heading to Ellicottville for the Rail Rider Jamboree, so by the time I get there I'm going to be incredibly amped and ready to be out on the road ... I'm going to try and contain myself though. (laughs)

HULICK: (laughs) We appreciate that. What is a typical crowd for your shows?

WILLIAMS: The past decade or so I would say it's a mixture of long haired, open minded folks from the ages of 25 to 60. Definitely a musical crowd ... a tongue & cheek kinda crowd and a kind and passionate crowd.

HULICK: Are your children interested in the music business?

WILLIAMS: My 17-year-old daughter, Ella, has turned into an amazing singer/songwriter. She has come up with some really amazing songs ... I'm biased now ... but they're really good, as if they're legitimate hits with a 17-year-old perspective.

HULICK: Spoken like a proud Dad.

WILLIAMS: There's a nonprofit organization called, "The Spirit of Football" and it focuses on soccer. It's a well-known organization and the American Ambassadors are folks that have seen Ella and me at FloydFest in Virginia ... we play there every year, doing an hour-long set as a duo, and they approached us and wanted us to write a song for the organization about the global climate change crisis and soccer. When I heard that I laughed and said, "Oh, hell no!" (laughs) I told them I'll pass and Ella says, "I'll give it a try." So she wrote this amazing song and we recorded it. It's just a perfect song. I didn't think she could do it, but damn if she didn't. They loved it and it's going to be released in July. Apparently this organization does something similar to the Olympic torch relay ... they take a soccer ball around the world, letting people in different countries, cities, villages pass it along the route and people sign the ball and there are soccer games organized. It's all documented. The ball finally ends up at the World Cup. It's possible we're going to get to go to the kick-off of the games at the opening ceremony in London.

HULICK: That's incredible! What a thing to be a part of ... what an accomplishment!

WILLIAMS: I think they're focusing on the women's soccer league this year and Ella, hopefully, is slowly becoming their spokesperson. It's my hope that in the distant future she pays off the house she grew up in. (laughs) Hey, a dad can dream!

HULICK: (laughs) Any chance the two of you would record an album together?

WILLIAMS: I would love nothing more if my son, Cabell, would agree to do one with me. I didn't want the "you made one with her but not with me" issue. I gave him so many chances and now his voice is changing and I'm embarrassed by him. (laughs) Just wait till I show up at the skatepark with a skateboard in full elbow and knee pads, a face mask and all the other garb on ... he's going to be saying, "Oh God!" ... but I want to connect with him somehow.

HULICK: (laughs) Take it one step further and have a camera attached to your helmet.

WILLIAMS: (laughs) Yeah! One of those fully mounted "go pro" ones to see my face and in front of me!

HULICK: Do you ski?

WILLIAMS: I do. I grew up skiing in Virginia and then we moved to Steamboat Springs in Colorado where I switched to snowboarding until this past winter when I was getting some pains so I switched back to skis and I fell in love with skiing all over again. It might be possible for me to get a couple runs in when I'm there since my show is on a Saturday and I don't have a show on Friday.

HULICK: You could also take a walk through the beautiful village and see the tree built of skis.

WILLIAMS: I love that! In Telluride, Colorado you see fences around houses made with skis. I have a friend in Woodstock, New York who started making a fence around his house one summer with upright pianos. (laughs) If you go on Craig's List there's all the ads saying, "free piano - just come get it please". So he created a fence of upright pianos. I guess he had some of the keys facing out so when you walked by you could play. (laughs)

BUSINESS

HOME SHOW REINVENTED

Greater Olean Area expo to return in 2022; expanding into health and fitness



OLEAN - GOACC officials are announcing the combo of two of their events into one – Home Show + Sports, Recreation & Fitness Expo = Health Home Fitness Expo. This year, Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce changed the name of the expo and is expanding into health and fitness as well as recreational aspirations. Show-goers can talk to a number of area experts and learn about home, health, fitness and more - all in one place.

“The sports show was held for 9 years at several different locations as well as different times of the year, the last one during a snowstorm in January 2019 with attendance at the event steadily decreasing. Plans for a 2020-2021 show was to bring it to a new month - May - with the opportunity of showcasing the many different products and services outside in the elements,” reported Meme K. Yanetsko, GOACC COO.

The Chamber’s event committee decided in the fall of 2021 to combine the shows. Although both shows have a great market area in Western New York, the decision to combine was to create one big event to help with the vendors’ staffing and promotion budgets.

Past vendors of both shows agree that this show is a ‘consistent winner for us.’ Maple Leaf Contracting of Olean’s Janet Rippel agrees: “Great show. The event was very organized and well attended. We received great leads and are looking forward to this year’s show!”

Maple Hill Blade’s Tim Wright added, “Many doors were opened for us by exhibiting in the show. This show has been a consistent winner for us.”

Why should you attend this year’s expo? The HHF Expo is designed for homeowners who are in all stages of remodeling, landscaping, and decorating their homes, as well as anyone interested in the latest in fitness, nutrition, health, psychology, workplace wellness, and more.

Erica Dreher, GOACC Member Services Manager stated, “The exhibitors go to great lengths to provide you with visual, interactive experiences designed to stimulate your creativity and dreams for your home improvement plans. Plus, you have a fantastic opportunity to shop, compare and save all under one roof, in a fun, interactive environment!”

The Health Home and Fitness Expo, presented by GOACC and its 43 Corporate Sponsors, is scheduled to take place April 22nd from 5:00-9:00pm, April 23rd from 10:00am-6:00pm and Sunday, April 24th from 10:00am-4:00pm at the William O. Smith Recreation Center, 551 East State Street, Olean.

Additional plans for the expo include demos of dog retrieval, dog obedience, fly fishing, to completing a six-hole disc golf course and more outside the center. GOACC staff will be lining up make-and-takes (free or for a small fee) for all ages, scheduled DIY demos and other hands-on activities.

GOACC will have a basket raffle in the lobby encouraging all attending to take a part in for a nominal fee. Also, GOACC is working with Four Mile Brewing to have a brew and cider tasting as part of Friday night, and similar themes from past Home Shows will feature FREE raffles every 30 minutes on Saturday and a Garden Party theme for Sunday. There will be no fee to attend the expo.

