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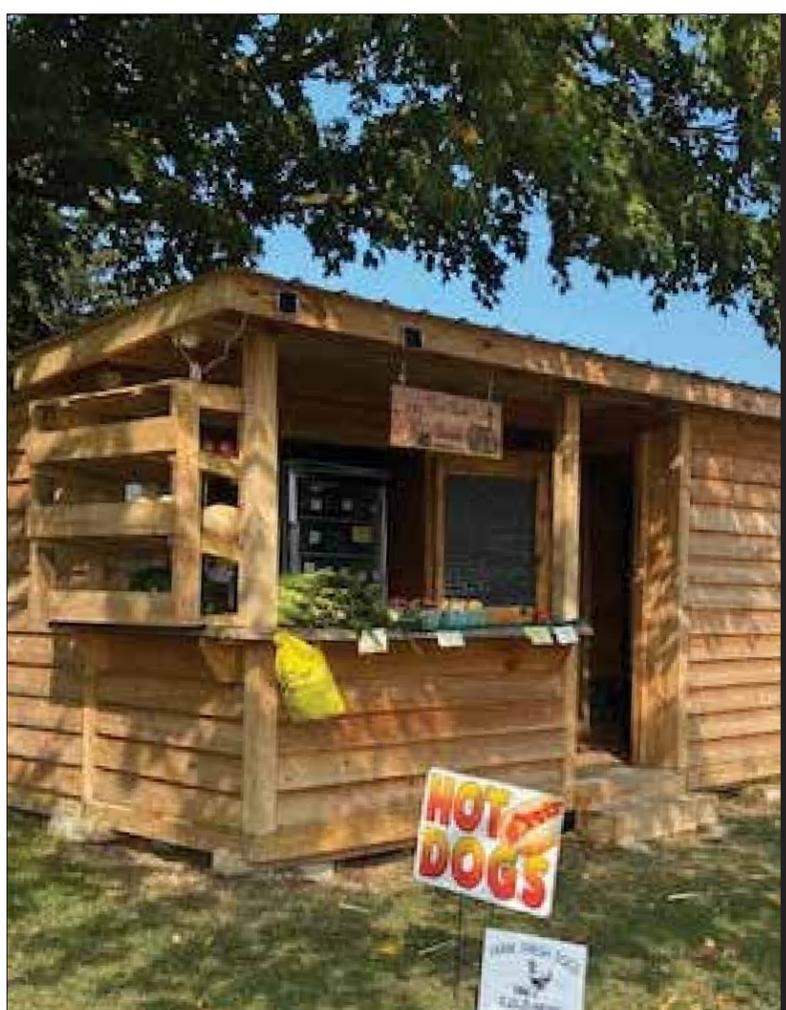
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Obituary

STEVEN R. WESTLAKE, longtime resident of Main Street, Interlaken, died on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at Cayuga Medical Center.

Steve was born in Montour Falls on December 31, 1946, a son of the late Donald and Marion (nee Denson) Westlake. Following high school, he proudly served his country in the US Navy, having been stationed on both coasts of the United States. His military training led him to his career as a pipeline operator and ultimately retired from Duke Energy in Watkins Glen. Steve was an avid outdoorsman and found enjoyment and time to reflect in his hunting and fishing. He truly had motor oil in his blood, proven by his lifetime of dirt track racing. Most recently he found mini-sprint racing to be his passion. He was "president" of Westlake Racing and spent countless hours in the shop, honing in on the best set up for the track. Additionally, he curated his collection of classic cars, attending club events, parades and car shows. Steve's showed his dedication to his community through volunteering with both Ovid and Interlaken Fire Departments for over 30 years and serving on the board of Seneca Union Cemetery in Valois.

He is survived by his wife of nearly 25 years, Carol; his sons, Timothy (Mary) Westlake, William (Carrie) Westlake, Matthew (Whitney) Westlake; his grandchildren, Kylie (Tristan Andrews) Westlake, Timothy (Olivia) Westlake, Devin Westlake, Katrina and William Meyer, Jessica and Brandon Westlake, Benjamin and Mara Furst, Jackson and Broden Hazlak; his stepchildren, Karen (Adam) Furst, Amanda (Joshua Sincebaugh) Hazlak; a sister, Leanna Eutermark and brother in law, Ralph Bailey. Steve was preceded in death by his sister, Robin Bailey, and brothers, Dwight Westlake and Chris Phillipson.

