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In This Issue

- Automotive..... 3
- Churches..... 2
- Electric Service 3
- For Sale 2
- Landscaping/Mowing.. 3
- Locals Having Fun 5
- Obituaries 2
- Pet of the Week/Pets... 3
- Reader Ad Form 7
- Real Estate..... 3
- Service Directory..... 6-7
- Wanted 2

Inserts

- Tops Market P
- P=Partial F=Full Distribution

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Obituary

HELENA FERN VANDYKE, age 83, of Ithaca, NY, passed away on Wednesday, January 7, 2026. She was born on December 29, 1942 in Auburn, NY, to the late Horace and Dorothy (Andrews) VanDyke.



She is predeceased by her parents; and her brothers, Arthur “Art” VanDyke and David T. VanDyke. She is survived by her sister, Cora Sue Davis; sister-in-law, Francis (Oliver) VanDyke; along with several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Helena was an active volunteer in the Ithaca area, where she made her home. She also competed in the Special Olympics, and faithfully attended the Church on the Rock (Reliant Center) for over 40 years.

Helena will be laid to rest at Pleasant View Cemetery in Reading Center, NY. 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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Obituary

JOANN K. (INMAN) WHITTED, age 70, of Montour Falls, NY, passed away on Thursday, January 1, 2026 at Schuyler Hospital. Joann was born in Ithaca, NY on April 14, 1955 to the late Calvin C. and Etta E. (Tyler) Inman.



Joann is predeceased by her parents; brothers, Michael Inman and Calvin Inman; and a sister, Linda Smith. She is survived by a son, Timothy Whitted; three daughters; siblings, Russell (Stacy) Whitted, Patricia (Mike) Allen and Sandra Inman; longtime companion, Robert Franklin; along with eight grandchildren.

Joann worked in the Catering Dept. at Cornell University for many years. She enjoyed gardening, helping friends and watching wildlife. She will be deeply missed by those who knew and loved her.

A Celebration of Life will be held in late spring. Contributions may be made to your local animal shelter, Veterans or mental health organization. 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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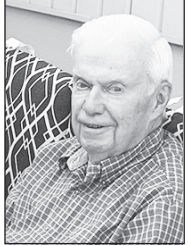
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Obituary

HOWARD TALLMAN SEARLES, JR., 95, passed away Sunday, January 11, 2026 after a brief illness. A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2026, at 2:00 pm at the Odessa Baptist Church, 111 Fowler Place, Odessa, NY 14869.



Howard was born in Geneva, NY on May 19, 1930, to the late Howard and Elizabeth Searles. He graduated from Geneva High School and SUNY Delhi with a degree in Construction Management and SUNY Oswego with a degree in Industrial Arts Education.

Howard was predeceased by his wife of 50 years, Marietta Knisley Searles in 2010. He is survived by his son, Alan Searles of Odessa, NY, and daughters, Carol French (Rick) of Bradford, NY and her children Shannon (Mat) and Aaron (Megan) and their children Dominik and Colton; and Mary Beth (James) Huber of Raleigh, NC and her children Bryan and Timothy. He is also survived by his sisters Christine Milne, Dorene MacDonald, Marion (Richard) Buck and Isabel (Jack) Mroczkowski and sister-in-law Patricia Searles. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother Fred Searles and sister Sally Booth and brother- and sister-in-laws Edward MacDonald, Bruce Milne, Eugene Knisley, John Knisley and Kathleen Blackburn.

Howard was a long-time member of the Odessa Baptist Church where he served as a Trustee and Treasurer for many years. He retired from Odessa Montour Central School where he taught wood shop for 25 years. Howard was a master woodworker whose work can be found in many homes in the area. He was a long-time member of the Odessa Lions Club and was also an Odessa Village Trustee from 1964-1968 and Mayor of Odessa from 1968-1974 overseeing the construction of the Village Hall that included a Community Center and Fire Station completed in 1970. Howard and Marietta enjoyed going on many trips with family and friends. Howard also loved working on jigsaw puzzles especially when his grandchildren and great-grandchildren assisted.

