

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of New York

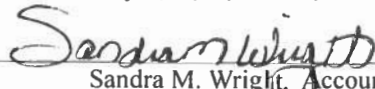
County of Chautauqua

City of Dunkirk

I, Sandra M. Wright, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the Principal Clerk for Ogden Newspapers of New York, Inc. the publisher of The OBSERVER, a daily newspaper published in the City of Dunkirk, Chautauqua County, State of New York, and that a notice of which the annexed is a printed copy, was inserted and published in said newspaper on the following

Date(s): July 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2025

ERIN HARRISON
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01HA6210883
Qualified in Chautauqua County
My Commission Expires Dec. 21, 2025


Sandra M. Wright, Account Clerk
Signed before me this 1st day of August 2025


Notary Public

PUBLIC NOTICE

PSC No. 87 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service
PSC No. 88 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Transportation Service
PSC No. 90 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service
PSC No. 119 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service
PSC No. 120 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service
PSC No. 121 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

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The PSC is required to render a decision within 11 months.

LOCAL/COMMUNITY NEWS

Community notebook

Cemetery group meets today

The Willowbrook Park Cemetery monthly meeting will be today at 7 p.m. at the Mackowiak Funeral Home in Dunkirk. All are welcome.

Ripley School Board To meet

RIPLEY—The reorganizational meeting of the Board of Education of the Ripley Central School District, followed immediately by the regular board meeting, will be held on Wednesday, July 9 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 119 of the Ripley Central School.

Hands-On-History camp planned

BUSTI — The Busti Historical Society, the home of the late September Apple Festival, will be holding two summer camps for children in grades one to three and four to six.

The camps are called

Hands-On-History camp. Students in grades first through third grade will meet the week of July 14 to 18 from 9 a.m. to noon, followed by a similar camp the next week for fourth to sixth grade students, July 20-24, again 9 a.m. to noon.

The camps will be held at the Busti Historical Society grounds on Lawson Rd, south of Jamestown. The students will learn how the 1839 restored grist mill works, how grain becomes flour, and why the mill was so important to the people of the Busti hamlet. The students will also tour the Busti museum, the restored miller's house, make historic inspired crafts, play period appropriate games, and learn about life in the mid-1800s."

Details are available at www.busti-historical-society.weebly.com. The camp is by reservation only. Reservations are due by

July 17. The fee for each camper is \$150 per week. Applications are available by emailing bustihistorical.edu@gmail.com or calling 716-483-3670.

Health Board to meet Thursday

MAYVILLE — The Chautauqua County Board of Health will hold their quarterly meeting on Thursday at 6 p.m. in the HRC Building, Fourth Floor Conference Room, 7 N. Erie St. in Mayville.

Comments received from the public will be accepted as communications, and not read during privilege of the floor. Public comments at the meetings during the privilege of the floor must be made in person.

Members of the public may view the meeting live via the Chautauqua County Health Department's YouTube channel here: <https://www.youtube.com/@chautauquacounty-healthdepa7399/streams>

General information about the Board of Health and meeting agendas and minutes can be found here: <https://chqgov.com/public-health/board-health>.

Anyone seeking further information or wishing to attend this meeting should call the Public Health Director's Office at 716-753-4082.

Brocton-Portland Seniors gather

BROCTON — Brocton-Portland Seniors met June 24 at the Tri Church Parish, Main Street, Brocton with President Margaret Jagoda opening the meeting for 54 members and two guests. Anita Calcaterra gave the Prayer of Thanks and Barbara Crandall led the Pledge of Allegiance. The strawberry Committee of Rita Bennett, June Woollette, Sharon Carlson

and Margaret Jagoda did a great job securing, preparing and serving the dessert.

The Committee members Linda Riley made June Table Centerpieces, Linda Burton got four kinds of pizza from Brocton's Pizza Guru, Mary Matteson and Denise Griffin, set tables served and cleaned up.

Cards were sent to the family for the passing of Kathy Peters. She will be missed.

The Legion yard sale is July 12 to 13. Robin Carr has an Aug. 5 trip to Pittsburgh - Gateway Clipper ship sight seeking - call her for details. Anniversaries were Carol and Jim Crolle, and Carolyn and George Burnett 55 years. June birthdays were Robin Carr, Rita Bennett, Carolyn Burnett, Anita Calcaterra, Marie Emke, Don Carlson, Margaret Jagoda, Linda Riley, Judy Perry and June Woollette. Doug Chatley,

Elaine Fredrickson and Rose Brumagin won the door prizes. Drawings were held for centerpieces and raffles.

Mike Lee and Kelsey from the OFA Elder Law, entertained royally with their discussion of Abuse, Fraud, Financial and Scammers. They were a delight sharing laughter engaging everyone with their examples of circumstances and how to get help. They used the title of twelve songs old and new, dates variety, and how easy things occur and what not to do. Very well done descriptive program had surprises. Good time for everyone!!

Next meeting is July 29 at Tri Church Parish with committee members Judy Nixon, Jim and Duane Hemmis, Brian Stanton and Linda Riley. Hamburgers and hot dogs are the menu with members to bring a dish to pass and personal table service.

Coming up...

