

COMMUNITY



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.

Chautauquans Seeking Healing for Palestinians and Israelis lecture

Chautauquans Seeking Healing for Palestinians and Israelis presents “Palestinian - Jewish Dialogue: The courage to listen – Eight women inspire change” at 3 p.m. today in the United Methodist House Chapel

Women’s Club news

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

Library news

The Smith Memorial Library basement book sale is ongoing! *\$1/book, *\$6/bag; *rare books priced as marked. Donations of gently used books are gratefully accepted.



Getting a taste of Chautauqua

PHOTOS BY [GUINEVERE MACLOWRY](#)

Top, Sue Doherty of Borsari Food Company sells a variety pack of their seasoning blends to Sally DiBacco at Taste of Chautauqua Wednesday on Bestor Plaza. At right, Hillary Oppman samples limoncello at the Mazza Vineyards tent.



986 Fairmount Avenue
Jamestown, NY
www.evanswinesandliquors.com

The area’s best and largest selection
of Local, Domestic, and Imported Wines.
Liquor · Bourbon · Champagne

CURBSIDE AVAILABLE
716-488-2009

Download
Our
App

All major credit
cards accepted

LIKE
US ON

Sun, 11am-8pm; Mon-Thurs, 8:30am-10pm; Fri & Sat, 8:30am-10pm

THE CHQ DAILY

SOCIAL MEDIA

Keep up with the 2026 season at *The Chautauquan Daily* in words, photos, audio and video through our social platforms.



Add your posts to the conversation using **#CHQ**.

CINEMA

--- Friday Aug. 21 ---

GOOD BOY - 6:15 Our canine hero, **Indy**, moves to a rural family home with his owner, only to discover supernatural forces lurking in the shadows. As dark entities threaten his human companion, the brave pup must fight to protect the one he loves most. "Horror at its best...makes you look at life differently." -*Mick La-Salle, San Francisco Chronicle* "This excellent debut feature from **Ben Leonberg** may be unique among horror films in fairly attracting the compound adjectives “deeply unsettling” and “utterly adorable” -*Donald Clarke, Irish Times* (PG-13, 73m)

ETERNITY - 8:30 In an afterlife where souls have one week to decide where to spend eternity, Joan (**Elizabeth Olsen**) is faced with the impossible choice between the man she spent her life with (**Miles Teller**) and her first love (**Callum Turner**), who died young and has waited decades for her to arrive. "A rom-com that's smart, sensational, and swoon-worthy." -*Kristy Puchko, Mashable* "A charming and ultimately moving comedy" -*Keith Phipps, The Reveal* "One of the purest, sweetest movies you'll see all year." -*Kristen Lopez, The Film Maven* (PG-13, 114m)



Above, Roger Levasseur and Michelle Prossau-Levasseur watch a performance by Mike Thornton & the Midnight Quartet. At left, Elliot Scozzaro, saxophonist of Mike Thornton & the Midnight Quartet, performs alongside bassist Nick Weiser and vocalist Thornton.

NOW BOOKING FOR FALL



Kitchens, Bathrooms,
Windows, Siding,
Porch and Railing
Restorations
& Complete
Home Remodeling

North County Carpentry
Rob Sek, Owner

716-969-7656

LECTURE

Grunwald addresses agricultural, livestock issues, possible solutions

ARIANNA NEVAREZ
STAFF WRITER

The most “obvious and important” fact about food, according to journalist and author Michael Grunwald, is that there are 8 billion people on this planet who all need to eat, which means there needs to be lots of agriculture. This introduces an “inconvenient truth”: Agriculture is a national and global environmental disaster and the leading driver of water pollution.

“Agriculture is also the leading driver of water shortages,” Grunwald said. “What, you thought it was data centers? Lawn sprinklers? Farms use 70% of our fresh water.”

Grunwald laid out the facts about agriculture’s harm to the planet and possible solutions to address the issue at 10:45 a.m. Thursday in the Amphitheater. Grunwald is an award-winning journalist and bestselling author. Most recently, he wrote *We Are Eating the Earth: The Race to Fix Our Food System and Save Our Climate*, a book about the fight to fix the food system, which he referenced throughout his lecture.

Agriculture is also responsible for high levels of deforestation, wetland destruction and biodiversity loss, according to Grunwald. Though there are individual farmers who make an effort to care for and protect their land, he said overall agriculture is “a mess.” He said cattle release methane when they burp and fart, which contributes to agriculture making up around a third of the greenhouse gases that are “heating up the planet.”

While these issues add up, Grunwald said the main issue is agricultural land use.

“The Captain Obvious point of my book is that agriculture is enormous. It has overrun a landmass the size of all of Asia, plus all of Europe, and it’s expanding every day,” Grunwald said. “So

we’re on track to clear another dozen Californias worth of forest into farmland by 2050, and we don’t have another dozen Californias worth of forest to spare.”

In 2019, Grunwald realized he was writing about the environment, yet he didn’t understand the significance of agriculture and its harm to the Earth. Though there is a “clean energy revolution,” he said the “food and climate problem is still getting worse.”

Considering how to approach writing about what is happening, Grunwald said people didn’t know the solution, but they also didn’t understand the questions they were attempting to answer.

“That’s why I wrote the book. The world wasn’t really grappling with this eating the Earth problem, and I wanted people to grapple,” Grunwald said. “... I did spend five years doing the research, and not only is there a lot that normal people, like me five years ago, don’t know about food and (agriculture), but there’s a lot that people think they know that just isn’t so.”

