

ellicottvilleNOW



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FREE

Rail Rider Jamboree at Holiday Valley

The Grateful Dead Experience is coming to Ellicottville; One-on-one interview with Dark Star Orchestra



BY MELANIE HULICK

Ellicottville is known for its many festivals throughout the year embracing every season. This year they are bringing something new that will hopefully become an annual tradition. A co-headliner for the Jamboree, Dark Star Orchestra is a Grateful Dead cover band with a passion to create the entire experience of being at a Grateful Dead concert.

EllicottvilleNOW caught up with Rob Barraco, vocalist and keyboard player for the band recently and talked in depth about the Grateful Dead experience the audience goes on when they attend their show. For more information on Dark Star Orchestra visit: darkstarorchestra.net. For more information on the Rail Rider Jamboree and to purchase tickets visit: railrider-jamboree.com.

... page 08

HoliMont News: Spring Skiing and What's Coming this Summer

Even though many of us do not want to admit it, spring is just around the corner. But that does not mean the fun has to stop! We hope to push spring skiing out as long as we can. And we might as well enjoy those warm, sunny ski days with some outdoor music and cookouts on the patio.

Looking further into the off-season, the mountain bike park will be expanding, bringing new trails and more lift access for the summer! Along with that, we hope to plan a lot of new activities for the summer and fall, such as outdoor concerts, festivals, biking events/races and more! Stay tuned for what's to come!

... page 07

BEACONS IN THE DARKNESS: A QUEST TO SPREAD LIGHT

[By Caitlin Croft] - It has been officially two years since the start of the pandemic. I remember it so vividly because President Trump declared the COVID-19 virus an issue on my birthday. When I think back to this, it seems like a lifetime ago, so much has changed. It will take time before we look back on these events without an emotional lens. Families were torn apart by the actual virus itself and the subsequent impact it had on the political arena. Bill Jordan sensed just how heavy this was going to be and decided it was time to put together another book ... page 19

WILLOW DONATES TO ANIMALS IN NEED

Sale of 2022 calendars support animal rescue; Willow gives thanks



We hit a new record of money raised for Empire Animal Rescue Society (EARS) through Willow calendars! This year we raised \$1,200 ... beating the last two years of \$1,000! We couldn't have done it without all the amazing community support. Thank you to everyone who bought a calendar, donated a little extra and helped spread the word to help us reach a new goal for this awesome animal rescue.

Why do we do this? Because rescues like EARS don't receive any government funding and rely solely on donations and their fundraising efforts to be able to provide care for neglected, homeless and abused animals in our region and beyond. We not only do this to raise funds, but to raise awareness and we are grateful for everyone's support.

... page 22



FORMER YOUTH DETENTION CAMP TO BECOME REC AREA

At its peak, the Great Valley Youth Residential Center, a 41-acre site that borders New York state forest land, was home to more than 100 boys who had entered the state's juvenile justice system. The GYRC was one of many juvenile "camps" in New York state that were established by the Office of Children and Family Services to rehabilitate its residents: boys who had committed nonviolent crimes and were still in need of a high school education. The Great Valley camp opened in the 1960s according to Travis Baugh, who now owns the property ... page 03



Holiday Valley

ELLICOTTVILLE

WINTER CARNIVAL SCHEDULE '22

SATURDAY MARCH 12

- 10-5 - Safety Patrol Cookout, base of Yodeler
- 11:00 - 2nd Annual Winter Golf Classic
- 11-4:30 - Snowbar
- 11:30-1 - Face Painting, Creekside
- 11:30 'til Gone - Hot Dog Cookout at Creekside
- 1:00 - Scavenger Hunt, Creekside
- 2:00 - Ski Patrol Toboggan event, lower Yodeler
- 2:30 - Beer Slalom, lower Yodeler
- 3-7 - Mo Porter Band in Main Floor Yodeler Lodge
- 6:30 - Mardi Gras Parade, downtown Ellicottville



SUNDAY, MARCH 13

Kids Events=Purple

- 9 'til Gone - Ski Patrol Pancake Breakfast, Mt. Top Warming Hut
- 10-5 - Safety Patrol Cookout, base of Yodeler
- 11-4:30 - Snowbar
- 11:45 - Line up for Costume Parade, Edelweiss Lean-To Mardi Gras
- Noon - Costume Parade for All Ages, Mardi Gras
- Noon - Lederhosen Ski Club Hot Dogs for Lounsbury, near Clocktower
- Noon - Ellicottville Ski Club Wine & Cheese, near Clocktower
- 2:00 - Ice Cream Sundaes at Creekside
- 2:30 - Dummy Downhill, Yodeler
- 3:00 - Mercy Flight Raffle Drawing at Snowbar.
- 3:00-6 - Tui Osborne Band, main floor Yodeler Lodge

Kettle Korn - Food Truck - Cookouts

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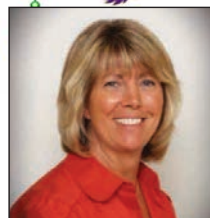
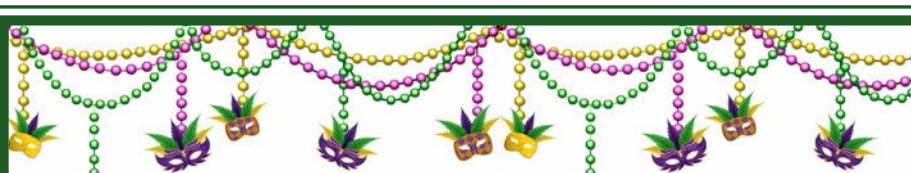
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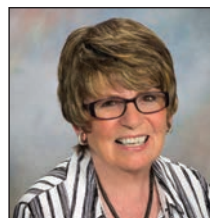
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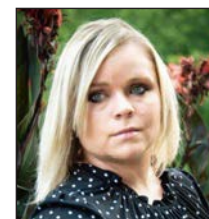


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Publisher's PICK

Former Youth Detention Camp to Become Recreation Area



Through his company LifeCap Resources, LLC, Travis Baugh bought the Great Valley property, which is located near many beautiful recreational areas including Allegany State Park & Holiday Valley. The Town of Great Valley hopes to spark interest of other groups to use the park for public venues, such as marathons, music festivals, cross-country ski races, horseback riding clubs and other recreational activities.

BY MARY HEYL

At its peak, the Great Valley Youth Residential Center, a 41-acre site that borders New York state forest land, was home to more than 100 boys who had entered the state's juvenile justice system. The GVYRC was one of many juvenile "camps" in New York state that were established by the Office of Children and Family Services to rehabilitate its residents: boys who had committed nonviolent crimes and were still in need of a high school education. The Great Valley camp opened in the 1960s according to Travis Baugh, who now owns the property.

"It ran for about 50 years until the state decided the concept didn't really work," Baugh explained. Indeed, residency at the GVYRC dwindled to just two residents in 2008. Although state lawmakers were able to stave off closure of the camp during state budget proceedings in 2008, one year later, the GVYRC and several other similar facilities were closed for good, as most had few or no residents but full-time staff of two dozen or more. A 2007 study of the state's juvenile justice system corroborated the decline in residency: 80 percent of the children entering the state's juvenile justice system returned or went to prison within three years of their release. Baugh pointed out that budgetary reasons were not solely responsible for the closure, as community-based rehabilitation approaches in which youths were kept closer to their homes and families reduced recidivism more effectively than residential programs.

The GVYRC was mothballed by New York state until 2016, when the property was put up for auction. "I live about a mile from the camp," Baugh said of the home he and his wife built in 2010. "I just wanted this to remain a peaceful area and wanted to make sure that whatever ended up there would fit in with our area."

Through his company LifeCap Resources, LLC, Baugh bought the property, as it is a well-equipped facility located near many beautiful recreational areas including Allegany State Park and Holiday Valley and only an hour from Lake Erie and Niagara Falls. "I spent the first couple of years trying to find a suitable non-profit to take it over," Baugh explained. "I tried to give it away to the Boys Scouts, Ronald McDonald House charities, and church groups for camping in the summer or winter, but no one wanted the buildings there."