“GOACC Home Show” continued page 21

PEDDLING ON THE TRACKS

Railbiking may offer Cattaraugus County a new outdoor “vibe”



By KATHLEEN KELLOGG

The Cattaraugus County Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA) is looking into leasing a few miles of its unused railroad line to Revolution Rail, a company that offers unique rail peddling excursions in three states to outdoor adventure-seekers and nature-lovers during the warmer months.

Representatives of the company were introduced to the CCIDA Board of Directors during the agency’s meeting that was aired via Zoom Tuesday morning in Ellicottville. They explained that in 2017 they launched their Adirondack operations in North Creek, New York with six rail bikes each carrying two or four passengers on an unused portion of the Saratoga and North Creek Railway near the High Peaks Wilderness in the Adirondack Park.

Since then, they said, the company established operations to the south near Lake George in Hadley, New York, and also along a Jersey Shore public transit shoreline route in Cape May, New Jersey, and on the Durango and Rio Grande rails in South Fork, Colorado. Currently, 100 rail bikes are ready to roll on scenic rail in May, attended by at least 38 employees, including local historians, crossing guards and gift shop workers. Revolution Rail can be expected to invest about \$150,000 on a startup.

The design of the lightweight bikes is inspired by hand-pumped rail maintenance cars of former times, but these Vermont-manufactured four-wheeled railbikes run on lightweight hard plastic wheels that are shaped to fit over the rails. Riders of all ages and abilities can operate the foot pedals and brakes while seated comfortably on an aluminum frame that can be coupled with other bikes in the string.

The round trip takes about two hours to travel about three miles, with a 15-minute rest stop while workers turn each car around to head back to the point of origin. Tickets start at \$70 for one or two people and are booked on the internet. Promotional information boasts 10,000 riders in 2021 alone at the North Creek concession.

Agency Director Corey Wiktor told the Board that the railbiking would attract riders from outside the area into the village of Cattaraugus, a historic train stop along a dormant portion of the New York and Lake Erie Railroad line. The railroad is owned by the CCIDA and special excursion trains travel between Gowanda and South Dayton. Rails were removed on the section of the roadbed between Cattaraugus and Salamanca and converted to the Pat McGee hiking trail. Railbikers would view hemlock forests and views similar to Zoar Valley on the route between Cattaraugus and a land slide area several miles to the west. But Wiktor added the route will need brush clearing and track maintenance.

The Revolution Rail team said they are anxious to explore that section now on foot or on skis to determine viability and expressed interest in setting up a gift shop in the village. Board members seemed eager to move forward.

“It might be worth fixing up,” said Board member Joseph Higgins, who urged against tearing up any more rail and ties.

Wiktor told the group that the county sees the most visitors in the summer and railbiking would add an interesting “vibe.” He pointed out that new activity on the railroad would complement the history and preservation efforts underway in Cattaraugus, which was

“Railbiking in Cattaraugus County” continued page 21



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MEETING NOTES

Village Board Meeting: Committee Will Explore Fair options for All Garbage and Recycling Centers

By KATHLEEN KELLOGG

The topic of recycling and garbage was the first item of discussion at the Ellicottville Village Board's Feb. 15th virtual meeting.

Complaints have come in from seasonal residents about inconvenience, as well as claims that the Village's contractor commingles recyclables with trash in violation of the village's refuse law. Also, homeowners say that the current early Monday morning pickup doesn't allow absent homeowners the opportunity to retrieve trash cans from the curb within 24 hours. Tickets are issued, resulting in \$200 fines on the first conviction, or more for the second and third convictions. Some have resorted to depositing garbage bags at the curb, which is illegal under the local law.

Some have asked to discontinue local recycling until the matter can be resolved, others suggested changing the Monday recycling pickup day or providing neighborhood dumpsters. Two emailed letters dated Feb. 11th were sent to the Village Board requesting action.

MJ Brown, Kim Brown and Chris Tymstra, all of Monroe Street, and Kevin Lester of 48 Jefferson St., all stated support for "a solution to the current garbage law that will be fair to all residents - full and part time" ... and a return to recycling required in the Village's law. Lynn Lazzaro also expressed concerns.

Past complaints have come in the form of public comment during meetings, and in letters or direct contact with Village Board members.

Village Trustee Caitlin Croft agreed to head a task force to find a solution to the problem. Besides Croft, the task force members include Sheila Gallagher, MJ Brown, and Lynn Lazzaro.

The Board then took action on a recommendation from the SK8EVL steering committee to award a design/build contract for the Ellicottville Skatepark, based on scoring criteria favoring Grindline Skateparks, Inc. of Seattle, Washington.

The recommendation came in a Feb. 11th letter to Village officials from SK8EVL lead advocate, Brenda Perks, who said "very impressive" proposals were received from both Grindline and Evergreen Skateparks of Portland, Oregon.

The Board then voted to authorize Mayor John Burrell's signature of a contract with Cattaraugus County to help the Village purchase a vacant two-acre lot to be developed into a paved parking lot and safe pedestrian walkways for expanded access to the village.

Under the agreement ending Dec. 31st, the County will contribute \$375,000 twenty days prior to closing, toward purchase of three parcels of land on Mill Street. The village may not convert the property to another use for 20 years or must repay the funds. The County has promised to

assist the Village in seeking grants to help pay for paving and other costs.

In another matter, Burrell reported on a meeting with Sewer and Water Department staff who have agreed to help maintain operations and work at the Ellicottville and Concord facilities, covering weekends and holidays with the staff remaining following the upcoming retirement of the Town of Concord's plant operator, Jim Thoman. He said the plan should be carried out at a minimal or little additional cost. He expressed gratitude to the staff for presenting the plan.

The Board then considered the Village Engineer's recommendation to deny a \$1,200 change order request from Parise Mechanical, the contractor hired to install an office wall heater at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Slotman advised the Board that after encountering obstructions in a chimney the company indicated there would be no extra charge to change the venting in a flu pipe. The item was tabled to obtain legal advice.

In other business, the Board awarded proposal from MDA Consulting Engineers of Ellicottville to perform an Inflow and Infiltration Engineering Study of the Village's wastewater collection system contributory to the treatment plant, focusing on wet weather events. MDA proposed hourly rates, for a not-to-exceed fee of \$24,500, for work from February through a September completion. The Village had been awarded a \$30,000 Engineering Planning Grant from the state Environmental Facilities Corporation to do the study.

