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Don't forget to visit us on NHTownCrier and online at NHTownCrier.com

Stay up to date on Community Events, read previous editions and see how you can advertise with us.

# the Town Crier

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Vol. 40 No. 11
November 2026

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## Chicken and Biscuits Dinner

**November 7th • Noon until 1:30 or gone**
**Dinner for 2 ~ $25**
**St. Stephen's Church**
**25 Oxford Road, New Hartford**
**Pre-orders by calling 315-732-7462**
**or www.ststephens-newhartford.org**
Leave name, phone # and # of orders. Cash or venmo.



**Sauquoit Valley Methodist Church**
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**Nov. 21st • 9–4**

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## Arcuri Rings Closing Bell at NYSE

Rocco F. Arcuri, Sr., director of Arrow Bank, formerly known as the Adirondack Bank was selected to Ring the Closing Bell at the New York Stock Exchange in New York City on Tuesday, September 29, 2026. *Rocco is pictured 7th from left.*




## NHHS 60th Reunion Class of 1966:

*Top Left: Glen Prestwich, Steve Bussey, David Hurd, Richard White, Tim Riley, Christine Wolber, Charles Thomas, Joe Dillon, Marty Lewis, Jack Bentley, Robin Geiser, Ron Casetelli, Phyllis Blando, Francis Dyman, Marianne Keene, Dave Pratt, Daryl Mattison, Barb Hoffman, Al Szablak Front row: Peter Hurd, Suzanne Kiesel, Debbie Hotch, Sue Hensel, Christine Copeland, Kathy Mody, Patty Blair, Jim Labuz*







SAUERBRATEN DINNER
November 8, 2026
Noon – 2:30 (or gone)
Dine-In or Take-Out
Dinner includes: German Potato Salad, Sauerbraten, Noodles, Gravy, Red Cabbage, Roll, and Black Forest Cake for dessert.
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## NYS Approved Defensive Driving Classes

New York State approved defensive drivers class for insurance and point reduction programs will be given by AARP at the New Hartford Public Library from 9am-3:30pm.

The next two classes will be on November 24 and December 29th.

For registration and other information please contact Mary Merritt at (315)724-0096.

Call early classes fill fast. Open to all ages.

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*Erin Reichenback*

## Erin Reichenbach Joins All-American Fitness Center

Cindy and Jim LaFountain, owners of the All-American Fitness Center in New Hartford are pleased to announce Erin Reichenbach, as the newest member of their Personal Training Team.

Erin, her husband, Stephen and their six children live in New Hartford and the children all attend New Hartford Schools. Erin is a graduate of Christian Liberty Academy, SUNY Onondaga and a graduate of the National Academy of Sports Medicine. Her goal of improving the health of our community is consistent with that of the All-American Fitness Center.

Trent Carrig, club manager said, "Erin interviewed like she had worked here for a decade."

She is currently accepting new clients. Her contact information is tinywifereichenbach@gmail.com or you can call the All-American Fitness Center at 315-735-2219.

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St. Louis Gonzaga Church 24th
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## *Annual Holiday Craft Fair Saturday November 14th 11am - 4 pm*

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**7679 E Main St, Clark Mills**

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Plus many crafters from homemade honey & breads to jewelry, rustic woodworks, quilted purses & doggie paw wipes, candles, labubu dolls & perfume.

Food will be available for purchase, including $2 fried dough!

Many gift basket raffles, 50/50 raffle and a meat raffle are available.

Thank you for helping our fundraiser for helping military families & our community events.

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**2 Library Lane**
**315-733-1535**

**Monday and Tuesday 10am-8pm**
**Closed on Wednesdays**
**Thursday and Friday 10am-6pm**
**Saturday 10am-2pm**
**Sunday 1-5pm**

## Holiday Hours

Happy Thanksgiving! We will be closed on Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th. We will reopen on Saturday, November 28th at 10:00 am.

## Stay Connected With Us!

For up-to-date information regarding closings, reopening, programs and crafts:

https://newhartfordpubliclibrary.org/

https://www.facebook.com/newhartfordpubliclibrary/

https://www.instagram.com/new_hartford_public_library/

## Mid York Library System App

Download the Mid York Library System App to search our catalog, place holds, view your account, and see what's happening at any Mid York library!

The app allows you to log in with one or more Mid York library cards, search for items, place holds, see library locations, check out and read OverDrive books and magazines, search and filter library programming, bring up a digital library card, and much more. The app is available in the App Store as well as the Google Play Store.

## Community Outreach

We are hitting the road and would love to come to your organization! Are you involved with preschool, daycare, summer program or assisted living center? We would love to come to your organization and share more about our upcoming programs, issue library cards, and provide programming to your facility. For more information, please contact our Library Director, Anne, at 315-733-1535.

## Community Rooms

Community Rooms are available for groups and organizations to use. You can find more information on our website, https://newhartfordpubliclibrary.org/reserve-a-room/ or by calling 315-733-1535, or by visiting our circulation desk at the library.

## Display Case Available for 2027

Attention civic groups, non-profits and local artists: The display case at the library's main entrance is available, without charge, for groups or individuals to display works of art, collections or educational displays. Exhibits must be in keeping the library's mission to meet the educational, cultural and recreational needs of the community. Exhibits may not be for entrepreneurial or commercial purposes, for the solicitation of business for profit or for fundraising. Religions proselytizing and partisan political recruitment are similarly prohibited. Applications for the case are on a first come, first served basis and are limited to one month, with displays also limited to one per year per individual, group or organization. Exhibits will be reviewed in advance before being displayed. Applications for use of the case are available at the library's front desk. If you have questions or are interested in using the display, please call the library at 315-733-1535, and ask to speak to John, the display coordinator.

## NHPL Board of Trustees 2026 Meetings

All meetings are held at 4:30 in the Sammon Room at the library on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise designated.

## Charge Up While You Check Out!

The New Hartford Public Library offers an electric vehicle (EV) charging station for public use! Conveniently located in our lower level parking lot, you can charge your car while enjoying our books, events, and community spaces. Stop by, plug in, and stay a while!

## Park Passes

The Friends of the New Hartford Public Library are supporting our Park Pass Program. Through their generosity, we will be allowing our patrons to check out the following park passes which will allow our patrons a discounted entry rate:

Utica Children's Museum
The Wild Center
Fort Rickey Children's Discovery Zoo
Adirondack Experience
Munson
Utica Zoo
Empire Pass

Passes must be placed on adult library cards and must be returned to the New Hartford Public Library circulation desk. Please call 315-733-1535 for more information.

## Basketball is for Everyone Initiative

Thanks to Red & Blue Girls Hoops and their Basketball is for Everyone initiative, our library now has basketballs and pickleball racquets with balls available for checkout! Red & Blue, founded by New Hartford Girls' Basketball alumna Elizabeth Cavic, is all about building skills, teamwork, and community for young athletes. Their generosity helps ensure every child has access to the joy of active play both on and off the court.

Stop by the library and borrow some equipment today, because play belongs to everyone!

## Tech Help

We have a volunteer at the library each Tuesday from 11:00 am-2:00 pm to assist patrons with all their tech questions.

## After Breast Cancer (ABC) Support Group

November 7th: Our speaker will be Kyle Leisner, who is the Coordinator for the Cancer Services Program. He will talk about free cancer screenings for various kinds of cancer, for those who do not have insurance.

December 5th: Representatives from Oneida County Health Dept. will be doing a presentation on fall prevention. This is a topic we all need, especially with bad weather that will be coming soon.

## Book Clubs

Are you interested in joining a book club, currently in a book club, or looking to start one? If your club needs to order books or if you are interested in starting a book club, please call the library at 315-733-1535 and ask to speak to our Book Club Coordinator, Danielle.

Mystery Book Club: Meets on the second Saturday of the month at 11am. For more information, please contact the library.

NHPL Silent Book Club: Are you feeling a bit of cabin fever? Want to get out and chat about books with fellow readers? The Silent Book Club is for you! Join us on the second Friday every month in the Corasanti Room. This book club is designed for those that wish to be among readers but would love to read their own book of choice while still being able to hear about what others are reading. This is a great way to find new books and authors that you may not have read yet. Bring your current read, read solo for a bit and then if you feel up to it, share your book. This is a very informal book group....just show up and chat if you'd like or read among fellow readers. The choice is yours!

TBR Book Group: Are you on Facebook? Are you always looking for your next book? We have the perfect group for you. We have created the To Be Read (TBR) Book Group where readers can comment on what they're reading and look for suggestions for their next book. With over 100 members, you will never wonder what you should read next! Join online at https://www.facebook.com/groups/1532390520153487/

## Heritage Doll Club

The Heritage Doll Club meets on the third Saturday of the month at the New Hartford Public Library. Meetings are held every month except May, July, August and December, at the library beginning at 10:30 am. Interested guests and new members are welcome to attend.

## Preschool Playdate

Designed for Preschool age children and under. Join us in the Children's Area for some little library users fun! There are plenty of toys, puzzles, educational tablets, and friends to play with! Stop in Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday at 10am before Story Time to partake.

## In Person Story Time

Mondays (group A), Tuesdays (group B) and Thursdays (group C) 10:30-11:00 for preschool aged children. Join us for stories and crafts. Aimed towards preschoolers – but all are welcome. An adult must accompany the child. All story times are held in the Children's Area/Corasanti room.

November Themes:
November 2. 3, 5: Acorns
November 9, 10, 12: Scarecrows
November 16., 17, 19: Turkeys
November 23, 24: Kindness

## Apply to be a Kid Librarian!

Have you ever wondered what it's like to work in a library? What does it feel like to be surrounded by books all day? How do librarians choose and create book displays? We would love to show you! Apply to be a Kid Librarian!

This program is open to children ages 8-12. Kid librarians will create their own book display, design a sign to promote it and use a scanner to check books out to the display. The Child Librarian will make an appointment (30-45 minutes) and choose their books for their display. They will scan and check the books out and will create signs for their display. Books must be owned by the New Hartford Public Library. The display will be in the Children's Area and will be displayed for 2-4 weeks, depending on the number of applicants.

Interested? Please complete the form that is listed on our website under the Programs menu tab.

## Succulent Support Volunteers Wanted

Succulents and kit materials will be shipped to our library sometime early–mid November and we could use your help. We will need a handful of volunteers to help assemble kits before the kiddos pick them up. If you are interested, please call the library to sign up. We do not know the exact date they will arrive so this will be an "on call" volunteer opportunity. Succulent assembly will not be during school hours. Questions? Call us at 315-733-1535.

## Sit and Stitch

With the Mohawk Valley Quilt Club
Date: The first Monday of the month
Time: 12:30 to 2:30 pm
Where: Corasanti Room, New Hartford Public Library

Bring a project of your own or learn to quilt with us, all experience levels welcome.

## NHPL's New Puzzle League

Grab your friends and start a team! 10 teams will compete to see which group can assemble their puzzle first.

The group will meet every other month from 6:30-7:45 in the Sammon Room

12/15/26
2/16/27
4/20/27
6/15/27
8/17/27
10/19/27
12/21/27

Please call to register your team 315-733-1535.

## Senior Yoga Class

Senior Yoga takes place every Monday at 3:00pm in the Sammon Room with Bill Skinner. For those wishing to participate at home, we offer a Zoom link for this class. Please call 315-733-1535 to get the link. There is no charge for this class.

## Chair Yoga Class

Join us on Monday mornings from 10:30am-11:30am and Friday mornings from 11:00am to 12:00pm for Chair Yoga in the Sammon Room. There is no charge for this class.

## Mat Yoga Class

Mat yoga will take place Thursdays from 10:30-11:30 AM in the Sammon Room.

## Meditation Class

12:30-1:30pm Mondays

Ages 18+

Class is limited to 20 people.

If you've ever wondered about meditation and how people can achieve stillness, now is the time to take this introductory class. We will learn breathing techniques and other practices to keep us in the present moment. This assists with anxiety, blood pressure and stress.

The class is led by Laureen Violante, CMT, CYT. She is a certified meditation teacher and has taught yoga and breathing techniques since 1995.

No prior experience is required. Registration is suggested.

## Mohawk Valley Lyme Support Group

Will hold monthly meetings for those affected by Tick-Borne Illnesses. Family members and

caregivers are also welcome to attend. Shared resources, experiences & knowledge foster understanding and healing. Meetings at New Hartford Library, 2 Library Lane, New Hartford

Meetings will be held on November 8th from 2-4 pm and on December 13th from 2-4 pm.

For more information, email: (please put Lyme in the heading) Bmarris60@gmail.com

or So2say@yahoo.com or on facebook at

https://www.facebook.com/mohawkvalleylyme/

## Upcoming Blood Drives

The American Red Cross will be at the New Hartford Public Library on the following dates for blood drives:

12/10 12-4 PM

To register, please visit www.redcrossblood.org.