The six buildings included offices, classrooms, dormitories, a kitchen and dining hall, gymnasium, a sewage treatment plan, and a garage/maintenance building. As no one was interested in the property's buildings, in 2020 Baugh decided to tear the buildings down and convert the property to a park to transfer to the town of Great Valley. "I found out most of the buildings were full of asbestos – very costly to deal with," said Baugh. After working with an asbestos abatement company, Baugh has successfully torn down all but one building that the town of Great Valley would like to keep. This 40x50-foot structure is a newer building on the property that originally housed the camp's computer lab. Great Valley Town Supervisor Dan Brown said the building is in great shape and would be ideal for use by various groups, including schools, conservation groups, or other community groups who may need a classroom or gathering space.

Brown explained that the transfer of the property is in the hands of the attorneys now, and the Town is waiting for the legal process and paperwork to conclude. "Originally, we were going to receive just the property lot where all of the buildings and the lawns were, but now Travis is going to turn the entire property over to us, so there are a few more steps that need to be completed before the transfer is final," Brown explained.

He is enthusiastic about the park, which already has so many recreational features leftover from the former residential camp. "There is an area that was used for sledding by the kids, a baseball diamond, volleyball courts, and a picnic pavilion," Baugh listed. "Dan has talked about putting an ice skating rink in there on the concrete pad where the gymnasium was. The property does have a few waterwells. It all depends on what can be done and what kind of budget there is to

"Great Valley Youth Camp" continued page 20

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LOCAL NEWS

FIT FOR A SKI TOWN

Artist Eric Jones creates custom snow sculpture in downtown Ellicottville



ELLICOTTVILLE - At this time last year, the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce had announced that for the 2nd year in a row, due to the pandemic, the Mardi Gras Parade would not take place. In their efforts to keep the spirit alive within our community, the Chamber encouraged local storefronts to decorate in the theme of Mardi Gras, and over at the 1887 Building, a massive ski boot, sculpted from snow, stood on the lawn for all passersby to enjoy.

Fast-forward to 2022, the Parade is a “Go” and the ski boot has been reinvented into a cool snowboarder, shredding amongst the trees. Created by artist Eric Jones, the massive snow sculpture stands at 9-feet tall and is the perfect depiction of our ski town.

“We brought Eric in last year to create a work of art that our community members and those that were able to visit could enjoy, and it truly became an iconic piece,” said Brian McFadden, executive director of the Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce. “People came from all over to see the larger-than-life ski boot, have their photo taken with it ... even though we weren’t able to host the parade last year, the boot brought a sense of celebration to our ski town. It was great! And kids absolutely loved it!”

If you’re not familiar with the name Eric Jones, chances are you’re familiar with some of his works. Jones is a nationally known pumpkin carver and snow sculptor and has been featured on some pretty big networks, most recently CNN, ESPN, FOX Weather and FOX NFL as a result of his famed Buffalo Bills snow sculptures that went viral this past season. The sculptures popped up in towns across western New York - from Clarence to Eden to Cuba, NY featuring everyone’s favorite quarterback, Josh Allen.

Jones is also well known for his caricature drawings. Through his business of over 20 years, ‘Eric Jones Studios’ (ericjonesstudios.com) he has completed over 100,000 caricatures of people at live events and 70,000 more from photos. He travels all over the U.S. to showcase his skills and is a regular participant at Ellicottville’s Stroll the Streets, which takes place Friday evenings in the summer.

“I love working in Ellicottville,” said Jones. “The energy, the people ... it’s a lovely town with a fun vibe and appreciation for talent. Last year I created the giant ski boot. This year I brought in the snowboarder, in mid-jump. I love creating, and Ellicottville provides a great backdrop.”

With ample snow from Holiday Valley and transport provided by JD Northrup Construction, Jones worked through the night of Feb. 26th, completing the sculpture in just six hours.

“The Chamber would like to extend a sincere thank you to both Holiday Valley and to JD Northrup Construction for their assistance with this wonderful project,” said McFadden. “And we’re happy to have Eric Jones onboard again this year. His creativity and attention to detail is what sets him apart. Ellicottville is grateful to be able to have such amazing talent on display right here in our downtown business district. It will be the perfect complement to our Mardi Gras celebration, scheduled for Saturday, March 12th.”

Plan a visit to Ellicottville soon to capture the beauty of Ellicottville’s “snow”boarder sculpture. Follow @visitellicottville on IG and upload your snow sculpture selfies using #visitellicottville for a chance to be featured on the Chamber’s page.

For more information about this year’s Mardi Gras Parade, visit ellicottvillenyc.com or call 800-349-9099. Find other exciting events and festivals planned for 2022 on the Chamber’s website as well.

SALUTE TO OUR HEROES

ERA Team VP invites frontline workers to march in the Mardi Gras Parade



ELLICOTTVILLE - It is one of the most popular events of winter. Crossing through the Village of Ellicottville, this event challenges both locals and visitors to bring out their creativity in preparation for the biggest party of ski season. This is all about themes, planning costumes and the eventual march through Ellicottville’s business district, while spectators line the streets, cheering for their favorites.

Following a two-year shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ellicottville’s Mardi Gras Parade is back on the schedule, March 12th at 6:30pm. Organizers are anticipating a record turnout noting many have expressed how much they’ve missed this iconic parade.

Ellicottville’s ERA Team VP Broker Bill Soffel and team are proud to announce the theme for their float this year is: “Thank you Hometown Heroes” in an effort to express gratitude to the frontline workers who kept people safe throughout the pandemic. The Ellicottville Team will be carrying a large “Thank You” card for parade-goers to sign before and after the parade.

“We’re incredibly excited to celebrate Mardi Gras in Ellicottville this year, after two years off,” said Soffel. “Our team couldn’t think of a better way to participate in this year’s parade than by expressing our thanks to those who kept us safe throughout the pandemic. We’re also looking forward to welcoming the public to our office following the parade!”

ERA Team VP is inviting local frontline workers, caregivers, firefighters, EMS personnel and medical staff from all over the area to join them in the parade this year, as they salute YOU for getting us through one of the most trying times in American history.

“Please join us for our parade, walk with us and enjoy all Ellicottville has to offer, followed by a party in our office immediately following the parade,” said Soffel. “We’ll have some special surprises, refreshments, and we encourage you to come in your professional attire if you wish!”

Registered participants will gather in the parking lot at Katy’s Café before 6:00pm and will march down Ellicottville’s main street, promptly at 6:30pm, ending at the Ellicottville Gazebo. If you’re a frontline worker and would like to walk with the ERA team, please contact Kaysie Griffith at kaysie.griffith@teamvp.com or call 716-699-4800.

Free Covid-19 Testing at HoliMont

HoliMont is proud to offer no-cost testing for COVID-19. These services are open to all - members, guests, and those visiting and residing in the Ellicottville area. All are welcome! No insurance, appointment, or payment is necessary. However, if you’d like to speed up the process you can pre-register for your test.

Both rapid and PCR testing is offered. Rapid test results are provided within 15 minutes; PCR test results are returned within 24-48 hours. The testing site is located at the base of Sunset lift off of Canfield Hill Road with walk-up, drive-up and ski-up access.

Testing hours at the HoliMont site are Sunday through Thursday from 9:00am-1:00pm and Friday and Saturday from 12:00-7:00pm. For additional information or to pre-register for your test, go to holimont.com.