While Grunwald said it is mostly a land problem, he emphasized that it is specifically “mostly a meat problem,” citing that 12 billion acres of land are used for agriculture, and 75% of those support livestock. He said eating plants is more efficient than eating animals because it cuts out the “middleman.”

Thinking about it holistically, Grunwald said that half of the agricultural land in the U.S. is used to produce beef, which provides only 3% of the country’s calories. Looking ahead, he said, “Humanity is on track to eat 70% more meat by 2050,” which would create a new kind of pressure on Earth.

“Beef is the number one driver of deforestation in the Amazon,” Grunwald said. “... When you’re eating a burger, you’re not just



SKYLAR SEAVEY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Journalist and author of *We Are Eating the Earth: The Race to Fix Our Food System and Save Our Climate* Michael Grunwald speaks on the increasing damage agriculture is doing to the environment Thursday in the Amphitheater.

eating a cow. You’re eating macaws and the rest of the cast of ‘Rio.’ You’re eating the Amazon. You’re eating the Earth. So this is the challenge, right? To feed the world without frying the world by 2050.”

The last issue Grunwald addressed was climate change. He said agriculture has become riskier due to more intense droughts and floods killing crops and livestock. Simultaneously, pests are invading new regions.

“We probably need wheat yields to increase by a third over the next three decades, but scientists now believe that climate change could reduce wheat yields by a third,” Grunwald said. “No bueno.”

He urged the audience to reduce their food waste and eat less meat, specifically beef. He said, “The average American household wastes \$2,000 a year on food that ends up in landfills, emitting methane.” When prices were rising in 2024, he said those numbers didn’t budge.

To alleviate food waste, startup Mill Technologies created a food dehydrator that turns food scraps into chicken feed overnight, minimizing what ends up in landfills. Grunwald said reducing food waste is an issue all parties can agree on, but it will be tougher for the government to lessen meat consumption. In his book, Grunwald quoted a pollster who said: “taxes and other restrictions on meat were literally the least popular policy he had ever polled in America.”

Meat alternatives are not “better or cheaper than meat,” so Grunwald said consumers don’t have an incentive or motivation to purchase them. But he said the technology that helps create stronger alternatives can rise, especially with government help. He said it is possible for the population to eat less beef because there has already been a shift due to chicken prices dropping.

“At the risk of sounding like the ‘Eat Mor Chikin’



cow in those Chick-fil-A ads, that little shift did more to reduce U.S. emissions than any other shift before the rise of solar, and we still eat four times as much beef as the global average,” Grunwald said. “So there’s plenty of room for improvement. So yeah, beef is the baddie.”

From a supply standpoint, Grunwald said there needs to be “even more productive production.” He said regenerative practices, like rotational grazing of their cattle, growing cover crops and practicing no-till, can help to grow more food while requiring less land.

Grunwald said he is hopeful about the future because he sees young

people building solutions that are not simply meat alternatives but helping food at every stage, from feed additives that help cattle burp less methane to biotech coatings that prevent food spoilage.

“It is really, really hard to change the world in a hurry, especially the world of food and agriculture, because this stuff is so personal and so political. So we’re going to need political change. We’re going to need technological change. We’re going to need behavioral change,” Grunwald said. “... But if the eating the Earth problem was an easy problem to solve, we would have solved it already.”

Wirzba calls for reconnection with spiritualities of gardening, cooking, sharing

LILY RESLINK
STAFF WRITER

Norman Wirzba, theology professor and senior fellow at the Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University, delivered a lecture on the spirituality of eating at 2 p.m. Thursday in the Hall of Philosophy, during which he suggested that “all of living is a conjugation of the verb ‘to eat.’”

He began his Interfaith Lecture with a distinction: “Eating is not simply what we do in life; eating is the means of life and death.”

In Wirzba’s perspective, the fact that eating necessitates death can be depressing yet profound.

As opposed to the farming, hunting and foraging that have sustained humans for millennia, he said, “We are living in a most unusual time because food is registered as a commodity.”

Wirzba said he grew up on a farm with a family that cared a lot about food. As refugees in World War II, he said the starvation his parents once experienced influenced their household’s huge pantry and readiness to feed guests or those who stopped by.

Wirzba left his family’s farm to become an academic; in college, he said he was struck by the fact that there was never a farmer on a single syllabus despite how fundamental their work was to sustaining life.

“How we eat, what we eat (and) how we grow what we eat is going to tell us a tremendous amount about what we think life itself is and what we think life

is for.” These, he said, are huge questions.

Wirzba asked how unhappiness persists despite today’s “unimaginable” standard of living; he said this might suggest a lost ability “to think about life in meaningful, satisfying ways,” and the way humans think about food and eat it may play a role in modern culture.

He spoke on what he called the “logic of commodification.”

Transformations in the food industry following WWII shaped the current view of food as a commodity, he said, adding that priorities lie in how cheaply and conveniently one can acquire it. He said this begs the question of whether people also see life as cheap and convenient.

He connected the topic of commodification back to the spirituality of eating, asking, “What is a fast food spirituality?”

“The fast food drive-through is a beautiful window into how we think our lives should run,” which Wirzba said is quick, cheap and flavorful — albeit artificial.

