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From Spring Skiing to Summer Fun

A glimpse into Ellicottville's Winter Carnival, the Happy Half, and a new celebration: Red Head Days!



Winter Carnival file photo 2019
@holidayvalley



Happy Half file photo 2019
@evlhalf_happyhalf

BY BRENDA PERKS

Did any of us think last March that a two-week "cautionary" shutdown would carry on for a whole year? Certainly not I. This pandemic has made quite an impact on so many levels for so many people - financially, physically and mentally (hello stress eating!) Thankfully for our mental state, we live in a ski town.

Kudos to our local resorts - the snow-makers, the groomers, the lifties and every essential ski resort employee (FYI they are ALL essential!) for providing us with an outlet to maintain some sliver of normalcy over the winter months. Our snow-sliding fun may be nearing another season ending, but it isn't quite over yet! We've got the annual Winter Carnival (re-imagined), and an off-season full of fun to look forward to!

... page 03

Give Trenton a Lift ...

This past fall, the family of Trenton Pierce of Great Valley organized a donation drive with the goal of raising funds to purchase an all-accessible mobile home. The home, which will accommodate Trenton's needs — who is diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) — was ordered successfully and is set to be installed this spring.

DMD gradually wears down muscular tissue, and Trenton's ability to walk has forced him to require the help of a wheelchair to maneuver his way around. This has made traveling to doctor appointments challenging. The family is reaching out to the community for support.

... page 04

ELLICOTTVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFERS VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Rotary Club of Ellicottville is now accepting applications for a vocational/technical scholarship. The \$5,000 scholarship, which is being funded by the Ellicottville Rotary along with Rotary District 7090 in further support of education and vocational service in the Ellicottville community, may be awarded to a member of the senior class that resides within the boundaries of the Ellicottville School District. Applicants should have a broad range of interests encompassing a good academic record, participation in a variety of school activities, and involvement in community or charitable service ... page 14

Raise Your Paws for EARS!

Sale of 2021 Willy-Goat calendars raise much needed funds for local animal shelter



@willygoat_adventures

Willow was rescued 6 years ago and has been living her best life since. Over those years, her owner, Ashley, has taken an immense amount of photos of her fur-baby, so she decided to create a calendar of Willow's adventures. Originally wanting to make one for her own personal use, an idea struck Ashley: print an inventory of calendars and sell them to raise money for one of the area's local rescue groups!

EARS (short for Empire Animal Rescue Society) is a 100% volunteer organization relying solely on donations from the community they serve. Willow is proud to donate proceeds from the sale of her calendars to EARS for the 2nd year in a row! Her and Ashley give thanks to everyone who showed their support.

... page 14



On St. Patrick's Day, soup will be served to-go style under tents at CCA's Salamanca location. All proceeds will benefit CCA's kitchen.

CCA-Connecting Communities in Action

CCA kicks off spring fundraising with 'Pot O' Gold' Dinner

Over the past year, Connecting Communities in Action of Salamanca (previously known as Cattaraugus Community Action) celebrated many important milestones, and 2021 is no exception! This month, CCA will be kicking off their first in-person fundraiser since the start of the pandemic, and Executive Director Tina Zerbian is looking forward to welcoming the community to the agency at 25 Jefferson Street on St. Patrick's Day for a special soup bowl fundraiser ... page 04



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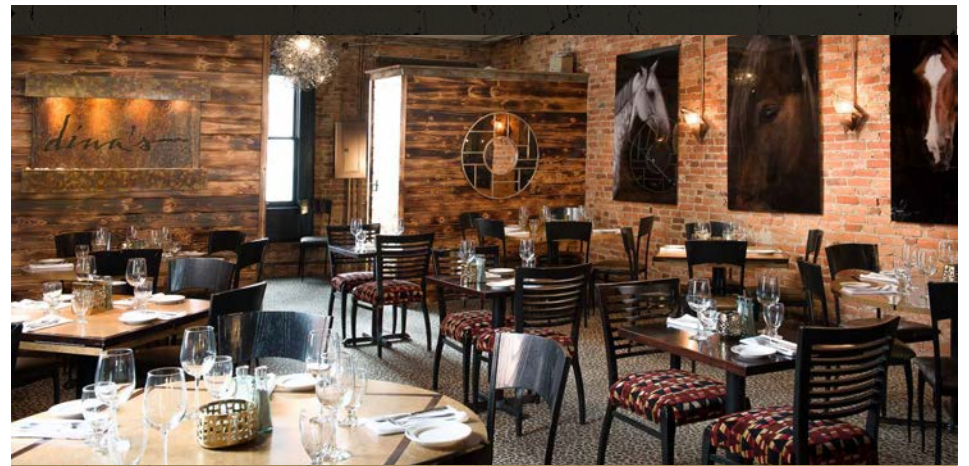

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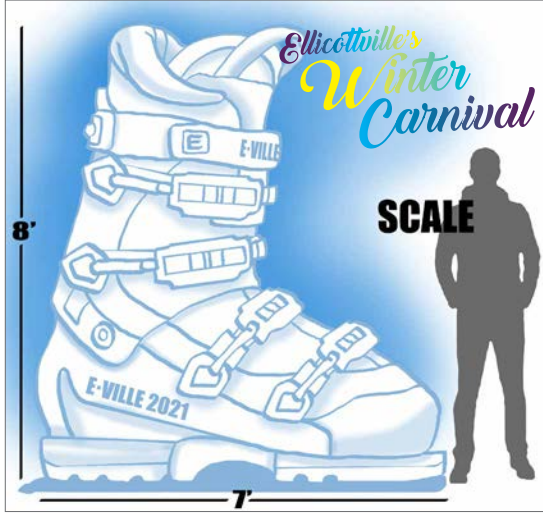
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NOW *this ...* by Brenda

The Home Stretch: From spring skiing to summer fun!