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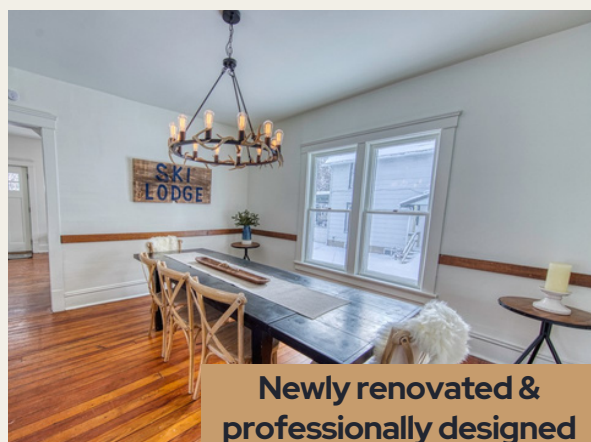
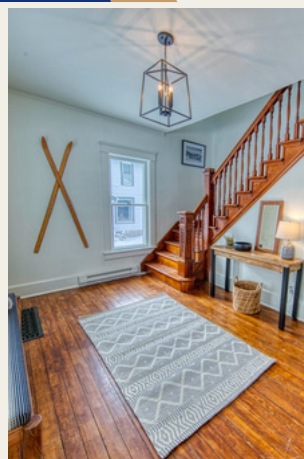
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TRIAL MEMBERSHIP

Like what you've read so far? Well, that's not even half of what we offer to our members! To take part in all the fun social events, be a part of the best SnowSports programs and have access to some of the greatest skiing and boarding conditions around, become a member of HoliMont today! For the remainder of the season, we are offering our Trial Membership program to experience HoliMont at its fullest!

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SPRING SKIING

Even though many of us do not want to admit it, spring is just around the corner. But that does not mean the fun has to stop here at HoliMont! We have big plans for the spring, summer and fall months to come. We hope to push spring skiing out as long as we can. And we might as well enjoy those warm, sunny ski days with some outdoor music and cookouts on the patio. Pond skimming will be coming back this year, so start planning your costumes now! The date for that will be announced later this month.

COMING THIS SUMMER

Looking further into the off-season, the mountain bike park will be expanding, bringing new trails and more lift access for the summer! We have purchased more bike carriers to add to the Sunset lift, and therefore quicker access to the top, leaving more time for riding! Along with that, we hope to plan a lot of fun, new activities for the summer and fall, such as outdoor concerts, festivals, biking events/races and more! So stay tuned for what's to come!



INTERVIEW

DARK STAR ORCHESTRA RAIL RIDER JAMBOREE | HOLIDAY VALLEY



.....
SATURDAY | MARCH 19

By Melanie Hulick

Dark Star Orchestra will be bringing the Grateful Dead experience to the first Rail Rider Jamboree and Music Festival in Ellicottville, NY Saturday, March 19, 2022.

Ellicottville is known for its many festivals throughout the year embracing every season. This year they are bringing something new that will hopefully become an annual tradition. A co-headliner for the Jamboree, Dark Star Orchestra is a Grateful Dead cover band with a passion to create the entire experience of being at a Grateful Dead concert.

I caught up with Rob Barraco, vocalist and keyboard player for the band recently and we talked in depth about the Grateful Dead experience the audience goes on when they attend their show.

Celebrating their 25th year as a band, they have played in all except two of the 50 states, as well as Japan, England, Germany, the Netherlands and Jamaica, which they play every year with their own festival "Jam In The Sand", this year marking its sixth year. "The only states we haven't played yet is South Dakota and Hawaii," said Barraco. "I'll let you guess which one we really want to go to."

We also talked about the pandemic and the effect it had on the band and how they came through it. Reflecting on the past two and a half years Barraco stated, "It's always felt really good to watch the people dancing and enjoying themselves and our music ... but now, after the past couple years, it means even more."

For more info on Dark Star Orchestra visit: darkstarorchestra.net. For more info on the Rail Rider Jamboree and to purchase tickets visit: railriderjamboree.com.

A Conversation with Rob Barraco

HULICK: Have you been to this area before?

BARRACO: Yes, I've played Buffalo and the surrounding area at least 100 times. That part of New York is just gorgeous.

HULICK: People are so ready to see live concerts again. This has been so tough on fans and I can't imagine being an artist through this pandemic. Tours were set and then BOOM!

BARRACO: BOOM!!! Nothing!! It was very interesting for me because we play around 100 shows a year, and plus I play with other

people and groups. We've been hitting it hard for years and years and for two years I was thinking ... boy I wish there could be a break somewhere along the way. But I never thought it would come in the form of a pandemic! Like you said, it went from full-on to nothing.

HULICK: How did you guys handle it?

BARRACO: For us, we have amazing management and we had it set up that if anything drastic were to happen, like this, we'd be set to survive, and we did. The band went through the pandemic, even though we weren't working, and we survived ... we did OK. Then came the fall of 2020 and our booking agent got us these outdoor drive-in shows. Then we didn't play through the winter, but when April of 2021 came we started those shows again. We just returned from our first full blown West coast indoor tour and things are getting back to normal.

HULICK: Do you do a straight set or do you take your cue from the audience?

BARRACO: What we do is one of our band members, Dino English, who's one of our drummers, is like an architect ... he puts together what we're going to do on the tour. He has a pretty amazing database and he looks back to see what we played in each of the past three or four shows in that area and he will try and pick something different and then work backwards and forwards from that one show. For this particular show in Ellicottville we have I believe, a three-hour set so Dino will either find a Grateful Dead show that clocks in at the three and a half hour range or we'll do what we call an "elective" where we actually pick our own set list. Those are really interesting because we can cross years and essentially make our own Grateful Dead show.

HULICK: Your show has been described as not just going to see a Grateful Dead cover band ... it is described as actually living the whole experience of being at one of those concerts.

BARRACO: One of the things we pride ourselves in, besides knowing every era of the Grateful Dead really well, is we are also into the amazing gear, guitars, keyboards and stuff the Dead actually had ... the Dead were always cutting edge in their sound and instruments. Over the years we've managed to collect the instruments they were using and I even have some of the keyboards they actually used. One is from Brent Mydland's widow, one was from the Grateful Dead themselves when they were selling all their stuff off. We also have friends who are collectors of guitars who have managed to purchase some of Jerry Garcia's guitars and they are very generous in letting us use them. When you come to see us play, if we're doing say a 1977 show, we have the stage set up exactly like a '77 Grateful Dead show and sometimes with their actual instruments.

HULICK: You guys really do make it a whole experience. You are actually helping the audience to have all those wonderful memories come flooding back and transporting them back in time.

BARRACO: The thing I've always loved about their music is the improvisational aspect of it ... you could see them five nights in a row (and I have) and see them do a certain song each of the shows and it will never be the same. We know the parameters of the year and the style they played in on that particular tour, so we try to keep that in mind. That's why I think the audience gets to really come on the trip, because we're going on that trip and they come along with us.

HULICK: Do your fans have a name for themselves?

BARRACO: No ... they're Deadheads. When the Grateful Dead were around there used to be a bunch of people that would put themselves in what they called "The Phil Zone", which meant you were right in front of bassist Phil Lesh ... a great place to be if you were a bass geek because he would just rattle your bones all night. We have a group of people who call themselves "The Skip (Vangelas) Zone". They all have t-shirts saying that, and it's really funny.

HULICK: The past few decades I've seen audiences range anywhere from kids to 90+ years of age, and I would imagine you're getting even more of a mixed audience with no concerts in two and a half years.

BARRACO: We just saw it in Denver. We played a very large venue and I could see right in the front row young teenagers all the way up to the oldsters. It was extraordinary.

HULICK: I read that last year you played your 3,000th show?

BARRACO: Yes! We have now surpassed that to ... I'm thinking 3,200. We've almost played 1,000 more shows than the Grateful Dead played.

HULICK: Wow! That's crazy!

BARRACO: I think they played 2,300 and change. The thing with our band is I've now played thousands of shows with these guys and it's such a privilege to be able to make music with people you know this intimately because we know each other so well and we know how to follow each other down the rabbit hole, so to speak, and that's where extreme magic happens for us. The goal is to create magic every night, and it doesn't always happen ... but when it does it's extra special.

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GIVING BACK

NEXT UP ON THE MENU... CHILI!

Greater Olean Area Chamber to host Chili Crawl Saturday, March 28th



OLEAN - National Chili Day on the fourth Thursday in February honors one of America's favorite winter dishes - chili. It's also known as chili con carne (chili with meat). With that in mind, the Olean Sports and Social Club (OSSC) and the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce announce their CHILI CRAWL, set for Saturday, March 28th.

