

# Swing Into the Green Season... FORE!

Load Up Your Clubs and Tee Off Along the Cattaraugus-McKean County Golf Trail



@holidayvalley

Now that warm weather is here to stay, there's no better time to dust off the clubs and head out to one of the area's beautiful golf courses! Whether you're in it for the fresh air or the friendly competition, golf is a great sport for people of all ages and abilities.

We all know Holiday Valley's Double Black Diamond Golf Course - one that tests all aspects of your game. Playing 6,493 yards from the tips (par 70), it features stunning par 3s, a ravine on #11 and their signature #13 with elevated tee boxes and views of the entire valley.

Head to Allegany and you'll find Birch Run Golf Club, a regulation length par 35 course. While memberships are available, the course is also open to the public and hosts several tournaments throughout the season. They also don't require tee times.

Make your way over to Salamanca to Elkdale Country Club. The 6,132-yard par 70 course provides plenty of fun, as well as an enjoyable challenge for golfers of all skill levels.

Learn more about all of these courses and others around the area, inside this special issue.

PLAY ALONG THE TRAIL  
**GOLF COURSE**  
**MAP**  
 AND DIRECTORY  
 ... pages 12-13

## BIGFOOT PARK GOLF NEW TO THE SCENE

Ellicottville is the excursion chameleon of Western New York. It's equally fun and active no matter the season. As we crawl out of a rainy spring and our weather apps start to show the sunshine emoji more consistently, we can officially start to celebrate summer in Ellicottville!

There definitely isn't a shortage of things to do in town this summer. However, if you're looking to try something new, Bigfoot Park Golf on Robbins Road, behind the Ellicottville Distillery, is now open! For those unfamiliar, park golf isn't your typical golf game. Originating from Japan, park golf combines elements of traditional golf and mini golf.

... page 03

## POWER OF A TOURNEY: GOLF TOURNAMENTS SUPPORTING GREAT CAUSES

You wouldn't think the sport of golf takes too much skill or power, but it truly does. Another thing that takes a lot of work is giving to those in need. How do you combine the two? How does one support the other, when they are two very different things? It's easy, actually! Charitable golf fundraisers and foundations that benefit local, regional and national good causes abound this summer. Let's start off with one of the most well-known tournaments that happens right here in Ellicottville at Holiday Valley Resort's Double Black Diamond Golf Course. Of course, the 13th Annual Eddie Szaicher Golf Classic (on July 10th) must always be mentioned, even if it's too late to grab spot in the tournament ... page 08

## ANY TIME IS TEE TIME IN THE ENCHANTED MOUNTAINS

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## KICK BACK AND RELAX

Book your summer getaway in Ellicottville, NY. We've got accommodations to fit every budget and lifestyle. Lodging List on page 21.



## Learn the Tricks of the Trade

Local Disc Golf Player/Coach Shares Knowledge and Secrets of the Sport



photo / Ben Campbell @houghtondiscgolf

By **INDREK KONGATS**

Most people have already heard of disc golf since it's been around for over half a century. People also probably know that disc golf evolved from the tossing of a frisbee, created by a company called Wham-O back in 1966. What most people don't know is that in 1970 a small group of people from Rochester, NY, started using the frisbee not just for tossing around in the backyard but to play games of disc golf, forming leagues and hosting tournaments.

I caught up with a local disc golf player and coach, my good friend Ben Campbell. Ben is the Houghton University Disc Golf Coach and an expert in the sport for obvious reasons. Ben kindly consented to a session of questions and answers, sharing his knowledge.

... page 11



photo / Pine Acres Golf Club

## FIND YOURSELF IN A GOLFER'S PARADISE IN THE ANF REGION OF PA

Golfing in McKean County - where it doesn't matter if you stand too close to the ball (even after you hit it). It's alright if you shoot five, holler "fore" and write down three on your score card. Trail Central's advice: pack an extra pair of pants in your golf bag just in case you get a "hole" in one. There is a variety of golfing experiences catering to all skill levels. With its lush green courses set against the backdrop of the Allegheny National Forest, golfing in McKean County is a unique experience in serene surroundings ... page 14

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# Publisher's PICK

## JAPANESE INSPIRED GOLF

Bigfoot Park Golf NOW Open in Ellicottville



By PATRICK FERRINO

Ellicottville is the excursion chameleon of Western New York. It's equally fun and active no matter the season.. As we crawl out of a rainy spring and our weather apps start to show the sunshine emoji more consistently, we can officially start to celebrate summer in Ellicottville!

There definitely isn't a shortage of things to do in town this summer, with lots of biking, skating, hiking, and golf to take advantage of. However, if you're looking to try something new, Bigfoot Park Golf on Robbins Road, behind the Ellicottville Distillery, is about to open!

Park Golf is a twist of traditional golf, originating from Japan. Park golf combines elements of traditional golf and mini golf. Think of a regular golf course, but a little bit smaller and easier to play. The ball used is larger, about tennis ball-sized, and only one club is used and is designed specifically for the game.

"It's like a cross between a driver and a mallet", said Chad Neal, a bartender at Madigan's in Ellicottville. Chad also works on the Village Planning Board, and newly (and excitingly), Chad is the owner of Bigfoot Park Golf!

He is the man responsible for bringing this new sport to the area; an Ellicottville local who has been playing golf most of his life. He graduated High School on the Ellicottville Central High School golf team and went on to be a member of the Holiday Valley Men's League. "I actually won the championship in 2006 with Joe Clark," Chad said proudly.

Chad represents some of the best that summer in Ellicottville has to offer. When it comes to Park Golf and wanting to add to the summer adventures in town, Chad discovered the sport with his two sons, Elliott and Grayson, up in Akron, New York. "We ended up being near Akron on an excursion one day, so we stopped in only to see WWF's Destroyer himself sitting at the end waving at us as we drove in," Chad shared. Chad and his sons, avid WNY activity-goers, fell in love with park golf. "After our 7th visit, I uttered to the boys, 'We should build a park golf course in Ellicottville!'. They agreed and we clamored on ideas for naming it."



Bigfoot Park Golf is located in the large field behind the Ellicottville Distillery. Owner Bryan Scharf had featured a cutout of the illusive mountain monster Bigfoot before the Neal boys began to craft their course. Rather than evict Mr. Foot, they ran with it, giving their course a name! "Plus all the Bigfoot that live in the hills around here too," added Chad.

Moreover, on the gameplay, "The fairways and greens are cut from 35-100 yards and are par 3, 4, and 5", said Chad. These are definitely shorter than a traditional golf hole, with the average par 5 reaching up to 550 yards in length. The hole itself is 8 inches to accommodate the larger ball, and Chad implies the course's features are at a family-friendly difficulty level: "No sand traps or water hazards but the rough can be a struggle."

"Bigfoot Park Golf" continued page 18



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# From Ski to Golf

## Black Diamonds Aren't Just a Winter Thing



With ski season behind us and the green carpet rolled out, the Double Black Diamond Golf Course at Holiday Valley is in full swing!

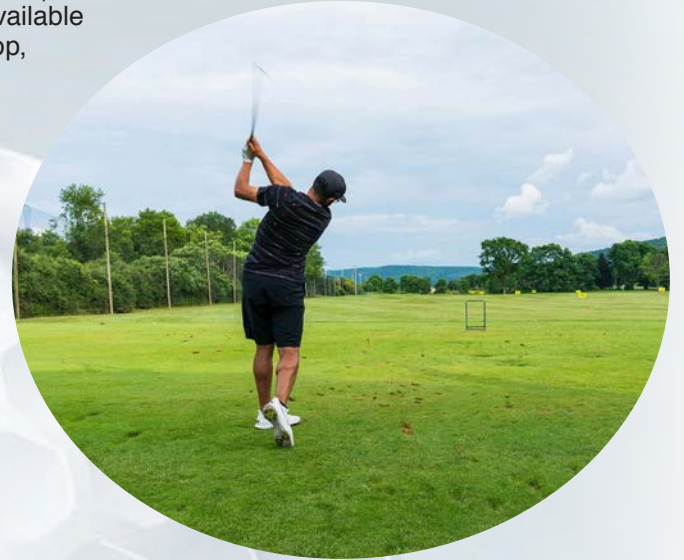
### DOUBLE BLACK DIAMOND GOLF COURSE



Nestled in the heart of Holiday Valley, the Double Black Diamond Golf Course tests all aspects of your game. Playing 6,493 yards from the tips (Par 70), it features stunning Par 3s, a ravine on #11 and the signature #13 with elevated tee boxes and views of the entire valley. There are plenty of opportunities to get in trouble - trees, fairway bunkers and water make par anything but easy. While the Front 9 is relatively flat, the Back swiftly changes elevation, and club choice can become tricky (especially on the #15 ... 5 iron or 7?) But as daunting as the course may seem, grab some friends and cold ones from the on-course beverage cart - you'll have the best round of the summer!

### DRIVING RANGE

Holiday Valley's practice facility, located across the street from the resort, boasts over 50 covered and grass hitting stations, a chipping green and a putting green. Dial your distance in with flags at 100, 150, 200 and 250 yards (and brag to your friends about labeling the tree that's way out). Re-loadable key fobs are available at the Golf Shop, or buy tokens on-site. Two new fun targets can be found on the range to test your game - two black diamonds and a candycane bullseye.



### HOLIDAY VALLEY GOLF SHOP

Open weekdays from 8AM to dusk and weekends from 7:30AM to dusk, this award winning WNYPGA Merchandiser of the Year golf shop is your go-to place for clubs, balls, bags, apparel and so much more. With some of golf's best brands like Titleist, Cobra, Callaway, Nike, Footjoy, and Goodr, there are plenty of options to choose from and our experienced staff is here to help you make the best choice.



### GOLF LESSONS



Holiday Valley offers group and private lessons, including junior and ladies. Holiday Valley's Head Golf Pro, Kyle Benish, is a Certified PGA Golf Professional, one of the 4% of Class A PGA Members. Kyle has more than 20 years of teaching experience with all levels and

ages of golfers. His experience and skill set not only gives him the ability to pinpoint what you need help with, but also gives him a great understanding how each individual learns best. Call 716-699-3939 to book your lesson.

### BOOK YOUR GROUP OUTING

Get a group of friends or co-workers together for a 9- or 18-hole golf outing at HV! If group pricing isn't incentive enough, the Valley will do anything from provide lunch or dinner for the group to personalized scorecards. Other options available include contests like longest drive or closest to the pin, parties at the Cabana Bar, beverage cart on-course and more to provide an awesome golf-centric experience.



### GOLF AND LODGING PACKAGES

One day of golf is great. But two is better! Holiday Valley offers an array of lodging packages specifically for golfers. Stay at The Inn or the Tamarack Club (both with views of the course). Packages can be tailored to include additional rounds, lunch, dinner, or tickets to Sky High Adventure Park; New York State's largest aerial adventure park.



