



MARCH 5, 2026

Norwich's Beckwith and S-E's Telesky return home as NYS Wrestling champions

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

ALBANY — The NYSPHSAA Wrestling Championships were held over the weekend at MVP Arena in Albany, where Norwich's Maverick Beckwith and Sherburne-Earlville's Drew Telesky returned home as State champions to proudly represent Chenango County!

Beckwith, who is now a three-time state champion, won the 150 pound weight class as he went 4-0, including two wins by tech fall, a 4-0 decision win, and a 11-0 major decision win.

While Beckwith led Norwich for the third year in a row, another local contender, Sherburne-Earlville, saw its first State champion in

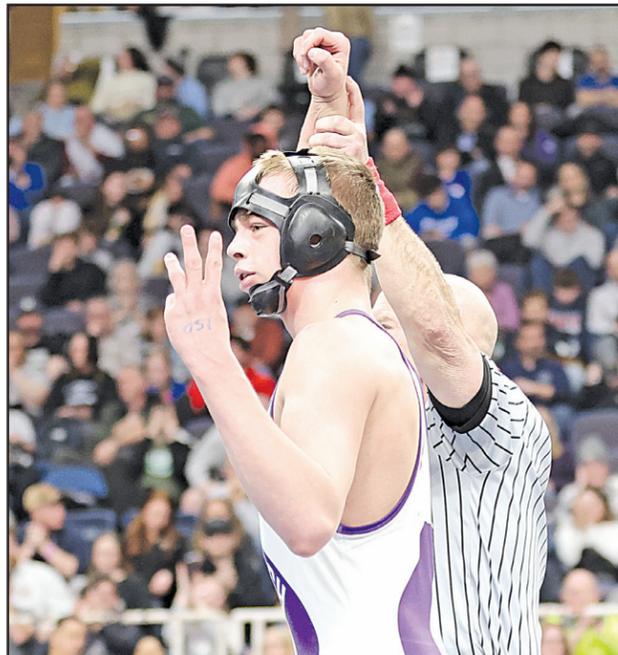


Congratulations to Sherburne-Earlville's Drew Telesky on becoming the first S-E wrestling state champion since 2016 and just the fourth state champion in program history. (Photo by Dean Russin, DCMO BOCES)

10 years, since Jack Buell in 2016. Congratulations to eighth-grader Drew Telesky on winning the 103 pound weight class.

Telesky becomes just the fourth S-E state-champion in school-history.

Telesky finished this season with a 34-3



Congratulations to Norwich's Maverick Beckwith on becoming a three-time State champion. (Photo by Dean Russin, DCMO BOCES)

record after winning the first match of states in a 17-1 tech fall.

He then had to face

teammate Freddy Smith in the quarterfinals, where Telesky came out on top in a 4-1 decision.

Smith took fifth in the 103 weight class.

Telesky then earned a 3:35 pin to the number-one seed before a close 8-7 decision in the finals.

The SECSD Facebook page exclaimed the moment that Telesky became a champion:

"Drew avenged a first-round loss to Duryea in the 2025 state tournament with a furious third-period comeback in Saturday's D-II finale at 103 pounds. Taken down in the first period and giving up two reversal points in the next, Drew had little to show outside of a bloodied mouth before scoring his first point on an escape with 13 seconds to go in the second period. In a 5-1 hole with two min-

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Commerce Chenango and NBT share updates at Chenango Economic Outlook Breakfast

REBECCA LAIBOWITZ
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

NORWICH - An Economic Outlook Breakfast, hosted by NBT Bank and Commerce Chenango, shared local developments and economic predictions this week. The event featured keynote speaker Ken Entenmann, NBT Bank's Chief Investment Officer and Chief Economist on Tuesday. Entenmann presented a detailed analysis of the nation's economic standing in 2025 and predictions for more stability going into 2026.

Entenmann, oversees about \$6 billion in assets at NBT. He said, "I heard this term that we're in a 'boom-cession'



Scott Kingsley, President and CEO of NBT Bank shown speaking at the 2026 Economic Outlook Breakfast hosted by Commerce Chenango and NBT Bank on Tuesday February 24, 2026 at the Northeast Classic Car Museum in Norwich, NY. He acknowledges NBT's strong foundation in Chenango County. (Photo by Rebecca Laibowitz)



Tyler Oliver, Director of Economic Development at Commerce Chenango shown speaking at the 2026 Economic Outlook Breakfast hosted by Commerce Chenango and NBT Bank on Tuesday February 24, 2026 at the Northeast Classic Car Museum in Norwich, NY. (Photo by Rebecca Laibowitz)

which is a combination of a booming economy and a combination of a recession, depending on who you ask. And I think we need to take a deep breath and take a step back and kind of put things in perspective, because some of the economic data, while it's really negative, I think we have to take it with a grain of salt."

He urged listeners to diversify investment portfolios to shield from any negative impacts of market changes, technology dislocations, or poor returns.

"I think the equity markets are in kind of a corrective phase, kind of adjusting from the excesses of the

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Area teams moving onto Odyssey of the Mind state competition

BY JESSICA BENSON
GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

CHENANGO COUNTY – On Saturday, Chenango County teams traveled to Binghamton to participate in the regional Odyssey of the Mind competition at BT BOCES. Sherburne-Earlville and Bainbridge-Guilford sent a total of five teams to the competition, and three of those teams will be moving on to the state competition on March 21.

“Odyssey of the Mind is an international creative problem-solving competition for students. It’s unlike any other extra-curricular activity,” said Sherburne-Earlville Odyssey Coordinator Jonathan Sherry. “Teams of students spend months collaborating in an effort to solve incredibly complex problems. These students work tirelessly without any suggestions from anyone outside of their team, including their coach.”

Teams of no more than seven students select a problem from one of the five categories: vehicle, technical, classics, structure, or performance. Teams must work together to create an 8-minute-long performance that involves a set, a script, original characters, scored style elements and meets an array of other specifications in the most creative way possible. “These students exercise their critical thinking skills and develop a positive relationship with



Students participate in the regional Odyssey of the Mind competition at BT BOCES this weekend. Sherburne-Earlville and Bainbridge-Guilford sent a total of five teams to the competition, and three of those teams will be moving on to the state competition on March 21. (Photos by Jessica Benson)

creative problem solving. The solution that students create responds to a lengthy rubric and is then performed for a panel of judges.”

In addition to the scored performance, students also have to do a spontaneous competition where they are given a problem that is unknown to them before hand and they must respond in real time, receiving points for each response, with creative responses receiving higher points.

This year, Sherburne-Earlville sent three teams to the regional



competition. Two teams competed at the division two or middle school level and one team at the division three or high school level. The middle school teams, consisting of sixth, seventh and eighth grade students, tackled the vehicle problem and the classics problem. The vehicle team took second place for their performance

and will be moving on to the state competition next month.

Sherburne-Earlville’s high school team, coached by Jennifer Ashton, also tackled the classics problem and received the highest scores for their long-term performance. Since other factors also make up the total score, Sherburne-Earlville took second place overall for their division and problem, but they will also be continuing to the New York State Competition.

“Sherburne-Earlville has been offering the program since the 1980s. We have sent countless teams to the

State Finals, and fifteen teams to World Finals,” Sherry said.

Bainbridge-Guilford sent two teams to regionals this year. One team competed at the division one–elementary level. The team, coached by Eric Reicherter and Jason Northrup, consisted of five third graders, three of whom were competing for the first time. BG also sent a division two team, coached by Kimberly Morris. The team was made up of two fifth graders and four sixth graders. “This was their first year in division two. Our team came in 2nd place and are on our way to states,”

Morris said. Both teams worked on their performance-based problem. “We’d like to build up our program next year. It’s a great opportunity for kids to be creative and be problem solvers while learning to work with a team. The memories and friendships the team members create are a huge part of the fun,” Morris said.