The Board also set a public hearing for 6:00pm on March 15th, to take comments regarding the proposed abandonment of the village sewer line near the Tiny Homes Village Project near HoliMont.

Also at that meeting, Beautification Committee Chairman and Trustee Sean Lowes will provide a report on the Alley Katz's work plan and decorations for the coming season. The Board approved removing seasonal decorations from the 1887 Building to prepare for a new snow sculpture by Eric Jones.

Finally, the Board received a public comment invitation regarding the state Department of Public Service's Broadband Assessment Program, which is studying availability, affordability and adoption of residential and commercial broadband internet access for all New York consumers. For information visit www.empirestatebroadband.com.

Virtual meetings will be held to receive public statements from Feb. 23rd-March 3rd. Digital comments may be submitted by going to www.dps.ny.gov, click on "Search" and enter the case number 21-02182 in the search field. Also, the public is encouraged to complete a broadband speed test and survey at www.empirestatebroadband.com, or to request a paper version by mail by calling the DPS toll-free hotline at 1-855-692-2627. The survey must be completed by March 18th, and paper copies may be returned using the mailing's return envelope and prepaid postage.

Town Board Meeting: Town Will Discuss Resource Officer Grant Funding with Ellicottville Central School

By KATHLEEN KELLOGG

The Ellicottville Town Board mulled hiring a resource officer for Ellicottville Central School, along with other business, during its Feb. 16th phone hook-up meeting.

Ellicottville Police Officer-in-Charge Don Auge presented Superintendent Robert R. Miller's request for a 10-month officer at the school. He said the District has obtained a three-year \$65,000 grant to pay an officer to aid in school-family communications, but he had no specific grant information.

Auge said the school district can't provide a county Sheriff's deputy with a car so he has turned to the Town to seek a different arrangement. Security is a concern because of "a couple" threats in the past couple of years.

"If we hire a new (officer) the starting pay is \$53,000, and the second year is \$54,000," noted an unidentified Board member. Full-time officers are also provided with a benefits package. Board members asked what other schools employ SROs and discussed minimizing overtime by placing the SRO on a flexible schedule for sports and other activities.

Auge suggested a School Resource Officer could use one of the Town's patrol cars or use a personal vehicle. He added his part-time staff expressed no interest in the position but added a full-time SRO could fill in when extra help is needed for the remaining two months of the year, noting employees are hard to find.

Supervisor Matt McAndrew asked about participation or support from the Town of Great Valley, where the school is located, but where there is no local police agency. The Board asked for more information, suggesting a meeting with Miller if Auge can arrange it.

Auge also reported that a new police car is now in service and the Department's old license plate-reader, originally costing \$23,000, is being installed in the new car at a cost of \$1,200.

All patrol cars have been equipped with new laptops.

After discussion, the Board agreed to ask Michael Gagliano of KLV Appraisal Group of Buffalo to explain the basis of values he assigned to a portion of the Town Center on Fillmore Drive, now occupied by the Cattaraugus County office of Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE).

In a three-page letter dated February 9th, Gagliano reported an as-is value of \$70,000 for CCE's 1,796 square foot wing of the 9,288 square foot Town Center, as of Dec. 28th. The appraiser reported an assumption that the Extension will spend \$100,000 on renovations, but added his requested plans and details were not provided. By June 1st, after the Extension remodels its portion, Gagliano assigns a prospective market value of \$150,000.

Town Engineer Ben Slotman countered that KLV was provided with all requested information prior to the report's release Feb. 9th.

According to Town Supervisor Matt McAndrew, a 10-year, zero-cost lease with CCE was part of the Town's \$1 purchase deal and is ending soon, with a new five-year lease to be finalized, renting to CCE for about \$18,000 annually. A discount will be offered in exchange for CCE's renovations to its wing, based on averaged differences between Gagliano's appraisal and a CCE appraisal yet to come. Meanwhile, the Town is opening bids Feb. 25th for more extensive renovations to the remainder of the building and infrastructure and could use the information in reviewing Gagliano's report. Board members approved his \$500 fee but will ask Gagliano for an explanation before accepting the figures.

In other matters, The Board expressed gratitude to the Alley Katz for its beautification ef-

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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



APRIL 2022

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SHOWTIME® Announces \$100,00 donation to Seneca-Iroquois Museum



NEW YORK - SHOWTIME recently announced a \$100,000 donation to the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum (SINM) on the Allegany Territory of the Seneca Nation to support its vital work in preserving the history and legacy of the Seneca Nation, where the fictional town of Iron Lake, New York, is set in the hit series DEXTER: NEW BLOOD.

Part of the SHOWTIME commitment to give back to and enrich the people and communities where its series were set and filmed, and the contribution to SINM will help make a purposeful impact within the Seneca Nation community. Specifically, the donation will fund resources to sustain the museum's efforts in digitizing media and archiving the history of the Seneca Nation, making it accessible for generations to come. This initiative will address the timely need to preserve decades worth of Seneca history, including video footage, music, recorded stories, print news and notable events passed on from Tribal elders. The contribution also will support the museum's Onöhsagwë:de' Cultural Center with its endeavor to educate and bring awareness to the Western New York tribal history.

"I'm excited to receive this gift from SHOWTIME, which demonstrates its commitment to the preservation of heritage," said Dr. Joe Stahlman, Director of the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum. "We can't wait to begin the digitization of media – some of which has not been viewed in decades."

"We're honored to support the legacy of the Seneca Nation of Indians, whose people and rich culture are ingrained within the narrative of DEXTER: NEW BLOOD," says Puja Vohra, Executive Vice President, Marketing and Strategy, Showtime Networks Inc. "The team at SHOWTIME is dedicated to helping make a meaningful difference that both commemorates The Seneca Nation's history and strengthens its future."