The organizations are once again teaming up to present the next segment of a food crawl - and using it as a fundraiser to raise money for service dogs through the WNY Heroes / Pawsitive for Heroes. Through the Taco Crawl in June and the Wing Crawl in November, the events have donated more than \$7,000 to the charity.

What is a crawl? The crawl is where you pay one price (\$35) and receive vouchers to travel to eight different area locations to test/try/enjoy a bowl of chili. You will rate each bowl on presentation, flavor, temperature and overall impression. Votes will be tallied at the end of the crawl with the BEST CHILI named. Also, one lucky participant will take away \$500 in Shop Olean gift certificates.

"Okay, so 8 cups of chili in 5 hours? The committee discussed this and we are suggesting that each location offer a bowl between 4 and 6 oz. Each restaurant will be turning in their own recipe of chili and we are suggesting to them to watch the hot/spice gauge on the bowl - as the crawlers need to get through 8 locations," stated (with a little laugh) Meme K. Yanetsko, GOACC COO.

"We continue to fun'raise for the Western New York Heroes program called 'Pawsitive for Heroes,'" said Aaron Tierson, member of the crawl committee. "The program pays for service dog training as a result of the funds raised from the event. The dogs and their owners go through various courses together, properly preparing the dogs to serve those who've served."

The time frame of the crawl is noon-5:00pm that Saturday. Participants need to call the Chamber ahead of time to sign up for the crawl for \$35 which includes 8 vouchers, a judging card, and a chili eating vessel. The price will increase to \$45 March 14th. Online reservations can be purchased at shop.oleanny.com. Although confirmation of locations is ongoing by the committee, both Union Whiskey and Village Green are onboard.

Please call or stop in the GOACC office to make your reservation. Chili packets will be available for pick-up on Wednesday, March 23rd. The Chamber is located at 301 North Union Street, Olean, NY, phone 716-372-4433. You can also go online to shop.oleanny.com to purchase your ticket.

Olean Home Show Expanding into Health & Fitness

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's show, set for April 22nd-24th at the William O. Smith Rec Center in Olean, will not only feature home, health and fitness vendors, but additional plans include demos of dog retrieval, dog obedience, fly fishing, and a six-hole disc golf course outside the center, just to name a few. GOACC staff will be lining up make-and-takes (free or for a small fee) for all ages, basket raffles, and other hands-on activities. Learn more about this year's Health Home Fitness Expo at oleanny.com.

GOD WINKS PAJAMA PARTY

Online auction to raise funds for families facing life-threatening diagnoses



BY MARY HEYL

Ellicottville photographer Nadine Saviano has many years of experience capturing life's most exciting, happiest moments. From engagements and weddings to senior portraits and athletic events, her work captures the joy and spontaneity of special occasions so they may be remembered for years to come. While photography is often a natural part of joyous occasions, it is not often at the forefront of one's mind during life's most challenging, uncertain, and saddest moments. However, Saviano knows that a meaningful photography session can be an opportunity to capture what may be a family's last or only portrait all together.

Saviano is the president and founder of God Winks Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which she established in 2015. She explained, "I work with families that are facing terminal or life-threatening diagnoses. I offer professional family portrait photography at no charge, whether it's cancer, ALS, Alzheimers or any other potentially life-threatening diagnosis, a loved one in palliative care or end of life care, a baby in the NICU, or a stillbirth or miscarriage." Saviano has professional affiliations with several western New York healthcare organizations, including Kaleida Health, Hospice, Essential Care, CompassionNet, Catholic Health, and more, but she also works with patients receiving treatment at other healthcare facilities in the region.

Saviano's faith is what inspired her to create this organization and is what continues to propel her to help more families. While she did not embark on a photography career specifically to create her non-profit, a series of events and conversations - God Winks - led her to creating this organization, which provides assistance in the healing process from grief and loss.

Nadine explained her mission: "To provide hope, support and prayer for families in need. It's rare that people have updated family portraits and the opportunity to have a family photo session helps them to step outside of their current situation and just enjoy one another during that time, to simply be together and laugh together. Certain situations are once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for family photos and provide priceless and precious memories." Professional referrals are not required, and families can contact Saviano directly through her website, Godwinksinc.org.

There is no fee for God Winks Inc.'s services, as services are paid for through donations and fundraising. Saviano's Spring 2022 Pajama Party Fundraiser is taking place over the course of three days: April 7-9th through her organization's Facebook page @GodWinksInc. "This is an online silent auction," Saviano explained, "that is made possible through the donation of baskets and items from area businesses, organizations, and individuals throughout the area."

In earlier years, the auction was a one-day in-person event, but the COVID-19 pandemic drastically changed the format. "In March two years ago, I had 85 baskets in my house and everything shut down! I just brainstormed, talked to my board, and we came up with the idea of doing the fundraiser online and turned it into a silent auction." Saviano photographed all of the donations and invited participants to comment on the photos with their bids. The event was a great success, and she has kept the format on Facebook ever since.

She explained, "It's opened up the doors for more people to participate. I have a lot of supporters from throughout and outside the region." Many of Saviano's supporters are healthcare workers, especially nurses. "An online fundraiser over three days allows people to go online, bid, and participate whether they're on break at the hospital or at home in their pajamas. It's worked out really nicely!"

"God Winks Fundraiser" continued page 20

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EDUCATION

A BOOST FOR AREA SCHOOLS

Wolfinger Family Fund provides financial support for educational programming



Connie and Sandy Wolfinger (left) visit with students from the Northern Potter School District's agriculture education class.

OLEAN - The Wolfinger Family Donor Advised Fund at the Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation recently provided \$3,450 in support to area school districts to support a number of special projects and educational programs.

Harold "Sandy" and Connie Wolfinger established the Wolfinger Family Fund in 2019 and designed the fund to provide annual support for educational programming and enrichment opportunities for area students.

The Coudersport Area School District received \$1,000, \$500 each for a virtual reality project and for a sixth-grade field trip to the Challenger Learning Center of the Twin Tiers Region. The \$500 grant for the virtual reality project will help purchase Oculus Quest VR headsets that will be utilized in the school's STEM lab by students in grades 7-12. According to Theresa Daniels, a Coudersport school teacher, the headsets will "provide students with memorable and immersive experiences that would otherwise not be possible."

"Virtual reality provides the ability to practice skills in a safe environment and in a manner that utilizes a participant's motor skills, which ensures better knowledge and skill retention," she said. "VR can transport students from their desks to the Roman ruins, let them mix volatile chemicals and see the reaction without being physically harmed, and allow them to not only see but interact with virtual worlds."

The \$500 grant for the Challenger Learning Center field trip will allow the school to take its entire sixth grade class to the Challenger Center to experience the Rendezvous with Haley's Comet, which allows students to experience a simulation of the flight and study of Haley's Comet.

The Northern Potter School District received a grant of \$500 that will support a project at the district to establish a food plot on the district's forested land. The district will then utilize trail cameras to allow students to study wildlife populations, especially whitetail deer.

According to Lacey Miles, the school's agriculture education teacher, students will work to plan, plant and maintain the plot area. Students will also soil sample using testing kits from Pennsylvania State University to understand the nutrient needs of the soil.

"This gives a range of kids the chance to learn about the unique circumstances that our school has to offer," said Miles. "Many of our students are interested in conservation and ag mechanic careers. This project gives them a chance to explore and expand their knowledge of those possible careers."

Ellicottville Central School received \$500 to help the school provide a concert by performing artist, Jared Campbell, who uses songwriting and storytelling to encourage youth to embrace positive forces in their life. This will be the second time Campbell has performed for both elementary and middle/high school students in Ellicottville, according to Bob Miller, Ellicottville Central School superintendent.