Chenango County teams have been participating in Odyssey of the Mind for many years, participation in recent years has declined. Region 13, which normally hosts Chenango County teams was combined with Region 12 this year due to the low number of teams registered. Former Coach Pete DeVinne explained that OM is unlike other extra-curricular experiences because of its ability to help students develop critical thinking skills. DeVinne said he has two employees who are former OMers, and those students have a unique ability to find solutions to problems in outside of the box ways. “Instead of following the same path to a solution, they find more creative ways to get things done,” DeVinne said.

This year’s New York State Odyssey of the Mind Competition will be held on March 21st at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse. Winning teams from that competition will be invited to attend the World Finals at Iowa State University May 27-30.

Sherry acknowledged that coaching Odyssey of the Mind can be a daunting task for those unfamiliar with the program. He welcomed anyone with questions about the program to email him at sherryj@seonline.org.

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City of Utica stabbing suspect arrested in Norwich to face attempted murder charges

NORWICH - On Friday, February 27, a man wanted in relation to a stabbing, Franklin D. Gentry, 41, of Utica, was arrested by Norwich police.

The charges are related to a violent stabbing that occurred on February 15, in the City of Utica and Gentry is facing a second degree attempted murder charge, reported

police.

"When we were notified of the situation and the potential risk to our community, that immediately became our number one priority. I am proud of the teamwork between our officers and federal law enforcement partners. They left no stone unturned until the arrest was safely made," said City of

Norwich Police Chief Scott Burlison.

The original incident is being investigated by the City of Utica Police Department.

The United States Marshals Service tracked Gentry to Chenango County during the course of their investigation.

After developing information that Gentry could be in the City of Norwich,

the City of Norwich Police Department notified immediately began coordinating with federal authorities to locate the suspect.

Through these combined investigative efforts, Gentry was located at approximately 2:00 p.m. in the area of West Main Street and Guernsey Street in the City of Norwich.

Authorities moved in on Gentry and he was taken into custody without further incident.

Following his arrest, Gentry was transported by the United States Marshals Service back to the City of Utica to be processed on the pending attempted murder charge.

Additional charges stemming from the orig-

inal incident are expected. Gentry was booked into the Oneida County jail.

Further details regarding the stabbing incident will be released by the City of Utica Police Department, which is handling the investigation.

—Information from Norwich City Police

Commerce Chenango and NBT share updates at Chenango Economic Outlook Breakfast

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Magnificent Seven and trying to figure out what it looks like, but I think the revenge of diversification is here, and I would encourage you all to think about your own personal assets, your 401ks," said Entenmann.

Read a full article about the economic outlook presentation by Entenmann in Friday's Evening Sun.

Commerce Chenango has big plans

Tyler Oliver, Director of Economic Development at Commerce Chenango, opened the day by talking about what was done in Chenango in 2025, and what is coming in 2026. Common themes throughout the morning were this region's low unemployment rate, GDP growth, tariff uncertainty, and technology industry investments.

"While it's easy to focus on the challenges we faced, 2025 was a great year of progress, and 2026 is shaping up to be even tougher," said Oliver, setting the tone for the event. He went on to list the economic victories Chenango County saw last year, such as Chenango County having the third lowest unemployment of the eight counties making up the southern tier, the resilience and growth of our manufacturing sector, and the active local economy.

"Just weeks ago, the office of the New York State Comptroller released the 2025 local sales tax collection report. Chenango County was highlighted as having the highest

increase in collections statewide, an impressive 11.8%. That tells us our local economy is moving in the right direction," said Oliver.

Oliver also spoke about initiatives Commerce Chenango is directly involved with, particularly the \$1 million Restore New York Grant that was received and is being used to transform the building at 19 East Main Street to include an Early Learning Center, whose progress was reported on just last week. They have also received grant funding from Empire State Development to develop a multi-year economic strategic plan for Chenango County and a water district feasibility study. The water district feasibility study will help determine potential uses of the former Chobani and Procter & Gamble facility and the economic impact of extending municipal water and sewer to the demolished site.

"We also did what Chenango does best, bringing people together. From young professionals to CEOs to our local mayors, we hosted summits and gatherings that created space for collaboration, strategy, and new ideas. That momentum will continue into 2026," said Oliver.

"So what's to come in 2026? We've begun work on a three-year economic development plan with Kyanite Partners that will serve as a roadmap for our future. This plan will help guide our efforts, ensuring we're building toward clear, long-term measurable

goals," said Oliver. "Most importantly, it will keep us focused on the initiatives that make sense for Chenango County, and position us to pursue the right funding opportunities and resources to move those priorities forward."

Commerce Chenango will be executing its Visitor Economy Plan in 2026, which involves developing the Chenango River for better public access, launching a countywide marketing campaign tracking visitor data, creating packaged experiences, and expanding the influence of its promotional funds.

Oliver briefly brought up the issue of housing stating, "Our housing stock is gauging, quality rentals are limited, and blight impacts many of our communities. Earlier this month, the Chenango County Board of Supervisors approved the creation of the Chenango County Land Bank Corporation. This new tool will allow us to redevelop underutilized properties, demolish structures beyond repair, and unlock new funding opportunities."

Concluding his speech with, "The future of Chenango County is bright, and we're excited about what lies ahead. To wrap it up, I want to send our sincere thanks to NBT for their continued support and commitment to our community."

NBT Bank, rooted in Chenango County

President and CEO of NBT Bank Scott Kingsley also spoke at the event. He thanked the customers of NBT, saying, "A lot of you who are in the

room are customers of NBT. I certainly appreciate your continued support and confidence."

"We had a really nice and strong 2025. We had the opportunity to expand the franchise yet again into western New York, and we ended the year with a little over \$16 billion in assets," said Kingsley. He went on to say that makes them the 83rd largest bank

holding company in the country, "and probably are headquartered in the smallest town of any of those 83, but that's our distinct advantage. That's our folks. That's our people. That's our customer base. And as I said, we won't be looking to change that anytime soon," Kingsley relayed in a testament to NBT's small town roots and headquarters in

Chenango County.

"We're really happy with the opportunities that we, in western New York, created for us last year. But still, almost 20% of our employees are based in Chenango County," said Kingsley. The event taking place in Norwich highlights the organization's commitment to the community.

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Letter to the Editor

Concerned Sherburne residents express opposition to a proposed 40-megawatt lithium-ion battery storage facility

Dear Editor,

We are writing as concerned neighbors and friends of the Sherburne, NY area to express strong opposition to a proposed 40-megawatt lithium-ion battery storage facility by Nexamp, a Boston-based energy corporation.

The facility is proposed for Knapp Road in Sherburne. Under the 2025 RAPID law in NY State, a facility larger than 25 megawatts may be able to bypass local approval to help meet state mandates for energy storage capacity. Despite the rapid approval that may be forthcoming, the site for installation should be carefully selected for safety. This site is not appropriate for many reasons.

This is not a minor infrastructure project. A 40-megawatt battery storage facility is a large industrial installation composed of container-sized units filled with lithium-ion battery cells, designed to store and discharge massive amounts of electricity generated by solar and wind. Electricity is stored by NYSEG, which sells it during peak demand. The estimated construction cost exceeds \$55 million. The profits will flow to developers and investors. The risks will remain here.

There are no meaningful long-term local jobs promised, no direct electricity for Sherburne or NYSEG customers. Instead, our area would assume the environmental and public safety risks associated with operating a large industrial energy storage site in a rural area with limited emergency infrastructure.

Lithium-ion battery facilities carry well-documented hazards. Thermal runaway events can ignite intense, long-duration fires that release toxic gases and contaminated runoff. These fires are extremely difficult to extinguish. They require specialized hazmat teams, enormous volumes of water, and extended on-site monitoring. In many cases, they must be allowed to burn while firefighters work to prevent the spread and they re-ignite after they are thought to be contained.

Sherburne relies on an all-volunteer fire department. There are no fire hydrants on Knapp Road. Water must be transported by tanker trucks over narrow rural roads. Hazmat teams are miles away. A thermal runaway event here would place extraordinary strain on local responders and expose them to serious danger. Area homes would be jeopardized. Evacuation would be challenging.

