

Ellicottville NOW

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The Bills Make Me Want to Shout!

Football Fans Alike are Pumping Up for the Start of the Regular Season, But What Can Bills Fans Expect From Our Preseason Finale?



photo submitted / Cassie Arena

BY MARC LUCARELLI

When it comes to preseason football, the attitude of most fans tends to start out as pure excitement that football is back at the start of the first game, and then quickly devolves into some feeling of “please just get through these games without anyone getting hurt”.

While wins and losses don’t matter in the preseason, and the biggest goal, at least for fans, is to get through the games injury free; there is still plenty of competition for roster spots that are worth keeping an eye on between prayers to whatever deity you might believe in for the team to stay healthy.

Inside, you’ll find three key roster battles still playing out on the Buffalo Bills that still need resolving as the Bills head into their final preseason game to take on the Bears in Chicago on Saturday, August 29th at 1:00pm.

You’ll also find the thoughts from some of our local die-hard Bills Mafia - what they’re looking forward to most this season; some newcomers that everyone is excited about (Dalton Kincaid, anyone?); predictions on wins and losses and the hope that we’ll kick KC to the curb.

... page 11

VILLAGE BOARD HOLDS PUBLIC HEARING

The Village of Ellicottville Board meeting was called to order on August 15th by Mayor John Burrell. Starting off on a high note, the second quarter sales tax from Cattaraugus County came in with a 9.43% increase from the prior year’s account. The last four quarters have continuously seen a positive increase leading to more revenue than initially expected for budgeting.

Jumping right into business, a motion was made to open the public hearing for Local Law No. 6 of the year 2023, a local law on the imposing of a 4-month moratorium on the processing of any applications for, approvals, or permits for the siting of any facilities for Use or Distribution of Cannabis. This will allow the Village the necessary time and resources to properly assess proper conditions and sites, as well as prevent unfavorable circumstances onto existing Village activities.

... page 07

GREAT VALLEY FOOD PANTRY EXPANDS; NEW SUPPLIES NEEDED

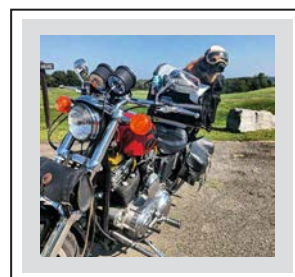
At some point in all our lives, we’ve been down and out and we’ve needed a little help. There’s no shame in seeking assistance in a time of need. Our local food banks provide plenty of people with much needed sustenance and now, the Great Valley Food Pantry needs our help. Since its opening in 2019, it has outgrown its current space at the Great Valley Town Hall. The Town is in the process of building an addition to their town hall which when finished, will provide a 37’ x 42’ area exclusively for the pantry. The contents and fixtures will be the responsibility of the pantry to supply, through donations. With your help, the pantry will be able to continue its mission of providing healthy food to those in need as well as expand its services in the future ... page 04

Gooseneck Hill Waterfowl Sanctuary Wild Wing Festival

Gooseneck Hill Waterfowl Sanctuary is the destination for bird lovers, and on Sunday, it will be open to the public for the last time this year! The largest covered free-flying aviary in the United States, Gooseneck Hill welcomes everyone to their annual Wild Wing Festival on Sunday, August 27th from noon-4:00pm. Visitors will be able to go inside to explore the aviary and feed the ducks by hand, support the incredible work of Gooseneck Hill and enjoy great food and live music at this bird-lover’s paradise at 5067 Townline Road in Delevan ... page 08

instaNOW

Check out some of our featured InstaNOW photos! Want to see yours? Share your photos on IG, tag us and use #evlnow! Find the grid on page 15.



Ellicottville Park Gets All Inclusive

New Adaptive Playground in the Works



BY CAROL FISHER-LINN

Every dream has a beginning. Ellicottville as an industrial/farm town has morphed over time to the amazing tourist town visited by hundreds of thousands of people annually. All because of dreams. Ellicottville is obviously doing many things right, but the common denominator of all the endeavors here is simply, “It takes a village”. And it takes people who aren’t intimidated by the dream and are willing to pursue it at all costs.

Such was the case with the team of four dynamic women who founded the non-profit Ellicottville Playground. “Two of our board members discussed the need for more modern and inclusive equipment. Though we are fortunate to have a playground in Ellicottville, it’s time for an update.” And thus, fundraising efforts have begun.

... page 03



photo / ECS Boys Varsity Soccer

FRANK PITILLO MEMORIAL LIGHTING FUND A HUGE SUCCESS

If you drove by Ellicottville Central School Sunday night, you may have noticed a luminous show of lights coming from the football field out back. That’s because the new stadium lights provided by the Frank Pitillo Memorial Fund have been installed and turned on! The Ellicottville Varsity Boys Soccer team gave the new lights their first official test run during the team’s start-of-the-season midnight scrimmage. [ellicottvilleNOW](http://ellicottvilleNOW.com) took the opportunity to speak with Nick Pitillo, organizer of the Fund, about the new lights and what this endeavor means to him and his family ... page 04

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Publisher's PICK

EVL PARK GETS ALL INCLUSIVE New Adaptive Playground in the Works



Pictured L-R: Ellicottville Playground board members Katelyn Jonson-Clark, Molly Timkey, Tiffany Frenz and Patti Snyder.

BY CAROL FISHER-LINN

“The concept of a new playground has been a long-time coming. The idea evolved over time and with the help of our full committee, we’re excited to bring this to reality.” - Ellicottville Playground committee member.

Every dream has a beginning, or a tiny seed planted somewhere in our minds and hearts until it takes root and grabs hold so tight that it’s near impossible to ignore. The Ellicottville that visitors and locals know today is a shadow of Ellicottville past. The industrial/farm town has morphed over time to the amazing tourist town visited by hundreds of thousands of people annually, thereby becoming the number one sales tax revenue source in the county. All because of dreams - Holiday Valley, HoliMont, our exceptional restaurants, services and shops, and our Chamber of Commerce. Ellicottville is obviously doing many things right, but the common denominator of all the endeavors here is simply, “It takes a village”. And it takes people who aren’t intimidated by the dream and are willing to pursue it at all costs.

Such was the case with the team of four dynamic women who founded the non-profit Ellicottville Playground board: Patti Snyder (President); Molly Timkey (Vice President); Tiffany Frenz (Treasurer); and Katelyn Johnson-Clark (Secretary). “Two of our board members discussed the need for more modern and inclusive equipment. Though we are fortunate to have a playground in Ellicottville, it’s time for an update.” “Ellicottville Playground values play for all ages and abilities and is inspired to bring modern and versatile equipment to the Ellicottville community to promote physical, social, and cognitive development.”

