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St. Mary's Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 22, 2025 9 am – 2 pm

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Inserts

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Obituary



GAYNELL E. (GLEASON) **SHEPHERD**, age 86, of Cayuta, NY, passed away on Thursday, November 13, 2025 at Chemung County Nursing Facility in Elmira, NY. She was born in Cherry Tree, PA to the late Edward and Molly (Pierce) Gleason.

She is predeceased by her parents; children, Robert Vail and Robin Vail; sisters, Irene Gleason and Gladys Gleason Williamee, and brothers, Lewis Gleason, Dennis Gleason and Clair Pierce. She is survived by her loving husband, David; her children, John Dorn, Jr., Larry (Paula) Vail, Sr., Rocky (Kathy) Vail, John Shepherd, and Daniel (Vicki) Shepherd; sister, Anamae Fabian; along with 8 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Gaynell was a homemaker, who cherished her family. She enjoyed spending time in her gardens, playing card games, cooking, and camping.

There will be no services at this time. Gaynell will be laid to rest in Cayuta Cemetery in the spring. Donations may be made in her memory to the Alzheimer's Association. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Vedder-Scott & Zinger Funeral Home, Montour Falls, NY. To leave the family a message of condolence, please visit www.vedderscottzinger.

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It is with profound sadness, but joy of her salvation that ELLEN D. MISNER, 89, of Montour Falls, NY, received her angel wings on November 6, 2025 at Seneca View Nursing Facility in Montour Falls, NY.

Ellen was born in the Town of Montour on March 12, 1936, the daughter of the late Ernest W. Davis and Bernice Markle Davis. Ellen married her high school

sweetheart, Bruce D. Misner on August 27, 1954. When her children were young, Ellen was a stay at home mom and enjoyed afternoon coffee gatherings with her many friends and family, but still had a hot meal on the table by 5:00 pm when Bruce came home from work. After her youngest daughter started school, she went to work in the Cafeteria at BC Cate and then in the kitchen at Odessa Montour Central School and affectionately became known as "The Ice Cream Lady" and "Mom" to her children's classmates and friends. Ellen then went on to work at Schuyler Hospital as one of their cooks where she worked with and mentored many high school kids in their first jobs.

Family was her priority and many meals were enjoyed with her siblings either in their homes or around a big table at the Blue Ribbon Diner.

In her free time, Ellen enjoyed reading and making a lot of "knots", whether it was knitting or crocheting, and made the most beautiful socks, sweaters, tablecloths, doilies and blankets. She was also an excellent seamstress, having made her daughter, Kathy's wedding dress from a picture, the Santa Clause suit that George Emery wore for many years for the enjoyment of all of the children in the area, many amazing Halloween costumes for her children, bridesmaid's dresses for her daughter, Margaret's wedding and also for other weddings of friends. Alongside her brother, Glenn, she was very involved with the Squires and Pages Drum and Bugle

Ellen did not have any formal training but she lovingly helped take care of many of her friends and family members during their final years (including her husband and many siblings). When asked how she knew what to do, she always said "I just did it".

She was a lifetime member of the Montour Falls United Methodist Church and served as Lay Leader, worked on many committees and at many brunches and dinners along with giving her children a wonderful foundation.

Ellen was predeceased by her husband, Bruce on October 11, 1997. She was the last surviving of her eight siblings having been predeceased by Anna Frances (John) Forbes (2002), Ruth Sawyer (1985), Levi (Beverly) Davis (2000), Doyle (Kathryn) Davis (2000), Agnes (Frank) Wyre (2009), Leona (John/"Sandy") Sandusky (2022), Dorothy DeGraw (1997) and Glenn (Shirley) Davis (2004).

She is survived by her daughters, Yvonne Misner, Kathleen (John) Abidin and Margaret (David) Carlson along with her grandsons, Kyle (Kristen) Palmisano, Kreig Palmisano and "Bronka" to Dominik Brody Davis, Sister-in-Law, Sandra (Kenneth) Swab and numerous (40) special nieces and nephews and their extended families. Ellen loved all of her family without measure.

Ellen's daughters cannot express enough their appreciation for Seneca View's excellent medical care and the staff's daily care provided with dignity and true affection. Family and friends are invited to memorial visitation on Monday, November 24, 2025 from 12:00-1:00 pm at the Montour Falls United Methodist Church, 124 Owego St., Montour Falls, NY with her Memorial Service directed by Pastor Mike Kelly at 1:00 pm. A luncheon will follow at the Church. Interment at the Montour Cemetery will be held privately by the family.