Whoah. It's been one year. Did any of us think last March that a two-week "cautionary" shutdown would carry on for a whole year? Certainly not I. This pandemic has made quite an impact on so many levels for so many people - financially, physically and mentally (hello stress eating!) Thankfully for our mental state, we live in a ski town.

Kudos to our local resorts - the snowmakers, the groomers, the lifties and every essential ski resort employee (FYI they are ALL essential!) for providing us with an outlet to maintain some sliver of normalcy over the winter months. Our snow-sliding fun may be nearing another season ending, but it isn't quite over yet!

WINTER CARNIVAL WEEKEND: Let us celebrate (6-feet apart, of course) a Mardi Gras-inspired weekend, March 13th-14th. No, there won't be a parade full of floats or zany marching groups, but the "zany" can still come out and play! Holiday Valley is planning to flip pancakes and host mountain top cookouts, along with beer tastings, s'mores, and (be still my growling stomach!) a Mac n' Cheese food truck! ... Show up with an appetite! Visitors can also take part in a Mercy Flight raffle (they've got a snowboard up for grabs!), races on Foxfire, and a rail jam in the Rail Fun Park. Add in a groomer display, Mountain Shop sidewalk sale, and fireworks on Saturday night and you've got yourself a super celebration! Oh, and space is limited, but the 6-hole Winter Golf Classic on Sunday is a great way to pair your two favorite seasons in one fun outing! (Check out the full schedule of activities at holidayvalley.com)

The Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce is bringing the Winter Carnival vibe downtown with a storefront window decorating contest, themed music playing in the streets, and a larger-than-life ski boot made of snow by sculptor Eric Jones. A photo op for sure! See it for yourself on the lawn of the 1887 Building after your shopping, dining, wine tasting and axe throwing excursion.

WIN A HOLIDAY VALLEY SEASON'S PASS: Interested in scoring a combo pass to HV for next season? SK8EVL will be set up on Saturday of Winter Carnival at the Holiday Valley Plaza (main lodge) from 11:30am-1:30pm and downtown next to the giant ski boot from 2:00-4:00pm, selling raffle tickets to raise money for the Ellicottville Skatepark Fund. Tickets are \$20 apiece or three for \$50, with the drawing to be held April 1st. They also have their hands on a pretty sweet poster of Tony Hawk from back in the day, signed by the legend himself, which will be part of the raffle as well! The best part: every dollar donated will be matched by The Skatepark Project/Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation and will go towards constructing a permanent concrete skatepark here in Ellicottville! SK8EVL advocates will be on-hand to answer questions about the project, which to date, has raised \$104,000 towards its \$250k goal! Want to purchase tickets virtually? Follow @sk8evl on FB/IG for details. Additional project info can be found at sk8evl.com

SETTING THE PACE FOR A SUPER SPRING: When those lifts DO stop spinning, you can rest assured that our town won't skip a beat. Dust off those running shoes and set your pace for this year's Happy Half Marathon and 5k. The 2021 event at Holiday Valley is a GO! Race organizers received the green light just a couple weeks ago, and since announcing the good news for the May 8th event, the race field is already half full! (In other words, if you plan to run, get registered - NOW!)

Similar to the EVL Halloween Half (the Happy Half's sister race), there have been a few adjustments made to the race format in order to accommodate Covid-19 concerns. A wave start will be implemented (which worked extremely well for the Halloween race), allowing for individual starts with a 5-10 second gap in between each runner. Oh don't fret, you can still expect a live DJ at the start/finish to get everyone excited, and each participant will go home with a cool finishers medal and super style event t-shirt. And no doubt,

"NOW this... Winter to Summer" continued page 07

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT

GIVE TRENTON A LIFT

Local family looking for assistance in son's need of transport vehicle



By PANOS ARGITIS

At the beginning of October 2020, the family of Trenton Pierce of Great Valley organized a donation drive with the goal of raising funds to purchase an all-accessible mobile home. The home, which will accommodate Trenton's needs — who is diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) — was ordered successfully and is set to be installed at the start of the upcoming spring season. Amidst the relief of securing a new home unit, Trenton fractured his femur after falling later that month, leaving him with another setback on his condition.

During his long battle with DMD, which gradually wears down muscular tissue, Trenton's ability to walk has been increasingly compromised and now needs the help of a wheelchair to maneuver his way around. The requirement of a wheelchair has made it difficult for Trenton to travel to his regular doctor appointments, which demand a two-hour drive to Rochester.

Trenton's family has continued to safely transport Trenton to his medical exams by fitting him in their personal vehicle. But the slow loss of his ability to walk has resulted in the need of a new solution.