TUESDAY, JULY 8	Take Off Pounds Sensibly support group
Ahira Hall Memorial Library presents: Explorers Story Time 37 W. Main St., Brocton, 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Ages 0 to 7 and a grown up. Theme-based stories, activities followed by free play.	Anderson-Lee Library, 43 Main St., Silver Creek, 12:30 p.m. Handicapped accessible.
Memory Cafe with Sukanya Burman Dance	Cassadaga American Legion weekly bingo Legion Post 1280, 228 Maple Ave., 1 p.m.
Reg Lenna Center for the Arts, Third floor Media Arts Studio, enter at 108 E. Third St., Jamestown, noon to 1:30 p.m. Free respite, arts program for those with memory issues, their caregivers, family friends. Music performances, crafts, easy activities, light refreshments. Participate or observe. Register at 716 484-7070 by the prior day. Donations welcome.	Dunkirk Public Library summer carnival 536 Central Ave., 2 to 3:30 p.m. Games, prizes, refreshments. Free event.
	Darwin R. Library presents: The Masterpiece Makers 7 Day St., Fredonia, 2 p.m. Children going into pre-k through going into second grade.

Registration required. Call 716 672-8051. Choose Mondays at 10:30 a.m. or Tuesdays at 2 p.m. through first week in August. Read, learn, play, create.

Ahira Hall Memorial Library presents: Library Outbound with Engaged Community Youth Ryckman Park, Fay and Green Streets, Brocton, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. for kids, teens, families - crafts, activities, music, snacks.

St. Joseph's bingo 145 E. Main St., Fredonia. Doors open at 5 p.m., bingo begins at 7.

Silver Creek music in the park presents: "Party McFly" Village Ball Park, 6 to 9 p.m. Bring own chairs, coolers. Food

trucks, vendors on site. Classic cars welcome.

Anderson-Lee Library presents: Van Gogh Flowers 43 Main St., Silver Creek, 6 p.m. All ages. Create paper flowers for library display based on Van Gogh's "Sunflower" painting. Pre-registration required. Call 716 934-3468.

Ahira Hall Memorial Library, Historical Society of Brocton & Portland present: Threads of History

Ahira Hall Memorial Library, 37 W. Main St., Brocton, 6:30 p.m. Guest speaker David Hazelton.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9 Laurel Run Special edition of

OBSERVER On sale for \$2, in downtown Fredonia by community volunteers; also Tim Hortons locations in Dunkirk, Fredonia, Cassadaga, Silver Creek, Irving. Proceeds benefit The Resource Center

Tops NY 890 meeting First United Presbyterian Church, 35 Park Place, Silver Creek. Weigh-ins begin at 8:45 a.m., meeting starts at 9:35 a.m. All are welcome. Use the Main Street entrance. For details, call 716 680-0313.

Dunkirk Farmers Market Dunkirk Senior Center Pavilion, 45 Cliffstar Court, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For details, contact E. J. Hayes at 716 366-9876.

Proposal

Continued from Page 1

“The city of Dunkirk stands ready to be a part of that conversation, recognizing the potential economic revitalization and long term environmental benefits such a project could bring.” Wdowiasz continued,

“As the community continues to feel the lasting impact of the NRG plant closing...we understand the importance of restoring Dunkirk’s role in New York’s energy landscape.

“However, we will not move forward and submit

any proposals without full transparency and support from our residents. The people of Dunkirk must be at the center of this process, not the politicians. We will engage openly with the community to evaluate the projects and the oppor-

tunities, to ensure that the decisions that are made are best for our city’s future.”

Wdowiasz may not have the full-throated support of the entire council. Councilwoman Natalie Luczkowiak recently expressed fears about the

safety of a nuclear plant in the city, speaking at the start of a meeting of the council’s Economic Development Committee which she chairs.

Other city officials in attendance, including Councilwoman Nancy

Nichols, appeared a little frustrated at Luczkowiak’s stance. Nichols said she was “all for it” if a nuclear plant could assist the city’s tax base.

“It’s not like it’s going to be a nuclear bomb,” she said.

Harrod

Continued from Page 1

Also of note, Aimee Sleeth was appointed as Native American Career Pathway Program Coordinator through the My Brother’s Keeper Grant. Samantha Scanlan is the program’s Family Liaison/Mentor. Michelle Helmer is the program’s School Administrator. Helmer also serves as the Title VI Grant Administrator.

Elizabeth Guzzetta was appointed to the role of Teacher on Special Assignment for the Committee on Special Education and Section 504 Committee. Nicholas Gerard, Danielle Dietrick, and Director of Special Education Megan Cook are committee members, as well. Kristy Jones was appointed as a parent member.

Donna Roof was appointed as the Director of Community Education for the 2025-2026 school year at a rate of \$1,835 per semester. Beth Miller was appointed as the Community Center Coordinator for the 2025-2026 school year with a stipend of \$5,000. Karielle Case was named as Site Coordinator for the WNY Food Bank Back Pack Program for the 2025-2026 school year with a stipend of \$3,000. Kristin McChesney was named as the district’s Knight-U Coordinator for the 2025-2026 school year with a stipend of \$5,000.

The district also nominated Christine Schnars as the New York State School Boards Association Area 3 Director. Alicia

Rutkowski was appointed as a teacher of record, retroactive to May 12. Gavin Defries, Tyler Januchowski, Tanner Templin, and Everett LeBarron were approved as Summer Information Technology interns. Andrew Lanphere was approved as a Summer Weight Room Supervisor. Summer transportation staff and clerical staff were also approved.

Pamela Postle was appointed as Substitute Assistant Transportation Director, to fill in during any absence of Lisa Izzio, Transportation Director, as needed. Alison Gondek and Kelly Pieniazek were selected as Co-Mentoring Program Coordinators. A number of teacher mentors were approved, as well. Substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year, across various roles within the district, were also approved.

