

The Chautauquan Daily



Members of the Chautauqua School of Dance take a bow after performing George Balanchine's "Raymonda Variations" Wednesday in the Amphitheater. SKYLAR SEAVEY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

chqdaily.com
Chautauqua, New York

WEEKEND EDITION, August 15 & 16, 2026 || THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF CHAUTAUQUA INSTITUTION

\$4.25
Volume CXLIX, Issue 43



HANSON

Hanson to serve as Week Eight Chaplain

MARY LEE TALBOT
STAFF WRITER

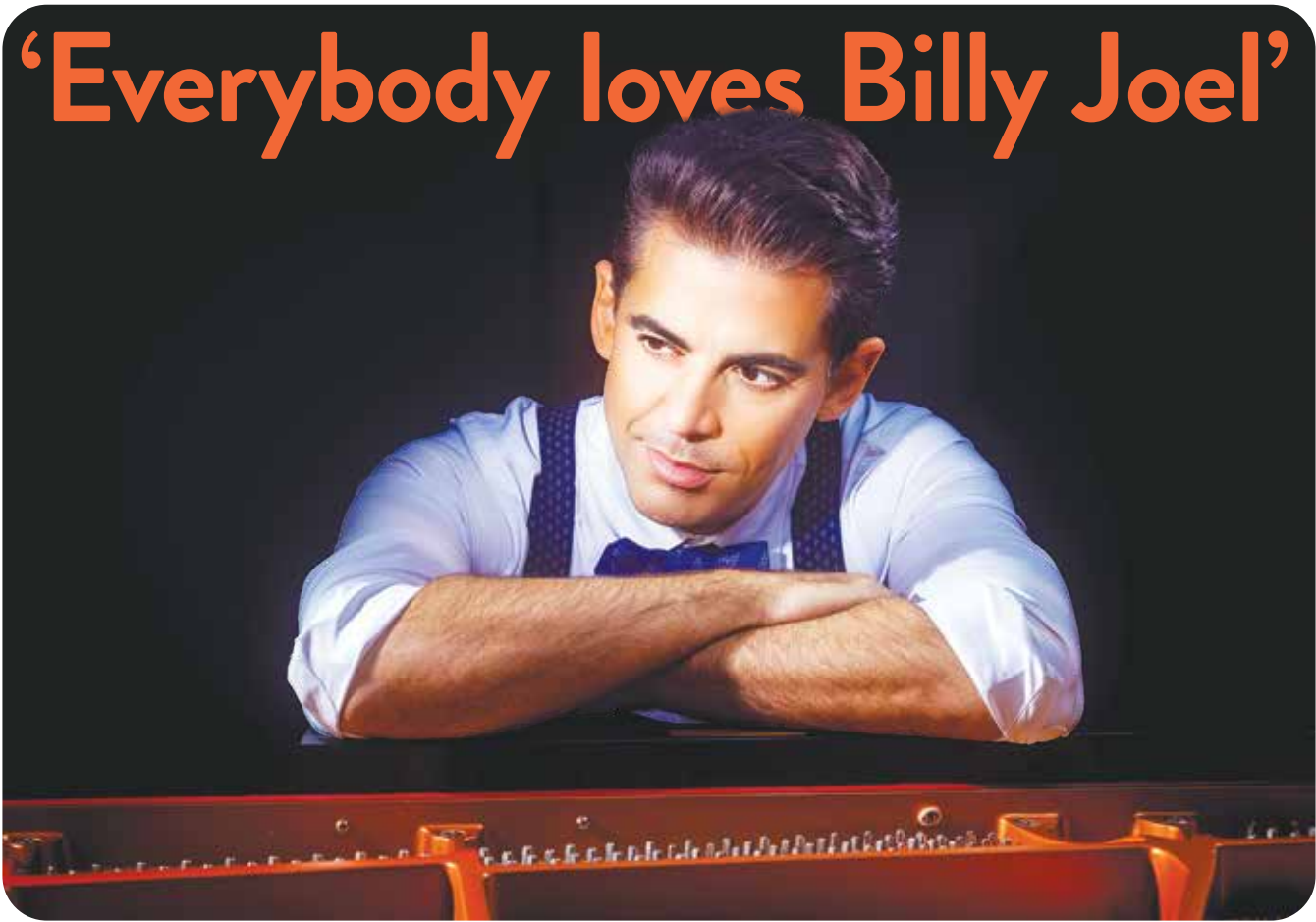
"My preaching this week will be a conversation from a Chautauquan to Chautauqua friends. I hope we will be talking with each other about being at the table of God's abundance and how we move outward from here to the rest of our lives," the Rev. Natalie Hanson said.

Hanson will preach at the 10:45 a.m. Sunday morning worship service in the Amphitheater. Her sermon for Sunday is based on Luke 5:33-35 and Matthew 22:1-10. The title of her sermon for Sunday will be "Invitation to a Feast."

She said her focus for the week is how we can live abundantly and what we do that keeps us from living abundantly.

"How do we starve ourselves and others, who is at the table and who is not and why that is important are issues I want to explore. I hope people will embrace a conversation and spirit that leads to abundance. Diversity, having open hearts and minds and connections are important."

See **CHAPLAIN**, Page A6



DESARE

DeSare to breathe new life into Billy Joel favorites with CSO

ROCCO PRIOLETTI
STAFF WRITER

Before Tony DeSare picked up piano and dove into the world of jazz, classical and the Great American Songbook, the music of Billy Joel permeated throughout his musical upbringing. Joel was everywhere — his parents listened to him, and his songs became radio mainstays.

The first album DeSare remembered buying with his own money was Joel's 1989 release, *Storm Front*. He cherished the cassette tape; it was the first album that was truly his. From then, he learned "And So It Goes" by listening to the recording.

"I couldn't even reach the lowest note, which was the middle C," DeSare said, detailing the first song he ever attempted to

sing. "My voice was still changing. That's how deep it goes."

When DeSare was in college, Joel gave a lecture that made the pianist pursue music. Now, at 8 p.m. Saturday night in the Amphitheater, DeSare and the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra will breathe new life into familiar favorites from Billy Joel.

"I have a really strong connection to him, and he's so beloved. It's been very obvious, by doing these shows, just how much the music means to people," DeSare said. "So, it's really a privilege I get to be on stage with a world-class orchestra and present this music to people."

See **DESARE**, Page A6



DEUTSCH

Deutsch to discuss chefs, food systems

DEBORAH TREFTS
STAFF WRITER

America's food system — comprising the infrastructure, processes and value-adding activities involved in growing, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting, distributing, marketing, consuming and disposing of food and junk food — is facing numerous challenges. So, too, is the global food system.

"We have a very messed up food system and tend to have short memories," Jonathan Deutsch, Ph.D., CHE, CRC, said.

At 3 p.m. Saturday in the Hall of Philosophy, Deutsch will deliver a lecture for the Chautauqua Women's Club's Contemporary Issues Forum titled, "How Chefs are Key to the Future of Food."

In a nutshell, he'll explain "how chefs — specifically research chefs working at the intersection of culinary arts and food science — work with physicians, food scientists, urban planners and dietitians to ensure an equitable and sustainable food system."

See **DEUTSCH**, Page A6

IN TODAY'S DAILY



'THEY'RE CRITICAL TO OUR SURVIVAL'

BTG leads August 'bioblitz' initiative, logging Chautauqua's natural environment.

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A GLIMPSE INTO WILSON'S WORLD

Nichols embodies August Wilson in 'How I Learned What I Learned,' closing Sunday.

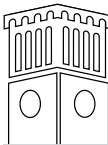
Page B5



'THIS WHOLE AREA IS PART OF WHO I AM'

Incoming President Johnson reflects on Chautauqua upbringing, leadership, first priorities.

Page C1



SATURDAY'S WEATHER



H 81° L 65°
Rain: 8%
Sunset: 8:19 p.m.

SUNDAY



H 77° L 66°
Rain: 94%
Sunrise: 6:26 a.m. Sunset: 8:18 p.m.

MONDAY



H 76° L 60°
Rain: 25%
Sunrise: 6:27 a.m. Sunset: 8:16 p.m.

Missed a story in the Daily this summer? Find it on our website using the search bar at the top of any page.

www.chqdaily.com



Scan the QR code for more information and to purchase tickets.

foodfestival.chq.org

Feast with Friends: Smokin Dick's Community BBQ

Sunday, Aug. 16
5 p.m. • Bestor Plaza
\$25

BBQ. Friends. Community.
Kick off Food Festival Week with a communal BBQ dinner featuring Smokin Dick's famous smoked favorites.

Battle of the Bites: Best Meatball Showdown

Monday, Aug. 17
3 p.m. • Bestor Plaza
\$30

Meatballs. Bragging Rights. Glory.
Four local chefs battle for meatball supremacy. Purchase a tasting ticket to try all four meatballs or watch for free.

Taste of Chautauqua: Featuring Mike Thornton & The Midnight Quartet

Wednesday, Aug. 19
3 p.m. • Bestor Plaza
\$35

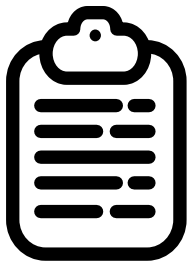
Food. Music. Community.
Sample regional food, beverages, art and live music in one unforgettable afternoon.

Premium Tasting Event

Thursday, Aug. 20
5 p.m. • Bestor Plaza
\$40

Sip. Savor. Discover.
Explore more than 20 premium wines, spirits, craft beverages and paired bites from international producers.

THE MIX



BRIEFLY

NEWS FROM THE GROUNDS

The **Briefly** column appears on page 2 daily and is intended to provide space for announcements from Institution-related organizations. If a meeting or activity is featured that day in a story, it should not be repeated in the **Briefly** column. Submit information to Gracie Szablewski in the Daily's editorial office. Please provide the name of the organization, time and place of meeting and one contact person's name with a phone number. Deadline is 5 p.m. four days before publication.

Chautauqua Women's Golf Association

Join CWGA to connect with local golfers, enjoy friendly competition and play a historic course at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Chautauqua Golf Club. The annual league membership is \$50. Reduced rates for both 18- and 9-hole players. GHIN handicap required. Call the CGC Pro Shop at 716-357-6211.

Chautauqua Vegan Potluck

The Chautauqua Vegan Potluck will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday on the back porch of Fowler-Kellogg Art Center, located at 12 Ramble. The porch is covered, so the potluck will occur rain or shine! Please come and bring a vegan dish to share. Vegan food is plant-based and free of any animal products, including meat, fish, dairy, eggs and honey. RSVP to chqvegan@gmail.com.

Friends of Chautauqua Theater Season Final Play Discussion

Friends of Chautauqua Theater invite theater lovers to the final play discussion of the season from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Sunday at Trapasso Pavilion at Children's School. The conversation will explore both the mainstage production, *How I Learned What I Learned*, and the New Play Workshop, *As You Like It*.

Robert Pinsky Favorite Poem Project

Selected Chautauquans will have the opportunity to read their favorite poem at 3:30 p.m. Thursday in the Hall of Philosophy. The poems cannot be by you or a family member and should be no more than a page long. For more information and to apply, go to chq.org/fcwc. Deadline: Saturday.

Shirley Lazarus Speaker Series

At 7 p.m. Sunday in Smith Wilkes Hall, the Hebrew Congregation of Chautauqua will host the Shirley Lazarus Speaker Series. Rabbi Elyse Goldstein will present "For Heaven's Sake: Ancient Wisdom — Modern Conflict." Chief Advancement Officer and Senior Director for Community and Belonging Amit Taneja will speak on the topic: "Belonging and the Importance of Gathering in Community."

Chautauqua Tennis Center news

The Tennis Center will offer Stroke of the Day for beginners this week, Monday through Friday. A morning clinic, including drills and match-like tennis play, will be offered from 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

Open play pickleball will be offered from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Monday through Friday for intermediate and advanced players, and from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday for all levels.

Reservations are required for formal match play and private lessons. For all tennis and pickleball reservations, please email tennis@chq.org up to 24 hours in advance. The Tennis Center can be reached at 716-357-6276.

Off-season winter car registration

This year's off-season winter car registration stickers are here. Anyone who wants to register their car(s) for the off-season is welcome to stop in at the Safety & Security office to do so. Please note that these stickers are valid from September 2026 to June 2027. They are not necessary or required for individuals who are only parking their vehicle(s) on the grounds during our nine-week operating season.

Chautauqua Women's Club news

The Flea Boutique will be open from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday behind the Colonnade.



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DAVE MUNCH / DAILY FILE PHOTO

Chautauquans fill Bestor Plaza at lunchtime during the Chautauqua Institution Food Festival Aug. 23, 2018.

Institution to kick off two-week food festival

JULIA WEBER
ASSISTANT EDITOR

This weekend marks the kick-off of the two-week Chautauqua Institution Food Festival. The festival will include guest appearances from celebrity chefs Nyesha Arrington and Darian Bryan, themed culinary experiences designed to align with lectures, events and other programming, tasting events and more. It is intended to align with the themes of Weeks Eight and Nine, which are "The Future of Food: Climate, Technology and the Next Agricultural Evolution" and "The Importance of Gathering: A Collaboration with the Smithsonian Folklife Festival," respectively.

Director of Business Development Sam Nelson said ahead of the festival, he is particularly excited to display Chautauqua County through its culinary presence.

"There's so much great culinary talent inside this county that we really want to showcase," Nelson said.

Prior iterations of the food festival have existed, and Nelson said a main consideration this year was to think about how to further evolve the festival.

"We decided to try to schedule an event each day that fit in that afternoon or evening time where there's not anything happening [in]

the Amphitheater, nothing happening at the Hall of Philosophy ..." Nelson said.

"There's people that want to see the local talent, there's people that want to see something new and exciting — local or otherwise — something they don't have. How do we do that?"

Nelson said the food festival aims to present a mix of programming that has both national and local presence, as well as events that bring something new for Chautauquans to experience.

Project Manager Will Griffith said during the planning process, it was important to both him and Nelson that the food festival be accessible to everyone.

"... Given our local community and making it more accessible for them, everything we've priced, we've priced (it) to make that a possibility for our local community to be a part of," he said.

In Week Eight, Chautauqua will host a "Battle of the Bites" with four competing local chefs and a guest judge in a competition to determine the best meatball. Chefs from The White Inn, Dina's, Andriaccio's Restaurant and Sandee's Catering, Bakery & Deli will be represented in the competition. Week Nine's "Battle of the Bites" continues with what Nelson described as an "Athenaeum homecom-

ing," in which all competing chefs are former executive chefs at the hotel who are now working in other restaurants, with the goal of determining the best slider among the competitors.

"It's a lot of fun," Nelson said. "Throughout their time, they've overlapped (at the Athenaeum), they know each other. There's a little bit of rivalry there already; over time, some of them have worked together, so it's really exciting."

Wednesdays of each week will showcase Chautauqua County cuisine through the Institution's "Taste of Chautauqua" events. The food festival will also include craft beverage tasting events, during which Chautauquans can sample craft beers, wines and artisanal spirits, and will host Masters Series Masterclasses featuring mezcal and whiskey distillers. The Institution will also host Stark Coffee Enterprises, a coffee company based in Erie, Pennsylvania.

"We want to start off with community. Food brings people together; it's about storytelling, just a way for us to come together, and Chautauqua's about coming together, right? We come together and we sit on our porches, talk about all the things," Nelson said. "My favorite part of any summer is getting together with friends, having one of

those meals where you talk a little too long, have great food and you have wine. So, creating one of those experiences to start each week."

Nelson said each week will start off with an event designed to build community and shared experience for Chautauquans; Week Eight welcomes a barbecue catered by Smokin' Dick's BBQ, and Week Nine follows soon after with a farm-to-table dinner hosted by 3 C's Catering. Both of these events, Nelson said, are followed by a food-focused film at Chautauqua Cinema.

"We've had these incredible moments along the way getting to work with these chefs, both local and regional," Nelson said. "It's been so much fun."

Ahead of the festival, Nelson said he is most excited that the Institution has built a food festival that supplements a day at Chautauqua rather than inhibits it.

"This is not just a food festival," he said. "This is, 'I can still have my morning lecture. I can then have these incredible lunches, and then I can go to the Hall of Philosophy, and then I can come back and check out this super cool event or this Masters Series that's happening for the day, and then I can go about my evening entertainment, the things I normally do.'"

Jones returns to Chautauqua for jazz-centered performance

LAYLA VINSON
STAFF WRITER

Acclaimed jazz vocalist, 2004 winner of the Billie Holiday Vocal Competition and semi-finalist in the American Traditions Competition Sara Jones still recalls the first time she passed through the gates of Chautauqua Institution.