"We really have no way to properly transport him; it's becoming more and more difficult for us and for him," Jordan Pierce, Trenton's mother said. "My husband has to take off from work, fit him in the car, which isn't easy and we have to hope that it all goes smoothly."

Shortly after Trenton's injury in October, which has since been treated, his family began looking at possible options toward obtaining a transport van that will accommodate a wheelchair. Despite a number of Medicaid-funded van conversions to fit Trenton's needs, the cost of an accessible-friendly van is upwards of \$20,000. After financing a new housing unit in 2020 with the help of community donations, Trenton's family is faced with yet another substantial purchase.

In an effort to help Trenton's family with the additional cost of an accessible van, Michelle Wasserman, a long-time friend of Jordan, organized a virtual fundraiser through GoFundMe with the goal of raising \$18,000. The fundraiser is named "Give Trenton a Lift," inspired after Trenton's grandmother Joanie Weichmann who spent more than 15 years of her life as a lift attendant at Holiday Valley Ski Resort. The suggested donation amount of \$78 is also the same cost of a general ski-lift ticket, further inviting people who are willing to help raise the overall goal of the campaign.

The "Give Trenton a Lift" fundraiser has currently raised a quarter of the funds Trenton's family seeks. As donations continue to come in from Facebook users, community members and more, Trenton's parents hope they will be able to make his everyday life easier.

"I am absolutely thankful for everybody," Jordan said. "Our previous donation drive totally surpassed my expectations. We are all so grateful for the help and donations everyone has provided."

With Trenton's ADA-approved housing unit soon to be installed, the added ease of a transportation van will help him and his family continue the fight against DMD. Those interested in donating to "Give Trenton a Lift" can visit <https://www.gofundme.com/f/give-trenton-a-lift>. The family also encourages you to follow the campaign's Facebook page for weekly updates on Trenton and the cause.

SOUP BOWL FUNDRAISER

CCA kicks off spring fundraising efforts with 'Pot O' Gold' Soup Dinner



By MARY HEYL

Over the past year, Cattaraugus Community Action of Salamanca celebrated many important milestones, and 2021 is no exception! In August, the non-profit organization, which is devoted to serving communities throughout the region, celebrated its 55th birthday and unveiled its new logo, "Building Resilient Communities," and new name, Connecting Communities in Action.

This month, CCA will be kicking off their first in-person fundraiser since the start of the pandemic, and Executive Director Tina Zerbian is looking forward to welcoming the community to the agency at 25 Jefferson Street in Salamanca on St. Patrick's Day for their Pot O'Gold Soup Dinner.

"We serve Cattaraugus County but work in several other counties, too, including Allegany, Chautauqua, Livingston and Wyoming counties," Zerbian explained. "We're an antipoverty organization, and fostering economic, physical, and emotional security is our mission. Our programs include youth and family prevention programs, energy and housing, homeless intervention services, and a lot of work in the mental/behavioral health field, as well as victim services for domestic and sexual assault."

Nutrition is one of the core services CCA has been providing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Zerbian pointed out, "We had a soup kitchen for 25 years, but we couldn't do congregate dining due to the pandemic. We found ways to get food out to the community, despite that!"

Over the past year, CCA has been delivering prepared foods that only require a microwave, as well as boxes filled with food and ingredients for at-home preparation. Zerbian noted that prior to the pandemic, CCA served individuals who did not have the resources to prepare their own food, and their Lighthouse Community Kitchen was a vital part of their nutrition services. Reopening the soup kitchen is one of CCA's most important goals this year, and the Pot O' Gold Soup Dinner will help support that program.

On St. Patrick's Day, Wednesday, March 17th, CCA is hosting their annual soup fundraiser at their Jefferson Street building. Under tents outside, soup will be served to-go style from noon-2:00pm and from 4:00-6:00pm. All proceeds will benefit CCA's kitchen by helping the agency make much-needed repairs to the freezers, refrigerators, dishwashers and more.

While the soup dinner is not a new fundraiser, this year's format is different to accommodate COVID-19 limits on gathering and congregate dining. Zerbian explained, "Prior to this year, we had a culinary arts training program and students would make our soup. That's not the case during COVID-19, so we called out to several area restaurants who are donating soup, and our own chef inside the agency is making soup."

Indeed, there will be 10 different delicious soups from which to choose, including vegan and vegetarian options. Salamanca restaurant Harvest Moon will be serving a spicy sausage soup, Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino will be donating a St. Patrick's Day soup of corned beef and cabbage, Marino's Pizzeria a stuffed pepper soup, Good Times of Olean will have Louisiana gumbo, Holiday Valley an Irish lamb stew, Dina's of Ellicottville a butternut squash bisque, Villaggio with their famous pasta e fagioli, Cupcaked (Salamanca and Ellicottville) is donating chicken Ajiaco, Katy's Cafe their blue mushroom soup, and CCA's own Chef John Haley is making Guinness and steak stew.