The idea of an inclusive playground has been imbedded in several people’s thoughts. For instance, Pastor Dan at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church would love to see an inclusive playground on the church grounds. Is it possible to have both? Time will tell. The Ellicottville Playground Board did connect with Pastor Dan. “He and the church members are very supportive of this plan, and we are looking forward to collaborating in the future for fundraising and overall awareness.”



Board member and treasurer, Tiffany Frenz, knows first-hand the challenges placed on a family and a child who has special needs. She is keenly aware of the limitations to our (frankly inadequate) playground equipment when it comes to trying to take her children for a day in the park. The board is clear that they wish for “this playground to be a place where every single child - no matter their abilities - can play and learn.”

Dreams take a village, they take collaboration, and they take dollars... lots of them. “The committee’s goal is to raise \$500,000. We have had some donations trickle in that we are immensely thankful for. We are hoping to organize fundraising events for the fall/winter to help us reach our goal as we continue to apply for grants that are appropriate and align with our core values. We are in the process of applying for grants. It’s quite a rigorous application process. We want to make sure we are putting every effort towards this. This requires us to be extremely thorough on what we feel will give us the best opportunity to succeed.”

“Since this is a community endeavor, we’d be thrilled to have local support throughout our fundraising events. This can include a variety of different things such as sharing our social media posts or volunteering as needs arise. We recognize this project is going to require a significant financial investment and raising funds won’t be an easy task. After our initial social launch, we were overwhelmed and humbled at how much positive reaction we received from both local and out-of-town families. Those positive reactions help in creating the momentum to see ideas such as the playground achieve success. There will be countless ways for the community to get involved, and that community involvement is critical for this project to be a success.”

Please watch for events, fundraisers and updates on efforts as they develop. Better yet, join in, perhaps by volunteering your time or giving raffle prizes, etc. It’s a very good thing to be a part of, and you’ll be so glad you did!

You can reach the Ellicottville Playground board members through their Facebook page (Ellicottville Playground) or by email at ellicottvilleplayground@gmail.com. (Note: All quotes in this article were gathered from a group email with the entire board.)

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LOCAL NEWS

LET THERE BE LIGHT

Frank Pitillo Memorial Fund Reaches Goal; Installs New Stadium Lights at ECS



photo / Ellicottville Boys Varsity Soccer

By JESSICA SCHULTZ

If you drove by Ellicottville Central School Sunday night, you may have noticed a luminous show of lights coming from the football field out back. That's because the new stadium lights provided by the Frank Pitillo Memorial Fund have been installed and turned on! The Ellicottville Varsity Boys Soccer team gave the new lights their first official test run during the team's start-of-the-season midnight scrimmage. (That's showing a lot of love for their sport right there!)

ellicottvilleNOW took the opportunity to speak with Nick Pitillo, organizer of the Frank Pitillo Memorial Fund, about the new lights, the recent golf tournament fundraiser, and what this endeavor means to him and his family.

The tournament was a sold out success. "The event was HUGE!" Nick said. "We were able to make \$65,000+ in funds for the lights. Our sponsors were amazing and we had a full field of players. By all accounts it was a fantastic day and enjoyed by all."



A special thank you was expressed for the event's Champion Sponsors - The Weir Family Foundation, Holiday Valley and Cattaraugus County Bank, and to all the other sponsors that hopped onboard as well. "And we can't forget the AMAZING community we live in, as they made this possible!" said Nick. "The golf tournament was exactly what we needed to push this campaign over the top! We are hopeful that there will be very little additional expenses to be covered. However, due to popular demand, we have already locked in a date for next year's golf tournament; we plan to make this an annual event!"

The lights they strived so hard to fundraise for are up. That's a huge milestone! We talked about that process with Nick a bit. "This entire thing started a few years ago when I went to see a football game at the field for the first time in many years. It was clear that the lights were not up to proper lighting standards. After meeting with school officials last year, we decided to start a campaign to replace the lights. We had a kick-off party on Nov. 23rd, and were off and running. In nine months we were able to raise virtually all the money needed."

They received three bids for the project and selected Ferguson Electric for the job, which local Mike Brennan (who has two kiddos that will be playing on the field) handled beautifully. They enlisted SEI to take care of the final design and submission, and they were quickly able to get state approval for the project. In the span of nine months, this went from a conversation to NEW LIGHTS that generations to come will benefit from!



So where does the fund go from here? What are their plans moving forward? "We have some additional work to do with final financials and want to make sure all of our vendors are paid in full," Explained Nick. "After that is complete, we will be using any remaining funds and additional efforts to continue, and possibly expand, the Frank Pitillo Memorial Scholarship Program, which currently gives 3 x \$1,000 college scholarships to ECS seniors who exemplify Frank's traits as a Scholar Athlete, a Leader, and an Entrepreneur."

Nick added that, "The Varsity Boys Soccer team had their first practice under the lights last Sunday night, the Little League team will be playing their first game this Saturday, and the first high school football

game is scheduled for Sept. 22nd vs. Wilson. We are hoping to host a community event at that point."

Help keep the momentum going with donations to the Frank Pitillo Memorial Scholarship Fund. Visit their Facebook page for details on how you can contribute and to keep up-to-date on future events and fundraisers.

GREAT VALLEY FOOD PANTRY

Help Needed to Purchase New Supplies as Food Pantry Expands



photo / @ellicottvilleNOW

The new space for the Great Valley Food Pantry is expected to open by October. Pantry Coordinator is asking for the community's help.

By JESSICA SCHULTZ

At some point in all our lives, we've been down and out and we've needed a little help. There's no shame in seeking assistance in a time of need. Our local food banks provide plenty of people with much needed sustenance and now, the Great Valley Food Pantry needs our help. Since its opening in 2019, it has outgrown its current space at the Great Valley Town Hall.

"The Great Valley Food Pantry was set up to assist folks residing in Great Valley, Humphrey and Kill Buck," said Jan Benson, Pantry Coordinator. "Although no one is turned away, we do encourage those not living in our community to use the pantry set up in their own area. It is our intention to offer food assistance to many in our area who fall into the low and limited income category. The pantry has grown from 20 to the present of approximately 150-170 persons visiting the pantry each month."

