


# Summertime

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The 2026 Penn Yan Youth Ambassador Cady Brady visiting Garrett Chapel on Bluff Point, overlooking Keuka Lake.

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# 2026 Penn Yan Youth Ambassador Cady Brady

The Penn Yan Theatre Company (PYTCo) is proud to continue the Penn Yan Youth Ambassador Program, an opportunity for students and local organizations to celebrate leadership, community involvement and the spirit of Penn Yan. Now in its second year, the Youth Ambassador was selected during the Star Shine festivities on Dec. 6 in downtown Penn Yan.

The 2026 Youth Ambassador is Cadence “Cady” Brady, sponsored by Dailey Electric.

Cady participates in varsity lacrosse and soccer, Select Choir, Leo Club, Outdoor Adventure Club and Lady Mustangs Strength Training. She serves on the Student Council and is a student representative on the Board of Education. Cady has volunteered at numerous community events and has worked at Seneca Farms, Amity Coffee, and the Keuka Yacht Club.

Given the chance to lead Penn Yan for a day, Cady said she would want “To make

small and meaningful changes that would have lasting impacts,” beginning with a community-wide cleanup focused on the Keuka Lake shoreline.

Cady is exploring her options for further study after high school, leaning in the direction of Pre-Med or Physical Therapy as a profession.

*The Penn Yan Youth Ambassador program is open to all high school juniors, regardless of gender, while maintaining the traditions of the former*

*Miss Penn Yan program. Each candidate, sponsored by a local organization, is evaluated through a personal interview and a prepared speech highlighting their sponsor.*

*PYTCo. extends its gratitude to the participating students, their sponsoring organizations, and the community members who continue to support programs that uplift local youth, recognizing their dedication to leadership, service, and the future of Penn Yan.*



The Youth Ambassador winners named at StarShine in Penn Yan: from left, First Runner-Up, Nina Reid Garces, 2026 Youth Ambassador, Cady Brady, and Second Runner-Up, Lizzie Lilyea.

# Milly's Pantry making the most for kids in need

PENN YAN - Milly Bloomquist was the visionary behind Milly's Pantry and after spending years in public health as a school nurse she came to understand the negative effects on learning that poverty and hunger can cause. She dedicated herself to addressing this concern and focused her tireless energy on the well-being of children.

Milly's efforts resulted in being awarded the 2011 Presidential Citizens Medal, by President Barack Obama. "They exemplify the best of what it means to be an American," Obama said; "You should be very proud of what you accomplished." Our beloved Milly merely replied, "Well, I'm not done yet!"

Milly's Pantry programs and its social enterprise are made possible by a leadership team of six Board of Directors, an Executive Director, a program coordinator, two retail specialists and close to 100 dedicated volunteers who have contributed over 136,000 hours of their time to ensure that our programs reach those in need.

Since its founding, Milly's Pantry has developed strong relationships within the community, public and private schools, churches, service organizations, year-round and summer residents, and visitors to the area, and serves as a true community partner working on behalf of Yates County's most in-need children.

## PROGRAMS

### *Weekend Backpack Program:*

Founded in 2008, Milly's Pantry is dedicated to supporting the successful lives of children through programs like our Weekend Backpack Program, which provides supplemental food to more than 400 Yates County children each week. Since its inception, we've distributed over 250,000 bags of food to local children in need. Each Friday, students receive a "grab-and-go" pack filled with kid-friendly, easy-to-prepare, nonperishable items, helping ensure they have reliable nutrition throughout the weekend.

### *School Supplies Program:*

We're proud to partner with the county's two school districts in Dundee and Penn Yan to offer our School Supplies Program. Each year, this program ensures that every Yates County student, regardless of income, starts the school year with a new backpack filled with all the supplies their teachers request. Each August, we distribute an average of 1,000 backpacks, and since launching the program in 2010, we've provided more than 14,000 to local students.

### *Youth Cooking and Nutritional Knowledge Program:*

In 2026, we're excited to pilot a new Youth Cooking and Nutrition Education program. This multi-week enrichment program will offer hands-on, kid-friendly instruction designed to build confidence in selecting, preparing, and sharing healthy, delicious meals for themselves and their families.

## OUR BUILDING

In 2009, Milly's Pantry, Inc. purchased a historic building on Main Street in Penn Yan, opening what is now Milly's Market & Café to help support its programs through retail and rental income. We envision our space as a welcoming hub for the community, one that fosters connection,



**The team responsible for the renovation of Milly's Pantry assembled on the new fire escape at the rear of the building. That and the full-service elevator have made all the floors of the building available for programming and rental to commercial tenants. Milly's Pantry and Café are located on Main St. in downtown Penn Yan.**

supports youth in achieving academic success, and brings people together. We see the building as a vital part of our mission, offering opportunities for program growth, small business incubation, partnerships, and community events, all while working toward the long-term goal of sustaining our charitable programs through the revenue it generates.

As part of our long-term sustainability plan, Milly's Pantry began working in 2020 to make this unique historic building fully accessible and safe for the community to enjoy. The project was designed in three phases. Phase One focused on critical structural needs, including repairs to the rear of the building, a new fire escape, installation of a three-floor elevator, and new windows and doors. Phase Two brought important interior upgrades, including a new HVAC system for efficient heating and cooling, ADA-accessible bathrooms, and other improvements. Phase Three, the final phase, will complete structural repairs to the front façade and roof, helping preserve the building for years to come.

### *First Floor:*

Powered by an incredible volunteer spirit, the first floor is

home to Milly's Market & Café, a welcoming retail space featuring artisan foods, Finger Lakes gifts, nostalgic soda fountain drinks, and café-made desserts. This social enterprise not only provides a comfortable place for the community to gather, but also supports local artists, craftspeople, and food vendors, with a portion of sales helping to fund programs for children.

*Second Floor:*

The second floor offers a mix of private office spaces and a commercial kitchen used for children's culinary and nutrition classes. In addition our fully stocked and certified kitchen is available for both experienced and entrepreneurial individuals specializing in food preparation and/or catering. An adjoining dining room provides a flexible space for community dinners, meetings, and small events.