Jones has visited the Institution six times as a performer with The U.S. Army Field Band Soldiers' Chorus.

"When you pull up, it's like a picturesque paradise," Jones said. "You're like, 'Oh, am I working here? Wait a second, am I on vacation?'"

Now returning to that "paradise" in partnership with the African American Heritage House, Jones will showcase about 75 minutes of jazz standards from renowned composers such as Duke Ellington, George Gershwin and Harold Arlen at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Amphitheater.

"It's a very American Songbook-heavy program, and then some other quirky, fun things that people might not know or they have a peripheral knowledge of, and then we'll bring it in and say, 'Oh, here's something that's adjacent,'" Jones said. "... I just want to tell people about songs and have them like songs. And then sometimes I do some very recognizable things because everybody likes to do something they al-

ready know."

Accustomed to a large repertoire of genres and professional roles, Jones received a Master of Music in piano accompanying at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music before choosing to pursue a professional vocal career with the Soldiers' Chorus.

"You're in the army, and you have to do whatever somebody tells you to do," Jones laughed, offering a stark contrast to her current independent work. " ... But when you're freelancing, that was a really big change because then you have to go and sort of find your own work."

With an active performing schedule and reputable presence as a soloist with the National Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Pops Orchestra and Ravinia Festival Orchestra, Jones has navigated the increasing demand for flexibility in the industry while also finding her own specialty as a singer.

"We have to be able to do all of these things. And there's some truth to that, being flexible, I think being flexible is really important as a musician. But also really figuring out, 'What am I the best at?'" Jones asked.

As a former professor at Towson University, she said she often encouraged her students to focus on finding their niche. "Figuring out



JONES

what you shine in is so important. And it's fun when you figure it out," she said.

Stylistically, Jones praised the attributes and distinctive qualities of artists such as Billie Holiday, who are not attempting to emulate a noise that is not their own.

"When you listen to her, you don't say, 'Oh, it sounds like this, it sounds like that — she just sounds like herself,'" Jones said. "... In terms of storytelling, [she] was very sincere but also pretty simple. She wasn't trying to do a lot of things. She was just like, 'I'm going to just sing this song, but also as if I was speaking it to you like you would speak to a friend.'"

The honest storytelling and rich history of jazz music, alongside Jones' partnership with the AAHH, are deeply significant to Jones as she

continues to bring life to the art form and those behind it.

"Keeping jazz alive, keeping those composers alive, keeping the performers alive with an acknowledgment and a place that reminds you the people that put this music out, especially Black artists, had a lot more to deal with," Jones said.

Jones said her mindfulness of this shapes how she approaches music and celebrates the history and legacy of jazz music. "... We want to remember the good parts, but we have to remember the bad parts. Some people don't want to talk about it, and I understand it because they just want to have fun, but other times you have to be like, 'No, actually, this was really hard for this person to navigate this and to go get their work out there.'"

LECTURE

Kagan discusses past, future of US foreign policy, potential crises

LAYLA VINSON
STAFF WRITER

Brookings Institution Senior Fellow and contributing writer to *The Atlantic* Robert Kagan discussed the haunting ghosts of foreign policy's past, present and future in his morning lecture at 10:45 a.m. Friday in the Amphitheater in alignment with Week Seven's theme, "Global Power and Our Evolving International Order." Kagan centered his discussion on the precarious nature of world order throughout history, the human tendency to overlook developing issues and anticipated consequences for the United States as it sunders ties and influence abroad.

"It's a hard thing for human beings to recognize rapid change when it's happening, especially when we've been living in a period that had been relatively peaceful, relatively prosperous, for a long time," Kagan said.

He emphasized the poverty, tyranny and constant threat of major war that loomed over the majority of humanity up until 1945. "We get used to the idea of incremental change. Yes, this is getting worse, this is getting better, we (have) got to address that, et cetera. I want to suggest we are now in a period of radical and rapid change, because when a world order collapses for whatever reason, everybody has to reconfigure themselves."

In Kagan's eyes, the impending collapse of world order has been brought about by the systematic and deliberate destruction of longstanding tools, mechanisms and institutions best equipped to meet the major challenges of contemporary times.

"By destroying our alliances, by tariffing our allies, by making it clear that the United States is not interested in protecting others — that

we're really only in it for ourselves and the money that we can make — we are destroying a system which really proved to be a remarkable period in world history," he said.

Looking to nations with-in past multipolar world periods, Kagan stressed the constant threat of war that plagued each country that could not look for security outside of itself. As each country viewed the other as an enemy, alliances frequently shifted, creating a highly disruptive society. But Kagan said under Roosevelt and his generation, the U.S. sought to escape this multipolar world in their creation of the American world order after World War II.

"What happened in that period was really historically unprecedented and almost impossible to believe, because if you think about the World War II settlement, look at all the major great powers within the source of conflict amongst themselves for centuries who, all of a sudden, gave up those great power ambitions," Kagan said.

He specifically highlighted nations such as Britain, France, Germany and Japan, which allowed themselves, some initially involuntarily, to be encompassed under the American security umbrella.

Kagan explained that in entrusting their fundamental security to the U.S., these great powers entered a critical bargain. According to Kagan, the heart of this bargain centered on the expectation that the U.S. would garner the power necessary to provide protection, establish an international economic order focused on values of free trade and refuse to abuse that power to bully its allies.

"Trust. Trust was the most important element of what made that system work," Kagan said. He said he believed one reason the U.S.,

despite its imperfections, was deemed trustworthy by other nations was because of its spirit of generosity and motive to create a stable system where they would not be drawn into another world war. "... We have now moved into a different posture. Now we have a national security strategy that says we're going to be focused on the Western Hemisphere."

Listing recent examples of the invasion of Venezuela for its oil and tariff policies for money and power, Kagan said the U.S. has now taken advantage of the bargain struck among allies to exploit their weaknesses and take their money.

"[The United States is] basically making it extremely clear that [it] will not protect [its allies] in the case that they are attacked. I don't think [its] Article 5 commitment to NATO means anything anymore," Kagan said, referencing the core collective defense commitment of the alliance. "And I'm sure that the Europeans don't think that it means anything anymore, which is why they are rearming. They're not rearming because Donald Trump has convinced them of the importance of burden sharing. They are making the army because they are scared to death."

Kagan evaluated an amassing German military — specifically, plans to borrow more than \$800 million in loans for rearmament — as a prominent manifestation of this apprehension. Breaking decades of fiscal restraint since its reunification in the 1990s, the budget marks a sharp turn from the country's longstanding aversion to debt, according to *The Luxembourg Times*.

"We can hope that the Germans maintain this, I would say, benevolent view of what the role of their power should



DAVE MUNCH / INTERIM MANAGING EDITOR

Brookings Institution Senior Fellow Robert Kagan shares his perspective on the state of the current world order Friday in the Amphitheater.

be. But, let's not forget ... the second largest political party in Germany is the AfD, which is a right-wing — vaguely at some fringes — neo-Nazi party," Kagan said.

Kagan cited his six years spent living in Europe where he claimed to have witnessed surprisingly prevalent underlying tensions between countries and residual distrust in Germany.

"[The AfD] is now the second-largest party in Germany right now. So we are all playing dice with this situation, and so the future of Germany, it seems to me, is potentially complicated. And I would say that if we are, in fact, as it seems we are, moving into a world in which the only security you have is that which you can provide yourself. I think Germany, in that context, is going to become one of the great powers of the world as it had been in the past."

Kagan warily noted the

perceived faces of nations such as Germany and Japan as "liberal, democratic, vaguely half pacifist, just trying to make money and not make trouble," stating these have existed while living under the American security umbrella. Kagan further theorized what might happen to the character of these countries when made to defend themselves, claiming history suggests their faces may change in more turbulent times.

"You have to think that not only are relative powers going to change around the world, but the very character of these countries, the very character of their regimes, may change in the process," Kagan said. "Power does things to nations, as the American people can attest, and I think that is something that we have to worry about. And after all, the idea that a nation shows more than one face to the world is now clearly true about us."

Forecasting an increasingly grim future, Kagan expressed the dimming likelihood of salvaged trust in the U.S. Noting the direct actions of the U.S. as leading to the closing of the Strait of Hormuz, Kagan feels this failure will only garner more discontent from countries abroad.

"I suppose right now that the most optimistic scenario that I can think of is that, eventually, the American people will wake up and realize what is happening and maybe demand a reversal in this approach to foreign policy," Kagan said, urging audiences to protest and avoid complacency. "... Make it clear that you're unhappy about this direction, you can tell your members of Congress. Don't wait for the next crisis to wake up. We can see the crisis coming, history tells us the crises are coming, and it's time for us to turn things around right now."

Author Nagle presents ‘By the Fire We Carry’ in CLSC discussion

NORA SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Before she officially introduced Rebecca Nagle, award-winning journalist, author and citizen of Cherokee Nation, Michael I. Rudell Director of Literary Arts Stephine Hunt acknowledged that "the land on which Chautauqua Institution operates is the land of Indigenous people."

Then, Hunt introduced Nagle and shared how her work seeks to correct the journalistic standards for Indigenous communities, who she said deserve the same standards as the rest of the country.

Nagle read excerpts from Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle Week Seven selection, *By the Fire We Carry: The Generations-Long Fight for Justice on Native Land*, while giving a behind-the-scenes look at her thought process.

Then, Nagle discussed her podcast, titled "First America," coinciding with the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. She said the podcast will be translated into a book in the coming years, focusing on the Revolutionary War and the founding of the U.S. from the Declaration of Independence to the writing of the Constitution.

"... Together with a group of Indigenous scholars, we really wanted to rewrite that origin story because most often, when I hear it, Native people are missing, right?" Nagle said. "We are just completely left out, and with that, that story is actually wrong. We're actually missing how the U.S. began."

Nagle said the podcast examines one of the biggest myths, that the founders of the U.S. created a democracy while rejecting tyranny and monarchy, because in reality,

democracy is actually half the story; she said while building a democracy, the founders were also building an empire.

"You don't conquer and take other people's lands through democracy, you do that through force often and through extreme violence, and so today, as we're living through this political moment as Americans and we're asking ourselves, 'Where could authoritarianism come from? How could this be happening in our country?' I would just argue that the roots of that are actually quite old and start at the beginning," Nagle said.

Nagle read from the prologue of *By the Fire We Carry* before speaking to its initial inspiration: a Muscogee (Creek) Nation legal scholar, who posted about a court decision that came from the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in which "her tribe, even though it had not been recognized by the U.S. government or by the state in over 100 years, still had a reservation."

Nagle then presented historical background on the case and the land before reading about the many moments of chance that led to "the largest restoration of tribal land in U.S. history." Then, she shared her experience interviewing and reporting, and why it was important to her to write the story.

Nagle said as a tribal citizen, she followed the case in its entirety. From first learning about it to when the decision was made, it was a very emotional experience because she knew the sacrifices and the number of generations that fought for their land.

"I wanted readers who are maybe not part of my community, who don't have that same kind of history to feel that, to feel the weight of it,

that we're not just talking about real estate, we're not just talking about a symbolic victory, but this is something that, as tribal people, we carry this history in a deeply personal way," Nagle said.

Nagle spoke about her ancestry, the Indian Removal Act and the reality of how many Indigenous people died. She then read the section of the book that focuses on the court's decision.

"In one of the darkest chapters of American history, this land was promised to us for as long as the grass grew and waters ran," Nagle read. "In Eastern Oklahoma, the grass is still growing, the water is still running, and our nations are still here, and despite the grave injustice of history, our legal right to our land never ended."

During the Q-and-A following the presentation, Nagle went into greater depth on the Supreme Court's decision, its effects on both tribal and non-tribal citizens and tribal and civil jurisdiction on Indigenous land. Nagle also spoke about the ties in her work to Week Seven's theme, "Global Power and Our Evolving International Order."

"What I think we can learn from Indigenous history is that the U.S. is an empire, and it's a colonial empire, and it's a colonial power. It's always been like that, and I think we don't think of ourselves that way," Nagle said.

Nagle said people living in the U.S. think of it as "a beacon of democracy," but in actuality, "there has always been part of our government that has colonized lands and lives of people who didn't have access to those constitutional rights, who didn't have access to that democracy."

Further, Nagle said it is important that U.S. citizens broaden their views of the



SKYLAR SEAVEY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rebecca Nagle, author of *By the Fire We Carry: The Generations-Long Fight for Justice on Native Land*, reads excerpts from her book Friday in the Hall of Philosophy.

U.S. government on a foundational level because there has always been a part of the government that operates differently when there are no elections and no accountability. Nagle said an example is how Indigenous people are governed.

"I often say that what our government did to Indigenous people is the fault lines in American democracy, and

the moment that we're living through right now is the earthquake," Nagle said.

Nagle said understanding these roots of American authoritarianism is important because the roots

don't just start at one election or one leader, and that "if we actually want to root authoritarianism out of the U.S., we have to get down to where it started, and it started at the beginning."

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COMMUNITY

Every Chautauquan can point to a moment of personal discovery that has stayed with them long after the season ends, whether it is inspired by a lecture, performance or conversation. Sometimes those moments are obvious — others, not so much. Even less visible are the people who make those experiences possible.

The Chautauqua experience is shaped each day by a remarkable community of staff members, artists, clergy, faculty and volunteers. Together, they share their talents and help ensure that this Institution fulfills its mission. Together, their hard work and dedication make the Chautauqua you experience look effortless.

Before a speaker steps to the podium, countless hours have gone into planning and preparation. Before an artist takes the stage, teams have coordinated schedules, managed logistics and prepared venues. Before worship services, classes and community programs begin, dedicated individuals have worked to create meaningful experiences for you.

That reality presents an opportunity to reflect on the importance of gratitude. Gratitude is more than appreciation for the experiences we enjoy. It is an acknowledgment of the dedication that makes those experiences possible. It encourages us to look beyond the events themselves and recognize the people whose



From the
Interim Chief Executive

COLUMN BY KYLE KEOGH

The people behind the experience

work often goes unseen.

Across the grounds, there are examples every day. Staff members solve problems before anyone realizes there is a problem to solve. Volunteers contribute their time because they believe in Chautauqua's mission. Clergy and faith leaders guide moments of reflection and spiritual growth. Faculty members share their

knowledge and inspire curiosity. Performers and artists enrich our lives through their craft. Each plays an important role in the life of this community.

What makes Chautauqua special has never been a single lecture, performance or program. It is the collective effort of people who bring this Institution to life. That is when your gratitude becomes most powerful and inspires action.

A simple thank-you, a willingness to recognize someone's contribution and taking the time to acknowledge others' work strengthens the relationships that hold communities together and affirms the value of service.

As we gather this week, I hope we will take a moment to recognize the many people whose contributions shape our experience each day. Their work reflects the very best of Chautauqua and serves as a reminder that meaningful communities are built not only through ideas and programs, but through the people who make them possible.

For all they do, and for all they make possible, we offer our sincere thanks.

Kyle F. Keogh

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48 South Lake Drive
5BR | 2BA | \$2,690,000

Exceptional Lakefront Home located in one of the most desirable areas within the renowned, South end of Chautauqua Institution, this home proudly sits on a corner lot overlooking the Lakeside Promenade.

Listing Agent: Karen Goodell
C: (917) 670-1900



26 Palestine Unit 2
OBR | 1BA | \$295,000

The Lincoln Park — a premier condo association located in the heart of the cultural mecca known as Chautauqua Institution. Just steps from the Amphitheater, you'll have the best seat in the house — your own porch! Listen to afternoon rehearsals or evening entertainment and watch the world go by in this delightful neighborhood. First floor efficiency condo with private porch. Delayed negotiations on 8/14 at noon.

Listing Agent: Ruth Nelson
C: (716) 708-9980



20 Elm Lane Unit#B4 Interval 8
3BR | 2BA | 1HBA | \$16,500

Enjoy Chautauqua Week 8 every year with this one-week timeshare in Condo B4. The unit features two bedrooms, two and a half baths, a loft bedroom, full kitchen, and two outdoor porch spaces. Amenities include two outdoor pools, a community grill, linens, and cleaning after your stay.

Listing Agent: Deborah "Debbie" Rowe
C: (716) 640-6507



1 Morris B
2BR | 1BA | \$415,000

1st floor, year-round, pet friendly for one pet, all one level condo. Two porches to enjoy! Open living room and dining area. Enjoy the view of Bestor Plaza! Laundry and private storage. Furnishings included.