Sean Helmer was re-appointed as Athletic Director. Catherine Casselberry was named as Pool Director. Also approved were various athletic coaches, life-guards and fitness guards for the 2025-2026 school year.

Several shared sports programs were approved, including football, cheer-leading, soccer, cross country, Unified bocce, wrestling, indoor track, outdoor track, golf, flag football, and baseball.

The next regular Board of Education meeting will be Aug. 14 at 6 p.m.

Sites

Continued from Page 1

“We have talked to a local developer about a possible separate building,” Ferguson said, evidently referring to the police department. “We looked at the possibility of the Big Lots building but there is a big possibility they’re coming back into the area.”

Ferguson said the soon-to-be-

empty Rite Aid building on Central Avenue is another possibility.

Both Big Lots and Rite Aid are just inside the city of Dunkirk — so it’s clear Ferguson is thinking in the context of his campaign for consolidation of area municipal services.

“I’m kind of excited about the developer discussion but I can’t talk

about that until I have more information on it,” the mayor concluded.

Fredonia Village Hall and the Opera House were constructed in the 1890s and almost got torn down nearly a century later after falling into bad condition. Community members successfully campaigned for extensive renovations to save the building.

Tenure

Continued from Page 1

The Board of Education appointed six substitutes: Andrea Caccamise, Connor Heidel, Antonio Patton, Isabel Prinzi, Susan Styborski, and Nicole Thompson. Ronald Duliba Jr. was approved as a volunteer boys basketball coach. Austin Pierce was approved as a coach with the varsity football program hosted by Silver Creek.

The Board also approved

annual stipends for the District Clerk (\$4,750) and Central Treasurer (\$2,000) for the 2025-2026 school year. Agreements with the Forestville Teachers’ Association for the removal of the Middle School Newspaper, the establishment of a Home Economics Coordinator with an annual stipend of \$500, and the establishment of a Unified Sports Coordinator for Bocce

with an annual stipend of \$750 were also approved.

The Unified Bocce Team will be hosted by Silver Creek in 2025-2026. The Board also authorized an agreement with BOCES for Driver Education programming, as well as an agreement with Management Advisory Group Special Services for STAC services for the 2025-2026 school year. An agreement to enter into a data

privacy agreement with RIC ONE Risk Operations Center was also approved.

Two international trips were approved for the Spanish Club to visit Europe in 2027 and 2028.

The Board also accepted donations from the Sports Boosters to benefit the Varsity Softball Team in the amount of \$1,000 from Mark Woolley and \$300 from the Kosciuszko Polish Home.

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LOCAL/REGION

Teddy

Continued from Page 1

Various stations were set up throughout the gym stressing different areas of health, including basic hygiene, mental health and being in touch with one's feelings, measuring vital signs, height and weight, eating healthy foods, and administering vaccines. Needle-free syringes were used to administer mock vaccines with food coloring.

Approximately 40 children attended the event, while 15 students from the nursing program taught them the skills they are learning. Powell was pleased with the turnout for an event in its first year.

“It went really well. I

was very, very happy with it,” Powell said. She noted many of the parents of the children who attended the event commented positively about the engaging activities and the professionalism of the nursing students.

Powell is open to holding the event again in the future. The nursing program was also pleased with the experience and expressed a desire to collaborate again in the future.

The BOCES nursing program is currently enrolling applicants. Financial assistance is available to those who qualify. Call (716) 805-3138 for more information.

Sentencing

Continued from Page 1

The purpose of the mental health evaluation, Foley explained from the bench, is to help determine placement in the state Department of Corrections.

Foley noted that although he believes is not obligated to grant the sentencing delay, he agreed to do so.

The sentencing date for Guadarrama has been rescheduled to next month.

After the court ruling, Assistant District Attorney Jeff DiPalma, who prosecuted the case, noted that the evaluation will not affect how long Guadarrama will be incarcerated for.

“They (state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision) have special housing for people who have severe mental health problems inside the prison,” he said.

On Aug. 23, 2022 Guadarrama took a bus to Mayville, entered the village library and stayed there until closing time.

When a staff member told him and other people that they were closing the library, he stabbed her, and fled the scene.

Guadarrama was quickly located, taken into custody and identified shortly after the attack. During interviews, he said he tried to kill the librarian, which is why the charge went from assault to attempted murder.

Guadarrama did not know the victim that he attacked. During Guadarrama’s interview with police, he apparently made some comments about how he didn’t like the way she was looking at him.

While in the county jail before the trial, Guadarrama stabbed a chaplain with a pencil.

The charges from the incidents at the jail and the library were consolidated and both incidents were brought before the jury.

Guadarrama is facing up to 25 years in prison.

Stops

Continued from Page 1

The churches argue that the April 2025 settlement of \$150 million between the Buffalo Diocese and child sex abuse victims violates state bankruptcy court law because the court has not been submitted to the Bankruptcy Court judge for approval. The payments from area churches are to pay for that settlement. The lawsuit states plaintiffs had not been provided with actual settlement in principle documents and were unaware of the settlement's principle terms and conditions.

“The diocese has informed plaintiffs parishes that the settlement in principle agreement provides for the diocese to pay \$150,000,000 and that the diocese has instructed the parishes to contribute towards the diocese payment,” the lawsuit states. “That the diocese requested contribution by plaintiffs’ parishes is for uses inconsistent with and contrary to the purposes for which the parishes were created, and the contributions would be inconsistent with plaintiffs’ parishes’ religious, charitable, benevolent and educational purposes.”