Soup bowls crafted by Hog-Shed Studio Pottery of Little Valley and Horn Hill Pottery of

"CCA Soup Dinner " continued page 07



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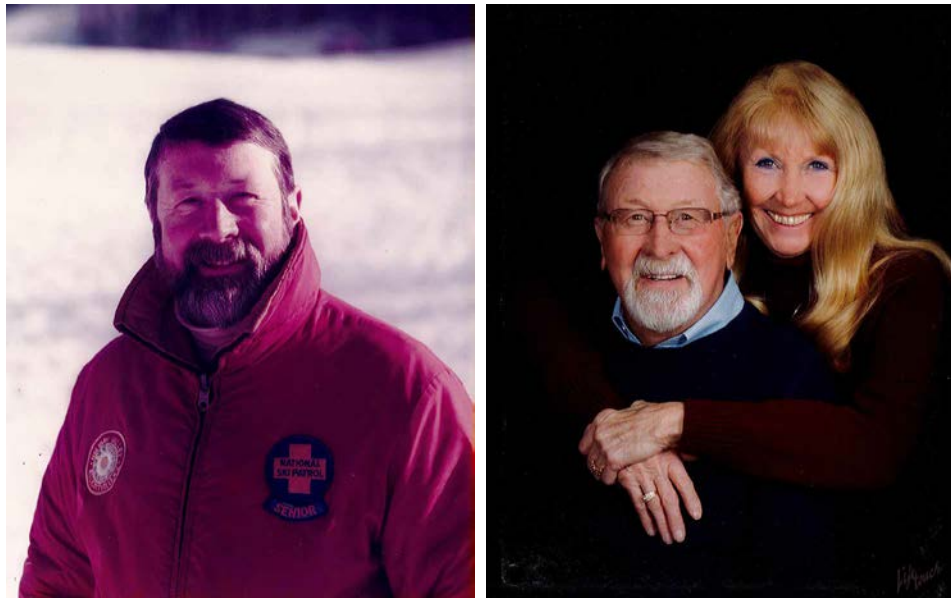
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STAYING CONNECTED

Reggie Mawson: Honoring a friendly face who helped shape the town by showing up and enjoying it!

By **TREVOR BRACHMANN**



For his upcoming 90th birthday (on March 20th), we at EllicottvilleNOW would like to recognize Reggie Mawson, a fellow who helped make and keep Ellicottville a fun and friendly place. Reggie and his wife, Cindy have been making the most of Ellicottville for decades, and played a part in helping to make it what it is today.

Reggie was born 1931 in the small town of Yorkshire, England. He experienced the 2nd World War from the fringes – after Poland was attacked in 1939, Polish airmen moved to a base not far from his home. His family had to build an underground bomb shelter, and for a brief time the population had to carry gas masks in case chemical weapons were released. (Fortunately none were dropped on England). Towards the end of the war, at the age of 13, Reggie started a printer apprenticeship for Alfred Cooke Unlimited as a compositor. In these times, blocks were arranged with different words or letters on the printing press. It was a careful and time consuming process, but much faster than handwriting copies. As he worked and learned, the tides of war turned. Reggie recalls a firm belief from the English citizens that “God would never let Germany defeat them.” With this resolute mentality, their swift and capable airforce, and the help of the collective Al-

lied forces, the war was brought to an end.

After turning 18, Reggie served two years with the British Army. His technical skills and precision set him up as a mechanic for the coding machines made to send and receive secret messages. He was stationed in Khartoum, Sudan, and got a taste of adventure living in a place so different from his home. When his term of service came to an end, he wrapped up his apprenticeship; Reggie found a family living in the United States who were willing to sponsor him for a move across the Atlantic. After working hard to meet a lot of requirements, he made the move to Niagara Falls in 1956. His printing skills landed him jobs for some local newspapers, where he worked until the jobs were automated. Around this time, Reggie started making regular ‘pilgrimages’ to Ellicottville for fun and a different flavor of life. He began skiing at our beloved Holiday Valley in 1962 ... his first two ski lessons were taught by Edna Northrup and Pete Widger! (If you’re a local, you will likely admit – that sounds like a quintessential introduction to Skiing in Ellicottville!)

Reggie became a Holiday Valley Ski Patroller just four years after starting to ski. He held a position in that essential group for 22 years. He is also an honorary member of the Ellicottville Ski Club. Early on with small investments from himself, Ken Brown, and eight others that were or had turned 70, they started the ‘700 club’ which served food and drinks at the top of the hill for a great price. The money from this endeavor went to support local charities and non-profits. They provided money to the SPCA and to the Alley Katz (our town’s awesome gardening gals who volunteer their time to arrange and provide beautiful flower boxes and baskets around the village in the summer months). Reggie also became a realtor part-time, and through his connections at Holiday Valley and his time here, he was present and a part of Ellicottville’s shift from a lumber and industrial-centered town to the tourism-focused getaway it has become.

Reggie has lived in Kenmore, NY most of his life, but makes the journey to Ellicottville weekly with his wife for skiing, golfing, and to spend time with this community he grew to enjoy so much. He and Cindy wed in 1982 (no doubt that celebration was a blast!), and since 1986 they have owned a beautiful property just far enough outside the village to be quiet year-round, and just close enough to get in on the activities with no troubles. A real home away from home, as Ellicottville can be for so many.