He said technology in pursuit of a “friction-free life” is sold to humans. This advancement, he explained, presents dangers to the world’s ecological, social, political and economic health, as well as to the human body.

“Food is a gift,” he said, calling for a shift in mindset. He said he likes to say that food is “the creator’s love made delicious and nutritious.”

Culturally, he said people use food to punctuate im-

portant moments in life and show care. He suggested that humans think of food as an expression of love for each other, their bodies, soil, plants and animals. He theorized that activating this love to its fullest potential would yield a world that is “unrecognizable.”

Wirzba said mindless and thoughtless eating has created problems for families, neighborhoods, communities and economies.

He named factors that influence how religious approaches to food that emphasize relationships may address polarization, individualism and division. These include dietary laws, communal eating, hospitality, fasting, feasting and rest. He said, “Relationships are at the heart of faith traditions.”

In speaking about how cultural shifts toward eating alone are harmful to division, he said, “Faith traditions are constantly talking about, ‘How are we going to eat with each other? What rules are we going to be putting in place that govern well-functioning community?’”

Hospitality, he said, is another part of faith traditions across the board. “Showing kindness and generosity by inviting [people] into your home to eat is one of the most profound and practical articulations of faith.”

In religious tradition, he spoke about fasting “not because food is bad” but — referencing Adam and Eve — to acknowledge limits.

“When we develop a gluttonous relationship to the world, we will respect no limits.” He said not observ-



SKYLAR SEAVEY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Gilbert T. Rowe Distinguished Professor of Christian Theology at Duke University Norman Wirzba speaks on the commodification of food and the spirituality of eating Thursday in the Hall of Philosophy.

ing limits is indicative of much more of the world’s current state.

Religious feast days, he said, are important to many faith traditions as a “celebration of shared life.”

Within religious teachings, he emphasized not forgetting the purpose of day seven: rest.

“The opposite of rest is not activity, it’s restlessness,” which Wirzba said is fueled by feelings of inadequacy.

“It’s the feeling you do not have enough, do enough and are not enough yourself,” Wirzba said. He attributed this to a culture that prioritizes marketing and advertising to consumers.

“Our culture is anti-Sabbath because it wants us to

be restless, because when you are restless, you are easy prey for marketers.”

He said the reason “the grass is always greener” is “because they’re watering it. And you’re not, because you’re too busy doing other stuff!”

He said “enough” comes from appreciating relationships and seeing the world’s beauty, and offered suggestions to reimagine spirituality through gardening, cooking and sharing.

Contrary to the cultural pursuit of convenience, Wirzba said, “Try to grow something. It’s an education, because first you’ll learn how easy it is to kill a plant.” He said it is important to experience this difficulty.

He said “cooking spirituality” is a way to think about the ingredients one is using and open people up to “endless possibilities.”

Wirzba said sharing is a way to address today’s loneliness problem. “The most pleasurable way for us to share life with each other is to grow food together, to cook together and then to share the food.”

Eating around a table together, he said, helps people become more human.

He ended by saying when there is one slice of pie left, and two people waiting for a slice, one who happily relinquishes this slice to the other represents humanity at its best and “a spirituality worth looking for.”

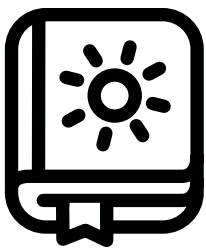
RELIGION



The Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton, joined by the Rev. Natalie Hanson, leads the congregation in song during worship Thursday in the Hall of Philosophy.

DAVE MUNCH / INTERIM MANAGING EDITOR

Hanson shares faith journey, from feeling fake to knowing own gifts



MORNING WORSHIP

COLUMN BY MARY LEE TALBOT

“When guests came to Sunday dinner at our house, we all had to be able to talk about the sermon. When I complained that the sermon was boring, my mother told me, ‘If you listen hard enough, you can find something. Half of it (understanding the sermon), is up to you,’” the Rev. Natalie Hanson recalled. She talked about her faith journey with Bishop Eugene Sutton at the 9:15 a.m. Thursday morning worship service in the Hall of Philosophy. The Scripture reading was Matthew 22:8-14.

When Sutton asked her if she was a “good girl” in high school, Hanson responded, “Oh, God, yes.” She was arrested once for participating in a protest at a local high school to allow students to be part of the decision-making in the school. When she appeared before the judge, he said to her, “Just don’t go there anymore and make trouble.”

When she was a student at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, she met Fr. Charlie Gonzalez, S.J., who “brought magic to worship.” He organized a retreat to St. Joseph’s Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts, and Hanson met Fr. Theophane Boyd, who had just finished a year of silence.

“It was my first experience of someone whose presence had power and density in the world. He asked me ‘Who are you?’ and like a little child, I just twirled, weightless, in his presence. I was caught in the silence,” Hanson said.

When the Upper New York United Methodist Conference reached out to her about going to seminary, she was beginning to think about teaching at a university, but as she thought about it, she realized she loved biblical study, preaching and the possibility of the local church.

“I had a dream of walking on a railroad embankment and seeing the lights of a town and hearing the conversations in the houses. I saw a light at the end of the town and it said, ‘It is going to be lonely but worth it.’ I sent my application in to the conference the next day,” Hanson said. She was ordained as a deacon in the 1970s but was not ordained an elder until “12-14 years later, the longest time in the Upper New York Conference,” she said.