A service of remembrance will be held privately by the family with future interment at Seneca Union Cemetery in Valois. In lieu of flowers, kindly consider a donation in Steve's memory to Seneca Union Cemetery, PO Box 134, Valois, NY 14841.

For additional information, please visit www.coverfuneralhome.com

Obituary

BEVERLY A. (WELCH) CHAFFIE, formerly of Interlaken, passed away at Geneva General Hospital on Friday, February 27, 2026, at the age of 91.

Beverly was born on Tickle Hill in Hector on June 22, 1934, a daughter of the late Coral and Annabelle (Button) Welch and from there started a journey that would have her witness a life of amazement and wonderment. Traversing the gorges, glens and Finger Lakes with her best friend Nancy Stewart, she grew up a farm girl and loved riding tractors, horses, playing with her dogs and smoking corn silk.

She graduated from Watkins Glen High School and was on the cheerleading squad there. After graduation she met Neil Chaffie and began a 62-year marriage that packed in a full life of travel and treasured memories. After residing for a short time in Valois, the family moved to Elmira where she welcomed many Elmira Pioneer players and coaches and became a second mom to many of them. Many players on that team went on to win the 1970 World Series. When Neil accepted a position in Dunkirk New York, Bev went to work at Brooks Hospital as a therapy aide - and then seamlessly transitioned to First Lady of Dunkirk when Neil was elected Mayor. She reluctantly accompanied him to many "rubber chicken" dinners.

Her journey continued to Lake Placid New York, and she worked as a receptionist for the Lake Placid NEWS witnessing the 1980 Miracle on Ice. She smiled one of her last smiles when told the USA men and women did it again in 2026.

Moving to Los Lunas New Mexico for semi-retirement she fell in love with Native American culture and attended many pow wows which became her hobby and the events she looked forward to the most. She also witnessed the Albuquerque Hot Air Balloon festival with the balloon night glows becoming her favorite part. She found the weather too hot out west and the ground too full of snakes and decided to head back east. Coming full circle, she returned to the Finger Lakes area and worked at Willard Psychiatric Center as a therapist aide until she fully retired and became a full-time grandmother and great grandmother.

Prayers of Committal will be held at 11:00am on Monday, June 22, 2026, at New York State Veteran's Cemetery - Finger Lakes, 6632 State Route 96A, Romulus.

She is survived by her children, Michael (Leslie) Chaffie, Terry Chaffie, and Tammie Vespe; her grandchildren, Weylin, Morgan, Emily, and Seth; a great grandson, Kyan; and Neil's sisters, Linda. Beverly was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, Neil Chaffie in 2015; and brothers, Bruce and William Welch and sisters in law, Leona and Colleen.

For additional information, please visit www.coverfuneralhome.com

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The application and all comments filed relative thereto are available for public inspection at the Town of Lodi office during normal business hours. Interested persons may file comments on the application with the Town of Lodi clerk and with the New York State Public Service Commission within 10 days of publication. Comments may be addressed to Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary, New York State Public Service Commission, 3 Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223.

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I NEVER CEASE TO BE AMAZED BY MY FELLOW MAN: UNICORNS IN THE BIBLE, PART ONE

WE ARE NOT ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS OR ADMITTING FORMER CLIENTS WHO HAVE NOT BEEN INTO THE PRACTICE IN THE LAST THREE YEARS!

(Reprint) Back when Theresa and I had Covid, the mandatory quarantine has gave me a little bit of extra time on my hands. In between the endless hours of fitful sleep, rib-busting coughing, and mild spells of delirium and fever, I was able to kick out a few new articles.

I've done something a little different this time, yet still within the realm of veterinary medicine. Back in the days when we still could travel to exotic places, be it in a ship's dining room on the high seas, a frozen mountaintop camp, or mosquito-infested jungle, one of the great thrills of our trips were the evening-time conversations that often take place among our fellow travelers. However, as much as I find fascinating hearing the stories and worldly experiences of my fellow adventurers, much to my annoyance, nearly every conversation eventually comes around to the subject of religion. And the reason for my frustration is that the vast majority of these hardcore travelers are also—as is their right—agnostics or complete atheists. Almost without exception, when they discover I'm a Christian, they insist on ganging-up against me.