As such, the Town is in the process of building an addition to their town hall which when finished, will provide a 37' x 42' area exclusively for the pantry. The contents and fixtures will be the responsibility of the pantry to supply, through donations. (Note: The building itself comes with no tax increase to the residents, as funds are coming from the Federal Build Back Better Act and the Town's sales tax receipts.)

Jan advised, "The expansion is progressing very nicely with Rich Horton as the general contractor and Great Valley Supervisor Dan Brown overseeing the entire project on a daily basis. The food pantry space should be ready to move into by the beginning of October. The walls are ready to be painted which will be our responsibility, and several volunteers from the Ellicottville Rotary Club have offered to help us with that. The expansion will allow us to keep a larger inventory of items and display the items in a much better manner than present. Currently, the town hall event room is used for many things so the food pantry has to remove all items each time the pantry closes for the day."

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

With your help, the pantry will be able to continue its mission of providing healthy food to those in need as well as expand its services in the future. The list of items that they need include:

- Stainless Steel sink with surrounding work area (1 piece) \$750
- 4 Drawers or bins for under-the-sink storage \$30 each
- 2 Two-tier carts for volunteer use \$90 each
- 4 Shopping carts for client use \$250 each
- 4 Six-foot tables \$100 each
- 10 gallons of primer \$100
- 5 gallons of ceiling paint \$100
- 5 gallons of wall paint \$150
- Painting supplies \$150
- Misc. supplies TBD
- Monetary reserve \$10,000
- Non-perishable food items, toiletries, and household items



Jan expressed that they've already received a few great donations, including a 3-door cooler, large freezer, folding chairs, a stainless metal table and metal shelves. Of course, they aren't expecting someone to go out and buy a brand new shopping cart. Any monetary contributions are always welcome and gratefully accepted, which the food pantry group will use to purchase needed items. Checks may be payable to: Saving Grace Outreach/Great Valley Food Pantry, PO Box 427, Great Valley, NY 14741. A tax receipt for your donation will be supplied.

Lastly, Jan wanted to say, "Many individuals have stepped up to help in our transition which has been wonderful. Continued support of the food pantry will always be appreciated, as we operate on donations. It is our hope to continue to grow and offer the much needed assistance in our immediate area."

For fundraising information, call Maria Barrera 803-463-1557. To volunteer, call Jan Benson, Pantry Coordinator, 716-699-2585. We appreciate your interest and support!



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GROUP AND PRIVATE LESSONS

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MEETING NOTES

ELLICOTTVILLE VILLAGE BOARD

Public Hearing to Impose Moratorium on Applications for Cannabis Use/Distribution Facilities Held; Adopted, Effective Immediately

BY COLLEEN EVANS

The Village of Ellicottville Board meeting was called to order on Tuesday evening, August 15th, by Mayor John Burrell. Starting off on a high note, the second quarter sales tax from Cattaraugus County came in with a 9.43% increase from the prior year's account. The last four quarters have continuously seen a positive increase leading to more revenue than initially expected for budgeting.

Jumping right into business, a motion was made to open the public hearing for Local Law No. 6 of the year 2023, a local law on the imposing of a 4-month moratorium on the processing of any applications for, approvals, or permits for the siting of any facilities for Use or Distribution of Cannabis. It was accepted with no opposition from the board. This local law will allow the Village of Ellicottville the necessary time and resources to properly assess proper conditions and sites, as well as prevent unfavorable circumstances onto existing Village activities. Local Law No. 6 will take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State. A motion was made to close the hearing for Local Law No. 6. with motion to adopt the law as approved by the Village board.

Moving on, Mayor John Burrell attended the Planning Board Workshop on August 1st along with the Planning Board Meeting on August 8th. A large point of discussion revolved around the subsidization of existing lots. It had been noted that past zoning laws allowed for buyers to purchase properties and then turn a garage into another separate residence, almost always upsetting local and long-term residents. Regulations were made and laws were changed in order to prevent the abuse of local housing and land.

Simply put, the current zoning law in place specifies that you cannot subdivide an existing lot in a residential area. There continues to be, however, certain property holders that look for creative ways to go around local law and press forward with their request. The Board has discussed ways to become more direct with what the current zoning law states to avoid the unnecessary repetition in same case filings.

A new development around the Village's telephone infrastructure system was addressed. The system itself is 100 years old. Historically the Town and Village worked as one operating entity, however the Town adopted an internet phone system, and the Village did not. Currently the Village has an underground network that is going to be updated to a better, integrated setup, ultimately saving the village \$50 a month. They will be able to program employee lines and keep the ability to transfer calls to the Town.

An update on the Elizabeth Street Restoration Proposal was made. The Village Board was able to review and approve the preliminary layout for all areas mapped in the proposal - Jefferson Street, Hughey Alley, and the intersection at Elk Street and Elizabeth Street. Included in the plan would be the west side of Jefferson to now include an estimated 9 diagonal parking spaces, 5 additional from the current 4 spaces available. In addition, the plan also includes new curbing and striping to be installed at the intersection of Elizabeth Street and Elk Street, as well as Jefferson Street and Hughey Alley. This will allow for safer crossing conditions and deeper parking spaces.

An update on the Park Systems by Sean Lowes explained there was a request made for the

Youth Soccer Clubs for more space by approving striping on the lower field. This would allow for two fields. The increase in enrollment this year called for the first fall youth travel soccer league for Ellicottville, NY. Additionally, this field striping would not interfere with any other activities or sports. Permission was granted by the Village Board.

A Special Event was brought to the Board's attention with a presentation made by Board Trustee Caitlin Croft, for fellow member and organizer Doug Bush regarding The EVL Halloween Half & 5K. This event is celebrating its 10th year running. Set up will begin October 21st at 6:00am and end at 5:00pm that evening. The attendance is estimated at around 1,700 drawing the attention of runners and families alike. There will be point of contacts available at the event to ease the influx of travelers. Road closures will be the north side of Monroe Street between Elizabeth Street and Washington Street, the south side of Monroe Street between Maybee Alley and Martha Street, and Elizabeth Street between Route 219 and Jefferson Street. The route follows the same course as the previous year. Doug Bush has also reached out to Google to be sure updates are made the day of the event to reflect the street closures to better assist any expected traffic. The motion was passed to approve the event with Mayor John Burrell saying it is "the best run event we have!" Registration is now open at evlhalf.com.