When she was asked to be a district superintendent, the Bishop told her to take time to pray about it. “I loved the local church and when I talked to my husband, Paul, he said, ‘if not you, who?’ I was praying in the shower one day and a



The Rev. Natalie Hanson shares her personal faith journey with the Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton during worship.

voice said, ‘You can do it; you can be a cheerleader.’”

Sutton asked her if she ever had doubts about God or her faith. Hanson said, ‘I find it is most necessary to pray when I am knocked to my knees.’ She uses Ignatian prayer because of its simple pegs for asking questions. The first question is to reflect on the day or week and ask what one recalls most vividly. The second question is to ask where God was in that event. The third question is to ask how God wanted one to be in that situation, and the fourth asks what one should take into the next new day.

When Sutton asked why she had chosen Matthew 22:8-14 as the Scripture for the day, Hanson said that she was a precocious little girl for whom school came easily, but she knew she was not that good. “I thought I was a fake,” she said.

When she took Clinical Pastoral Education as part of her seminary training, this was the Scripture she chose to live with. Hanson said, “The Scripture grabbed me. I saw myself dressed in rags. I was the one who could not accept a compliment. But then the rags began to fall off and I saw

something shining. I have some gifts to share with people and I rejoice in who God made me to be.”

The Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton, senior pastor of Chautauqua, presided. The Rev. Larry Malakey read the Scripture. Sonya Subbayya Sutton, interim director of Sacred Music, played Sergei Rachmaninoff’s Prelude Op. 32, No. 5, for piano, on the Steinway piano for the prelude. Kris Miller, host of the Quaker House, read the poem “We Drink the Same Water,” from the book Wild Grace by Chelan Harkin. Anna Womack, a long-time Chautauquan and musician, led the morning prayers. Four male members of the Motet Choir, accompanied by Sutton, led the congregation in “Wade in the Water.” At the end of the service, the congregation sang “This Little Light of Mine,” under the direction of Bishop Sutton. Support for this week’s chaplaincy and preaching is provided by The Samuel M. and Mary E. Hazlett Memorial Fund. Support is also made possible by Week Eight Presenting Sponsor Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, AHN Westfield Memorial and HealthNow Administrative Services.

306 Second Avenue
Warren, PA 16365
(814)-230-9022
warrenantiquesgiftware@gmail.com

ANTIQUES ~ COLLECTIBLES ~ FINE ART ~ MID CENTURY ~ NEW GIFTS ~ FURNITURE ~ VINTAGE

Conveniently located in the Heart of Downtown Warren, PA with other Shops & Restaurants
Open Monday - Saturday, 10am to 6pm, Sunday 12pm-4pm

Add Timeless Holiday Magic to your Home with
Department 56 Buildings and Accessories. Large Selection is available. Great Quality, clean and Sturdy Furniture pieces looking for a New Home. Assorted Style and Colors available!!
1st floor – New & Used - Piano Music - Jazz- Classical - Pop, etc.
"2nd Floor includes Large Book Store & Fashions for a Fraction"

YEAR ROUND CHRISTMAS & HOLIDAY AREA
We accept all major Credit Cards
Please check us out at
www.facebook.com/warrenantiquesgiftware

THE CHQ 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

Your Chautauqua Institution

REAL ESTATE EXPERTS EST. 1984

 AnnaMarie Bennett Lic. R.E. Associate Broker 716-397-4382	 Mary Ann Bianco Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-450-1081	 Robin Bratton-Bias Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-785-3285	 Heather Shea-Canaley Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-708-5000	 Lynne Gruel Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-720-1977
 Tracy Durol Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-670-6118	 Cynthia Rosenbloom Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-450-6238	 Robert Rosenbloom Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-581-0034	 Deborah 'Debbie' Rowe Lic. R.E. Associate Broker 716-640-6507	 Hanna Soffel Briggs Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-450-4319
 Tena Dills Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-397-7790	 Karen Goodell Lic. R.E. Associate Broker 917-670-1900	 Nickcole Garcia Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-450-5251	 Heather Chase Lic. R.E. Salesperson 724-553-6051	 Jennifer Burkhart Lic. R.E. Associate Broker 585-698-7211
 Mary Kohl Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-485-6879	 Ruth Nelson Lic. R.E. Associate Broker 716-708-9980	 Alli Makuch Lic. R.E. Salesperson 716-581-0410		

Team VP
REAL ESTATE & VACATION RENTALS

716.357.2307 | 1 Morris Avenue, Chautauqua Institution, 14722
FOR ALL LISTINGS, VISIT **ERATEAMVP.COM**

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT

2027 Week 8 (8/14/27-8/21/27) and/or (Week 9 (8/21/27-8/28/27) St.Elmo Week 8 and/or Week 9. First Floor studio apartment. Beautiful private porch. Brand new bath with walk-in shower. A perfect comfortable home away from home. Best location on the grounds! Possibility to extend to Labor Day. Call or text Marc for details: (908) 385-1299

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Want to subscribe? Visit our website to view rates and call to get set up. The *Daily* can be mailed anywhere in the country. chqdaily.com/subscribe 716-357-6235

TO ADVERTISE:
716-357-6206

18TH ANNUAL ROBERT PINSKY FAVORITE POEM PROJECT



At top, Bill Bates reads the poem “If” by Rudyard Kipling at the 18th Annual Robert Pinsky Favorite Poem Project Thursday in the Hall of Philosophy. Above left, *The Chautauquan Daily* reporter Jenna Outcalt reads the poem “Kinder Than Man” by Althea Davis. Above middle, *Daily* multimedia journalist Guinevere MacLowry reads the poem “Good Bones” by Maggie Smith. Above right, Maureen Ryan Griffin reads the poem “For When People Ask” by R. Wahtola Trommer.