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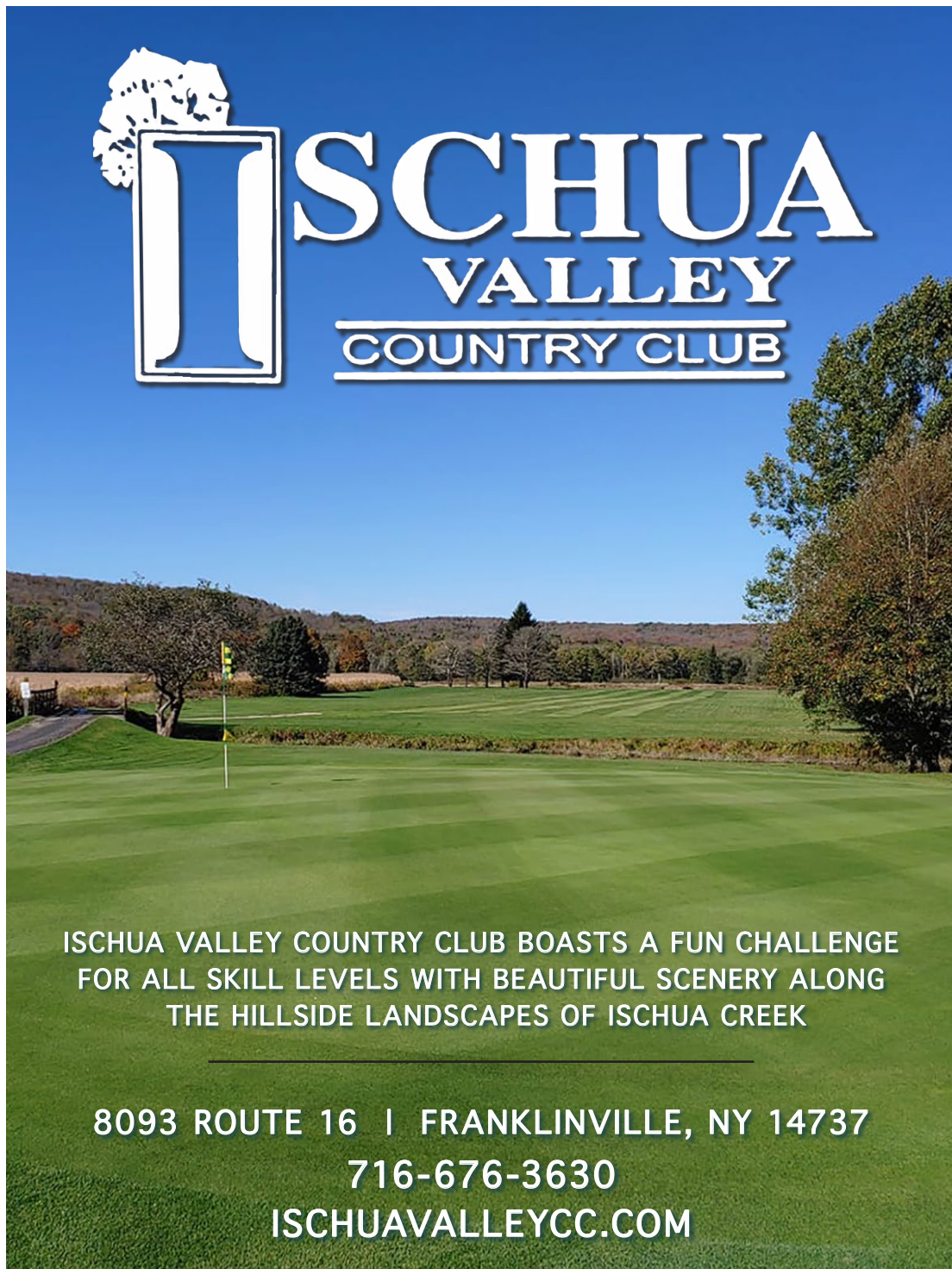
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# COURSE SPOTLIGHTS

## SWING INTO YOUR NEXT ROUND OF GOLF

Whether You're a Seasoned Pro or New to the Sport, These Area Courses Invite You to Experience an Afternoon on the Greens



Elkdale Country Club



Birch Run Golf Club

By MARY WEISER

*Now that warm weather is here to stay, there's no better time to dust off the clubs and head out to one of the area's beautiful golf courses! Whether you're in it for the fresh air or the friendly competition, golf is a great sport for people of all ages and abilities and offers the perfect opportunity to spend time with friends and meet new people. Not sure if swinging a club is for you? Consider giving disc golf a try! With minimal equipment and plenty of local opportunities to learn, it just might be the sport that gets your whole family outdoors every weekend this summer!*

### BIRCH RUN GOLF CLUB

Located at 4130 Birch Run Road in Allegany, Birch Run Golf Club is a regulation length par 35 golf course owned by Bob Ketchner. While memberships are available, the course is also open to the public and hosts several tournaments throughout the season. "We pride ourselves in giving the best golf situation and golf experience for your dollar," said Ketchner. "Our course is in great shape. We try to give a friendly environment for people to come and enjoy themselves and still respect the game of golf, have a good time, and challenge themselves."



Unlike other golf clubs, Birch Run doesn't require tee times. "We just do open golf," Ketchner explained. "Basically, you can show up and play. We do receive phone calls (716-373-3113) to check on the status of play and the pace of play. If we're exceptionally busy, we'll let them know but most of the time they can get out on the course in a relatively timely manner." Ketchner is looking forward to great weather this summer, though he's glad Birch Run can handle the occasional downpour. "Fortunately, the course does take a lot of rain very well," he noted. "It drains very well so we can get a lot of rain, but then we're back and able to let carts out with really no restrictions." For more information, visit [www.birchrunclub.com](http://www.birchrunclub.com) or follow them on Facebook.

### ELKDALE COUNTRY CLUB

Elkdale Country Club is a semi-private golf club located at 4676 Route 353 in Salamanca. Now that May is here, the course and driving range are open daily from 8:00am to dusk Monday through Thursday, and from 7:00am to dusk on weekends. The 6,132-yard par 70 course provides plenty of fun, as well as an enjoyable challenge for golfers of all skill levels. Those who want to put their skills to the test will appreciate the challenge of the 555-yard par 5 followed by a 215-yard par 3!

Flexible membership options with no monthly minimum charges are available, as well as men's and women's leagues and golf lessons with Steve Hirst, PGA. Club members and the public can book tee times by phone at 716-945-5553 or online at [www.elkdalecc.com](http://www.elkdalecc.com). Elkdale's bar and grill is also open to the public and features lunch daily, Friday night dinners with reservations, and Sunday morning breakfast. Stay up to date on this season's events, including tournaments, by following Elkdale Country Club on Facebook.

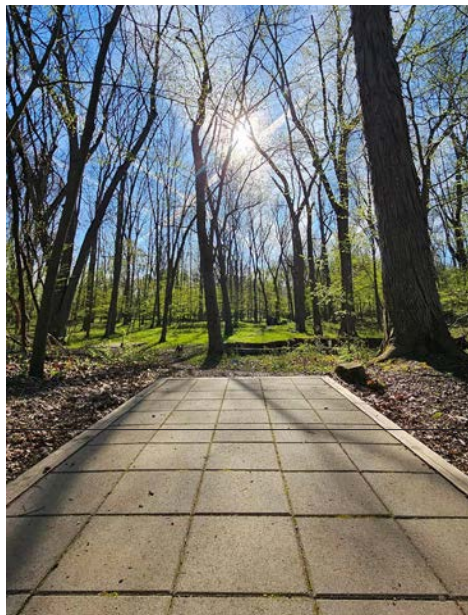
### SPRINGVILLE COUNTRY CLUB

Located at 14445 Route 219, Springville Country Club was established in 1922 and is known for being one of the most unique golf courses in the region. The course, which lies at the foothills of the Allegany Mountains along Cattaraugus Creek, features fairways atop a natural gravel bed that drains water quickly and allows more play throughout the year. This private country club has affordable membership options; contact Danielle Rola at 716-401-2226 or email [drola@springvillecc.com](mailto:drola@springvillecc.com).



The 14,000-square foot clubhouse, patio, and dining facility provides members and guests a beautiful place to enjoy a great meal, host a family gathering, or larger event. Learn more at [www.springvillecc.com](http://www.springvillecc.com) or follow Springville Country Club on Facebook.

### TWIN TIERS DISC GOLF



Twin Tiers Disc Golf is a volunteer-based non-profit organization devoted to providing the community with opportunities to play disc golf, especially for youth. Rich Longer, who's been enjoying disc golf for over 10 years, is pleased to share that disc golf is going strong at Olean's Gargoyles Park, which was Twin Tiers' very first disc golf course. While Longer was collaborating with the city of Olean to install this course, he worked contemporaneously with other municipalities to install disc golf courses, thus providing more opportunities for the community to engage in the sport. Shortly after completing the course in Gargoyles Park, Twin Tiers was awarded a grant by the Ralph Wilson Foundation to put in a youth disc golf course in Franchot Park. "There's a course in Callahan Park in Bradford, Pennsylvania that just had its ribbon cutting this Sunday," Longer said. Twin Tiers is also in the process of working with Allegany State Park to install a disc golf course.

Joe Henton of Twin Tiers has been thrilled to see participation in disc golf grow exponentially over the past few years. "We just hit 10,000 rounds played [at Gargoyles Park] in the few short years since it's been installed," Henton explained. "During the first year it was maybe 1,500 rounds, the next year we had 3,000 rounds, and the year after that we had 6,000 rounds and there's just no sign of it slowing down." He noted that interest was almost nonexistent in the early days, but now weekends are so busy that there are sometimes wait times in the park! "The response from the community has just been amazing," he added.

Both Longer and Henton note that one of the best attributes of the sport is its accessibility, both in terms of player ability and cost. Henton said, "The vast majority of disc golf courses [including Twin Tiers' courses] are free to play and there's no need to schedule tee times. If there is someone there already, you're able to go to a different hole and start your game as normal and finish as normal – it's not going to affect your pace of playing. The way to get started is to just acquire your first disc, which is a \$20 investment at most."

Henton noted that people of all ages and ability levels can be seen at Gargoyles Park enjoying disc golf, from young children to adults using electric wheelchairs and walkers. For those who are interested, it's easy to get involved! Visit [www.twintiersdiscgolf.org](http://www.twintiersdiscgolf.org) for the 2024 schedule of tournaments and events, as well as league nights, at Twin Tiers' courses. There is also a contact form available on the website for those who would like to get involved. For the latest updates, the Twin Tiers Disc Golf Club Facebook group shares events and information at Twin Tiers' courses, as well as other disc golf events throughout the region.