Just in sharing a conversation with them, one can feel their genuine love and care for one another. Cindy and Reggie continue to visit and enjoy Ellicottville regularly. Although Reggie has hung up his ski boots, you can still find him enjoying the view from the Lodge. If you see the couple walking their big beautiful Alaskan Malamute, Leonard, around town and enjoying the day, give a wave or say hello!

NOW this... WINTER TO SUMMER

cont. from page 03

there will be plenty of tutus and unicorns. Ready to reserve your spot at the starting line? Go to happyhalfrun.com

RED HEAD DAYS: “BRING OUT YOUR BEST GINGER”: When Winery of Ellicottville owner Sam Sheehy approached the Ellicottville Chamber with a new theme for summer, the ideas (and memes) began flowing. Uniting redheads - both natural and unnatural - for a weekend of ginger-loving fun, plans for Ellicottville’s 1st Red Head Days are presently in the works and are expected to include various red-themed contests, drink specials, redhead memorabilia and ... unicorns? (If you haven’t noticed, Ellicottville has a thing for unicorns.).

Circle June 18th-19th on your calendar (with red permanent marker) because Ellicottville’s Red Head Days is sure to attract a fun crowd and become a permanent fixture on the summertime schedule. Keep tabs at ellicottvillenow.com

SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL: Speaking of summer, the Chamber is moving forward with this year’s Summer Music Festival, scheduled for July 2nd-4th. Although it may look a little different based on Covid-19 regulations at that time, the line-up remains the same: STELLAR! Steve Augeri (former lead singer of Journey) with opening act Tommy Decarlo (current lead singer of Boston) are on the bill to perform slopeside at Holiday Valley - which many agree is one of the best outdoor concert venues in the region!

With restaurant capacity increasing, limitations on gatherings easing up, and the number of people being vaccinated on the rise, we can only hope that warmer days ahead will find us back to enjoying all the things we missed out on last year. In the meantime, soak in the snow ... spring skiing is here!

B-

Brenda Perks is the owner, editor and designer of ellicottvilleNOW and owner of Design-Perks, a graphic design company affiliated with the local media/marketing agency, PaNDA GOAT Media. You can reach Brenda at brenda@ellicottvillenow.com.

CCA SOUP DINNER

cont. from page 04

Ellicottville will be available while supplies last. Bowls can be purchased for \$10 each or are free with a \$25 soup purchase. Soup prices are \$5 for one 12-ounce bowl, \$12 for three 12-ounce bowls, \$10 for one 28-ounce bowl, and \$25 for three 28-ounce bowls. Those interested in ordering their soup in advance can contact Bridget Sanford at bsanford@ccaction.org or 716-945-1041 ext. 156.

Zerbian said, “We’re kicking it up a notch with lots of different baskets to raffle off!” Several local business and corporate sponsors have contributed items for the following baskets: the BroBasket (Jose’ Cuervo & mixers), Wood Burned Art (two local artists), flower arrangement (Wallflowers Studio), Tito’s vodka gift basket, gift card basket of Olean restaurants (\$215 total), wine basket, EVL Ink gift certificate and ointments, Young Living Essential Oils kit, Aveda basket from Enix Hair Salon, West Rose-four gift cards (\$200 total), and a Groove gift basket. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 10 for \$5.

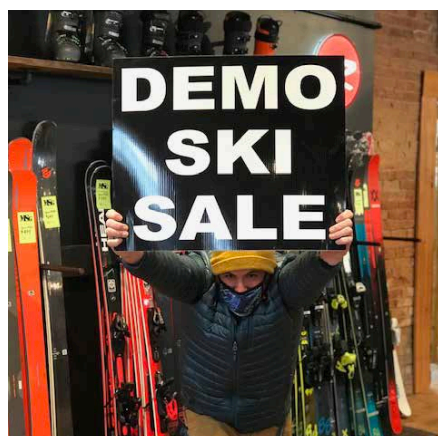
Zerbian is pleased to announce another new feature for this year’s fundraiser: “Judging is new this year! We will award trophies - pots of gold - to the grand prize winner and two other runners-up, and a Kids Choice Award.” Judges include an 11-year-old child, as well as Salamanca Mayor Michael Smith, Anthony Turano, commissioner of social services, a CCA board member, and other community members.

The Pot O’ Gold Soup Dinner is the perfect opportunity to enjoy a delicious meal and support one of the most vital organizations in the community. “We’ve been a staple in the community, especially during the pandemic,” said Zerbian. “We’ve really risen to the occasion and found very creative ways to get food to people who can’t travel, are ill, in quarantine, are disabled, or are seniors. We found ways to deliver food, while also keeping people safe, and we’re looking forward to continuing to serve the community after the pandemic, too.”

To learn more about CCA, visit www.ccaction.org and check out the Facebook event at <https://fb.me/e/2e1UkRolo>

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The Winery of Ellicottville recently won gold medals for their Bubbly Riesling and Vidal in the New York Wine Classic. Organized by the New York Wine & Grape Foundation in partnership with the Beverage Testing Institute, the Classic is considered "The Oscars®" of New York wine competitions. Both the Bubbly and Vidal are ideal choices for upcoming Spring holiday pairing, and the Winery is the ideal choice to drink local.