Edgemere Development has reached out with their encouragement and support for the Village of Ellicottville to reapply to the next round of Restore NY, offering financial aid for the application process as well as grant writing assistance. A motion was requested to look more into this opportunity. Mayor John Burrell took this chance to bring attention to Ellicottville's current standing with recent state grant applications and is pushing to get answers on why the village has been overlooked in these available programs.

Other meeting highlights include:

- Village Planner Greg Keyser announced that there is now an official complaint form that will be available in the Town Hall for residents to access upon need. Once they are signed and filed they will be processed and considered.
- Village Engineer Ben Slotman reminded those present that there is an open position for an Engineering Technician and encourages those interested to check out the Town & Village of Ellicottville website or stop by the Town Hall for more information or to submit a resume.
- The Mill Street Parking Lot Project has been awarded to Lake Shore Paving.
- The Mayor and Village Board were made aware that the State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit was passed and upon inspection showed to be well maintained and operating.
- A matter of old business discussed was the request for the review of the current open container law. The Village Board closed the matter by lack of support for any change.
- The Washington Street light poles were discussed, and a further decision will be made regarding the height and style. The Board is looking into the best option that meets the needs of area safety and village authenticity.

The Ellicottville Village Board will next meet in usual fashion on Tuesday, September 19th at 6:00pm in the Town/Village Hall, 1 Washington Street. The public is welcome to attend.

CEREAL BOX CHALLENGE RECAP

Local Businesses Donate Over 5,000 Boxes to Food Pantry



OLEAN – A big and sweet part of the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce's Southern Tier Corporate Challenge 5K Run and Walk has always been the Cereal Challenge. Results from this year's cereal challenge were great again! Eight companies participated in the challenge, with a total of 5,156 cereal boxes donated! 2,710 of those boxes were donated by the employees at Buffamante Whipple Buttafaro, PC, which means they received the "Most Cereal Boxes Donated" award. With an employee-to-cereal boxes ratio of 64.5 boxes, Buffamante Whipple Buttafaro (BWB) was awarded the most boxes collected per employee!

The "throw down the cereal spoon gauntlet" began in 2013 as an idea proposed by community resident Joann Dombeck. D.B. Busan, the pantry Warehouse Manager stated, "This challenge was a brilliant idea from Joann – especially cereal during the summer months when most children are at home and the Food Pantry needs to have it on its shelves!" Through the eleven years, more than 30,200 cereal boxes have been collected. The average donated in a year is 2,748, with 2019 still the biggest collection year of 7,061 boxes.

Meme Yanetsko, GOACC chief operating officer stated, "Each year, the pantry is pleased with the donations. This year, BWB tossed the challenge to their intern group and they ran with it."

Each year, BWB has summer interns. Eight of their interns were split into teams and in charge of the challenge. This was incorporated into BWB's Together We Can campaign. Jake Kohler was the winner of the BWB team with 152 boxes donated. For more information, call GOACC at 716-372-4433 or email info@oleanny.com.

DICE RUN WRAP-UP

2nd Annual Event Awards Memorial Scholarship to First Recipient



Drew Brokaw, DW Memorial Scholarship winner with committee member DJ Dick.

OLEAN - The 2nd Annual DW Memorial Dice Run wrapped up Saturday evening, August 19th with many winners from the dice run, cash raffles and 50/50. But the biggest winner was Drew Brokaw as the first recipient of the DW Memorial Scholarship. Named in honor/memorial of Dennis Jones and Wayne Johnston, Drew was chosen from over more than two dozen who signed up for the initial scholarship.

The scholarship applications were reviewed by an ad hoc committee of DJ Dick and Joe Duplechian (event committee members), Angie Johnston Honeck (Wayne's daughter) and Kara Lynn Jennings (Dennis' daughter). Dick stated, "We were able to start this scholarship fund with seed monies from the 2014-17 Rally in the Valley proceeds in early 2022. However, it was too late to have a recipient for '22 as the scholarship process had already begun."

Friday night festivities included a bike parade, cornhole tourney, music, vendors and recognition of Drew Brokaw. Drew, a recent graduate at Olean High School, will be attending Alfred University this fall. The 2023 edition of the event went from one day to two and added a twist to the dice run with registration running all week up to the actual run! Dick stated, "The committee did a tremendous job in securing \$14,000 in sponsorships and roughly \$2,500 in the raffle tickets."

The DW Memorial Dice Run is in honor and in memory of two businessmen from the Rally in the Valley Event Committee who have passed away - Dennis Jones and Wayne Johnston. Proceeds from the Run will benefit area youth in the county through scholarships named after the two gentlemen at Olean City Schools and Allegany Limestone Central School through the Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation.

COMMUNITY

'FOR YOUR EYES ONLY'

Diving into the Fine Art of Sport Fishing



BY CAROL FISHER-LINN

Now, before you start thinking about the James Bond movie, *For Your Eyes Only*, this is not a story about intrigue, mayhem, fast cars, and sexy people. It is a story about the art and joy of sport fishing and a local company named For Your Eyes Only. The company owner, Dennis Young, informs us that the eyes in the name of the company refer to the short name for Walleyes, which in fishing circles are called "eyes." Although, legally, one can catch walleyes from May 15th through March 15th in New York State, Young wraps up his charter boat fishing season in late September/October, weather dependent. And we all know how unpredictable the weather is in Dunkirk or Buffalo, on Lake Erie.

There is still time to charter the boat for a couple of hours of fishing with a guy who has been fishing the area since he was a kid. Now retired, he has a lot of experience under his belt. Although seasoned fishers will most often just book him and the boat for a leisurely day of fishing, Young is also willing to take novice anglers out and teach them the art of fishing. Oh, and if he looks familiar to you, Young has also served as the East Otto Town Justice for the past 24 years.

Fishing can be a solo sport, or one shared with others, while still being solo, in a way. That is one of the joys of fishing - solitude or shared solitude. In a boat with five or six people, chances are less for that part of the sport, but the fun is shared. Imagine the thrill of catching a 11 to 12-pound Walleye (also known as yellow pike) and taking it home that night for some of the best eating from the lake. Who knows, you might even catch one to break the state record of 18 pounds!

Speaking of large fish, please cancel any thoughts you might have of going out to the lake with thoughts of catching a sturgeon. They are a historic, threatened species and if accidentally caught (very unlikely) cannot even be brought into the boat. They must be cut loose to continue living their very long lives (up to 150 years). Yes, it is exciting to think about catching a ten-foot long, 250-pound fish... but it's a no-no.