# POWER OF A TOURNEY

## GOLFING FOR A GOOD CAUSE

From Scholarship Funds and Learning Opportunities to Inclusive Play and Veteran Support, You Can Help Make a Difference



By JESSICA SCHULTZ

*You wouldn't think the sport of golf took too much skill or power, but it truly does. Another thing that takes a lot of work is giving to those in need. How do you combine the two? How does one support the other, when they are two very different things? It's easy actually! Charitable golf fundraisers and foundations that benefit local, regional and national good causes abound this summer, and in this article we will be touching on a few of the biggest in our area.*

### EDDIE SZPAICHER GOLF CLASSIC



Let's start off with one of the most well-known tournaments that happens right here in Ellicottville at Holiday Valley Resort's Double Black Diamond Golf Course. Of course, the 13th Annual Eddie Szaicher Golf Classic must always be mentioned, even if it's too late to grab spot in the tournament. (The July 10th event is sold out already for this year, which is a great thing!) Eddie was a well-known local man who loved sports - especially golf - and after his sudden passing in 2012, his family decided to honor him by doing his favorite thing, playing golf. Eddie's good friend, Jay Stoddard, organized the first event and ever since the tournament has gone on to raise funds to award Ellicottville Central School students with over \$45,000 in scholarships.

The yearly pre-party and registration will be held on Tuesday, July 9th at The Depot. Cost is \$25 a person, starting at 6:00pm and everyone is welcome. Saturday, July 10th is when everything tees off (ha, I made a pun!). Check in is at 9:00am at the Holiday Valley Cabana Bar. 10:00am signals the shotgun start for the 18 holes of golf. Even if you aren't participating, you should still check out the event, if only for the outfits. This year is western themed. You can visit bigedgolf.com for updates and to prepare for next year, if you'd like to participate. They are also still accepting sponsors.

As Big Ed's family says on their online message, "We are looking forward to another tournament this year filled with good friends, great stories, and unpredictable weather!"

### CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER GOLF CLASSIC



The 4th Annual Challenger Learning Center Golf Classic at the Bartlett Country Club in Olean, NY is squaring up to be a huge summer event. Sponsored by Cutco, Zippo, St. Bonaventure, The Blaisdell Foundation, American Refining Group, NES, Studio 4 East and Black, Lyle & Habberfield LLC, all proceeds will be going to support the Challenger Learning Center in Allegany, NY. This is a 4 person scramble format with a shotgun start at 10:00am on June 21st. Cost is \$125 a player. There will also be a basket raffle, goodie bags and pro-shop prizes for the winners.

The Challenger Learning Center is a STEAM education center that strives to ignite the potential within every student because today's students are tomorrow's inventors. Students of all backgrounds embark on simulated missions where they work together to run hands-on experiments and solve tough problems. Every student has a role to play in making the mission a success, building confidence in their own abilities and demonstrating the power of teamwork.

This is a great cause to support, so if you'd like to join in or become a sponsor, please register at [challengertwintiers.org](http://challengertwintiers.org) or call 716-379-8686. You can help Twin Tiers students and educators experience the thrills, challenges and rewards of discovery.

### GOLF FORE HEROES GOLF TOURNAMENT

Lastly (but most certainly not least) for our list this year is the The Pine Acres Golf & RV Resort's 9th Annual Golf Fore Heroes Golf Tournament happening on July 6th. This tournament directly benefits the Wounded Warrior Project. This organization offers support to military veterans who incurred a physical or mental injury, illness, or co-incident to their military service on or after September 11, 2001. They host a variety of programs and services such as mental health counseling, long-term rehabilitative care and advocacy efforts. You can learn more about the event by visiting Facebook.com/golfforeheroes. Or call and register/set up a sponsorship; call 814-362-2005 or email [info@pineacresgolfandrresort.com](mailto:info@pineacresgolfandrresort.com).

Wherever you choose to take a swing, you're sure to find a great cause to take to the green for. There are so many tournaments happening throughout the summer, so make sure you check in on your local golf courses and join up if you can.



### ELLICOTTVILLE PLAYGROUND GOLF TOURNAMENT

There is a new event to look forward to this year - The Ellicottville Playground Golf Tournament, happening on July 27th. There is still time to register! The Ellicottville Playground team is looking to further their goal of creating a new all inclusive playground in town. This is their first large-scale fundraiser and all the proceeds that they earn will go directly into the new playground fund. This is the dream of 5 local women, with children of their own who wish to raise awareness and create a place for all kids, those with and without special needs, to enjoy. The group consists of Molly Timkey, Tiffany Frentz, Patti Snyder, Kelsey Adamson and Kate Johnson-Clark.



You can register online at [bit.ly/Playground-golf](http://bit.ly/Playground-golf). Cost is \$125 individual and \$500 for a team of 4. The price includes a round of golf, cart, dinner, swag bag, and chances to win prizes. Shotgun start is at 2:00pm at the Concord Crest Golf Course.

If you would like to join in on the tournament, become a sponsor or just donate to support the cause, keep an eye on their social media pages, (Facebook/Instagram) or email Tiffany at [ellicottvilleplayground.com](http://ellicottvilleplayground.com).





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Emerling Ford was established in 1986 by Carl Emerling and is located in Springville, NY about 15 minutes south of Bills Stadium just off the route 219 expressway. Over 86 local men and women are employed at Emerling Ford. Additionally, Emerling Ford has a large used car department, a talented service department with fully factory certified technicians, a large parts department servicing clients in a 150 mile radius, and a full service collision facility. The dealership was newly expanded and remodeled in 2016.

# LIFESTYLE

## Breakaway Classic Adventures: Disc Golf Has Roots Right Here in WNY

By **INDREK KONGATS**

Most people have already heard of disc golf since it's been around for over half a century. People also probably know that disc golf evolved from the tossing of a frisbee, created by a company called Wham-O back in 1966.

What most people don't know is that in 1970 a small group of people from Rochester, NY, started using the frisbee not just for tossing around in the backyard but to play games of disc golf, forming leagues and hosting tournaments. In 1973, they teamed up with the City of Rochester to host the Disc Frisbee Championship featuring disc golf as the main event. By 1974 the semiannual City of Rochester Disc Golf Championship, named the American Flying Disc Open (AFDO), became a national tournament offering a brand new 1974 Datsun B210 as the Grand Prize!

At the Disc Golf World Championships in 1984 in Rochester, NY, the control of the PDGA (Professional Disc Golf Association) was handed over to its players, led by a player named Ted Smethers. A glistening green bottle of Genesee Cream Ale was used as a ceremonial bottle of champagne, celebrating the historic event!

The PDGA was even "headquartered" for many years in Toronto, Ontario, Canada by then Executive Director, Brian Hoeniger before he and his wife moved to Augusta, Georgia. In 2002 the new home of the PDGA was built there, on a 90-acre piece of land in Wildwood Park, offering three courses, a clubhouse, and a pro shop. Take that, MASTERS!

In 1983 a new disc company called Champion Discs (known today as Innova Discs) debuted a new disc called the Eagle. The Eagle, replacing the ever-popular frisbee style discs, represented a quantum leap in technology and instantly became the hot new disc that everyone was throwing. Innova was also responsible for developing a Flight Rating System to describe a disc's intended flight, used by every modern-day manufacturer. Flight Ratings are broken down into a set of four positive or negative numbers usually printed on the front of each disc describing its speed, glide, turn and fade. The higher the number the more pronounced its behavior in flight. Based upon the first number, the disc is described as either a Putter (lowest number) to Distance Drivers (highest number) with Midrange and Fairways Drivers in between.

I caught up with a local disc golf player and coach, my good friend Ben Campbell. Ben is the Houghton University Disc Golf Coach and an expert in the sport for obvious reasons, and a great source of information. Ben kindly consented to a session of questions and answers, sharing his knowledge and secrets in playing the sport.

**INDREK:** Refresh me on techniques that beginners should focus on and what are some common mistakes they make?

**BEN:** It's a disc, not a frisbee. Modern day discs are much smaller than a frisbee and require a lot more torque. Normally this means having to throw with a lot more technique and form to generate enough power.

Beginners also get carried away with disc selection. Stick to throwing putters and possibly, midrange discs until you find that you're overpowering them; excessive wobble or a disc that wants to turn immediately toward the ground are good signs that you need to get a faster speed disc. You will find that you'll be able to throw your putter and midrange just as far - if not farther - than a fairway or distance driver at the start.



photos / Ben Campbell

**INDREK:** Could you give me your definition of terms again? For example: anhyzer vs. hyzer, understable vs. overstable with corresponding numbers, and when you want to use either or? Finally, when do you want to throw a disc backhand vs. forehand?

**BEN:** An anhyzer (outside edge of the disc tilted upwards) allows the disc to turn more in the beginning of the flight. This normally helps increase the distance a disc will fly. A hyzer (outside edge of the disc tilted downwards) decreases the amount of turn in the beginning of the flight, causing it to hook more in one direction and normally amounts in less distance.

An understable disc is defined as a disc that has more turn in the beginning of the flight than fade at the end of the flight. A disc with the numbers 6, 5, -4, 1 will be a very understable disc. The last two numbers of the flight chart tell the user whether the disc is understable, stable, or overstable. The 3rd number will be from 0 to -4. 0 means no turn (stable), and -4 means the most amount of turn. The last number is the amount a disc fades back after the initial turn. This can be from 0 to 4. 0 meaning no fade and 4 meaning the most fade.

A backhand or forehand shot can be used interchangeably. Some holes set up better for a forehand or a backhand depending on the shape of the hole, how it begins, and finishes. In general, a disc thrown on a forehand, which spins counterclockwise, will have the opposite flight of a backhand.

**INDREK:** Tell me about proper throwing technique?

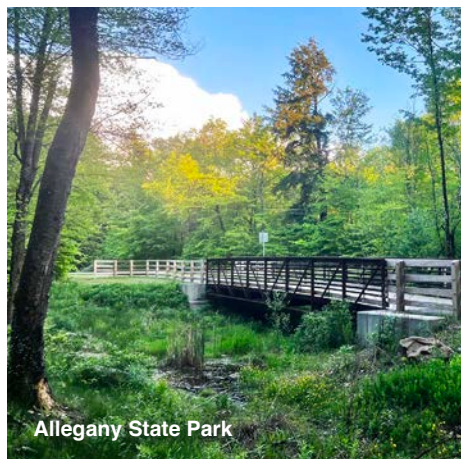
**BEN:** Proper form requires using your whole body to generate power. It starts with planting your feet, then thrusting your hips forward, then twisting the upper body, driving the elbow forward and lastly, following through with your hand.