Doolittle Endowment supports Fleming, Fleck

The Elizabeth Elser Doolittle Endowment Fund for Adult Programming proudly supports Renée Fleming with Béla Fleck: The Fiddle and the Drum at 8 p.m. tonight in the Amphitheater. We extend our sincere gratitude for the Fund’s generous support of adult audiences at Chautauqua Institution.

Established by Elizabeth Elser Doolittle in 1972, the fund was further strengthened through gifts from the trustees of the Elizabeth Elser Doolittle Charitable Trusts following her passing. A lifelong supporter of the arts and learning, Doolittle was born and raised in Milwaukee and later made her home in Buffalo, New York. She was a member of

the Uihlein family, known for its stewardship of the Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company. Through her generosity and the continued stewardship of the Charitable Trusts, the Doolittle Endowment has provided lasting support for programs that enrich, educate and inspire Chautauqua audiences. Its ongoing impact reflects the Institution’s commitment to lifelong learning and to presenting exceptional artistic experiences throughout the season.

Chautauqua is sincerely grateful for Elizabeth Elser Doolittle’s enduring generosity and for the lasting legacy her philanthropy has created in support of the Institution’s cultural and educational mission.

McCredie Family Fund supports Lappé

The McCredie Family Fund generously supports Anna Lappé’s lecture at 10:45 a.m. today in the Amphitheater.

Established in 2004 by Jack and Yvonne McCredie, the fund reflects a lifelong connection to Chautauqua rooted in family tradition and personal devotion. Since meeting in college in 1961, Jack and Yvonne have spent summers at Chautauqua for decades, continuing a legacy that began when Jack’s parents first met here in the 1920s. Across generations, Chautauqua has remained a cherished part of their family life.

The McCredies have also demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to Chautauqua through leadership and service. Jack served on the Institution’s Board of Trustees in the 1970s and again from 2007 to 2015, while Yvonne contributed to the CLSC Alumni Association. Together, they served as co-chairs of the Chautauqua Fund from 2012 to 2014 and as honorary co-chairs in 2018. Jack also supported the Institution through his volunteer work with the Promise Campaign.

Their family’s connection to Chautauqua extends to their children, grandchildren and friends, ensuring that the traditions they have cherished continue across generations. Through the McCredie Family Fund, Jack and Yvonne’s generosity helps sustain the exceptional programming and opportunities for learning that have made Chautauqua a place of renewal, connection and inspiration for their family and countless others.

Chautauqua is sincerely grateful for the McCredies’ enduring generosity, leadership and commitment to ensuring that the Institution’s mission continues to thrive for generations to come.

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
41 Next to
1 Dull finish
6 Blackjack call
11 Clear sky
12 Fire remnants
13 Like chiffon
14 Canary chow
15 Brief time
16 She loved Hamlet
18 One, for Juan
19 Carnival city
20 Far from cordial
21 Scathing reviews
23 Green strokes
25 Sis and bro, informally
27 Half of hex-
28 Train stop
30 Quiche base
33 Towel word
34 Slight, in slang
36 Clay, later
37 Check out
39 Light brown
40 Sam of “Jurassic Park”

DOWN
1 Botch
2 Wise goddess
3 John Grisham book
4 Kicker’s aid
5 Goof
6 Discuss in detail
7 Words of understanding
8 John Grisham book
9 Army docs
10 School paper
17 Card symbol
22 Easy victim
24 Uno plus due
26 Early autos

Yesterday’s answer
28 Moolah
29 Nervous habit
31 Quick look
32 Burned a bit
33 Pointers
35 Work group
38 Cord end
42 Singer Reed

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		25		26		27			
28					29		30	31	32
33				34		35		36	
37			38				39		
40					41	42			
43						44			
45						46			

8-21

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.

8-21 CRYPTOQUOTE
OMD’X CV JVT LHVRR EYXN
MXNVJ BVMBHV’R NVWJXR.
OMD’X BQX QB EYXN BVMBHV
ENM WJV JVT LHVRR EYXN
FMQJR. — IYGY NVDOJYZ
Yesterday’s Cryptoquote: I’M CAPTIVATED BY YOU, BABY, LIKE A FIREWORKS SHOW. — TAYLOR SWIFT

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.

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 8/21

©2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 8/20

©2026 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

TWO OLDE SNOWBIRDS
ASHVILLE, NY

- WICKER REPAIR
- WICKER SALES
- SEAT WEAVING

716-490-2301
www.2oldesnowbirds.com

BUILDING TRUST SINCE 1973

CUSTOM HOMES
REMODELING AND RESTORATION
SUSTAINABLE DESIGN
CUSTOM CABINETRY/MILLWORK

MAYSHARK
ARCHITECTURE | DESIGN | CONSTRUCTION

5073 WEST LAKE ROAD, MAYVILLE, NY 14575 | WWW.MAYSHARK.COM
716.386.6228

Creating an Inclusive Chautauqua & Beyond:
Interrupt microaggressions effectively

A free, skill-based, 90-minute workshop to help create a Chautauqua where everyone belongs.