The most-watched series in SHOWTIME history, DEXTER: NEW BLOOD stars Emmy® nominee Michael C. Hall as America's favorite serial killer, Dexter Morgan. The cast also features Jennifer Carpenter (DEXTER), Julia Jones (The Mandalorian), Jack Alcott (THE GOOD LORD BIRD), Alano Miller (Sylvie's Love), Johnny Sequoyah (Believe) and Clancy Brown (The Crown, BILLIONS®). Reuniting Hall with original series showrunner Clyde Phillips, DEXTER: NEW BLOOD consists of 10 one-hour episodes. Set 10 years after Dexter went missing in the eye of Hurricane Laura, DEXTER: NEW BLOOD found him living under an assumed name in the fictional small town of Iron Lake, New York. Dexter may have been embracing his new life, but in the wake of unexpected events in this close-knit community, his Dark Passenger inevitably beckons. Produced by SHOWTIME, DEXTER: NEW BLOOD is executive produced by Clyde Phillips, Michael C. Hall, Scott Reynolds, Marcos Siega, Bill Carraro, John Goldwyn and Sara Colleton.

The original eight-season run of the original DEXTER premiered in the fall of 2006 and became one of the most acclaimed series on television, earning multiple Emmy® nominations for best television drama series as well as a prestigious Peabody Award in 2008, and was twice named one of AFI's top 10 television series.

The Seneca Nation is a sovereign Nation located on their aboriginal lands in Western New York. Currently, the Seneca Nation community has over 8,500 enrolled global citizens and holds title to five territories, including territories in the cities of Niagara Falls and Buffalo, NY. Once a member of the Hodinöhsö:ni' Confederacy, the Seneca Nation earned the responsibility as "Keeper of the Western Door," ensuring the peace and tranquility along the western boundaries of their lands. The Seneca Nation continues

"Seneca Museum Donation" continued page 21

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Louis R. Licata Named to Century Club at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management



ORCHARD PARK, NY - Morgan Stanley (NYSE: MS) recently announced that Mr. Louis R. Licata, a Senior Vice President, Family Wealth Advisor, Certified Financial Planner in its Wealth Management office in Orchard Park, NY has been named to the Firm's prestigious Century Club, an elite group composed of the Firm's top Financial Advisors. The appointment recognizes Louis R. Licata's consistent creativity and excellence in providing a wide range of investment products and wealth management services to his clients.

Louis R. Licata, who has been with Morgan Stanley Wealth Management since 1982, is a native of Buffalo, NY. He holds a bachelor's degree from University of Buffalo. Louis R. Licata currently lives in Ellicottville, NY with his family.

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Ellicottville Memorial Library Events

Youth Chess Club - From learning how to play, to getting better at the game, Youth Chess Club is a place for kids to have fun and learn! The Club meets on most Fridays from 3:30-4:45pm. Contact the library at 699-2842 to sign up and for more details.

Young Adult Book Club - Young adult book club is for teens to get together and read a specific popular YA book once a month. Contact the library at 699-2842 to sign up or to receive more information.

Tax Forms - IRS tax forms and instruction booklets and the NYS tax forms and instructions are now available at the library.

Crafts With Cathy - Come for a relaxing, stress free, creative break in your day! Every Tuesday from 2:00-3:00pm at the Ellicottville Library. Free program, all supplies provided. February: Ukrainian Easter eggs, March: Weaving.

Exercise Classes - Various exercise classes take place in the mornings at the Library. Contact us at 699-2842 for exact dates and times.

Digital Materials - Don't forget that with your library card you can access over 23,700 eBooks and eAudiobooks and read or listen on any device. If you need assistance with accessing these materials, please stop in the library.

www.ellicottvillelibrary.org - check out our website for more information on new arrivals of books, coming events and classes, and browse the system catalog for books, eBooks and movies.

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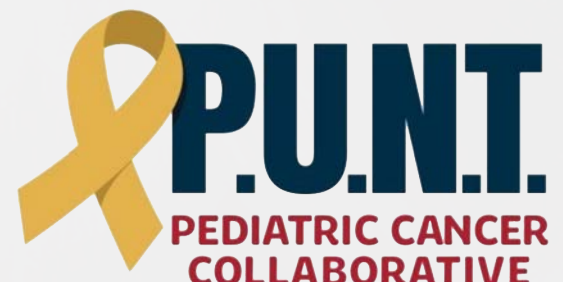
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TRAVEL

A SCHOOL BUS STORY

West Valley Bus #88 enjoys retirement across the Atlantic



SUBMITTED BY JEFF BABBITT

Have you ever wondered what happens to a school bus once it retires?

West Valley Central School's Bus number 88 served the district well for 14 years, logging 115,493 miles transporting students across the rural countryside around West Valley, NY, a town of 561 residents in Cattaraugus County, about 40 miles from Buffalo.

Ruth Ann Courtney, who's been driving school buses for 29 years, claimed bus 88 as her own. "I wanted bus 88 because '8' is my lucky number," she shared. "I loved that bus and ended up driving it for six years. I cried when it went down the road for the last time."

Upon Bus 88's decommissioning in July of 2021, it was sold to Don Brown's Bus Sales in Johnstown, NY. Located near Albany, NY, Don Brown's sells and services new and pre-owned school buses, commercial buses, and shuttle buses. "We've sold buses all over the country and even the world," said Nick Tarbox, regional sales manager at Don Brown's. "Our buses have ended up on practically every continent. It's quite common for private individuals to purchase old buses and convert them into various applications to fit their lifestyle."

Bus 88 was found by one such private individual, Steve Rowe, from the country of England in the United Kingdom.

Steve and his wife, Joanne, have lived their entire lives in the quaint seaside town of Torquay in Devon, England. He works at a local hospital in the patient transport service, and she is a teacher's assistant at a school for special needs children.

The Bus 88 story began with Steve's long-time dream of converting an old school bus into an RV that his family could tour around the English countryside.

"It's quite rare to see a school bus on an English street," Steve noted. "In England, children either walk to school, take public transport, or are driven by their parents. For us, a school bus is a very iconic thing. They turn a few heads when they go trundling down our small narrow streets over here."

Joanne wasn't immediately onboard with the plan. "It took some time to convince her of the idea," said Steve. "After a few months of showing her pictures of converted school buses, she eventually caught the vision."

After purchasing the bus, the Rowes had it shipped to England on a container vessel. Bus 88 rode the waves across the Atlantic and arrived on English shores at the Port of Southampton in November of 2021, where it was transported to London for servicing and registration. The bus made its final passage to Torquay and arrived at the Rowes' residence in December.