The Smethport Area School District received a grant of \$500 to support the purchase of a rowing machine for the school's fitness center. The rowing machine will be available for use by students in grades 7-12. The machine will be available for use in physical education classes and after-school programs. According to Kim Cavallaro, Smethport physical education instructor, the rowing machine can also be an important tool in help-

"Wolfinger Fund" continued page 20

TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE

Rotary donates to the Ellicottville Library, covering cost of new WiFi installation



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 Memorial Library for 15+ years the Club initially provided a \$50,000 donation to the building fund establishing the Rotary room in the library. The Club also provides yearly financial support, funding the youth Intern program every summer along with support for the Summer Reading Program and other child-friendly programs.

Rotary is committed to keeping the library technologically current through donations of computers and equipment. Over the years they have also provided technology teaching tools like Robotics and Drone kits via Rotary District Grants.

The community as a whole benefits from the essential programs for all ages. With the pandemic changing how we all learn and work, there was a need to improve WiFi access 24/7 at the Library. To this end the Rotary Club of Ellicottville applied for and received a district grant to provide another technology upgrade. New indoor and outdoor wireless access points have been installed so that Wi-Fi access is stronger both inside the building and in the parking lot. Just as a reminder, the internet is always on at the Library - even if they are closed, so you can surf the internet to your heart's content.

Along with the new WiFi installation, the Rotary Grant provided new 27" monitors along with new, faster SSD hard drives on all of the patron desktop computers. The screens are a huge improvement over the old smaller monitors and the speed of the computers allows for lightning fast downloads, which Library Director Laura Flanagan described as "an awesome improvement".

The Rotary Club of Ellicottville, working with Flanagan, developed a list of equipment needed to accomplish this enhancement. The Rotary Club of Ellicottville then 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 Ellicottville Food Pantry, the Village Park and the Rotary Auditorium at the Ellicottville Town Center, to name a few.

This particular grant provided the upgrade to the computers and paid for the installation of the new WiFi access points. Both Rotarians and Friends of Rotary did the minor setup of the equipment but left the wiring to the professionals.

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 modernize the equipment and improve internet access.

"We are thrilled to have continued support from the Rotary Club of Ellicottville," said Flanagan. "I hope our community realizes that this exceptional organization changes lives, lifts people up, and makes this community a better place."

The Ellicottville Memorial Library services the Ellicottville community with many unique programs year-round while providing computer access to all who need it. The Rotary Club of Ellicottville meets every second Wednesday at 6:15pm, currently via Zoom due to the pandemic. Anyone is welcome; visit their website at www.ellicottvillerotary.com to learn more.

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 ARTS

ARTIST GRANTS AVAILABLE

Creatives Rebuild NY launches programs to support 2,700 artists across NYS



NEW YORK, NY - Creatives Rebuild New York (CRNY) recently launched two funding opportunities aimed at providing transformational support for individual artists across New York State. The \$125 million initiative provides either guaranteed income or employment opportunities to artists. Conceived and principally funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation with additional support from the Ford Foundation and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF), CRNY was formed to reactivate New York State's creative economy after the devastating impact of COVID-19, and to secure the future of its artists.

CRNY's 'Guaranteed Income for Artists' program will provide no-strings cash payments to New York artists who demonstrate financial need. 2,400 artists will receive \$1,000 per month for 18 months. Recipients will be selected from a pool of eligible artists to ensure equitable distribution. Application details and eligibility requirements for the Guaranteed Income for Artists program are now available at www.creativesrebuildny.org/apply/guaranteed-income. All guaranteed income applications must be submitted by March 25, 2022 at 11:59pm Eastern.

CRNY's 'Artist Employment Program' will fund employment for 300 artists working in collaboration with community-based organizations or municipalities across the State. Participating artists will receive a salary of \$65,000 per year (commensurate with median household income in New York State) plus benefits and dedicated time to focus on their artistic practice. The partnering organizations are eligible to receive funding to support artists' employment. Application details and eligibility requirements for the Artist Employment Program are now available at www.creativesrebuildny.org/apply/artist-employment. All joint artist employment program applications must be submitted by March 25, 2022 at 11:59pm Eastern.

"Today brings us one step closer to realizing a vision that was born just months into the pandemic when, through my work on the governor's commission, it became clear that we needed to address the deep-rooted disconnect causing artists to not be seen as workers and to be compensated as such," said Elizabeth Alexander, president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. "As we continue to envision and work towards our post-pandemic reality, it's critical that we not overlook the artist workers whose labor is an essential part of our economy and whose continued work sustains us in our most joyful and our darkest hours."

CRNY recognizes that race, class, ability, and other forms of privilege often dictate access to financial security. As such, CRNY is prioritizing outreach to communities across the State that have historically been under-resourced by philanthropy. Guided by leaders in the linguistic and disability justice communities, CRNY will also provide necessary accommodations so that non-English speakers, English language learners, people with disabilities, and those without Internet access are supported throughout the application process.

"Artists' employment and livelihoods are notoriously precarious, and COVID-19 has only exacerbated this unpredictability and uncertainty," noted Sarah Calderon, Executive Director of CRNY. "CRNY is thrilled to launch our Guaranteed Income for Artists and Artist Employment programs as a step toward building financial security, agency, and freedom for 2,700 New York artists, as well as supporting the broader ecosystem of organizations that employ them."

Notably, artists played an integral role in the design of both the Guaranteed Income for Artists and Artist Employment programs. Building on the foundation of its nine member Leadership Council, in Fall 2021 CRNY convened a Think Tank - a diverse coalition of New York State artists, scholars, strategists, and activists with wide-ranging identities and lived experiences.

"Artist Grants" continued page 20

ARTWORKS ON DISPLAY

Amanda Parry Oglesbee presents "Silent Beings" at Tri-County Arts Council



OLEAN, NY - The Tri County Arts Council, located at 110 West State St in Olean, presents "Silent Beings" by artist Amanda Parry Oglesbee. The artist's paintings are now on display in the gallery through March 26th.

On her artwork, Oglesbee says, "I am moved by the beauty and courage of all things that grow on earth, especially trees. As I paint trees they become portraits of beings compelled to grow, nurture and survive. Some of my paintings are made directly observing nature. My work is sometimes influenced by historical art and other times built entirely from my imagination, allowing the piece to grow organically with equal combination of intent and acceptance. While I have painted many other subjects and use different mediums and approaches in my work, I have always painted trees."

"These paintings are big, bold, and beautiful!" Said Sean Huntington, Tri-County Arts Council Exhibition Coordinator. "Amanda really shows emotions through her paintings, with trees standing in for people. You can see how each tree spoke to the artist in a very human way. They're full of cracks and holes, gnarled trunks and branches. Each tree has a ton of character, yet they're still beautiful. Make sure you visit this show ... it's spectacular!"

An artist talk and reception will be held Saturday, March 12th by reservation. To reserve your half-hour spot please visit <https://signup.com/go/xJpWCOO>. For more information about the show or upcoming classes call the Tri-County Arts Council at 716-372-7455, email info@myartscouncil.net or visit www.tricountyartscouncil.org.

ELLICOTTVILLE LIBRARY EXHIBIT



ELLICOTTVILLE - M.R. Bryant is the featured artist at the Ellicottville Memorial Library through May 2022, with an exhibit of her Impressionist and Abstract acrylic paintings.

Bryant first started exploring artistic expression as a toddler, encouraged by her grandmother LaVerne Bryant, a sculptor and painter in her own right. She currently lives with her husband, son, and three dogs in the lovely Finger Lakes and enjoys spending her free time cooking, reading about medieval history, and exploring all the natural beauty New York State has to offer. More of her work can be viewed on Facebook and Instagram at Cormorant Arts.

The Ellicottville Memorial Library is located at 6499 Maples Road in Ellicottville, NY. Hours are 10:00am-5:00pm daily except Sunday. Evening hours are 5:00-8:00pm Tuesday and Wednesday.



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HEALTH & FITNESS

Core Performance: CORE!!

BY KIM DUKE, CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINER

If you follow my articles, you know I am passionate about the importance of a strong, stable core. A strong core is paramount to keeping your body functionally sound and operational. Many quick-fix diets, pieces of exercise equipment and even surgeries promise a sleeker, better looking abdominal area, but it's through core training that focuses on strength and flexibility of these muscle groups - coupled with a healthy diet - that you can achieve real, long-lasting results.