Memorial donations may be made to Seneca View, Attn: Activities Dept, Unit 2, 220 Steuben Street, Montour Falls, NY 14865 or the Montour Falls United Methodist Church, PO Box 309, Montour Falls, NY 14865.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Vedder-Scott & Zinger Funeral Home, Montour Falls, NY. To leave the family a message of condolence, please visit www. vedderscottzinger.com

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<u>Obituary</u>



Born November 5th, 1966 in Montour Falls, NY, RICHARD "DIRK" COSGROVE, beloved husband, brother, uncle and friend, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday. November 15, 2025 surrounded by his loving family and cherished cats after a courageous battle with stage IV colon cancer.

Dirk faced his illness with extraordinary strength, humor, and grace. He was supported by an incredible team at the Cayuga Cancer Center and was compassionately comforted by CareFirst NY Hospice in his final days.

A manager of Applications Engineering Turnkey for Hardinge Incorporated, he was a creative soul by nature. Dirk loved using his mind in countless ways - solving complex problems at work and taking on any project his wife could dream up. He had a gift for turning ideas into reality.

Dirk lived life with a quiet strength and a big heart. He found joy in life's simple pleasures: the freedom of a motorcycle ride, the comfort of an afternoon in his recliner with his cat or just sharing a laugh with loved ones. The love of his friends and family was his greatest blessing and he made spending time with them his priority. He adored his nieces and nephews, always eager to share his wisdom, make them laugh and cheer them on. Dirk will be remembered for his quick wit, gentle heart and the way he made everyone around him feel valued and loved.

He was predeceased by his parents Richard and Christine (Wilcox) Cosgrove and siblings Walter Lee and Robin Kay. He survived by his loving wife Mary (Leszyk); sisters, JoLynne Crout (Brooks, Dante), Becky Sue Bianco (Theresa, John Michael (Stephanie Louch, Evelyn Bianco), LeAnn (John) Spritzer (Abbigale, Brittany (Calen, Logan), Kristan (Josh), Johnny (Brianna); In-laws, nieces and nephews: John Leszyk (Jason, Paul), Mark Leszyk (Danielle Cassandra and Chris Crout (Cameron, Chandler), Matthew Leszyk (Emily, Ryan), Jennifer (Leszyk) Greg Emmons, Luke and Jane Leszyk (Stephanie and Rick Logana, Casie and Austin Leach (Atticus).

Calling hours will be held on Friday, November 21, 2025 from 3-6 pm at Vedder-Scott & Zinger Funeral Home, 122 N. Genesee St., Montour Falls, NY followed by a memorial service at 6:00 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dirk's name to the Humane Society of Schuyler County. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. To leave his family a message of condolence, please visit www. vedderscottzinger.com

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The Humane Society Shelter is located at: 124 Marina Drive, Montour Falls, NY 607-594-2255 · info@schuylerhumane.org



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Thank you to Jennifer Sekella for the beautiful Holiday artwork!

Winning entries will be displayed at Watkins Promotions in downtown Watkins Glen during Village Christmas, Fri., December 5th. WINNERS will be selected in 7 different age groups: Age 3 and under, Age 4-5, Age 6-8, Age 9-11, Age 12-14, Age 15-20, and Age 21 and up! Please drop off or send entry to: Watkins Glen Promotions, PO Box 332, 209 N. Franklin Street, Watkins Glen, NY 14891.

Phone #

DEADLINE November 28, 2025. Winners will be notified day before Village Christmas. **Employees, volunteers and families of the Hi-Lites and Watkins Glen Promotions can enter the contest but are not eligible to be judged."



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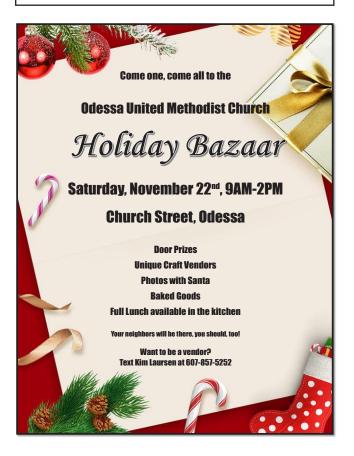
Seneca Santa, Inc. is a non-profit tax-exempt organization that has been in Schuyler County for over 80 years. Its sole purpose is to help provide Christmas for children in need who reside in Schuyler County. We deal with five school districts and are all volunteers. Gifts are delivered Christmas Eve morning by the volunteer fire men and women.

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