Weather and geography compound the risk. Each spring we experience dry conditions severe enough to require burn bans. A battery fire during drought conditions could threaten nearby woodlands, including the 9,400 acres and 100 miles of trails within Charles E. Baker State Forest. A wildfire under those conditions would be devastating.

Recent summers have also brought flooding. In 2025, Knapp Road washed out twice. The Town of Sherburne Department of Public Works had to repair culverts and roadbeds simply to restore access for residents. Placing an industrial energy facility on a road already vulnerable to washouts raises serious questions about emergency access and environmental runoff. Contaminated water from a battery fire could enter Handsome Brook, private wells, wetlands, the Chenango River, and ultimately the Susquehanna watershed.

Corporate decision-makers are hundreds of miles away. If something goes wrong, it will not be their water, their air, or their volunteer firefighters at risk. Rural communities should not be treated as convenient locations for high-risk industrial projects simply because land is available.

We support responsible energy development. But responsible development requires careful siting, meaningful local benefit, transparency, and realistic emergency response capability. Most importantly, we should maintain the final decision-making authority over the implementation of such a major facility. Sherburne and Chenango County deserve protection and thoughtful planning — not exposure to unnecessary risk.

We urge residents to attend public meetings, ask detailed questions about safety and environmental protections, and make their voices heard before this decision is finalized. Demand local authority and transparency over the placement of battery storage facilities.

- By Judith Webb, Sherburne resident.

With support from: Mandy Pulliam, Jan Webb Guistwite, Glen Guistwite, Jim Webb, Pam Bonacci, Jennifer Britton, Duane Britton, Sandra Karaman, Peter Karaman, Thaddeus Karaman, Nick Lowe, Stephanie Lowe, Kristin Marie Lowe, Max Britton, Taylor Strong, Glen Whitaker, Rosemary Whitaker, Dan Clarke, Donna Clarke, Carol Winer, Victoria Quesada, Stacy Hicks, Jeremy Hicks, Bernarda Jusaniec, Jerry Jusaniec, Thomas Jusaniec, Katie Jusaniec, Diane Hicks, Michael Hicks, Josh Hicks, Kylee Hicks, Scott Smith, Sarah Smith, Kathy Sabino, Michael Sabino.

How to prepare 'Smoked Venison Pepperoni'



Eric Davis

Outdoor Chenango

A almost a decade ago, my aunts and uncles all pitched in together and gave me a check to buy a pellet grill/smoker as a wedding present.

I had been looking at the models at the store where I worked and when they offered to buy one I told them that I'd get my employee discount if I bought it. Conveniently, a customer returned a pellet grill and smoker, saying it was defective because it kept throwing the breaker at his house. As the warehouse supervisor, I was responsible for checking on returned

items that were claimed to be defective. After I tested it in two different outlets, I determined the smoker was not defective and talked to my manager about it. Since the customer returned it with about 10 pounds of pellets in the hopper, my manager didn't want to put it out on display so he cut me deal to take it home as my wedding present from my aunts and uncles.

I slowly grew my experience using the pellet smoker with different meats. From ribs, to pork shoulder, to whole chickens I mastered the process of preparing each of them. I've even made a few whole turkeys for the holidays in the smoker. Then in the hunting seasons of 2018, I had my best year ever and harvested 5 deer. With the surplus of venison in my freezer, I decided I wanted to try using my pellet smoker to prepare some venison. After some research

online and taste-testing venison snacks made by some others, I decided to try making a smoked venison pepperoni. The recipe is listed below. The first batch I made, I overlooked a detail in my curing salt which had regular iodized salt mixed in with it but the curing salt in the recipe I looked up did not so it called for some extra salt to be added. So, when I took the first bite of pepperoni, I nearly choked from how salty it was! After combing through the details, I realized my mistake and decided to try making it again with some tweaks.

This time when I took a taste of the finished product, it was amazing. Since then, I have made 3 more batches of pepperoni and break it out for large gatherings and around the holidays as a finger food to be paired with cheese and crackers.

Smoked Venison Pepperoni

- 4 lb. Ground venison
- 1 lb. Ground pork
- 5 Tablespoons Morton Tender Quick curing salt
- 2 Tablespoons Paprika
- 2 Tablespoons Sugar
- 1 Tablespoon Ground Black Pepper
- 1 Tablespoon Cayenne Pepper
- 1 Cup Non-Fat Dry Milk
- 1 Teaspoon Dried Thyme
- 1 Teaspoon Dried Oregano
- 1 Teaspoon Crushed Anise Seed
- 1 Teaspoon Ground Cumin Seed
- ¼ Cup Cold Water

2 2.5"x20" Fibrous Casings

Soak casing in warm water for 20 minutes.

Mix the dry milk with cold water in a small container, add the curing salt and all the spices.

Add the spice/cure liquid to the meat in a large container. Hand mix the meat to make sure spices and cure are spread throughout.

Stuff the meat into casings. Place the stuffed casings into the fridge for 12-24 hours.

Prepare smoker by setting temperature to 225 degrees Fahrenheit and put a foil pocket with apple wood chips above the fire chamber. Place stuffed casings on smoker.

Use an internal thermometer to check the temperature of the pepperoni. Remove pepperoni from smoker when internal temperature is 155 degrees F.

Place pepperoni into an ice bath to stop the cooking process. Let sit in ice bath for at least 5 minutes. Remove and dry with paper towels.

Enjoy your venison pepperoni now or place in refrigerator to enjoy within a couple weeks. If you want to store for slightly longer, place into vacuum seal bag and seal, then place into freezer. This should stay good for at least 6 months.

The Early Files *by Peggy Finnegan*

WEEK #10 THIRTY YEARS AGO

March 7, 1996

Other than a very frosty morning, Easter Sunday was a picture perfect day.

April showers bring May flowers, as the old saying goes. We would go to the hardware store to get old wallpaper books and make May baskets, but today's youth have no idea what we are talking about.

Gerald William Pittsley, 86, passed away on March 28 at MIB Hospital.

FORTY YEARS AGO March 5, 1986

It's a quiet morning. Temperature 10 degrees. March seems to have come in like the proverbial lamb.

Pauline Smith retired from Preferred after 33 years.

Many reports of woodchucks with two actual sightings. Spring can't be far off.

EXPERIENCED MOTHER would like children to care for in her home.

FIFTY YEARS AGO March 4, 1976

Thunder and lightning accompanied the sleet storm.

Linda Ainslie is engaged to marry John Tuller.

Snow for February was 9.5" for the season 55.25".

The phone number of Warren Prentice has been changed back to the one listed in the phone book.

The Rupert Hunts reported hearing a gaggle of geese before the first of March.

SIXTY YEARS AGO March 11, 1966

Temperatures in the 50's took most of the snow. There was a bite to the wind but a bright blue sky hints at better weather to come.

Miss Jane Spurr accepted a teaching position at Norwich city school.

Many are confined to their homes by the prevailing epidemic.

Medical entomology began in 1892 with

the discovery that cattle ticks transmit Texas Cattle Fever.

WANTED by competent woman: Housework & Babysitting. Mabel Haennings

SEVENTY YEARS AGO

March 9, 1956

Residents saw a flock of geese going north and some have seen woodchucks. All are early signs of spring.

Rock Swayer installed a colored TV in his home and is receiving a good picture. In 1947 Mr. Swayer built the first B&W set in this section.

Early fears that DDT would destroy too many bees have been eliminated.

Two men were injured when their plane crashed in a field near Burlington Flats. A toboggan was needed to get them to an ambulance.

PLEASE drive carefully. The life you save may be my own.

EIGHTY YEARS AGO

March 6, 1946

Miss Martha Benson stars in the great temperance play "Ten Nights in a Barroom." A promising actress, she is remembered for her brilliant performance in "Gammer Gurton's Needle" last year.