Many beginners use a run-up to generate power in their throw, too early in their playing

"Disc Golf" continued page 18

## Any Time is Tee Time in the Enchanted Mountains of Cattaraugus County

By **DANNA SCHARF, CATTARAUGUS COUNTY TOURISM**



Allegany State Park



NY Amish Trail

Discover the Enchanted Mountains of Western New York, where golf enthusiasts can indulge in seven public, two miniature, and one private golf course. Whether you're aiming for a quick 9-hole game or a leisurely 18-hole round, you'll find top-tier golfing at affordable prices amidst stunning scenery.

Enjoy a memorable golf experience while exploring our picturesque county with breathtaking views - both on and off the course. Your group will also love the variety of activities available when it's time to take a break from golfing.

Explore numerous trails throughout the Enchanted Mountains, ideal for hiking or mountain biking. Allegany State Park, a pioneer in mountain biking in Western New York, also offers camping, swimming, and fishing in New York's largest state park. The Red House Area is known for the historic tudor-style Administration Building with everything centrally located around Red House Lake. Inside the Administration Building, you'll find a natural history museum and a gift shop. Outside, you can access 5 miles of paved walking/biking paths. Bike and boat rentals are available. Relax on the sandy beach, challenge your friends to a volleyball game, or take a hike to some of Allegany State Park's most notable landmarks.

Thunder Rocks is an impressive bedrock city that allows for the nature lover to see the hidden beauty that this park is known for. The Stone Tower structure shows vistas of the rolling hills of mature forests. The many beaver ponds are a good place to observe the diversity of wildlife located in the park.

An easy drive to Portville, New York will bring you to Pfeiffer Nature Center, which boasts breathtaking views of open fields, wildlife, and an American chestnut log cabin. Plan a summer hike on either of Pfeiffer's two properties.

The Lillibridge Property consists 188 acres and 6 miles of hiking trails. The Eshelman Property covers 488 acres and has nearly 4 miles of trails through wetlands and secondary growth forest. Historically a small farm, this property has a variety of habitat, successional forest, wetlands, and mixed areas. Birders especially enjoy this property during migration events.

Other note-worthy hiking destinations include the renowned North Country Trail and Finger Lakes Trail which traverse our county. And let's not forget Rock City Park, Little Rock City, and Thunder Rocks; each invites visitors to navigate trails around massive quartz conglomerate formations. Search any of the above for additional information.

Griffis Sculpture Park of East Otto, NY combines art and nature! Since the early 60s, the steel sculptures of Larry Griffis, Jr. and other international artists have been residing in the woods, fields, and even ponds of Griffis Sculpture Park. The 450-acre Ashford Hollow Park is not only a tremendous regional attraction, but it holds the distinction of being one of America's largest and oldest sculpture parks.

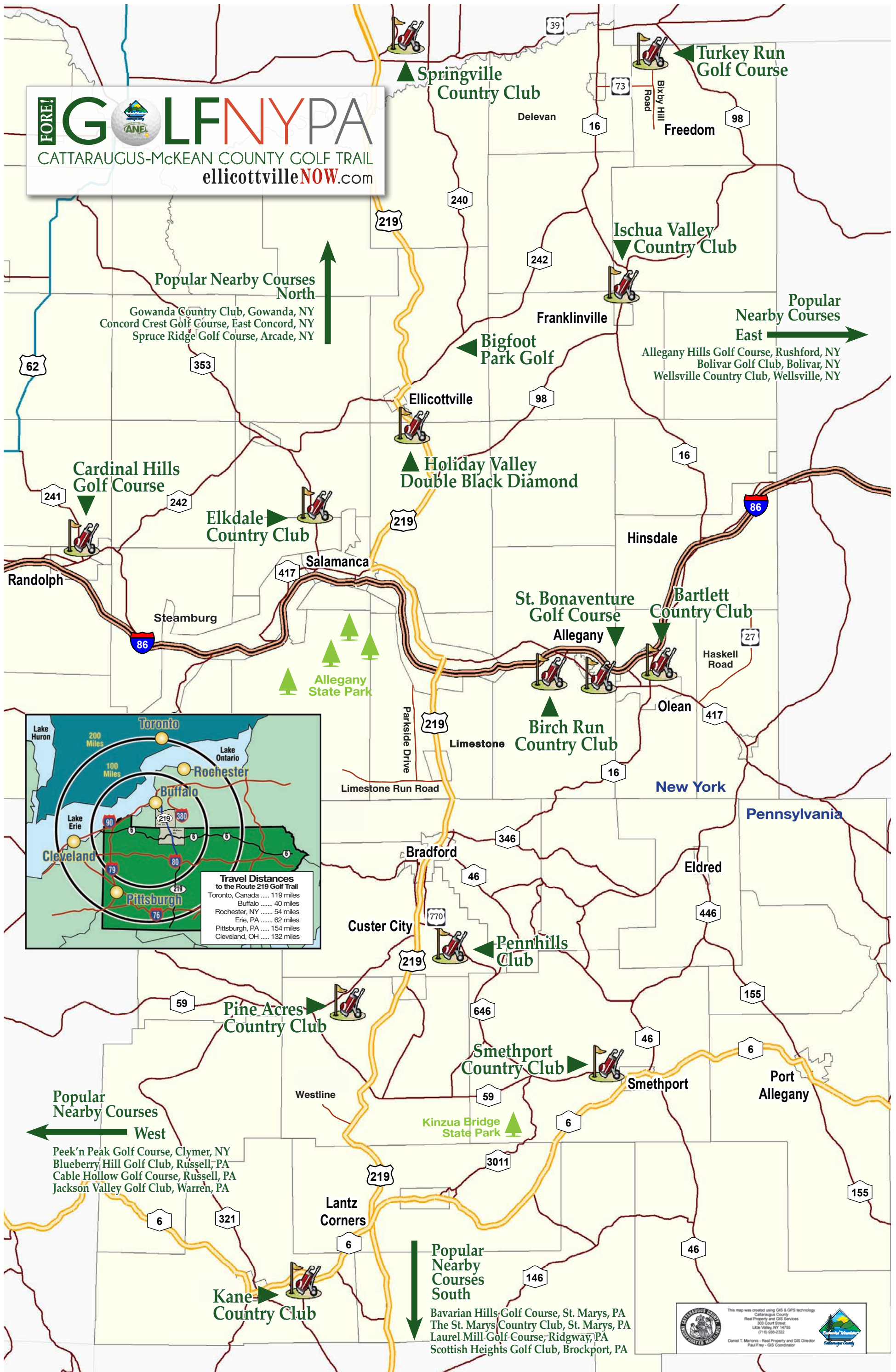
The park features over 250 large-scale sculptures dispersed through miles of hiking trails. Each sculpture was placed with the natural setting in mind, creating a truly unique experience between art and nature. Climb, pose with, and admire these remarkable sculptures. Attend exciting events like the Annual Summer Music Festival August 18th, and Night Lights in the fall.

Experience our landscapes by motorcycle with suggested routes like the 77-mile Heritage Ride, passing Zoar Valley Gorge, Ellicottville, and Salamanca. Request a free guide with detailed routes and descriptions.

Looking to slow down your pace? Travel along New York's Amish Trail on the western side of Cattaraugus County, from Randolph to Gowanda - a place where you can take a step back in time and enjoy a simpler way of life. The Amish Trail is a self-guided tour through our Amish area. These people have resisted innovations and live without electricity, phones, cars and other modern conveniences. Follow their hand-painted signs to their businesses, usually located in their homes. You can stop at their shops and purchase quilts, furniture or baked goods any day except Sunday. Visit [AmishTrail.com](http://AmishTrail.com) for a free map and brochure.

Embark on a golf getaway and discover so much more in the Enchanted Mountains! For a list of events or to request a FREE activities guide, visit [EnchantedMountains.com](http://EnchantedMountains.com).

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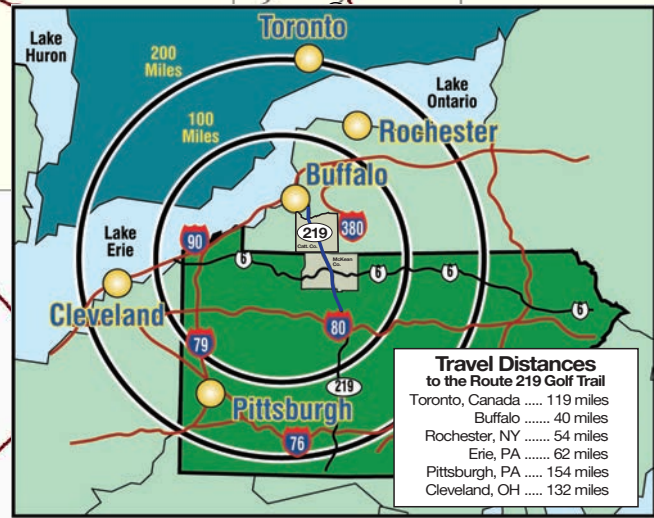


**Popular Nearby Courses North**

- Gowanda Country Club, Gowanda, NY
- Concord Crest Golf Course, East Concord, NY
- Spruce Ridge Golf Course, Arcade, NY

**Popular Nearby Courses East**

- Allegany Hills Golf Course, Rushford, NY
- Bolivar Golf Club, Bolivar, NY
- Wellsville Country Club, Wellsville, NY



**Popular Nearby Courses West**

- Peek'n Peak Golf Course, Clymer, NY
- Blueberry Hill Golf Club, Russell, PA
- Cable Hollow Golf Course, Russell, PA
- Jackson Valley Golf Club, Warren, PA

**Popular Nearby Courses South**

- Bavarian Hills Golf Course, St. Marys, PA
- The St. Marys Country Club, St. Marys, PA
- Laurel Mill Golf Course, Ridgway, PA
- Scottish Heights Golf Club, Brockport, PA

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**Bartlett Country Club** 32 Euclid Avenue, Olean, NY 14760 • Ph. 716-372-5176 • bartlettcountryclub.com

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Private	18	70	6308	71.5/123, 69.9/121	42 deg. 5 min. 38.1 sec. -78 deg. 25 min. 9.1 sec.

**NEARBY**  
**18 Mile Creek Golf Course**  
 6374 Boston State Rd.  
 Hamburg, NY 14075  
 Ph. 716-648-4410

**Birch Run Country Club** 4130 Birch Run Road, Allegany, NY 14706 • Ph. 716-373-3113 • birchrungolfclub.com

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Semi-Private	9/18	35/70	6011	Mens 68.4/114 • Ladies 67.4/113	42 deg. 10 min. 7.089 sec. -78 deg. 58 min. 17.5794 sec.

**Allegheny Hills Golf Course**  
 9622 Hardys Corners Rd.  
 Rushford, NY 14777  
 Ph. 716-585-437-2163

**Cardinal Hills Golf Course** 78 Conewango Rd., Randolph, NY 14772 • Ph. 716-358-5409 • cardinalhillsny.com

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Public	18	72/73	6109	69.1/115, 66.0/107, 69.9/113	42 deg. 12 min. 12.4986 sec. -78 deg. 45 min. 6.1806 sec.