Camaraderie is part of the fun on these boat trips. Young says his guests can bring coolers with snacks or cold refreshments. **BUT NO SMOKING!** Most trips head out by 7:15am for the best fishing for the predator Walleye that has great night vision. Dusk works well, too, as do cloudy fall days. There's a lot of great fishing time left this season. Go to foryoureyesonlysportfishing.com for more information.

This story reminds me of the last time I went fishing with my husband on the Allegheny (or Allegheny) River between Portville and Eldred. The day was perfect - not too warm, not too chill, the sun was moving lower in the sky. It was close to 7:00pm, a good time for fishing. We had our lawn chairs and a cooler full of Labatts and ginger ale. His pre-teen daughter was with us. It was so still that we could hear every chirp and peep from the critters in the brush. As we cast our lines, we realized, after a while, that we were being watched. Looking down the river about 100 yards to our left, we spotted an eagle in a tree. Then it flew up the river directly across from us. Yikes! The stare-down began. My husband whispered, "Fish, don't bite now." He didn't want to get into a battle with an eagle over a carp. We gently eased our bait in. After the eagle left, we went back to fishing, but it wasn't quite as exciting.

Planning to go fishing? Make sure to get your license: www.takemefishing.org/get-a-fishing-license.

WILD WING FESTIVAL

Gooseneck Hill Waterfowl Sanctuary Invites All Bird Lovers to Annual Event



BY MARY WEISER

Gooseneck Hill Waterfowl Sanctuary is the destination for bird lovers, and on Sunday, it will be open to the public for the last time this year! The largest covered free-flying aviary in the United States, Gooseneck Hill welcomes everyone to their annual Wild Wing Festival on Sunday, August 27th from noon-4:00pm. Explore the aviary, support the incredible work of Gooseneck Hill and enjoy great food and live music at this bird-lover's paradise at 5067 Townline Road in Delevan.

For Milton and Rosemary Miner, birds are their life, and they've devoted the past 40 years to providing a safe haven for over 750 ducks, geese, and swans, some of which are on the endangered species list. "I've been doing this since 1983," said Rosemary Miner. "We were in Holland [NY] but we didn't have enough room. We only had four birds when we started and now we have over 700!"

The sanctuary, which contains seven acres under net including four ponds, is home to many different species of birds, some of which can't be found anywhere else in the country. While some birds come from breeders and zoos, others arrive via Miner's travels. "We went to Alaska four times and collected eggs on the tundra," she explained. "We had to have special permits from Alaska and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service." Miner brought home Pacific Eiders from Alaska, the largest ducks in the world. Other species include scaups and long-tailed ducks, just a few of the 78 different species at Gooseneck Hill.

On Sunday, visitors will be able to go inside the aviary and feed the ducks by hand, if they like. "All the birds are hand-raised, so they're familiar with people," said Miner. "They'll come right up to you and eat out of your hand. We also have over a thousand koi fish to feed. Some of them are around three feet long!" Visitors will also enjoy some of the newest members of the Gooseneck Hill family, too. "We have lots of babies - some are almost full grown but we just had some babies born this week," Miner added. "We have some little white mandarins that are only two inches high running around with their parents!"



Visitors can expect to see birds from every continent, like the bar-headed goose from India, the highest flying bird in the world, and the African Pygmy Goose, the smallest in the world. While Gooseneck Hill gives some birds to zoos, many go to breeders who are better equipped to care for the birds. "They need a lot more than a little cage," Miner pointed out. "Here, they have lots of land. They're free - they can pick their own partner, and they don't have to be put in a cage. If they don't want to lay an egg, that's fine with me; I don't care!"

In addition to tours of the aviary, Sunday's festival includes live music by the Rustic Ramblers with Gene Hilts on the steel guitar. Lil's Deli of Machias will be serving a variety of food, including pizza, pizza logs, fries, taco logs, and specialty cookies. Admission is just \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and younger, and free for children younger than five.

The festival, which was started about 10 years ago, supports the facility and associated costs of maintaining the property. A treacherous storm in 2012 created wind and waves about eight feet high, which destroyed the fence of the entire lower aviary and created six to eight feet of muck in the ponds. All birds had to be moved to the top aviary, and if not for the help of the Local 17 Union of Hamburg, Gooseneck Hill would have likely closed for good. Union members volunteered for three weeks to replace the fence and netting, and local mills donated stone to help rebuild the sanctuary.

Each year, festival funds are used to maintain the property, which has weathered other storms since. For those looking to get involved after the festival is over, Miner said that Gooseneck Hill is always looking for help. "My husband is 83 and I'm 76," she said. "When you get older, it's a lot harder to replace netting and fencing. We're always looking for volunteers. If there is anyone looking for a job and is a good worker, we'd be more than happy to hire them," said Miner, who noted that the work - while physically demanding - is incredibly rewarding.

For those planning to attend the festival, Miner recommends bringing a lawn chair and appropriate footwear, as the festival will be held rain or shine. For more information about the sanctuary and bird adoption, visit gooseneckhillwaterfowlfarm.com or email Miner at rosebird@frontier.net.

PHOTO REWIND

Frank Pitillo Memorial Golf Tournament

On Wednesday, August 16th, teams hit the links in memory of the late Frank Pitillo. The inaugural Frank Pitillo Memorial Golf Tournament at Holiday Valley raised \$65K+ in funding towards new stadium lights at Ellicottville Central School. The lights were installed last weekend, just in time for the fall sports season.

Photos / Alyse Garner



Daily City Train and Loud Performance Celebrate Grand Opening

Saturday, August 19th marked the Grand Opening of Ellicottville's newest retail shops and indoor skatepark. Daily City Train and Loud Performance celebrated their joint venture at their new 2 Bristol Lane location (next to Tim & Bonnie's). The day was filled with skateboards, rollerskates, BMX bikes and cake!

photos / ellicottvilleNOW



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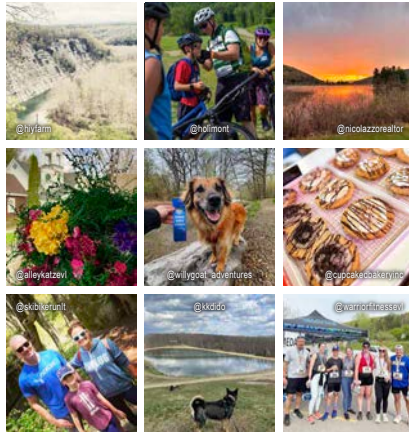
*To Benefit our
Local Schools*

We will be accepting backpacks, crayons, pencils, colored pencils, scissors, notebooks, tissues, Clorox wipes, hand sanitizers, snacks etc.