Harry Rhubarb purchased the Roloson farm, except for the bungalow and five acres, which were purchased by Olive Utter, and the gravel bank, bought by Walter Bagg.

The escort carrier Chenango, after a stretch of service as a Navy oiler, took part in eleven actions from North Africa to the Pacific.

NINETY YEARS AGO

March 5, 1936

The backbone of winter is bending, if not broken. Now comes March with all its freaks of wind and weather.

Funds for initial work on development of a Delaware River water supply are included in New York City's capital outlay budget, Mayor

LaGuardia disclosed.

Mail carrier Austin Strait says that old Dobbin hasn't entirely lost his usefulness on impassable roads.

As men on the Lee Page farm drove the team and sleigh into the barn, the floor gave way and all landed in the basement, some surprised but undamaged.

Lula Camp received a letter from Colorado telling of the terrible dust storm there.

New York farmland was reduced by 4,920,000 acres from 1880 to 1930.

HUNDRED YEARS AGO

March 5, 1926

The Volstead Act is receiving a good deal of discussion. The use of intoxicants is an absolute waste with no benefit whatever to anyone.

Hubert Vail is sick with the grippe. Dr. Hammond attends.

Unless all signs fail, this will be the year in which the American people fall into the hands of the monopolies.

To entitle any person to vote in a village election, he or she must own property in the village.

UV trains stalled on the ice which covered the tracks in Scott's Cut near Bridgewater. An O&W train which went to the rescue also got stuck, but with difficulty finally reached the ice-bound UV train.

The WCTU will meet at the home of Mrs. Harry Bagg. All are earnestly urged to be present. Social hour to follow.

Ward Robinson is in northern New York adjusting fire losses.

C.A. Hawkins would like to know who wants a house in New Berlin for less than \$1,000.

110 YEARS AGO March 4, 1916

Fighting at Verdun continues furiously... and the result is still in the balance. Germany claims capture of 17,000 French prisoners.

The Sherburne mail carrier did not reach Columbus on account

of the storm.

George Hill killed ten rats with one charge of shot at the slaughterhouse below Sherburne.

Charles Kinney is seriously ill with Bright's disease.

Within a year three divorced couples in Oxford have remarried, a record that other towns cannot show but should make an attempt to. Oxford Times

Little Mildred Axtell, daughter of Charles Axtell, is improving having, had pneumonia. Mrs. Austin and Mrs. Arnold are nurses.

Within the eight Indian reservations in the state there is a permanent redskin population of 4,845 as compared to 5,006 in 1905.

Several families are on the move. Clarence Dresser having sold his farm goes to Leonardsville. Frank Matterson to Clarence Cheesebrough's farm on the turnpike, Mert Maine to Mrs. Emma Lamb's farm, Arthur Myers to one of Waldo Page's tenant houses, Harold Bice will work for Calvin Lloyd and live in part of his house, and T.A. Page to New Berlin.

Our school is not keeping this week on account of the illness of the teacher, Mrs. Archie Bingham.

On account of the rain, only a few from here attended the social at Maude Spurr's.

"Experience is de best teacher," said Uncle Eben, "but gittin' arrested ain't no way to study law."

Chas. Sweet carried a load of pleasure-seekers up to the movies.

A.H. Button, buyer of raw furs, bought of Nathan Katsun 2,500 skunks and 6,500 rats, for which he paid \$7,862.78.

"Little Sir Galahad" by Gray has been added to the [New Berlin] free library.

WANTED: Errand boy and twelve girls to learn to weave at Rossville Silk Mill. Must be 16 years or over.

Obituary

JANETTE E. GOULD

Janette Gould, a cherished sister and aunt, passed away on February 25, 2026, at the age of 85 following a brief illness. Born on April 3, 1940 in Clayville, NY, Janette led a life filled with love, faith, and an unwavering commitment to her family and friends.

Janette proudly graduated from New Berlin Central School in 1958, cherishing the many close friendships she formed during her time there. The bonds she built remained vital throughout her life, as she enjoyed attending class reunions and kept in close contact with many of her high school friends.

Her professional journey began as a waitress at the Deerpath Restaurant, which she spoke of frequently in the years after, remembering the job and the people fondly. She later worked at Norwich Eaton Pharmaceuticals for over 25 years, the place where she met her beloved husband, Erlo Gould, whom she married on June 30th, 1984. Together, they shared a life filled with love adventure, especially during their retirement, when they traveled together. Janette was known as "The Cooking Lady." Renowned for her delightful meals and baked goods, she seemed to have a cookie recipe for every occasion. She generously shared her culinary talents, baking for Valley Heights Christian Academy and famously hosting Sunday Night Pizza gatherings open to all before evening church services. Her special recipes, particularly her macaroni and cheese, will be remembered by all who had the pleasure of enjoying them.

A lifelong member of First Baptist Church in New Berlin, Janette served as treasurer for many years and took great joy in keeping accurate records. Her contributions to the church extended beyond the numbers, as she participated in the choir for many years and was an active member of the JOY club. Strong in her faith, Janette was always quick to lend a helping hand and check in with family and friends.

Janette's family, including her sister Victoria (James) O'Brien and many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews, held a significant place in her heart. She was famously known for never forgetting a birthday or anniversary, and took the time to send cards for every occasion.

Janette is predeceased by her husband, Erlo Gould, her parents, Roy B. Jones and Lois Jones (Kingsley), and her siblings: Ira (Dorothy) Jones, Irma (Guy) Paddock, Louella (Paul) Elder, Marie (Arleigh) Hoyt, Myron (Barbara) Jones, Clifford (Judy) Jones, Julia (Paul) Curtis, and Joy Beaching.

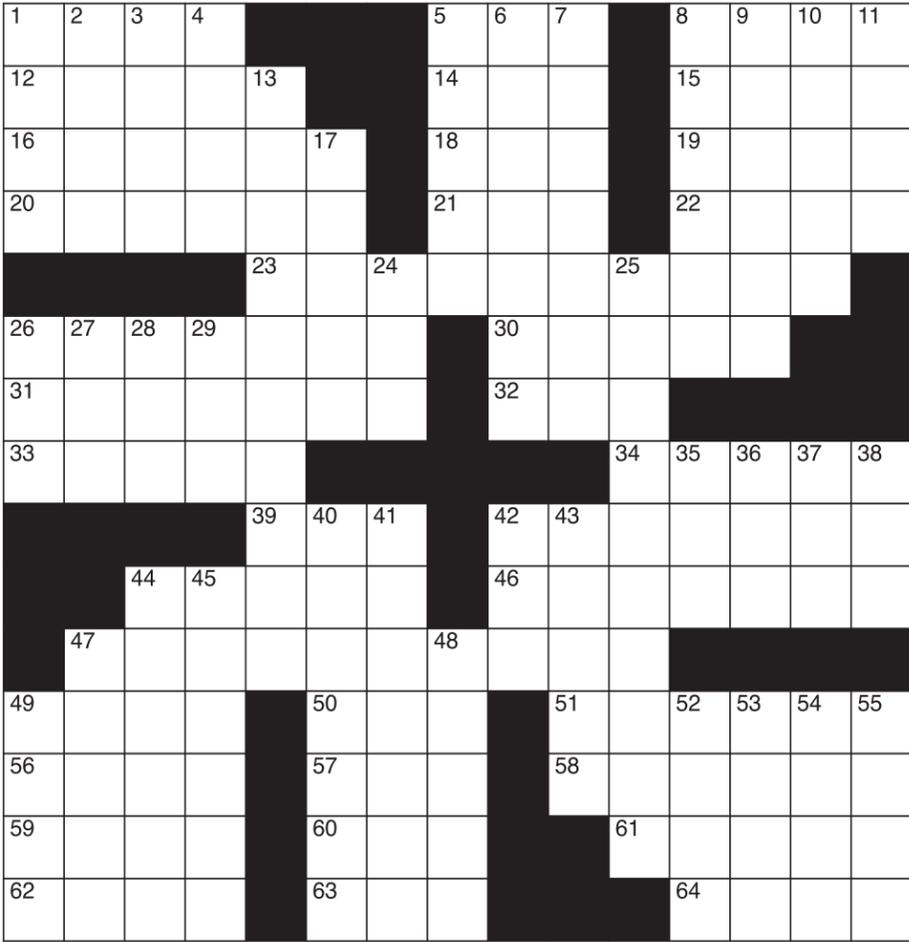
Janette's family extends a special thanks to the staff at Willow Point Rehab and Nursing Center, where Janette resided for the past three years, and to Wilson Memorial Hospital for their compassionate care.