Listing Agent: Deborah "Debbie" Rowe
C: (716) 640-6507



23 South Terrace
4BR | 4BA | \$595,000

Enjoy an exceptional Central Chautauqua location in this character-filled home, ideally situated just moments from many of the Institution's most popular venues. Currently enjoyed as a single-family residence that is configured as 3 separate living spaces.

Listing Agent: Karen Goodell
C: (917) 670-1900



9 Ames Avenue
3BR | 2BA | \$625,000

Lovely year-round home in the heart of CHQ! Open first floor with recently upgraded kitchen and hardwood flooring. Spacious front porch plus back deck for outdoor dining. Private onsite parking for one vehicle.

Listing Agent: Ruth Nelson
C: (716) 708-9980



47 Peck Avenue
3BR | 2BA | \$569,000

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COMMUNITY

TO THE EDITOR:

We're grateful for this engaging and invigorating 2026 Season, and we applaud everyone whose tremendous hard work has made it possible. We've grown concerned, however, about conversations we've had with multiple Chautauquans in recent weeks about significant changes the Institution's Board of Trustees may be contemplating in its approach to Chautauqua's arts and related education programs. Typically, we wouldn't write a letter based on the limited information we have, but given the importance of these issues, we feel compelled to raise them so the Institution has an opportunity to provide more clarity and so Chautauquans can ask questions and express their views, especially to the board and members of its Budget & Finance Committee who may be driving these possible changes.

From what we understand, the board may be contemplating a significant shift in its approach to Chautauqua's arts and education programs, with the goal of making them more self-funding and less dependent on Institution support — in other words, running them more like a business whose costs don't exceed its revenue. While self-funding is perhaps laudable in principle, in practice, this approach might mean major cuts to scholarships, students and programs that are core to Chautauqua and its mission. We know of no major arts organization in the country that funds itself on revenue alone — Chautauqua included. By their nature, arts and education programs cannot be run like for-profit businesses and, like Chautauqua itself, rely on outside support to thrive. For Chautauqua, that means developing robust and reliable sources of major philanthropy, which is then funneled into programs that support the Institution's four pillars.

Cutting support for Chautauqua's arts and education programs risks jeopardizing established philanthropic support for Chautauqua, putting the Institution in a worse financial position. In recent years, major donors to Chautauqua have focused their giving on arts and education, with the expectation that the Institution would continue its own longstanding support of those programs. Should these generous donors withdraw their support, the loss of their philanthropy — particularly over a lifetime of substantial giving — could eclipse the much smaller savings the board might be seeking. That risk alone should give the board serious pause. Instead of focusing on incremental savings, the board could foster efforts at developing these and other sources of philanthropy.

Significant cuts could also fundamentally damage programs whose quality and reputation Chautauqua has spent decades building. We nurture the best talent in the world — as evidenced by Music School Festival Orchestra students now playing in major orchestras (and our own Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra) and dance students who return each year to perform on our Amphitheater stage as principals in the world's best companies, not to mention premier talent we draw in theater, opera and the visual arts. Chautauqua attracts such talented students (and faculty) to its arts programs because it is able to compete with other world-renowned organizations that offer substantial scholarships. In the absence of such support, our student population would narrow to those able to pay the full cost of tuition. The quality and reputation of Chautauqua's arts and education programs would inevitably suffer and, crucially, would be extraordinarily difficult to repair.

Subjecting Chautauqua's arts and education programs to self-funding pressures and cuts is hardly consistent with this Institution's values. As stated in its mission statement, Chautauqua promotes excellence in "appreciation, performance and teaching of the arts." Chautauqua's arts and education programs bring extraordinary people, whose extraordinary talents and experiences distinguish this place from a mere country club or performance venue. They are the embodiment of this Institution's pillars, the heart and soul of what makes Chautauqua as a place feel like something so much more.

We regret raising these issues given our limited knowledge of the board's possible plans, and of the timing of those plans. But already, we are seeing signs that this approach may have taken hold, as in recent Institution cuts to scholarship funding and in the reduction of this summer's MSFO season. Whether and when more fundamental changes could occur is unclear. If no such shift is in the works, we would be delighted for the board and administration to clarify that their financial stability plans — whether in the short or longer term — do not foresee imposing such cuts to the arts and education. To the extent such changes are being considered, we ask the board to engage in meaningful community engagement well in advance of any such decision. We also ask that the board trust Chautauqua's incoming President, Mark Coolidge Johnson, to do the job for which he was hired and for which he seems so tremendously able. After getting a summer under his belt, we are confident he can work with senior staff and the Chautauqua community to recommend ways of ensuring Chautauqua's financial well-being without fundamentally changing why it's a place we all want to be.

MICHAEL MORLEY & ANITA LIN
2 SOUTH LAKE
TIM HOLLAND & TOM MCCRAY-WORRALL
14 CENTER

TRUSTEE / LEADERSHIP RESPONSE:

We appreciate the concern expressed in this letter and the commitment to Chautauqua that motivates it. We also thank *The Chautauquan Daily* for the opportunity to respond and continue the conversation together.

The letter raises specific concerns about potential cuts to Chautauqua's arts and education programs. We want to be clear: No such decisions have been made. Conversations about Chautauqua's future do include asking difficult questions, but those conversations should not be mistaken for decisions or a predetermined direction.

The Board of Trustees and our leadership team have a shared responsibility to regularly review our programs, finances, operations and priorities to ensure Chautauqua remains strong for future generations. This work of reflection and assessment is healthy and necessary.

Looking toward 2027 and beyond, we remain committed to transparency and ongoing conversation with our community. Costs outside our control — including insurance, health care and state-mandated wage increases — continue to rise, and we do not believe the answer is simply to pass the costs along through higher prices. At the same time, we are planning the 2027 budget before the full picture of our 2026 philanthropic support is known. These factors require us to look carefully at ways to reduce expenses. Ideas are still being developed and will be considered through the normal budgeting process.

Week Three of our 2027 season will explore trust — a subject particularly meaningful as we look ahead. Trust must be continually earned through transparency, open communication and listening. We appreciate your trust in us to share your views, and we will continue to share information as the budget develops.

We have great confidence in Chautauqua's mission, our leadership, our community and our incoming president. We ask you to stay in conversation with us as we work together to strengthen Chautauqua through responsible stewardship and the continued generosity of this community.

LAURIE BRANCH, CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES
KYLE KEOGH, INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CORRESPONDENCE FROM OUR READERS

TO THE EDITOR:

My family has been coming to Chautauqua for three decades. Several things are constant, including the community's passionate and unyielding belief in the place and space, as well as something that seems like a contradiction to this — a broadly held propensity to believe, "All the good times are come and gone," and for some to provide criticism without suggesting solutions to what are largely systemic issues.

Under the current leadership team, including Kyle Keogh, his senior leadership team and the board, I am more personally hopeful and optimistic than at any time in the past. Yes, we are still facing the headwinds of many external issues. I feel the tough choices and changes undertaken in the last few years have turned the tide. My wife and I have put our money where our mouths are, committing our biggest pledge in many years.

In addition to the overall shift in direction, I also want to applaud the entire team for presenting what I have experienced as the best year across the board in terms of programming in a decade or two.

I am sure, if asked, I could provide as long a list of things that bug me about Chautauqua as others. I'd rather focus on its unique qualities. There really is no place like home, and I'm extremely grateful for the hard work undertaken by a team that's often underappreciated and overworked.

SCOTT FINE
8 BLISS

TO THE EDITOR:

Sedentary behavior among youth is a real concern. We are happy to report on so many active, youth runners here at Chautauqua!

The Boys' and Girls' Club offers kids an opportunity to beat records set at the long-running Track and Field Day held in July, and the Sports Club has added even more opportunities for kids to run for fun in August. 2026 marked the 10th Annual Beach-to-Beach Color Sprint. Clad in white T-shirts, 112 participants gathered at the starting line near Children's Beach on Thursday. When the Bell Tower rang at 4:30 p.m., the group took off down South Lake Drive, where they were sprayed with water by a Chautauqua Fire Truck near the Sports Club and pelted with green, pink, purple, yellow, red and blue powdered paint along the route until the finish line at Heinz Beach. Kids were rewarded with a colorful Flavor Ice pop, a final paint throw photo opportunity and some even indulged in a quick dip in the lake.

The Color Sprint came on the heels of the 50th Old First Night Run/Walk held on Aug. 1 that featured four youth runs (diaper dash, toddler trot, 100-yard dash and 1-mile chip-timed run). 83 kids, ranging from 6 months to 16 years, took part. All ages enjoyed getting a coupon for an ice cream cone at the end! As fitness enthusiasts, we are happy to see so many active kids!

DEB & DANA LYONS
SPORTS CLUB DIRECTOR
OFN RACE DIRECTOR

TO THE EDITOR:

The 2026 Chautauqua Season has arguably been the best in recent years, full of wonder and outstanding lectures, concerts and theater. The Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra season has been one of variety and virtuosic performances, brought to life by Maestro Rossen Milanov and Principal Pops conductor Stuart Chafetz. Some highlights under Rossen's direction — Stravinsky's "Song of the Nightingale," Holst's *The Planets*, Orff's *Carmina Burana* and, most recently, Puts' "Concerto for Orchestra," and under Stuart's baton, Sutton Foster and Kelli O'Hara's unforgettable opening CSO concert and the 4th of July celebrating America's birthday, with many great moments to look forward to.

The CSO, often taken for granted by the Chautauqua community, has delivered stunning performances each time they take the stage. One marvels at how they can deliver such varied programming in such an intense summer schedule, often on only one rehearsal. Simply (or not so simply), the musicians that make up this world-class ensemble share a deep commitment to always bringing their A game to the Amphitheater stage. Though their performances seem short to the audience, the thousands of practice hours and dedication to their craft that have led them to play at such a high level should be celebrated by all who have come to refer to them as "Our orchestra!"

Bravo to all!

PETER COHEN
WAHMEDA

TO THE EDITOR:

We would like to give a BIG thank you to the Sports Club Director Debbie Lyons, Dana Lyons, their staff and all the community volunteers for organizing another fun, competitive and multi-generational Chautauqua tradition, the Old First Night Run/Walk. As I approached the finish line this year, my heart was full seeing so many people cheering on family, friends and strangers as they crossed the finish line. Debbie and Dana have done much in the past 10 years to grow the OFN Run from a one race (runners and walkers) morning into multiple spirited races, a toddler race, a 100-yard dash and a 1-mile fun run for children. Rumor has it that over 700 Chautauquans participated this year. Proceeds from this large community event all support Chautauqua! Since lifelong Chautauquan Debbie Lyons took over the reins of the Sports Club, she has grown this Chautauqua gem! Activities include shuffleboards, lawn bowling, ping pong, yard games, community softball leagues, kayaking, paddle boarding, pontoon boat rentals, fishing equipment rental, the OFN Run and the festive Children's Color Sprint. Last but not least, the Sports Club provides game space for active mah-jongg and bridge players. Thank you, Debbie, for your never-ending enthusiasm for recreation here at Chautauqua.

LAURA RICE DAWSON
COOKMAN AVENUE
KATIE JUBELL PROEHL
MORRIS AVENUE

TO THE EDITOR:

There is a road safety problem at Chautauqua to which there may be a simple solution. The problem is pedestrians, bicycles, vehicles and other forms of transportation on the busiest of our Chautauqua streets, which at certain times and locations can be very dangerous. Something happens to Chautauquans when they arrive on the grounds. They seem to throw caution to the wind and believe that they are in the safe and happy place where normal rules no longer apply. They become oblivious to road safety, common courtesies and the rules of the road, etc. It is my guess that, at times, as many as 50% of Chautauquans walk, talk, ride, etc., on the wrong side of or in the middle of the road on a regular basis.

This is particularly dangerous at certain times during the day and on certain roads within the Institution. The times are between 8:45 and 9:15 a.m., after the Amphitheater lecture until about 12:30 p.m., 1:45 to 2:15 p.m., at 4 p.m. and finally, just before the evening entertainment. The most dangerous roads are Wythe, Palestine, Pratt and Lake Drive — although there are certainly others as well.

Many children on bikes do not understand that bikes should be operated on the right side of the road, and they are the most dangerous of our road travelers. However, our pedestrians are also generally oblivious to walking on the right side of the road. I would like to suggest a rather simple solution, which will not solve the problem, but can dramatically improve it. Too many accidents occur and there is a real potential for serious accidents in the future. The suggestion is to strategically and attractively place signs at certain intersections on the roads referenced above with an appropriate message. That message might be as simple as:

Please
Walk, Talk, Ride and
Drive on the Right Side
of the Road

If this plan is adopted by the Institution, children at the Boys' and Girls' Club could be instructed each Monday morning about the rules of the road. They would learn community responsibility as well as good citizenship. *The Chautauquan Daily* could promote the safe movement of road travelers as a community responsibility.

This is a community problem with a simple community solution.

Respectfully,

TONY MUIR
27 LONGFELLOW

TO THE EDITOR:

We have attended many of the events sponsored by "Chautauquans Seeking Healing for Palestine and Israel." These have been very well attended and have been conducted in a spirit of kindness and respect.

We are thankful for the leadership of this organization for taking on a discussion that elicits strong emotions across our communities.

Let's hope that many such dialogues will garner greater understanding of all perspectives and a commitment to peace. Let's think of the children and grandchildren of Palestinians and Israelis who deserve a peaceful future.

TERRIE TUCKER
STEPHEN STILL
8 HURST

THE CHAUTAUQUAN DAILY

LETTERS POLICY

The Chautauquan Daily welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be submitted electronically, no more than 350 words and are subject to editing. Letters must include the writer's signature including name, address and telephone number for verification. The *Daily* does not publish anonymous letters. Works containing demeaning, accusatory or libelous statements will not be published.

Submit letters to:

Dave Munch,
Interim Managing Editor

dmunch@chq.org

High Tea

In the Athenaeum Hotel Parlor at 3:30 pm

A program of poetry and music presented by Kaye Lindauer with Arlene Hajinlian, Pianist, and other guests

Week 8 – Wednesday, August 19

The Emily Dickinson Tea

Tickets may be purchased by calling the Athenaeum Hotel front desk at (716) 357-4444 in advance or in person at Hotel front desk.

ENVIRONMENT

BTG leads ‘bioblitz’ logging Chautauqua’s natural environment

JENNA OUTCALT
STAFF WRITER

Ever since Lynda Acker was a child, she knew exactly what she wanted to do in life.

“I’m the only person I’ve ever met who declared her major at age 5 and stuck with it,” she said. “I wanted to be a biologist.”

Through a career spanning biology, pharmaceuticals and academia, Acker said her first love has always been nature. Now, she’s still finding ways to interact with nature — this time, by logging her surroundings on the app iNaturalist, contributing to a database of nature at Chautauqua Institution.

The Bird, Tree & Garden Club is leading a “bioblitz” through the end of August in which Chautauquans are encouraged to log organisms they see around the grounds in iNaturalist, which will log and help identify different species.

iNaturalist is a community science app that allows users to upload pictures of organisms. The app attempts to identify the organism and tells the user how confident it is in the identification. Then, the picture is logged for the community to review and, if necessary, help identify. The information can be used by scientists, conservation groups or curious Chautauquans who want to learn more about the area.

Chautauquans have logged more than 150 observations since the beginning of August. Acker said she has logged more than 20 organisms in the app so far and is learning more about her surroundings.

“Some of the organisms that I was looking at were invasive — plants, primarily, and those were located down near the ravine,” she said.

Acker said she enjoys sharing the bioblitz with her fellow Chautauquans. She said they seem intrigued, and she hopes it leads them to “appreciate the diversity that we’ve got here in animal and

“

Often we go through our lives not looking down, and we don’t fully appreciate what’s living all around us ...”

— LYNDA ACKER
Former Board Member,
Bird, Tree & Garden Club

plant life and fungal life.”

“People just really perk up, because everybody wants to know more about their surroundings, and to have something that works as well as iNaturalist does and gives good information almost immediately, it’s an instant gratification kind of thing,” Acker said.

Acker said she would love to see the bioblitz continue in the coming seasons, even expanding to the whole summer. She said that once people are familiar with their environment, it becomes second nature to care about it.

“Often we go through our lives not looking down, and we don’t fully appreciate what’s living all around us, but once we start to learn about life cycles, we start to learn about the differences among organisms and how they’re adapted and co-evolved with other creatures in a given environment, the whole thing becomes so fascinating,” Acker said. “You see the interdependence of that web.”

Acker explained that understanding how organisms affect one another can shed light on the potential consequences of environmental actions, such as selectively exterminating species.