*Third Floor:*

The third floor is the crown jewel of the building, a beautiful grand ballroom that can host a wide range of private and public events. From wellness classes and school dances to weddings and celebrations, this space brings people together and creates meaningful opportunities for both the community and local partners.



**GRAND RE-OPENING**

We're excited to celebrate our grand opening on May 16th. This is a chance to honor the incredible volunteers, professionals, individuals, and businesses who made this project possible. Guests will be able to ride the new elevator through our three-story building and explore beautifully renovated spaces, accessible bathrooms, and refreshed interiors.

The day will be full of energy and community spirit, with local businesses offering wine and food pairings, cooking demonstrations, live music and performances, plus a kids' activity center and more.

*Our Future*

As we commit ourselves to continued service to the community we plan to expand our programming and community involvement. Phase 3 of our restoration project has to be completed. We want the front facade repaired and fully restored so that we can be proud of our position on historic Main Street. Funding for this phase of the project is still ongoing and we are grateful for any and all resources that are contributed.

With your support we will be able to carry on the legacy of Milly Bloomquist's charitable work.

**The Chronicle-Express**

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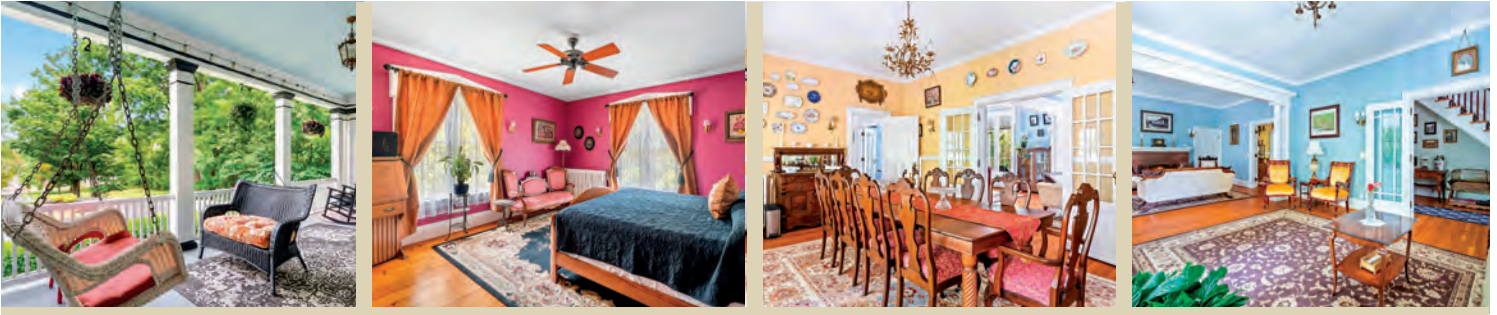
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# Finger Lakes B&B earns ‘Select Registry’

## *Penn Yan’s Historic 1840s Home Earns Select Registry Distinction After Thoughtful, Heart Led Restoration*



PENN YAN — A beloved 1840s home in the heart of Penn Yan has been officially welcomed into Select Registry: Distinguished Inns of North America, a national collection representing the top independent inns and boutique lodging properties across the country. The recognition follows years of careful restoration and stewardship by owners Maggie and Mike, who have worked to preserve the home’s original character while creating a warm, elevated guest experience rooted in the spirit of the Finger Lakes.

The couple purchased the nearly 180 year old property with a commitment to honoring its history. “We wanted to bring the house back to life in a way that respected every board, every beam, every story it held,” Maggie said. “Our goal was to create a place that feels both deeply cared for and deeply connected to this community.”

Select Registry membership is awarded through a rigorous evaluation process that recognizes exceptional hospitality, architectural integrity, and a consistently outstanding guest experience. Fewer than one percent of independent inns nationwide earns the distinction.



For Maggie and Mike, the honor reflects not only the work they’ve poured into the home, but also the support they’ve received from the Penn Yan and Keuka Lake communities. “We found a beautiful old home that had simply gathered a lot of dust,” Mike said. “Our job was to clean it off and let the original character shine again.”

The inn has quickly become known for its thoughtful details, locally inspired touches, and the sense of calm it offers guests seeking an authentic Finger Lakes experience. From curated welcome mo-

ments to partnerships with regional makers, the property reflects a deep appreciation for the area’s culture and landscape.

As the busy season approaches, Maggie and Mike look forward to welcoming new and returning guests to share in the next chapter of the home’s long story. “This recognition is an honor,” Maggie said, “but the real joy is seeing people feel at home here.”

<https://www.fingerlakesbb.com>



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## Finger Lakes Chamber Music Festival returns!

- **Hunt Country Vineyards to host free concerts June 26 and July 24**
- **Courthouse Concert in Penn Yan July 8**

The Finger Lakes Chamber Music Festival will present two public concerts as part of its 2026 season. On Friday June 26 and on Friday July 24 Hunt Country Vineyards, 4021 Italy Hill Road, Branchport, will host musicians from the Manhattan Chamber Orchestra in free public concerts beginning at 7 p.m. (note new time). Hunt Country Vineyards is handicap accessible.

The June 26 concert will feature music for strings, guitar, and flute, by Schubert, Piazzola, Matiegka, and Clark.

On Friday July 24 a string trio will present music of Dohnanyi and Mozart.

The festival's musicians will also be featured artists for the Courthouse Concert at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 8 in Courthouse Square at the corner of Main & Court St. in Penn Yan.

Richard Auldon Clark, Artistic Director of the festival, is known internationally as a violist, composer, conductor, and recording artist. Now in its 25th season, the festival has been bringing world-class musical performances to the Finger Lakes region, presenting works from the eighteenth century to recent compositions.

Admission is free, although donations are greatly appreciated. The festival has a commitment to community outreach, bringing performances and programs to students in area schools, summer camps, and to residents in senior living communities.