From the start, Steve was interested in learning more about the bus's back story. "It's been nice to find out where the bus was from and to learn a little bit of its history," shared Steve. He contacted West Valley Central School via their Facebook page last summer, and began corresponding with Bryan Hansen, technology director and PR coordinator at the school.

"When I received the message on Facebook, I wasn't sure if it was even real," Bryan

"West Valley Bus" continued page 21

IDEAS TO CURE CABIN FEVER

Take a trip back into history with a visit to a museum



BY LINDA DEVLIN, ANF VISITORS BUREAU

Need ideas to help cure the onset of a gray winter day's blues, or what is commonly known as cabin fever? The Allegheny National Forest Region, located nearby in northwestern Pennsylvania, offers novel places to explore. Enjoy a candlelight concert, learn how the history of WWII is relevant to today's current events, or escape the mundane by booking a fine dining experience in an Opera Museum.

MUSIC IN MANY GENRES

Located in Bradford, PA is the Marilyn Horne Museum and Exhibit Hall. A world-famous opera star, Ms. Horne was born in Bradford. She progressed from being a small-town girl singing with the community band to performing operas around the world. In the museum you will find interactive musical displays, replica costumes, and storyboards about her varied performances. In La Fenice, a replica of a famous opera house, Ms. Horne, in her own words shares highlights of her career. A gift shop of beautiful and unique items for all ages, plus refreshments from the onsite Starbucks Café are sure to please. The Marilyn Horne Museum is located at 2 Marilyn Horne Way, Bradford, PA. Admission is free. For more information call 814-362-7990.

PRIVATE DINING

The Marilyn Horne Museum and Exhibit Center offers fine dining in the La Fenice Opera House created within the Marilyn Horne Museum. La Fenice is an opera house in Venice, Italy. It is one of the most famous landmarks in Italian Theatre. This special dining experience is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate an engagement, anniversary, bridal shower, or any extra special occasion. Here you can enjoy a customized menu for 2 to 18 people, prepared by Chef Benjamin Dansberger II, who was the former Chef de Cuisine of Autumn, a restaurant located within the five-diamond Nemaconlin Woodlands Resort. For pricing call 814-362-7990 or email info@marilynhorne.org.

AN EVENING OF MUSIC AT A CANDLELIT CONCERT

The Marilyn Horne Museum also sponsors a variety of live performances throughout the year. One such event is the upcoming Candlelight Concert on March 19, 2022 from 7:30-9:00pm. Performing at this musical evening event will be Chloe Yofan, Anastasia Wilson, Emilie Tupper, and Megan Wike, collectively known as the Phantasia Quartet. The four musicians are currently undergraduates at the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester. Admission is free. Doors open at 7:00pm. This is an open seating event. Reservations are not required. For more information call 814-362-7990. For other upcoming events check out www.marilynhorne.org/calendar.

HISTORY YOU CAN SEE, TOUCH & FEEL

What do you really know about WWII? How did it start? Who were allies and who were enemies of the United States? What do you know about NATO? Plan a visit to the Eldred WWII Museum to learn about the details of WWII and the alliances formed after the peace treaties were signed. The Eldred WWII Museum is a world class museum offering artifacts and displays from all seven fronts of the war. The staff there is truly knowledgeable and can answer any questions you may have. They also have a very extensive research library on the second floor of the museum. It is often said that learning world history is one of the best ways to not repeat the mistakes of past generations. The Eldred WWII Museum offers a history reference to today's world events. The museum is located at 202 Main Street, Eldred, PA. Call 814-225-2220 to check their winter hours.

For additional information on the area, or to request a free Adventure Guide phone 800-473-9370 or click on www.VisitANF.com.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Core Performance: Progress, Not Perfection

BY KIM DUKE, CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINER

“Progress, not perfection” is an often-used phrase in recovery circles. Its origin is the 12-step program of AA (Alcoholics Anonymous). It has also been used by many motivational speakers. But the importance of these words could resonate as a kind of mantra for everyone dealing with change.

It's easy to get hung up when trying to find the best plan for change: which diet will get you to your goals, which workout will build the most strength, which supplements will remedy your health, etc. We get so focused on figuring out the perfect approach that our progress is circling the drain before we even get started.

Enter perfectionism - the psychological barrier that none of us are immune to. It's the irrational fear that you might fail at something and ultimately be judged for not being perfect. This problem manifests itself in self sabotage and procrastination. “I'm not ready yet” is the story we tell ourselves every damn time.

The mantra “Progress, not perfection” is about taking consistent action and moving forward, no matter what. So if you're sick and tired of coming up with excuses as to why you won't succeed at reaching a goal, here are some ways to make room for progress and override perfection.

1. Be willing to start small. If you want to run a marathon, you have to start by running a mile. No matter what your goal, you cannot accomplish anything without a solid foundation. Instead of making an all-or-nothing plan to overhaul your lifestyle, start by setting small habits that easily fit into your current lifestyle. Which leads us to #2.

2. Start with repetitions, not goals. In other words, when you think about your goals, don't just consider the outcome you want. Focus on the habits that lead to that place and set yourself up for mini successes along the way. Keep it simple and doable so you can be consistent.

3. Commit to ONE habit every morning. My father, a retired sergeant for the army, would

always use the military slogan, “If you want to change the world, start off by making your bed.” Just by committing to one morning habit, you will train your brain for productivity for the rest of your day.

4. Start BEFORE you are ready. There is never a ‘right time’ to do something. If you want to make any progress toward your ideal vision of wellness, you've got to take action.

The bottom line is not every day will go as planned. It's knowing that it may be a messy process, but you are jumping in anyway. The good news is change can happen when you have the right support system in place. That's how I coach my clients - we make one small change and conquer it. Then we make another, etc.

Everyone wants to make progress, and there is only one way to do it: take action. And feel free to use the mantra, “Progress not perfection” anytime you feel stuck or afraid.

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 www.coreperformancefitness.com. Kim can be reached directly at 716-698-1198.