“There are some [species] that we don’t particularly like to have around, but there’s a really great argument for not going out and selectively killing something, because chances are, you’ll be affecting a lot more than that or-



GABRIEL MILBY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Above, Chautauquans gather as Chris Malanga takes a photo of fungi to log on the iNaturalist app during the Bird, Tree & Garden Club’s Mushroom Walk Aug. 4. At right, mushroom enthusiast Sigrid Jakob examines a mushroom while leading the walk.

ganism in a very detrimental way,” she said.

Acker said humans are as much a part of the ecosystem as other organisms.

“I think it’s so easy, especially now in today’s climate, to disrespect nature, to say, ‘Oh it’s just a worm, it’s just a tree, it’s just another flower,’” she said. “But we are so interwoven in that web as a species that they’re critical to our survival just like we are to theirs.”

Acker said the love of the environment “gets into your soul as a Chautauquan.” As a biologist, she said she notices all kinds of interesting organisms in

the South End Ravine.

“I’ve taken my kids there,” Acker said. “They both went through [Boys’ and Girls’ Club], and one of our things we love to do as a family is go to the ravine and look for crayfish under rocks.”

Acker, who also designs gardens and organizes a monarch festival every fall, emphasized the importance of teaching children about the environment.

“They’re the ones who are going to make a difference later on. They are voters of the future,” she said. “They are people who are going to be able to take care of the planet.”



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I'd be happy with this summer if it's all we ever had." — Maggie Stiefvater

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Free Talk by the Christian Science House

The Science of God and its Power to Heal Us

This talk will focus on universal healing rules and laws found in the Holy Bible, especially in Christ Jesus’ life and teachings, showing how they are available for anyone to understand and experience through the lens of Christian Science.

After experiencing a seemingly miraculous healing herself, Nikki began to question her assumptions about God. “Was it just an inexplicable anomaly that had no scientific explanation?” She asks, “Or is there a science that can explain this kind of healing? Is there a science that enables us to understand and experience God?” O’Hagan will explain why Christian Science is both Christian and scientific, meaning that people can prove its effectiveness for themselves.

Sunday, August 16 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Christian Science Chapel, 12 Center Ave

Nikki O’Hagan, CS

Christian Science practitioner, County Kildare, Ireland

Member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship

716.357.2334

www.ChristianScienceChautauqua.com

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AACLSC Book Discussion

CHAUTAUQUA PRIZE WINNER:

FLASHLIGHT

SUSAN CHOI

Flashlight by Susan Choi

Presented by: Stephine Hunt, Michael I. Rudell

Director of Literary Arts

8/20 12:15

Alumni Hall

Alumni Association

A Community of Readers

EVENTIDE

August 19

Restoring the Historic Tile Mosaics

Presented by Karen Paul

6:30 - Hall of Philosophy

Light refreshments

Donations appreciated

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11:30 AM 8/22

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Cannes Film Festival
May 17–23, 2027

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Aug. 28–Sept. 2, 2027

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Oct. 22–28, 2027

London Theater: Page to Stage
Oct. 25–30, 2027

Learn more and register:
travel.chq.org

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Chautauqua
Sunday Service
9:30 AM - Hall of Philosophy
Guest Minister:
Reverend Dr. Lee Barker
President Emeritus Meadville Lombard Theological School
“Making Up With Life”
Guest Soloist: James Pearson – Cello

This Week at the UU House

Monday – 9:15 – Minister’s Talk Back
Monday – 3:30 – Seminar on Humanism
Tuesday – 3:15 – Hospitality Hour
Friday – 3:30 – Chautauqua Dialogues

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CINEMA
--- Saturday, Aug. 15 ---

THE SHEEP DETECTIVES - 5:20 George (Hugh Jackman) is a shepherd who reads detective novels to his beloved sheep every night, assuming they can't possibly understand. But when a mysterious incident disrupts life on the farm, the sheep realize they must become the detectives. (PG, 109m)

THE INVITE. - 8:30 Joe (Seth Rogen) and Angela (Olivia Wilde)'s marriage is on thin ice. When they invite their enigmatic upstairs neighbors for a dinner party, the night spirals into unexpected places. "As the visiting neighbors, **Penélope Cruz** and **Edward Norton** couldn't be better." -*Mick LaSalle, San Francisco Chronicle* (R, 107m)

--- Sunday, Aug. 16 ---

THE SHEEP DET. - 3:30
THE INVITE. - 6:45
CHEF - 9:30 Chautauqua Food Festival Special Event! Free Admission! Chef Carl Casper played by director **Jon Favreau**, joins forces with his ex-wife (**Sofia Vergara**), best friend (**John Leguizamo**) and son (**Emjay Anthony**) to launch a food-truck business. (R, 115m)

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OHIO UNIVERSITY ALUMNI, FRIENDS AND FAMILY
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Ohio University plans to be on-the-grounds on Wednesday, August 19, 2026, with an afternoon program beginning at 3:30 p.m. and hosted at the Chautauqua Women's Club, featuring guest speakers and reception fare.



For more information or to register now, please scan the QR Code or contact Jacquelin Weber at weberj2@ohio.edu or at 740-597-3347.



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Week 8: August 15-August 22

Psychological Perspectives on Envy

Envy is a painful emotion (often unconscious) when another has something that is deemed desirable but unattainable. Unfavorable comparisons often lead to angry responses. Studying envy through the lens of Jungian psychology results in a broader understanding of the human psyche and allows one to become savvier in navigating social landscapes. Historical and philosophical perspectives reviewed. Poetry, art and excerpts from several films included

REGISTRATION: 1) Online: tickets.chq.org. 2) In person: Main Gate Welcome Center, Visitor's Center beside the Post Office; or 3) Call 716-357-6250.

DAILY PARTICIPANTS WELCOME



Chautauqua School of Dance Festival Division dancers perform an excerpt from “La Sylphide” during Student Gala II Wednesday in the Amphitheater.

ONE FINAL FLOURISH

Chautauqua School of Dance concludes season with Student Gala II performance

PHOTOS BY SKYLAR SEAVEY



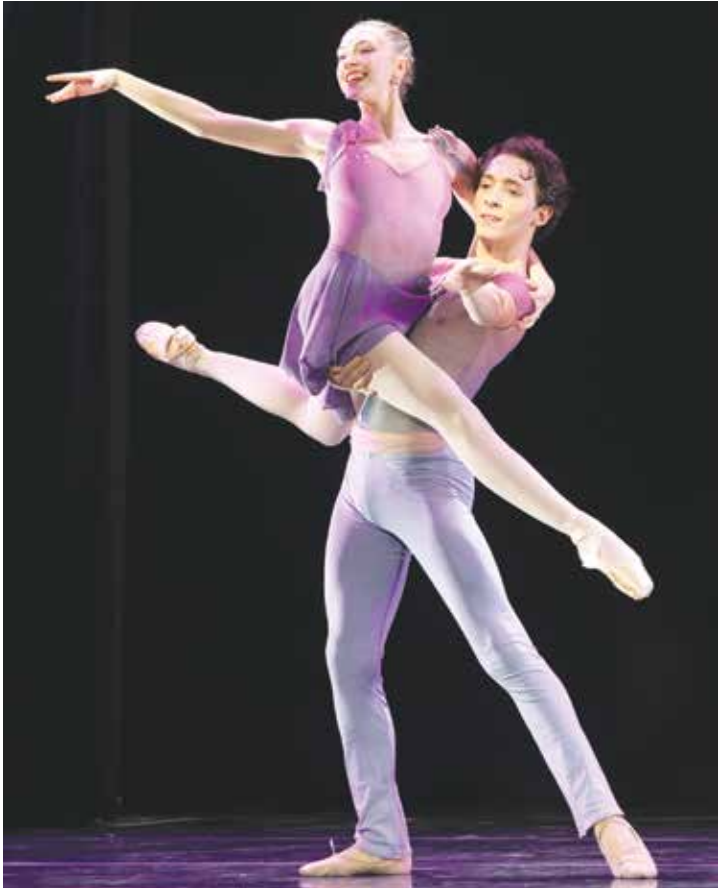
Members of Chautauqua School of Dance perform “Orange” in the piece “Excerpts from ‘ONE.’”



Kate Deshler and Ellis Wolf Annunziata perform in George Balanchine’s “Raymonda Variations.”



Dancers perform “Dreamscape,” choreographed by Kara Wilkes.



Arnon Gafni-Kane and Isabella Davis perform “Excerpts from ‘Four Seasons’: Spring,” choreographed by Sasha Janes.



Dancers perform “Money Money” from *Cabaret*, choreographed by Michael P. Deeb.



Dancers perform George Balanchine’s “Raymonda Variations.”

COMMUNITY

A way to ‘share with people,’ artist Engstrom holds photo contest

PHOTOS & WORDS BY GABRIEL MILBY

Kirsten Engstrom, the 82-year-old artist who created the “United We Stand” statues in front of Chautauqua Institution’s Baptist House, is hosting a photo contest titled the “Ya Ya” statue photography contest.

Contest participants can email up to six photos of Engstrom’s statues to laughingea-gle@windstream.net by Saturday.

Gretchen Gaede and Ruth Ann Raines of Gretchen’s Gallery will judge the contest and decide the best photo based on composition, use of light and creativity; the winner will be chosen and announced Wednesday. Thursday, Engstrom will hold a reception at her home, where the winner will be awarded one of the sculptures to keep.

Through this contest, Engstrom hopes to give her art to someone who may not be able to afford it.

Engstrom has a long connection to Chautauqua, dating back to before she was born. Her parents met at Chautauqua and later married. After living in Europe for 20 years, she eventually moved back to the Chautauqua area, and she later moved into her forever home, the “White Chapel” in Mayville, New York. When she walked into the empty church, Engstrom recalled saying, “This is my permanent space. I want to live here.”

Engstrom makes statues to connect with people. “Children talk to them and hug them, and old people sit next to them to have someone to talk to,” she said.

Engstrom said the sculptures are a vessel for connection-making and relationship-seeking.

“My sculptures bring people to me, and they share their stories,” she said.

Ultimately, she explained, her art serves as a way to “share with people,” and in return, they share with her.

Engstrom said the artistic process is a reciprocal, back-and-forth dialogue between the artist and artwork. She said she only finishes a statue when it speaks back to her, and she hopes they will speak to anyone who comes across them.



At top, artist Kirsten Engstrom stands next to her sculptures, “Aamenah,” meaning Lady of Peace and Harmony, and “Mirembe,” meaning peace, Aug. 4 outside the Baptist House. Above, contestant Frank Burdette photographs Engstrom’s statue “Fernanda,” which means Ardent for Peace. The image was taken for the “Ya Ya” statue photography contest, which offers a prize package worth up to \$300. At right, a robin lands on Engstrom’s “Bah Hoa Binh,” meaning Esteemed Woman of Peace.



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Presents

Ivan Pongracic

Week 9 – Monday, August 24th – 3 PM

Ivan Pongracic, Jr. is the William E. Hibbs/Ludwig von Mises Professor of Economics at Hillsdale College, where he has been teaching since 2000. He came to truly appreciate the importance of free markets to human liberty and prosperity because of growing up in communist Yugoslavia. He was involved with various classical liberal and conservative institutions, such as the Foundation for Economic Education, the Independent Institute and the Cato Institute among others. His book “*Employees and Entrepreneurship*” came out in 2009. The topic of his lecture is “A Century of Socialist Failures.”

Peter Schweizer

Week 1 – Monday, June 29th – 3 PM

Peter Schweizer is the president of the Government Accountability Institute and the author of four #1 *New York Times* bestsellers including “*Invisible Coup: How American Elites and Foreign Powers Use Immigration as a Weapon*.” Topic: “Weaponized Immigration: The Problem No One is Talking About.”

Naomi Schaefer Riley

Week 2 – Monday, July 6th – 3 PM

Naomi Schaefer Riley is an American conservative commentator and author. She is a Senior Fellow of American Enterprise Institute. Her writings have appeared in *NYT*, *LA Times*, the *New York Post* and *Washington Post*. For the *WSJ* writing on religion, higher education, and philanthropy. Her topic is: “The Underparented and Overprinted: Understanding the Real Divide Among America’s Families.”

Jonathan Turley

Week 3 – Monday, July 13th – 3 PM

George Washington University Law School professor, legal scholar, attorney, writer, commentator and legal analyst on national TV broadcasts and in print. Simon & Schuster selected his February 2026 book “*Rage and the Republic*” as their only 250th Anniversary release. The topic of his lecture is “Rage and the Republic: The Past and Future of the American Republic.”



Week 8 – Monday, August 17th, 3 PM
(Athenaeum Parlor)

Bryan Austin as Ben Franklin

Bryan Austin is an actor and historian known for bringing historical figures to life, particularly as Benjamin Franklin in his podcast “*Let’s Be Frank*”, where he uses primary sources to humorously explore Franklin’s life and times. He’s also known for portraying James Madison in Colonial Williamsburg and is a storyteller who aims to connect people with history through authentic, first-person accounts.

Allen West

Week 4 – Monday, July 20th – 3 PM

Allen B. West is a Christian constitutional conservative, combat veteran, and former member of the US Congress. His life has been defined as one of service, sacrifice, and commitment to the United States of America. He believes it will be conservative, free market policies, not politics that secures a sound economic future for Americans.

Paul Kengor

Week 5 – Monday, July 27th – 3 PM

Paul G. Kengor is an American author and professor of political science at Grove City College and the senior director of the Institute for Faith and Freedom, a Grove City College think tank. He is a visiting fellow at Stanford University’s Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace. Kengor has focused much of his work on Ronald Reagan, faith and the presidency, conservative politics, the Cold War, Communism, and Catholicism. The topic of his lecture is “The Popes and the President”

Salena Zito

Week 6 – Monday, August 3rd – 3 PM

Salena Zito is a veteran political reporter with more than twenty years of award-winning experience in print and broadcast journalism. She has been a columnist for the *New York Post* and has contributed to *The Atlantic*, the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Pittsburgh Post Gazette*. Well known as one who listens to the stories of everyday Americans in places far outside the bubbles of Manhattan and the Beltway. Her book “*Butler*” debuted last July as the #1 *New York Times* best seller. Her Topic is “The Importance of Place in American Politics.”

Josh Kraushaar

Week 7 – Monday, August 10th – 3 PM

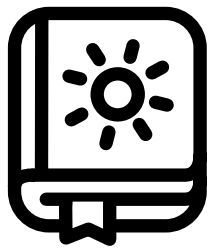
Josh Kraushaar is a Washington political analyst with a track record of knowing election trends before they become conventional wisdom. Author of *Axis* weekly *Sunday Sneak Preview* newsletter. A political analyst for FoxNews, Josh is also the editor-in-chief of the *Jewish Insider*.

Visit our website: www.abcatchq.com – Doors open at 2:30 pm



RELIGION

‘You are God’s beloved,’ preaches the Rev. Wilson-Black



MORNING WORSHIP

COLUMN BY MARY LEE TALBOT

The Rev. Julie Wilson-Black studied preaching with the Rev. Frank A. Thomas, Ph.D. “He told us that whatever we had to say in our sermon could be said in 10 minutes. Bishop Sutton must believe that what I have to say today is so important it can be said in five minutes,” Wilson-Black said.

Wilson-Black delivered the homily at the 9:15 a.m. Friday ecumenical communion service in the Hall of Philosophy. The Scripture reading was Mark 1:1-12.

She cited author C. S. Lewis, who wrote, “The process of living seems to consist of coming to realize truths so ancient and simple that, if stated, they sound like barren platitudes. They cannot sound otherwise to those who have not had the relevant experience; that is why there is no teaching of such truths possible, and every generation starts from scratch.”

Wilson-Black said, “To call someone a child of God sounds like a platitude. We know it up here (pointing to her head) and with luck, we know it here (pointing to her heart). But until we have had the relevant experience of being beloved, it remains a platitude.”

She asked the congregation to turn to a neighbor and tell the neighbor, “You are God’s beloved.” She said, “That is easier to say than ‘I am God’s beloved.’ But Jesus had to know that (he was God’s beloved) by experience, so it was not a platitude.”

Jesus had come to the Jordan River to be baptized by his cousin John. “For all his life, he heard things like ‘you are just a Judean hillbilly,’ from the Roman soldiers, or ‘you are just a carpenter,’ from the educated people in his town or ‘you are just Mary’s boy,’ from the local rabbis,” Wilson-Black said.



SAM HUFFMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rev. Julie Wilson-Black and the Rev. Rachel Stuart serve communion to Chautauquans Thursday in the Hall of Philosophy.

But when the skies opened, Jesus heard a voice that said, “You are my beloved son.”