In June, Judge Carl Bucki, Western District of New York Bankruptcy Court judge, ruled the diocese is subject to the not-for-profit section of bankruptcy law saying that a charitable corporation must honor a donor's direction and intention, and that the diocese's motion seeks to use the sale proceeds for inconsistent purposes like funding a settlement

of abuse claims.

The churches also argue that parishes that are contesting mergers and closures should not have to pay toward the settlement until the Vatican makes a decision on their appeals. The Buffalo Diocese has said parishes appealing their closure will be assessed at 80% of their unrestricted cash, due on July 15. The diocese would refund part of the money if the parishes' appeals are upheld by the Vatican.

“Rather than comply with the Vatican order granting the requests of the Bishop's Degrees of Extinctive Mergers, the Diocese and the Bishop is requiring the payments by July 15, 2025, which if made would be catastrophic and likely would severely, if not fatally destroy the parishes,” the lawsuit states. “The Diocese and the Bishop ignores the irreparable harm the parishes would suffer by turning over the 80%, since the parishes would be unable to adequately function and serve their community. Severe and irreparable harm would be inflicted upon plaintiffs’ parishes if 80% of the unrestricted cash and investments are paid to the Diocese by July 15, 2025. The vast majority of the cash and investments, if not all in the parishes were made to the parishes for the sole purpose and use of and in the existing parishes. None of the monies contributed to the Parishes were for the payment of the Diocese's victims of abuse.”

Water

Continued from Page 1

Those projects include North End and Van Buren water district construction work. “Oddly, we’ve been getting many questions about that this week,” Pacos cracked — a wry reference to the latest boil-water crisis in Fredonia. The village has an independent water system which supplies (or currently, doesn’t supply) portions of the town not served by the North County Water District.

Pacos said he has heard little recently on the North End project. However, he offered positive news on the Van Buren work, stating that “we finally got the go-ahead... to schedule pre-construction meetings. Hopefully, shortly, we’ll see shovels in the ground.”

Five Gowanda employees earn tenure

By BRADEN CARMEN
bcarmen@observerto-day.com

GOWANDA — Five employees earned tenure appointments at a recent Gowanda Board of Education meeting. Among them was Ashley Wakelee, the district’s Director of Learning and Continual Improvement.

Wakelee is professionally certified as a School District Leader and a School Business Leader. She is also certified in English Language Arts for Grades 7-12, Early Childhood Education from Birth to Grade 2, Childhood Education for Grades 1-6, and Literacy from Birth to Grade 6. Her tenure appointment commences Aug. 31.

Superintendent Dr. Robert Anderson said, “It’s been a real pleasure working with her. She’s definitely an asset to the district.”

Kathy Degenfelder earned a tenured position as a School Media Specialist, effective Aug. 31. Degenfelder possesses initial certification as a Library Media Specialist.

Middle School Principal Todd Miklas recommended Degenfelder for tenure. In his letter of recommendation, Miklas said, “Over the years, Kathy has transformed our library into a vibrant hub of learning, exploration, and creativity, making her an invaluable asset to both our students and staff.”

Three teachers received tenure, as well, including Elizabeth Novoa, Christina Shull, and Melissa Sikora.

Miklas also recommended Novoa, a Middle School Science Teacher, for tenure. Miklas said, “Elizabeth is a thoughtful, dedicated teacher who consistently puts her students first. She brings creativity to her les-



Submitted Photo

Kathy Degenfelder, School Media Specialist (left), and Ashley Wakelee, Director of Learning and Continual Improvement (right), were among five Gowanda employees to earn tenure at a recent Board of Education meeting.

sons, supports learning in and out of the classroom, and takes the time to build real connections with her students. I fully support her tenure at Gowanda Central School District.”

Shull, a Special Education Teacher, was recommended for tenure by Elementary Principal Carrie Dzierba. In her letter, Dzierba stated, “Mrs. Shull demonstrates strong knowledge of curriculum and specialized instruction, meeting the diverse needs of the students she serves.”

Dzierba later added, “She is dedicated, hard-working and student-centered. Her professionalism and work ethic are evident in all aspects of her work.”

Sikora, a Special Education Teacher, was also recommended for tenure by Dzierba. In her letter, Dzierba characterized

Sikora as “an experienced, talented and passionate educator.”

Dzierba also stated, “Mrs. Sikora excels at making connections with a population of students with developmental disabilities at the primary level. She is consistent at implementing strong classroom management and individual behavior plans. Under moments of student crisis, Mrs. Sikora maintains a calm and patient demeanor.”

The district also appointed Amy Spears as a Substitute Teacher, Teaching Assistant, and School Monitor. Colton Clareus was appointed as a Substitute Bus Driver and Bus Driver Trainee. Brayden Williams, Mary Lillie, and Brody Mescal were appointed as Seasonal Laborers.

Jamestown man killed in motorcycle crash

By JOHN WHITTAKER
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A Jamestown man has been killed in a motorcycle accident Sunday afternoon.

Benny L. Salva, 35, of Jamestown was riding his motorcycle on Barrett Avenue near McKinley Avenue at the time of the accident. Jamestown police say the motorcycle was the only vehicle involved in the accident, which took place

at 12:58 p.m. A portion of Barrett Avenue was closed to traffic while police investigated the accident.