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Green just so happens to be the owner of Ava Grace Fashion, Jessica's favorite color! She LOVES the color green. So with St. Patrick's Day coming up, Ava Grace is in their prime and letting all the green and plaid and fun fill the windows and displays in store. Enjoy Ava Grace's great selections and accessories and come build your perfect St. Paddy's Day fun outfit!



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HEALTH & FITNESS

Core Performance: Working Out With Intention

By KIM DUKE, CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINER, CORE PERFORMANCE

SOOO, pretty much every article I write, I second guess. Was it too long, did I give enough information on my topic or did I give too much and lose my reader, was I too preachy, and - is anyone really interested in what I am rambling on about?

So this week I am going to back track to an article I wrote a few issues ago about the duration of time for an effective workout and tag onto that - working out with intention. What that means is whatever length of time your workout is, you do it with purpose, resolve and determination.

I see this firsthand every day I train my clients. Some are scheduled to workout for an hour, but really only want to put effort into 20-30 minutes' worth of work, and even that work looks like a walk-through. Other clients are scheduled for a 30- or 45-minute workout and train so hard that in the first 10 minutes their heart rate is at 80% of their max and they are pushing themselves to complete every rep with resolve.

The length of time you workout will only produce results when you "show up!" Not just physically, but mentally. It's one of the reasons I left the typical gym and opened a studio - I wanted to make the most of my client's time with an effective and efficient workout. Your time IS precious and valuable and if you want to get results you need to focus. IF you struggle to focus or are strapped for time, then less is more - I like to train hard 3 days a week and light on the other days. That does not always work out for me, so instead of feeling like I am falling behind or like I am slacking, I decide what my objective is and I put 2/3 exercises that are opposing muscle groups together (back/chest, biceps/triceps, quads/hamstrings etc.) I will create a smaller workout and complete it 3 times through with intention.

Honestly, short and sweet workouts done hard will get you better results in the long run than lengthy workouts done poorly. And, with the amount of stress we put on ourselves already, keeping it simple can be exactly the boost your body requires to reap the many benefits physical activity offers.

Also, do not think for one minute that you need to be in a gym to get a good workout. This



winter has given us the most beautiful snow we have seen in years. Nordic and Alpine skiing, as well as snowboarding and snowshoeing, are excellent ways to exercise. Even a brisk walk can do wonders for your mood and body.

I guess what I would like you to take away from this article is that whatever you do that gets you on your feet and moving is beneficial, and if you make it purposeful, you will feel a true sense of accomplishment knowing you put forth your best in completing what you set out to do.

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. Reach Kim at kduke65@gmail.com.

The COVID-19 Vaccination Rollout Explained: A One-on-One Interview with Dr. Kevin Watkins, Cattaraugus County Director of Health

By ELLICOTTVILLENOW



Across our nation, a vaccine has been deployed to battle the COVID-19 virus. This comes with so many questions nationwide, including right here in Cattaraugus County. How long will it take for me to get vaccinated? What if I don't have Internet access? What if I'm elderly and need help in this process? We decided to go right to the top, to get answers to some of these questions. Dr. Kevin Watkins, the Cattaraugus County Director of Health, took time out of his busy schedule to field our questions.

eNOW: How is the vaccine roll-out working in Cattaraugus County?

Dr. WATKINS: We have a limited number of vaccine and therefore we are only able to vaccinate a limited number of our residents. We're asking our residents to be patient as more vaccine is coming; we are hoping to move down our waiting list of residents that want to be vaccinated.

eNOW: As for seniors who don't have Internet access or aren't comfortable with computers, what is their recourse?

Dr. WATKINS: Cattaraugus County has opened a COVID-19 call Center. That number is 716-701-3777. You can call our staff and they will walk you through getting an eligibility document in order to come to the vaccine clinic. They will put you on a wait list to get the vaccine, so if you do not have computer access, our staff will do all of that for you. You just have to

answer a couple of questions, they will print out that eligibility form, and they will mail it to you or you can stop by our office and pick up this form.

eNOW: What are some of the worries you would like to dispel that you're hearing from residents?

Dr. WATKINS: I'm more than sure that people are concerned about the warp speed in which the vaccine was developed. We want to tamp down some of the misinformation about this. This vaccine has shown to have a 95% efficacy. This vaccine has been shown to reduce the severity of the symptoms of COVID-19. The vaccine has been shown to reduce the actual ability to contract the virus itself. So if anyone has a concern about the vaccination, we would like to put that to rest and we'd like everyone to consider getting vaccinated.

eNOW: How concerned should women who are expecting be when it comes to the vaccination?

Dr. WATKINS: As far as women who are pregnant or lactating, recent reports show that there are no adverse effects. I would recommend that if they're concerned and are pregnant or are considering getting pregnant, to reach out to their OB/GYN and discuss before getting vaccinated. But again, studies of pregnant women have shown no adverse effects.

eNOW: When will Cattaraugus County receive more vaccine?

Dr. WATKINS: We are getting weekly shipments but our supply is far less than our demand. We do know that we're supposed to see a 20% increase from our baseline shipment. Starting immediately the normal allotment to hospitals will now be allocated to the local health departments as well, this way we can start to vaccinate individuals with comorbidities. We are hopeful that now by expanding the vaccine to local health departments, the vaccines delivered will mirror the demand we have from our residents.

eNOW: Where are you in the vaccination process right now, which group?