Aside from the obvious aesthetic benefits of maintaining a lean and tight core, there are important functional pluses as well. Imagine easing back pain, improving your balance, standing straighter and lifting heavy objects without stress or strain. A strong core allows you to execute everyday movements with ease, even as you age.

Core training is an insurance policy for keeping the body performing at peak levels. And depending on your body type and individual goals, the core is one of the only muscle systems we train for compactness rather than volume. As you train your core, the ultimate goal is not only a toned midsection, but also to attain a functionally sound core that can rotate, contract and support you whichever way you move.

Maintaining a strong core will also lend optimal support to assisting muscles. The core is constantly assisting other muscle groups as they function, acting as a fulcrum for all motion. When you squat down to pick up something from the floor, your core muscles work to maintain the integrity of vertical movement. And when you lift an object overhead you

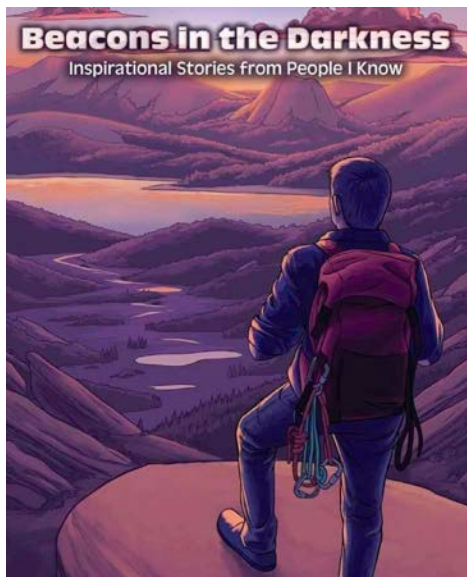
mainly recruit your deltoids and triceps, but your core muscles are also working to both support and balance you, keeping your torso steady as you lift. If your core muscles are not engaging, proper trunk alignment would be nearly impossible. That kind of motion, unassisted by the core, would be both much more difficult and potentially dangerous due to spinal compression.

The keys to successfully executing a core workout are breathing, form and speed. With a firm command of these three elements, you can develop your core muscles efficiently and effectively. Endless repetitions are neither necessary nor advisable; you need only to carry out a few calculated sets to achieve a deep muscular burn. Give your all during each rep performed. That guy/girl who claims that they can do a thousand sit-ups would in reality be lucky to complete fifty that truly work their core, because the neck and lower back, not to mention speed and momentum, usually do all the work when so many reps are involved. For best results, less is more: aim to lengthen the muscle, then contract and squeeze. Place the tension on the core muscles without calling in recruit muscles.

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.

Beacons in the Darkness: One Writer's Quest to Spread Light

BY CAITLIN CROFT



It has been officially two years since the start of the pandemic. I remember it so vividly because President Trump declared the COVID-19 virus an issue on my birthday. When I think back to this, it seems like a lifetime ago, so much has changed. It will take time before we look back on these events without an emotional lens. Families were torn apart by the actual virus itself and the subsequent impact it had on the political arena. But despite all of this forced change, so many banded together, despite what mainstream media tells you.

Bill Jordan sensed just how heavy this was going to be and decided it was time to put together another book. "Two things really kickstarted this piece - the first was that the beginning of the pandemic was really trying on everyone, including myself. Losing the opportunity to interact with people in person really put a damper on life in addition to the fact that so many were facing the realities of what happens if you caught COVID." This made Jordan want to find some positivity in life. "I figured something like this would be a good excuse for people to share positive stories with me without me awkwardly asking folks to just tell me something uplifting."

The second thing that kickstarted the book was the more time Jordan spent with what most would consider normal everyday people - like you or me, who aren't famous and just live regular lives - the more he found himself being amazed at people's journeys. "There've been so many times I've been talking to someone and they share part of their life story and my reaction is 'wow, that could be a movie.'" That really got Jordan thinking that most people probably have an inspiring story inside of them. "Maybe it's not about them directly - but they have experienced something that really is an incredible story and can be very uplifting." Since Jordan realized that was the case, he figured it

would be awesome to find some of these stories so the world could hear them.

A sales manager by trade, Jordan went to school to be a writer but these days writing is more of a hobby. "I enjoy anything creative that stimulates the mind and supporting my amazing wife in her passions as well." I asked Jordan what inspiration means to him and his response was unlike any I'd heard before. "Inspiration for me is typically something that uplifts my spirit and increases my drive. It's hard to describe, but I absolutely know when it is happening to me." How powerful, this, I assume, is one of the many reasons myself and so many others were drawn to this project. When Jordan asked me to write a piece for this book, my brain told me that it was crazy. I am not an inspiration to anyone. I barely seem to make it through this thing called life (Prince pun intended) without the people around me. But with a fair amount of follow-up (Thanks, Bill) I found the words to write about my battle with cancer.

I asked Bill to pick three excerpts from his book, *Beacons in the Darkness: Inspirational Stories from People I Know*, which can now be found on amazon.com.

From: Above the Bar by Bill Jordan - "I chose to write about a good friend and former colleague of mine, Mike Huggins, who embodies much of what the American Dream was once meant to be ... work hard, no matter the circumstances, and you have a chance to achieve your dreams."

After high school, Mike knew he needed a bachelor's degree to go where he ultimately wanted to head, but even a public school seemed unrealistic and out of reach. Coming from a military family, Mike already understood some of the benefits a life of service could provide - as he learned more, he signed up for the National Guard. Certainly, for love of country, but also because he saw the benefits as part of his plan. It took longer than the requisite four years because Mike was not only spending time serving his country, but also working other jobs as well - but he became the first person in his family to get that degree. One box checked. Along the way, he also met and started dating a woman who is now his amazingly supportive wife. For the record, she finally had to ask him out because this "tough guy" couldn't take the plunge. Again, from the outside, it seemed it was the perfect family living the American Dream. But, you can't see hustle. You can't see grind. You can't see grit.

From: What Choice do I have? By Caitlin Croft

But, little did I know this same inspiration would carry me forward with strength I'd never known. Through the ups and downs of facing radiation alone, old heartbreaks, new heartbreaks, COVID, transitioning to tamoxifen, the pressure of finding success when so many were struggling; this inspiration taught me how to handle things with stoicism and grace while simultaneously strengthening the bonds in my world. Yes, I have my amazing friends, family and community - but it is at night that I alone had to fight the dark crevasses of my mind that can so easily run the show.

GREAT VALLEY YOUTH CAMP

cont. from page 03

work with, but there is so much potential for a really great park.”

Brown noted that the property’s location next to McCarty Hill State Forest makes it a great place for recreational groups to visit. “An idea I had is to make it available for horseback riding clubs to unload horses; there is plenty of room for corrals, trucks and trailers,” Brown said. “It could also be utilized for snowmobiles. We already plow the drive. It would be great for cross-country ski races, and mountain bikers and hikers could access it for a safe area to park off the road.” The property is adjacent to one of the Western New York Mountain Biking trails, as well as the Western New York Snowmobiling trail, which is also enjoyed for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

The Town hopes to spark the interest of other groups to use the park for public venues, such as marathons, music festivals, and other recreational activities, as long as they conform to the state’s guidelines regarding land use around McCarty State Forest.

While Brown and Baugh have many ideas for the property’s future use, both agree that it is very important to honor the property’s past. “I want to have something that acknowledges what this place was, the years it operated, and recognize those who came here, turned their lives around and became successful,” said Brown. Along those lines, Brown is looking forward to locating a time capsule that is buried on the property. “We think we know where it is,” he explained. “It was buried sometime in the mid 1980s. We’d like to locate it, unearth it, open it and then add to it before we rebury! Maybe that’s the site where we create some kind of memorial to the youth camp.”

As far as the naming of the park is concerned, Brown said, “I’m going to leave that up to Travis and his wife – however they want to do it. This park is something that should be here for years to come and it will definitely be part of Travis’ legacy.”