## Mammo Van

Upstate University Hospital's Mammography Van will return to the New Hartford Public Library, 2 Library Lane in New Hartford, on Tuesday, November 17, 2026. The screenings will be available between 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Appointments are recommended for women who want to get a mammogram, to ensure they will be seen that day.

To schedule an appointment for a mammogram with the van, women should call 315-464-2588.

Appointments can also be requested online at: www.upstate.edu/noexcuses.

To be eligible for a mammogram on the van, women should be 40 years and older; not have had a mammogram in the past 12 months; and not be experiencing breast problems.

## Where the Branches Bend

Join us for a talk by author David Podos on his book *Where the Branches Bend* November 28th at 11.

From the author: My stories in my new paperback book, Where the Branches Bend, An Anthology of Short Stories, are stories about the journey of life. Experiences that we, as humans, all face. Loss and gain, happiness and sadness, sickness and health, and self - discovery through the challenges of life.

The tree of life is on my front cover, and I picked that symbol because it has been used for centuries by many civilizations depicting creation, cosmic order, (even if things might seem chaotic), and the interconnection of all people.

The bending branches on that tree of life is a metaphor of the journey we all go on. Each branch is a separate but important journey that makes up our human experiences. While my stories are a work of fiction, my genre of writing is heavy on realistic fiction, allowing my stories to read like they were nonfiction.

## December Social Security Workshop

This public-service program is presented by John Kalil, FSCP®, a Financial Advisor with Kalil Wealth Strategies. No financial products or services will be sold. Mr. Kalil brings more than 30 years of retirement income planning experience and has offered similar programs at many public libraries across upstate New York since 2014. Call 315-733-1535 to register.

## Build a Resume That Gets You Noticed

"New Hartford-New You" RESUME WORKSHOP

Struggling with your resume? Not sure what employers are looking for?

Join First Choice Staffing for a practical, hands-on resume workshop designed to help you put your best foot forward.

WE'LL COVER:

What employers actually look for on a resume; Common resume mistakes that can cost you an interview; How to turn your job duties into strong accomplishments; Using better action words to describe your experience; How to tailor your resume to the job you're applying for; What to include — and what to leave out; Tips for career changers, first-time job seekers, and returning to the workforce.

BRING YOUR RESUME!

If you already have a resume, bring a copy and we'll take a look at it together.

Tuesday, November 17 from 4:00-5:00 PM at the NH Public Library.

Come with questions. Leave with a better resume — and a better idea of where to take your job search next.

Presented by: First Choice Staffing, 131 Oriskany Blvd. Suite 3e, Whitesboro, NY 13492

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**Membership is tax deductible. Please make checks payable to: Friends of the New Hartford Public Library, 2 Library Lane, New Hartford, NY 13413**

## Friends of the New Hartford Public Library

Please look under the Friends of the library's website for the latest update of programs the Friends will be offering as well as meeting dates. We would also love some of your ideas too.

Thank you for your support of fundraisers such as the Bill Bonsted Indoor Miniature Golf Tournament, the Annette Barber Used Book Room, the Ice Cream Social, the Joshua Turner Fund, Hannaford's Bloomin' 4 Good Program, donations and Friends membership. This enables us to update the Children and Young Adult areas, computer hardware, sponsor performers for the summer reading program, park passes and further programs. Your generosity makes a difference.

## Bill Bonsted Indoor Miniature Golf Tournament

And the Winners are: Trophy, The Gerould Family; Second Place, Hannah and Jack Humphreys.

The Friends of the NHPL just celebrated their twelfth year of the Bill Bonsted Indoor Miniature Golf Tournament, twelve years of unique creativity, treasured laughs, overwhelming community involvement and even a chicken BBQ.

A very special thank you to the following sponsors for their generosity and support: Power Line Constructors, Inc.; The Bonsted Family; Steve and Anne, Steven; Highstreet Insurance and Financial Services; Cliff's Local Market; Earle Reed; Brady and Kaileigh Bonsted; Richard and Virginia Emmert; Daniel T. Dreimiller, CPA; Gary Falchi's Carpet Cleaning; H. Morehouse Appliances, Inc.; Annette Barber; Brett and Kelly Humphreys; Freidel, Williams & Edmunds Funeral Home; Kathy Ventura. We are especially grateful to our hole designers this year; the Bonsted Family, Greg Kielar, Cheryl, Susan Fountain, SICC Group (summer iceless curling club - Jen Turner, Jacquelyn Schmidt, Peggy Caneen) Friends, staff. For prize donations: Sweet Frog of New Hartford, Charlie's Pizza and throughout the years of the trophy and its donation, CNY Awards and Apparel.

## Central New York Ghost Hunters, Inc.

Central New York Ghost Hunters, Inc. were at the library (without their ghosts) Sept. 15 for a special presentation to a very interested audience of 60 people. We saw orbs that they had recorded, an arrangement of green dots projected on the wall to detect the presence of the passing of a "visitor," met their stuffed dog who emits a sound if a presence is near, and surrounded the table to view their technical equipment. It was fascinating! Many thanks to the Central New York Ghost Hunters, Inc.

***New Hartford Public Library TOTE BAGS are available at $3 each to carry your treasures home.***

## Annette Barber Used Book Room

Best Deals in Town!!! Each "gently used" book sold assists the library in providing quality resources for the enjoyment of all ages. Thank you for your donations.

ACCEPT: hardbound, paperback books, magazines, records, DVD's, children's books, puzzles

DO NOT ACCEPT: moldy/damaged books (we have to throw them out!), textbooks, medical books, National Geographic Magazine, Reader's Digest, multi volume book sets, audio cassettes, VHS tapes and computer games/books or CDs.

Limit your donation to 1 box/bag at a time.

Please drop them at the circulation desk!

Please DO NOT drop them off in the hallways, at drop boxes or outside when the library is closed!!!!!!

Thank you.

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# MV Chapter Trout Unlimited News

Join us at 69 Steakhouse for our monthly chapter gathering. Ever wonder how warm our streams get in the summer due climate changes and droughts? This month, our guest speaker, Prof. Emily Baker, will present data on the changes in temperatures some of our local streams experience throughout the summer. In addition, we'll be presenting the results of our chapter river keeper volunteers' monthly stream surveys of 12 area reaches compared to 2025.

Meetings are free and open to all whether you're a member or not! - Bring friends, colleagues, and family members. Come early for a delicious bite to eat, refreshments, networking and fishing advice. Meeting starts at 6:30. Presentations will be followed by brief remarks and updates from the chapter. These events are a great opportunity to meet fellow anglers and conservationists, as well as learning about local fishing opportunities and projects we're working on!

Also in November, the second Mohawk Valley Trout Unlimited Film Festival will be Sunday, November 15, 2026 11:00 am at Valley Cinemas on Albany Street in Little Falls. We'll be presenting five classic, action-packed short fishing films produced by filmmakers from all corners of the globe and showcases the passion, lifestyle, and culture of fly fishing. Bring the youngsters for a gathering of our fishing and conservation community, great fishing films, and fun way to support for our upcoming stream conservation projects. Anyone who is passionate about fishing will enjoy this event. A great way to enjoy a late fall day if you can't be on the water.

Valley Cinemas is an intimate family-owned theater in downtown Little Falls. Come early or stay after and grab a bite at one the town's great restaurants. Only a half hour from Utica. Suggested donation $10.00 (Kids 12 and under free). Donations will pay for the venue and films and help fund our local chapter's stream improvement and conservation efforts in the Mohawk Valley. If you have questions, please email us at mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com with questions, and check out our website at www.mohawkvalleytu.org to find more upcoming events.




# Preswick Glen Community Donates $10,600 to Safe Schools Mohawk Valley

Since 2014 the residents of Preswick Glen have pooled funds to make a significant donation to a local charity. The Neighborhood Center, Sleep in Heavenly Peace and the Rescue Mission are among the more recent recipients. A group of dedicated residents, the Giving Committee, meets in the spring to choose the charity designated for that year. The residents are asked to make a donation to the Giving Campaign in the early summer and the accumulated funds are then contributed to the charitable organization. A majority of residents participate in the campaign and it provides a way for the Preswick Glen community to provide major support to a variety of needy organizations. The committee consists of Patty Bowen, Larry Calabrese, Barbara Joslin, Karen Kalil, Robin Kinnel, Ann Kirkpatrick, John and Barbara Klein, Grace Klutschkowski, Ann Meyer, and Kathy Wyraz.

Safe Schools Mohawk Valley was chosen as the recipient for this year. Their goal is to help students at risk achieve better attendance at school, better performance and improved graduation rate from high school. Some forty counselors in a number of school districts in three counties work with students identified by guidance counselors by declining grades, attendance or other markers. If needed the counselors will work with families.

Safe Schools Mohawk Valley also has conducted a summer program, titled the Urban Leadership Institute, for the past fifteen years. This year's iteration was called the First Responder Academy, in which seventy high school students from a variety of school districts spent two weeks learning directly about what first responders do. Hands on experience included practicing rescues in full firefighter gear, learning CPR and wound care, seeing how the police use the rescue vehicles and tactical gear, and observing a K-9 unit in action. At the graduation ceremony one student indicated that she had been motivated to become a first responder at her local fire department. Preswick Glen was a major supporter of the First Responder Academy, and was recognized at the graduation ceremony in late August. The Check was presented to Anne Lansing, CEO of Safe Schools Mohawk Valley, during Happy Hour at Preswick Glen on September 23.

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## Fair Trade Gift Shop

Fresh fall starts here! Autumn made simple. Crisp days, fresh finds! Make this fall count.

Our Double Vine Breadwarmer from Bangladesh combines functional design with artisan beauty, making it a must-have for any home. This unique piece features a whitewashed terra cotta stone, deeply incised with a nature-designed design, which rests within a handwoven kaisa grass basket adorned with a palm wrap.

If your food is not seasoned to your liking, crossing paths with these black cats is good luck! Our Cat Salt & Pepper Shakers are hand-carved from Palewa stone by artisans in India. These shakers make wonderful fall décor, or a playful table staple for the cat lover.

Our exquisite and one-of-a-kind Hand Carved Wood Measuring Spoon Set from Guatemala is a popular item and a must-have kitchen accessory. Carefully crafted from reclaimed wood, these spoons are finished with food-safe raw tung oil for durability and protection.

These and many, many more uniquely handcrafted gift items from 38 different countries can be found at our Fair Trade Shop, Stone Presbyterian Church, 8 So. Park Row, Clinton. Our regular hours are 10am to 4pm every Thursday, SECOND Saturdays and by appointment by calling 315-853-1070. Purchasing fair trade items ensures artisans and small farmers fair wages and healthy working conditions, providing dignity, sustainable development and hope for marginalized people. Let us be your go-to Gift Shop! Visit us at https://buildingstonesshoppe.square.site or www.facebook.com/buildingstonesfairtradeshoppe.

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Thanksgiving safety tips from Helen M. Sarandrea Physical Therapy.

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- Wear supportive shoes and take breaks.
- Use proper body mechanics when lifting and carrying.
- Pace yourself and avoid overdoing it.
- Stretch before and after long periods of standing or activity.

Stay safe, stay active, and enjoy the season!

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## Angels Among Us Food Pantry

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**Hours of Operation: 10am - Noon**

The food pantry is located at: St. John The Evangelist Church, 66 Oxford Rd, New Hartford, NY. Follow the signs to the driveway in the back during open hours. In the event of food emergency issues, please contact the St. John's rectory from 9AM to 2 PM Monday through Thursday at 315-732-8521.

Our pantry provides services to all residents of New Hartford (btw Rt 8 and Rt 12), Washington Mills, Chadwicks, Sauquoit, Cassville and Clayville.

If this is your first visit, please bring proof of address. If you do not have a permanent address, just come in. We will assist. If you are unsure of eligibility, just come in. We will assist.

### We Are Looking For Volunteers!

The Food Bank of Central New York provides eligibility guidelines for its programs, including The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). The income limits for calendar year 2025 are:

| Household size | Annual income |
|---|---|
| 1 | $35,213 |
| 2 | $47,588 |
| 3 | $59,963 |
| 4 | $72,338 |
| 5 | $84,713 |
| 6 | $97,088 |
| 7 | $109,463 |
| 8 | $121,838 |
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## New Hartford Chamber of Commerce

Located in:
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48 Genesee St, New Hartford
(315) 796-1520
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## Café Canole Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Dean & Jason Nole of Café Canole celebrated their 30th anniversary on September 21st.

The New Hartford Chamber of Commerce joined alongside the Utica Chamber of Commerce along with dozens of local community & business leaders for this celebration! We congratulate them on 30 years serving the Mohawk Valley and wish them many more years of success.







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## Francesca Kutas Turns Personal Medical Journey Into Giving Back to Boston Children's Hospital

For Francesca Kutas, giving back is deeply personal. Born with a rare birth defect called esophageal atresia (EA), Francesca has overcome significant medical challenges from the very beginning of her life. Now, she is turning her journey into an opportunity to help other children facing similar struggles.