The preliminary investigation shows that the motorcycle was the only vehicle involved and had collided with a tree. Officers were assisted by the Jamestown Fire Department and Chautauqua County EMS who attempted to pro-

vide life saving measures. The investigation is ongoing with the assistance of the Chautauqua County Accident Reconstruction Team and Chautauqua County Coroner's Office.

Sunday's accident is the second fatal motorcycle accident in the span of a week.

Kyle Pitts, 26, of Jamestown was killed in a motorcycle crash at

7:56 a.m. Sunday, July 5, on Buffalo Street near Beechview Avenue. City police officers responded to the scene, with a coroner later called to the scene. A preliminary investigation of the accident scene indicated that the driver of the motorcycle left the road and hit a telephone pole. Pitts was taken to UPMC Chautauqua and succumbed to his injuries.

Jamestown man charged with \$1m in theft from employer

By JOHN WHITTAKER
jwhittaker@post-journal.com

A Jamestown man has been charged with first-degree grand larceny after allegedly stealing more than \$1 million from his employer.

Paul A. Weinstein, 60, of Jamestown was charged Monday by city police officers at Ben Weitsman of Jamestown, 610 W. Eighth

St., Jamestown, after an investigation by Jamestown police and the Chautauqua County District Attorney's Office. According to a police report, Weinstein was allegedly involved in a long-term, ongoing theft spanning more than 10 years from Ben Weitsman of Jamestown. Police allege Weinstein has stolen more than \$1 million and possi-

bly several million dollars more.

The investigation is still ongoing and more criminal charges are expected.

Weinstein was arraigned in Jamestown City Court and held on \$50,000 cash or \$100,000 property bond.

Originally the Weinstein Company, Paul Weinstein, the company's fourth generation owner, sold

Weinstein's to Ben Weitsman of Jamestown in 2010 after being family owned and operated for more than 100 years. Weinstein told The Post-Journal selling was the right thing to do to be involved with a growing company like Ben Weitsman of Jamestown. Weitsman kept Weinstein as the local company's vice president.

Area police

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MAYVILLE – Barbara Nelson, 67, of Stockton was charged Sunday with seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance. Deputies said she was found sleeping in a vehicle in a parking lot of a village business on

Route 430 around 7 a.m. She allegedly had narcotics in her possession. She was issued an appearance ticket for Chautauqua Town Court at a later date.

STOCKTON – Robert Dahl, 56, of Cassadaga was driving a motorcycle on Cassadaga-Stockton Road in the

town around 3:30 p.m. when he lost control and crashed. He was taken to the Erie County Medical Center for his injuries. He was charged with driving while intoxicated and having an unsafe tire. He will answer to the charges in Stockton Town Court at a later date.

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LOCAL NEWS

Review

Continued from Page 1

The questioner also failed to check the “yes” or “no” boxes on a query regarding sexual abuse or offenses.

“The Medical Review Board opines that although (the inmate) had an appropriate psychiatric assessment prior to removal from constant supervision, there was a lack of a defined treatment plan and suicide risk follow-up to monitor (him) upon return to general population,” the Corrections Commission report states.

Jail staff also failed to apply a cervical collar to the inmate after he hit the ground. They had previously released him into

the general jail population despite failing to properly screen him for alcohol, after he had reported a history of heavy alcohol consumption.

The Corrections Commission mandated a quality assurance review as to why the alcohol, suicide, and sex abuse screenings were mismanaged, and why there was no cervical collar used after the jump.

The jail administration “indicated that the requested reviews were completed,” according to the state’s report. “Corrective action will be verified by the commission at a later scheduled facility evaluation.”

Airports

Continued from Page 1

He said a Request For Proposals will be going out soon.

In 2022 Studio D Catering entered into a six-month lease at \$500 a month, but chose not to renew it when it expired.

Then in the fall Basil & Bones agreed to rent the airport restaurant at a cost of \$400 a month through April. County officials said at the time Basil & Bones was planning on renewing its lease and would open a full service restaurant, but the lease was not renewed.

COMMERCIAL AIR SERVICE

In December, the county legislature heard from Evan Berg, the director of Air Service Development & Project Lead who did a study regarding commercial air service at the Chautauqua County Airport – Jamestown. After the presentation, Legislature Chairman Pierre Chagnon, R-Elery, said the next step would be for the consultants to pursue federal subsidies and then talk with potential airlines who may be interested in serving the Jamestown market.

At the July Public Facilities Committee meeting, Machemer said funding is still being pursued. “We’re essentially at the same spot, waiting to hear back on the applications,” he said.

AIRPORT UPGRADES

The new security fence and the runway rehabilitation project, both at the Jamestown airport, have been completed. A separate runway upgrade is currently in design with a completion goal in 2027.

The Jamestown airport is also getting an upgrade to its terminal. The final design is anticipated by the end of the year. If approved, work would begin in the spring.

Machemer said the upgrade would “spruce up the terminal building.”

Legislator Bob Scudder, R-Fredonia, questioned if it should be done now. “If we don’t get this air service, do we just put a halt on that or do we continue? What’s the need for it if there’s nobody flying in and out?” he asked.

Machemer replied, “With the jet traffic and Cummins and other folks that are using that space, there’s quite a bit bigger audience than just potential air service.”

He noted that it’s been a number of years since the terminal has been upgrad-

ed, adding “this would be an opportune time to get this done and we have the benefit of that with the federal funding.”