GOD WINKS FUNDRAISER

cont. from page 11

Saviano is excited to have a great number and variety of baskets and items this year. These items include original artwork from local artists, woodworking, home and lawn decor, kid-friendly baskets, wine baskets, spa baskets, cases of beer, an iced tea set, and so much more. Local stores donate gift cards or certificates, and Saviano is always happy to plug their business on God Winks Inc.’s Facebook page.

Anyone who is interested in donating auction items or baskets are welcome to do so through March 27th. “I’m actually a terrible basket maker,” Saviano laughed, “so whatever strikes your fancy, that’s what you can donate!” To contact Saviano about donations, fill out the contact form at www.godwinksync.org or message the organization on Facebook.

Basket/item bidding will open on Thursday, April 7th at noon and close on Saturday, April 9th at midnight. Items such as gift cards/certificates will be mailed to winners, and all other items will be dropped off to winners by Saviano or her volunteers beginning the following Monday through Wednesday.

BEACONS IN THE DARKNESS

cont. from page 19

They say at the end we are alone, and this experience made me contemplate this on a level a thirty-something shouldn’t have to in the modern era. I guess the point of this is why wait for external signals, or events to be perfect. In reality if you are already searching for something, the change has been made within you and just applying new behaviors to this attitude is what’s needed; at least this is what worked for me.

From: Oh My, What Grandpa Can Grow! by anonymous - “a touching story that reminds us to not obsess over things like money and titles at work and to take the time to find the joy in everyday life.”

So, in honor of Grandpa, I call on us to stop for awhile today and to breath some magic of contentment back into our lives. To allow ourselves to close our eyes to all of our worries and dive deep into one glorious moment, even to simply enjoy a sucker from the dollar store, preferably without the dirt.

The proceeds from this book go to an amazing animal rescue organization named Empire Animal Rescue Society (EARS) headquartered in Salamanca, NY.

Jordan has also written a romance novel called Second Chance at Love about someone who loses their wife due to cancer and after much emotional debate ends up finding love again. “I also have a collection of poetry out called The Fate of Our States is Great: 101 Poems on American History, which rhymes through time about events and people in our country’s past.”

Be sure to follow the former Ellicottville resident and keep up with future projects! Twitter @billjordan4 Instagram @billjordaniv He also has a YouTube channel where he is posting weekly videos.

Now go to amazon and order this book to help spread more inspiration in this world and support some great animals looking for second chances ... because aren’t we all?

WOLFINGER FUND

cont. from page 15

ing injured athletes rehab and recover.

The fund also provided a \$950 grant to the Belvidere High School in Belvidere, NJ, to provide for the purchase of furniture and classroom materials to restructure a classroom for a high school teacher caring for some 110 students.

The Wolfingers have provided grants to the school district as it is one with a special family connection. Sandy’s mother Dorthy Wolfinger and her sister Alice Wilhelm were lifelong residents of Belvedere and attended schools there from grades 1-12. Alice also taught kindergarten at Belvidere for many years. Sandy and all of his siblings, Ray, Carol and Kirk Wolfinger, attended Belvidere from kindergarten on.

Donations can be made to the Wolfinger Family Donor Advised Fund at CRCF, 301 North Union St., Olean, NY 14760 or online at cattfoundation.org.

The Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation is the area’s supportive, responsive and trusted community foundation. Established in 1994, CRCF is growing good by connecting donors to the causes they care about most in the region. Grants from the foundation support many areas, including education, scholarships, health care, the arts, community development, human service, and youth development. To learn more, call 716-301-CRCF (2723), email foundation@cattfoundation.org, or visit online at www.cattfoundation.org. CRCF is also on Facebook (facebook.com/cattfoundation) and Twitter (@CattFoundation).

ARTIST GRANTS

cont. from page 16

Through bi-monthly meetings, this group determined the overall direction of both programs.

“The importance of having artists play a central role in designing CRNY’s guaranteed income and employment programs cannot be overstated,” said Emil Kang, CRNY Leadership Council Chair and Mellon Foundation Program Director for Arts and Culture. “This model is one that points to a necessary paradigm shift in how artists are supported and reminds us that artistic practice often extends beyond the studio and the stage and is often the result of hours of uncompensated labor.

“Guaranteed income for artists is transformational. By providing monthly, sustained, unconditional cash transfers to artists (and ideally all gig workers), GI strengthens the well-being of a community,” said Yanira Castro, a Brooklyn-based interdisciplinary artist and member of CRNY’s Think Tank. “For most artists, work is seasonal, unpredictable, and comes and goes in waves; it can be feast or famine. Grants are few and foster competition and a scarcity mindset rather than nurturing the health (economic, social, spiritual) of the whole art community. CRNY’s investment in artists through guaranteed income is an acknowledgment of the precarity so many artists work under and the need to work towards the economic security all workers deserve.”

Queries regarding applications may be directed to helpdesk@creativesrebuildny.org.

About Creatives Rebuild New York: Creatives Rebuild New York (CRNY) is a three-year, \$125 million initiative that provides guaranteed income and employment opportunities to artists across New York State. CRNY believes that artists are workers who deserve equitable, sustainable support structures, and that improving the lives of artists is paramount to the vitality of New York State’s collective social and economic wellbeing. Fiscally sponsored by Tides Center, CRNY represents a \$125 million funding commitment, anchored by \$115 million from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and \$5 million each from the Ford Foundation and Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF). Learn more at creativesrebuildny.org.

About The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation: The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is the nation’s largest supporter of the arts and humanities. Since 1969, the Foundation has been guided by its core belief that the humanities and arts are essential to human understanding. The Foundation believes that the arts and humanities are where we express our complex humanity, and that everyone deserves the beauty, transcendence, and freedom that can be found there. Through our grants, we seek to build just communities enriched by meaning and empowered by critical thinking, where ideas and imagination can thrive. Learn more at mellon.org/.

About the Ford Foundation: The Ford Foundation is an independent, nonprofit grant-making organization with assets currently valued at \$16 billion. For more than 85 years it has worked with courageous people on the frontlines of social change worldwide, guided by its mission to strengthen democratic values, reduce poverty and injustice, promote international cooperation, and advance human achievement. With headquarters in New York, the foundation has offices in Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. Learn more at fordfoundation.org.

About the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF): The Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) is one of the world’s leading private, international philanthropic organizations, making grants to nonprofit organizations in the areas of arts and culture, education, health and sports, and social welfare. SNF funds organizations and projects worldwide that aim to achieve a broad, lasting, and positive impact for society at large, and exhibit strong leadership and sound management. The Foundation also supports projects that facilitate the formation of public-private partnerships as an effective means for serving public welfare. Since 1996, the Foundation has committed more than \$3.3 billion through over 5,100 grants to nonprofit organizations in more than 135 countries around the world. Learn more at SNF.org.



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Holistic, Mystical & Metaphysical Shop

Gifts that Uplift

11 Martha St., Ellicottville
 Mon-Sat 11-6, Sun 11-5
 Blessings@GoodfortheSpiritGifts.com

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.

TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE: Close to Route 219, 65+ acres zoned agriculture with hardwoods a plenty. Close to Holiday Valley and HoliMont. Minutes from all the seasonal activities of Ellicottville's downtown Village. 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 Bal-esteri, 716-837-7000.

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.

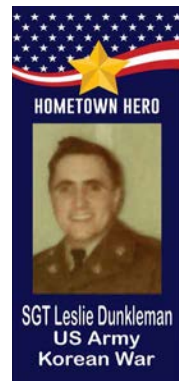
TELEMARK MOTEL, LOCATED ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE SUNRISE CHAIR is open for seasonal or monthly room rentals. All rooms have private baths, WiFi and cable. \$1,000/month plus tax or \$4,000 including tax for the season. Please email tektele@gmail.com or call 716-699-4193.

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.

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.



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.

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: Our team is looking for a hard-working and motivated individual to work alongside us here in Ellicottville! Must be available on weekends and festivals. Email resume and a brief introduction to gadogado98@hotmail.com. This is a yearly position, not seasonal.