Calling hours will be held on March 6, 2026, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Dakin Funeral Home, located at 17 N. Main St., New Berlin, NY 13411. A funeral service will take place the following day, March 7, 2026, at 11:00 AM, also at Dakin Funeral Home, officiated by Pastor Dan Baltich. A meal will be held at the First Baptist Church in New Berlin following the service.

Janette Gould will be deeply missed by those who knew her, and her legacy of kindness, strength, and faith will continue to inspire all who had the privilege of calling her a friend and family member.

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THE GAZETTE

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Unit of dry measure
- 5. One who defies authority
- 8. Social media giant
- 12. Render holy
- 14. "Much ___ about nothing"
- 15. Computer manufacturer
- 16. Creed
- 18. Immoral act
- 19. Mountain pass
- 20. Winged nut
- 21. Don't know when yet
- 22. Elected officials
- 23. Corrupt tendencies
- 26. Popular adult beverage
- 30. Made a mistake
- 31. Morally correct
- 32. Type of whale
- 33. Portable conical tent
- 34. Native people of the Congo

- 39. More (Spanish)
- 42. Classroom implements
- 44. Cognizant of
- 46. One who tells
- 47. Free from bondage
- 49. Thick piece of something
- 50. Containing two adjacent nitrogen atoms
- 51. Removed from the record
- 56. Legendary singer Turner
- 57. Broke up the earth
- 58. Hunting expedition
- 59. Contributes
- 60. Unit of work or energy
- 61. Wreckage on the sea bed
- 62. Affirmative! (slang)
- 63. Witness
- 64. Scrape (Archaic)

CLUES DOWN

- 1. "___ and flows"
- 2. Humble request for help
- 3. A position of leadership
- 4. Continent
- 5. Adherent of a particular religion
- 6. Things that can be eaten
- 7. Self-governing Netherlands territory
- 8. Long-tailed crow
- 9. Repeated
- 10. Bluish greens
- 11. Humanities
- 13. Someone who serves in the armed forces
- 17. Labor (Spanish)
- 24. Zero
- 25. Shared by involving three parties
- 26. Queens ballplayer
- 27. Consumed
- 28. Rest here please

- 29. Men's fashion accessory
- 35. American time
- 36. Sound unit
- 37. They ___
- 38. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 40. Places to play video games
- 41. A sudden attack of illness
- 42. When you hope to arrive
- 43. Charges
- 44. Actress Seyfried
- 45. A tributary of the Ohio River
- 47. Omit when speaking
- 48. Armored fish
- 49. Remain
- 52. From a distance
- 53. Adventure story
- 54. Geological times
- 55. Eat dinner

WORD SEARCH

NUTRITION WORD SEARCH



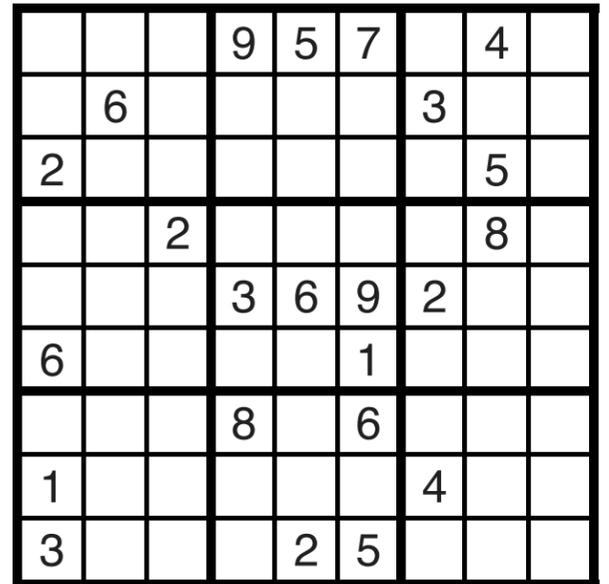
Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

- AMINO ACIDS
- ANTIOXIDANTS
- BASAL
- BIOAVAILABILITY
- CALORIES
- CARBOHYDRATES
- CELLS
- DIETARY
- ELECTROLYTES
- ENERGY
- ENRICHMENT
- FATTY ACIDS
- FIBER
- FORTIFICATION
- GLYCEMIC INDEX
- IRON
- LIPIDS
- MACRONUTRIENTS
- METABOLISM
- MICRONUTRIENTS
- PROBIOTICS
- PROTEIN
- SATIETY
- VITAMINS

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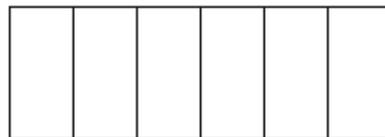


Level: Intermediate

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to nutrition.

G D S E I T



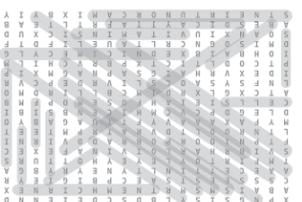
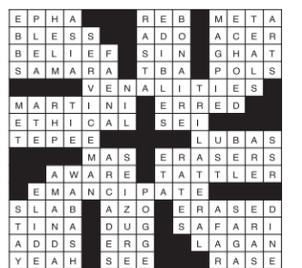
Answer: Digest

GUESS WHO ?

I am an actress born in Ohio on March 4, 1958. I studied drama at Ohio State University and made my TV debut in the series "Alien Nation." I am best known as the wife of a sports columnist trying to navigate living across the street from her in-laws.

Answer: Patricia Heaton

Solutions:



B-G boys and UV girls come away with Section IV Bowling titles

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

VESTAL — Following the MAC Championships, all local Chenango County bowling teams traveled to Midway Lanes in Vestal for the Section IV Championships.

After winning the MAC, the Bainbridge Guilford boys and the UV girls came away with Sectional titles!

Bainbridge-Guilford, UV, and Afton/Harpursville all represented Class D, where the boys finished in that same order. The B-G boys won the Section IV, Class D for the first time in 40 years. Congratulations!

The Oxford/Greene boys finished sixth in Class C with a total of 2426 points.

The UV Storm girls won the Class D title with a total score of 2254 points. B-G finished fourth with 1781 points as Afton/Harpursville took fifth with 1638 points.

The Oxford/Greene girls took third in Class C with 2339 points.

Great job, everyone and good luck to those going to the State Qualifiers.

BOYS:

B-G:

B-G's Ryan Larsen

came away with the win in the Class D series overall with a 649 with teammate Ethan Beardslee took second with a 625 series. John Leizar rolled a 555 series with a 209 as his high game.

Andrew Ireland bowled two game and finished with a 341 series as Aayden Ireland rolled a 138 and a 194 to have a 332 series. Camren Cuozzo bowled a 182 and a 121 to finish with a 303 series.

UV:

UV's Teagin Eccleston earned the victory in high game with a 236 for Class D as teammate Zach Dutcher took third for the high series with a 603.

Teagin Eccleston led the Storm boys with a 648 series with all 203 or better games.

Dutcher rolled a 188, 202, and a 213 to finish with a 603 series as Landin Eccleston finished with a 562 series and Brayden Prentice with a 525 series. Gavyn Bass rounded out the Storm scores with a 431 series.

A/H:

Nick Farnham led the Afton/Harpursville boys with a 589 series, including a high game of a 203.

Max DiRosa added a 535 series while teammate Jordan Truman rolled a 507 series.