Dr. WATKINS: We are still vaccinating the 1B group, first responders, healthcare workers, police officers teachers and essential workers. We, however, are in a community with very few pharmacies, so we've been asked to help vaccinate seniors 65 and older. You can find more about where we are in the vaccination process on our website (www.cattco.org).

The audio version of this interview with Dr. Watkins is available on our website, www.ellicottvilleNOW.com. Look for Part Two of our interview with Dr. Watkins in our next issue.

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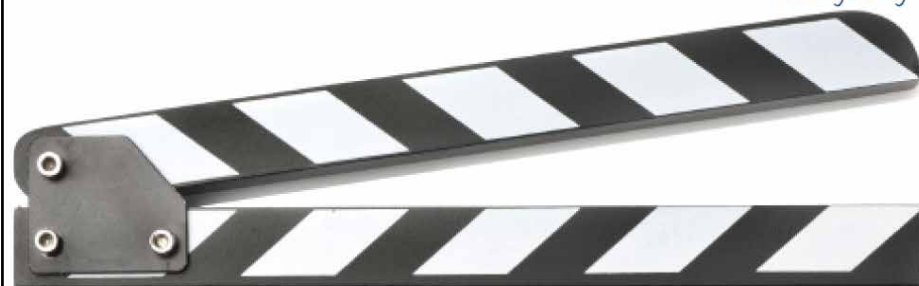


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OBITUARIES

Michael Leland "Spike" John
Feb. 17, 1968 - Mar. 8, 2021

Michael Leland "Spike" John, 53, of Salamanca, NY passed Monday afternoon, March 8, 2021 at Erie County Medical Center following a short illness due to complications of COVID-19.



Born February 17, 1968 in Salamanca, NY, he was the son of Leland John Jr. and Barbara White John.

He was an enrolled member of the Seneca Nation of Indians and the Wolf Clan.

Spike was a graduate of Salamanca High School, Class of 1986. He attended Westminster College in Pennsylvania, SUNY Brockport, as well as the Erie County Central Police Services Law Enforcement Academy.

He served three terms as a tribal councilor from 1998-2012 and was active in the tribal community. He served as Seneca Gaming Authority Commissioner and the Seneca Gaming Corporation Board of Directors from 2013-2018. He was currently the Chairman of the Seneca Gaming Authority since 2018.

He was an excellent cook, was an avid food critic, and was a passionate Michigan Wolverines fan.

Surviving are: a daughter, Clarissa John; a son, Asa John; his mother, Barbara John; two sisters, Christina "Tina" (Dennis) Becker, and Kristin Chaparro; a brother, Donald (Sally) John, all of Salamanca; and several nieces and nephews.

Friends may call at the O'Rourke & O'Rourke Inc Funeral Home, 25 River Street, Salamanca, NY on Thursday, March 11, 2021 from 2:00-4:00pm and 7:00-9:00pm, where funeral services will be held on Friday at 11:00am with Pastor Eric Hice of the Center Street Baptist Church officiating.

Burial will be in Memorial Heights Cemetery, Jimersontown, NY.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the Seneca Diabetes Association, PO Box 309, Irving, NY 14081. E-condolences can be sent to orourke.orourkefh@gmail.com or posted to facebook.com/onofh.

Gladys L. Blendinger
Feb. 27, 1929 - Mar. 9, 2021

Gladys L. Blendinger, 92, of Great Valley, NY passed away Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at her home.

She was born on February 27, 1929 in Otto, the daughter of the late Ernest and Nettie (Crowell) Beckman.

On June 16, 1947, Gladys married Gordon Blendinger, who predeceased her on March 17, 1995.

Mrs. Blendinger was a member of the United Church in Ellicottville and enjoyed gardening. She also loved her family. She was a devoted and loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

She is survived by two daughters, Valerie (Robert) Germain of Great Valley, and Angela (Chad) Gartrell of Edwards, MS. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Roxanne (John) Padlo, Robert Germain, Ryan Germain, Gordon (Sarah) Gartrell, and Chase (Kaylyn) Gartrell, as well as seven great-grandchildren, Michael Padlo, Cortney Padlo, Kyle Germain, Sydney Germain, Marieanna Germain, Carmen Germain, and Eleanor Gartrell, as well as several nieces and nephews. Gladys is also survived by a special friend, Tracy Miinte, and a special niece, Christine Vaughn.

Besides her loving husband, Mrs. Blendinger is predeceased by a sister, Betty Scott.

A graveside service will be held at a date in the spring at Green Cemetery in Great Valley. Memorials may be made to the Ellicottville Food Pantry.