Wilson-Black continued, “Jesus had the experience of the truth of his belovedness. He would repeat it to himself in his 40 days in the wilderness and for the rest of his life. When people asked, ‘can anything good come out of Nazareth?’ or ‘by what authority do you do this?’ or ‘why did you waste that ointment?’ he would remember, ‘you are my beloved.’”

That promise was and is unshakable. Wilson-Black told the congregation, “When people say ‘you don’t measure up,’ or ‘what you do doesn’t matter,’ or ‘who do you think you are?’ remember ‘I am God’s beloved.’ God will tear open the heavens to give you the relevant experience of being beloved. Then you can join Jesus in the world-changing work he is doing. That is where we begin.”

The Rev. Rachel Stuart, pastor of Hurlbut Memorial Community United Methodist Church and an associate in the Department of Religion, presided. The Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton, senior pastor for Chautauqua, celebrated communion. The Scripture reader was the Rev. Brian

Frederick-Gray, chaplain at the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) house. Andrea Foertsch, host of the Christian Science House, led the morning prayers. The prelude was “Metamorphosis” by Philip Glass, played by Interim Director for Sacred Music Sonya Subbayya Sutton on the Steinway piano. Movements of the Trio Sonata in E Minor by G.F. Telemann for oboe, violin and piano with musicians Rebecca Scarnati, Maura Giannini and Willie LaFavor was played during the service and as the postlude. The Motet Choir, under the direction of Owen Reyda, organ scholar and accompanied by Sutton, sang settings of “Gift of Finest Wheat” and “Taste and See,” and led the congregation in songs from around the world. Chaplains from the denominational houses who served communion included the Rev. Steve Schaik, Presbyterian House chaplain and the former 19th Air Force Chief of Chaplains; the Rev. Mark Hurst, ordained elder in the United Methodist Church; Wilson-Black, pastor of Fairlington Presbyterian Church; and the Rev. Ken Hughes, interim pastor at Orchard Park Presbyterian Church. Each chaplain was assisted by a member of the congregation. Support for this week’s services and preaching was provided by The Rev. Leonard J. Ebel Chaplaincy.

Sacred Song to feature “Birds, Trees and Gardens,” BTG members

MARY LEE TALBOT
STAFF WRITER

When Lewis Miller and John Heyl Vincent decided to bring their Sunday School Assembly to a wooded place beside a lake, they fed the passion of Chautauquans to revel in the trees, birds and eventually gardens for the “school in the woods.” The Bird and Tree Club (1913-1944), Bird and Tree Garden Club (1944-

1962) and The Bird, Tree & Garden Club (1962-present) had led the way in educating about and beautifying the Chautauqua grounds.

The Sacred Song Service at 8 p.m. Sunday in the Amphitheater is based on the theme “Birds, Trees and Gardens,” developed by Sonya Subbayya Sutton, interim director of Sacred Music. Ellie Nickeson and Susy Warren, mem-

bers of the BTG, will serve as readers.

Sutton has chosen readings from a variety of sources that include a story about St. Francis speaking to birds, a story from the Babylonian Talmud, Ta’anit 23a, a story traditionally told on Tu B’Shevat, the Jewish New Year of Trees, a poem by Robert Frost about the noise of trees and “The Gardener 85,” by Rabin-

dranath Tagore, translated from the original Bengali by the author.

The Chautauqua Choir will perform several anthems, including “Christ Hath a Garden,” with music by Gerald Near and text by Robert Bridges, and “The Blue Bird,” with music by Charles Villiers Stanford, with a text by Mary Elizabeth Coleridge. The Rev. Rachel Erin Stuart will

serve as soloist. Another anthem will be “Rise, my love, my fair one,” with music by Healey Willan and text from the Song of Songs 2:10-12.

The prelude will be “Chautauqua Soliloquy,” by Dan Locklair with Reva Youngstein, flutist. The piece was commissioned by David Levy for his wife, Kathy, incorporating the hymn tune “Chautauqua” by

William Fisk Sherwin. The postlude will be “Largo,” from George Frederick Handel’s opera Xerxes.

The Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton, senior pastor for Chautauqua, will preside. Sonya Subbayya Sutton, interim director of Sacred Music, will conduct the Chautauqua Choir. Owen Reyda, organ scholar, will provide accompaniment on the Massey Memorial Organ.

O’Hagan to present on healing rules and laws for Christian Science Group

Nikki O’Hagan, a practitioner of Christian Science healing and international speaker, will present her talk, “The Science of God and its power to heal us,” at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Christian Science Chapel.

The talk will focus on universal healing rules and laws found in the Holy Bible, especially in Christ Jesus’ life and teachings, showing how they are available for anyone to understand and experience through the lens of Christian Science. The talk is free, open to the community and hosted by the Christian Science Informal Group at Chautau-

qua and the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Jamestown, New York.

After experiencing a seemingly miraculous healing herself, O’Hagan began to question her assumptions about God. “Was it just an inexplicable anomaly that had no scientific explanation?” she asked, “Or is there a science that can explain this kind of healing? Is there a science that enables us to understand and experience God?”

Sharing examples of healing from her own life and professional practice of Christian Science, O’Hagan will explain why

Christian Science is both Christian and scientific, meaning that people can prove its effectiveness for themselves, as fully described in the book *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, written by the founder of the Christian Science movement, Mary Baker Eddy.

O’Hagan will also touch on the life of Eddy, who came to understand, confirm and teach what she felt was original Christian healing. Eddy herself said she was especially inspired by Jesus’ demand, found in the Gospel of John 14:12 in the Bible: “He that believes

in me, the works that I do will he do also; and greater works than these will he do, because I go unto my Father.”

For more than 150 years, people around the world have worked to follow Christ

Jesus in this practice of Christianity and continue to do so today, experiencing healings of physical ills and personal difficulties.

O’Hagan has been a Christian Science practitioner for many years, helping people

daily through this scientific approach to prayer. She travels from her home base in Naas, County Kildare, Ireland, to speak to audiences around the world as a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship.

Donate to the \$3 Million Endowment Fund

In 2024, the Chautauqua Opera Guild began a campaign to raise a \$3 million Endowment Fund. This fund objective is to ensure the continuation of staged performances of opera each season. Next season, opera returns to Norton Hall. To date, the Guild has raised \$1.6 million. Please visit chq.org/opera-guild or use the QR code below to learn more about this giving opportunity. Also, donations can be sent to Chautauqua Opera Guild, P.O. Box 61, Chautauqua, New York 14722



Join the Chautauqua Opera Guild

In 2023, the Chautauqua Opera Guild’s mission changed from being a support and advocacy group to being the major fundraiser for Chautauqua Opera.

As a donor of the Opera Guild, you will:

- Provide critical funding for future staged productions and opera budgets
- Be part of the vibrant opera community at Chautauqua
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Please visit chq.org/opera-guild or use the QR code below to learn more about this giving opportunity. Membership and donations can be sent to Chautauqua Opera Guild, P.O. Box 61, Chautauqua, New York 14722



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RELIGION



INTERFAITH NEWS

COMPILED BY STAFF

Baptist House

The Rev. Sally Evans will preach at the 9:30 a.m. worship service at the Baptist House (35 Clark). Her sermon based on Genesis 45:1-15 is titled “The Divine Pattern Of ‘Yes, And.’” Evans is a minister, audio artist and program designer who grew up in the woods of New York state. She worked as a campus prevention educator before starting her own voice-over business and working in public radio. Evolving faith and connecting others to a meaningful mission has been a throughline for Evans, and she is now ordained through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Sally lives with her family in Louisville, Kentucky, where she is the program & engagement manager at the Center for Interfaith Relations and attends Highland Baptist Church.

Blessing and Healing Service

The service of Blessing and Healing, sponsored by the Department of Religion, takes place from 10:15 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. weekdays in the UCC Randell Chapel Headquarters located on Odland Plaza.

Catholic House

The Rev. John Rose, retreat director and retired priest of the Syracuse Diocese, New York, is our chaplain. Our host couple are Deacon Paul and Gina Kudrav, Harrisonburg, Virginia. Join us for Saturday Mass at 5 p.m. in the Hall of Philosophy and Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m. in Hurlbut Church. Our Masses are at 8:15 a.m. Monday–Friday in Hurlbut Church. Our front porch welcomes all.

Chabad Jewish House

Chabad hosts a traditional Shabbat morning service from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at Zigdon Chabad Jewish House (23 Vincent on the Brick Walk), followed by Lunch ‘n’ Learn: Ethics of Our Fathers at 12:15 p.m. Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin teaches “The Guide for the Perplexed,” a Jewish Discussions Group class on one of Maimonides’ major works and his philosophical views, from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Monday at Zigdon Chabad Jewish House. Chabad will host a “Matzah Ball Contest” as part of the Chautauqua Food Festival at 12:45 p.m. Tuesday in Bestor Plaza! Chabad’s kosher food tent/trailer will be part of the Chautauqua Food Festival as follows:
11:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday in Bestor Plaza
4:30–8 p.m. Tuesday in Bestor Plaza
For other times or for dinner service and specialized dining needs, individuals are encouraged to pre-order from a full lunch and dinner menu at cocweb.org.

Chautauqua Mystic Heart Meditation Program

Larry Terkel will lead Judaism/Kabbalah Meditation sessions from 7:45 to 8:30 a.m. Monday through Friday in the lower-level chapel of the Presbyterian House.

Chautauqua Prays for Peace Through Compassion

Chautauqua Prays for Peace Through Compassion is a communal gathering that

takes place from 8:55 a.m. to 9 a.m. weekdays around the Peace Pole in the Hall of Missions Grove. The all-faith prayer is led by a different denomination each week, and prayer handouts are distributed daily. All are welcome.

Christian Science House

“Soul” is the subject of this week’s 9:30 a.m. Sunday service in the Christian Science Chapel (12 Center). Our Study Room is open 24/7 for reflection and prayer. Starting Monday, the Bible lesson “Mind” may be read along with church-based resources on the computer and copies of Christian Science periodicals, including *The Christian Science Monitor*.
At 2 p.m. Sunday, Nikki O’Hagen, a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship, will present “The Science of God and its power to heal us” in the chapel.

Disciples of Christ

A communion service with homily will be held at 9:30 a.m. Sunday at the Disciples of Christ House (32 Clark on the Brick Walk). Our chaplain of the week is the Rev. Tim Bobbitt. This week’s homily is titled “Enough.” All are welcome.

Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua

The Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua presents “The Lost Art of Sentimental Hairwork” at 12:15 p.m. Monday in UCC Randell Chapel. Artist Susan Doran will explore the history and significance of Victorian hairwork and explain how these intricate pieces were created from human hair. Popular during the Victorian era, hair art commemorated loved ones and celebrated friendship, family and affection. Doran’s presentation will include historical examples and examples of her own contemporary work inspired by this unique tradition. Doran is an artist based in Angelica, New York, and a 2024 recipient of the Rural and Traditional Arts Fellowship. She has also been a Special Studies presenter at Chautauqua Institution for the past eight years.

Episcopal Cottage

A Bible study, led by the Episcopal chaplain of the week, will take place from 8:30 to 9 a.m. each Wednesday at the Episcopal Cottage. All are welcome.

Everett Jewish Life Center

The Jewish Film Series will screen the documentary “The Magic Lantern” at 3:30 p.m. Sunday at the EJLCC (36 Massey). The film begins with a letter received 30 years ago, revealing details about a family’s rescue by the Dutch underground during the Holocaust, sparking an emotional journey for filmmaker Eli Brown and his mother Marjike as they piece together a previously unknown history. The film runs 77 minutes. Filmmaker Eli Brown will be present at both screenings to answer questions. A second screening takes place at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday.
David Bryfman will talk about reimagining Jewish education at 12:30 p.m. Monday in the EJLCC. In his talk, “From Surviving to Thriving,”

Bryfman argues that Jewish education can no longer rely on fear, guilt or obligation to remain relevant and offers a bold, value-driven vision that inspires meaning, belonging and deep personal significance.

Bryfman continues at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday with a lunch talk titled “Recharging Israel Education: Courage, Clarity and Commitment in a Post-October 7 World,” offering a hopeful vision for engaging young people with honesty and pride in a time of rising pressure and confusion. Bryfman is CEO of The Jewish Education Project and founder of the annual Jewish Futures conference.
Week Eight programming is generously sponsored by Sandra and Burt Zucker.

Hebrew Congregation

From 9:30 to 11:45 a.m. Saturday, the Hebrew Congregation will celebrate its annual Music Shabbat in the Hurlbut Church Sanctuary. The service will be led by Rabbi Elle Muhlbaum, who serves as a member of the inaugural clergy team of Congregation Mishkan Or in Beachwood, Ohio, and Cantor Vladimir Lapin, the inaugural holder of the Cantor Sarah J. Sager Chair in Cantorial Music at Congregation Mishkan Or. They will be joined by the Motet Choir under the direction of Sonya Subbayya Sutton, featuring a beautiful blend of classical liturgical music and contemporary, singable prayers. A Kiddush luncheon will follow the service. Please note: There will be no Torah study this week.

Humanist Community at Chautauqua

The Humanism Seminar will hold its sixth Conversation Beyond Belief, an interfaith dialogue exploring the deeper dimensions of spiritual traditions. Moving beyond doctrine and dogma, participants will engage questions of meaning, consciousness, compassion and shared humanity. This week’s guest will be Sean Hawkins, director of the African American Heritage House. The topic will be “Fellowship.” The program will take place at 3:30 p.m. Monday in the Unitarian Universalist House (6 Bliss).

Hurlbut Memorial Community Church

A service of meditation, scripture, prayer, songs and Communion is held from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m. Sunday at Hurlbut Church.

Hurlbut Church Meal Ministry

Hurlbut Church will serve lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. in Truesdale Hall, Monday through Friday. Turkey Dinner will be held from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Thursdays in Truesdale Hall. Cash and card accepted; proceeds go toward our local and global ministry partners, including

the United Methodist Committee on Relief. See our website for menu options.

Labyrinth

The Labyrinth is available throughout the week to all Chautauquans and friends. Enter through Turner Community Center or the Turner Gate. The Labyrinth is on the right under the trees. Remember your gate pass.

Lutheran House

The Rev. Chris Hanley of Glenwood Lutheran Church in Toledo, Ohio, presides at a service of Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m. Sunday at the Lutheran House. Communion will be served. Ruth Tesch of Ridgewood, New Jersey, will provide piano accompaniment. The Lutheran House is located on the Brick Walk at the corner of Peck Avenue, near the Hall of Philosophy.

Presbyterian House

The Rev. Melissa (Lissa) Long, General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia in Norfolk, Virginia, presides at the 9:30 a.m. Sunday service in the Presbyterian House Chapel. Her sermon, “Maybe We Need a Time-out,” is based on Isaiah 58:1-12. Lynn Silver provides music for the service. Long, a published author, has previously served churches in York, Mount Pleasant and Charleston, South Carolina. She earned degrees from Presbyterian College (BA), Erskine Theological Seminary (M.Div.) and Union Presbyterian Seminary (D.Min.).

Presbyterian House invites all Chautauquans for coffee on the porch following the weekday morning worship service and preceding the 10:45 a.m. lecture. Coffee, tea, hot chocolate and lemonade are available. The house porch overlooking the Amphitheater provides a good place to find old friends and make new ones.

Quaker House

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) meets for worship at 9:30 am Sunday at the Quaker House (28 Ames).
The Quaker House invites all Chautauquans to Church of the Wild, an outdoor worship experience celebrating ecospirituality at 4 p.m. Sunday at the Burgeson Nature Classroom.
All are invited to join artist Kriss Miller, Friend in Residence (Host) for Creating in Community: Artmaking for All Ages, at 4 p.m. Monday at the Quaker House.

Unitarian Universalist

“Making Up With Life” is the sermon title to be delivered by our Week Eight guest minister, the Rev. Lee Barker, at

9:30 a.m. Sunday in the Hall of Philosophy. Barker served as the president of Meadville Lombard Theological School from 2003 to 2019. During his tenure, transformation was so groundbreaking and successful that Meadville Lombard became known as a leader for innovation among theological schools throughout North America. After his retirement, the school established the Dr. Lee Barker Professorship of Leadership Studies in his honor.

The music soloist at our Sunday service this week is cellist James Pearson. Pearson plays regularly with the Warren Philharmonic, and occasionally with the Erie Philharmonic, but his favorite genre is chamber music. In recent years, he has presented recitals of solo cello, violin and cello duo, piano trio and cello and organ.

Join Barker for discussion and reflection on his sermon, “Making Up With Life,” and issues of the times at 9:15 a.m. Monday on the front porch of the UU House (6 Bliss).