Inner Peace & Strength: Hope & Peace Following a Sexual Assault on a College Campus

BY LAURA WIDGER, LCSW



The ME TOO movement sparked a national crusade to help show survivors of sexual abuse that they are not alone. This movement helped improve awareness about sexual violence, showing just how widespread sexual harassment and assaults truly are. An incredibly courageous, heroic, and brilliant survivor from a local university is here to share her experience and to highlight that healing, wellness, and recovery are absolutely possible. Without further detail, let us jump in and hear from this phenomenal speaker.

QUESTION: Can you tell our readers a little bit about yourself?

SURVIVOR: I am a graduate from St. Bonaventure. I was a student athlete who got my bachelor's degree in health science. I am currently pursuing a nursing degree. I am 21 years old. I am a survivor.

QUESTION: From your experience, how would you describe the college culture regarding sexual assault? How big of a problem is sexual assaults on college campuses?

SURVIVOR: I would say people brush off college sexual assaults. There were education forums where we talked about sexual assaults. However, sexual assaults and rape experiences are not taken seriously enough. I would often hear, “ha ha ha you just got drunk and slept with someone. You don't or can't know what really went down.” People often throw the terms “sexual assault” and “rape” around too casually. I personally think these terms should not be used unless these traumas occurred, or in times where serious conversations are happening. I think college students and faculty should use these terminologies when they need to be used or discussed. I think joking or using these terms lightly isn't right. I don't want sexual assault to be a taboo topic. There is an appropriate time and place to use them; in the dining hall throwing these words or terms out just isn't appropriate. Across the board, students, administrators, coaches, and faculty can take this problem more seriously.

It really is hard to gauge how big of a problem sexual assaults are on college campuses. People don't want to talk about it, acknowledge it, or report it. It took me awhile to realize I wanted to talk to someone about it. Everyone has their own paths to healing, and reporting is a personal choice of the survivor.

QUESTION: What are some common experiences, reactions, and feeling of survivors?

SURVIVOR: Guilt, anger, confusion, thoughts of not sure what to do or say next, and not seeing a clear path on how to get out of a hole are all too familiar. I would see the person who hurt me on campus and get bombarded with flashbacks. I would get triggered when someone would bring up sexual assaults. Even the mandatory training where sexual assaults on campuses were talked about was triggering for me. I did not know how to navigate being triggered. When I sought out professional help, this helped me sort things out. If you are being triggered and are having flashbacks and you don't know how to stop them or make yourself feel better, that is an indicator that you need to reach out for help.

QUESTION: Do you have to report a sexual assault? If you do choose to report, where can you turn?

SURVIVOR: It is up to you to determine when and if you want to report. I wanted to talk about my experience first before I threw someone under the bus and reported them to the police. I found out I could report to a school counselor anonymously and that was as far as I decided to take it. You are in the driver's seat about who and how much you share.

At first I turned to friends, but sometimes they don't always understand or know what to say. A counselor, advocate on campus, or therapist understands. I recommend you go to someone professional who knows about this and is trained on how to handle these types of traumas. You want to talk to someone who knows how to pick the pieces back up or handle when you are triggered. Friends and family members don't always know how to pick the pieces up for you. Sometimes a hug won't exactly help with what you are going through. If you have no idea where to start, talking to an advocate or therapist is a good place. I encourage you to talk about it. There is no harm in doing that. If you are confused and don't even know how to process it, I encourage you to reach out to a professional; I don't see that going poorly.

QUESTION: Is there hope for healing?

SURVIVOR: ABSOLUTELY! As cliché as it sounds, you have to dedicate the time and effort into working through it and know that you are not alone. You are going to have someone standing by you helping you through it. You might be scared to talk about it because you don't want to re-live it, but this time in therapy you are going to have someone with you processing the trauma and developing a support system.

In closing, if you or someone you know has experienced a sexual assault, therapeutic support and advocacy needs are available. To get connected with a therapist in Ellicottville, call Laura Widger, owner of Inner Peace and Strength: Mental and Emotional Health, at 716-244-0089. To reach out for advocacy or case management needs, call Connecting Communities in Action at 716-945-1041.



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SMOKE AND SAVOR

cont. from page 04

licensing. This event would be the first of those two, and Baryza and Nickolson are optimistic about hosting another pairing in the future. While this is the first cigar and bourbon pairing event that Nickolson has hosted, he is hardly new to the bourbon scene. The Silver Fox has over 40 bourbons in-house and has hosted bourbon tastings in the past. Over the years, Nickolson has traveled to bourbon festivals and done many private tastings in Kentucky.

"I went to Kentucky 12 to 15 years ago for the first time, and I was able to see it before it all blew up," said Nickolson, referring to the recent popularity of aged bourbon. "These little places like Jim Beam would have you in their private home for a tasting. Now, there's a multi-million dollar welcome center. The boom in bourbon has really changed things."

Nickolson noted that liquor trends are cyclical; in fact, the vodka boom of the 1970s led to the popularity of aged bourbon. At a VIP tasting with the owner of Heaven Hill, Nickolson learned that when vodka took over the industry in the 1970s, barrels of bourbon sat unsold because there was no market for it. "The true southern bourbon drinker, the Kentuckian, typically would only drink Kentucky two-year-old straight bourbon," Nickolson explained. "As it ages, the flavors become more complex, heavier. They didn't like that. For years, especially at Christmas time, you'd see decanters that look like a train or a turkey. They used to put the bourbon in those old decanters and wouldn't specify the age. This was one of the ways they would try to sell the old bourbon that the Kentuckians wouldn't drink."

Now, there is an incredible demand for aged bourbons, and Nickolson is looking forward to sharing those on March 11th. The pairing event will include Jefferson's Very Small Batch 82.3 Proof, Four Roses Single Barrel 100 Proof, Bib and Tucker 6-year-old 92 Proof, and a Bernheim Wheated Whiskey Small Batch 7-year-old 90 Proof. Finger foods will also be served during the pairing event, which has a limited capacity of 35 guests. Tickets are \$105 each and include two hours with three cigars, six pairings, a cutter, and a t-shirt. To purchase, visit <https://theshed.boutique/product/smoke-savor/> or contact she shed, he shed at 716-699-9121. Baryza recommends signing up early, as many people are signing up in groups, and tickets can go quickly.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

cont. from page 11

forts, in response to a thank-you letter from the group for the Town's donation.