Howard was drafted in the Korean War serving from May 1951 to February 1953. He spent 10 months in Korea with the 7 th Infantry Division, 31 st Regiment, Heavy Mortar Company.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Odessa Baptist Church, PO Box 149, Odessa, NY 14869.

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP



AMERICAN BAPTIST:

• **Dundee Baptist Church**, 20 Seneca St., Dundee, NY 14837. 607.243.7313. Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.

BAPTIST:

- **Alpine Baptist Church**, 5950 Cty Rt. 14. 607-594-2128. Thursday 7pm, Sunday School 10am and Sunday Worship 11am. KJV1611
- **First Baptist Church**, 213 5th St., Watkins Glen NY. 14891. Pastor Jeff Miller. Sunday service 9:30am. Sunday School 10:30am. Live stream on Facebook. All are welcome, come as you are.
- **Glen Baptist Church**, 33311 Reading Road, Watkins Glen. Sunday School 9:40am; Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am; Sunday Kids/Adult Bible Study 5:30pm; Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30pm
- **Grace Baptist Church**, 2032 Chambers Rd., Beaver Dams NY 14812, 607-962-4864. Service Times: Sunday school 9:45am; Sunday morning service 11:00am; Sunday Evening 6:00pm; Wednesday evening Bible study; 7:00pm. Nursery available each service. Junior Church 12 and under Sunday morning. We are a independent, fundamental, Kings James only, Bible believing Baptist church.
- **New Hope Baptist Church**, 5528 State St. Millport, NY 14864. 607-739-2482. Pastor Jack Deyo. Church Service Wednesday 6pm, Sunday Service 11am, Sunday School youth & teenagers.
- **Odessa Baptist Church**, 111 Fowler Place, Odessa, NY 14869. 607-594-2800. Adult and Teen Sunday School 9:30am. Service 10:30am Young Kids Sunday School during service. Wed. Women’s Bible Study 9:30am. Sat. Men’s Bible Study 6:30am. Sun. Group Bible Study 6:00pm.
- **Pine Valley Baptist**, 4872 Pine Crest Rd., Millport, NY 14864. 607-739-7767. Sunday Service 10:00am.

CATHOLIC:

- **St. Benedict’s Church**, 307 Speedway, Odessa, NY, Saturday 5:00 pm Mass
- **St. Mary’s of the Lake Church**, 905 N. Decatur St., Watkins Glen, NY, Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am Masses
- **St. Stanislaus**, 7646 Whitehead Hill Rd., Bradford, NY. Mass: Saturday 6pm, Sunday 11:30am
- **The Parish Of Mary Mother Of Mercy:** St. Francis Solanus, 3660 Orchard St., Interlaken. Mass: Sat., 4:00pm; St. James the Apostle, 17 Whig St., Trumansburg, NY, Mass: Sunday, 9:00am; Holy Cross, 7231 Main St., Ovid, Mass: Sunday, 10:30am. For more info phone 607-294-0064. Or email: immmercy@dor.org

EPISCOPAL:

- **Episcopal Church of the Epiphany**, 11 Elm Street, Trumansburg, NY 14886. 607-387-6274. Sunday service at 9:30am, Rev. April Stace.
- **St. James’ Episcopal Church**, 112 Sixth St., Watkins Glen 10:45 service, Fr. David Hanselman
- **St. John Episcopal of Catharine**, 4938 County Rd. 14, Odessa, NY 14869. Services begin at 8:45am. Since 1810.

LUTHERAN:

- **Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church**, 2872 Westinghouse Rd., Horseheads. 607-739-9412. Sunday 10:30 Community Worship Service with Music. All are welcome.