For further information, including concert program details, visit [fingerlakes-music.org](http://fingerlakes-music.org) or check online calendars.

## Haiti Benefit Auction June 19-20

*Annual benefit to bring relief to the hungry, sick, naked, and homeless of Haiti*

PENN YAN - The Annual New York Haiti Benefit Auction will be held June 19-20 at the Yates County Fair Grounds in Penn Yan.

The auction is a cooperative effort of many churches and individuals to bring relief to the hungry, sick, naked, and homeless of Haiti. And 100% of the event's proceeds go directly to Haiti for relief.

"Our ultimate goal is to bring them to Christ through providing for their physical and spiritual needs," state the benefit organizers. Relief is given throughout the country of Haiti without regard to race, religion, or creed.

### Schedule of Haiti Benefit Auction

Friday, June 19

- **Fish Fry & Roast Beef Dinner 4- 7 p.m.**
- **Auction 6 p.m. - Small Farm-Related Auction 6:15 p.m., Cattle Auction 6:30 p.m.**

Saturday, June 20

- **Breakfast 6 - 9 a.m.**
- **Lunch 10:30 a.m. - noon**
- **Auction 8 a.m. start, Furniture 9:30 a.m., Quilts 10 a.m., Large Items 1:30 p.m.**

Terms of Sales: Cash, Visa, Mastercard, Discover, Checks w/proper ID. For more information, contact Tim Horning at 315-536-6272, Reuben Zimmerman at 315-536-6013, or Andrew Martin at 315-521-6073; or visit [www.facebook.com/NY-HaitiBenefitAuction/](http://www.facebook.com/NY-HaitiBenefitAuction/).



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# Give your support to Yates County Cooperative Extension

PENN YAN - Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) has been deeply rooted in the Yates County community for over 100 years. Our connection to Cornell University and the 112 additional institutions comprising the Land Grant University System allows us immeasurable access to research and resources to help address needs and issues affecting our local community.

CCE-Yates works with residents of all ages, area farms, businesses, and local community organizations to serve as a vital connection to research-based education and resources. Our association is pleased to share some of this year's projects and accomplishments and ask you to consider how CCE-Yates County has improved your life and community:

• 4-H Youth Development: Our 4-H Shooting Sports program continues to thrive, help-

ing youth build confidence, leadership, and safety skills through archery and other hands-on activities. This year, 14 youth participated in archery, with half joining for the first time and five earning certifications.

• Agriculture & Horticulture: Through the Seed to Supper program, participants gained practical skills for growing successful vegetable gardens, supported by Master Gardener volunteers and hands-on training. Caroline also highlighted Yates County's role in buckwheat production during the Legislative Agricultural Tour.

• Cornell Vegetable Program: With a \$250,000 Northeast SARE grant, specialists are helping urban and organic farms manage swede midge through integrated pest management, on-farm trials, and

translated educational resources to better serve diverse growers.

• Financial Literacy Programming: Thanks to Five Star Bank's support, financial literacy education expanded to new audiences across Yates County, reaching youth and adults through workshops and one-on-one sessions that covered budgeting, saving, and resource management.

• Finger Lakes Grape Program: The Finger Lakes Grape Program welcomed new technician Rachael Munroe, who supports soil health research and data collection for local vineyards while assisting with the Veraison to Harvest project.

• Natural Resources & Invasive Species Education: Our Nature Explorers after-school

sessions inspired students to connect with the outdoors, with several participants returning for another round. The program fosters curiosity and appreciation for local ecosystems.

• Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Program: Regional pest monitoring through the NWNYS Team's pheromone trap network helped local farmers identify and manage crop risks early, protecting corn yields and minimizing po-

*Continued on next page*



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## Fundraiser

Continued from page 8

tential economic losses.

As we look towards the future of CCE-Yates, we are encouraged by the possibilities for growth and increased outreach, education, and services for Yates County. Your tax-deductible Friend of Extension donation allows us to continue our work and expand our efforts as we head into 2026.

"I thank you in advance for your willingness to donate and support CCE-Yates as we continue to grow and meet the ever-changing needs of the Yates County Community" (Sandi Bastedo, Executive Director).

To become a Friend of Cornell Cooperative Extension, please visit our website at <https://yates.cce.cornell.edu/donate> or call our office at 315-536-5123 to request a donation form. If you want to donate in person, our office is in the Yates County Office Building at 417 Liberty Street, Penn Yan, NY.



Experience musical time travel with The Decades Band at 6:30 p.m. June 24 at the Courthouse Concert in Penn Yan.

PENN YAN - Are you ready for some good music? The return of the Yates County Summer Concerts in Courthouse Park is about to return for its 8-week Wednesday night concert series. The first concert with The Decades Band starts on Wednesday, June 24 and begins at 6:30 p.m. The venue is Courthouse Square, located on Main & Court Streets in Penn Yan. All concerts are free.

The Decades Band is the "soundtrack of generations," bringing 10 decades of hits from multiple genres to the Finger Lakes. No matter which decade is your favorite, this group has you covered! Experience musical time travel with The Decades Band!

Bring your own lawn chairs, and in case of inclement weather, the concert will be held indoors at the Baptist Church. Restrooms are available at the Baptist Church. Enjoy a light meal at the Baptist Church's concession stand before the concert begins.

# Free Concerts in Courthouse Park

- June 24 - Decades Band (*Timeless Hits*)
- July 1 - Southern Tier All Star Jazz Band (*Big Band Sounds*)
- July 8 - Finger Lakes Chamber Music Festival (*Classical with a Twist*)
- July 15 - Community Chorus (*Hometown Favorites*)
- July 22 - Irish Lassies (*American Celtic*)
- July 29 - Blue Eyed Soul (*Rock/Soul*)
- August 5 - Community Band (*Hometown Favorites*)
- August 12 - Lyin Eyes (*Eagles Tribute*)



Finger Lakes Chamber Music Festival

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## Penn Yan Farmers' Market opens June 20

*Seeking new vendors for 50th year*

PENN YAN - Yates County's local-only market, the Yates County Cooperative Farm and Craft Market, better known as the Penn Yan Farmers' Market, is organizing for its 50th anniversary year.