The Board approved Holiday Valley's request to host the Rail Rider Jamboree music festival from 2:00-10:00pm March 19th at the SnowPine Chair Parking Lot on Route 219 South. The event, co-hosted by Ginger Root Productions, will draw up to 1800 people, with security and shuttles into the village provided.

The Board announced Town Hall will be open to the public during business hours beginning Tuesday, Feb. 22nd.

Slotman reported on a proposal to spend an estimated \$5,500 on a CAD compatibility upgrade in his Engineering Department's computers for tasks and projects underway for both the Town and Village. The cost estimate for discounted pricing could revise the estimate, and approval will be contingent on Village Board approval.

The Board accepted resignations from: Town Highway Superintendent Tom Scharf, with regrets, effective April 1st, ending his appointment almost six years ago; Assistant Engineer Zack Carlson, effective Feb. 11th, whose position will be advertised; Jim Thorman, for retirement effective March 15th, sewer plant operator in the Town Concord, who became a village employee when the Town recently took over the plant management.

The search has been extended for a town and village planner to fill a vacancy, but officials said a consultant may have to be hired in the interim.

The Board accepted J.D. Northrup's low bid of \$45,316 to replace a culvert on Poverty Hill Road at Dickey Road, which was among five bids received.

Slotman reported no response for Arboretum and cemetery mowing contract bids, and is seeking contractor cost estimates; Arboretum improvements could be made by BOCES, it was suggested.

The Board accepted an updated one-year dog-control contract with the SPCA. The Board also accepted an agreement with Valley Village HOA for two payments that will end in December 2023, reimbursing Town engineering fees during construction of the private access road; private easements still require homeowner signature before recording by the Town.

A Quackenbush culvert easement, allowing maintenance by Town crews, is expected within days.

Town Attorney Seth Pullen reported on potential adjustments to the noise ordinance and the need for negotiations for an amendment placing Village noise law violators under the jurisdiction of the Town.

McAndrew reported that a committee is aiming for consistency with the Village's alarm law in discussion about the Town's Alarm Law enforcement problems, and that records show most violators are nonresident property owners. Notices are going out to inform homeowners of the problems in hopes of a resolution.

The next Town Board session will take place March 16th at 6:00pm in the Town Hall.

RAILBIKING IN CATTARAUGUS COUNTY

cont. from page 08

built in the 1850's and saw an early rail line construction by Irish immigrants.

He said he will work on a proposal for Revolution Rail for discussion at the March 8 meeting and also take a tour of the rail line with NY & LE RR operator Robert O. Dingman, Jr. and railbike representatives, weather permitting.

In another matter, the Board approved refinancing of an \$18.6 million mortgage of the Olean Manor, Inc., Field of Dreams adult living facility in Allegany for about 140 residents. Wiktor said the facility received its initial CCIDA inducement about five years ago and the vote confirms a transfer from HSBC, the original mortgage holder, to Community Bank. In March, the Board will review a proposal for financing a \$5 million Phase III at the facility.

Wiktor also previewed St. Bonaventure University's application documents for \$26 million in tax exempt bonds from the Capital Resource Corporation, the CCIDA's independent local development corporation. CCIDA Board members also sit on the CRC Board, which will meet separately in March or April to consider the financing.

Wiktor said the project would provide housing for 80 additional graduate students, renovation of the townhomes, updates to Plassman Hall, a new health and wellness center, and improvements of electrical, roofing, parking lots and upgrades to residences and academic buildings.

He also announced the CCIDA will sponsor a job fair on Feb. 24 for Great Lakes Cheese, which hopes to hire 40 new employees for its plant in Cuba. The employees will later transition to its planned manufacturing plant in Franklinville.

GOACC HOME SHOW

cont. from page 08

"With a combination of new products and expert advice from the pros, we believe the Expo will inspire you with countless ideas on enhancing your home's comfort and functionality, as well as discover the services and technologies that are leading in this new era of personalized health and medicine," said Dreher.

Area businesses are encouraged to make booth reservations as soon as possible. GOACC members will receive discounted booth space. For more information on the Health Home and Fitness Expo or other GOACC events and activities, call GOACC at 716-372-4433 or email member@oleanny.com.

SENECA MUSEUM DONATION

cont. from page 14

that obligation by sustaining their Nation-to-Nation relationship with the United States of America and New York State.

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WEST VALLEY BUS

cont. from page 17

commented, "but I took a chance and responded back, and it has led us to discovering the unique story of our old bus. Steve is a wonderful guy and I'm looking forward to the continued journey of Bus 88."

Steve plans on completing the bus renovation work himself, including the installation of a bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, living room, and even solar panels. So far, he's removed the seats from the bus, finding a small fortune in lunch money dropped by the children of West Valley over the years. The Rowes look forward to traveling across the UK in Bus 88 once the renovation is fully complete. Their daughter, in grade 11, has already put in a request to ride the bus to her prom with her friends this spring.

Steve and Joanne admitted it was quite a risk buying Bus 88. They never communicated with anyone in person - it was all done over email. "In life you've got to take risks," Steve said, "and we are so pleased we did. We cross paths with so many people who ask us 'why and how' and we love telling them our story. This risk was worth taking! We look forward to many adventures in Bus 88 and meeting new people along the way, perhaps even some new friends from West Valley Central School."

Follow the adventures of Bus 88 on Instagram at www.instagram.com/lucy.usa.to.uk.

CLASSIFIEDS

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.

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.

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.

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CLASSIFIED ADS: \$10 per issue (40 words or less). Call 716-699-9816 or email your ad to info@ellicottvilleNOW.com.

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.

GADO GADO: Looking for a hard-working and motivated individual to work alongside us! Must be available on weekends and festivals. Email resume and a brief introduction to gadogado98@hotmail.com.

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY: One day a week in Ellicottville and surrounding area. Must have a driver's license and reliable vehicle. Email brenda@ellicottvillenow.com.



HOMETOWN HERO PROGRAM: American Legion, Ellicottville Post 659. If you are interested in honoring your hero, please call Mary Klahn at 716-450-4312 to request an application.

DEADLINE FOR 2022 IS MARCH 12TH.