Select one of the following:
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday: 3:30–5 p.m.
Wednesday: 9–10:30 a.m.
Alumni Hall
Drop-ins welcome depending on space.

Learn more and register at:
chq.org/belong



Jon Schmitz answers questions during his biweekly “Tent Talk” Tuesday outside the Oliver Archives Center.

UNCOVERING THE PAST

Historian emeritus Schmitz’s biweekly ‘Tent Talk’ series sheds light on Chautauqua history

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY **GUINEVERE MACLOWRY**

Jon Schmitz is a well of knowledge. Ask him anything about Chautauqua’s history, and he’ll have some kind of answer. At 1 p.m. each Tuesday and Friday of the season, community members are invited to do just that during his biweekly “Tent Talk” series outside the Oliver Archives Center.

After serving as Chautauqua Institution’s archivist and historian from 2002 to 2025, Schmitz now serves as historian emeritus. The “Tent Talks” are informal and unscripted, guided by whatever questions visitors bring and whatever historical tangents Schmitz chooses to follow.

“I don’t prepare anything; there’s no topic,” Schmitz said. “Every session has been quite different from the others.”

For Schmitz, the past is meant to be investigated, questioned and unpacked rather than filed away in a locked drawer collecting dust. Although he is a lifelong lover of history, becoming an archivist was not always his intention.

Though he had an academic background in history, philosophy and classics, he struggled to find employment in academia. He applied to as many Canadian grants as he could and ended up in Toronto at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. Originally offered a three-month contract, Schmitz ended up staying for a year and eventually worked his way into the Medical Review Committee, first as a coordinator and later as a medical inspector.

While working as a medical record inspector, he honed his skills as an archivist without any formal training. He would visit the City of Toronto Archives in the evenings and on weekends to study their collection. “I read everything they had in their library, and then I thought, ‘Well, you know, I should really get certified,’” Schmitz said.

He went on to attend George Brown College, the only archival practice program at the time, to attain his graduate degree. Later, he would go on to teach the program’s archives, records management and preservation class himself.

“When I was doing my certificate, we were asked to make up an archive as an assignment, so I made up the Chautauqua Archives,” Schmitz said. “I didn’t really know that Chautauqua still existed.”

As his career as an archivist gained traction, Schmitz came face-to-face with the pitfalls of working in academia. Schmitz “became very disillusioned with universities,” constantly jumping through hoops until he realized that public archives weren’t the place for him.

Beyond the stress of climbing the professional ladder, Toronto became increasingly expensive for him and his family. One former student of his who had been coming to Chautauqua for years pointed toward the Institution, and sure enough, it was seeking an archivist.

Western New York was the best of all worlds for Schmitz: He could raise his kids away from the chaos of the city, pursue the outdoor activities he enjoyed and work in a corporate archive. Working in privatized archives offered something different.

“History is a fabric that knows no end, and you have to learn and learn and learn and learn. And anybody who says that they know it all, they don’t.”

—**JON SCHMITZ**
Historian Emeritus,
Chautauqua Institution

The work was practical, hands-on and allowed him to wear many different hats.

“One of the things I love about being a corporate archivist is that you do it all,” Schmitz said. “You do the acquisition, you do the appraisal, the arrangement, description, preservation, you deal with copyright and freedom of information access, all of it.”

What began as a new job and a new home became a 23-year career.

For more than two decades, Schmitz served as the Institution’s primary steward of its records, artifacts and institutional memory. He helped organize and modernize its historical collections, oversaw preservation and digitization projects and worked to make archival materials accessible to researchers and the public. One of his major accomplishments was overseeing the opening of the Oliver Archives Center as the new home of the Institution’s archives.

“I ended up researching things I never, ever thought I’d be researching,” he said. “It’s been a wonderful education — much better than one receives in a formal setting.”

Following years of becoming acquainted with the Institution’s archives, Schmitz began to investigate and debunk certain stories that had long been accepted as Chautauqua history.

“One of the things I learned very quickly here... there’s a lot of false stories, a lot of false ideas,” Schmitz said. “Just because you see it in print, no. Just because you see it in print in three different places, no. You have to look for evidential records to be in any way confident that it’s actually true.”

That distinction between evidence and information is central to his philosophy. An informational record can tell researchers about an event, while an evidential record provides a direct connection to something that actually happened, he explained.

“What I’m saying is not evidential just because I’m saying it,” Schmitz said. “That’s informational.”

The Oliver Archives Center hosts a wide variety of items that are not archives at all. For something to be considered a true archive, it must be an original, unique record of human interaction.

“Most of the records we have are not archival,” Schmitz explained. “They are things like photocop-

ies, printed stories about things, stuff that aren’t really archives. Archives are really the records that are a ... natural byproduct of business activity and other human dealings.”

Schmitz said he is rarely wrong, but when he is corrected by a Chautauquan, he isn’t bitter. In fact, he’s excited to set the record straight. “I’m very grateful that they bothered to correct me ... because I read it somewhere, and it’s wrong,” he said.

That humility is central to his understanding of historical research.

“History is a fabric that knows no end, and you have to learn and learn and learn and learn,” Schmitz said. “And anybody who says that they know it all, they don’t.”

Preserving that history requires more than simply keeping old documents. During Schmitz’s tenure, the Institution undertook major preservation and digitization efforts, including putting many archival photographs online and digitizing the archives of *The Chautauquan Daily*. But Schmitz has never believed that everything should be digitized automatically.