Tuesday, all are invited to join us for our “UU Tea” for beverages, a delicious array of snacks and, of course, fellowship. We gather at 3:15 p.m. on our beautiful back patio at the UU House. Barker will be in attendance to engage in conversation.
This week’s Cultural Ethics Series will take place at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Hall of Philosophy. Our guest speaker this week will be Roger Doebke. Doebke returns to Chautauqua, where he served 10 years as president of the UU Fellowship and co-founder of the Chautauqua Dialogues. Roger holds an M.A. in Religion from Meadville Lombard Theological School. His talk will be, “Certainty Is Not A Virtue.”

United Church of Christ

The Rev. Wayne Sautter, a retired United Church of Christ minister and chaplain, presides at the 9–9:45 a.m. Worship Service. Sautter attended Western Maryland College in Westminster, Maryland, served in Vietnam and attended Lancaster Theological Seminary. He served churches in Pennsylvania and Maryland, in addition to serving as a hospital Chaplain in Somerset, Pennsylvania. Jim Johnson will provide the music for the service, and refreshments will follow in the UCC Randell Chapel living room.

United Methodist House

The United Methodist House invites you to come hear the Rev. Wanda Stahl preach at worship at 9:30 a.m. Sunday on “Eating As Spiritual Practice” at the UM House Chapel. Stahl is a spiritual guide, retreat leader, educator and consultant who was ordained in the first class of Deacons in 1997. Wanda retired from full-time ministry in 2022, having served in faculty and administrative roles at Boston University School of Theology and previously as director of Spiritual Formation for the New England Conference of the UMC. In addition to her work as a

spiritual guide, she currently serves as a program consultant for The BTS Center, a private foundation focused on nurturing spiritual leadership for a climate-changed world. She will be giving a Chaplain’s Chat on the porch at noon Tuesday titled “How Then Shall We Live? Choosing Life in Challenging Times”. The final time you can hear her is at 7 p.m. Thursday at the UM House for the “Pastor in the Parlor,” when she will share “Food for Thought: Sharing our Gleanings from the Week.”

Please also join us on the porch for coffee and tea in the mornings before the Amp lecture and at 3:15 p.m. Tuesday for our social hour. We look forward to greeting you there!

Unity of Chautauqua

Unity of Chautauqua welcomes the Rev. Kelly Isola, who will lead the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Celebration Service in the Hall of Missions. Her message will be “When Our Tears Feed the World.” Oftentimes, what looks like sorrow is actually sustenance. Butterflies drink tears. Forests flourish through hidden networks of reciprocity. Again and again, nature reminds us that life is nourished in ways we rarely notice.

Unity holds a weekday morning Daily Word meditation from 8 to 8:30 a.m. Monday through Friday in the Hall of Missions.

From 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Turner Community Center, Isola will present a Positive Path for Spiritual Living lecture titled “What Helps Life Trust Itself Again?” How do we move beyond simply getting through life to becoming participants in its flourishing? Drawing inspiration from both nature and spiritual wisdom, this interactive workshop explores what happens when we shift from fixing to tending, from pipelines to living systems, and from pursuing outcomes to creating the conditions where life can thrive. Chautauqua residents should bring their gate passes.

Isola is the founder of The Story in Our Bones (thestoryinourbones.com), where she integrates trauma-informed somatic practices, strength training and spiritual formation to help us reconnect through the wisdom of the body.

For details, visit unity-chq.org.

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THEATER

Nichols embodies Wilson in ‘How I Learned What I Learned,’ closing Sunday

SOPHIA ROOKSBERRY
STAFF WRITER

At 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in Bratton Theater, Chautauquans will have another chance to step into the life of August Wilson as Lance E. Nichols portrays the playwright in Wilson’s autobiographical one-man play, *How I Learned What I Learned*.

Long before embodying Wilson on the Bratton Stage, Nichols was a young pre-med student at the University of New Orleans, in the city where he was born and raised, still waiting to uncover his lifelong passion for theater.

“At the end of my freshman year, I looked at my ledger card and I went, ‘I don’t think this doctor thing is going to work out,’” Nichols said. “... I switched from pre-med to drama, and in one semester, my GPA went from a 2.3 to a 3.9, and then I realized I’d found what I wanted to do, and I said, ‘Well, I don’t have to be a doctor. I can just play a bunch of doctors.’”

Despite his desire to pursue theater in New York, Nichols moved to Los Angeles after graduation and lived with his sister while acting in graduate student films. After booking an agent, Nichols played everything from a reporter to a bailiff on shows including “L.A. Law,” “Cheers,” “The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air” and “Everybody Loves Raymond.”

“They used to tape half-hour sitcoms in front of a live audience, so it was like doing theater,” Nichols said. “They bring the audience into this studio and they would sit in bleacher-type seating ... There was no laugh track, so the laughter that they would

get would be the natural laughter that you hear.”

As Nichols’ career took off toward the turn of the century, August Wilson’s plays were also growing in popularity across the country. Nichols auditioned for a number of Wilson’s plays at the Mark Taper Forum in LA, but didn’t perform in a Wilson work until 2010 when Swine Palace Theatre in Nichols’ home state put on *King Hedley II*.

Nichols first performed in *How I Learned What I Learned* during the joint production between Portland Stage Company and Le Petit Theatre in 2023, under the direction of CTC Producing Artistic Director Jade King Carroll.

“In Portland, Jade asked me, ‘How do you want to approach this?’” Nichols said. “I said, ‘I want to approach it like it’s a blank canvas. You got a paintbrush and I got a paintbrush, and we’re both painting together. Now, I have an idea and I want to see what you think about this.’ In this play, August speaks of at least 10 different people who were very influential on him ... but there’s four that he talks about all the time ... I said, ‘I want to play with giving those four people their own physicality and vocal quality.’”

Bringing multiple characters to life is one of many challenges associated with a one-man show. However, Nichols said he always seeks challenging roles and, in this play particularly, enjoys balancing difficulties across language and the added stressors of performing alone.

“When you’re onstage with other actors, you have the anchor if something goes wrong,” Nichols said. “If you’re on stage by yourself,

you better start tap dancing, telling jokes, saying something ... [Also, August’s] writing is so poetic and lyrical, and he switches syntaxes back and forth. Sometimes he’s talking almost in Shakespeare, and other times he’s talking street, and so that was challenging to be able to code switch like that.”

After finishing his performances in Maine and Louisiana, Nichols said he still felt like his journey with the show was incomplete. In 2025, he revived the role for a one-night performance at the Rubicon Theatre Company in California, but under different direction and without the “special” and “magnetic” qualities of the iteration directed by Carroll.

“About six months ago, I got a text from Jade saying, ‘Hey, I’m thinking about doing our show next summer at Chautauqua — let’s talk,’” Nichols said. “The next day we Zoomed and she told me the idea that she had, and I said, ‘Yeah, I’m on board,’ and then she told me ... we had the original [set designer] and lighting person and sound person, so when I realized I had my original team, I was like, ‘Hell yeah.’”

Before coming to Chautauqua and reprising the role, Nichols took a day trip to Pittsburgh, the setting of *How I Learned What I Learned* and most Wilson plays, while filming a television series in Ohio.

“I visited the August Wilson [African American] Cultural Center in downtown Pittsburgh, but more importantly, they have turned August Wilson’s house ... into a museum and some of the rooms have been preserved in their original form,” Nichols said. “... I had a chance to walk into



SAM HUFFMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chautauqua Theater Company Guest Actor Lance E. Nichols, playing the part of August Wilson, performs during a rehearsal of *How I Learned What I Learned* Aug. 7 in Bratton Theater.

the same space that August walked into ... Walking into that man’s house, for lack of a better word, was a spiritual experience for me and I think it has helped me enrich this production.”

The additional layers added to Nichols’ performance have paid off so far, and will continue to enhance the play in the remaining performances at Chautauqua.

“After the matinee we had on this past Sunday, I had gone out the stage door in the back and there were two people that came up to me, and we started talking and they were telling me how much they really enjoyed the show, and while I was talking to them, various people were walking past



Nichols holds a stool in self defense in a scene in which Wilson nearly gets into a bar fight.

and ... quite a few of them had tears in their eyes, and they were saying, ‘Thank you so much for bringing this show to Chautauqua,’” Nichols said. “‘Thank you for letting us look into August Wilson’s world.’”

THANK YOU

The Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra League, in conjunction with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, Chautauqua Institution and the CSO Endowment Gala Committee, is proud to announce that an incredible **\$170,988.74** was raised for the CSO Forever Fund.

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DAVE MUNCH / INTERIM MANAGING EDITOR
Incoming Chautauqua Institution President Mark Coolidge Johnson speaks with *Daily Administration* Reporter Cody Englander during an interview Thursday in the Colonnade.

Incoming President Johnson reflects on Chautauqua upbringing, leadership, first priorities

CODY ENGLANDER
STAFF WRITER

As incoming President Mark Coolidge Johnson prepares to step into his new role following the 2026 Summer Season, he reflected on his time thus far at the Institution, his priorities in the role and Chautauqua's imprint on how he approaches his career.

"I always tell my kids, ABC — always be curious — and how do you then apply that to what we now see, is my next role in Chautauqua," Johnson said. "It's a natural extension, you know, from always trying to learn about anything to now applying that to an institution; that is one of its main purposes, helping people be curious and learning."

Johnson will begin his tenure following the conclusion of the 2026 Season. He was announced as the incoming president prior to the beginning of the season and has spent nearly two weeks on the grounds this summer.

The attorney and former Deputy Chief of Mission in the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City recently directed the completion of a \$943 million embassy, which opened in November 2025. During his time on this project, he oversaw more than 3,000 employees.

Johnson said his strengths and experience lie in planning and executing large-scale projects.

"My strengths, my experience is with the setting of an agenda through creating with these other stakeholders, a strategic plan, and then making sure we have the team on board, and then building that out, and then executing, [making] sure that you're holding people accountable for whatever the goals and objectives are," Johnson said. "... You need to bring that all together, and that's something I've done throughout my career."

Johnson said he believes his experience working in the U.S. government translates to the role of incoming president at Chautauqua Institution.

"I've sold American values, and I'm going to be selling Chautauqua values," he said.

Johnson, who will be Chautauqua's 19th president, is a Jamestown, New York, native. By his recollection, has been

coming to the Institution since 1970 with his late father Joe Johnson, who served 20 years as vice president of Finance at Chautauqua Institution. He is a third-generation Chautauquan.

He recalled visiting Chautauqua in his childhood, including visiting on Sundays and during the off-season to cross-country ski and sled, in addition to attending in-season programming.

"When I was 14 or 15 or so, my dad started working here, and I got to experience it from the inside, living on the grounds and having constant access to various programs," he said. "... There's no other place that provides all of that in such an incredible setting. I learned how to sail on the southern part of Chautauqua Lake. I really learned how to water ski, which I can't do anymore, on the northern part of the lake. I went to Camp Onyahsa across the lake. I spent a lot of time in Bemus Point as a college kid. The grounds are magical, but this whole area is part of who I am and what makes me who I am, and so I'm super excited to be back on the grounds and back in the Jamestown and Chautauqua County region. It's just an incredibly special place."

To Johnson, the Institution has evolved since he first set foot on the grounds, offering a larger selection of music and live performance he hadn't been accustomed to seeing.

He said he recently attended Bandits on the Run's performance at Roe Green Theater Center, which, from his perspective, marked an increase in and diversification of programming. He said, "They never had that when I was growing up here."

Johnson recalled leaving the grounds to see live music at venues elsewhere in Chautauqua County.

"... To have that right here on the grounds is fascinating. And the band was fantastic, and that keeps it fresh, right? That brings more people in, as well."

Having access to Chautauqua's programming allowed Johnson to set a groundwork for his curiosity, and his love for the grounds and community was ultimately one of the reasons for his return, he said. Johnson said he will focus on community needs and construct a larger plan through understanding

"... You have all kinds of different groups that have a stake in what Chautauqua does, and being able to include them in that conversation and bring them along — get them on the bus, so to speak, having them shape where we're going, frankly — is hugely important."

— MARK COOLIDGE JOHNSON
Incoming President,
Chautauqua Institution

the needs of smaller groups between the conclusion of the 2026 Season and the beginning of the 2027 Season.

"... You have all kinds of different groups that have a stake in what Chautauqua does, and being able to include them in that conversation and bring them along — get them on the bus, so to speak, having them shape where we're going, frankly — is hugely important."

Johnson said the basis for the Institution's strategic plan will include, "trying to identify what individuals or their teams' needs are, what drives them, where they see the holes and gaps, where they see the opportunities and working with them and with others, the donor community and other folks around the county, to try to make sure that we're preparing the best — not only season for 2027, but laying the groundwork for several years."

To Johnson, looking at the big picture is what will reinforce the ideas and goals he plans to carry into his term.

"I don't think [I] can focus on one thing," Johnson said. "... I can't say it's going to be growth or it's going to be [budget] cuts or it's going to be this or that. It's going to be listening to everybody, which I've started [doing] already. But you need weeks and months of that to be able to say, 'OK, this makes sense here. This doesn't make sense here.' But what I will be doing will be very intentional in working with the team to try to identify where the strengths and weaknesses are at this moment. What do we need to do

to push things forward? How do we close gaps?"

As of September 2025, the Institution has seen \$5.7 million in budget cuts and a 20% staff reduction. Johnson will inherit a different financial landscape than previous presidents, which he noted as a large-scale, multi-year issue he and the Board of Trustees will need to address.

"What I hope to do with the staff, with the board, is take a look at those changes, find out what worked, what maybe didn't, where tweaks need to happen and where the next step has to be," Johnson explained. "Chautauqua still has some financial difficulties, so I don't think people should expect one year of adjustments to solve everything ..."

He said he plans to work with the board to determine how best to use the budget and allocate it for continued success beyond the 2027 Season.

"I try to be purposeful," he said. "I try to make sure that anything I do is strategic, and to understand why we're going to do it, why the team will be spending time, resources, money, energy, emotion, on any type of thing."

Chautauqua's foundational pillars — the Arts, Education, Religion and Recreation — are important to Johnson. He said he does "not have a specific background in every piece of Chautauqua's pillars," but he brings experience in running large organizations, working across stakeholder grounds and stewarding a "mission-driven agenda."

During his tenure, he said he plans to uphold Chautauqua's defining features to ensure the grounds remain a place for shared ideas and appreciation of the arts.

"Chautauqua has always been a place of renewal and revival. It has allowed for those passionate conversations between very opposing ideas, and the culture that allows us to think differently, to expand our minds, or sometimes just to relax and to process some of those things while you're watching a ballet or listening to the symphony," Johnson said.

Building community and listening to their voices, to Johnson, is incredibly important. For the incoming president, creating and sustaining a community within the gates of Chau-

tauqua, which he described as a "place of trying to be smarter, better (and) learn more," sets the groundwork for the change Chautauquans can make outside the grounds.

He said Chautauqua provides an opportunity for people to experience new ideas and renewal, then take what they've learned back to their home communities, "and become community leaders or maintain our roles as community leaders with these new ideas, with this freshness of purpose."

Johnson said he plans to live on the grounds year-round as both the president of the Institution and a member of the community. He said he hopes his tenure as president will be one of positive changes while continuing storied Chautauqua traditions.

"I [want to be remembered as] a good steward of Chautauqua, and I was able to preserve all the good traditions of Chautauqua, while also helping to move it forward on both a practical basis, giving it the financial footing it needs, and a philanthropic architecture that goes forward, that I was somebody that was accessible to all Chautauquans, and just continued in what all the other 18 [presidents] and ... others have done over the years," Johnson said.

Ensuring every Chautauquan has a voice in the community is important to Johnson, as he hopes to have open, healthy conversations.

"Let's do this together," Johnson said. "Get to know me. Let me know your thoughts. Tell me how we can do better, and then help do it. It's one thing to have an idea or a complaint; it's another thing to say, 'I'm going to roll up my sleeves a little bit. This is where I'm going to jump in on a volunteer or financial basis, or lend somebody's expertise to the board, or to specific members of the staff, to continue to make both Chautauqua better, and then by extension to make our country better and our world better.' So, let's do this together. I could have done other things in my life and career, and I came here because I really believe in the mission of what Chautauqua is and the purposefulness, and I believe it's an extreme power for good."

COMMUNITY

Indefatigable octogenarian Faust shares time, talent, treasure

PATRICIA BEAGLE
STAFF WRITER

Sylvia Faust first heard about Chautauqua Institution from her mother, Frances Montini, who had worked as a cook in Chautauqua in 1930 and later graduated from the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle. Sylvia's husband, David, had visited as a child. In 1967, the Fausts were living in West Palm Beach, Florida, and David decided to introduce Sylvia to a lovely week in Chautauqua.