METHODIST:

- **Burdett United Methodist Church**, Lake Street, Burdett. Sunday Worship, 11-Noon. Live stream on Facebook.
- **Cayutaville Methodist Church**, Sunday Service at 9:30.
- **Fresh Start Church**, Service held at the Glen Theater, Franklin St., Watkins Glen, NY 14891. Sunday service at 10:00am.
- **Mecklenburg United Methodist Church**, 6069 Turnpike Rd., Mecklenburg, NY 14863, Sunday Services at 8:30AM All are welcome! Come as you are!
- **Montour Falls United Methodist**, 128 Owego Street, Montour Falls, service time 9am.
- **Odessa-Catharine United Methodist Church**, 305 Church Street, Odessa. Sunday School 9:30-10:30AM Sundays, Church 11:00 AM Phone: 607-594-2271. Pastor Mike Kelly
- **Reynoldsville United Methodist Church**, Sunday service 9:30-10:30
- **Tyrone United Methodist Church**, 3647 Church Hill Road, Tyrone, NY 14887. 607-292-3239. Pastor Lee Capodagli. Worship service every Sunday beginning at 10:15am.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

- **Beaver Dams Community Church** (Formerly Beaver Dams UMC) 1285 Co. Rt. 19, Beaver Dams. Sunday Worship at 9:30. All Welcome, Independent Christian Church
- **Bethel Fellowship Church**, 2035 State Route 14, Montour Falls Sunday Service begins at 10:30am. Wednesday Reborn Free Recovery Meeting begins at 6pm.
- **Full Gospel Church of Catlin Center**, 683 Backer Road, Beaver Dams, NY 14812. Pastors Terrence and Melissa Passmore. Sunday Worship 11:00am. Children’s Sunday School 11:30am, Prayer Meeting Sunday 5:30pm. Wednesday night Bible Study 6:30pm. 607-873-7185, email: fgccatlin@gmail.com Facebook page: Full Gospel Church of Catlin. We look forward to seeing you.
- **Full Gospel Covenant**. 4227 Perry Hill Road, Altay. Sunday Service 10 a.m. All are welcome. Come as you are.
- **Tompkins Corners Country Church**, 402 Chambers Rd., Horseheads 10:00am, Sunday School 10am. All are welcome. Independent Christian Church.

PRESBYTERIAN:

- **Burdett Presbyterian Church**, 3995 Church St., Burdett, NY 14818 607-546-8560, Sunday worship starts at 10am. All are welcome!
- **First Presbyterian Church of Watkins Glen**, 520 N. Decatur St. Sunday Worship 11:00am.
- **Hector Presbyterian Church**, State Rt 414, Hector, NY. 9:30am Sunday Worship service
- **Moreland Presbyterian Church**, 3045 Beaver Dams Moreland Rd. Beaver Dams NY 14812. Reverend Paul Yoder, Sunday 9:30-10:30. All are welcome to join in person or by phone. Call in at 701-802-5357, access code 2568066
- **Rock Stream Presbyterian Church**, 6062 Reading Road, Rock Stream, Sunday Worship 10:00am.

REFORMED:

- **Interlaken Reformed Church**, 607-532-4321. 8315 Main Street, Interlaken, NY. Morning Worship Services at 10:30. “GO Church” for children ages held during the worship service. All are welcome!!

WESLEYAN:

- **Grace Lee Wesleyan Church**, 2075 Chambers Road, Beaver Dams. 9am Discipleship Hour; 10am Connection Cafe; 10:30am Worship; 6:30pm Youth Group.