Esophageal atresia occurs when the esophagus does not develop properly during pregnancy, leaving it disconnected from the stomach. As a result, babies cannot eat normally. Francesca spent 93 days in the neonatal intensive care unit at Crouse Hospital and required a G-tube for the first 15 months of her life.

At just three months old, she underwent a successful surgical repair at Upstate University Hospital in Syracuse, allowing her to return home shortly afterward.

In 2021, a routine bronchoscopy revealed another complication: a fistula, or abnormal connection, between her esophagus and trachea. Her family traveled to Boston Children's Hospital, one of only four hospitals able to perform the specialized repair. Following an eight-hour surgery, Francesca once again came through successfully.

Today, Francesca leads an active, healthy life with very few limitations. She enjoys figure skating, playing softball, participating in other sports, reading and crafting. Although she continues to manage occasional reflux with medication, her recent annual endoscopy brought wonderful news: she can now go three years between procedures.

Her mother, Maresa Kutas, describes Francesca as a bright, kind and empathetic young lady who is grateful for the blessings in her life. She began reading at just 18 months old and is a straight-A student at Notre Dame Elementary School. Maresa says Francesca's strength and compassion have been evident throughout her journey.

That compassion inspired Francesca to make a difference for other children with esophageal atresia. For the second consecutive year, she and her family have chosen to donate proceeds from their neighborhood fundraiser to Boston Children's Hospital, specifically supporting its esophageal atresia department.

The family's close-knit neighbors eagerly supported Francesca's decision, coming together to contribute to a cause that holds special meaning for her and her family.

For Maresa, watching her daughter thrive after everything she has endured is a blessing. For Francesca, the opportunity to help other children and families facing similar medical challenges is a way to give back to the hospital that played such an important role in her life.

Her story is a powerful reminder that even the youngest members of a community can make a meaningful difference—and that gratitude, kindness and resilience can turn a personal challenge into hope for others.

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# WHAT THE HISTORY

## Thanksgiving Celebrations From Around the World

We in the USA love our Thanksgiving celebration where we commiserate with family and friends while eating turkey, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie and a plethora of celebratory edible accoutrements that are specialized from our own family traditions. We gather in dining rooms and kitchens while telling stories, jokes, and pleasantries that enrich the Thanksgiving gatherings. Families will watch on the television the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade where we see B, C, and D list celebrities aboard the floats, but the highlight is Santa Claus on the last float. Football is also on the TV as the men sit with their bellies bloated to maximum belt-testing resistance while sipping on a cold beer or apple cider. Well, there are Thanksgiving celebrations from around the world, dear reader, so let's go through some. Chuseok is celebrated in South Korea which is the autumn evening festival that goes back 2000 years. They honor their ancestors and celebrate with rice, cakes, fruits, and vegetables. They take time to visit the graves of their deceased ancestors. Homowo is celebrated in Ghana. This is called, "hooting at hunger" where they mock starvation by surviving and they paint their faces, sing songs, dance, and feast. They honor their ancestors by sprinkling cornmeal mixed with palm oil around the house. Germany has a fall harvest thanks festival called "Erntedankfest." This is held on the first Sunday in October where they show gratitude for a bountiful harvest. They go to their churches and decorate them with grains, fruits, and vegetables. They feast on roasted goose then in the evening darkness they have a procession of lanterns and fireworks. Pongal is a festival in India which means "boil over" or "overflow". This symbolizes abundance, prosperity, and gratitude. Pongal is also a cherished and traditional dish that is boiled rice with milk and jaggery. I had to look it up and jaggery is a sugar that is made from sap from palm or coconut trees. This celebration they express thanks to the sun, nature, and cattle. Sukkot is a celebratory festival based in Judaism where the harvest celebrates the Israelites journey through the desert. This is also called the festival of ingathering which marks the end of the harvest season in Israel. They show gratitude for a bountiful harvest. Obon is celebrated in Japan where they honor the spirits of their dead ancestors. They carve animal shaped figures from vegetables and leave them for their family ghosts to ride home. There is dancing and making and launching on calm waters floating candlelit lanterns. It's nice to know that everyone around the world shows thanks for food, family, and honors our loved ones who have passed onto the next plane of existence.

I hope you all enjoy that cranberry sauce this Thanksgiving with or without the cranberries nestled inside. I prefer the non-cranberry infused gelatinous cranberry sauce that is deployed with the shape coming forth from the can. Yummy!

*Dennis Webster is a New Hartford resident, and author of regional books on true crime, ghosts, local history, and asylums. He can be reached at denniswbstr@gmail.com.*





## Meow-Valous Raffle

Purrs and Whiskers Cat/Kitten Rescue is thrilled to announce its annual Meow-Valous Raffle event on Sunday, November 8, from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Club Monarch in Yorkville, NY.

This highly anticipated afternoon features hundreds of raffle items alongside an exciting silent auction. Attendees will have the opportunity to bid on premium packages, including luxury MacKenzie-Childs pieces, relaxing spa days, and much more. To keep guests fueled while they browse, a variety of grab-and-go lunches, coffees, desserts, and bar beverages will be available for purchase throughout the venue.

Every dollar raised directly benefits community cats in need. Proceeds from the Meow-Valous Raffle support the vital Operation Catsnip program, which facilitates the Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return (TNVR) of feral community cats. Additionally, the funds help cover the ongoing costs of supplying insulated shelters and heating disks to dedicated local community cat caretakers.

For more information about the event or donating items, please visit Purrsandwhiskerscny.org or contact the rescue directly at 315-404-2694.






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*Sitrin's new Memory Care Community is expected to be completed by June 2028.*

## Sitrin Plans New Much-Needed Memory Care Community

Over the last 75 years, the Charles T. Sitrin Health Care Center has answered the health care needs of our community.

We're doing it again.

Sitrin recently announced plans to create a 40-bed Memory Care Community to support older adults diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or other recognized forms of dementia. There is a serious – and growing – need for this specialized kind of care in our area. There are only 80 such beds in the area right now, and they are consistently at full occupancy. Families needing this care for a loved one are looking at years-long waiting lists. As a result, individuals in need of special memory care services are often placed unnecessarily into skilled nursing facilities, when their needs would be better met in a lower level of care setting with an emphasis on dementia care.

The $17-million project will incorporate a unique and highly structured environment, stimulating programs, cutting-edge technology, and comprehensive staff training. The secure facility will feature a courtyard, movie theater, and café, where family members can visit and enjoy time with their loved ones. Perhaps most important, staff will be specially trained in Montessori-style treatment of residents, treating them with dignity and respect.

Groundbreaking is planned for April 2027 with completion by June 2028. It will be built directly across from Cedarbrook, on Sitrin's picturesque campus. With this expansion, Sitrin is uniquely positioned to support aging in place in the most integrated setting possible and meet the growing needs of the aging population throughout the region.

A capital campaign is currently under way to support this critically needed community service. Please consider making a donation to this project by visiting www.sitrin.com/memory-care or contact Marc DePerno, vice president of Foundation & Communications, at mdeperno@sitrin.com.

ABOUT SITRIN: Sitrin, a not-for-profit corporation, provides a variety of services for people of all ages and abilities, including comprehensive medical rehabilitation (inpatient and outpatient), long-term care, assisted living and enriched housing (Cedarbook), NeuroCare, residential care for people with intellectual disabilities and medically complex conditions, medical and social model adult day program, military program, adaptive sports (STARS Program), a Wellness and Aquatic Center, orthopedic injury program, concussion management, child care, and dental clinic.



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## Wednesday, November 25th

## DJ Oh Kane

## 9:30pm-1:30am

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### November Band Schedule

**Tuesday 11/3**
**Frank Cannistra 6-9**

**Friday 11/6**
**Showtime Trio 8:30-11:30**

**Saturday 11/7**
**Soul Injection 8:30-11:30**

**Friday 11/13**
**Spencer Morgan 8-11**

**Saturday 11/14**
**Tom & Ashley 8-11**

**Friday 11/20**
**Matt Beadle & The Yard Cats 8:30-11:30**

**Saturday 11/21**
**Isaac French 8-11**

**Wednesday 11/25**
**DJ Oh Kane 8:30-1am**

**Friday 11/27**
**Showtime Full Band 8:30-11:30**

**Saturday 11/28**
**Shawn Smith 4-7**

**Saturday 11/28**
**Virgil Cain 8:30-11:30**



## "You Can Either Train Hard, or Train Long"

*submitted by Jim LaFountain, All American Fitness Center*

In January, 1981, we opened the All-American Fitness Center, in New Hartford. The first piece of cardiovascular equipment equipment we ordered was a Life Cycle. Doctor Kennith Cooper's revolutionary book, 'Aerobics' helped give birth to cardiovascular exercise. He suggested we perform 12 minutes of large muscle group, rhythmic exercise, most days of the week, at 65-85% of our maximum heart rate (calculated by subtracting our age from the number 220, multiplied by .65-.85). The word Aerobic simply means "in the presence of oxygen." The problem is oxygen is only 21% of the air we breathe, the vast majority is nitrogen at 78%. Cardiovascular may be a more accurate word. Most cardio equipment took Dr. Cooper seriously and limited sessions to 12 minutes. Everyone seemed happy with that and experienced noticeable results. In order to do more than 12 minutes required that you re-program and start over. Clearly, Life Cycle was designed for Dr. Cooper's recommendation of 12 minutes maximum.

Like most physical endeavors at the time, more was adopted as better. Running and bicycle road races were born, followed by half marathons, marathons and century bicycle rides. Sports Medicine carved out a powerful portion of medicine to treat "overuse" injuries. At this time in my exercise protocol, even I was guilty of believing more was better and yes, received Sports Medical treatment. Even weight training was guilty of the "more is better" syndrome, as Powerlifting became more popular than ever. Participants almost constantly talked about their "max lifts."

While in graduate school my "more is better" philosophy had me training two hours a day, six days a week until I contracted mononucleosis. While bedridden, I devoted the majority of my time researching exercise intensity versus exercise volume. What I found was, most exercise enthusiasts who focused on high volume training had experienced what I was battling. Recovery seemed to be the new buzz word. It was obvious, my six days a week routine was not allowing for much recovery. After my "recovery," from mono, I began training at a very high intensity, on three, non consecutive days a week. Each workout lasted 35-40 minutes! Dared to enter the Mr. Kentucky Contest by friends, added to my motivation. Placing 2nd, surprised me and even my friends who dared me to enter.

"You can either train hard or long," a sentence I repeat several times a week while training members and clients. Most Americans are still hung up on how long they run, bike or how much they lift. Experts claim it's a comfort issue, since high intensity workouts are somewhat uncomfortable. Ways to increase intensity is including hill work or performing intervals. Increasing Resistance Training requires performing each set in good form, to momentary muscular failure. Experts claim growth is stimulated during the last couple repetitions, when performing another repetition, in good form is physically impossible. Discomfort is caused by your body's attempt to protect itself, by releasing lactic acid into the muscle. Lactic Acid clears the muscle in a few hours, prolonged muscle soreness is caused by micro tears in the muscle and usually ends in 36-48 hours. Again, training on three, non consecutive days a week allows for adequate recovery, in preparation for the next workout. During my group presentations, I draw some doubtful reactions when I say, "exercise does nothing to PRODUCE growth, only recovery does."

Given time to recover, muscles grow microscopically thicker and stronger, often referred to as "Super Compensation." Muscles Super Compensate in preparation for another high intensity workout. Over a lifetime, without pharmacological sides like anabolic steroids or human growth hormones, a male can expect to add about 15 pounds of muscle and women about 6-8 pounds of muscle. Reports of more, are chemically aided.

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## H.A.R.P. Museum Youth Craft Day

The H.A.R.P. Museum at the Irish Cultural Center of the Mohawk Valley is pleased to announce two November Lunch & Learn sessions for area youth on Saturday November 14.

Our first session starts at 10 AM when our guest youth will learn the art of making corn husk figures. A great craft for decorating your home for Thanksgiving, native Americans have been making them for centuries and the art was later adopted by early European settlers.

There will be a break for lunch, which will be provided for all attendees at noon.

Our afternoon session starts at 1 PM when attendees will make all-occasion or holiday-themed greeting cards decorated with Celtic designs.

Herkimer artisan Jill Rae Venerra will be on hand to lead this program. Jill is the owner of Easels on the Gogh, a full service mobile painting studio, and Jill Rae Signs. She has a degree in Fine Arts and Art Therapy. Easels on the Gogh hosts parties for adults, children, schools, colleges, and nursing homes. Everything you will need for your creation will be supplied. With Jill, Everyone is an Artist!

All supplies will be provided, all they need is their imagination and enthusiasm.

There is no charge for these classes or for lunch, which are being offered to children of all ethnicities aged 8-14. As each class has limited seating, advance registration is required, at https://bit.ly/3TTA1zp.