The market, Yates County's oldest, was incorporated in 1976 and has been at several different places in the village of Penn Yan over the years.

"We've lasted so long due to high quality produce, crafts, plants, baked goods, and more," says Market President Rivka Davis, "and due to our friendly, neighborly attitude."

For their 50th anniversary, the Penn Yan Farmers' Market be moving back to their location in the 1990s: the Yates County Office Building parking lot at 417 Liberty St./Rte. 14A.

"This location will give us better visibility, more room, and will give our customers better parking," says Davis. "Customers will be able to access the market and parking either from Main St., coming into the coun-

ty parking lots next to the Penn Yan Public Library, or from Liberty St. by the usual entrance for the County Office Building. We'll have signs on both Main and Liberty to make it easy to find us."

The Penn Yan Farmers' Market will be open Saturday mornings as usual, starting June 20 from 9 a.m. to 1p.m. All items for sale at the market are grown or made in Yates County or an immediately adjacent county.

"We are genuinely local, and a producer-only market," says Davis. "We'll have more space, and we are looking for new vendors. Our friendly market is an excellent place to either get your start in direct marketing, or to expand your customer base. Our rules are clear and easy to comply with, costs are minimal, and you'll find other vendors helpful."

To apply as a vendor, or with further questions, contact Market President Rivka Davis, 607-243-5234 (leave voicemail, not text) or by email at [organic87@frontiernet.net](mailto:organic87@frontiernet.net).





# SUMMER SAFETY STARTS WITH YOU!

## Boat Safe. Boat Sober.

**Make sure to bring the following on every boating excursion:**

- License and registration
- Personal and throwable flotation devices
- Marine radio
- GPS locator
- First aid kit
- Tool box
- Anchor and line
- Flashlight
- Dry bag/box

**Wear a life jacket and supervise children near water!**

## Stay Hydrated.

- Carry a water bottle. Drink and refill it throughout the day.
- Consider limiting drinks high in sugar, caffeine, and alcohol.

## Never Leave a Child or Pet in a Hot Car.

**Reduce the number of deaths from heatstroke by remembering to ACT:**

- **Avoid** heatstroke related injuries and death by never leaving your child or pet alone in a car, even for a minute.
- **Create** reminders by putting something in the back of your car next to your child that is needed at your final destination, to ensure you check the backseat before leaving.
- **Take action...** if you see a child or pet alone in a car, call 911 immediately. You could potentially be saving a life!

## Bicycle Safety

- Wear a properly fitted bicycle helmet at all times when riding.
- Ensure you are riding a properly sized bicycle with safety features like training wheels, brakes, and a horn or bell.
- Watch for cars and other obstacles in the roadway.
- Always wear sneakers or other closed toed shoes to protect your feet.



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Penn Yan Academy students pose with their contest-winning "Lucky Charms" ice cream, which will be produced and sold at Seneca Farms.



Seneca Farms is located on Rte. 54A in Penn Yan.

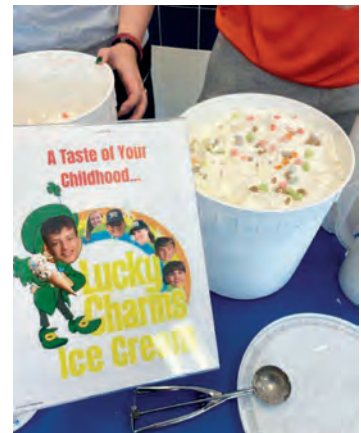
## PYA students create winning ice cream flavors with Seneca Farms partnership

PENN YAN - Penn Yan Academy students are once again bringing creativity to the community, one scoop at a time.

As part of the school's Horticulture/Food Science program, students recently developed and pitched original ice cream flavors as part of the fifth annual flavor contest. Students and staff voted on four student-created options, with the winning flavor now set to be produced and sold at Seneca Farms.

This year's entries included Lucky Charms, Rainbow Rave, Horchata, and After Hours. After a close vote, Lucky Charms, a marshmallow-based flavor with graham cracker and marshmallow pieces, was selected as the winner.

The project provides students with hands-on experience in food science and product development while



PYA students ice cream flavor: The winning "Lucky Charms" flavor features a marshmallow base with graham cracker and marshmallow pieces.

strengthening ties between the school and local business community.

The winning flavor, along with other student creations, will be available at Seneca Farms.

# Keuka Lake Association's Key Initiatives for 2026

PENN YAN - Keuka Lake is so much more than pristine water. It is the vineyards that surround it, the streams that flow into it, the fish and wildlife that depend on it and the people who enjoy it. Less tangibly, but more profoundly, it is the source of so many fun memories across multiple generations.

The Keuka Lake Association (KLA) is a dedicated group of people who take the lead in preserving and protecting Keuka Lake. They help keep it clean, safe, and balanced against forces of nature such as invasive species, intrusion of HABs, or an abrupt change in water level.

To put it briefly, the KLA works to maintain and improve what we all enjoy and sometimes take for granted.

Continuing our efforts to preserve and protect the lake we will be working on the following initiatives in 2026:

- **INCLUDE** water quality sampling and testing of streams and tributaries along with the



routine lake testing that has been conducted for more than 30 years

- **EXPAND** our monitoring of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) and foam streaks throughout the lake

- **CONTINUE** our volunteer initiative that targets the removal of invasive plants (water chestnuts) from the Keuka Outlet marsh and Sugar Creek in Branchport

- **MONITOR** the lake level in cooperation with the Keuka Lake Outlet Compact (KLOC) and track septic system inspections in cooperation with the Keuka Lake Watershed Improvement Cooperative (KWIC).