"We stayed on Miller in a terrible apartment that no longer exists," she recalled. "Back then, the houses were not in good shape. The apartment was dirty, and there were mice running around!"

Undeterred, the Fausts returned the next summer. "We stayed at the Gleason for the next six years and kept increasing the number of weeks we stayed," Faust explained. "After that, we bought a home here."

The house they bought had been relocated from the east side of the Colonnade to its present location at 17 Ames. "I was told it was hauled up Ames in 1907 using railroad ties," Sylvia said. "We bought the house in 1973. Next door was an Institution dormitory at 15 Ames. Boys used to jump off the second-floor balcony," she recalled.

Faust said she met many interesting people while

David served as chairman of Chautauqua Institution's Board of Trustees from 1986 until his sudden death in 1988. David helped then-president Daniel Bratton and others to organize Chautauqua's 1986 conference between U.S. and Soviet citizens. The Fausts attended the conference and related events in Riga, Latvia and Moscow, Russia. David also worked on planning a 1988 conference to occur in Tbilisi, Soviet Georgia. He passed away before it took place, and Sylvia attended with her daughter, Susan.

After David's untimely death, colleagues at his law firm wanted to memorialize him. Sylvia asked that donations in his memory benefit Chautauqua Institution, and they established the H. David Faust Leadership Fund.

Debbie Moore, executive director of Chautauqua Foundation, expressed her appreciation. "Sylvia has been such a wonderful partner with the Foundation, serving on the Planned Giving Committee for several years. She is a tremendous advocate in the community about the importance of endowment through planned giving. The H. David Faust Leadership Fund has been a beautiful memorial to her husband, providing broad flexibility in its support of programs."

Faust wanted the endowment to be unrestricted, allowing the Institution to determine how best to use the fund. It sponsored many performances and lectures. She especially enjoys 10:45 a.m. events in the traditional lecture format. The symphony is another favorite of hers.

Family members have attended many events supported by the fund. Son John, his wife Meg and their children Sarah and Anna, as well as daughter Susan Alexander, her husband Jack and their children Kate, Will and

Lilly, are all Chautauquans.

In addition to arranging the fund in David's name, Faust has supported the Institution with annual gifts and arranged planned giving to Chautauqua through her own charitable remainder trust.

"Chautauqua has meant a lot to our family," she explained. "We've made wonderful friends all the years that we've been here. My kids and grandchildren all went to Club. I like that children can go on their own. When our children were young, they had to be home at noon, 6 o'clock and when the streetlights came on. Those were our rules. It was great for them growing up here." She added, "Susan, Jack, John, Lilly, Kate and Will all worked at various Institution jobs. Susan and John both had their weddings in the Hall of Philosophy, and David's funeral was there."

Despite a busy family life, Faust has devoted an incredible amount of time and talent to serving community organizations. A highly organized person, she holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Muskingum College and a Master of Education in special education from the University of Florida. In addition to teaching children with disabilities, she worked seasonally as a tax preparer for 39 years. She has led Road Scholar spring and fall programs in Chautauqua for 17 years and currently serves as the head leader for those events.

While holding leadership roles in multiple organizations, Faust also rolls up her sleeves for fundraising and other projects. She has been a member of the Chautauqua Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary for more than 20 years. Twice, she served as the organization's treasurer. She regularly works at the Memorial Day bake sale, summer chicken barbecues, the annual Christmas bazaar

and the annual food drive. Recently, she was elected to a five-year term as a fire commissioner.

Amy Snyder, president of the CVFD Auxiliary, expressed admiration for Faust. "Sylvia is one of our most reliable members. She is always ready to pitch in, does it with a smile and does it with grace. She is delightful in every way and is a lovely human being," Snyder said.

Faust currently serves as chair of the Chautauqua Utility District. The CUD manages local water and wastewater systems, including water treatment systems and local utility infrastructure maintenance. CUD board member Jim Rovegno remarked, "As Chair of the CUD Board, a service truly critical to Chautauqua's functioning, Sylvia brings the faithful vigilance essential to overseeing of this civic necessity."

Faust is also a board member at the Presbyterian House, a role she has held several times. In years past, she spent many days helping to scour yard sales and second-hand stores to find respectable yet affordable furniture to decorate the house's guest rooms with style.

Having organized and participated in community clean-ups of the Chautauqua Cemetery, Faust also serves as the president of the cemetery's board.

Faust is a board member of Chautauqua County's Habitat for Humanity. Her involvement with Habitat began 35 years ago while living in West Palm Beach. On her first build, she was given a choice between climbing on the roof or putting up wallboard. She kept her feet on the ground and hammered and taped wallboard.

She has traveled internationally on multi-week trips to build Habitat houses in villages in Papua New Guinea; townships of Durban, South Africa; Pokhara, Nepal; Budapest, Hungary and



SKYLAR SEAVEY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sylvia Faust sits on an Amphitheater bench gifted in memory of her late husband David Faust Wednesday on the porch of her home on Ames Avenue.

the outskirts of Amman, Jordan. Here in Chautauqua County, Faust paints, does clean-up and performs record-keeping of hours worked on houses. "We had 90 volunteers on the last house I worked on in Jamestown," she said.

Outgoing local Habitat president Maureen Rovegno remarked, "Sylvia has been a dedicated volunteer for the Chautauqua Area Habitat for Humanity organization for over two decades, much of that time serving on our Board, where her wisdom and caring and her 'can do' spirit have been invaluable!"

Faust's past volunteer work has included serving as president of the Junior League of the Palm Beaches and as a board member of a West Palm Beach bank branch. She served as a trustee for Chautauqua Institution from 1990 to 1998, a member of Chautauqua's Architectural Review Board, a member of the Chautauqua Foundation's Planned Giving

Committee, a board member of the Chautauqua Women's Club and member of its Endowment Committee and treasurer for the CLSC Class of 1990. That CLSC class selected the late David Faust, who had planned to graduate with his wife, as its honoree. Sylvia later went on to become a member of the Guild of Seven Seals.

Travel has taken Faust to 44 countries and 48 states. "Chautauqua is my favorite place," she said. "You can go to lectures or sit on your porch all day." Her porch includes an original yellow bench from the choir loft of the old Amphitheater, onto which her family has placed a plaque memorializing David. When sitting on her porch, though, the fireball octogenarian is more likely to be doing volunteer work than taking a nap. Nobody sets a finer example of how to share time, talent and treasure. If you want something done, just ask Sylvia Faust.

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THE MIX

‘The Crayon Clown’ was one of the Assembly’s hottest tickets

JOHN WARREN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

At the outset of the Chautauqua Assembly, a foundational member of the troupe was a court jester of sorts, a man his admirers called “the crayon clown.”

Frank Beard was known for an improvisation he created and perfected called “chalk talks,” in which he accompanied lectures with rapid-fire illustrations blending humor, art and biblical or moral lessons.

“Pictures tell a story so much quicker than anything else that they will always be in demand,” he once told a newspaper reporter.

Beard was near-deaf for most of his life. He carried a black rubber tube coiled around his neck, and encouraged those he encountered to put their lips to the mouth of the tube and speak.

Despite being deaf, Beard had enlisted (sort of) in the Union Army at 18 during the Civil War. Because of his hearing impairment, he was ineligible to join, but a captain, motivated by a mix of pity and Beard’s patriotism, allowed him to join the Army of the Potomac as an unpaid private.

With little else to do, Beard drew illustrations, which soon turned to the subject matter in front of

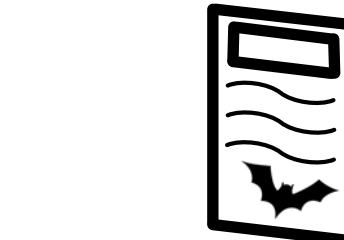
him. One cartoon depicted a general defending the capital as a big bulldog, standing behind a plate with a bone marked “Washington.” In front of the bowl was a cowering, lean hound labeled “Jeff Davis,” afraid to seize the bone. It was lithographed and sold in Cincinnati for 10 cents per copy and was later published in newspapers across the country.

After the war, he worked for publications including *Comic Monthly*, *Frank Leslie’s Budget of Fun*, *Vanity Fair* and a publication that employed the famed political cartoonist Thomas Nast.

Beard was once asked to lecture to his wife’s Sunday school class, and he decided he’d rather draw and talk than talk alone. The “chalk talk” was a hit. Word quickly spread, and he found he could charge up to \$50 per talk — about \$1,500 in today’s dollars.

In his Chautauqua chalk talks, he would stand on the platform with a roll of paper stretched on an easel before him and, with several colored crayons, he dished out philosophy, fun and satire.

Due to his hearing impairment, he had a unique, “queer nasal drawl” that was remembered as both endearing and highly effective at commanding thousands of listeners in the open-air



HISTORIOGRAPHICAL

COLUMN BY JOHN WARREN

Amphitheater. In a 1895 interview, Beard said, “I can take a text from the Bible, and with the utmost reverence can, through the medium of the cartoon, apply it to the civilization of today.”

At the Assembly, he bridged the gap between heavy theological topics and popular entertainment. His chalk talks drew thousands. Attendees would line up with autograph books for him to sign, to the extent that Beard once called autograph books “an instrument of torture.”

The chalk talks also became a staple of the Children’s Meeting. Of Beard, the author Rebecca Richmond wrote in *Chautauqua: An American Place*: “The illustrations of Bible stories and homely truths that grew before their eyes on the easel, drew youngsters to the hall like bees to a honeypot.”

In his instructional book

Chalk Lessons, Beard presents a typical lesson, based on Matthew 7:13–14. In the lesson, a sharply dressed, clean-cut young man in a bowler cap gives in to all manner of vice and books “which mislead and give us the wrong notions in life, that make heroes of camps, thieves, and liars.” By the last in a progression of images, the young man is hopelessly wrinkled and scruffy, with a cigarette dangling from his lips, and (the indignity) a squashed bowler hat.

Beard’s popularity was such that Chautauqua co-founder John Heyl Vincent enlisted him for road shows at sister chautauquas around the country.

In Long Beach, California, the local newspaper wrote of the “bubbling effervescence of laughter” at his fourth appearance at the Long Beach chautauqua: “... his auditors scarce know whether they

laugh more at the tropes and witticisms of the running fire of comments with which the cartoonist accompanies his drawing, or at the drawings themselves.”

After Beard delivered an uncharacteristically somber talk at Lakeside Chautauqua in Ohio, Vincent admonished him. Beard reported Vincent’s words as follows:

“Now, Frank, I want you to understand that we bring you here to brighten up the program with a little fun. We don’t need you to make serious speeches; there are plenty of men to do that; I can do it myself, a great deal better than you can. Tonight I’m going to give you another chance, and I expect you to rise to the occasion with something to laugh at.”

And so Beard began the next presentation with:

“Dr. Vincent, he didn’t like the speech I made last night. He told me this morning before all these fellers that it was too eloquent, and he said, ‘Mr. Beard, when you are eloquent you take the shine off from me, and these other men, and you mustn’t do it. If there is any eloquence needed, I will do it myself, and you mustn’t interfere with the regular program.’”

By the later part of the 19th century, Beard became a staff cartoonist for

the religious publication *The Ram’s Horn*, and he became a less frequent visitor to the grounds.

He returned one last time for the 1905 Assembly, during which he was a staple of the program.

Physically, he was noticeably changed on account of Bright’s disease, or kidney disease. He was visibly frail, but his drawing hand remained steady, his humor as on-point as ever. His peers remarked that his timing in that final summer remained flawless.

He returned home to Chicago after the 1905 Season and died shortly after.

The man the *Oregonian* newspaper once called “the father of the American cartoon” was widely remembered in tributes and memorials.

Chautauqua’s co-founder, Vincent, said Beard had transformed religious education, turning the act of drawing into a profound tool.

“Frank Beard ... did not occupy a traditional pulpit, but his massive blackboard was his altar, and his crayons were his tongue,” Vincent wrote. “Chautauqua has lost one of its truest architects, and our people will long remember the absolute sincerity and pure joy that flew from his busy pen.”

Local writers Marris, Batsha to speak about themes of community

NORA SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Michael I. Rudell Director of Literary Arts Stephine Hunt said she is excited to welcome two local writers to Chautauqua Writers’ Center for Week Eight after having first met essayist, poet and translator Laura Marris and author Nishant Batsha through Buffalo Literary Center Events and in working at University at Buffalo.

“I’m excited to welcome them here as folks who know each other’s work and often celebrate each other’s work in different ways, so that will be lovely,” Hunt said.

Hunt said she is excited to welcome both writers not only because they have a prior connection, but also because they touch on themes of history, food and communal celebration in different ways, aligning with Week Eight’s theme, “The Future of Food: Climate, Technology and the Next Agricultural Revolution.”

Marris said she originally started doing freelance translating after finishing graduate school to make a living, but it soon became much more than that.

“I really fell in love with translation as a way to think about literature, as a way to kind of apprentice myself to writers whom I admired,” Marris said. “The more I thought about this kind of space of being in between languages, the more really fascinating it became to me.”

Marris said translation encourages her to ask questions that fascinate her, such as, “How do you immerse yourself in somebody else’s memory and voice and language?” and “What are people’s voices really made up of?”

“Translation transformed my writing pretty profoundly, and when you’re a translator and a writer, I see translation more as this kind of intensive collaboration with another person’s voice,” Marris said. “I actually see it as an extension of my writing and as a part of it, just another mode.”

One of Marris’ newest projects will bring this work of translation into collaboration with other themes.

“I’m actually really excited to think about this new project, which I think will be focused on translation and new advances in animal com-

munication,” Marris said. “So, thinking about some of the science of animal communication through the lens of lessons from the art of translation to see if I can find some continuity there.”

Marris said for the Free Faculty Reading at 3:30 p.m. Sunday in the Hall of Philosophy, she plans to read from her most recent book, *The Age of Loneliness: Essays*, which she described as a collection of essays that braid personal and environmental history.

“Part of the reason that I wanted to write essays that braid ecology and personal history and environmental history was in order to bring different voices and different parts of my life into conversation,” Marris said.

Marris said she thinks the format of an essay is a great way to make space for these conversations.

Hunt said Marris’ essay collection focuses on topics such as climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic, but focuses on the “resilience and safety and peace in that forced quiet that we encountered, and seeing how the world really bloomed without the humans.”

In the book, Marris said it was important to think about the different places she has gotten to know throughout her life and to include the community of people who have also experienced those places. She said the book begins with ecological loneliness and then moves toward understanding and finding community through caring for the ecosystems surrounding her.

Marris compared her book to people who participate in bioblitzes, animal counts and other conservation initiatives that aim to understand “how the communities that they live among are faring.”

Marris said a significant component of her book is her father, who died when she was young and had participated in many community science projects. After he died, Marris found his bird lists.

“That was one of the inspirations for the book, because I was really fascinated by looking at [the bird lists]; ... some of them were lists from before I was born, and he’d just written down all the species that he had seen in the

area where I had grown up,” Marris said, and added that he used to do the winter bird count every year.

Because of this, Marris said she does the same bird-count route her father had done and compares her list to his in the last essay of the book.

In addition to the reading, Marris’ flexible workshop titled “Local Muses: The Poetry of Place” will run from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday from Aug. 17 to Aug. 21 in the Alumni Hall Poetry Room with an enrollment fee of \$145 and a maximum of 15 participants.

“We’re going to really think deeply about how it’s possible to read a place and think about relationship to place and how that can inspire new writing, and how moving through place can be a way to deepen and enrich the writing that people are doing and to kind of just play and explore,” Marris said.

Marris added that despite the workshop’s focus on poetry, all genres are welcome and that the material, exercises and prompts are applicable across all genres.

Batsha, who is interested in historical thinking and stories, said he began writing for publication in graduate school when he was working on a Ph.D. in history to become a historian of colonial India.

“I became drawn to fiction because there’s so many gaps and silences in the archive and you really want to get to know people,” Batsha said. “You really want to know them intimately, and it’s hard; ... especially in an archive of the third world, there’s not a lot of priority given to regular people.”

Batsha said when looking into American history — particularly the Civil War period — there are diaries and newspapers that allow one to get up close and understand regular people’s lives, but not in the work he was doing.

“I didn’t see that in what I was working on, so I became really drawn to fiction as a way to explore how big historical events and movements have percolated down into the lives of regular people,” Batsha said.