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MISCELLANEOUS

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING
AWARENESS MONTH COM-
MUNITY YOUTH SKATE
EVENT.** Registration is open for
the inaugural Skate for Freedom
ice-skating skate-a-thon, hosted
by the Potter's Hands Founda-
tion. The event will be held
on Saturday, January 31, from
6:30pm to 8:30pm at the Nasser
Civic Center ice skating rink in
Corning, NY. Registration is
free, required, and online. Skat-
ers will find more information,
the registration form, and the
pledge form at www.thepottershandsfoundation.org/skate-a-thon. "Every January is National
Human Trafficking Awareness
month," said Deborah Kuehner,
executive director and founder.
"This event is designed to both
raise awareness about the issue
of sex trafficking and support
our mission through youth-led
fundraising efforts. In addition,
it is especially meaningful be-
cause it engages young people in
a positive, tangible way—help-
ing them understand the realities
of trafficking while encourag-
ing leadership, compassion, and
community involvement." Local
youth participants will take part
by securing sponsorships or flat
donations to skate laps during
the event, empowering them to
play an active role in educating
the community while raising
funds to support women who
have survived sex trafficking or
sexual exploitation and are heal-
ing at the Potter's Hands Founda-
tion. The Foundation raises
awareness about the dangers and
signs of trafficking. In addition,
the Foundation is the only long-
term, residential, treatment-
specific program in the Finger
Lakes, Western New York, and
the Southern Tier for female
survivors that provides safe and
stable shelter, food security,
education, counseling, mental
health coaching, and life skills
management. Survivors do not
pay for any support provided by
the Foundation. In addition, the
Foundation does not seek or re-
ceive any support from the gov-
ernment. For more information
or to schedule an interview with
Executive Director Deborah
Kuehner, please contact Step-
hanie Specchio at 607-331-4276.

**WATKINS GLEN HOME-
TOWN BANNER PROGRAM**
will open up for applications on
Jan20th - March 20th, 2026. Ap-
plications may be found on the
Shoc website www.shocny.org
starting the 20th. Also, Applica-
tions May be found at the veter-
ans Service Agency @ the HSC
Building in Montour Falls. Thank
you. Watkins Glen Hometown
Committee.

**EXCITING NEWS FOR
WATKINS GLEN!** We're thrilled
to announce a brand-new event
coming to the Village of Watkins
Glen! The Watkins-Montour Ro-
tary Club will be hosting the first-
ever Watkins Glen Wing Walk.
Join us for a flavorful afternoon
of fun, community, and friendly
competition as local businesses
serve up their best wings for you
to taste and vote on! Saturday,
February 28, 2026, 12 – 4pm.
Location: Throughout the Village
of Watkins Glen: Nickle's BBQ,
Lucky Hare, Landon's, Bleach-
ers, Maria's, Jerlando's. Dress
warm, wear your walking shoes,
taste some delicious wings, and
stroll through the village to vote
for your favorite wings! Tickets
go on sale in January, online only.
\$25.00 per ticket. All net pro-
ceeds will go back to the commu-
nity through Rotary Grants. More
details to come — stay tuned for
more information!

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munity-wide book discussions of
"The Good Lord Bird" by James
McBride in February. The first 10
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book, thanks to outreach funds
awarded by the Southern Tier Li-
brary System's Coordinated Out-
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Books are available now and
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Elizabeth B Pert Library, Hector
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FEBRUARY 18TH AT 11AM -
Dutton S Peterson Memorial
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in on Monday, Thursday and Friday from 10- 1, Saturdays from 10 - 4,
Sundays from 2-5 without an appointment or call us at 607-594-2255 to
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to fill out an adoption application to get the process started.

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ODESSA HISTORY TALKS 2026: With Gary Emerson, Schuyler County Historian, All programs begin at 10am. Village of Odessa Community Room, No Registration Required. Crimes, Chaos, and Crazyness on the Chemung Canal - February 21st. When we think about the Chemung Canal, we tend to focus on the important changes it brought to the area in the realms of transportation, commerce, and population growth. But there was a darker side to the canal's history as well. For many of the working-class people who lived near and worked on the canal, the canal was not necessarily the harbinger of progress. This talk will reveal the violent and strange events that were once part of the canal culture in our communities, including murders, strikes, thievery, fighting, and other bizarre incidents.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Democratic Party Caucus

A caucus is your opportunity to place candidates on the ballot for Wednesday, March 18, 2026 Village Elections.