Directions in Independent Living will host a Back to School Supplies Drive August 8th - 30th from 9am to 3pm with daily drop offs taken at 512 W. State St. or at 2626 W. State St. suites 202 or 208 (Live Event @ Olean WalMart on Aug 30, from 12 to 3:30pm)

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Pfeiffer Nature Center's Eshelman Property — Saturday, June 3; 10 am — Noon
— 1420 Yubadam Rd, Portville, NY 14770 —

Genesee County Park and Forest — Wednesday, July 26; 6 — 7:30 pm
— Co-hosted by Genesee County Park and Forest and the ACORNS —
— 11095 Bethany Center Road, East Bethany, NY 14054 —

Cassadaga Lakes Nature Park — Saturday, August 5; 10 am — Noon
— Co-hosted by the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy —
— 8115 NY-60, Cassadaga, NY 14718 —

Holley Falls (Canal Park) - Saturday, September 9; 10 am – Noon
1 Holley Falls Park Rd, Holley, NY 14470

Please register using the QR code or by visiting the website below.
<https://form.jotform.com/wnyprism8/2023-walk-and-talks>




Cassadaga Lakes Nature Park. Photo Credits: Twan Leenders, Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy.

Genesee County Park and Forest. Photo Credits Left to Right: Jerome Gentry, ACORNS President and WNY PRISM.

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SPORTS

2023 BUFFALO BILLS PRESEASON FINALE PREVIEW

Taking a Look into the Bills' Roster as to What We Can Expect for the Final Preseason Match-up and Moving Forward with the Regular Season

By MARC LUCARELLI



Marc (second from right), pictured from left to right, with siblings Justin, Jason, and Meaghan and cousin Robert Sawicki.

When it comes to preseason football, the attitude of most fans tends to start out as pure excitement that football is back at the start of the first game, and then quickly devolves into some feeling of “please just get through these games without anyone getting hurt”.

While wins and losses don't matter in the preseason, and the biggest goal (at least for fans) is to get through the games injury free, there is still plenty of competition for roster spots that are worth keeping an eye on between prayers to whatever deity you might believe in for the team to stay healthy.

Here are three key roster battles still playing out on the Buffalo Bills that still need resolving as the Bills head into their final preseason game to take on the Bears in Chicago, on Saturday August 29th at 1:00pm.

BACKUP QUARTERBACK

Both Kyle Allen and Matt Barkley have had up and down outings throughout the first two preseason games. Barkley was the clear standout from the Bills' first contest against the Indianapolis Colts, completing 14 of 15 passes for 172 yards and 2 touchdowns, while Kyle Allen went 8/15 for 122 and an interception.

The script was flipped in the following game against the Pittsburgh Steelers where Allen was the clear better of the two. Barkley threw 3 interceptions, while Allen threw for 112 yards and a touchdown, while not committing any turnovers.

At the time of this writing, it is not yet known if any of the Bills starters will play against the Bears. If Josh Allen does not see in the field in the preseason finale, look for Kyle Allen and Barkley to each play about a half. This could ultimately determine which quar-

terback wins the backup job on the 53-man roster, and which player most likely heads to the practice squad.

MIDDLE LINEBACKER

At the outset of training camp, the battle for the starting middle linebacker position was a three-headed competition between veteran Tyrel Dodson and second year players Terrel Bernard and Baylon Spector. That quickly was pared down to a two-man race between Dodson and Bernard, until Bernard injured his hamstring leading up to the Bills' first preseason game.

Dodson has taken the majority of the starting snaps since, but rotated with 11th year veteran AJ Klein in the game against Pittsburgh. No one has really separated themselves from the pack, so performance in this game could be critical in determining who mans the middle linebacker spot come opening night against the New York Jets on September 11th.

If Bernard can play against Chicago, it will be interesting to see how much playing time he receives, and if he can make up the ground lost in the competition due to his injury.

WIDE RECEIVER

The top of the Bills' wide receiver depth chart is settled. There is no drama to be found in the first four receiver spots, outside of whatever it was that was ultimately going on with Stefon Diggs in the spring. Diggs is a superstar. There is no question who the Bills' number one target is. Behind Diggs is entrenched number two Gabe Davis and free agent signees Deonte Hardy and Trent Sherfield. The real competition is for the 5th and 6th receiver spots. At this point it seems to be a three-man race for two spots between 2022 5th round pick Khalil Shakir, 2023 5th round pick Justin Shorter, and former Arizona Cardinals 2nd round pick Andy Isabella.

Shakir has struggled with drops throughout camp but did flash at times in the limited game action he did see last season. He recorded 2 catches for 25 yards against the Colts, but also had a dropped pass. He did not have a reception in the game against the Steelers.

At 6'4, 223 lbs., Shorter brings an element of size to the Bills' receiving corp. He did not record a reception in the game against Indianapolis but led the Bills in receiving against Pittsburgh with 5 catches for 47 yards and a touchdown.

Isabella has been with the Bills the shortest amount of time, only signing with the team on July 28th. He has however, impressed with his speed and route running, working his way up the depth chart to receive meaningful offensive snaps, while also being given opportunities as a kick returner.

With the NFL now only having three preseason games, it becomes even more important for the players battling for jobs to show out, and for the coaches and front office staffs to focus in on their evaluations to determine the final roster that the team will head into the regular season with. So even though the game is meaningless in the standings, it's far from meaningless overall.

Enjoy the game everyone! Unless you have DIRECTV and are blacked out, in which case, enjoy the weather!

LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE LOCALS!



SUZIE DITCHER

It's the best season of the year! Sporting our Bills gear all week long. Planning the game day party! The anticipation and the excitement! It's in our DNA. It's who we are!! I love everything Buffalo Bills!!



NICK ROCCO

What are you most looking forward to this season?

“Hopefully the Bills beating the Chiefs! And then the Super Bowl!”

What are your predictions?

“I think We're only going lose 2 games the whole season but I don't want to say out loud who I think we will lose to. I don't want to jinx us”

Any new players you're excited about?

“Yeah, Dalton Kincaid. I really want to get a Kincaid jersey for this season. I think he'll be good!”



SPENCER MURRAY

I'm excited about Dalton Kincaid coming onboard and I think this team is the best it's been this year. And excited to have Poyer and Hyde duo back, along with Tre White fully! James Cook is gonna COOK as well!