Arrangements are under the direction of Mentley Funeral Home Inc., 411 Rock City St. in Little Valley.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

ELECTION NOTICE: Take notice, that for the general election to be held in the Village of Ellicottville, NY on March 16, 2021

1. The polling place for the sole election district of said Village shall be the Ellicottville Town Center, 28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, NY 716-699-4636
2. The polls shall be open for voting from 12 noon to 9:00 PM

Election Notice

Be it Resolved, by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ellicottville, NY that is designate the following offices, and terms to be filled at the next general election to be held on Tuesday, March 16, 2021:

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Rotary Club of Ellicottville offering \$5,000 vocational scholarship

The Rotary Club of Ellicottville is accepting applications for a vocational and/or technical scholarship. The \$5,000 scholarship may be awarded to a member of the senior class that resides within the boundaries of the Ellicottville School District. The student must be accepted into a program at a vocational school or community college. Applicants should have a broad range of interests encompassing a good academic record, participation in a variety of school activities, and involvement in community or charitable service. Candidates will complete a comprehensive application that will confirm their eligibility qualifications, demonstrate the need for financial assistance and highlight the candidate's qualifications. Application can be found at www.ellicottville.rotary.com. Application deadline is April 1, 2021.

LETTER TO THE PUBLISHER

Willy-Goat Calendars raise much needed funds for local animal rescue

We did it again! We raised \$1,000 for Empire Animal Rescue Society (EARS) through the sale of Willow's 2021 calendars!

It's been a hard year for everyone, especially for rescues like EARS who rely on being able to do fundraisers to keep up with their costs of saving so many neglected and homeless animals. Thank you all SO much for your support from us, from the EARS crew and all the animals! Little by little, we can make the world and our communities a better place!

A special thanks to BioDome Project, Sunshine Health & Wellness, and PandaGoat Media for being Willow calendar hubs! We're so lucky to have such an awesome and supportive community! Keep supporting all of your local businesses!

"Saving just one dog won't save the world, but surely it will change the world for that one dog." Keep being awesome friends!

- Ashley Baron and Willow



@willygoat_adventures

ADOPT ME please?

It's nice to meet you! My name is Minnie. I am sweet, **snuggly** and very playful. I may have a medium build, but I have a **huge** personality. I love **play time** and being next to **my person**. I once sat through an African Drumming class in college, so **noise** doesn't bother me. I am mostly potty trained and pretty good on a leash. People say my **smile** shows nothing but pure **joy**. I am so **excited** to start my **new life!**



FIND ME AT EMPIRERESCUE.ORG
 empirerescue@gmail.com
 PO Box 445 | Salamanca, NY 14779

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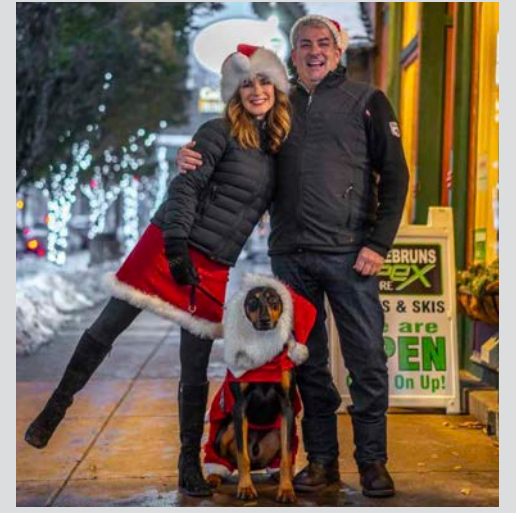
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Willygoat_adventures: The #goldengirls are working hard today @holidayvalley #workhardplayhard #marketingteam #evlnow



therealsambaer: Snow Baers. 1st lift and 1st turns before 1st birthday #evlnow



lcove1: The world lost a very special caring soul RIP Michael Hughes @holimont #evlnow



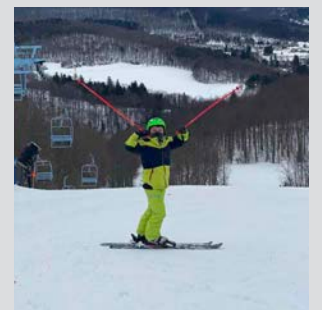
seancornelius80: You are never too old to learn new things #evlnow #telemarkskiing @ellicottvillenow #teletillyoursmelly #holimont



rickmac6150: March skiing is upon us #liftieart #ellicottvillenow



chazormond: Sunny day in Ellicottville! #evlnow



colinhenry: #evlnow #skitheeast #birthdayboy



fitandtiredteacher: #evlnow #cakesofinstagram #weddingcake



chriscove: Perfect ending to a great skiing day with the family #skiingpowder #mountainlife #powday #evlsnowedin #evlnow



team_pritchard: #placetolove #thisisellicottville #evlnow



robert_kuechle: Sunset chair #holimont #evlnow #skiingislife



evillebikeandbean: The riding has been great this week! #evlnow



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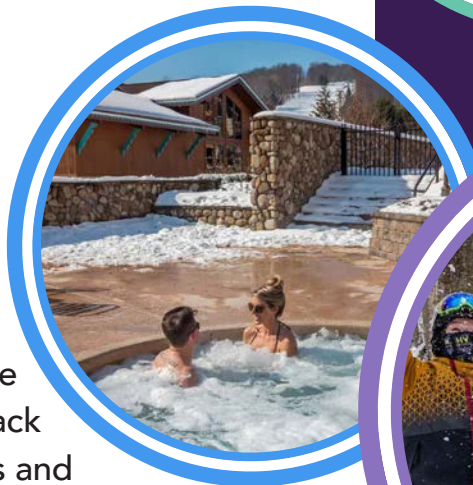
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