For all Registered Democratic Party Residents in the Villages of Burdett, Montour Falls, and Odessa

Interested in running for Office? Ready to Nominate Democrats to your Village Board? Join us at your Village Caucus!

Village of Burdett
2 Village Trustee positions
January 26, 2026, 6:00PM
Burdett Village Hall, 4124 Lake Ave, Burdett

Village of Montour Falls
2 Village Trustees positions
January 21, 2026, 6:00PM
Human Services Building,
323 Owego Street, Montour Falls

Village of Odessa
2 Village Trustee positions
January 23, 2026, 6:00PM
Odessa Village Hall, 1928 County Road 15, Odessa



Questions?
Contact your Schuyler County Democratic Committee at 607-227-9226
www.schuylerdemocrats.org/

ATTENTION
MILITARY VETERANS OF SCHUYLER COUNTY
PICO'S TRANSIT AUTHORITY IS NOW OFFERING FREE MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION FOR ANY MILITARY VETERAN RESIDING IN SCHUYLER COUNTY. For more details about our services, please contact the Schuyler County Veterans Service Agency in Montour Falls, NY at 607-535-2091 or contact us at 607-767-5528. Veterans please take advantage of this opportunity. You can bring one family member to your appointment. Very important to please notify the VA in Montour Falls before any commitments. **WE HONOR OUR VETERANS. GOD BLESS AMERICA.**

EMPOWERING VICTIMS:
Justice Center of the Southern Tier envisions a community of victims and service providers working together in a safe environment that is free from coercion and fear. It is a place where victims can come for education, opportunity and comprehensive and integrated services in the pursuit of justice, hope and healing. JCST offers a host of services in one place including, but not limited to: Criminal Justice Advocacy, Case Management, Counseling Services, Law Enforcement Availability, Civil Legal Network, and Compensation Claims. For more information, please contact Justice Center of the Southern Tier, 320 West Main Street, Suite A, Montour Falls, NY. 607-545-1100, info@justicecenter-southerntier.org. www.justicecenter-southerntier.org.

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9 am - 3 pm



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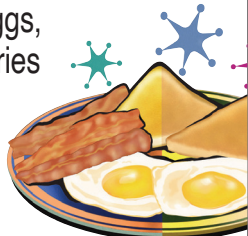
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Sun., January 25, 2026

8:00am-11:00am

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Adults - \$13.00; Children 6-12 - \$9.00; Children under 6 - Free



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Wednesday
February 4th
El Rancho
5:30pm



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ODESSA HISTORY TALKS 2026: With Gary Emerson, Schuyler County Historian, All programs begin at 10am. Village of Odessa Community Room, No Registration Required. Crimes, Chaos, and Crazyness on the Chemung Canal - February 21st. When we think about the Chemung Canal, we tend to focus on the important changes it brought to the area in the realms of transportation, commerce, and population growth. But there was a darker side to the canal's history as well. For many of the working-class people who lived near and worked on the canal, the canal was not necessarily the harbinger of progress. This talk will reveal the violent and strange events that were once part of the canal culture in our communities, including murders, strikes, thievery, fighting, and other bizarre incidents.

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	July 25, 2026	Odessa Community Day Noon - 5pm Church St, Odessa

	Sep. 11, 2026	Grand Prix Festival 10am - 8pm Downtown Watkins Glen
	Oct. 3, 2026	Falls Harvest Festival Noon - 7:30pm Main St, Montour Falls
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*Free water test includes hardness, iron, pH, tds, chlorine & sulfur. Financing requires credit approval and is not valid toward prior sales. Offers are mutually exclusive & cannot be combined with other promotions or applied to prior sales. \$400 off applies to systems with a twin tank softener & a K5. \$100 will be deducted from total cost when purchasing a system with only one of those two units. Offers Expire 02/06/26