SGT Leslie Dunkleman
US Army
Korean War

EMPLOYMENT

THE EL LICOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS AN IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR A FULL-TIME CLEANER (2ND SHIFT)

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Applications are available on the district website: www.ellicottvillecentral.com or by phoning 716-699-2368 (ext. 1300) between the hours of 7:30am-3:30pm. Interested applicants should submit a letter of intent and application to:

Ellicottville Central School
ATTN: Melissa Sawicki, District Clerk
5873 Route 219
Ellicottville, New York 14731

EOE

SUZY'S STAR READINGS

New horizons for us all as we navigate into uncharted astrological territory

By REV. SUZY WOO, B.Msc

Hello March! We begin the month with a new moon on March 2nd - that's when you want to set your new intentions for the month. What goals would you like to accomplish, or what would you like to manifest for yourself? Write it down, pray on it, declare it between March 1st and March 4th.

March 6th is a big deal. Venus and Mars both change signs. Hand-in-hand, they leave bossy and serious Capricorn and step into zero degrees of buzzy, innovative and visionary Aquarius. That is a familiar degree as of late, because the Great Conjunction (the 20 year meeting of Jupiter and Saturn) happened exactly here December 21, 2020 at zero degrees of Aquarius. This signifies a twenty-year cycle, involving a tug of war between traditional, conventional, linear structures, and new, electrifying, conceptual ways of approaching the world! Aquarius is 'the people, freedom, expansion' ... where the former 20 years it was about 'constriction, control, corporations and the brotherhood'!

Notice your ambitions. What motivates you? Are you inspired to create something new?

As we are now in the final sign of the zodiac, Pisces, notice how you feel. Pisces is a dreamy, ungrounded, vast and nebulous energy that is impossible to define. It is a Yin, feminine, receptive energy which is evolved and spiritual at its best. At worst, it wants to escape reality so be very mindful of using substances and other behaviors to escape or numb yourself, including gaming - all things dreamy and fantasy are ruled by Pisces as is the media and movies. Movies take you into the author's story and you become part of that ... when the movie is over you return to your life. Pisces can get stuck in the movie, stuck in the dream, and feel quite foreign in the 'real world'.

Happy birthday to all the Pisces people! Those with a Pisces sun, moon or rising sign feel not part of common society; they feel alien, foreign, like they don't belong here and a forever nagging feeling that "I just want to go home", but home is not on this planet. People can talk to you like a baby and tease your hyper-sensitivity. You may see orbs or apparitions, hear voices, know when someone is passing away, or have vivid dreams and out-of-body experiences. You don't relate to your family and feel like you really don't fit in. I promise you there are so many people who share this ... you may suffer with identity problems, alcoholism, feeling in the fog. It is 100% real ... (you are not crazy). Your friends may say you're 'out there' just because they don't have that energy so they don't relate. It doesn't mean YOU are wrong or part of a problem. Pisces are very creative, and make great songwriters, musicians, tattoo artists and designers. Anything artsy, fantasy and mystic is ruled by Pisces. It's a beautiful, greatly misunderstood sign. I get you! Your ruling planet is Neptune. Water. Sensitive. Vast. Sensitive. Naïve. Pure. You just want everyone to heal and to be okay. You know in your heart of hearts you are not of this world. And let me tell you, you're right, and this world NEEDS your light, your insight, your soft loving presence.

On March 10th, the planet of communication, Mercury, changes sign from buzzy Aquarius into gentle, serene Pisces. Notice how you feel and what your inner and outer dialogue are! Different!

March 16th the sun is loving on the North Node - this has to do with fate. A day on either side, you can meet someone or encounter something which changes the trajectory of your life! It speaks to your highest calling in this lifetime, you get a helping hand, an insight, the most random of thing occurring that helps you recognize you are NOT alone in this world, you have a spiritual team rooting for you and helping to get things aligned for you. Pisces season is an excellent time for mediumship, psychic development, spiritual work and dream-work!

March 18th is the full moon in Virgo - stringent, health-conscious, it rules grains and what we feed our bodies, health care, employees. See what is shining in the news around this full moon. For us on a personal level, we may get the cleaning bug! Virgo loves to clean and organize! Maybe start pulling out your springtime decorations, or getting your gardening plans plotted. It's about getting ready, being prepared, harvesting what you know to put it into action for when we hit Aries season next month. The low end of that is we may feel we are not enough. Be careful not to get too down on yourself ... you are and always have been enough! You matter!

March 22nd Mars squares Uranus, and that can be an accident-prone day. You may spout off, feel edgy, or you may get an 'a-ha' moment of inspiration! You may get a brilliant, genius idea, or meet a new business partner, some type of surprise that was a missing link allowing you to take massive forward action!

And March 27th chatty Mercury changes signs again, this time into feisty Aries. You may be impatient, spouty with your words, but the high end is MOTIVATED! Aries energy is great at getting things moving; think of a tough athletic trainer. That's Aries. Mercury is how we communicate, Moving into Aries is a fire energy. Verbal vomit. No filter. So be careful to practice the pause before answering someone who asks, "DoI look fat in these jeans?" and think about the words before letting them out.

Watch for the many workshops and retreats coming up on my website www.suzy-woo.com under the events tab. Learn how to develop your intuitive skills, or learn astrology with me! I always welcome your comments, questions and feedback: hello@suzy-woo.com. Have a beautiful dreamy month! Dream your dreams into reality - aim high and live a life you absolutely LOVE! Til next time, Your sister from the stars... Suzy Woo

Rev. Suzy Woo, B.Msc, is a Spiritual Healer, Astrologer, and Psychic Medium specializing in Energy, Sound, Light and Crystal Healing. Suzy is the owner of Good for the Spirit Gifts, 11 Martha St., Ellicottville, NY. Follow her on IG/FB, find her at suzy-woo.com or call 716-699-2871.

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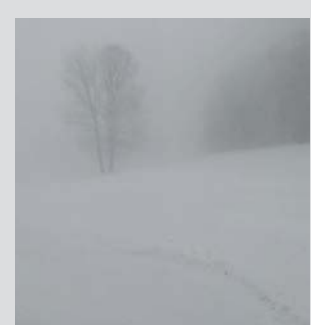
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