- **BROADEN** our initiative with the Finger Lakes Regional Watershed Alliance (FLRWA) to promote Lake Friendly Living

(LFL) initiatives

- **WORK** with local sheriff departments to communicate navigation and recreation laws including those related to boating speed limits and the requirement of a safe boating certificate for those operating motorized watercraft.

- **OFFER** educational events on the 'State of the Lake' and how to protect the lake for adults and children during the year

- **SUPPORT** a connection between visitors to the region and local businesses while raising awareness of the KLA mission to preserve and protect the lake.

KLA President Rob Dintruff says, "the KLA Board, its membership and numerous volunteers devote countless hours and cooperate with multiple organizations across the watershed and beyond. We cannot do this important work without their help. If you are not a member, please consider taking action to join us today. Whether you work, farm, fish, boat, swim, visit wineries,

waterski, hike, cycle, sightsee or recreate in some other way that connects you to Keuka Lake we welcome you to the Keuka Lake Association."

Founded in 1956 the KLA has 1,500 members and represents lakeshore property owners, residents of the greater Keuka community and watershed, recreational users, and local businesses. The association focuses on five key areas: lake level control, water quality, land use, recreational use, and conservation. To explore all that the KLA does to support the lake and the community, visit [www.keukalakeassociation.org](http://www.keukalakeassociation.org).

Renew or Become a KLA Member Today!

Visit the KLA website "Support - Membership" page at <https://www.keukalakeassociation.org/membership.php> and click "Become a Member" in the upper right corner.

For more information and to explore all that the KLA does to support the lake and the community, visit [www.keukalakeassociation.org](http://www.keukalakeassociation.org).

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# Keuka Arts Festival June 13-14

PENN YAN -- More than 90 art and food vendors have already reserved their places at this year's Keuka Arts Festival Friday, June 13 and Saturday, June 14 in Penn Yan. Joined by a roster of some of the region's favorite musical groups, visitors will be entertained in all three sections of the festival along the Outlet Trail this year.

The free, annual event features the works of more than 100 individual artists, plus food, local wine, spirits, and craft beer vendors, as well as activities for families. The festival runs 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. June 13, and 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. June 14 along the Keuka Lake Outlet Trail from the Main St. Bridge to the boat launch in Penn Yan.

Admission to the Festival is free. Activities continue rain or shine! For more information, visit [www.keukaarts-festival.com](http://www.keukaarts-festival.com) or call the Arts Center of Yates County at 315-536-8226.



## Festival Artists

(list as of May 1)

### Ceramics

- Katie Gookin Pottery
- Kim Cutler Ceramics

### Adult Beverages

- Abbie and Gadazel Winery
- Antler Run Distilling
- Bee Spit Meadery
- Old Scotland Rd Distillery

### Farmer's Market

- Brookside Maple Farm
- KB White Farm
- KC Farmer's Blend
- Morning Mist Soap

### Fiber Arts

- SMA Wool Felt

### Fair Food

- 3Bs Beverages
- Love, Fern & Co
- The Sprinkle Starship
- Thelma's Mobile Food
- Wager's Cider Mill

### Glass

- Enchanted Visuals
- Rework Designs

**Jewelry**

- Alta's Ornamentation
- Beautifully Broken
- GhanaBa African Beads
- Laura's Beaded Treasures
- Sweetbriar Creations
- Walnut Ridge Designs

**Mixed Media**

- AJ Cre8tions
- B's Garden Treasures
- Inspired Designs
- Jeanne's Garden
- Roc Block Prints
- The Forgotten Ferm

**Painting & Drawing**

- AJ Cre8tions
- Angelica Faith Art
- Fluid Artistry by Lori
- Still Waters Design
- Todd Bachta - Painting
- Victoria Brace
- Wendy's Bird Art



**Photography**

- Sweetbriar Creations
- Visionary Printworks

**Wood**

- Rework Designs

**Misc**

- Inspired Designs
- Roc Block Prints

**BE THERE!**

**WHAT: Keuka Arts Festival**  
**WHERE: Outlet Trail, Penn Yan, NY**  
**WHEN: Saturday and Sunday, June 13 & 14**  
**WHO: Artists, musicians, food vendors**  
**COST: Free**



**YOU CAN JOIN!**

**IF YOU LIVE, WORK, WORSHIP, OR GO TO SCHOOL IN YATES COUNTY, YOU CAN BECOME A MEMBER!**

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CREDIT UNION

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- Water Shoes • Keuka Apparel & Gifts
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**crookedlakemercantile.com**  
**Stop in to see what's new!**

Wifi

# Krossin' Keuka fundraising swim July 25

Keuka Comfort Care Home offers compassion at life's most difficult moment, and Krossin' Keuka helps keep that end-of-life care free for residents.

In Yates County and the surrounding region, one of the most joyful community traditions of the summer helps support one of life's most meaningful services. Krossin' Keuka, the annual fundraiser for Keuka Comfort Care Home, will be held on July 25, 2026. This fun, family friendly swim across Keuka Lake is not a race. It is a community event that brings people together to support free end of life care for local residents and families. Those interested in participating can register through [krossinkeuka.org](http://krossinkeuka.org).

Each year, Krossin' Keuka draws swimmers, paddlers, volunteers, donors, and supporters who want to be part of something both meaningful and enjoyable. The event features a .67 mile swim across Keuka Lake, and while it is a memorable ex-



**Finishing the swim and raising over \$122,000 for Keuka Comfort Care's hospice home is a great cause for celebration!**

perience, the focus is on participation, community spirit, and fundraising rather than athletic competition. Organizers are working toward an ambitious \$100,000 goal this year to help sustain the mission of the Keuka Comfort Care Home.

There is an important deadline for swimmers. Registration is open only to the first 200 swimmers, so those planning to participate are encouraged to sign up early. Paddler regis-

tration is unlimited. Paddlers in kayaks play an essential role in supporting swimmers on the water and helping make the event safe, successful, and enjoyable for everyone involved.