Braedyn Barton finished with a 496 series as Brayden Holden had a 471 series.

O-G:

Aiden Carter led the team with a 539 series with a high game of a 190. Logan Anderson rolled a 515 series while Max Drazen had the team's highest game of the day with a 198 and finished with a 514 series.

Logan Roth added a 446 series as Orion Lamén and Caden Smith split time on the lanes.

Lamén bowled two games with a 117 and a 123 to finish with a 240 series as Smith rolled a 172 series.

GIRLS:

UV:

Layla Stevens led the Storm girls with a high series of a 504 with Amelia Beckwith in second with a 476 series and Kylie Menard in third with a 465 series. Natalie Smith finished sixth in the high game with a 174.

Stevens also led the team with a high game of a 210 as Sarina Bell added a 369 series.

O-G:

Cassidy Johns rolled a 526 series to lead the Oxford/Greene girls while the rest of the team finished with a 422 series or better. Danica Fowlston led the team



Congratulations to the Unadilla Valley Storm girls' bowling team on winning the 2025-26 Section IV, Class C title! (Submitted photo)



Congratulations to the Bainbridge-Guilford Bobcats boys' bowling team on winning the 2025-26 Section IV, Class D title! (Submitted photo)

with a high game of a 200 and finished with a 493 series.

Shynia Valmy added a 452 series while Melana Gregware finished with a 446 series and Abby Roth with a 422 series.

B-G:

Tabitha Doyle led the Bobcats with a 419 series

with a high game of a 159.

Bailey Donnelly added a 363 series while Sophie Gold rolled a 361 series.

Kelly Hubbard finished with a 347 series as Carleigh Henchey had a 291 series.

A/H:

Piper Harder led the

team with a 412 series

and a high game of a 155 as Morgan Crosby rolled a 356 series.

Madilyn Hauptmann added a 318 series while Pierce Hanson rolled a 310 series and Abi Banks

with a 242 series.

Norwich's Beckwith and S-E's Telesky return home as NYS Wrestling champions

Continued from page 1 ►

utes remaining in his second varsity wrestling season, Drew turned everything around in 60 seconds with a seven-point sequence. Three takedown points and four more for an ensuing near fall gave Drew an 8-5 lead, just enough to overcome a late Duryea escape and a penalty point for stalling as time expired. An official then made it official, raising Drew's right arm and parading the 14-year-old around the mat while a throng of S-E fans cheered."

Unatego-UV had two place finishers out of four wrestlers the Spartans brought to states.

Both Gavin Nordberg and Yanni Drapaniotis both finished third in

their respective weight classes. Nordberg, a junior, won the first two matches after a bye with a 12-2 major decision and a 1:52 pin before falling in a 7-0 decision.

Nordberg then won his final two matches in a 10-5 decision and in a 2:31 pin to take third place.

Drapaniotis competed in the 190 weight class, where he won back-to-back matches by pin, including a 1:18 pin in the first round. However, he fell in his next match in a close 6-5 decision before fighting back with a 1:44 pin. He took third in an overtime match-up with a 6-3 decision to finish out his High School wrestling career.

Sava Gonopolskiy went 1-3 in the 103



S-E teammates Freddy Smith (L) and Drew Telesky (R) compete against each other at States in the 103 pound weight class. Telesky won the match, as well as states, as Smith took fifth overall. (Photo by Dean Russin, DCMO BOCES)

weight class, where the Freshman's lone win came by a 17-0 tech fall in the consolation round.

Nolan Boyles competed in the 215 weight class, where the senior went 1-2 in his final tournament, with his only win in a 2:49 pin in the first round.

Oxford-Greene brought three wrestlers to states, where Donte Wrench did not place as he went 0-2 at 285 pounds with two losses by pin, including the first round match, where he was up 5-4 but fell in a 2:38 pin.

Kade Mustin competed in the 132 weight class. Mustin fell in a 4-3 decision in the first match before coming back with a 19-3 tech fall win and then a 1:41

pin. However, Mustin fell in the fourth round of the consolations in a 4-1 decision to end his season.

Troy Braman wrapped up his final wrestling season with a 3-2 record in the 157 weight class, where he won by a 15-0 tech fall before falling by a 3:48 pin. He came back and won in a 9-2 decision and a 10-2 decision before his season ended in a 4:14 pin.

Congratulations to all wrestlers on a great 2025-26 season and best of luck to all the seniors.

Serve, smash and celebrate Pi Day at the Pathfinder Village Pickleball Open on March 14

EDMESTON - Pickleball Pi, anyone?

The second annual Pathfinder Village Pickleball Open is set for Pi Day, Saturday, March 14 at The Clark Sports Center in Cooperstown, starting at 8 a.m. This indoor tournament promises to promote fair play, fun and friendships for newcomers and seasoned players alike.

Play will be organized into two flights and will feature round-robin matches. Proceeds will support Pathfinder's latest project, The Farmstead Market and Community Center. This exciting, sustainably designed and constructed building will open in late 2026, repurposing a 19th-century farmstead into a public community center and a full-time fresh foods market, retail store, and a culinary arts training kitchen that will serve grab-and-go foods. The Center will also host hands-on learning and



Join the excitement of the second annual Pathfinder Village Pickleball Open, held at The Clark Sports Center, Cooperstown on Pi Day, Saturday, March 14, 2026. Registration is open for this indoor event that features round robin play and supports Pathfinder's new Farmstead Market and Community Center, set to open later this year. 2025 Flight B winners and runners-up—Diana Kull, Lou Allstadt, Karen Kane, and Alberto Gaitan—are congratulated by Pathfinder Village ambassador Todd Wratten during last year's trophy presentation. (Submitted photo)

classroom training opportunities to support Pathfinder's pre-vocational and community employment programs for adults with Down syndrome and other intellectual disabilities. The new Center will also feature outdoor recreation spaces, including a

native plant meadow, sculpture spaces, and community pickleball courts.

Registration for the Pickleball Open is online at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2026-pathfinder-village-pickleball-open>. The \$150 registration fee includes

a grab-and-go breakfast, a bag lunch, an event tee, and prizes for the winning brackets. Players should bring their favorite rackets, wear suitable footwear, and are expected to follow The Clark Sports Center's Rules of Court Etiquette. In case of inclement weather,

play will take place the following day.

During the lunch break, Pathfinder Village athletes will play exhibition matches, underscoring that pickleball is among the fastest growing sports today, as it is easy to learn, community-driven, and can be played by athletes of all abilities and ages.

The 2026 Pickleball Open is supported by sponsored NYCM, Hughson & Benson Associates Insurance, and The Clark Sports Center. This Open was inspired by its sister event, the Pathfinder Village Tennis Classic, which has raised nearly \$300,000 to support the Village Foundation's Scholarship Endowment. This fund helps Village residents and students with tuition and fees and allows them to continue their paths of growth and independence at Pathfinder's world-renowned community.

About Pathfinder

Village: Pathfinder Village is an internationally respected, livable community in upstate New York and was founded in 1980 to provide people living with Down syndrome and related disabilities with an independent, engaging, and fulfilling lifestyle. The Village offers successful educational and pre-vocational programs, including its post-secondary program, Otsego Academy, and its community-based day services for regional residents. The Village also offers quality services and supports for older persons with intellectual disabilities. To learn more about Pathfinder Village, please call (607) 965-8377, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., visit the website at pathfindervillage.org, or visit our social media on Facebook and Instagram.

- Information from Pathfinder Village

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B-G girls earn trip to Section IV, Class C semis with big win over END

BY MORGAN GOLLIVER
GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

BAINBRIDGE — After defeating Greene in the first round, the Bainbridge-Guilford Bobcats girls' basketball team stayed home to face the sixth-seed Elmira Notre Dame on Friday night. B-G came away with a big 67-36 victory at home.

The Bobcats added 22 points in the second quarter and then kept the momentum going in the third with 21 points to dominate the boards and also held END to just four players contributing on offense.