Batsha’s first book, *Mother Ocean Father Nation*, originated from research he did for his dissertation on Indian

indentured labor, in which Batsha said, “After slavery, the British Empire used Indians from India on five-year contracts to work the sugar plantations all around the world.”

Having read about these places, Batsha created a hybrid of them all and set the book on a fictionalized South Pacific Island.

“One of the things about these places with Indian indentures, they all had a lot of political instability after they got independence,” Batsha said. “There were a lot of military coups, a lot of racial strife and I had seen that everywhere. So, I was like, ‘What did that feel like?’”

The storyline follows a brother left behind on the island nation and a sister taking refuge in New York as they navigate the world during the historical event of the military coup.

“I really think that historical thinking truly influences everything about how I write, subject matter I choose to write about ...” Batsha said. He said that in writing about historical events, he is constantly making new discoveries.

Batsha said at first, he was terrified of having to pick a specific lane to focus on in his career as a historian, but writing fiction allows him to explore and immerse himself in new projects every couple of years.

For example, Batsha said his current project is set in a Shaker community in Maine right after the Civil War, which he previously had not studied.

“I just had the chance over the last two years to read deeply in fiction and in history about a time and a place that I’ve never thought I would be able to explore,” Batsha said. “To me, that’s so special, that’s just like a discovery every day.”

During the Free Faculty Reading at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, in the Hall of Philosophy, Batsha said he plans on reading from his newest project he’s been working on.

“It’s sort of a way for me to bring it into the world,” Batsha said. “So, this will be the first time that I’ve actually shared this material with anyone besides my literary agents.”

In Batsha’s work, he said he is always looking at how changes in a nation



MARRIS



BATSHA

or how historical events affect a household.

“I hope [readers] come away with the feeling that history and big world events are always alive in the smallest of spaces,” Batsha said. “They always kind of find their way to our most intimate locations. So, I hope they get that sense that history is alive in the lives of every people.”

Hunt said Batsha’s most recent book, *A Bomb Placed Close to the Heart*, is set during the dawn of WWII and is a “beautiful, fascinating look at friendships across cultures and experiences.”

“It’s a really beautiful historical fiction work,” Hunt said.

In addition to the reading, Batsha’s flexible workshop titled “Rewriting History,” will run from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday from Aug. 17 to Aug. 21 in the Alumni Hall Prose Room with an enrollment fee of \$145 and a max-

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CLASSIFIEDS

CHAUTAUQUOTATIONS

OVERHEARD ON THE GROUNDS BY HEIDI WARREN

In connection with a recent article about social columns historically run in the Daily, this reincarnation is keeping with the times via anonymity.

Boy: Why can't we ride our bikes on the Brick Walk?
Mother gives a lengthy, detailed explanation citing safety and courtesy.
Boy: Well, why not?
Mother: It's like you don't listen at all!

Put away the pitchforks; it was humor:
Man: That was a great article about your daughter!
Father: Yes, but we were disappointed in the lack of information about her parents.

Woman: It made *Death of a Salesman* seem like a comedy.

Firstborn daughters are always correct!
A family of four are riding their bikes. A young girl is leading the pack.
Father calls to the daughter: Make a right up here.
Mother and girl respond in unison: She knows / I know!

Smith Memorial Library hustle:
Man: I'm in a losing race to catch my wife; I need one of those Razors!"
(The wife was already halfway across Bestor Plaza.)

A girl sweetly asks her younger sister if she wants some candy.
Supervising grandma: Stop offering to share with her if you're just going to say "No!"

FaceTime fun:
Mom, on the phone: Thanks for the call!
Son: Well, you're the one who texted me.

A cadre of adults cycle past the Amp:
Woman: "You guys, Natalie Merchant today was absolutely inspiring!"

Sunday aromatics:
Boy sniffing the air in Odland Plaza: I smell chicken; I need that right now!

This one may be cheating, as it was on a T-shirt:
Older gentleman on a scooter: Never Underestimate an Old Man with an Ukulele

Hazlett Fund supports Chaplain Hanson

The Samuel M. and Mary E. Hazlett Memorial Fund generously supports this week's morning worship by the Rev. Natalie Hanson at 10:45 a.m. Sunday in the Amphitheater. The Rev. Hanson has been a longtime presence at Chautauqua Institution, serving as co-host of the United Methodist Missionary Vacation Home at Chautauqua for several years and as interim senior pastor in 2022. Established in honor of Samuel M. and Mary E. Hazlett, the fund reflects a family legacy rooted in faith, service, leadership and a deep commitment to Chautauqua. Mary Hazlett first came to the Institution for a Sunday school convention before her marriage to Dr. Hazlett in 1902. She quickly became an active member of the community, serving organizations including the Women's Club and the Presbyterian House, while pursuing lifelong learning through the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, which she completed in 1912. Dr. Hazlett's leadership

helped shape an important chapter in Chautauqua's history. Following the Institution's release from receivership, he served as president of the Chautauqua Board of Trustees Executive Committee before becoming president of Chautauqua Institution in 1947. He led the Institution with vision and dedication until his passing in 1956, leaving a lasting impact recognized through Hazlett Avenue at the north end of the grounds. Through the continued generosity of the Hazlett family, this fund supports Chautauqua's tradition of spiritual exploration and meaningful worship. Their legacy continues through generations of descendants who remain engaged with the Institution and share a commitment to the values that have defined Chautauqua for more than a century. Chautauqua is deeply grateful for the Hazlett family's enduring generosity and for the lasting legacy of faith, leadership and service they continue to inspire.



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Trustees' Fund supports concert with DeSare, CSO

The Trustees' Fund for the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra generously supports "The Music of Billy Joel" with Tony DeSare and the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Amphitheater. Saturday night's performance reflects the Trustees' Fund's enduring commitment to sustaining the artistic excellence of the CSO and the exceptional musical experiences it brings to audiences each season. Established in 1991 by Thomas R. and Jean H. Bromley, William F. and Dorothy S. Hill and Richard H. Miller, and later strengthened through contributions from members of

the Chautauqua Institution Board of Trustees, the Fund provides essential support for the CSO. Through this enduring generosity, the Trustees' Fund helps ensure the orchestra's continued excellence, allowing Chautauqua to present inspiring performances that enrich the Institution's artistic life and delight audiences throughout the season. Chautauqua is deeply grateful to the founders of the Trustees' Fund and to the members of the Board of Trustees whose continued generosity sustains one of the Institution's most treasured artistic traditions.

Chautauqua Theater, Rittman, Norton Funds support 'How I Learned What I Learned'

The Chautauqua Theater Fund, The Rittman Family Fund for Performing Arts and The Florence and Cynthia Norton Fund for Theater generously support *How I Learned What I Learned* by August Wilson, directed by Jade King Carroll, running Aug. 8-16 in Bratton Theater. Together, these funds reflect a shared commitment to sustaining Chautauqua's tradition of exceptional theatrical programming and ensuring that audiences continue to experience powerful storytelling on stage. Established in 2002, The Florence and Cynthia Norton

Fund for Theater provides general support for the Institution's theater program. Also supporting today's performance is The Rittman Family Fund for Performing Arts, established in 2000 by Patricia B. Rittman in honor of her husband, William Rittman. Together, these funds help ensure that Chautauqua Theater Company continues to present inspiring performances that engage, challenge and enrich audiences. Chautauqua is sincerely grateful for the enduring generosity of these supporters.

Chautauqua Foundation Inc. Meeting Set For August 22, 2026

The annual membership meeting of the Chautauqua Foundation, Inc. will be held at 9 a.m. EDT Saturday, Aug. 22, 2026, in Fletcher Music Hall, for the purpose of transacting such business as may properly come before the meeting. Directors and staff of the Foundation will present a review of the Foundation's activities during the past year. A full report on the investment performance of the endowment portfolio will be delivered by Hirtle & Co., who serve as the Foundation's outsourced chief investment officer. This meeting is open to the public and no advance RSVP is required.

Additionally, there will be a view-only opportunity available through a live Zoom webinar. Anyone may register by visiting foundation.chq.org and clicking Membership. If you have questions, please contact foundation@chq.org or 716-357-6220.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Frisco
1 Insensitive footballer
6 Spills the beans
12 Hawkeye
13 Spanish resort isle
14 Japanese port
15 Runway workers
17 Frat party sight
18 Dawn goddess
19 Sheens
22 Lawyer: Abbr.
23 Cuzco builders
24 Spoil
25 Italian sausage additive
27 Price setting
30 Reading
31 Swearing-in vow
32 Dress line
33 Millionth of a meter
35 Visitor from afar
38 Midwest airport
39 Reason

DOWN 41 Put up
42 Ship poles
1 Black Sea peninsula
2 Fresh start, as of a movie series
3 In the thick of
4 Shoebox number
5 Mares' mates
6 Life story
7 — Alamos
8 Come to sight
9 Patisserie workers
10 Unexpected problems
16 Ray
20 Long-necked onions
21 Small bit
24 Safari
25 Tentative inquiry
26 Weasel's kin
27 Albania's capital
28 Devotee
29 Dead ducks
30 Aspect
34 China flaw
36 PC key
37 Pay stub line

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SKI	MA	SK		TOT					
	LA	NE		PO	SE				
AD	DS		TE	AL					
HOR	SE		AL	IBI					
ARE	EL		RIV	AL					
BAND	S		SNE	AK					

Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11						12				
13						14				
15					16			17		
18				19		20	21			
22				23						
			24							
	25	26						27	28	29
30								31		
32				33		34				
35			36	37		38				
39						40				
41						42				

8-15

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

8-15 CRYPTOQUOTE

B T O O D G R B C D Z R K N J D Z X

O N C D . H S R Z D R J R B , R J R B

K D N B R W M . — M D W D F R D F D

J N M M N G C
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: YOU ARE SO MUCH SUNSHINE IN EVERY SQUARE INCH. — WALT WHITMAN

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

								9
3			7	4				
1			9	3	2		5	7
6							7	
9	7		4			6		
				2		1		
	1						4	
	5				4	9	1	6
	9		1	8				5

Difficulty: ★★★★★

8/15

7	8	1	6	2	9	5	3	4
2	6	4	3	5	7	8	1	9
5	9	3	8	1	4	2	6	7
9	5	6	7	8	1	4	2	3
1	3	7	2	4	6	9	8	5
8	4	2	5	9	3	1	7	6
3	2	5	9	6	8	7	4	1
6	1	8	4	7	5	3	9	2
4	7	9	1	3	2	6	5	8

Difficulty: ★★★★★

8/14

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SATURDAY
AUGUST 15

7:15

Chautauqua Mystic Heart Meditation Program. Centering Prayer with Carol McKiernan. Hall of Philosophy

9:00

(9–11) Food Rescue. Donate your non-perishable items to help us reduce waste and feed communities in need. Turner Community Center

9:30

(9:30–11:45) Hebrew Congregation Annual Shabbat Morning Music Service. Rabbi Elle Mulhbaum and Cantor Vladimir Lapin. Joined by the

Motet Choir under the direction of Sonya Subbayya Sutton. Kiddush luncheon to follow. Note: No Torah study. Hurlbut Church Sanctuary

10:00

(10–12) “Shabbat Service and Torah Reading” Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House. 23 Vincent

12:15

“Lunch ‘n’ Learn – Ethics of Our Fathers.” Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House. 23 Vincent

1:00

(1–5) **Exhibitions open.** Fowler Kellogg Art Center & Strohl Art Center

2:00

THEATER. New Play Workshop 3: As You Like It. Fee. Bratton Theater

5:00

Catholic Mass. Hall of Philosophy

6:00

THEATER. How I Learned What I Learned. Pick-Your-Price. Bratton Theater

6:15

Chautauqua Choir rehearsal. Fletcher Music Hall

8:00

AMPHITHEATER SPECIAL. The Music of Billy Joel with Tony DeSare and the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra. Stuart Chafetz, conductor

8:30

Cinema Film Screening. “The Invite.” Fee. Chautauqua Cinema

9:00

Episcopal Holy Eucharist. Chapel of the Good Shepherd

9:00

United Church of Christ Worship Service. UCC Randell Chapel

9:30

Services in Denominational Houses

9:30

Catholic Mass. Hurlbut Church. 21 Scott

9:30

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) Worship Service. Quaker House. 28 Ames

9:30

Unitarian Universalist Service. Hall of Philosophy

9:30

Unity Service. Hall of Missions

9:30

United Methodist Worship Service. “Eating as Spiritual Practice.” The Rev. Wanda Stahl. UM House Chapel. 14 Pratt

10:15

Coffee/Tea on the UM House Porch

10:45

ECUMENICAL WORSHIP. The Rev. Natalie Hanson. Amphitheater and online

11:30

(11:30 until sold out) Firefighters’ BBQ. Fee. Fire Hall on Massey

12:00

Special Studies Instructor Meet and Greet. Hultquist 101

12:00

(12–2) Flea Boutique. Behind the Colonnade

12:15

Twelve Step Meeting. Hurlbut Church Marion Lawrance Room

12:30

Friends of Chautauqua Theater: Play Discussion. How I Learned What I Learned and NPW #3: As You Like It. Jessica Trapasso Pavilion at Children’s School

1:00

(1–3) Class Connections at Alumni Hall. 50 Wythe

1:00

Porch Talk with Cecilia Golden, Ph.D. African American Heritage House. 40 Scott

1:00

(1–5) **Exhibitions open.** Fowler Kellogg Art Center & Strohl Art Center

2:00

THEATER. How I Learned What I Learned. Fee. Bratton Theater

2:00

Christian Science Lecture. “The Science of God and its Power to Heal us.” All are welcome. CS Chapel. 12 Center

2:30

Listen Wifi Technology Assistance. Amphitheater, Gate 4. Provided by ITS and IDEA Office. More info at chq.org/listen

3:00

Sara Jones Trio. Amphitheater

3:30

Chautauqua Writers’ Center Faculty Reading. Laura Marris (Poetry) and Nishant Batsha (Prose). Hall of Philosophy

3:30

Jewish Film Series: “The Magic Lantern.” Filmmaker Eli Brown will be present to answer questions. Everett Jewish Life Center. 36 Massey

3:30

Cinema Film Screening. “The Sheep Detectives.” Fee. Chautauqua Cinema

3:30

Masters Series Culinary Masterclass. Nyesha Arrington, chef. Fee Norton Hall

4:00

Church of the Will. Burgeson Nature Classroom

4:00

New Visitors Orientation. Hultquist 101

5:00

Newcomers Reception. 3 Taps

5:00

Open Mic with Friends of the Chautauqua Writers’ Center. Alumni Hall Prose Room

5:00

Feast with Friends: Smokin Dicks Community BBQ. Fee. Bestor Plaza

6:00

THEATER. How I Learned What I Learned. Fee. Bratton Theater

6:00

(6–7:30) Chautauqua Vegan Potluck. Bring a vegan dish to share. RSVP to chqvegan@gmail.com. Back porch of Fowler-Kellogg Art Center. 12 Ramble

6:30

LGBTQ+ and Friends Meet and Greet. Allies welcome! Athenaeum Porch

6:45

Cinema Film Screening. “The Invite.” Fee. Chautauqua Cinema

7:00

Palestine Park Tour. Palestine Park

7:00

(7–8:15) Hebrew Congregation Shirley Lazarus Speaker Series: “What We DO Matters.” “Belonging and the Importance of Gathering in the Community.” Amit Taneja, interim chief advancement officer and senior director for Community and Belonging at Chautauqua Institution. Followed by Sunday Sweet Talk: dessert, conversation, and community. Please bring your own beverage.

8:00

SACRED SONG SERVICE. Amphitheater

9:30

Cinema Film Screening. “CHEF.” Chautauqua Cinema



Chautauqua Women’s Club

EST. 1889

30 South Lake Drive 357-4961

Contemporary Issues Forum: Jonathan Deutsch, Ph.D.

“How Chefs are Key to the Future of Food”

Saturday, August 15th at 3pm (Hall of Philosophy)

Chautauqua Speaks: Paul Scheeler

“Dr. Nellie Golding and Dr. William Morgan: A Chautauqua Love Story”

Tuesday, August 18th at 9:15am (CWC House)

Buffalo Bound Day Trip: Landmarks & Legacy

Discover Buffalo’s history and architecture with CWC, from the Buffalo History Museum and a restored Lincoln Parkway home to lunch at The Garret Club and a backstage tour of the iconic Kleinhans Music Hall.

Thursday, August 27th - Register on CWC Website

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Sat. 8/15 8:30

Sun. 8/16 6:45

The Invite.

R 107m

Sun. 8/16 9:30

Food Festival Special Event! CHEF FREE ADMISSION! R 115m

www.chq.org/things-to-do/chautauqua-cinema

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