That fun and energy support an extraordinary mission. Keuka Comfort Care Home provides something families can never fully measure but never forget: comfort, dignity, and peace at the end of life. The home is a two-bed comfort care residence overlooking Keuka Lake for people with a terminal illness who are in the last three months of life. It operates according to hospice philosophy, charges no fee for care, and is funded through donations, memorials, grants, and fundraising.

What makes Keuka Comfort Care Home especially meaningful is not only the care provided to residents, but also the support extended to the people who love them. The home's mission



**Swimmers "from 8 to 80" take part in Krossin' Keuka every year**

is rooted in relieving families of major caregiving responsibilities so they can spend more quality time with their loved one.

That mission comes to life in the words of family members themselves.

After her loved one, Jerry, spent his final days at the home, Carolyn Masucci wrote a moving note of thanks. In it, she shared that during the two weeks Jerry was there, he received "nothing but love, kindness, gentleness and comfort." She also described what it meant to be welcomed so warmly while staying in the guest room, saying it allowed her to remain by his side during the last two weeks of his life, which she called "a very special gift."

Her words capture something powerful about Keuka Comfort Care Home. Families are not simply receiving services. They are being cared for, supported, and given the priceless gift of presence during one



**The kayak escort volunteers launching.**

## The Chronicle-Express

**Serving the Yates County  
area for 202 Years**

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Penn Yan, NY 14527**

📞 **(325)-924-2195**



Some teams and individuals have participated in every Krossin' Keuka since it began.

of life's hardest moments. In communities like ours, that kind of care matters deeply.

Keuka Comfort Care Home exists because a generous community believes families should not have to face the end of life alone, and certainly not without compassionate support. That belief has shaped the home since its founding and continues through events like Krossin' Keuka, which help ensure care remains free for residents and families.

For those who have never taken part in Krossin' Keuka, this is a wonderful year to join in. Whether you register as a swimmer, sign up as a much-needed paddler, volunteer, donate, or cheer participants on, you are helping make a real difference. Krossin' Keuka is more than a summer event. It is a fun and inspiring community tradition with a deeper purpose.

As Carolyn Masucci's note so beautifully reminds us, the impact of Keuka Comfort Care Home lasts far beyond a resident's stay. It stays with families in the form of peace, gratitude, and the memory of being surrounded by compassion when it mattered most.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**2026 YATES COUNTY FAIR!**  
 Wednesday July 8<sup>th</sup> through  
 Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup>

More details will be posted as we get closer!  
 We can't wait to see everyone!!



# Sun, Fun... and a Quick Physical Done!

**Penn Yan students and parents,**  
 The Penn Yan School-Based Health Center is open this summer for your child's **medical needs**, including school physicals.



Physicals must be completed within the **first 30 days** of the school year. Getting it done now makes the **back-to-school** process easier.



**Already registered?**  
 Same-day appointments may be available. Call **(315) 279-6902**



**Not registered yet?**  
 Simply sign up using this QR Code.



# Spotted Lanternfly 'huge challenge' for FL grape, fruit growers

## Highlights economic impact that is coming

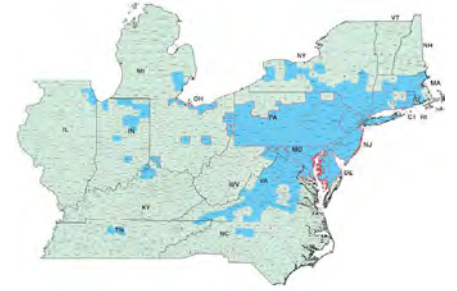
FINGER LAKES — Earlier this year, N.Y. State Senator Tom O'Mara (R,C--Big Flats), Ranking Member on the Senate Finance Committee, joined legislative colleagues for a monthlong series of joint Senate-Assembly hearings on Governor Kathy Hochul's proposed 2026-2027 New York State budget.

Recently, O'Mara continued to highlight a "huge challenge" for grape growers across the Finger Lakes region, as well as apple producers regionally and statewide; the Spotted Lanternfly, an invasive species that is particularly harmful to grapevines, fruit and hardwood trees, and numerous other plants.

Testifying before the budget panel and in response to questioning from Senator O'Mara, Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) Associate Dean Julie Suarez updated committee members on research and other efforts underway at CALs to combat the Spotted lanternfly, calling it a "hugely significant economic impact" for growers, "particularly in the Finger Lakes region."



**Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences - Working with NYS Dept. of Ag & Markets, CALs is mapping and tracking the spread of Spotted Lanternfly, and is working with volunteer citizens and farmers on recognizing and reporting egg masses. There have been incidental sightings of SLFs in Yates County, but egg masses have been reported in Tompkins, Seneca, and Ontario Counties.**



Eggs



Early Nymph



Late Nymph



Adult



*Continued on next page*

# SUMMERTIME FUN at LONGS'





**Cards for Every Occasion**



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**Stickers**



**Books, Books & More Books**



**Carolina Hammocks Starting at \$109.99**



**Local Souvenirs**



**Puzzles**



**Pottery Mugs**



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**Custom Keuka Lake Wooden Signs**  
\$14.99-\$179.99 4 sizes



**We Have Watershoes!**  
**\$9.99/pair**

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 Mon-Fri 8:30 AM-6:00 PM ~ Sat. 9:00 AM-6:00 PM ~ Sun. 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

## Lanternfly

Continued from page 18

Suarez stated that a recently economic analysis published by Cornell projects an estimated loss of \$8 million on grape sales alone. That figure does not include losses on value-added wine sales.

In a joint effort with the NYS Dept. of Ag & Markets, CALS is mapping and tracking the spread of Spotted Lanternfly, and is working with volunteer citizens and farmers on recognizing and reporting egg masses, says Suarez.

Calling it “a bug apocalypse,” Suarez described the “nasty infestation” downstate, how surprisingly fast they move, and how difficult it can be to kill them. Cornell is currently working on a more species-specific bacterial spray to kill SLFs to avoid more harmful broad spectrum insecticides, but more research is needed.