The majority of improvements done at the county airports are funded by the federal government, with only a fraction coming from the county and the state.

Still, Scudder questioned the need, noting that he’s familiar with the terminal because he visits the Jamestown airport every month for one of his committees. “It’s a pretty nice facility as is. I’m not saying there aren’t areas that could be better but it looks pretty much like, ‘add water and stir’ and you’ve got a terminal building,” he said.

Machemer shared that there will be “no structural changes” although one interior wall may be moved. Other planned work includes improvements to the bathrooms, lighting and ceiling tiles.

In Jamestown, they are in the process of replacing the airfield guidance sign.

In Dunkirk, they want to replace the security gates, but the bids came in over budget so that project will be re-bid.

They’ve also begun preliminary design work on rehabilitating a taxiway in Dunkirk.

FUTURE EVENTS

The Dunkirk airport is hosting the annual Dunkirk-Fredonia Rotary breakfast on Sunday.

On Sept. 27 will be a “Stomp out the Stigma” 5k run/walk on the Jamestown airport runway.

In addition, Machemer added that they are “in the early planning stages for a potential 2027 airshow” in Jamestown. He did not provide any further details.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Scudder, who generally votes against any projects at the county airports that require federal funding, said he is concerned that there’s not a plan in place for the two airports.

“What frustrates me personally is we do these studies and then we put the studies away and we move on,” he said. “It seems like we’re good at just doing the business, what we do day-to-day. ... What I’d like to see more is ‘what’s the plan? I’ve never really gotten the plan.’”

Machemer thanked Scudder for his comments.

“I look forward to working with you,” he said.



OBSERVER Photo by Jo Ward

Demolition derby action from Sunday at the Chautauqua County Fair.

Derby

Continued from Page 1

It is a total carnage round and is designed to be fun.

The event saw a number of different cars, including minivans and SUVs at one point there was a medical emergency when one driver had his seat break during a hit, landing him in his backseat. Fortunately, he was a little stunned, but was better after about 15-20 minutes.

This year’s winners were Tyler Haniszewski in third, Joe Keller taking second and Alex Paluch in first.

“I had a blast,” said Paluch. “My radiator cap blew off at one point and that’s when I decided to get going, it was a ton of fun.”

The Wire Compact come up shortly

after and following a hard fought win, Zach Browning scored third, Anthony Shultz grabbed second and Troy Wright of Little Valley took first. This, however, would not be Wright’s only win of the evening; he would go on to take first in the Pro Stock Compact with a different car, which was the next round. A long heat this one saw some strong hits. Following Wright was Brandon Barr in second and Josh Wills in third.

“Two first place wins felt pretty good,” Wright noted. “I had a couple of drive train issues, but it was a great heat.”

The last event of the evening was the Motor Swap Full Size, which was

a highly anticipated round that did see one disqualification due to lack of hitting. A car is expected to make at least one hit in 60 seconds, if they fail to do so they are eliminated.

In this round Jaxson Pencek took third, Todd Ellman took second and Dylan Clemens won first.

“It was fun, we went out there with a plan to qualify for a big show, it’s going to pay ten grand at the end of the year and we got in,” Clemens stated. “We were lucky enough to win it last year and we’re bringing a couple of buddies with us this year.”

In total, the Derby ran a full three hours and capped another Chautauqua County Fair.

Brocton

Continued from Page 1



OBSERVER Photo by Braden Carmen

Brocton Deputy Mayor Bryan Woleben, a member of the Brocton Fire Department, does not support merging with Fredonia and/or Dunkirk as part of a larger fire district.

The topic of a joint fire district was discussed for several months before two of the five departments that serve the town of Hanover — the Silver Creek Fire Department and the Sunset Bay Fire Department — merged to form one joint fire district, the Bay Creek Fire District.

Woleben said if Brocton were to join such a district, all of Brocton’s equipment would need to be signed over to the new district. Residents of the district as a whole would be taxed for budgetary expenses, such as paid firefighters, which the city of Dunkirk and the village of Fredonia employ. The Brocton Fire Department is run entirely by volunteers.

That fact, coupled with the financial turmoil that the city of Dunkirk and the village of Fredonia are both currently in, convinced Woleben that Brocton would be much better off not joining forces with its neighbors.

“In my personal opinion, take it the way you want, it’s a money grab to help other people out,” Woleben said. “I feel, if anybody is asked, that we should not be part of this.”

The Brocton Fire Department responded to 33 calls in the month of June. The Village Board voted to approve two new members of the Fire Department, Ed Wallace and Nick Wallace, as recommended by the Department.

Cassadaga

Continued from Page 1

The village was also urged to partner with the neighboring Lily Dale community. Including some of Lily Dale’s needs in the submission would not only address the collaboration the state was looking for, but it could also increase the number of projects included in the submission. Cassadaga generalized many of its potential projects and included them in groups, which Wickmark believes gave the wrong impression of not having many projects in mind.

Wickmark stressed aesthetic improvements along the village’s main roads to attract more businesses to the village. “We felt like if we’re going to go out there and try to convince new businesses to come to Cassadaga, one of the biggest things that we have to improve is our streetscape on North and South Main,” Wickmark said.

The committee suggested pursuing smaller grants in the coming months to make improvements to the village in preparation for the next New York Forward Grant submission. The committee is also seeking more data to strengthen its position on proposing a senior living facility and early childhood center.