Call and leave a message at 315-733-4228 Ext 6 for questions or information. Lunch will be included for the students for both sessions at noon. Parents/guardians are welcome to attend any of the events (they won't count against the cap, but will have to pay for their own lunch).

This youth programming series, aimed at introducing young people of our area to the history and culture of Ireland, is funded through the Mohawk Valley Gives program and matching funds from the UpMobility Foundation and the James H. Donovan Foundation.

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## NHFD News

Your New Hartford Volunteer Fire Department responded to 98 alarms during the month of September as indicated by the monthly call report listed below by category:

Fires = 2
EMS = 49
Hazardous = 3
Service Type = 8
False Alarms = 36
Good Intent = 0
Other Alarms = 0
Weather Related = 0

Total Calls for the Month of September 2026 = 98. Of the 98 alarms, 87 were in the town and 11 were in the village and 0 mutual aid alarm.

Total calls year-to-date through September 2026 = 964.

Some of the calls listed above - such as Fires, EMS, and Hazardous - are self- explanatory. Others such as Service, Good Intent and Other Alarms are not. Service Calls includes water or animal problems, public assistance or standbys. Good Intent refers to responding but did not find anything or canceled in route. Other alarms include explosions, carbon monoxide, smoke or sprinkler detector activations.

The figures above do not include other activities by members of the department such as Fire Prevention details, training, parades, Open House and other various department committee meetings that take place throughout the year.

### *From the Desk of the Chief*

*Thomas A. Bolanowski Fire Chief,*
*New Hartford Fire Department*

## Heating Season: Preparing Your Home for the Colder Months

As fall arrives and temperatures begin to drop, many of us are getting ready to turn on our heating systems for another season. Whether your home is heated by natural gas, oil, a wood stove, or a fireplace, now is a good time to make sure everything is operating safely.

After sitting idle throughout the warmer months, heating equipment may need maintenance or repairs, and sometimes problems are not discovered until a system is put back into regular use. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), heating equipment was responsible for an estimated 44,000 home fires annually in the United States during a recent five-year reporting period. Many of these incidents involved conditions that could have been identified or corrected through proper maintenance and safe operating practices.

We encourage residents to take a few simple precautions before the colder weather settles in.

**Wood Stoves, Fireplaces, and Chimneys**

Wood-burning appliances remain a popular source of heat in our area, particularly during the colder winter months. While they can be an effective way to heat a home, they require regular attention.

One of the primary concerns is creosote, a combustible residue that accumulates inside chimneys as wood burns. Over time, this buildup can ignite and cause a chimney fire. Damaged chimney liners, deteriorating masonry, and obstructed flues can also create dangerous conditions.

The NFPA and Chimney Safety Institute of America recommend that chimneys, fireplaces, and venting systems be inspected at least annually, with cleaning and repairs performed when necessary. If you regularly burn wood, have your chimney inspected by a qualified professional before the heating season. The same applies if you are planning to use a fireplace or wood stove that has not been operated in several years.

Burn properly seasoned wood, maintain appropriate clearances around your stove or fireplace, and use a protective screen where appropriate to prevent sparks and embers from escaping. If you suspect a chimney fire, leave the building and call 911. Even if the fire appears to have gone out, the chimney should be professionally evaluated before being used again.

**Furnaces and Home Heating Systems**

Most of us give little thought to our furnace or boiler until it stops working. However, a heating system that appears to operate normally can still have problems that affect its safety.

Before the heating season begins, consider having your furnace or boiler serviced by a qualified heating contractor. An inspection should include the burner, heat exchanger where applicable, exhaust venting, safety controls, and other components. Blocked vents, deteriorating exhaust piping, and malfunctioning equipment can create fire hazards or allow carbon monoxide to enter a home.

It is also a good idea to operate your heating system before temperatures become consistently cold. This gives you an opportunity to identify problems while there is still time to arrange repairs. If you notice unusual odors, excessive soot, or other indications that your heating equipment is not operating properly, discontinue its use and contact a qualified professional. If you smell natural gas, leave the building and report it from a safe location.

**Carbon Monoxide: A Danger You Cannot See**

One of the more serious concerns associated with fuel-burning heating equipment is carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide, commonly referred to as CO, is a colorless, odorless gas produced when fuels such as natural gas, propane, oil, wood, or coal do not burn completely.

Unlike smoke, carbon monoxide provides no obvious warning that it is present. Exposure can cause headaches, dizziness, nausea, confusion and, in severe cases, unconsciousness or death. Working carbon monoxide alarms are an important part of protecting your household.

Make sure you have properly located carbon monoxide alarms in your home in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and applicable requirements. Test them regularly, replace batteries when required, and remember that the alarms themselves have a limited-service life. Check the manufacturer's recommended replacement date for each unit.

If a carbon monoxide alarm activates, take it seriously. Move to fresh air and have the situation evaluated. Do not assume the alarm is malfunctioning simply because nobody feels ill. Allow trained responders to investigate the cause and determine when it is safe to reenter the home.

**Portable Space Heaters**

Portable electric heaters can provide supplemental warmth, but they also introduce additional fire hazards when used improperly. Keep space heaters at least three feet away from combustible materials, including furniture, curtains, bedding, and clothing.

Always plug an electric space heater directly into a wall outlet rather than an extension cord or power strip, which may overheat under the electrical load. Choose a heater equipped with modern safety features, including automatic shutoff protection if the unit tips over or overheats, and never leave a portable heater operating unattended.

Space heaters should supplement a home heating system, not serve as an improvised replacement for equipment that needs repair.

**A Few Minutes of Prevention**

Before winter arrives, we encourage New Hartford residents to take a little time to look over their home's heating equipment and basic safety precautions. Have your chimney inspected if you burn wood, schedule maintenance for your furnace or boiler, check that heating equipment has adequate clearance from combustible materials, and make certain your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are working properly.

These are relatively simple steps, but they can make a significant difference. Our firefighters respond to heating-related fires, chimney emergencies, and carbon monoxide incidents throughout the colder months. While not every emergency can be prevented, proper maintenance and a little preparation can reduce the likelihood of something going wrong.

The members of the NHFD are part of this community too. We are your friends, coworkers, and neighbors, and we would much rather see everyone spend a little time preparing their homes now than have our apparatus responding to your home later for an emergency that might have been avoided.

We all depend on our heating systems to get through a Central New York winter. Taking care of them is part of taking care of our homes, our families, and our community.

For additional fire safety information, visit nhfd.com or contact the New Hartford Fire Department at (315) 732-1710.

## A Magical Time of the Year

The members of New Hartford Volunteer Fire Department and The New Hartford Fireman's Benevolent Association invite you to stop by the fire station and Village Park to see this year's Holiday Lights display. In conjunction with the Village of New Hartford, the fire station has become the focal point for many friends, young and old, at this time of the year, including many of those who have gone away from the area and returned "home" over the holidays.

Members of the department are working tirelessly to make sure the village "glows" during this holiday season. Countless hours will be spent over the next few weeks assembling and installing the various decorations and displays.

From the lighting to the Memorial displays, we take pride in making the most of our display along with the Village display in the park.

This year's lights will be turned on for the "Believe - A Magical Christmas Festival" on Saturday, November 21, 2026, for everyone to enjoy.

Over the course of many years, with the generous support of our New Hartford Community, we continually update and improve the displays. We thank you all for your support and hope that you enjoy not only the lights but this very special and magical Season!

New Hartford Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief Tom Bolanowski and New Hartford Firemen's Benevolent Association President James Toomey, Jr., along with the officers and members extend their very best wishes for a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON! Visit us on the web at: www.nhfd.com all year long.

## Believe Magical Christmas Event

The magic of the holiday season will come to life on November 21st at the upcoming Believe Magical Christmas event, a festive community celebration filled with holiday fun, family activities, and plenty of Christmas cheer put on by the New Hartford Volunteer Fire Department.

The event will run from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m in the New Hartford village green offering families and children an opportunity to kick off the holiday season with an evening of memorable experiences and Christmas spirit.

One of the evening's biggest highlights will be the arrival of Santa Claus at 5pm in the Christmas parade starting at the New Hartford Public Library, leading down Oxford Rd and ending at the village green. Children will have the chance to meet Santa, take photos with him, and share their Christmas wishes during this special holiday visit.

In addition to Santa's arrival, the event will feature basket raffles (inside the fire house), food trucks, local vendors, and a variety of children's activities. Families can browse vendor offerings, participate in raffles, and take part in activities designed to make the evening enjoyable for visitors of all ages.

The Believe Magical Christmas event aims to bring the community together to celebrate the joy, wonder, and excitement of the Christmas season. With festive activities and opportunities for families to make lasting holiday memories, the event promises an evening full of Christmas magic.

Community members and families are invited to attend, enjoy the festivities, and help make the season bright.

**Date: November 21st**

**Time: 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m**

Where: New Hartford Village Green
Santa's Arrival: 5 p.m. by sleigh Activities:
Photos with Santa, children's activities,
basket raffles, food trucks, and vendors

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# Why Custom Furniture Is Worth the Wait

*By Cassie Grace Miles | Grace Furniture*

In a world where nearly everything is available at the click of a button, we have grown accustomed to instant gratification. Furniture is no exception. With countless ready-made options promising convenience and quick delivery, the idea of waiting several weeks for a piece of furniture may seem unnecessary. Yet when it comes to creating a truly beautiful home, some things are simply worth waiting for.

Custom furniture offers something that mass-produced pieces often cannot: the opportunity to create something thoughtfully selected for your home, your lifestyle, and your personal taste.

A Home Should Reflect the People Who Live in It. One of the most rewarding aspects of interior decorating is helping clients discover their individual style. No two homes are exactly alike, nor should they be. The furniture we choose should complement not only the architecture of our spaces but also the way we live within them.

Perhaps you have fallen in love with a particular sofa, but the standard fabric isn't quite right. Maybe you need a sectional configured to accommodate an unusual room layout, or dining chairs in a finish that coordinates beautifully with an existing table.

Custom ordering allows you to make these decisions intentionally rather than settling for something that is simply close enough.

The Beauty Is in the Details. Fabric selection alone can dramatically change the personality of a piece of furniture. A traditional sofa upholstered in a soft linen-inspired textile can feel relaxed and understated, while that same silhouette in a rich velvet becomes elegant and dramatic. Even subtle details, such as contrasting welting, decorative nail heads, or a different wood finish, can completely transform its appearance.

These choices are what elevate a room from ordinary to exceptional.

I often remind clients that furniture is one of the most significant visual elements in a room. A sofa, dining table, or bedroom suite establishes the foundation for everything around it. Taking the time to select the right materials, proportions, and finishes can make an extraordinary difference in the finished space.

Quality That Goes Beyond Appearance. Custom furniture also presents an opportunity to look more closely at how a piece is constructed. While customization does not automatically guarantee superior quality, many reputable manufacturers offering special-order furniture place considerable emphasis on craftsmanship, durable materials, and thoughtful construction. The difference may be found in the frame, the suspension system, the tailoring of the upholstery, or the quality of the wood itself. These are details that may not immediately catch your eye on a showroom floor, but they can have a lasting impact on comfort, performance, and longevity.

Beautiful furniture should not only look wonderful on the day it arrives. It should continue to serve your home for years to come.

Patience Is Part of the Process. Naturally, custom furniture requires additional time. Fabrics must be sourced, materials prepared, and individual orders placed into production. Depending on the manufacturer and the complexity of the piece, lead times can vary considerably. But consider how long we live with our furniture. A sofa may remain in a home for fifteen years, sometimes longer. In that context, waiting a few additional weeks to get exactly what you want seems like a worthwhile investment.

Creating a Home with Intention. The most beautiful interiors rarely happen overnight. They evolve through thoughtful decisions, carefully selected furnishings, and an appreciation for quality over convenience.

At Grace Furniture, we have always believed that choosing furniture should be a personal experience. Our complimentary interior decorating services allow us to work closely with clients, exploring fabrics, finishes, and configurations to find pieces that truly belong in their homes.



Because in the end, a beautifully furnished home isn't about having everything immediately. It's about surrounding yourself with pieces you'll be happy to live with for years to come.

Visit us today 9785 River Road, Marcy. Call us (315) 735-0732. Shop us from home www.gracefurniture.com.






# Music Mondays at MVILR

The Mohawk Valley Institute for Learning in Retirement (MVILR) is completing its 8-week Music Mondays Concert Series at the Festine Auditorium, MVCC Rome, 1101 Floyd Ave. November 2, Big Tasty and the Sass bring an energetic performance blending blues, jazz, and standards from the Great American Songbook. Performing together since 2019, the trio features Maren Meyer-Wendt on vocals, Bob Ford on keyboard, and Brian McDowell on bass.

Completing the concert series on November 9, Monk Rowe (on saxophone and keyboard) and John Hutson (on guitar and vocals) will present a Decades program, featuring popular hits from the 1940's through the 1970's. The duo has been collaborating for 25 years, presenting eclectic programs of jazz, blues and pop hits.