# Camp Good Days Calls for Summer Volunteers to Make a Difference

KEUKA LAKE – Camp Good Days, a beacon of hope for children and families facing cancer and other life challenges, is seeking dedicated volunteers to join its mission of spreading joy and positivity this summer.

Summer at Camp Good Days in Branchport is a time of laughter, friendship, and unforgettable experiences. Volunteers are the backbone of this organization, creating a supportive and uplifting environment where campers can thrive, make new friends, and create lasting memories.

“At Camp Good Days, we believe that every child deserves the chance to be a kid, regardless of their circumstances,” said Gary Mervis, Founder of Camp Good Days. “Volunteers play a vital role in making this belief a reality by providing laughter, support, and encouragement to our campers.”



Volunteers at Camp Good Days have the opportunity to engage in a wide range of activities, from arts and crafts to outdoor adventures and team sports on the shores of Keuka Lake. Whether it’s leading a hiking expedition, facilitating a creative arts session, or simply being a supportive presence, volunteers make a meaningful difference in the lives of campers every day.

“We are looking for individuals who are passionate about making a difference and who

are eager to join our Camp Good Days family,” added Gary Mervis. “Whether you’re a seasoned volunteer or new to the experience, there’s a place for you here. All you need is a willingness to share your time, energy, and love with those who need it most.”

Camp Good Days provides comprehensive training and ongoing support to ensure that volunteers are well-prepared to meet the needs of our campers. Flexible volunteer opportunities are available to accommodate varying schedules and commitments.

Join us this summer and become a part of something truly special. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of children facing adversity.

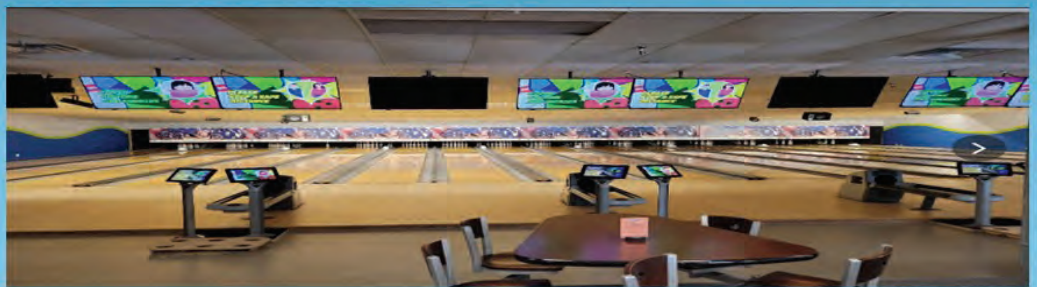
For further information about Camp Good Days, its programs, and opportunities to get involved in future events, please visit [www.campgooddays.org](http://www.campgooddays.org).



- \*Bowling
- \*Arcade
- \*Pizza Shop
- \*Bar
- \*Birthday Parties
- \*Corporate Parties

201 Brown Street Ext  
Penn Yan, Ny 14527

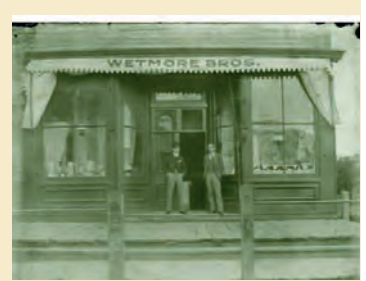
315-536-9595



# The Olde Country Store and More — 1849 — is for sale

**NORTH COHOCTON —** When Jenny and Denise Wells left their hometown in Germany in 2015, they brought with them a dream, a work ethic, and a love of community. They found all three reflected back at them in a long-dormant country store at the crossroads of the roads to Naples, Wayland, and Cohocton — and on the Fourth of July 2015, they threw open the doors and got to work. Now, after a decade of building something truly special, the Wells family is ready to return to Germany and is offering The Olde Country Store and More for sale.

The property they chose is no ordinary address. A store has stood at this crossroads since 1849, and the historical building that houses the shop today dates back to 1873. After sitting closed from 2008 to 2015, it was Jenny and Denise who restored its purpose — starting entirely from scratch and rebuilding the business with care,



*After a Decade of Love and Hard Work, Owners Jenny and Denise Wells Are Returning Home to Germany — and Offering Their Thriving Turnkey Business and Historic 1873 Building to the Right Buyer*



grit, and genuine affection for their adopted community. In the ten years since, they have made it thrive.

The decision to sell was not an easy one. After a decade in

New York, the pull of home has grown too strong to ignore, and Jenny and Denise have made the heartfelt decision to return to their hometown in Germany. They are not closing a chapter

so much as passing the torch — and they are determined to find a buyer who will love this store as much as they have.

Time is of the essence. The store will continue operating



## GARRETT MEMORIAL CHAPEL 2026

### Live Music on the Bluff

Join us on the Chapel Grounds for two fabulous concerts. Bring a lawn chair and refreshments and enjoy the sounds of summer on Keuka Lake!

*Donations are kindly accepted at the door. Proceeds benefit ongoing renovations at the Chapel.*

**SUNDAY, JULY 19**

4–6 pm | Free Admission  
featuring

*Herding Cats*

Eclectic Rochester cover band playing rock, folk and everything in between—from 60's to today: Linda Ronstadt, Neil Young, Fleetwood Mac, REM and more!

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 16**

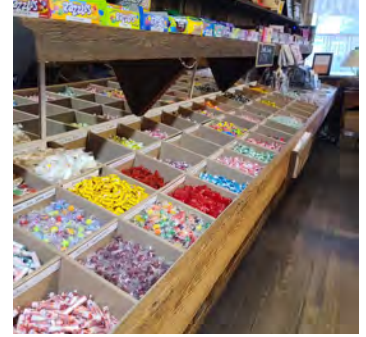
4–6 pm | Free Admission  
featuring

*David Clements and the Peacemakers*

Southern Rock style band who performs many of your favorite tunes from Lynyrd Skynyrd to the Allman Brothers, along with other popular artists!