Jayslin Henderson led the Bobcats with a double-double, where she had a team-high 17 points and 10 rebounds, along with three assists, and three steals. She went off with nine points in the first quarter.

Marissa Mayo added



14 points with seven rebounds, three steals, and two assists while also going three-for-three at the free-throw line.

The Bobcats overall went seven-for-11 at the line.

Jalyn Winans netted 10 points, along with six rebound and two assists.

Tori Suda added nine points within the second and third quarters to help with offensive efforts while also having four rebounds and two steals.

Emma Kinter hit two three's in the second quarter for six

points and also had five rebounds and three assists.

Kamry Patten had four points and also added five rebounds while Keelan Ammon finished with three points and eighth grader Madisyn Larsen added a bucket in the fourth quarter, along with senior Peyton Umbra, who had two points in the first quarter.

B-G will play visitor to second seeded Union Springs, who knocked off both Harpursville and Unatego, at TC3 on Tuesday at 7:45 p.m., following the Delhi/Moravia game at 6 p.m.

All four teams have a chance to return to TC3 on Saturday at 2 p.m. for the Section IV, Class C finals.

Admission will be charged through GOFAN Digital Ticketing. Good luck, Bobcats.

New Berlin Library Corner

Gnome paint brush family craft class

NEW BERLIN - Families gathered at the New Berlin Library for a whimsical, family-friendly craft class where participants created adorable gnome paint brush ornaments.

The instructor guided participants step-by-step as they created their own charming gnome masterpieces to take home. The gnomes were created using 3-inch paint brushes. Participants painted the gnomes' hat on the handle of the paint brush and the beard on the ferrule and bristles.

Wooden hearts, felt, ribbon, snowflakes, jewels and flowers were available to decorate the gnomes' hats. The class was perfect for kids and adults of all skill levels, and all supplies were provided. It was a fun, creative experience that brought families together for a night of art and imagination.

This art class is part of a broader lineup of library events planned for 2026, including concerts, classes, and community programs. In the

coming months there will be a St. Patrick's Day children's activity, an adult painting class, a Chase Nursing Home outreach art class, a children's egg hunt, participation at Unadilla Valley Central School's Family Night, and a family bunny flower pot craft class. Interested participants can register by visiting the library in person or calling the library's circulation desk.

The New Berlin Library Annual Egg Hunt and spring party will be on Saturday, March 28, at 1 p.m. and is sponsored by the New Berlin Art Forum. During this year's egg hunt children will be given colorful totes, bunny ears, and printed instructions upon arrival at the egg hunt. The instructions will outline how many eggs and other items each child will be allowed to find as well as listing the other party activities. In addition to the egg hunt, there will be a balloon twister creating balloon animals, flowers and swords. There will

be games, prizes, snacks, and a craft activity.

The Egg Hunt is open to the public but registration is required to attend the event. Call, message, or stop into the library to register. The child's name, age, and a contact number required to register.

For more information, community members can contact the library directly at 607.847.8564 or visit the library during regular business hours.

The New Berlin Library is holding a jellybean guessing contest. The public is invited to guess how many jellybeans are in a jar. The person who guesses the closest wins the jar of jellybeans and a goodie filled basket. If more than one person guesses correctly, the winner will be randomly drawn between the correct answers. The winner will be announced on Friday, March 27. All items in this prize basket were donated to the New Berlin Library. This contest is free and open to the public.

New Berlin Library

Board will be meeting on March 25 at 6pm. These meetings are open to the public. Minutes are posted on the New Berlin Library website.

Some great new additions to the library include: *The Crossroads* (A Joe Pickett Novel) by C.J. Box, *Because of a Shoe* by Julie Fogliano, and *Jim Henson's Labyrinth: The ABC Storybook* by Luke Flowers.

The New Berlin Library is located at 15 South Main Street, New Berlin. The Library is open Monday and Wednesday 10AM-8PM; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10AM-5PM; and Saturdays 10AM-noon. The web address is <http://libraries.4cls.org/newberlin/>. Please contact us at 607.847.8564 or like and message our Facebook page New Berlin Library and Museum (www.facebook.com/newberlinlibrary.newberlinny) with any questions.

- From the New Berlin Library





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NOTICE FOR SEALED BIDS

The Burlington Flats Cemetery Association is seeking sealed bids for General Cemetery maintenance and duties. Bids are for the April 1, 2026, through October 31, 2026, season.

Duties included but not limited to are, mowing and trimming the cemetery grounds. Leaf removal at the end of the season. Supervising the opening of graves for burial or cremation. Locating and prepping the site before and after the service. Should be available to accept the burial remains and accept all necessary paperwork at the time of the service. Preparing foundations for Memorial marker placement. General cleaning up of wasted flowers and containers.

Bidders will need to own and maintain their own equipment. The Cemetery Association does not provide any tools or equipment.

Bidders should submit proof of Liability Insurance with a minimum limit of \$300,000.00.

Businesses submitting a bid should also provide proof of NYS approved workers compensation insurance. Self-employed bidders are encouraged to have personal health insurance. The Cemetery Association shall not be held responsible for any injury to any person completing the required duties.

Send completed bids to the Burlington Flats Cemetery Association, PO Box 53, Burlington Flats NY 13315. All bids shall be received on or prior to March 11, 2026. Any questions you may call 315-729-5537.

Ryan Clan, Local Irish Band. to perform at Bainbridge Town Hall Theatre

BAINBRIDGE - Join us on Saturday, March 7 at 7 p.m. at the Bainbridge Town Hall Theatre to enjoy an evening of authentic Irish music performed by the Ryan Clan.

The six-member band is known throughout the southern tier as an upbeat, high energy, foot stomping, hand clapping, family band, performing authentic Irish music. Whether young or old, the Ryan Clan motivates their audience into full-fledged Irish delirium. If you aren't Irish, you'll wish you were by the end of their performance.

The band members are all related and have been performing together for more than two decades.



On Saturday, March 7 at 7 p.m. at the Bainbridge Town Hall Theatre to enjoy an evening of authentic Irish music performed by the Ryan Clan. Back row left to right Tom Ryan and Patrick Ryan. Front row left to right Bill Scranton, Dan Ryan and Frank (Ryan) Revoir. (Submitted photo)

The band currently consists of brothers Dan, Tom and Pat; cousin

Frank; brother-in-law Bill, and the band's newest and youngest mem-

ber, Brennan - who is Tom's son.

In addition, there's

always a special treat when you come to musical events at the Town Hall Theatre. Before the show, enjoy music played on the theatre's residence organ built in 1933 and one of only five Æolian/Skinner residence organs ever built for upstate New York, and the only one known to be intact and in playable condition. Popcorn, popped with real butter in their vintage 1940's popcorn machine, is available, as well as home baked goods, freshly brewed coffee, soda and bottled water.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and all performances are open seating. Tickets are available at the door or you may reserve a ticket ahead by calling 607-

288-3882. For further information or to see future events visit www.jerichoarts.com.

In the art gallery that evening is the Student Art Showcase. The 18th annual Area Student Art Showcase includes the works of exceptional art students. Please come and enjoy the fantastic works of these very talented young people. Participating Schools include Bainbridge/Guilford, Afton, Sidney, Greene, Gilbertsville/Mount Upton and Unatego. The gallery is open at 6 pm before the show through intermission and is free to the public.

- Information from JAC

EOH: The U.S. Navy Band, The Sea Chanters, a free concert celebrating America's 250th anniversary

EARLVILLE - The United States Navy Band Sea Chanters chorus will perform a free concert March 11 at 7p.m. at the Earlville Opera House, 18 East Main Street, Earlville. All U.S. Navy Band performances are free and open to the public, although this concert requires ticket reservations. For the most up-to-date ticket information, visit the Navy Band's website at www.navyband.navy.mil or www.earlvilleoperahouse.com

This concert has something for everyone to enjoy, especially veterans, families, individuals and those interested in joining the Navy. The show will feature music honoring the 250th birthday of the United States such as patriotic selections, traditional sea chanties and feel-good classics by Stevie Wonder, the Andrews Sisters, a Motown medley, as well as contemporary favorites.