The Monday concerts are held at 12:30pm and are open to the public, free.




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# NEW HARTFORD PAST TIMES

**November 2026**



## NEW HARTFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

the ***"Bur Stone Road"*** aka Campion Road
What other differences can you see from a map of the Village circa 1870?




## New Hartford Historical Society
### ~ Membership Form ~

**Please check one of the following:**

[ ] $20.00 Individual
[ ] $25.00 Family
[ ] $50.00 Contributing
[ ] $100.00 Corporate

[ ] Renewal
[ ] New Member

Name:_____

Address: _____

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Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Please send check made payable to:

**New Hartford Historical Society**
**P.O. Box 238, New Hartford, N.Y. 13413**

**You can also pay dues and/or join online at newhartfordhistory.com**

### BECOME A MEMBER!

Please stop in to visit us and consider becoming a member. Membership fees are $20 for Individual, $25 for families, $50 for Contributing and $100 for Corporate members. The Historical Society is a non-profit, tax deductible organization.

### Planning a Class Reunion?

Make the Historical Society Museum a part of your itinerary! Schedule the Saturday of your reunion for your group to explore our collection of yearbooks, scrap books, local relics and photos. Look up your New Hartford home!
**Call 315-724-7258 to schedule your group.**

### Museum is Open To the Public

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## BOGO 50% off Recordable Books







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## The Peppermint Pig









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Salt City Holiday Antiques Show

ANTIQUE TALK

## Salt City Holiday Antiques Show

The Salt City Holiday Antiques Show is November 21 & 22 at the Horticulture Building at the NYS Fairgrounds in Syracuse. This show has been a favorite for 30 years and features 100 dealers offering antiques, collectibles and antique Christmas items. The hours are 9-5 on Saturday and 10-4 on Sunday. Admission is $8. This show is well worth attending!

## Mailbag Returns In December

'From the Mailbag', where I answer reader's questions on antiques and collectibles, will be featured in the December edition of Antique Talk. You can email your questions to me at vjfariello@gmail.com or drop me a line at Antique Talk, PO Box 194, Washington Mills, NY 13479. I look forward to hearing from you!

Happy collecting!

## Support YOUR Historical Society

If you haven't already done so, now is the time to renew or start your membership in this great community asset. The rates for 2026: $20 Individual; $25-Family; $50-Contribute; and $100-Corporate. You can also now pay for your membership online at the society's website newhartfordhistory.com or you can mail your check payable to 'NH Historical Society' to PO Box 238, New Hartford, NY 13413. All donations are tax deductible. This important community organization deserves our support!

## Questers Wants You



The Questers is an organization with members who are interested in history, preservation and antiques. The J. Schoolcraft Sherman Chapter #1519 meets monthly except July & August at the New Hartford Library the first Monday of the month at 4:30 p.m. We usually have a presenter at each meeting and Show & Tell where members bring an item to share with the group. New members are always welcome! Email me at vjfariello@gmail.com for more information.

*Victor J. Fariello Jr. is a lifelong resident of New Hartford and has been a collector and dealer of antiques for many years. He is a past officer and member of the New Hartford Historical Society and is the President of the J. Schoolcraft Sherman Chapter #1519 of The Questers, an International organization for people who love antiques and have a commitment to preservation. Questions on anything related to antiques can be sent to him at PO Box 194, Washington Mills, NY 13479 or by email to vjfariello@gmail.com. Any photos submitted will be returned upon request.The Salt City Holiday Antiques Show in Syracuse is an annual favorite for collectors.*















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NOV. 21 | 7:30PM



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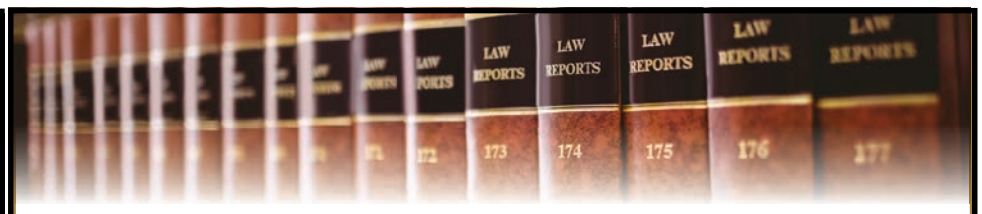



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## MVPA
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NOVEMBER 2026

The Town of New Hartford

# Town Hall Highlights



## October 2026 Highlights

*From the office of James Messa, New Hartford Town Supervisor*

### Proposed 2% Tax Levy Reduction

One of my first priorities upon taking office was addressing the Town's outstanding financial audits for 2024 and 2025. Bringing our financial records up to date is essential to understanding the Town's financial position, strengthening oversight, and making informed decisions about our future.

With residents facing rising costs for everyday expenses, I believe local government has a responsibility to manage spending carefully and find opportunities to ease the burden on taxpayers. This was a driving factor and primary objective behind the 2027 tentative budget I presented at the October 7 Town Board meeting.

I believe we can achieve this reduction while continuing to provide the services our residents depend on and the support our departments need. This is an encouraging step toward stronger financial oversight and long-term stability.

After reviewing the Town's finances and working through the tentative budget, **I was pleased to propose a 2% Reduction in the 2027 Town Tax Levy** while maintaining the essential services our residents depend on.

As I write this article, the proposed budget is scheduled for an October 21 public hearing and Town Board vote, which is after this article will go to print. I am hopeful that by the time this article reaches residents, the reduction will have been approved, marking an important step toward providing relief to taxpayers.

### Tax Relief for Volunteer Firefighters

I was also pleased to introduce legislation providing a real property tax exemption for qualifying volunteer firefighters, which the Town Board adopted on October 7. This legislation recognizes the dedication of our volunteer firefighters while providing meaningful tax relief in appreciation of their service.

### Strengthening Our Codes Department

The Town of New Hartford is making important changes to its Codes Department to improve service to residents and I am pleased to welcome **Michael Mulligan as Code Department Head** and **Tom Davis as a part-time Code Enforcement Officer.** George Farley will continue to serve at a part-time capacity.

These staffing changes are part of a broader effort to strengthen the department's operations and provide the leadership necessary to protect public safety, maintain community standards, and preserve the quality of life in New Hartford.

With dedicated leadership and additional enforcement capacity, we aim to improve communication, provide more consistent service, and respond to concerns more effectively.

### Improving Efficiency and Accountability Across Town Government

As our community evolves, we must continue to evaluate how our Town departments operate and identify opportunities for improvement. The changes underway in our Codes Department are part of a broader effort to strengthen leadership, improve oversight and accountability, and streamline processes across Town government. My goal is to improve Town services while making the best use of taxpayer dollars.

These efforts reflect my continued commitment to a more efficient, accountable, and responsive Town government.



## Highway Department News

*Submitted by: Richard Sherman, Highway Superintendent*

As I write this article today October 14, 2026, the leaves have been falling for a few weeks now. It seems every year the leaves are falling later in the season, which tells me they will fall late again this year. This gives us a very small window if snow arrives early. So please, once the leaves start to fall don't wait, get them to the street. This year the four leaf vacs will be out in force. With four trucks out in all wards every day, there will be no night shifts picking up leaves. **Please do not place leaves in plastic bags or containers. PLEASE DO NOT PLACE ARTICLES SUCH AS BRUSH, PUMPKINS, AND ROCKS IN WITH THE LEAVES.** These articles damage the machines causing down time during our busiest season. I have noticed in my drives around the town that people are placing brush, branches with the leaf piles. Brush pick-up is over as we are now utilizing leaf trucks. The rainy season is also upon us, which brings the leaves down and plugs our catch basins, which cause flooding.

Please remove basketball hoops from the town right of ways to avoid damage from plows in the winter season. **Also remember no all-night parking on Town of New Hartford Highways starting November 1st.**

Highway department winter shifts start November 29, 2026 this year, with two shifts for plowing and sanding: 4 am - 4 pm and 4 pm - 4 am. The salt shed is full and the Bs are being delivered. The salt brine is being made and the tanks are full for the start of this winter season.

The two Roman Road detention ponds are about to be finished in the next few weeks and work continues on the street sign installations as the new signs arrive.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns you can contact me at 315-534-2998 or rsherman@townofnewhartfordny.gov.

## NEW HARTFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

SEPTEMBER 2026 ACTIVITY

**976** TOTAL POLICE INCIDENTS

- Alarms: 59
- Animal Control Officer Calls: 9
- Animal Shelter Intakes: 4
- Criminal Mischief: 9
- Arrests: 73
- Burglary: 1
- Community Policing Details: 4
- Domestic Incident / Disputes: 8
- Driving While Intoxicated: 4
- Grand Larceny - Stolen Motor Vehicle: 0
- Homeless Person Welfare Checks: 6
- Mental Health Crisis Calls: 13
- Motor Vehicle Collisions: 75
- Petit Larceny & Grand Larceny: 52
- Robbery: 1
- Supplemental NeighborhoodPatrols: 264
- Traffic Stops: 216
- Vehicle & Traffic Law Tickets: 191



## Town Clerk's Office Focused on Service for Residents

*Submitted by: Michele Moran*

Continuing education is an important part of ensuring residents receive the best possible service from their local government. With that goal in mind, Deputy Town Clerk Susan Keller and I recently attended the Municipal Clerks track at the 34th Annual SUNY Potsdam Local Government Conference.

The program featured presentations from Katie Hodgdon, Association Counsel for the NY Association of Towns, Michael Martin of the NYS Archives and Kristin Bergin, Acting Executive Director and Counsel for the NYS Committee on Open Government. The training provided valuable updates on records retention, tax collection procedures, and public access requirements, while offering practical ideas to enhance efficiency and customer service. We appreciate the Town Board's continued support of professional development opportunities that help us better serve our residents.

### Veterans Banner Update

As Veterans Day approaches, we are proud to honor the men and women who have served our nation. Following Veterans Day, banners will be removed as weather permits. Banners that have reached the end of their three-year display period will be available for pickup at the Town Clerk's Office beginning in late November. We thank the families who participate in this program and help us recognize the service and sacrifice of our local veterans each year. Please visit the Town Clerk's page on the Town website for a list of banner locations and information about which banners are eligible for pickup.

## WE ARE HIRING!

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## NOVEMBER MEETING SCHEDULE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Town Board | Nov. 4, 18 | 6:00pm |
| Joint Planning/Zoning | Nov. 5 | 5:30pm |
| Planning Board | Nov. 9 | 5:30pm |
| Zoning Board of Appeals | Nov. 16 | 6:00pm |
| Stormwater Committee | Nov. 11 | 6:00pm |

Schedule subject to change.
Visit the website for schedules, agendas and minutes.

**LIVE-STREAMED Town Board Meetings**

SCAN THE CODE and Click "LIVE" tab.

www.youtube.com/@TownofNewHartfordNY

*45 Years of Excellence in Property Mitigation and Environmental Remediation*

# DISASTER SERVICES LLC.

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- LARGE COMMERCIAL DOWN TO SMALL RESIDENTIAL

**FROZEN AND BURST PIPES! WATER DAMAGE…**
**BURST PIPES, TOILET OVERFLOW, SUMP PUMP FAILURE, SEWER AND DRAIN BACK UP**

When a property experiences water damage from either ground water flooding, sump pump failure, burst pipes, toilet overflow etc. the first few hours determine the extent of the long-term damage. Leaving water smoke unaddressed or improperly mitigated creates the perfect breeding ground for environmental hazards. Property owners need a seasoned, licensed partner who understands the science of drying and if necessary, the strict legal protocols of mold removal. Because we focus entirely on the mitigation and remediation phases rather than reconstruction, our team is uniquely optimized to dry, clean, and stabilize your property with unmatched precision.

As a **full-service emergency mitigation company,** we manage all necessary operational support under one roof—from securing temporary power to protecting your personal property—ensuring your recovery begins seamlessly, no matter the scale of the facility.

### Precision Water Damage Mitigation & Structural Drying

Water is a progressive destroyer. Within hours, it weakens structural materials, warps wood, and ruins finishes. Disaster Services deploys specialized, high-capacity equipment to intercept water migration immediately, minimizing structural losses and preventing mold before it can take root. We are fully equipped to handle specialized, complex water scenarios, including:

- **Category 3 Sewer Backups**: Biohazard contaminated wastewater requires immediate containment and professional sanitation. We extract toxic black water, remove unsalvageable porous materials, and completely sanitize the environment to safely eliminate pathogens, viruses, and bacteria.
- **Commercial Sprinkler System Discharge:** A single triggered fire sprinkler can release hundreds of gallons of water per minute, flooding multiple floors of a commercial structure in no time. We deploy high-volume drying strategies to quickly stabilize business environments and prevent widespread secondary structural failure.
- **Winter Ice Damming Backups:** Severe New York winters cause ice dams that force melting snow upward beneath roof shingles, leaking directly into ceilings and exterior walls. We use structural drying and thermal mapping to track and dry this hidden, gravity-driven moisture before it rots framing or sparks mold growth.
- **Scientific Moisture Mapping:** Water easily hides behind baseboards, under vinyl flooring, and inside insulated walls. We utilize advanced thermal imaging cameras, invasive moisture meters, and digital hygrometers to map the exact path of the water, ensuring no hidden moisture pockets are left unaddressed.
- **Proactive Secondary Damage Prevention:** Delays in proper mitigation lead to catastrophic secondary complications like splitting wood, swelling drywall, buckling subfloors, and severe structural rot. By initiating immediate control protocols, we stabilize the building's microclimate to arrest material degradation in its tracks.
- **Applied Structural Drying (ASD):** We establish a controlled drying environment using industrial-grade LGR (Low Grain Refrigerant) and desiccant dehumidifiers paired with high-velocity air movers. By continuously monitoring relative humidity and vapor pressure, we aggressively draw moisture out of heavy structural framing, subfloors, and drywall.