**Bavarian Hills Golf Course**  
 251 Mulligan Rd.  
 St. Marys, PA 15857  
 Ph. 814-834-3602

**Elkdale Country Club** Route 353, Salamanca, NY 14779 • Ph. 716-945-5553 • elkdalecc.com

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Semi-Private	18	70/74	6132	Men 69.2/120, 66.6/112 Women 71.8/116	42 deg. 12 min. 12.4986 sec. -78 deg. 45 min. 6.1806 sec.

**Bigfoot Park Golf**  
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**Holiday Valley Double Black Diamond** Ellicottville, NY • Ph. 716-699-2345 • holidayvalley.com

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Public	18	70/71	6493	72.8/130, 70.7/125, 67/115, 63.1/112	42 deg. 15 min. 44.8092 sec. -78 deg. 39 min. 51.0084 sec.

**Bob-O-Link Golf Club**  
 4085 Transit Rd.  
 Orchard Park, NY 14127  
 Ph. 716-662-4311

**Ischua Valley Country Club** Route 16, Franklinville, NY 14737 • Ph. 716-676-3630

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Public	9/18	36/37, 71/74	6250	88.5, 68.5/113	42 deg. 21 min. 19 sec. -78 deg. 27 min. 05 sec.

**Bolivar Golf Club**  
 8212 Halls Rd.  
 Bolivar, NY 14715  
 Ph. 585-928-1266

**Kane Country Club** 6654 Route 6, Kane, PA 16735 • Ph. 814-837-9491 • kanecountryclub.com

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Semi-Private	18	70	6000	69.2/124, 64.9/110, 64/104	41 deg. 40 min. 10.1352 sec. -78 deg. 45 min. 7.6458 sec.

**Cloverbank Country Club**  
 5324 Rogers Rd.  
 Hamburg, NY 14075  
 Ph. 716-648-2700

**Pennhills Club** 146 Pennhills Dr., Bradford, PA 16701 • Ph. 814-368-6159 • pennhillsclub.com

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Private	18	70	6402	71.0/133	41 deg. 54 min. 18 sec. -78 deg. 37 min. 03 sec.

**Concord Crest Golf Course**  
 9255 Genesee Rd.  
 East Concord, NY 14055  
 Ph. 716-592-7636

**Pine Acres Country Club** 1401 W. Warren Rd., Bradford, PA 16701 • Ph. 814-362-2005 • pineacrescc.com

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Semi-Private	18	72	6511	72.3/131, 71.1/130, 68.3/121, 69.2/120	41 deg. 51 min. 48 sec. -78 deg. 43 min. 29 sec.

**Eden Valley Golf Course**  
 10401 Sisson Hwy.  
 Eden, NY 14057  
 Ph. 716-337-2190

**Smethport Country Club** 13065 Route 59, Smethport, PA 16749 • Ph. 814-887-5641 • smethportcc.com

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Semi-Private	9/18	36/72, 37/74	6197	Men 71/127 Women 73.2/127	41 deg. 48 min. 42.0588 sec. -78 deg. 27 min. 50.616 sec.

**Gowanda Country Club**  
 2623 Brown Rd.  
 Collins, NY 14034  
 Ph. 716-337-2100

**Springville Country Club** 14445 South Cascade Dr., Springville, NY 14141 • Ph. 716-401-2226 • springvillecc.com

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Private	9/18	71	6355	67.1/119, 70.0/121, 70.2/119, 72.6/123 70.9/129	42 deg. 29 min. 5.28 sec. -78 deg. 31 min. 32.28 sec.

**Harvest Hills Golf Course**  
 3052 Transit Rd.  
 Orchard Park, NY 14127  
 Ph. 716-662-1980

**St. Bonaventure Golf Course** Route 417, Allegany, NY 14706 • Ph. 716-375-2412

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Public	9/18	36/37, 72/74	6172	67.4/107, 69.2/109	42 deg. 5 min. 15.1 sec. -78 deg. 28 min. 38.6 sec.

**Holland Hills Country Club**  
 10438 Holland-Glenwood Rd.  
 Colden, NY 14033  
 Ph. 716-537-2345

**Turkey Run Golf Course** 11836 Bixby Hill Rd., Arcade, NY 14009 • Ph. 716-492-2888 • turkeyrunarcade.com

Club	Holes	Par	Max. 18-Hole Yds.	Ratings / Slope	GPS Lat./Long.
Public	9/18	35/36, 70/72	5868	69.2/113, 67.8/111, 68.0/101	42 deg. 30 min. 54.3054 sec. -78 deg. 25 min. 57.972 sec.

**Peek'n Peak Resort**  
 1405 Olde Rd.  
 Clymer, NY  
 Ph. 716-355-4141

**Scottish Heights Golf Club**  
 485 Scottish Heights Dr.  
 Brockport, PA 15823  
 Ph. 814-265-4653

**Seneca Hickory Stick Golf Course**  
 4560 Creek Rd.  
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**The St. Marys Country Club**  
 535 S. Michael Rd.  
 St. Marys, PA 15857  
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 Hamburg, NY 14075  
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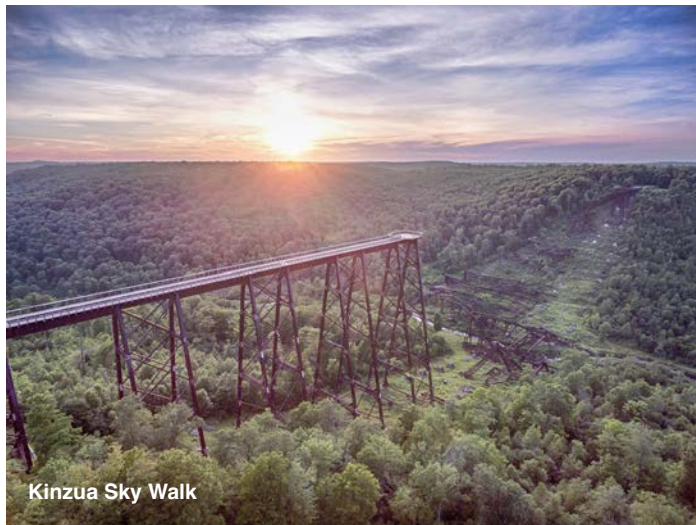
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 Wellsville, NY 14895  
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# EXPLORE PA

## FIND PARADISE IN THE ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST

Get Lost in the Picturesque Landscapes; This Area Beckons with Adventure!

By RUSTIN LIPPINCOTT, ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST VISITORS BUREAU



Situated in the heart of picturesque McKean County in northwestern Pennsylvania, a stone's throw from New York, the Allegheny National Forest region offers a haven for outdoor enthusiasts. The vast expanse of natural beauty, covering over half a million acres, presents a perfect escape for those seeking adventure, tranquility, and a deep connection with nature. Here, visitors can immerse themselves in a diverse range of recreational activities, each promising a unique experience.

### A GOLFER'S PARADISE

Golfing in McKean County - where it doesn't matter if you stand too close to the ball (even after you hit it). It's alright if you shoot five, holler "fore" and write down three on your score card. Trail Central's advice: pack an extra pair of pants in your golf bag just in case you get a "hole" in one. There is a variety of golfing experiences catering to all skill levels. With its lush green courses set against the backdrop of the Allegheny National Forest, golfing in McKean County is a unique experience in serene surroundings.

#### PINE ACRES GOLF & RV RESORT

814-362-2005 | pineacrescc.com

Situated atop the mountains of northwestern Pennsylvania, Pine Acres is an 18-hole championship golf course open to the public. With tight tree-lined fairways and fast sloping greens, the course is designed to challenge golfers with its varied terrain and strategically placed hazards. Pine Acres is known for its friendly atmosphere and is a perfect spot to unwind after a stellar or frustrating day on the greens. Stay and play with 23 newly completed campsites featuring various electric hookups and cozy campfires under the starry nights.

#### KANE COUNTRY CLUB

814-837-9491 | kanecountryclub.com

Established in 1912, Kane Country Club is one of the oldest golf courses in the heart of the Allegheny National Forest. This 18-hole course blends the natural beauty and terrain with well-maintained greens and tree-lined fairways. The par 70 course offers a scenic challenge for beginners and accomplished golfers. Visit the pro shop or relax at the clubhouse with dinner.

#### PENNHILLS COUNTRY CLUB

814-368-6159 | pennhillsclub.com

The Pennhills Club is a private, 18-hole, professional golf course. Join as a member to enjoy golf, swimming, indoor and outdoor dining, and special events. Make it a weekend with their Stay and Play packages at their onsite Airbnb.

### A NATURE LOVER'S PARADISE

With its rolling hills, dense forests, and serene waterways, McKean County offers a variety of trails that cater to all levels of hiking enthusiasts. Whether you're seeking a leisurely stroll or a challenging trek, you'll have the opportunity to connect with nature and explore the stunning landscapes of the Allegheny National Forest and beyond.

#### TRAIL CENTRAL

Known as Trail Central, McKean County has an expansive trail system for hiking and biking. For the adrenaline seeking mountain bikers, the Trails at Jakes Rocks, Pennsylvania's 2024 Trail of the Year, provides 35 miles of an exhilarating ride through rugged landscapes with well-maintained paths that showcase the forest's diverse flora and fauna. It features a variety of challenges, from the gentler Tuttle town and Coal Knob trails to the epic one-way Blacksnake gravity trail. The trails connect to Dewdrop Campground for convenient overnight stays. Nearby accommodations include Kane Manor Inn, the Flats on Fraley, and the Lofts on Fraley, perfect for those who prefer staying in inns or Airbnbs. The Jakes Rocks Trailhead is ideal for first-time users of the trail system.

For the hiking bipeds, Bradford, the largest town in McKean County, offers over 40 miles of trails, making it a great base camp for hiking or backpacking. The Marilla Bridges Trail System includes trails ranging from the scenic 1-mile loop around Marilla Reservoir to the challenging Marilla Springs, Marilla Rocks, or Bullis Hollow trails. The Timberdoodle Flats Interpretive Trail features two loops totaling 1.5 miles, perfect for casual hikers, families, and bird watchers. The Bluebird Trail, suitable for wheelchairs and walking assistance, offers a gentle hike with interpretive stops.

The Rimrock Overlook & Trail provides a short 1.3-mile connection from one of the forest's most stunning overlooks to the Kinzua Beach Recreation Area. This trail, marked by a large sign along Route 59, is an easy to moderate hike with picnic tables and free parking available.