The U.S. Navy Band Sea Chanters is the official chorus of America's Navy. The ensemble performs a variety of music ranging from traditional choral music, including sea chanteys and patriotic fare, to opera,



The United States Navy Band Sea Chanters chorus will perform a free concert March 11 at 7 p.m. at the Earlville Opera House, 18 East Main Street, Earlville. (Submitted photo)

Broadway and contemporary music. The Sea Chanters chorus is frequently found at the center of high-profile national events. At home in Washington, D.C., the group performs for the president, vice president, and numerous congressional, military and foreign dignitaries.

One of the U.S. Navy Band's primary responsibilities involves touring the country. All the band's primary performing units embark each

year on concert tours throughout specified regions of the country, allowing the band to reach audiences in areas of the country that do not have opportunities to see the Navy's premier musical ensembles on a regular basis.

As stated by Captain Robert "Seph" Coats, commanding officer of the U.S. Navy Band, "Touring the nation and performing concerts means connecting with communities and telling

the great stories of our Sailors working around the globe to keep us safe and free."

The U.S. Navy Band is the flagship musical organization of the Navy and one of 11 Navy bands located around the world.

The U.S. Navy Band is based at the Washington Navy Yard in Washington, D.C.

The Navy Band has been touring the country since 1925.

There are six perform-

ing ensembles in the Navy Band: the Concert Band, Ceremonial Band, Sea Chanters chorus, Commodores jazz ensemble, Country Current country/bluegrass ensemble and the Cruisers popular music group.

Ensembles from the Navy Band tour nationally 12-15 weeks each year. Sailors in the Navy Band are full-time professional musicians.

Almost all of the Sailors in the Navy

Band have undergraduate degrees in music, and most have graduate degrees.

Tickets are available at www.earlvilleoperahouse.com or by calling (315) 691-3550. You must have a ticket to attend. The Arts Café opens at 6pm for sweet treats and beverages, cash only. NOTE: Large bags are not permitted inside the concert venue.

Earlville Opera House Arts Center is located at 18 East Main Street in the quaint Village of Earlville, NY. At EOH we believe accessibility and inclusion are critical to everything we do. Our historic Opera House has been upgraded to ensure accessibility throughout the building, including a hearing loop system in our 1892 theater provided by Hamilton Hearing LLC. EOH events are made possible in part by the New York State Council on the Arts with support from the Office of the Governor and NYS Legislature, and through the generosity of EOH members.

- Information from the EOH

William C. Craine Elected Board Chairman of Preferred Mutual Insurance Company

NEW BERLIN — Preferred Mutual Insurance Company announced that William C. Craine has been elected Chairman of the company's Board of Directors. Craine succeeds John C. Mitchell, who is stepping down from the role of Chairman and will continue to serve on the board.

Craine has served on Preferred Mutual's Board of Supervisors since 1978, including previous roles as Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee and Chair of the Audit Committee. He brings decades of leadership experience across insurance, financial services, logistics, and public service, along with deep familiarity with Preferred Mutual's mutual structure and long-term mission.

In addition to his role with Preferred Mutual, Craine currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Audit Committee



William C. Craine (left) has been elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of Preferred Mutual Insurance Company. Craine succeeds John C. Mitchell (right), who is stepping down from the role of Chairman and will continue to serve on the board. (Submitted photo)

for Willow Run Foods, a regional logistics and food distribution company. His past board leadership includes service as Chairman of multiple financial institutions and nonprofit organizations, as well as extensive experience in governance,

audit, and financial oversight.

"Preferred Mutual has a long history of serving policyholders, agency partners, and the communities we call home," said Craine. "I am honored to step into the role of Chairman and to con-

tinue working alongside my fellow board members and the leadership team to support the company's mission and long-term strength."

Craine also served as Treasurer and Budget Officer for Chenango County, where he was

elected to the role three times and led the county to a debt-free position while earning consistent top-tier fiscal ratings among New York counties. Earlier in his career, he held executive leadership roles within the insurance industry, including helping to build The Mang Group into one of the largest independent insurance agencies in the United States.

"Bill's long-standing commitment to Preferred Mutual, combined with his experience as a board chairman and financial leader, make him exceptionally well suited to serve in this role," said Mitchell. "His institutional knowledge, steady leadership style, and focus on governance will be valuable as the company continues to position itself for long-term success."

Craine holds an MBA in Finance from Rutgers University and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Carleton College. He has com-

pleted advanced board leadership and governance programs through the American College of Corporate Directors, Harvard Business School, and Vanderbilt University.

Preferred Mutual Insurance Company provides property and casualty insurance coverage to individual and business customers through a network of independent agents located throughout New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. In business since 1896, Preferred Mutual is headquartered in New Berlin, New York. The company has maintained a Financial Strength Rating (FSR) of 'A' (Excellent) with a 'Stable' outlook by AM Best for 23 consecutive years and was recognized as a Top Workplaces USA award recipient in 2024 and 2025. Learn more at www.preferredmutual.com.

— Information from Preferred Mutual Insurance Company

Shortcuts[®]

by jeff harris

Tracking Down The Coyote

Coyote Ugly?
Coyotes look similar to wolves, except coyotes are smaller and have larger ears and narrower snouts.

Coyotes that live in cooler northern areas are generally larger than coyotes that live in Mexico or Central America.

The Wild Life
Wild coyotes are found throughout North America and as far south as Southern Mexico and Central America.

Coyotes sometimes team up with badgers by working together to dig up and capture prey.

The average coyote is about the size of a large dog.

The scientific name for coyotes is Latin for "barking dog."

What is a coyote's favorite holiday?
Howl-oween.

What do you get when you cross a coyote with a small, green Jedi?
Coyoda.

Paws For The Cause
Can you help this coyote pup find his mom?

This edition of Shortcuts is sponsored by Thurston Howl III.

I've adapted rather well to life on Gilligan's Island.

Coyotes feed mainly on small mammals, such as rabbits, mice, squirrels and prairie dogs, but they will also prey on larger animals, such as goats and sheep. When food is scarce, they will also eat insects, lizards and berries.

Coyote attacks on humans are rare, but have increased over the past 50 years. Most coyotes will not hesitate to attack and kill small household pets.

Coyotes are one of the most vocal animals in North America. Coyotes create a variety of sounds that are used to communicate with other coyotes.

Coyotes tend to choose a single mate and usually stay with that mate for life.

Coyotes often appear as tricksters in Native American folklore.

Knock, knock. Who's there? Howl. Howl, who? How will I get inside if you don't open the door?

What do you get when you cross a coyote with an American pop artist? Andy WarHowl.

This cartoon will never adapt.

Word Search
Can you find the hidden words? Search carefully because some words are backward or diagonal.

T	R	I	C	K	S	T	E	R	A	D	A	P	T	S
C	E	N	T	R	A	L	S	H	E	E	P	P	R	E
A	M	E	R	I	C	A	G	O	A	T	D	O	G	
C	O	Y	O	T	E	B	A	R	K	B	O	B		
B	A	D	G	E	R	W	O	L	F	E	A	T		
M	E	X	I	C	O	M	A	T	E	D	I	G		
M	A	R	B	L	E	S	F	O	R	F	U	N		
S	C	R	A	M	A	T	H	E	A	D	D	S		
B	I	B	R	A	T	R	T	E	N	T	A	P		
B	R	A	K	E	S	T	E	E	P	A	N			
F	E	D	O	O	K	I	L	N	A	P	E	N		
O	M	G	A	C	E	O	D	W	E	B	U	T		
P	A	E	I	I	E	T	O	Y	O	C	A	P		
Y	E	R	P	X	O	L	G	B	D	O	E	A		
S	T	A	T	E	F	R	I	P	G	T	O	D		
G	E	T	A	M	O	O	D	O	S	E	A			