### NYS-Licensed Mold Remediation

Because mold can begin growing within 24 to 48 hours of water exposure, immediate, compliant intervention is crucial. As a New York State licensed mold remediation contractor, Disaster Services strictly adheres to **NYS Department of Labor Article 32** regulations, ensuring your property is legally compliant, safe, and biologically clean. From long standing mold damage to newly formed biological growth, from attics to basements we handle it all.

### Site Stabilization & Asset Protection

A major disaster often compromises a building's utility infrastructure and threatens the safety of its contents. We deploy immediate logistical support to keep the property stable and salvage your belongings.

- Temporary Power and Climate Control: When structural power is knocked out, drying equipment cannot run and buildings risk freezing or overheating. If necessary, we can deliver and manage portable generators, temporary heating units, and climate distribution networks to maintain structural integrity and power our mitigation systems.
- Contents Cleaning and Professional Pack-Out: To protect your valuable inventory, electronics, or personal belongings from soot, high humidity, and cross-contamination, our team carefully inventories, packs, and transports your contents to a secure location for specialized cleaning, deodorization, and storage.

### Fire, Smoke, and Soot Decontamination

- Corrosive Soot Removal: Soot is highly acidic and will permanently pit, stain, or corrode metals, glass, and finishes if left untreated. We neutralize and clean these surfaces immediately.
- Deep Odor Decontamination: Rather than masking smells, we utilize advanced air scrubbing, hydroxyl generators, and thermal fogging to eliminate deep-seated smoke odors at the molecular level.

### Seamless Claims & Flexible Financing Options

The mitigation phase requires exact documentation to prove the property was returned to a dry, safe, and sanitary condition.

- For Insured Claims: We provide comprehensive moisture logs, drying charts, photo documentation, and itemized billing using industry-standard estimating software to help streamline your insurance claim.
- For Non-Insured Losses & Self-Pay: If you are paying out-of-pocket, we offer transparent project oversight to keep costs manageable. To ease the sudden financial burden of an emergency, we offer flexible financing options available to qualified property owners, allowing you to secure your property immediately without delaying critical safety repairs.

### The 45-Year Difference

For nearly a half-century, New York residential and commercial property owners have relied on Disaster Services to handle the heavy lifting during their most stressful moments. From a single residential room to an expansive commercial complex, we utilize precise environmental engineering to ensure your property is completely dry, safe, and biologically clean. Be sure to check out our website for a full list of services we offer to keep your property protected. We are fully equipped to service all job sizes, from individual homeowners to large-scale commercial and industrial structures. We are not a franchise or insurance carrier vendor. Our mission is simple: to represent the homeowner ensuring your mitigation project is done right and in your best interest along with guiding the insured through the process working with all parties involved. Owner on site, on every job for the last 45 years!

### Contact Disaster Services Today

Do not wait for secondary damage to take hold of your home or commercial facility. Disaster Services is standing by **24/7** to respond to your emergency.

- **Call Us 24/7: 315-797-1128- All Calls Personally Answered**
- **Visit Our Website: disasterservices.us**
- **Open your camera over the SCAN ME, as a quick access for our contact information.**
- **E-Mail: disasterservices@roadrunner.com**

SCAN ME






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OF THE MOHAWK VALLEY REGION
"Your Community Connection"

GENESIS GROUP CEO CIRCLE



*Steven Bulger, CEO/President*
*Integrated Community Alternatives Network (ICAN)*
*sbulger@ican.family*

Genesis Group CEO Circle is a new initiative for top executives and business leaders to exchange strategic insights and offer views of their company, organization and the community. Today's guest is Steven Bulger of I.C.A.N.

**What We Need Right Now Is Family**

It feels like there is a lot competing for our attention right now. Turn on the television, open social media or simply scroll through your phone and it doesn't take long to find something designed to make you angry, anxious or worried.

Politics feels increasingly divided. Social media can bring out the worst in people. Adults say things to one another online they would probably never say face to face. Our kids are growing up with pressures and influences that many of us never had to navigate. Bullying doesn't necessarily stop when the school day ends anymore. It can follow a child home on a phone in their pocket.

There is economic uncertainty. There are concerns about mental health. Parents are stretched, employees are stretched, kids are stretched.

And sometimes I wonder whether, in a world where we have more ways to connect than ever before, we are actually becoming less connected to the people who matter most. I don't pretend to have the answer to all of those challenges. But I am increasingly convinced that one of the answers is remarkably simple.

We need family. I say that as a CEO, but more importantly, I say it as a husband and a dad. My daughter, Breana, is a senior in high school this year. My son, Stevie, is a sophomore. And like every parent who suddenly realizes how quickly the years have gone, I am very aware that the window when all of us are living under the same roof is getting smaller.

That perspective changes things. It makes a family dinner feel a little more important. It makes sitting in the stands at a game more important. It makes the car ride, the conversation at the kitchen counter, the family vacation, the question of "How was your day?" and actually listening to the answer more important. None of those things are complicated. But increasingly, I think they matter.

We need more families sitting down for dinner together. We need parents putting the phones down sometimes and asking their kids what is actually happening in their lives. We need kids to know there is someplace they belong unconditionally. We need grandparents, extended family members, coaches, teachers, neighbors and other caring adults who understand that sometimes simply showing up consistently can change the trajectory of a young person's life. And we need to recognize that strengthening families isn't only a responsibility inside the home.

Businesses have a critical role too. As business leaders, we talk constantly about workforce development, recruitment and retention. Those things matter. But employees aren't just employees. They are mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, sons and daughters, coaches, caregivers, volunteers; the list goes on. Organizations that want great employees should create cultures that allow people to be great family members too. That doesn't mean work isn't important. I love what I do and have spent much of my life building an organization and pursuing ambitious goals. But I have never believed my family should get whatever is left of me after work gets the best of me. I also don't believe businesses lose when they respect that priority. I think they actually win. People who feel supported as human beings are more likely to be engaged, committed and invested in the organizations where they work.

Our communities have a role as well. We need to invest in our kids. Not someday; now! That means schools, sports, arts, recreation, mentoring, mental health, child care, safe places to gather and adults willing to invest their time in young people. It means seeing young people not simply as recipients of services or students in classrooms, but as the future of our region. Because they are.

We spend a lot of time talking about economic development and the future of the Mohawk Valley. We should. Creating jobs, attracting businesses and growing our economy are critically important. But the most important long-term investment we can make in this region may be sitting at our kitchen tables tonight… our kids. The values we teach them, the time we give them, the confidence we build in them, the examples we set for them, and the families and support systems we build around them.

Family doesn't look the same for everyone. It may be parents and children. It may be grandparents raising grandchildren. A single parent, foster parents, extended family, or people who have intentionally built a family around relationships rather than biology. The structure may be different but the need to belong is not. At a time when so many forces seem to be pulling people apart, maybe one of the most powerful things we can do is intentionally pull closer together.

Have dinner together. Go to the game. Ask the second question when "I'm fine" doesn't sound quite right. Call your parents. Put the phone away. Let your employees go to their kid's field trip. Coach a team. Mentor a young person. Simply be present.

None of these things will solve every challenge facing our society. But imagine what our community looks like if thousands of us do them a little more often. I believe stronger families create stronger kids. Stronger kids create stronger communities. And stronger communities create a stronger future for all of us. With all of the uncertainty around us right now, maybe what we need most isn't complicated at all.

What we need right now is family.








Christopher J. Carbone

# Understanding Risk for Bond Investors

A primary reason investors own bonds is because their values have historically remained relatively stable over time. In other words, they've been less risky than stocks. (Of course, their returns have been lower as well.) So you might want to have bonds in your portfolio in case the stock market takes a hit. If that happens, the bonds could stabilize your portfolio's overall value. And that may help you avoid making emotional (and sometimes costly) heat-of-the-moment choices.

**Lower risk is different than no risk**

Bonds are considered less risky than stocks, but they're certainly not risk-free (no investment is). Although some investors may believe bonds are as safe as cash, that's not the case. In fact, bond investors face a number of risks, including:

Interest rate risk. The chance of a change in a bond's price in response to movements in interest rates. It's important to understand this risk because bond market prices and interest rates are negatively correlated. In other words, if interest rates increase, existing bond prices are likely to decrease. Conversely, when rates are higher and begin to decrease, bond prices will tend to increase.

Credit risk. The prospect that an issuer may suffer a relative decline in credit quality or outright default. The lower the credit risk, the fewer credit-related price fluctuations there should be.

Default risk. When you purchase a bond, you face the risk that the issuer may be unable to pay the interest or par value when it's due.

Opportunity risk. The possibility of missing out on potentially better returns you may be able to get from other investments, like stocks.

**Consider your big picture**

Whether you're talking about bonds or stocks or any other investment, it's important to remember that the amount you own should be determined based on a strategic asset allocation — how your portfolio is divvied up between different investment types — based on your:

· Goals. What you're investing for, such as being able to afford retirement.

· Time horizon. How long you have before you need to tap into our investments. If you're 47 and want to retire at 67, you may have a 20-year time horizon.

· Risk tolerance. How comfortable you are with fluctuations in your portfolio's value. If market volatility makes it difficult for you to get a good night's sleep, you likely have a relatively low risk tolerance.

If you already invest in bonds or are wondering whether you should, you need to understand their risks and the important role they can play in your overall investment strategy. For help with that, you may want to work with a professional financial advisor.

Investments in fixed-income securities are subject to market, interest rate, credit, and other risks. Bond prices fluctuate inversely to changes in interest rates. Therefore, a general rise in interest rates can cause a bond's price to fall. Credit risk is the risk that an issuer will default on payments of interest and/or principal. This risk is heightened in lower-rated bonds. If sold prior to maturity, fixed-income securities are subject to market risk. All fixed-income investments may be worth less than their original cost upon redemption or maturity.

Asset allocation cannot eliminate the risk of fluctuating prices and uncertain returns.

This article was written by/for Wells Fargo Advisors and provided courtesy of Christopher J. Carbone, CFP®, AWMA®, First Vice President - Investment Officer - Financial Advisor in New Hartford, NY at (315) 723-7386

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*Quartet - Primary - Photo by Rebekah Littlejohn*

# Donnell Leahy and Natalie MacMaster Bring in "Four on the Floor"

Mark your calendars! Further cementing the Irish Cultural Center's growing reputation as a "must stop" for the Irish music world's biggest acts, they are beyond excited to have landed virtuoso fiddlers Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy, who, with their two eldest children – Mary Frances and Michael – bring their powerhouse new act "Four on the Floor" to the Event Center stage, at 3 PM on Sunday, November 8th.

Natalie, a headliner at the 2006 Great American Irish Festival, has shared the stage with acts ranging from Carlos Santana to the Chieftains, Paul Simon to Luciano Pavarotti, Alison Krauss to Mark O´Connor and dozens of world-class symphony orchestras. The niece of famed Cape Breton fiddler Buddy MacMaster, Natalie first picked up a fiddle at the age of nine and has not looked back, and is now acknowledged as one of the finest fiddlers in the world, as well as being a world-class dancer.

Combine that with the energy and incredible stage presence of fiddle impresario Donnell Leahy, whose leadership earned his acclaimed Celtic family-band "Leahy" Double-Platinum status, 3 JUNO Awards, and an Academy Award as the subject of the 1985 documentary "The Leahys: Music Most of All," and you have the most exhilarating duo in Celtic Music.

Mary Frances Leahy is a fiddler, pianist, dancer, and composer from Ontario. The oldest of seven siblings, Mary Frances has been performing shows throughout Canada and the U.S. with her parents, with an estimated 600 live performances under her belt.

Brother Michael is no slouch himself, playing multiple instruments with great skill, including the accordion, fiddle, guitar, and piano, and is also known for his step-dancing.

Advance sale tickets are available at https://bit.ly/4xJ6Pto for only $40. The window for that special price closes on October 25th, after which tickets will be $45 until the day of the show, and $50 if you wait to buy tickets at the door.