“We need to focus on building those areas so that when we do another application in 2026, we are much stronger - that we already have commitment where we need to; we have the numbers that we need to justify things; and we directly address their feedback,” Wickmark said.

The committee will meet on the first and third Mondays of each month, at 7 p.m. at the Cassadaga Library, through the fall to discuss future steps. Public input is encouraged.

Also related to projects in the village, Deputy Mayor Bill Astry also reported that at long last, the Bathhouse at the Beach is open and functional. Finishing touches on the structure are ongoing.

The Cassadaga Fire Department responded to two fires, three motor vehicle accidents, and 14 emergency medical service (EMS) calls in the month of May. The village is also seeking clarification on how to spend funds accumulated from EMS billing through its contract with Chautauqua County.

In other news, the Village Board will hold a workshop on Thursday at 7 p.m. to discuss the zoning law updates proposed by the zoning rewrite committee. The meeting is open to the public, but will not entertain public discussion.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PSC No. 87 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service

PSC No. 88 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Transportation Service

PSC No. 90 – Gas - Schedule for Gas Service

PSC No. 119 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service

PSC No. 120 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service

PSC No. 121 – Electricity - Schedule for Electric Service (Street Lighting)

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LOCAL/COMMUNITY NEWS

Clymer, Sherman, Panama to hold joint board meeting at BOCES

By SARA HOLTHOUSE
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Clymer, Sherman and Panama school districts will be participating in a special joint board meeting on Wednesday to discuss the feasibility study that will look into the potential merger of the three schools, following a vote that approved the moving forward of a study in May.

The joint meeting of the schools’ Boards of Education will be at the Hewes Educational Center, 2615 North Maple Ave in Ashville, in the A Building’s Large Group Room at 6 p.m. Notices from all three schools to their communities said that the joint public meeting will be held with the intent to “learn about district reorganization in New York State and consider undertaking a reorganization feasibility study.”

The feasibility study was voted on and approved

by the Clymer, Sherman and Panama communities during their annual school budget votes at the end of May. The official announcement that the feasibility study will be moving forward said that “more than 630 voters participated in the survey, with 73% expressing support for conducting a feasibility study.”

From each separate district, May’s voting results came in with 221 yes and 49 no votes from Clymer, 144 yes votes and 41 nos from Sherman, and 102 yes votes and 57 no votes and 25 undecideds from Panama, for a total of 467 yes votes and 147 no votes between the three, along with 25 undecided votes.

Community members are welcome and encouraged to attend Wednesday’s meeting as the boards consider what comes next in the undertaking of a feasibility study.

Trap

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Less than a week later, on June 7, the team sent 17 students to compete in the New York State Competition. The morning squads all performed well, but the wind in the afternoon took its toll. In the end, Fredonia finished in fifth place out of 52 schools for the day, but finished only 7 birds out of first place.

In back-to-back years, Fredonia Trap Coach Jerry Kinney brought all of the students who wanted to participate at the State competition, regardless of their skill level. He said what he loves about Trap is that “everybody gets to compete, regardless of their skill level.”

The team achieved the following scores at the State Competition: Nathan Balch (90), Olivia Balch (89), Wyatt Bartoo (95), Daniel Cook (92), Aiden Czekanski (82), Brayden Fabiano (80), Lucie Katta (57), RJ Koopman (82), Aidan Kinney (87), Garrett Lesch (92), Chelsea Pierce (86), Kyle Pierce (93), Connor Sullivan (69), Mason Tomaszewski (85), Thane Turo (84), Jazz Witkowski (75), and Lexi Wright (83).

Cleanup

Continued from Page 1

The local law states, “a member of the Village Board, or Mayor, who are members of the Village of Brocton Fire Department shall not automatically need to recuse themselves from voting on Fire Department issues.” The resolution will also be appended to the Village of Brocton Code of Conduct.

The Village Board enacted the law, in part, to encourage membership with the Fire Department. With fire departments and local

governments all across the region facing challenges to attract dedicated members, the Village Board does not want to limit its pool of candidates to members who are not interested in volunteering with the Fire Department.

Also of note, six building permits were issued in the month of June, along with 17 violations. Also of note, the Village’s Summer Recreation Program is serving between 28-39 children each day.

Airport

Continued from Page 1

Scudder generally votes against receiving any airport funding resolutions, arguing that accepting federal funds requires the county to keep the airports in operation.

Pavlock usually votes in favor of airport resolutions. After the legislature meeting, he was asked why he voted against it.

“This is a study and it’s a lot of money for a study,” he replied. “It isn’t even putting the gates in. It’s telling us what we need to do and how we need to do it. It just seems like we should

be able to hire a company to come and put that gate system in that is needed and required and it shouldn’t take an expensive study to do that.”

Even though the resolution doesn’t have the word “study” in it, Pavlock said that’s what the money is being used for.

Pavlock acknowledged that the majority of the money is coming from the federal government, but added, “I’m still trying to be a steward of our taxpayers’ money.”

Community notebook

Church plans indoor, hot dog sale

SILVER CREEK — Trinity Lutheran Church, through a generous grant from Thrivent Financial, will be holding its 15th annual indoor yard sale on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Featured are a large selection of Amish novels, games, craft supplies, hundreds of greeting cards and tools from two garage cleanings! Each child receives a free children’s book of their choice and a pencil.

On Saturday, Aug. 9, the

church will be having a hot dog sale during the Silver Creek Village Wide Sales. A family value meal includes a Sahlen’s hotdog, a bottle of water, and chips for \$4.