#### KINZUA SKY WALK

For those unafraid of heights, the Kinzua Sky Walk extends 624 feet into the Kinzua Gorge, standing 225 feet above the ground. Featuring a partial glass floor, it offers breathtaking views of Kinzua Creek, the forest-covered gorge, and the 2003 tornado-scattered ruins of 11 of the original viaduct towers. The Kinzua Sky Walk is the #1 State Park in PA and is recognized as one of the Top Sky Walks in the World!

The skywalk, a reinvention of the historic Kinzua Viaduct, is highlighted in the interpretive displays at the Kinzua Bridge State Park's Visitors Center. The dog-friendly park also offers three trails: the family-friendly General Kane Trail, the Knox & Kane Rail Trail for hiking and biking, and the challenging Kinzua Creek Trail.

From easy, family-friendly walks to challenging backcountry treks, the county's diverse trails offer something for everyone. Whether you're a seasoned hiker or a casual nature lover, McKean County invites you to explore its scenic landscapes, breathe in the fresh forest air, and discover the tranquility and adventure that await on its many trails.

### CHOOSE YOUR PARADISE

**Marine Paradise:** The region is home to several pristine bodies of water, perfect for a variety of water recreation. The 12,000 acre Allegheny Reservoir, formed by the Kinzua Dam, is a popular destination for boating, fishing, and swimming. With its sandy shores, clear waters, and picnic facilities, Kinzua Beach is a great place to spend a sunny day swimming and enjoying the outdoors. Anglers can try their luck catching bass, walleye, and trout in these waters. The reservoir's expansive surface and surrounding forested hills make it a picturesque location for a day on the water. Whether you're looking to paddle through serene waters, cast a line for the perfect catch, kayak and canoe on the calm waters or simply relax by the shore, McKean County's waterways provide the ideal setting for a refreshing outdoor experience.

**Camping Paradise:** Camping in the Forest offers a chance to truly disconnect and experience the great outdoors in the numerous campgrounds, ranging from primitive sites for the adventurous to more developed areas with modern amenities. Willow Bow, Twin Lakes and Red Bridge Recreation Areas provide picturesque settings for cabin, tent and RV camping. Additionally, designated picnic areas throughout the forest offer perfect spots for a family outing or a quiet lunch amidst nature.

**Wildlife Paradise:** Wildlife enthusiasts will find the Allegheny National Forest teeming with opportunities for observing a variety of species in their natural habitat. The forest is home to white-tailed deer, black bears, wild turkeys, and a multitude of bird species, making it a prime location for birdwatching and wildlife photography. The presence of diverse ecosystems within the forest supports a rich array of flora and fauna, ensuring that each visit offers something new to discover.

### PLAN YOUR PARADISE STAY

To make the most of your visit, the new Allegheny National Forest Adventure Guide & Map includes listings for local restaurants, accommodations, wineries, breweries, distilleries, trails, fishing sites, and more. View it and download your Adventure Guide at VisitANF.com, or request your free Guide by calling 800-473-9370 or emailing info@visitANF.com.



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# INTERVIEW

## REDNECK WOMAN GRETCHEN WILSON JOINING BIG & RICH LIVE IN SALAMANCA



.....  
**MAY 25 • 8:00PM**  
**SENECA ALLEGANY RESORT & CASINO**

By Melanie Hulick

Summer is on its way - finally - and to kick off the anticipated concert line-up in WNY is female award-winning singer/songwriter Gretchen Wilson. Country duo Big & Rich will join Wilson for an outdoor show on Saturday, May 25th at Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino in Salamanca.

Wilson loves Big & Rich, who she calls her brothers, and they have toured together many times in the past. Rich co-wrote "Redneck Woman" with Wilson and it has proved to be her biggest and most recognizable song that won her a coveted Grammy Award in 2005.

The singer's career started out on fire, winning the Grammy right out of the gate, to being the opening act for tours with Brooks & Dunn and Kenny Chesney. It didn't take long for her to become the headliner herself. Accolades found Wilson through winning ACM's for "Top Female Vocalist of the Year" and "New Artist of the Year", both in 2004, along with two CMA awards including the "Horizon Award" in 2004 and "Female Vocalist of the Year" in 2005.

Wearing many hats in the music industry as a singer, songwriter, producer and entrepreneur starting her own record label, Redneck Records, she took a couple years off to raise her daughter, Grace, and has no regrets doing so. Her work ethic comes from her grandpa who always told her that "nothing good comes easy." And she holds true to that every day.

I caught up with Wilson in between her busy schedule, and she talked about a key milestone she achieved in her life for her daughter and why she did it... leading her to become an advocate for adult education. We also talked about her music idols (which include a who's who in country and country rock genres), what artist she considers her dream collaborator that she has yet to work with, and what the best part of being Gretchen Wilson is.

Wilson can't wait to get here May 25th and has a message for her fans... "Watch out! This tour has been so much fun. And even after all these years, I still never know what might happen out there with my brothers John, Kenny and Cowboy Troy!"

Tickets to Saturday's concert start at \$50. Seneca Resorts & Casinos uses all paperless ticketing for all events at all of its properties. Tickets may be purchased online at [SenecaNiagaraCasino.com](http://SenecaNiagaraCasino.com), [SenecaAlleganyCasino.com](http://SenecaAlleganyCasino.com) or [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com). Tickets may also be purchased in-person at 8 Clans inside Seneca Niagara Resort & Casino or The Logo Shop inside Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino. A secure link, sent by either e-mail or text, allows guests to save tickets to their phone or mobile device.

Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino is nestled at the foot of the majestic Allegheny Mountains along the New York/Pennsylvania border. The property is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Guests can enjoy over 1,400 slot machines and more than 25 table games, seven dining locations, live entertainment and a AAA Four Diamond Award-winning hotel with 413 deluxe rooms and suites, a spa and salon, fitness center and indoor pool. More information is available by calling 1-877-8-SENECA (1-877-873-6322) or visiting [SenecaAlleganyCasino.com](http://SenecaAlleganyCasino.com).

## A Conversation with Gretchen

**HULICK:** How do you feel that you are recognized in the category of female singers known by their first names like Loretta, Cher, Janis and Dolly?

**WILSON:** The names you mention are icons! I am not sure anyone can really describe what it feels like to be included in that category.

**HULICK:** You burst onto the music scene in 2004 with your first single, "Redneck Woman" from your debut album, *Here For The Party*, which won you a Grammy Award. Your second album, *All Jacked Up*, had your lead-off single, of the same name, become the highest debuting single for a female country artist at the time. Did you feel added stress that you had to keep up with the success of those two songs?

**WILSON:** By the time we hit the 2nd album it was definitely stressful, but I didn't look at it that way at the time. We were all just trying to hold on - traveling all over the world touring, doing television shows and other media. We went to Europe three times and Australia once... crossed the international date line twice in a week! All of it was everything I wanted and dreamed of, but it was definitely a lot.

**HULICK:** You wrote "Redneck Woman" with John Rich of Big & Rich, who you are headlining with for your show here at Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino at the end of May. You have to be having so much fun touring with them.

**WILSON:** We are family. We have been making music and memories together for more than 20 years! Sometimes I look over at my brothers in arms on either side of the stage... and our eyes meet... and I feel what I hope every artist gets to feel at some point in their career. Totality would be a good way to sum it up!

**HULICK:** You are a singer, songwriter, producer, entrepreneur and you started your own record company, "Redneck Records". What would you say is your favorite part of the business?

**WILSON:** There is a LOT of business to what I do. But getting to be creative (as a job) is well worth the paper pushing. 'Nothing good comes easy' is what my grandpa always said, so I always just try to start each day with the hardest task. By the time I get to the show in the evening, the hard part is over and it's time to party!

**HULICK:** Did you always want to be a singer/songwriter?

**WILSON:** I started out singing in bar bands. So I used to think how good I was, was based on how much I could sound like other artists. When I finally started to write songs for myself, I was forced into finding my own sound. Thankfully I was good at songwriting. Being a hit songwriter is in my opinion, one of my greatest accomplishments.

**HULICK:** Who are your music idols?

**WILSON:** I name-check most of them in 'Redneck Woman' - Lynyrd Skynyrd, Kid Rock, Hank Jr., Tanya Tucker, George Strait, but of course there's Dolly, Patsy, Merle Haggard, Willie, Waylon, Cash and well... I think you get the picture by now.

**HULICK:** You dropped out of school when you were in 9th grade. You received your GED at the age of 34. This led to you shining a light on the importance of adult education, which led to you receiving the National Coalition for Literacy Leadership Award. That has to be one of your shining moments. Can you talk a little bit about that?

**WILSON:** My sole purpose for doing that was for my daughter, Grace, who was around seven at the time. I didn't want her to think you can be this successful without an education. It's something that I should have done long before that, AND... it made me walk a little taller.

**HULICK:** You've worked and collaborated with so many artists. Is there someone you'd like to work with that you haven't?

**WILSON:** Oh soooo many! But if I had to put a name at the top of that list it would be Travis Tritt. I have been a fan of his music and his voice for as long as he's been making music.

**HULICK:** You could say that you are not only a huge female country artist, but you can also consider yourself a perennial rocker with your connections to the songs of the female group, Heart. These days the hard line that existed between the genres of music in the past don't seem to exist anymore. What are your thoughts?

**WILSON:** I grew up playing in bar bands. One minute it was Patty Loveless, the next minute it was Alice in Chains. My opinion is still the same as it was back in the Muzik Mafia days... It can be anything... as long as it's great!

**HULICK:** You seem to be an artist that thrives on live performances. How did you handle not being able to perform when the Covid-19 pandemic hit and everything shut down?

**WILSON:** I was forced to slow down, because I shattered my leg during that time, and it took months to recover. I feel so very fortunate to have my health back and to be back out there. I give God all the thanks and glory.

**HULICK:** Any new projects in the works?

**WILSON:** I have a new single in the works... should be hearing about it very soon.

**HULICK:** What's the best part of being Gretchen Wilson?

**WILSON:** I've just always tried to be honest in everything I do. My songs are me, so the person on stage is the same one doing laundry, cleaning my house, and taking care of my family... and a bunch of dogs.

**HULICK:** Describe what your perfect day would look like if you could do anything you wanted.

**WILSON:** Every day is perfect to me, whether I'm on tour, writing, recording or spending time with my daughter and mom. If you get up real early and have coffee with the amazing creation outdoors, it can only be great!

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ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Travel Emergencies: Auto Service is Important When Planning Your Golf Trip



By JESSICA SCHULTZ

We've all been there. You're taking a road trip, heading out to an important event, on your way to hit the greens for a cause, and then it happens... your engine sputters, your tire blows, your muffler falls off... whatever the auto issue, now you're late for your tee time and who are you going to call? Not the Ghostbusters obviously, but there is hope. Thankfully, our area offers a great number of auto services that can lend a hand and get you back on-course in no time. Here are just two of the many to add to your "Emergency Contacts" list.