BILLY FINNERTY

The first player I loved was Joe Cribbs! I was at the Greg Bell 206 yard game with an 85 yard TD in 1984 vs the Cowboys in a 2-14 season! I was there in 1986 when Jim Kelly gave us a new hope! My High School years we went to the Super Bowl 3 out of 4 years and then went the next year! I started in the Bar business in 1994 the night a certain former Bill was being chased in a White Bronco! I was at #12's last game and worked the #homerunthrowback! Then I lived the drought! Hope came with McDermott! Allen and Daboll brought us to the peak! Now we finish the climb! Matt Milano will lead the best defense in the league and Josh, Steph and Knox will punish the opposition! This combined with #BillsMafia will lead us to the promised land! If not, the ride as brothers and sisters believing is all that matters! It's what makes living here the greatest secret on planet earth!



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JASON GROVER

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HEALTH & FITNESS

STRENGTH TRAINING SAFETY

The Correct Way to Position Your Wrists

By **KIM DUKE, CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINER**

As a certified personal trainer (CPT) it is my job to watch my clients' form and correct it when I see even the smallest error to prevent injuries. Strength training requires a lot of mind-body awareness. Without even knowing it, you could slip into bad form and pay the price. One area I keep a sharp eye on is wrist position. Your wrists are an important but complex joint. When lifting weights, your wrists play a prominent role in providing the necessary stability.



In general, the wrists should be 'neutral' for whatever grip you are using when it comes to holding weights, pull-up bars or TRX bands. There are three types of grips:

- pronated (overhanded like when you do pull-ups)
- supinated (underhanded, like when you're doing a bicep curl)
- neutral (falls in between underhand/overhand grips, like when you're doing a hammer curl).

With each, your wrist position should remain neutral - meaning never cocked forward or pulled back in an extension. When you lose neutrality in the wrist joint, you'll usually feel it due to the strain on the tendons and ligaments.

Typically I see people holding dumbbells like they are holding a restaurant tray so they can 'push' up. In strength training your wrist should be straight, meaning knuckles to the sky.

The one exception is a front-rack barbell squat. Because your shoulders are helping to take the load, it's okay for your wrists to be extended as long as you have the wrists and shoulder mobility to feel okay supporting the bar.

To keep lifting weights for a long time, these tiny tweaks can make a major difference. So for strength's sake, pay attention to your wrist position.

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, go to www.coreperformancefitness.com or call 716-698-1198.

MURAL, MURAL ON THE WALL

Ellicottville Memorial Library Partners with Elisa B. Hughey Fund

ELLICOTTVILLE - Help the Ellicottville Memorial Library promote arts in the community by submitting your book title ideas! We are pleased to partner with the Elisa B. Hughey Fund for the Arts to design and implement a painting (mural) on the fence at the edge of our parking lot. Our design, similar to this one seen here from Springville Library, will include various book spines.



Here is where the community comes in. We are looking for book suggestions to include in our mural. If you have a title you would like to recommend, please email it to info@ellicottvillelibrary.org or stop in the library by September 10th and let us know your ideas. We will try and include as many suggestions as we can. Stay tuned for more ways you can help with this fun project!

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Upper Allegheny Health System Announce August Star Award Winners



Jason Santora, security officer, BRMC, and Amy Hayman, unit coordinator, sub-acute rehab, OGH, were recently presented the August Star Award.

OLEAN - Upper Allegheny Health System (UAHS), parent company of Bradford Regional Medical Center (BRMC) and Olean General Hospital (OGH), are proud to announce the August star award winners for each hospital campus. Jason Santora and Amy Hayman were recognized at in-person ceremonies at BRMC and OGH, respectively.

The star award is offered monthly at BRMC and OGH to an employee who displays exceptional performance and inspires others to do the same. Members of the team are nominated for outstanding customer service, ongoing performance improvement, teamwork, communication, ownership/accountability, and excellence. Employees are selected through patient as well as co-worker nominations.

Jason Santora, a security officer at BRMC, was awarded the honor on July 25th. "When working with our clients, Jason has such a respectful and caring attitude. He is an inspiration and a great example to those who work with mental health patients," according to his nomination. "When manpower issues develop, Jason maintains a polite and respectful manner. He has a calm demeanor that helps to defuse any tense or harsh situations. It's always a pleasure to have him on a manpower team; it's not a simple job, and we're fortunate to have him!"

The OGH star award went to Amy Hayman, a unit coordinator who works in the subacute rehab department. She was awarded the honor on July 27th. "Amy is always such a great help with explaining and giving tours of the department. Due to the excessive workload and happenings throughout the department, she knows how to make you understand and feel comfortable with it all," according to her nomination. "Amy is always very thorough in her work and a pleasure to work with. She is a great addition to our UAHS team!"

Other employees who were recognized and nominated for the August star award included Kevin Waid, EVS; Joe Warner, SMART, for BRMC as well as Laura Balcerzak, outpatient surgery center; Paige Blair, cardiac cath lab; Elizabeth Karnes, RN, 3rd floor, nursing; Tim Moran, cardiac cath lab; Jessica Rhodes, RN, OB; and Jennell Sautler, 3rd floor, nursing, for OGH.

Star award recipients received a chamber of commerce gift certificate, additional paid time off, certificate of recognition, UAHS logo'd apparel, as well as the coveted star award parking spot. All nominees were recognized for their hard work towards UAHS' drive to five, five-stars!

Bradford Regional Medical Center and Olean General Hospital are members of Kaleida Health and part of the Upper Allegheny Health System, which serves more than 140,000 in Southwestern New York state and Northwestern Pennsylvania. Both hospitals have a rich history of providing quality healthcare to meet the ever changing needs of the region. For more information, visit brmc-ogh.org.