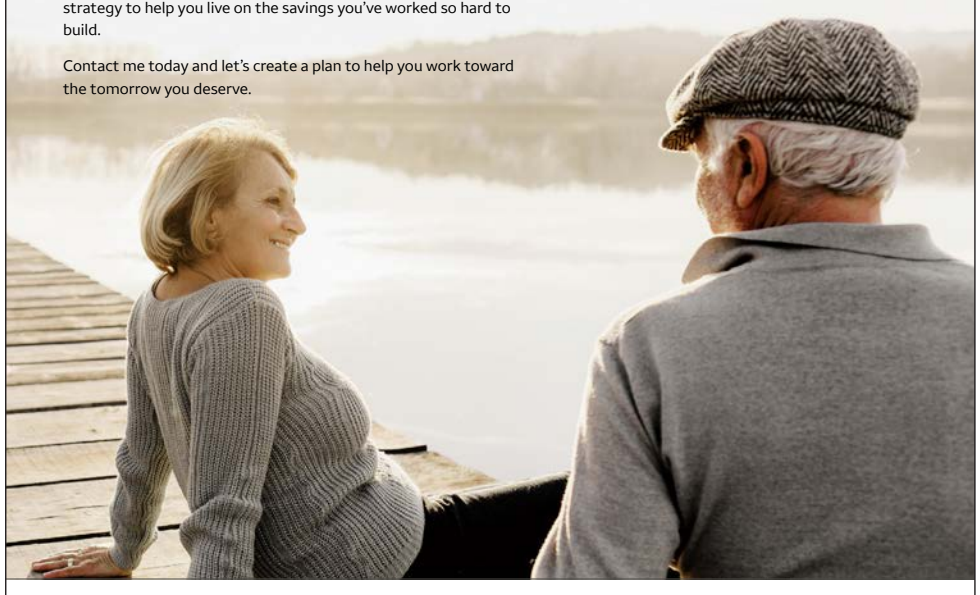
This is a very rare opportunity to see two giants in the Irish music scene, and two of their children who are well on their way to carrying on the incredible Leahy/MacMaster family legacy for years to come. That's Sunday, November 8 th at 3 PM. Get your tickets today!


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office@firstumconline.org Rev. Andy M. Anderson
Sunday Services:
10am Classic Worship
Sunday School for children begins around 10:20
Adult Sunday school 11-12pm
Sunday Youth Group 7-8pm
Supervised Nursery Care during Worship
Fellowship Coffee Hour following Worship Service
Praise/Worship Services are the 3rd Wed. of each month. Light supper will begin at 5:30 and worship is from 6-7pm
Our Church Building is open for in-person worship services
Or watch our livestream service online at firstumconlline.org
Easily accessible building, sanctuary, and bathroom.

**SAUQUOIT VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
2946 Mohawk Street, Sauquoit (Cor. Pinnacle & Mohawk)
Office: 315-737-7505 - Handicapped Accessible
Worship Service - Sunday 10:30am
Open worship and communion - all are welcome!
Communion on First Sunday of the month.

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH**
66 Oxford Road - 315-732-8521 Rev. Matthew Rawson
Saturday: Vigil 5:30 p.m. Confessions Tues 6-7pm
Sunday Masses: 8am & 11am
Mon, Wed & Fri Masses: 6:45am
We are handicapped accessible!

**CROSSPOINT CHURCH**
317 Oriskany Blvd, Whitesboro - 315-797-4520
Senior Pastor, Bobby Allen
Sunday Services:
8:30am – 9:00am Breakfast
9:00am – 10:30am Study Groups
10:30am – 12noon Worship Service
Website: crosspointchurchonline.org
Sunday Morning Services streamed live
Pastor Bobby's message available at our website
We are handicapped accessible!

**HOPE ALLIANCE CHURCH**
4291 Middle Settlement Road, New Hartford
General Office: 315-732-1349 Rev. Andy Ward, Pastor
hopealliance4291@gmail.com www.hopeallianceny.com
Morning Worship: 9:30am
Communion First Sunday of the Month.
Wednesdays: Awana - 6pm
Fridays: Christian Service Brigade - 7pm
Hope Alliance Church is handicapped accessible.

**ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**
25 Oxford Road - 732-7462 (Parish & Rectory)
ststephensepiscopalnhny@gmail.com
Sunday Service of Holy Communion at 10am followed by fellowship
Al-Anon Meetings: Sun. at 5pm & Thurs. at 5:30pm
AA Meetings: Sundays at 8pm
Yoga by Kristy: Tues. 5:30-7pm & Thurs. at 9:30-11am. more information can be found at www.rootdownwell.com
EGA Meetings: 1st Friday of the Month
St. Stephen's is handicapped accessible.

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Sunday Morning Worship Service 10:00 am
Sunday School for all ages at 9am.
Nursery, Preschool and Children's Worship hour: 10:00 am
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Handicapped accessible.

**NEW HARTFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
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45 Genesee Street, NH 315-732-1139
newhartfordpresbyterian.org • office@newhartfordpres.org
Sunday morning worship is at 10:30. Services are live streamed on Facebook and YouTube.
A time of refreshments and fellowship follows each worship service.
The choir rehearses at 9:10 each Sunday morning. In preparation for their annual Christmas Cantata, the Choir is also rehearing Thursday evenings at 7.
An Adult Study Group precedes worship and meets at 9:30 Sunday mornings and also on Tuesday mornings at 11:00. (The current study will conclude with the 11/15 and 11/17 sessions.)
Children's Sunday School (Sonday Club) will meet Sunday mornings November 8 and 22, at 9:30.
The quiet, meditative Taize service, which takes place at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month, will be held November 4.
The NHP Women's Annual Christmas Star Bazaar will take place in the Fellowship Hall from 9 a.m. through 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 14. Lunch will be available from 11:30 until 1:30.
The Oneida County Senior Lunch Program will be held at NHPC at 12 noon on Monday, November 16.
NHPC will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, in observance of Veterans Day; and Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27, for the Thanksgiving Holiday.
The Church Office will be open 9 a.m.—12 Noon Monday, November 30 through Thursday, December 3, and the Office only will be closed on Friday, December 4.
Office hours are otherwise 8:30 a.m.—3 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:30—11:30 Friday.
The November schedule:
11/1 — Daylight Savings Time ends
11/1 — 9:10 a.m. Choir rehearsal
11/1 — 9:30 a.m. Adult Study Group
11/1 — 10:30 a.m. Worship, Communion
11/2 — 7 p.m. Deacons mtg
11/3 — 11 a.m. Adult Study Group
11/4 — 10 a.m. Sew 'n Sews
11/4 — 6 p.m. 4-H mtg
11/4 — 7 p.m. Taize Service
11/5 — 7 p.m. Choir rehearsal
11/7 — 1 p.m. NH Historic Society Historic Tea in Fellowship Hall
11/8 — 9:10 a.m. Choir rehearsal
11/8 — 9:30 a.m. Adult Study Group
11/8 — 9:30 a.m. Sonday Club
11/8 — 10:30 a.m. Worship
11/8 — 11:45 a.m. Christmas Star Bazaar setup begins
11/9 — 6:30 p.m. NHP Women's mtg
11/10 — 11 a.m. Adult Study Group
11/11 — Veterans Day, NHPC closed
11/12 — 7 p.m. Choir rehearsal
11/14 — 9 a.m. — 3 p.m., Christmas Star Bazaar
11/14 — 3 p.m. Bazaar cleanup begins
11/15 — 9:10 a.m. Choir rehearsal
11/15 — 9:30 a.m. Adult Study Group (final)
11/15 — 10:30 a.m. Worship, Pledge Dedication Sunday, Congregational Mtg
11/15 — 11:45 a.m. Session mtg
11/16 — 12 Noon, Oneida County Senior Lunch
11/17 — 11 a.m. Adult Study Group (final)
11/18 — 10 a.m. Sew 'n Sews
11/18 — 12 Noon, Members & Friends Lunch
11/18 — 6 p.m. 4-H mtg
11/18 — 7 p.m. Chamber Orchestra rehearsal
11/19 — 7 p.m. Choir rehearsal
11/21 — BELIEVE Festival on the Village Green
11/22 — 9:10 a.m. Choir rehearsal
11/22 — 9:30 a.m. Sonday Club
11/22 — 10:30 a.m. Worship
11/25 — Church Office closed
11/25 — 10 a.m. Sew 'n Sews
11/26 — Thanksgiving, NHPC closed
11/27 — Thanksgiving Holiday, NHPC closed
11/28 — 3 p.m. Hope House meal prepared
11/29 — 9:10 a.m. Choir rehearsal
11/29 — 10:30 a.m. Worship, Advent Begins, Hanging of the Greens, Noisy Sunday
11/30 — 9 a.m.—12 p.m. Church Office open
12/1 — 9 a.m.—12 p.m. Church Office open
12/1 — 5:30 p.m. NHP Women's Annual Christmas Dinner
12/2 — 9 a.m.—12 p.m. Church Office open
12/2 — 6 p.m. 4-H mtg
12/3 — 9 a.m.—12 p.m. Church Office open
12/3 — 7 p.m. Choir rehearsal
12/4 — Church Office only closed

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Sunday Morning Worship at 10am; Coffee Hour at 11am
Worship is also livestreamed on our YouTube channel.
November 1 – All Saints Sunday, Rev. Marie Duquette
November 8 – Deacon Patsy Glista
November 15 – Rev. Marie Duquette
November 18 – Book Group at 2:00 p.m. Trust God, Love People, by Jennifer Marrs.
November 22 – Rev. Jennifer DeWeerth
November 29 – Advent Begins, Rev. Marie Duquette
Al-Anon Meetings, Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m.
Handicapped Accessible

**ST. MARGARET'S ECUMENICAL & RETREAT CTR**
47 Jordan Road, New Hartford
To learn more about any of our events or volunteer opportunities, for lunch and monthly dinner reservations, or to inquire about a personal or group retreat, please call 315-724-2324 or email info@stmargaretshouseny.org. Our regular office hours are Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.
**Please note: St. Margaret's is closed November 26-27.**

**Weekly Activities**
**Quiet Space Available for Clergy in the Library** | Tuesdays from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
**It Takes A Village** | Tuesdays from 2:00 to 4:00 PM - Our social action initiative volunteers at the St. Margaret's Food Pantry at Grace Episcopal Church. Please contact us to volunteer for one or more Tuesdays.
**Holy Eucharist** | Wednesdays at 11:45 AM - All are welcome. Clergy members will take turns presiding at St. Margaret's weekly services.
**Wednesday Lunches** | Wednesdays at 12:30 PM - Call or email to make a reservation. $15.
**Monthly Activities**
**Men's Group** | 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 10:30 AM - A time of fellowship and exploration with Father Nick Smith, beginning with the question, "What is saving your life today?"
**Friends of Emmaus House** | 2nd Wednesdays at 10:00 AM - This group meets monthly to identify needs, plan outreach and fundraisers, and support the women and children staying at Emmaus House.
**Caregiving Support Group** | 3rd Mondays at 2:00 PM - Facilitated by the Rev. Deacon Barbara Groves, this group offers a place to receive support and exchange ideas for caring for loved ones.
**Grief Support Group** | 3rd Fridays at Noon - A peer-facilitated gathering for anyone experiencing loss. New members are welcome.
**Grief Support Group for Loss by Suicide** | 4th Mondays at 6:00 PM - This facilitated group's focus is to provide support for anyone experiencing loss due to suicide. For questions, please call Sandy Gaetano at 315-733-2539.
**Conversations with Rev. Deacon Jean** | 4th Wednesdays at 1:30 PM - Join the Rev. Deacon Jean Skinner for conversation about faith. Donations of a few cans of food for the pantry are always appreciated.
**Monthly Dinner** | Tuesday, November 17 | Dine-In at 5:30 PM; Take Out at 6:00 PM, Chicken Riggies. Please make a reservation one week in advance. $19.
**Special Events**
Preparing Our Hearts for Advent with the Rev. Janet Stengel | Wednesday, November 4 from 1:30 to 2:30 PM - Before the season becomes crowded with errands and expectations, take time to consider how we can focus on Advent rather than the busyness of the holidays. This gathering will offer reflection and practical ways to make room for prayer, attention, and hope.
**Movie of the Month** | Monday, November 9 at 2:00 PM - Gather for an afternoon film and conversation. The movie selection will be announced before the showing.
**Book Club with Judy** | Tuesday, November 10 at 10:00 AM | Library - This month's selection is Twelve Extraordinary Women by John MacArthur. Please register one week before the session. Feel free to bring a snack to share!
**Help Us Decorate for the Holidays** | Monday, November 23 at 9:30 AM - Join us as we prepare St. Margaret's for Advent and Christmas. Help unpack and arrange decorations and enjoy some fellowship along the way. No decorating experience is needed!

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**
2620 Genesee St., South Utica. (315) 732-7869
trinitylutheranutica.com
Sunday School 9am. Worship Service 10:30am
Holy Communion is celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.
Trinity Christian Preschool, weekday classes from Sept-May
Handicapped accessible.