The Chapel is located 12 miles from Penn Yan at the end of Bluff Point. Take 54A towards Branchport. Turn left on Assembly Road and right on Skyline Drive. Follow Skyline to the very end where it descends downhill. Continue a few hundred yards until you see the Chapel on your left.

Learn more about Sunday services, open hours, donations and other events at [www.garrettchapel.org](http://www.garrettchapel.org).



as normal through August 31, 2026. A buyer who acts before then will step into a fully turnkey operation — building, inventory, equipment, fixtures, and a loyal customer base all included. If no buyer is secured by September 1st, a Going Out of Business sale will begin, with all stock, equipment and building sold off individually. Once that process starts, the opportunity to purchase this as a turnkey business is gone for good.

“We came to the US with nothing but hope, and this community gave us so much more than we ever expected,” said Jenny and Denise Wells. “We are homesick for Germany,

and the time has come for us to go home — but leaving this store and the people who have supported us is genuinely hard. We hope to find someone who will walk through these doors and feel what we felt in 2015: that this place is something worth fighting for.”

Interested buyers are encouraged to contact Jenny and Denise Wells directly for pricing details, financials, and to arrange a personal visit. The store is open and welcoming customers Wed-Sun. The turnkey window closes August 31st — this is a rare chance to own a living piece of American history at a beloved community crossroads

### Turnkey Sale Includes:

- Historic 1873 building at the crossroads of Naples, Wayland & Cohocton
- Property with continuous store presence since 1849
- All inventory and stock
- All equipment and fixtures
- Established customer base and deep community goodwill
- 10 years of rebuilt operational history under current ownership (*est. July 4, 2015*)
- 12+K followers Facebook page
- 10 years of rebuilt operational history under current ownership (*est. July 4, 2015*)
- Vendor and supplier lists
- 1-2 weeks help from current owners for smooth transition
- fully licensed kitchen

Turnkey purchase opportunity available through August 31, 2026. | Going Out of Business sale begins September 1, 2026.

#### For More Information, Contact:

Jenny & Denise Wells  
The Olde Country Store  
and More

North Cohocton, NY  
585-543 5747  
info@ocs1849.com

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**Donation Days**  
Monday & Tuesday  
8 AM to 11 AM  
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8 AM to 3 PM  
Saturday 8 AM to 1 PM  
**Volunteers Needed**

**Retail Hours:**  
Wednesday, Thursday,  
Friday  
10 AM–4 PM  
Saturday 10 AM–2 PM  
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Even if its a stray cat or not your dog, you don't know if it's up to date on rabies shots.

- Look but don't touch!
- Wild animals carry diseases that can make you sick
- Do not feed, touch, or remove wild animals
- Stay away from dead animals or animals that appear to be sick or injured
- Keep your children and pets away from wild animals at all times

**Questions?**  
Call Yates County Public Health at  
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Emergency Department  
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(315) 531-2500

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[www.flhealth.org](http://www.flhealth.org)



### DAY CAMP SESSION DATES

Day Camp sessions run Monday through Friday, 8:30 am-5 pm, with additional activity blocks 7-8:30 am and 5-6 pm, at no extra charge. Each session features a variety of program areas that your camper will enjoy every day.

Session 1	June 29-July 3	Session 6	August 3-7
Session 2	July 6-10	Session 7	August 10-14
Session 3	July 13-17	Session 8	August 17-21
Session 4	July 20-24	Session 9	August 26-28
Session 5	July 27-31	Session 10	Aug 31-Sept 4

### 2026 CAMP CORY RATES

<b>DAY CAMP</b>	<b>STANDARD RATE:</b> \$345 per Session	<b>COMMUNITY RATE:</b> \$245 per Session <small>Available to children in the Penn Yan and Dundee School Districts.</small>	
<b>ADD ONS</b>			
<b>LUNCH:</b> \$45 <small>Campers eat at the dining table from our fabulous kitchen team for the entire session!</small>	<b>Tie Dye Friday T-shirt:</b> \$15 <small>Campers get a white Camp Cory shirt to tie dye!</small>		Scholarships are always available for those in need.



#### VISIT CAMP CORY!

Talk & Walk: May 9  
Open House: May 31, June 7

The Talk and Walk allows parents to meet with our directors for a personalized tour and in-depth conversation about the camp experience.

Our Open House provides tours and hands-on preview of our program areas like High Ropes and Waterfront and more!



#### SAMPLE CAMP: SESSIONS 4 & 7

Give your child the perfect introduction to overnight camp with Sample Camp! Designed for first-time campers, this program offers a gradual transition into the overnight camp experience.

Campers spend Monday & Tuesday enjoying the fun and familiar structure of Day Camp, getting to know the campus and making new friends. On Wednesday morning, they pack their bags and move into the cabin for the rest of the week! They'll jump into the full overnight experience, participating in classic Camp Cory activities!



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Eight, one-week sessions  
June 28-August 22

With a variety of different weeks and programs, overnight camp is a wonderful opportunity to help kids grow and thrive. Check out our dates and rates, as well as more information about overnight camp at Camp Cory.



SCAN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OVERNIGHT CAMP AT CAMP CORY



#### FACILITY HIGHLIGHTS

**Resident Camp Atmosphere:** Your camper enjoys the full, authentic experience of a Keuka Lake resident camp every day, offering a unique level of immersion unmatched by traditional day camps.

**Specialized Waterfront Access:** Direct access to the beautiful waterfront with safe, high-quality instruction

**The Achievement Focus:** Our goal is skill mastery, not just participation. Campers earn Skill Tags or badges to recognize their tangible progress in specific activities like outdoor cooking, target sports, and watercraft.

Visit [campcory.org](http://campcory.org) for more information and to register.

YMCA CAMP CORY | 140 East Lake Road, Route 54 | Penn Yan, NY 14527

[CampCory@RochesterYMCA.org](mailto:CampCory@RochesterYMCA.org)