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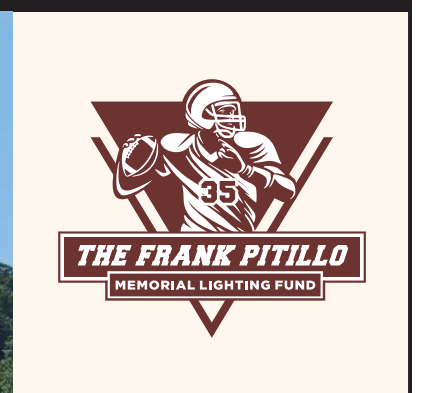
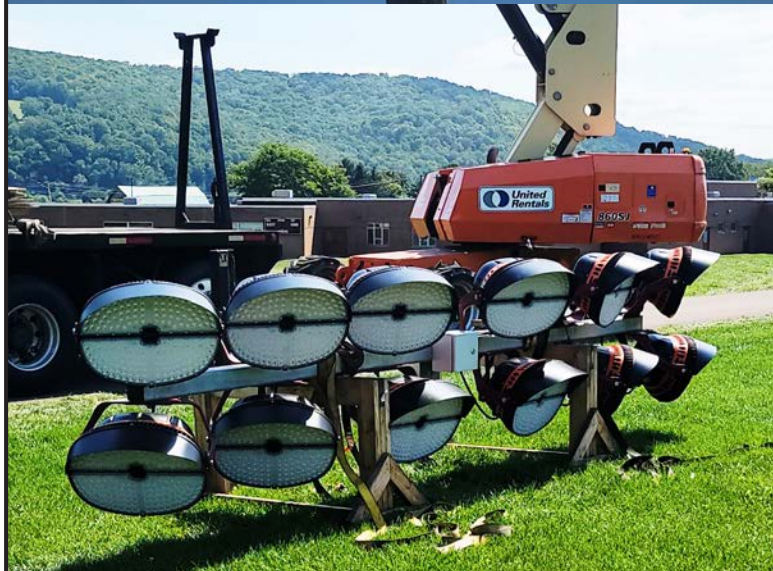
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CLASSIFIEDS

COMMUNITY

CELEBRATION OF LIFE: A celebration of Life is being held this Saturday, August 26th for Sherman Wilkens - the man, the myth the legend. Those many friends of Sherman's are invited to attend this gathering at the Ellicottville Town Center, 28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, NY from 4:00-7:00pm.

SUNDAY MUSIC SERIES: Ellicottville Distillery, 5462 Robbins Road, will continue their Sunday Music Series on August 27th with musical guests Panfil Brothers from 2:00-5:00pm. Together, the brothers play original American mixed with pop/rock/country hits. The Sunday Music Series is open to the public and FREE to attend! Learn more at ellicottvilledistillery.com.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL AT PFEIFFER: Come out to the Pfeiffer Nature Center on August 31st from 6:00-8:00pm for a Blue Moon Meet & Greet of their new Director, Nick Burt. Located at the Lillibridge Pavilion, 1974 Lillibridge Road in Portville, NY. For more info, call 716-933-0187.

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. 16 Elizabeth St., Ellicottville. "YOUR DOG IS OUR DOG."

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EMPLOYMENT

NOW HIRING: The Gado-Gado team is looking for a hardworking and motivated individual! Must be available on weekends and festivals. Please email resume and a brief introduction to gadogado98@hotmail.com. This is a yearly position, not seasonal, and weekends are required.

HELP WANTED: FORD BROTHERS WHOLESALE MEATS: General meat processing laborer. M/F full or part time. Meat processing plant is looking for an individual to help with meat packaging and production. Will train. Must be able to lift 50 lbs., adapt to equipment operation and work standing in a cool environment. 6:30 - 3:30 pm work shift, Mon-Fri. Apply in person: 9129 Route 219 West Valley, NY or call (716)-942-3000 or e-mail fordbros@frontiernet.net. EOE.

THE SILVER FOX STEAKHOUSE: Looking for experienced servers, a bartender and a dishwasher. Mail resume to P.O. Box 146, Ellicottville, NY 14731 or email silverfoxeville@aol.com.

HELP WANTED: Kazoo II is looking for HELP! Part time, year round. Looking for an energetic, responsible, self motivated sales individual! If interested, apply in person or call 716-699-4484.

LEAD CARPENTER: Must have at least 5 years experience. Apply in person to G.M. Nickolson Construction, Inc. 42 Mill Street, Ellicottville, NY 14731 or email: gmnickolson@aol.com.

EXPERIENCED CARPENTERS: Apply to G.M. Nickolson Construction, Inc. 42 Mill Street, Ellicottville, NY 14731 or email: gmnickolson@aol.com.

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HELP WANTED: Daff Dry Goods is looking for an energetic, responsible, honest social media and computer savvy sales associate who loves to work with people, clothing and footwear. This is a year-round position and hours may fluctuate from 1-3 days per week. Stop by and introduce yourself along with your resume or call 716-353-0951.

WRITERS WANTED: ellicottvilleNOW is looking to grow its team of writers for the upcoming winter season to cover local news and events on and off the slopes! Great supplemental income! Send letter of interest and writing samples to info@ellicottvillenow.com or mail them to PO Box 1077, Ellicottville, NY 14731.

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD: Call the ellicottvilleNOW office at 716-699-9816 or email info@ellicottvilleNOW.com.

LLC NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Courtney Ingham LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/21/23. Office: Catt County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 4457 Pumpkin Hollow Rd., Great Valley, NY 14741. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Maple Ridge Bounce LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/22/23. Office: Catt County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 8269 Route 16, Franklinville, NY, 14737. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

Register for this Weekend's Event at Ellicottville Brewing Co. Little Valley

LITTLE VALLEY - If you think you've got what it takes to reign cornhole champion, sign up for Ellicottville Brewing Company's first ever Cornhole Tournament. Taking place on Saturday, August 26th at their Little Valley location, 202 2nd Street, admission is just \$20 and includes drink discounts for all players and a chance to win one of many door prizes. As for the winner of the tournament, how does cash sound? Entry to play is open to both pros and amateurs; you can sign up by downloading the "Scoreholio" app, which you'll find on EBC's Facebook page. For more information or questions, reach out to sara@ellicottvillebrewing.com or message EBC on their Instagram.

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griffissculpturepark: The Griffis Sculpture Park Summer Festival 2023 was beyond epic! Thanks to over 800 people who attended. The performers, vendors and weather were simply incredible!



franceslrothrd: Vacay with the family in #ellicottvilleny #skyhigh #holidayvalley #evlnow #challengeyourself



evillebikeandbean: After #bikes-burritosbrews, we #shopride!



jcurtis1478: 45 years on the old lights and new ones are going up!



ellicottvilleNOW: Ruthie and Ellie at their lemonade stand in front of @erateampv_ellicottville to raise money for childhood cancer research.



thriveivloungeyny: #selfcare #igotpokedinevl #evlnow



noahbutcher: @liveloudunderground @dailycitytrain.skate



baroness_abcinema: When you do all the summer things in 1 day because there hasn't been enough time for your favorite things!



thecitygarage: Tee'ing it up for the @hvp patrol on a beauty of a day! #birdies #golfing #holidayvalley



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