**THREE STEEPLES UNITED**
2817 Old State Route 12, Paris, NY 13456
315-368-3416 threesteeples@gmail.com
We offer services every Sunday at 10AM!
Three Steeples is a Presbyterian-United Church of Christ hybrid that offers a traditional foundation for progressive thinking and growth and is open to engaging with all faiths. Three Steeples United is an inclusive and member-driven faith community of active individuals and families who connect with and care for their neighbors and one another through worship, education, and culture. We challenge ourselves and others to discern, embrace, and act upon a relevant understanding of Christ's message in today's world.

**ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH**
350 Higby Road, New Hartford, 315-292-6682
Fr. George Goodge
Sun - 9am Matins, 10am Liturgy
Wed - 5:30pm Vespers
Bookstore hours: Open Sundays after Services.

**ST. JOHN OF KRONSTADT RUSSIAN ORTHODOX MEMORIAL CHURCH**
1009 Conkling Ave, Utica, N.Y. 13501
Fr Archpriest Michael Taratuchin, Rector
(315) 723-7475 (frmichaelt@msn.com)
Fr. Priest Ephraim Willmarth, assistant priest
Find us on Facebook www.stjkutica.org
Vigil 5pm Saturdays (6pm for weekday services)
Divine Liturgy Sundays and Feastdays 9:30AM
Potluck lunch following Sunday Divine Liturgy.
Our Patronal Feast Day will take place on Saturday November 1st. The greeting of the Bishop will take place at 9:30 AM, followed by the Hierarchal Divine Liturgy (with the Procession of the Cross, weather permitting).

**MUSLIM COMMUNITY ASSOC. of MV**
1631 Kemble Street, Utica NY 13501
E-mail: Uticamasjid@gmail.com
Friday Prayer at 1:15 pm
Quran Classes 5-8 pm
Sunday School 10am to 1 pm.

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH of UTICA**
10 Higby Road • www.uuutica.org
The Unitarian Universalist Church is an open minded, open hearted interfaith spiritual community. Unitarian Universalists come from different faith backgrounds but our shared values bring us together. Whoever you are, whomever you love, whatever your beliefs, you are welcome at UUUtica.
Services are at 10:30 AM on Sundays, in person and on Zoom.
Hospitality hour with coffee and snacks follows each service.
November 1 – Kim Bywater: Día de Los Muertos: The Ones We Remember" - Who are the people whose lives made ours possible? What do we carry forward from them? How do we keep relationships with the dead alive through memory, story, ritual and love? While honoring the dead is a universal human experience, the specific rituals and imagery of the Day of the Dead originated with Mesoamerican groups Indigenous to Mexico. We will transform our altar into an ofrenda, traditionally a space created to remember and honor deceased loved ones. We invite adults and children to contribute: a photograph (small frame perhaps) of a loved one who has died, a small object that reminds you of that person or the name written on a card, a favorite recipe, a written memory, or story, perhaps of quality you carry forward.
Kim Bywater is a longtime UUUtica member and a retired occupational therapist. Drawn in by the many religious symbols she saw at this church on her first visit, Kim found her spiritual home here and never left.
November 8 – John Camilieri: Growing in Community Together - We gather to warmly welcome and induct our newest members into the Unitarian Universalist Church of Utica. We'll celebrate the belonging, connection, and gifts they bring to our community while exploring a central truth: community itself is a shared ministry. Each of us has a role in creating a congregation where we care for one another, share our gifts, and grow together. John Camilieri is Board President of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Utica.
November 15 – Letty Umidi – Honoring Our Scars - We all carry scars, seen and unseen. What stories do our scars tell, and what do they say about our healing? Letty Umidi is a UU Utica member and former Commissioned Ruling Elder / Lay Pastor in the Presbytery of Utica. She is retired from professional storytelling and spent over 30 years of teaching at the secondary level in New Jersey and New York.
November 22 – Rev. Kent Trievel: Another Fine Day for Thanksgiving - The Rev. Kent Douglas Trievel will talk about seeking goodness and discovering grace in this service on the Sunday before thanksgiving. Rev. Kent is a retired pastor with the Moravian Church Northern Province. He has served as pastor at the Covenant Moravian Church, York, Pa., the Good Shepherd Moravian Church, New Hartford, and numerous churches in the northeast. Kent received a B.A. At Messiah College; and his M.Div at Moravian Theological Seminary.
November 29 – Ken Drake: UUU Family Traditions - Surviving Hallowthanksmas - Hallowthanksmas is the holiday celebrating the most wonderful time of the year, October through December. It is a time of great warmth, sharing, parties, and of great American commercialism. People complain about overlapping holidays, but why? The distinction between the three major holidays continues to become less clear. Embrace it as Hallowthanksmas! It's certainly not going to disappear. It's a great excuse to eat, drink and be merry for three months straight! Each month is a celebration of its respective holidays, and seeing decorations and stores fully stocked should get our creative juices flowing; food, friends, parties and decorations are all a part of the holidays. Let's face it, Hallowthanksmas is here to stay. Ken Drake is a retired NYS educator who coordinates our Social Justice Council and chairs the Racial Justice Ministry Team at UU Utica. Ken is particularly interested in the system of finance capitalism that he considers the root cause of most of our nation's ills.

**TEMPLE EMANU-EL**
2710 Genesee St Utica, 315-724-4177
teuticaoffice@gmail.com
Friday Evening Shabbat Services 6pm.

**TEMPLE BETH-EL**
1607 Genesee Street, Utica
Rabbi Gustavo Geier
In person and on zoom www.tbeutica.org
Fri night - 5:30pm • Sat morning - 9:30am

**THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER**
2310 Oneida Street, Utica - 315-733-2343
Provides programs for seniors and recreational activities for all ages. Open to people of all races, religions, and nationalities.

**ZVI JACOB**
Orthodox Synagogue
110 Memorial Parkway, Utica - 315-724-8357
Interim Rabbi Levi Charitonow
Services are held Saturday at 10am, and on holidays.
Services may be held at other times if there is a minyan.
Visit our website www.zvijacob.org. All are Welcome.



# From Wexford to the Gold Dome - The Devereux and Kernan Family Story

The Irish Cultural Center of the Mohawk Valley welcomes all to their November Lunch and Learn at 11 AM on Wednesday November 11 when Steven Kernan presents From Wexford to the Gold Dome - The Devereux and Kernan Family Story.

When one dives into the Irish connections to Utica's development in the early 19th century it is impossible to ignore the contributions made by the Devereux and Kernan families. Where did these highly influential Irishmen come from within the Emerald Isle and why did they choose to leave their native land?

Steven Kernan, a direct descendant of both families, will tell this story from the unique perspective that could only come from a family member — illustrated with photographs from the family's own books: John C. Devereux, the dancing-master who arrived in 1796 and became Utica's last appointed mayor (1839) and its first elected mayor(1840), who started Utica's St. Patrick's Day parade in 1824; the Devereux brothers' store whose safe gave rise to the Savings Bank of Utica; and on the Kernan side, U.S. Senator Francis Kernan and his wife Hannah Devereux Kernan — down to the family traditions their descendants still keep, including a water-fight 4th of July party that has run every year since 1884.

A $20 registration fee will cover the program and lunch; meal tax and gratuity are included. Please register at this link, https://bit.ly/4AT7daK, or leave a message at 315-733-4228 Ext 6.

RPEA Retired Public Employees Association

Retired Public Employees Association

## MOHAWK VALLEY CHAPTER

### Membership Meeting

**Thursday, December 10, 2026**

**SKENANDOA GOLF CLUB**
**(Notice Change of Venue)**
**7105 Norton Avenue**
**Clinton, NY 13323**

**Start Time: 11:30 AM**

**Buffet Luncheon: Garden Salad, Turkey, Ham, Pasta Primavera, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable, Rolls, Coffee and Tea, Soda**

**Guest Speakers:** Legislative Members

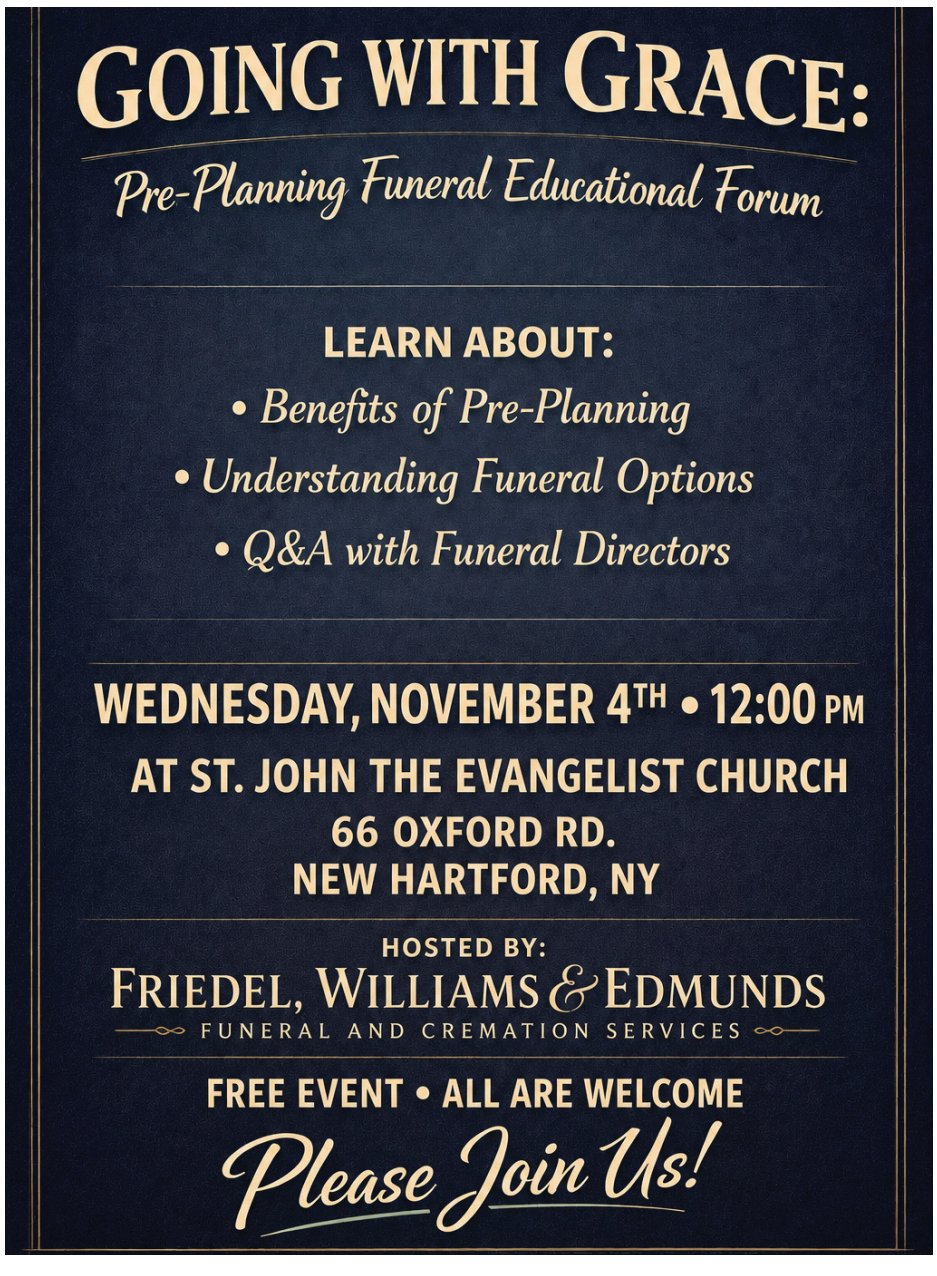
**Door Prizes—Basket Raffles**

We are collecting for our local Veteran's Food Pantry! Please bring 2 small nonperishable cans or 1 large can item and get one extra (free) door prize ticket.

**MOHAWK VALLEY MEETING RESERVATION FORM:**
**Cost: $30 per person** (no refunds for cancellations)
**Reservation Deadline: December 1, 2026**

Name:_____
Email:_____
Address:_____
Phone Number:_____

**Make Checks Payable to: Mohawk Valley RPEA**
Send Check and Form to:
Brenda Leone
139 Pheasants Run, Unit 4
Clinton, NY 13323
315-725-4387
**To register and pay online please visit www.RPEA.org or call 518-869-2542**



# 14th Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive

## to benefit The Hope House & The Frankfort-Ilion Food Pantry

*Accepting Non Perishable Food Items at any of our 8 dealerships!*

*Accepting Donations November 3rd-November 23rd*

## Visit SteetPonteAutoGroup.com



*Suggested Food Items to Donate:*

*Canned Meats, Hearty Soups, Pasta, Cereal, Canned Vegetables & Fruits.*

# STEET PONTE

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