“I’ve always said progress is one of the most evil ideas ever created,” he said. “You do what works. You do what the situation calls for.”

Digital collections provide enormous benefits, including remote access and searchability, Schmitz explained. He has experienced those benefits firsthand, using digitized issues of *The Chautauquan Daily* to conduct research that would previously have required reading every issue individually.

At the same time, he cautioned that digital preservation requires continual investment.

“IT people are always saying, ‘Storage is cheap,’” Schmitz said. “I know it’s cheap. But setting it up right isn’t cheap. And maintaining it. You can’t just create these things and walk away.”

Ultimately, Schmitz views archives as places where preservation and discovery meet. There is never a shortage of knowledge to be collected, and he has dedicated a quarter of a century of his life to making sure Chautauqua’s history is not just remembered, but brought to life.

“With archives, you’re also hands-on,” he said. “You’re dealing with a real thing. You’re ... sort of the frontline of history, both in preservation and discovery.”

That philosophy continues in his “Tent Talk” series. For Schmitz, understanding history is about remaining excited to learn.

In the epilogue of his upcoming book *How We Lost the Museum*, he writes, “There is simply no way to tell the truth of a story by examining the story itself. The only way is by relying on the evidence.”

Sometimes the evidence provides an answer. Sometimes it changes what people thought they knew. And sometimes, as Schmitz acknowledges, the evidence leaves historians without a clear answer. For an archivist, that uncertainty is not a failure. It is part of the work, and perhaps the reason there will always be another question waiting at the next “Tent Talk.”

PROGRAM

A FOGGY SUNRISE PADDLE ON CHAUTAUQUA LAKE



SAM HUFFMAN /STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

To left, Fred DiGiovanni and Lauren Kehr kayak on a foggy Chautauqua Lake last Friday during a Sports Club Sunrise Paddle. At top right, Bob Mittl kayaks through the morning mist. At bottom right, Julie Jolsom paddles toward the Miller Bell Tower.

FRIDAY AUGUST 21	
6:15	(6:15–7:15) Sunrise Paddle Hour – Kayak/SUP. Fee. Sign up in advance at 716-357-6281. Sports Club Waterfront
7:00	(7–11) Chautauqua Farmers Market. Massey and Miller
7:00	(7–9) “Dawn Patrol” Round Robin Doubles. Chautauqua Tennis Center
7:45	Chautauqua Mystic Heart Meditation Program. Larry Terkel, Judaism/ Kabbalah Meditation. Presbyterian House

7:45	Episcopal Holy Eucharist. Chapel of the Good Shepherd
8:00	Daily Word Meditation. (Programmed by Unity of Chautauqua). Hall of Missions
8:15	Catholic Mass. Hurlbut Church. 21 Scott
8:30	Movement and Meditation with Monte Thompson. Hall of Philosophy Grove
8:55	Chautauqua Prays for Peace through Compassion. Hall of Philosophy Grove
9:15	ECUMENICAL COMMUNION SERVICE. Hall of Philosophy
9:15	(9:15–10:15) Jewish Discussions. “Jewish Mysticism & Philosophy.” Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House. 23 Vincent
9:00	Jack’s Nature Walk. Jack Gulvin. Smith Wilkes Hall
9:00	Member Coffee Hour. CWC House. 30 South Lake
10:15	Service of Blessing and Healing. UCC Randell Chapel

10:15	Coffee/Tea on the UM House Porch
10:45	CHAUTAUQUA LECTURE SERIES. Anna Lappé. Amphitheater
11:00	(11–5) Exhibitions open. Fowler Kellogg Art Center & Strohl Art Center
11:30	(11:30–2) Taste Caravan Food Trucks. Bestor Plaza
12:00	(12–2) Flea Boutique. Behind the Colonnade.
12:15	Community Reading. Alumni Hall Porch
12:15	Twelve Step Meeting. Hurlbut Church Marion Lawrance Room
12:30	Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). Lutheran House
12:30	Introduction to Jumu’ah Muslim Prayer. Hall of Christ Sanctuary
12:30	Garden Talk: “Monarch Butterfly Tagging and Release.” Betsy Burgeson, head of Gardens and Grounds. Miller Park
12:45	Catholic Seminar. Laudato Si: Pope Francis’ Encyclical on Integral Ecology. Len Sauers, Ph.D. UM House. 14 Pratt
12:45	(12:45–1:45) Daily Demo. Bestor Plaza

12:45	(12:45–1:45) Grand Challah Bake. Make and Braid your own Challah. (Sponsored by the Chabad Jewish House). Bestor Plaza
1:00	Archives Tent Talk with Jon Schmitz. Oliver Archives Center
1:00	English Lawn Bowling. 30-minute free instruction, then opt to play for fee. Bowling Green
1:15	Docent Tours of Alumni and Pioneer Halls. 50 Wythe
2:00	CHAUTAUQUA LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC CIRCLE PRESENTATION. Aimee Nezhukumatathil, <i>Bite by Bite: Nourishments & Jamborees.</i> Hall of Philosophy
3:00	Palestinian-Jewish Dialogue: The Courage to Listen. “The Journey of 8 Women From Cleveland Inspiring Change.” UM House
3:30	Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). Christian Science House
3:30	Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). Episcopal Cottage
3:30	Chautauqua Dialogues. (Programmed by the Department of Religion and IDEA Office). Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
4:30	(4:30–8) Taste Caravan Food Trucks. Bestor Plaza
5:00	(5–6) Hebrew Congregation Kabbalat Shabbat: “Welcoming the Shabbat” service. Led by Rabbi Aaron Meyer, senior rabbi at Temple Emanuel, South Hills, PA, and Rebecca Closson, music specialist at Temple Emanuel Congregation. (rain location:

	Smith Wilkes Hall). If the weather is questionable, call 716 742-2228 for the service location
6:00	(6–7:15) Hebrew Congregation Shabbat’za. Post-service pizza picnic. Miller Park (rain location: Smith Wilkes Hall). We supply the pizza! Bring your own beverage and a side dish or dessert to share
6:00	Potluck Cookout. Advanced registration required. \$10. Meat, baked beans, chips, beverage and ice cream provided. Please bring a side dish to share. Disciples of Christ House. 28 Janes
6:15	Cinema Film Screening. “Good Boy.” Fee. Chautauqua Cinema
6:15	Chautauqua Choir rehearsal. Fletcher Music Hall
6:30	“Community Shabbat Dinner.” RSVP required. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House. 23 Vincent
8:00	AMPHITHEATER SPECIAL. Renée Fleming with Béla Fleck: The Fiddle and the Drum
8:30	Cinema Film Screening. “Eternity.” Fee. Chautauqua Cinema
9:15	Popcorn on the Porch (post-Amp program). UM House Porch. 14 Pratt

	Carol McKiernan. Hall of Philosophy
9:30	(9:30–10:25) Hebrew Congregation Torah Study. “Today’s Torah for Today’s Times.” Led by Rabbi Adam Meyer, senior rabbi at Temple Emanuel, South Hills, PA. Lower level of Hurlbut Church
10:00	(10–12) “Shabbat Service and Torah Reading.” Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House. 23 Vincent
10:30	(10:30–11:45) Hebrew Congregation Shabbat Morning Service. Led by Rabbi Adam Meyer and Rebecca Closson. Kiddush luncheon to follow. Hurlbut Church Sanctuary. Please enter on Scott Avenue
11:30	CLSC Bryant Day Ceremony. Ring in the new CLSC reading year and celebrate the first few 2027 CLSC selections! Miller Bell Tower
12:00	(12–4) CHQ Community Block Party. (Hosted by the African American Heritage House). Scott Avenue (between Palestine and Wythe)
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
3:00	Contemporary Issues Forum. (Programmed by Chautauqua Women’s Club). Heather Ann Thompson, Ph.D. Hall of Philosophy
5:00	Catholic Mass. Hall of Philosophy
5:45	Cinema Film Screening. “Eternity.” Fee. Chautauqua Cinema
6:15	Chautauqua Choir rehearsal. Fletcher Music Hall
8:00	AMPHITHEATER SPECIAL. Silkroad Ensemble featuring Rhiannon Giddens
8:45	Cinema Film Screening. “Good Boy.” Fee. Chautauqua Cinema



Building on the Foundation

“The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord will praise him may your hearts live forever! All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord.”

Psalm 22:26-27



CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE
CHAUTAUQUA INSTITUTION



CPOA

Donate Your Unused Food

Reduce Landfill Waste
Help Families in Need

Unopened
Non-perishable
Does not need refrigeration

Summer Season Saturdays 9-11 AM
Turner Community Center
Outside Front Entrance

Year-round weekdays 9:00-5:00 Post Office lobby

➔ **Best Boat Buying Package on the lake!**
We sell our Rental Fleet Pontoon Boats each year!
Pontoon Boats come with Warranties



Boat RENTALS, SALES, SERVICE, FUEL, SHOWROOM, STORAGE.
Chautauqua Marina...716.753.3913
www.ChautauquaMarina.com

Air Conditioned
CHAUTAUQUA CINEMA
At the corner of Hurst & Wythe 716-357-2352

Fri. 8/21 6:15

GOOD BOY
PG-13 73m
Fri. 8/21 8:30

Eternity
PG-13 114m
www.chq.org/things-to-do/chautauqua-cinema

Pontoon BOAT

Rentals, Sales, Service, Dockage, Storage, and Showroom

➔ **We pump Non Ethanol Fuel**

Open 7 days a week
Chautauqua Marina
716.753.3913
104 W. Lake RD (Rt. 394), Mayville, N.Y.

Proudly serving the Chautauqua Community for over 60 YEARS!

JAMESTOWN AWNING & PARTY TENTS

CUSTOM MADE
AWNINGS & PORCH ENCLOSURES

Party Tent Rentals
JAMESTOWNAWNING.COM
(716) 483-1435



Fine Arts and Fine Crafts by 40 Regionally and Nationally Known Artists Open Year Round

Home of Audrey Kay Dowling's Clay, Painting and Mixed Media Studios

Audrey's work... “rewards close repeated looking that distinguishes art you truly live with from art you merely own.”
~ Despina Turnberg, International Curator





Portage Hill Art Gallery
www.portagehillgallery.com

8 miles from Chautauqua. Go out the Main gate and turn right. We are on the left halfway between Mayville and Westfield. 6439 Portage Road (Rte 394), Westfield, NY

Hours: Wed.-Sat. 11-5
716-326-4478
akdowling80@gmail.com