**EVL AUTO CARE:** Located at 6357 Route 242 E, they are a certified automotive repair shop run by Greg Krause. They've been open over 13 years now and they are a local staple for all your auto needs.

Greg prides himself on his team and being a part of our community. "We love to give fair and honest diagnosis and estimates for our customers. They come to us once and then they come back again, because they know we are reliable and dedicated to our service."

And they are definitely dedicated. EVL Auto Care is open Monday through Friday from 8:00am-5:00pm and cover all general auto repairs such as oil changes, brakes, suspension, steering & exhaust, A/C repairs & charging, 4 wheel alignments, engine & transmission replacements, fluid flushes and of course, all things tire related. They also handle New York State inspections. Now about those emergencies...

"For emergencies, we try to squeeze people in on the same day if possible," Greg said. "Sadly, we do not have a tow truck anymore, but if they can get here, we do our best to get them in as soon as possible."

EVL Auto Care can be reached at 716-699-2327 and you can follow them on Facebook for updates and more info.

"Auto Service" continued page 22

**BIGFOOT PARK GOLF**

cont. from page 03

Chad believes Park Golf is a great addition to Ellicottville. "I think this will interest a lot of people who come to and live in and around Ellicottville," he said. "It's another outdoor activity to do, it's family-friendly, and it's challenging, though less aggravating than traditional golf." It definitely is a new take on such a classic Ellicottville pastime and positively includes younger kids in the sport.

Can't wait to spot Bigfoot and try out Park Golf for yourself? You don't have to! Bigfoot Park Golf has opened softly right behind the Ellicottville Distillery, and you can check it out on weekends. You can call to make an appointment at 716-541-4059. Bigfoot Park Golf operates from 11:00am and closes later on in the afternoon. "We will be open more days after Memorial Weekend."

The grand opening for Bigfoot Park Golf is being planned for June and Chad will continue to post to the Bigfoot Park Golf Facebook page with operation updates, pricing, events, etcetera. "Park Golf is fun, and different, and easy to learn!," exclaimed Chad. It will be a sure-fire hit this summer, and soon enough will become an Ellicottville staple!

**DISC GOLF**

cont. from page 11

career. It's better to start throwing from a standstill and working more on your mechanics than adding in footwork. Once your form is proper and consistent, slowly add in the footwork, keeping it simple and compact.

**INDREK:** I hear the Houghton University did really well under your leadership, Houghton being an NCAA D3 school and competing against and beating many D1 schools. How did you end up?

**BEN:** We competed for the NCAA Nationals in South Carolina with our A team finishing 30th in D1. I was very happy with our women's performance although all players struggled with the wind. We were probably the smallest school represented no matter the division!

**INDREK:** Congratulations to you and your team for a fine showing. I guess we'll see you out on the two 18-hole courses at Houghton University this summer! Will you be offering private lessons and training if someone is interested in improving their game or getting ready for a tournament?

**BEN:** I offer personalized lessons for each golfer, \$30/hr., outdoor on Houghton's courses and indoor as well if weather is bad. They can reach me at benjaminjcampbell94@gmail.com or by texting me at 585-689-5226.

You can also connect with Ben through the Jockey Street Discs Pro Shop located at 9673 Route 19, Houghton, NY. See you on the course!



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This 4BR, 3BA haven boasts a 2-car garage, finished attic Rec Room, covered patio, nestled within walking distance to the village of Ellicottville.  
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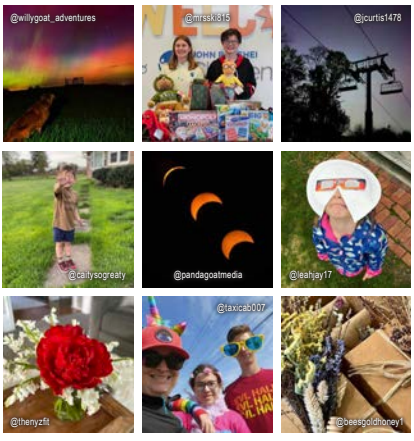


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**SATURDAY**  
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CONCORD CREST GOLF COURSE

Shotgun start: 2:00pm

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\$500/team

Proceeds go to the building of a new, inclusive playground in Ellicottville

Register now, space is limited

Sponsorship opportunities available! Email [ellicottvilleplayground@gmail.com](mailto:ellicottvilleplayground@gmail.com) for information!

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[bit.ly/Playgroundgolf](https://bit.ly/Playgroundgolf)



**Donate Blood. Help Save Lives.**


**Blood Drive**  
**St Paul's Lutheran Church**

Community Room  
6360 Route 242 East  
Ellicottville, NY 14731

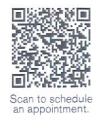
**Friday, June 14, 2024**  
**1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Did you know that supporting the Red Cross blood drives helps support all of the other wonderful things that the Red Cross does?

Download the Blood Donor App, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS to schedule your appointment today!



Do Good Things! Come to give blood June 10 through 30 for a \$15 e-gift card! See [rcblood.org/DoGood](http://rcblood.org/DoGood)



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# KICK BACK AND RELAX

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**THE INN AT HOLIDAY VALLEY**  
 6081 Route 219, Ellicottville, NY  
 716-699-2336 • [holidayvalley.com/lodging/](http://holidayvalley.com/lodging/)

With a great location on the ski slopes and golf course, The Inn is a friendly and comfortable place to sleep, eat, drink, and gather with friends or family. Rooms range from traditional hotel style with 2 queen beds to suites with fireplaces and Jacuzzi tubs. The Inn sits at the base of Sunrise chairlift, just steps from Holiday Valley's 18-hole golf course, and only 1 mile from downtown. Indoor/outdoor heated year-round pool, outdoor hot tub, fitness area, complimentary WiFi and continental breakfast.



**TAMARACK CLUB @ HOLIDAY VALLEY**  
 6447 Holiday Valley Rd., Ellicottville, NY  
 716-699-7000 • [holidayvalley.com/lodging/](http://holidayvalley.com/lodging/)

If you want convenience and comfort, it doesn't get any better than the Tamarack Club featuring fractional ownership. Located next to Holiday Valley's Main Lodge (just steps away from the golf course), this four-star condominium/hotel offers rental units ranging from the standard hotel room to three-bedroom condo units. Guests have access to a heated indoor/outdoor pool, two outdoor hot tubs, cedar sauna, fitness room, valet parking, room service from Edna's at the Tamarack Club, and Ellicottville Oasis Spa, located on-site!



**HOLIDAY VALLEY RENTAL MANAGEMENT**  
 6084 Route 219, Ellicottville, NY  
 716-699-2912 • [holidayvalley.com/lodging/](http://holidayvalley.com/lodging/)

Book your summer golf package with the help of Holiday Valley! It is the area's largest rental agency offering close to 200 properties featuring a large selection of condos, townhouses, chalets and village homes. When lodging with Holiday Valley Rental Management, you will receive special pricing on Lift Tickets, the Tubing Park, Sky Flyer Coaster, and Sky High Adventure Park. In the summertime, use of the resort's public 3-pool complex adjacent to Holiday Valley Lodge is included with your stay!



**ERA TEAM VP VACATION RENTALS**  
 12 Washington St., Ellicottville, NY  
 716-699-4800 • [myteamvp.com](http://myteamvp.com)

Whether you're looking for a cozy chalet, a convenient condo, or a village home, ERA Team VP Vacation Rentals guarantees the best accommodations for your group. With 35+ years of experience in the Vacation Rental and Real Estate market, the ERA team of seasoned professional agents can guide you in finding your next "home away from home." They offer 200+ vacation rentals in WNY. Ellicottville has a summer full of fun lined up! Don't miss out! Book a stay through ERA today!



**GOOD NATURED GLAMPING**  
 4688 Route 242 E., Ellicottville, NY  
 716-699-9149 • [goodnaturedglamping.com](http://goodnaturedglamping.com)

Good Natured Glamping offers two off-grid, Safari Tents plus their newest Star Gazer tents on over 8 acres, furnished with everything you need to have a comfy and cozy glamping weekend! Located across from Boyce Hill hiking trail and just a few miles from downtown Ellicottville. Get closer to nature, shop the local boutiques, check out nearby breweries, or skip it all and relax on your private deck and by your private campfire. Book your stay with them and unplug from reality for awhile.



**THE JEFFERSON INN**  
 3 Jefferson St., Ellicottville, NY  
 716-699-5869 • [thejeffersoninn.com](http://thejeffersoninn.com)

After a long day of swinging the clubs and shopping in the village, be charmed by classic Victorian style at The Jefferson Inn, located one mile from Holiday Valley's golf course. Snuggle down into one of the luxurious B&B rooms or an efficiency unit, all with private baths, cozy bathrobes, A/C, free wireless internet and access to an outdoor hot tub. Bed and breakfast guests will also enjoy a full gourmet meal each morning. Looking to bring your furry friend? The Jefferson Inn has pet friendly rooms.



**BASECAMP TINY HOME VILLAGE**  
 6881 Route 242 W., Ellicottville, NY  
 716-906-8552 • [basecamp.ski](http://basecamp.ski)

BASECAMP is Ellicottville's one and only tiny home village offering 11 tiny cabins with four different sizes and layout options sleeping 4-6 people. Every cabin has all the amenities of a home, including kitchen, bathroom, washer and dryer. Perfect for a golf getaway but also ideal for wedding parties, bachelor/bachelorette parties, ski trips or any other special occasion you can dream up! Conveniently located at the base of HoliMont and minutes from the Village of Ellicottville and Holiday Valley.



**SNOWPINE VILLAGE CONDOS**  
 Route 219, Ellicottville, NY  
 716-699-3950 • [snowpinevillage.com](http://snowpinevillage.com)

Bike-in/bike-out, ski-in/ski-out and beautiful views of the Holiday Valley golf course! Golf packages, Holiday Valley Pool passes, private tennis courts and discounted Sky High Adventure Park tickets are just a few of the amenities that you will enjoy when you book your stay at SnowPine Village. Slopeside 1, 2, 3 bedroom condos or 3 bedroom town homes are a home away from home with full kitchens and fireplaces. Book your stay at [www.holidayvalley.com/lodging/snowpine-village-condominiums](http://www.holidayvalley.com/lodging/snowpine-village-condominiums).



**WINGATE BY WYNDHAM**  
 11 Mill St., Ellicottville, NY  
 716-699-6000 • [ellicottvillewingateinn.com](http://ellicottvillewingateinn.com)

Wind down after an exhilarating day on the golf course at Ellicottville's premier hotel! The Wingate is located in the heart of downtown and features free WiFi, flat-screen TVs, microwaves, and refrigerators in every room. Enjoy a free hot buffet breakfast each morning and access to a fitness room, indoor pool, hot tub, sundeck and business services. Just a short trip from Holiday Valley, Sky High Adventure Park, Allegany State Park and Elkdale Country Club. Pet friendly, too!

# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR RENT

**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT:** 520 sq. ft. of office space at 39 Mill Street available for rent starting in August. \$600 a month plus gas, electric, water and snowplowing. Must sign 3-year commercial lease. Call for details 716-699-4516 or 716-397-9527.

## EMPLOYMENT

**NOW HIRING:** The Gado-Gado team is looking for a hard-working and motivated individual to join their team in Ellicottville. Must be available on weekends and festivals! Please email resume to gadogado98@hotmail.com.

## SERVICES

**FURNITURE REPAIR:** Cosmetic and structural repairs for wood, upholstery and mechanisms. On-site or in-shop. Pumpkin Hollow Furniture. 716-604-6426. Find us on FB for before and after pictures.

## COMMUNITY

**VISIT ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH** at the historic four corners in the Village of Ellicottville. St. John's hosts a visitor-friendly service every Saturday at 5:00pm. Any and all are welcome to attend!

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE, NEW YORK: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that pursuant to Article 9 of the Town of Ellicottville Zoning Local Law, and pursuant to a resolution of the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Ellicottville, adopted May 2, 2024, the said Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Ellicottville Town Center, 28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, NY 14731 on the 13 day of June, 2024 at 6:00 P.M., to hear all interested parties regarding an appeal by Reid Petroleum, requesting variances to allow the construction of a parking lot less than the required distance from front property lines, located at 6599 US Route 219 N (SBL 46.004-1-50.1) in the Town of Ellicottville. Further information is available for review at the Engineering Department, 28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, New York 14731. Prior to the meeting, documents may also be viewed on the Town website at [www.ellicottvillegov.com](http://www.ellicottvillegov.com). Persons wishing to do so may submit comments prior to the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the Town of Ellicottville Zoning Board of Appeals, 1 Washington Street, P.O. Box 600, Ellicottville, New York 14731, dropped off in person to the same address, or emailed to [greg.keyser@evlengineering.com](mailto:greg.keyser@evlengineering.com). BY ORDER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS OF THE TOWN OF ELLICOTTVILLE

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## LLC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of B bar K Cleaning LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/21/24. Office location: Cattaraugus County. Princ. Office of LLC: 4972 Roszyk Hill Rd, Machias, NY 14101. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 4972 Roszyk Hill Rd, Machias, NY 14101. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION** of S&S Home Repair, LLC Arts of Org. Filled with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/14/24. Office location Cattaraugus County. Princ. Office of LLC: 55 Pine St., Franklinville, NY, 14737. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 55 Pine St., Franklinville, NY, 14737. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

## AUTO SERVICE

cont. from page 18

**ROCK CITY CJDR:** Heading over the hill from Ellicottville you'll find Rock City Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge-Ram, located at 520 Rock City Street, Little Valley, which opened with new ownership in September of 2008. If you have had the chance to drive by or do business with Rock City in the past, you probably noticed they have recently made some extreme changes to the dealership.

Almost two years after construction began, Rock City was able to open their new showroom doors to the public at the start of 2024. Featuring a full service and parts area and a customer-friendly waiting room, they are ready for business just in time for the big release of the 2025 RAM 1500s.

As owners, Kevin Frantz and Max Crandall knew what they wanted the dealership to look like - updated and customer centered - but they also wanted to keep the hometown atmosphere they pride themselves on. Offices were torn down and built new, offering a comfortable and private space to discuss your vehicle purchasing options. A waiting room is stocked with complimentary coffee and snacks during your visit and a service and parts room were rebuilt and expanded to better accommodate your service needs. As a Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram dealership, they regularly have 100-150 new units in stock every day as well as another 100-150 pre-owned vehicles of all brands. With a selection like this, they are a sure stop during your next vehicle purchasing experience.

Rock City CJDR is proud of their ability to work with fellow business owners, municipalities, and local schools. They are proud sponsors of local schools and sports teams and regularly donate items for benefits and fundraisers. Rock City also hosts an annual Trunk or Treat every October, bringing an average of 500 kids and families to the area for an evening of safe fun.

Giving back to the community and making happy customers is at the center of their dealership. They hope to continue making a positive impact on the local area for years to come.

## EMPLOYMENT

### IMMEDIATE OPENINGS: ELLICOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

**Science Teacher (MS/HS):** The Ellicottville Central School District has an opening for a full-time, 4-year probationary MS/HS Science Teacher starting September 1, 2024. Candidates must be certified in Earth Science in NYS; preference given to candidates dual certified in Physics. Salary based on experience and the current ETA Contract. EOE. Application deadline = 6/3/24.

**Speech-Language Pathologist:** The Ellicottville Central School District has an opening for a full-time Speech-Language Pathologist. This is a full-time, four (4) year probationary appointment with a start date of September 1, 2024. Candidates must be certified in NYS in Speech-Language Pathology. Salary based on experience and the current ETA Contract. EOE. Application deadline = 6/3/24.

**K-12 Assistant Principal:** The Ellicottville Central School District has an opening for K-12 Assistant Principal. This is a full-time, four (4) year probationary appointment with a start date of September 1, 2024. This will be a ten (10) month position that will follow the teacher's instructional calendar (same breaks as teachers). Candidates must be certified in Administration and teaching in NYS and have at least 3 years of teaching experience. EOE. Application deadline = 6/3/24.

The District is also looking for **substitutes** in the following areas: teachers, cleaners, teacher aides, nurses, bus drivers and cafeteria workers. EOE.

Candidates for any of these positions are invited to apply at: <https://ellicottvillecentral.recruitfront.com/JobOpportunities>

## THE ELLICOTTVILLE TEAM

Local Real Estate Team Featured on Cover of Real Producers Magazine

By JESSICA SCHULTZ



Local Keller Williams Realty group, The Ellicottville Team, was recognized and featured on the cover of Buffalo's *Real Producers* magazine for their May 2024 issue. Dave Blanchard, Assoc. Real Estate Broker and Team Leader, was proud to discuss his accomplishments and the creation of his team.

The magazine created a two-page spread about the group and how successful they've become over the 3 years they've been active. The team was launched just a year after Keller Williams opened an office in Ellicottville and just prior to the Covid lockdowns. Despite the beginning being a bit challenging as Covid took hold, business has more than picked up. The business has "caught fire" as Dave says, and he's proud to have passed the torch on to his team.

And that team is small but mighty. The Ellicottville Team's current members working alongside Dave include Jennifer Courtney, Brooke Szaicher, Lisa Ann Baker and in-house Director of Operations Alexander Obenauer. It's the perfect size team to get things done without being in each other's way.

They pride themselves on always being ready and available to their clients. Team members, including Dave himself, "step in at a moment's notice to help one another," Dave says. And he, himself, always has his cell phone at the ready. "If someone contacts me, they're going to get an answer from me immediately. If I'm not available, one of my team members gets back to them right away."

He's particularly proud of the team's responsiveness and its refusal to set tasks aside or put things off until the next day. "When we get a lead or a call from somebody with a question, we're on it right away. We don't wait till later or tomorrow. We're very much here for our clients in every way. We stay on top of everything from meeting the person to the closing table."

The Ellicottville Team has helped many a new face make our community their home. Dave closed out by saying, "Ellicottville is a great area. It's like they already know what a happy place it is and what a great place it is to be."

Congratulations to The Ellicottville Team for your hard work and recognition by *Real Producers*. May you see even more success in the future! For more information on the team and their realty listings, visit [ellicottvilledave.kw.com](http://ellicottvilledave.kw.com).

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holimont: Cast your worries away and reel in some relaxation at HoliMont's Saddle Pond this summer. #fishingatholimont #catchandrelease #saddlepondserene #holimont



alleykatzevl: Solid morning of prepping all the gardens and greeting the village @ellicottvillecoffee @adventureboundonthefly #ellicottvillenow



amyldeine: #outdoorfun #getoutside #qualitytime



emountains: I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream!



charlesbchamberlain: It has finally fully arrived. It's a #fantastic feeling knowing that #summer is here. #evlnow #hikingphotography



beesgoldhoney1: This is where our honey comes from! #evlnow



ellicottvilletapbottle: New Dulce De Leche Cake! #brewedtoentertain



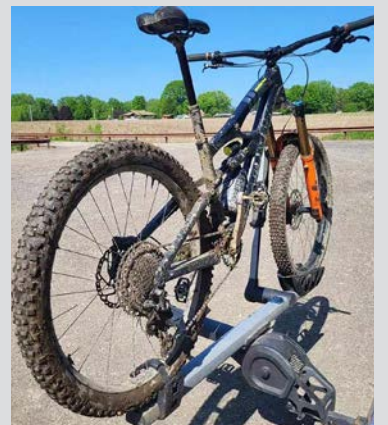
holidayvalley: Don't miss out on Early Bird pricing for the @42northbrewing HillTap Festival. #hilltapfestival #livemusic #oudoorfun



jeremyknab: Had a great time at "Float the Allegheny" from Portville to Franchot Park. @oleannychamber #EMFun #floattheallegheny



biodomeproject: It's great to be a part of Community Cleanup Day! #handsonneighborhoods #jamestownny #cometogether



lizzard0421: Bringing some of the Six Mile back out with me! #trailsatsixmile

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6084 Rte. 219 @ Holiday Valley Rd.  
Ellicottville, NY 14731

**SALES: 716-699-2000**  
**RENTALS: 716-699-2912**

# Featured Properties of the Week

★★★★★

★★★★★

**6094 ROUTE 219**  
THE ELLICOTTVILLE DEPOT

MLS#B1518491  
\$1,750,000



Longtime landmark property and business.  
Prime location across from Holiday Valley

**954 S. SHORE DRIVE**  
AT SUNSET BAY

MLS#B1536513  
\$675,000



Close to marina, short walk  
to Bay Beach Club.



**Holiday Valley**  
**REALTY CO. INC.**



**TAMARACK CLUB**  
Fractional ownership,  
ski in/ski out at Holiday  
Valley. Private pools &  
parking. Access all that  
Holiday Valley has to  
offer! Starting at  
\$48,000



**15 GREEN VALLEY  
ESTATES**  
Well maintained  
mobile home located  
just minutes from  
Ellicottville!  
MLS#B1539321  
\$95,000



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all aspects of buying  
and selling. Looking  
to build? Ask about  
land/lots for sale!



**H303 SNOWPINE**  
Perfect ski in/out at  
Holiday Valley, just  
steps from "The Wall"  
chairlift. Views of the  
chairlift & golf course.  
MLS#B1522917  
\$295,000



**13 EVERGREEN DR.**  
Corner townhome  
located within walking  
distance to village  
center. Ample storage.  
No HOA & low taxes!  
MLS#B1535631  
\$349,000

*Sales and Rentals*

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