As it has been our tradition, the church alternates donating to several volunteer fire companies in our area. This year the Irving Fire Department will receive 50% of the yard sale proceeds and 100% of the hot dog sale proceeds to show our appreciation for the service they provide to our community. What a chance to possibly pick up

that item you can take to Antiques Roadshow to find it is worth mucho bucks one week and enjoy lunch during the Silver Creek Village sales the following week.

The church is located at 15 Porter Ave.

Mindszenty events planned this week

All classes of Cardinal Mindszenty High School are invited to three events this week. First, there will be an informal gathering at the Mindszenty tent at

Thursday’s Music on the Pier.

This weekend, a reunion will take place on Saturday at the Elks Lodge on Central Avenue in Dunkirk beginning at 6 p.m.

There will be a cash bar and no RSVP is needed. There will be a special short, but very humorous entertainment program to benefit Northern Chautauqua Catholic School.

On Sunday at 11 a.m., a Mass for Living and Deceased Monarch Nation will be at Holy Trinity Church in Dunkirk.

War

Continued from Page 1

He said it “offers hope to families and equips law enforcement with the tools they need to pursue traffickers and criminal networks flooding” communities with fentanyl.

President Donald Trump signed the act into law July 16. Langworthy attended the signing ceremony.

Langworthy cited federal statistics showing that fentanyl currently causes about 70,000 U.S. deaths a year. It’s also now the leading cause of death for Americans aged 18-45.

“I’ve made it a top priority to halt this scourge that has devastated communities,” the second-term congressman said.

Quattrone, Ecklund, Jamestown Police Chief Timothy Jackson, and city Deputy Police Chief Scott Forster joined Langworthy for the press conference. Langworthy talked up their participation in community round tables about fentanyl, but added that many other area officials offered constructive ideas as well.



OBSERVER Photos by M.J. Stafford

U.S. Rep. Nick Langworthy, left, speaks to Chautauqua County Sheriff James Quattrone after a Monday news conference in Jamestown. To the right are Jamestown Mayor Kim Ecklund, Police Chief Tim Jackson and Deputy Police Chief Scott Forster, who also attended the event about the HALT Fentanyl Act.

Langworthy complained that the Chinese Communists are “actively subsidizing the export of this poison” and alleged that Schumer previously held up passage of anti-fentanyl legislation similar to what was just passed.

He also took shots at a favorite target of upstate New York conservatives, the progressive-led bail reform laws. Langworthy said colleagues from other states are “floored” by the state’s bail laws. He claimed that someone could have 100 pounds of fentanyl in their car in the state and get out of jail time.

The OBSERVER later asked

Langworthy about a HALT Fentanyl Act provision on research of the drug. The congressman acknowledged that some of the law’s detractors worry that it will discourage medical providers from using fentanyl, which can be prescribed as a painkiller in small doses. However, he said it allows research in laboratory settings for medical grade fentanyl.

While medical fentanyl is used at hospitals, “illicit fentanyl lands the user in the morgue. We have to balance those two things,” Langworthy said. “It’s the abuse and the illicit use we need tools to go fight — not within a hospital setting,” he added.

Approved

Continued from Page 1

In its place, a prefabricated building will be installed and hooked up within days after the preparation for the site is completed.

Once it is open, 7 Brew will be the fourth coffee shop within a mile of the thruway entrance, competing with Tim Hortons, Dunkin’ Donuts and the recently opened Starbucks coffee shop on Vineyard Drive.

Plaza 59 in the Town of Dunkirk, located on Bennett Road next to the thruway entrance, has also welcomed a Popeyes restaurant and Planet Fitness gym within the past two years.

On several occasions, 7 Brew representatives flew in from out of state to attend meetings with the Town of

Dunkirk to discuss plans for the new location. Rebecca Brown flew in from the corporate office in Arkansas nearly a year ago to present to the Town Board, along with 7 Brew franchisee Gaurav Aggarwal, who drove to the meeting from Cleveland, Ohio.

“We are built on cultivating kindness, so we try to pick neighborhoods that would help reflect that,” Brown said of the decision to target the Town of Dunkirk for a location.

7 Brew was founded in 2017 with a focus on providing a friendly customer experience. As stated on the company’s website, “At 7 Brew, it’s about the connections we make. We believe people are priceless, so we

treat them like it. Our goal is to make your visit the happiest part of your day.”

Although the brand is focused on coffee, more than 20,000 drink combinations are available at 7 Brew, including teas, smoothies, and handcrafted sodas. Drinks can be hot, iced, or blended. Muffins are also on the menu, with future food options currently being evaluated.

At a Town Board meeting nearly a year ago, Aggarwal joked, “We are like Starbucks, but we are way cooler than Starbucks.”

7 Brew is ironing out the final details with the landlord to lease the land. Plans call for a drive-through lane and a walk-up window to order from. A year ago,

representatives estimated approximately 45-50 jobs would be created by the project.

The next project on the horizon in the Town of Dunkirk is a proposal from Chipotle Mexican Grill for a location along Vineyard Drive. The plans call for a new building to be constructed in the parking lot of the same plaza that hosts TJ Maxx and Harbor Freight.

Chipotle’s proposal has been submitted to Mourer for review, with a meeting with the Town of Dunkirk Planning Board scheduled for 5 p.m. at the Dunkirk Town Hall. The meeting will be Chipotle’s first presentation of plans to the Town of Dunkirk Planning Board.

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