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY: Position available at ellicottvilleNOW delivering the newspapers one day a week in Ellicottville and surrounding communities. Must have a valid driver's license and reliable vehicle. Great supplemental income. Send letter of interest to brenda@ellicottville-now.com.

WRITERS WANTED: ellicottvilleNOW is looking to grow its team of writers. Great supplemental income, work from home. Send letter of interest and writing samples to brenda@ellicottvillenow.com.

PLACE YOUR AD: Classified ads appear in both print and online! \$10 per issue up to 40 words. Call 716-699-9816 or email info@ellicottvilleNOW.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

VILLAGE BOARD ELLICOTTVILLE, NEW YORK NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ABANDONMENT AND SALE OF A PORTION OF MARSHALL ALLEY, ELLICOTTVILLE

VILLAGE OF ELLICOTTVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Please Take Notice that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ellicottville on Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. in the Village Hall at 1 West Washington Street, Ellicottville, NY for the purpose of considering:

Authorizing the abandonment of the approximate 2' x 200' of the western edge of Marshall Alley in the Village of Ellicottville which adjoins the premises of 36 Washington Street, and then authorizing the selling the same to the owners of 36 Washington Street.

By order of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ellicottville, this public hearing will also be available via "Zoom", accessible under "Meeting Schedule" on the Village website at <https://www.ellicottvillegov.com/>. This Public Hearing will also be in person at the above address.

LETTER: THANK YOU

Willow donates proceeds from calendar sale to Empire Animal Rescue Society

We hit a new record of money raised for Empire Animal Rescue Society (EARS) through Willow calendars! This year we raised \$1,200 ... beating the last two years of \$1,000! We couldn't have done it without all the amazing community support. Thank you to everyone who bought a calendar, donated a little extra and helped spread the word to help us reach a new goal for this awesome animal rescue.

Why do we do this? Because rescues like EARS don't receive any government funding and rely solely on donations and their fundraising efforts to be able to provide care for neglected, homeless and abused animals in our region and beyond. They would not be able to do the selfless, tireless work they do without the support of a community. They work on a volunteer basis because they have a love for animals and it is truly hard and dedicated work.

We not only do this to raise funds, but to raise awareness and we are grateful for everyone's support. Thank you all and thank you BioDome Project, Sunshine Health & Wellness, ellicottvilleNOW and PaNDaGOAT Media for repping calendars at your businesses!

If you didn't get a calendar and would still like one, check out createphotocalendars.com/store/willow. The money raised still goes to EARS. Or you can donate directly through their site at empirerescue.org.

- Willow and her mom, Ashley Baron



Olean Sports Boosters Raffle Party



OLEAN - The Olean High School Sports Boosters are hosting their 38th Annual Endowment Raffle this April. The raffle is \$100 for a ticket with 24 chances to win: (1) \$10,000; (1) \$5,000; (1) \$3,000; (1) \$2,000; (1) \$1,000; (2) \$500; (5) \$300; and (10) \$100. Tickets admit four people to the drawing party to be held Saturday, April 30th at the Pulaski Club, 1104 North Union Street, Olean.

The second of three Early Bird Drawings took place Feb. 25th with the winner drawn taking home \$200 and the ticket seller of the winning ticket \$100. The winner's ticket gets back in the complete drawing in April as well as the final Early Bird drawing on Friday, March 25th.

All proceeds will go to the Olean Sports Boosters Club for the benefit of the sports program at the Olean School District. The purpose of the Booster Club is to promote, sponsor, and carry out projects to aid and assist in the Olean High School athletic program. The Olean High School Sports Boosters was created to help out our student athletes in areas where the annual school budget falls short or needs assistance. Each year, the boosters purchase equipment needed by the sports teams that cannot be covered in their budget.

The Sports Boosters also host three sports banquets - Fall, Winter, Spring. All varsity athletes and coaches receive free admission, parents/friends are charged a reasonable price, and all spirit items/plaques given to these student athletes are funded through the boosters.

"The raffle has been a live online draw the last two years and we are hopeful that this year's will be live and in-person at the Pulaski," reported Meme K. Yanetsko, OHS Sports Boosters Treasurer. "Our top priority remains in the health and safety of our guests, club staff, volunteers and all involved - as restrictions are lifted or not, we will keep the ticket purchasers updated," she added.

The drawing party, starting at 6:00pm, will feature complimentary food and drink for ticket holders, a Chinese auction, 50/50 raffle, and music. Tickets are available to purchase before the event at the Olean High School Sports Boosters office (at the high school) and various booster committee members. For more information on the boosters or the raffle, please contact Char Dwailebe, Raffle Chair, 716-307-3678; Jeff Spears, President, 585-981-0668; or Meme Yanetsko, Treasurer, 716-378-6951.

instaNOW

Follow us on Instagram @ellicottvillenow

Share your photos with us and see them in our InstaNOW Photo Gallery!

Upload your photos using #evlnow / tag us. It's THAT easy!



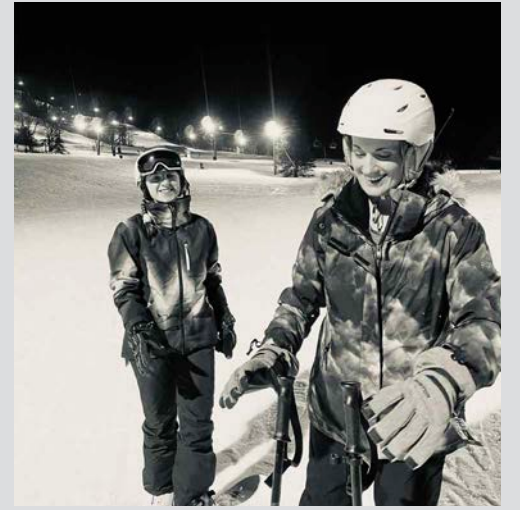
Tagged images serve as granted permission for use by ellicottvilleNOW for promotional purposes of any kind in print • online • and on social media platforms.



👤 thenewphskisevl: Yesterday was a great day. #penguinpaddle #holidayvalleyrangers #winter #fun #ellicottvilleny #ellicottvillenow



👤 amandadevito: Another successful one for the books. #family #evlsnowedin @ellicottvillenow



👤 picklesandpepto: @dash_913 always capturing the moment! @holidayvalley #ellicottvillenow



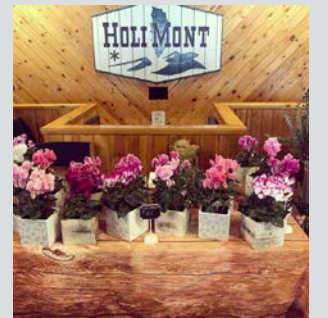
👤 escape.to.ellicottville: Telestock 2022! A day of peace, love and telemark skiing #citygarage #visitellicottville #skiing @ellicottvillenow



👤 robert_kuechle: @holimont #evlnow #winterwonderland



👤 Itvwthenavydude: #evlnow #gobills #bonafamily #gobonnies



👤 flowersoffthefarm: @holimont @ellicottvillenow #ladiesday



👤 mrsski815: #nanismoutainside @villaggioevl @ellicottvillenow



👤 dash_913: Got out early to hike to the top of the Valley so I could catch the sunrise. It did not disappoint #holidayvalley #getoutside #evlnow



👤 bperksey: #boardroombanked #evlnow #holidayvalley



👤 team_pritchard: Mardi Gras season is here!! #evlnow



👤 shannonlshepherd: #evlnow #snowboarding #winterlover

Village Park Skatepark in Ellicottville NY

COMMUNITY MEETING



Join us for a Community Meeting at Fattey Beer Co.
6696 US Route 219 Ellicottville, NY 14731 March 22nd
from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM.

The Village of Ellicottville is commissioning a new concrete skatepark. To make sure the design is the best it can be, we want to hear from the local community.



Scan the QR code to take our online survey for the skatepark. Survey closes on March 21st.