In my younger days, when I still believed to the very core of my being that I had to win every one of life's battles, I would do the best I could to successfully defend my faith and beliefs. And even though these otherwise lovely people seemed to share in some perverse joy in trying to break the will of anyone who didn't share their world view, I usually managed to hold my own. But the talks always left me exhausted. But, in the last few years, I've discovered a way to deal with these bullies that simply shuts everybody up almost instantly. The language I use depends on whether the company is all men (usually the case) or if the group is mixed.

When the topic of religion comes up, I wait until everyone else finishes with whatever snide or sarcastic thing they wish to say about (mostly) Christians. I say mostly Christians because these people know most Christians will always "turn the other cheek." Likewise, it isn't politically correct for them to pick on the Buddhists or the Hindus or the Native American traditions; plus, they are too cowardly to dare say anything bad about Islam. Anyway, when everyone is done, I do something like this: First, I give the biggest yawn I can muster up, take a sip of whatever adult beverage I may be drinking, and then smile and say, "Gentlemen, I've heard it all before, and if the honest truth were to be told, I really don't give a poop what you think. (Sometimes I'll use the s-word—or the f-word if ladies aren't present.) I have only the greatest respect for all of the world's religious traditions, but I especially love my Lord Jesus, and my beloved Christian faith. Now, if any of you guys still think you need to "save" me from my religious faith, than you can just kiss my skinny Polish a**."

I can almost hear all of my beloved readers now asking this question: "So Doc, that's a nice story. But what does it have to do with veterinary medicine?" One of the last points that one of these guys brought up was: "Ya know, eight times the Bible mentions the fact that unicorns existed in the ancient days. If the Bible is so true, how come nobody has ever found any fossil of the creature?" I had to admit that I'd never given the subject any thought.

Little did I realize when I began researching this seemingly harmless subject what a HUGE "can of worms" I would be opening! It turns out that this topic is not only used by some Christian groups to prove the "literal" truth of the Bible but it's also being used by non-believers to dismiss the Bible as a book of fairy tales. There are volumes of stuff written about unicorns by both sides. There is even a relatively-easy-to-follow, 10-minute-long, Youtube video on the subject by a man named Eric Hovind! I will paraphrase often from this video.

Next time.

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Colon Cancer Awareness: Screening Saves Lives

Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer diagnosed in the United States. Colonoscopies—a short outpatient procedure used to examine the rectum and entire colon for diseases like cancer or inflammation using a camera-equipped tube—can save lives.



Dr. Tenzin Tseky is doing her gastroenterology fellowship at Arnot Health, a Member of Centralus Health.

Gastroenterologists can tell a lot about your risk based on the results of the first screening. Dr. Tenzin Tseky, a Gastroenterologist at Arnot Health, a Member of Centralus Health, says colonoscopies allow her to look for polyps—

"A large percentage of our practice is preventative health. It starts there, with screening. I think it's important to talk about as a primary care physician," says Dr. Cliff Snellgrove, Internal Medicine Provider at Arnot Health, a Member of Centralus Health.

The risk of colon cancer increases for everyone as you get older. Without routine preventative screening, like a colonoscopy, detecting cancer early can be difficult.

"We've seen a slight increase in colon cancer in patients under the age of 50. Forty-five is the average age we ask patients to be screened unless they have a family history. It's individualized, but if they have a first-degree relative who had it at a younger age, you'd want to make sure they're screened 10 years prior to when their relative was diagnosed," says Dr. Snellgrove.

abnormal growths of tissue, clumps of precancerous cells, found inside the large intestine.

"Any form of colon cancer has to start from a small polyp."

Colonoscopies offer doctors a chance to remove, analyze, and potentially prevent the formation of cancer before it has a chance to start.

"Being able to get rid of polyps is one of the biggest advances in modern medicine," says Dr. Tseky.

Colonoscopy is a quick outpatient procedure and is considered the 'gold standard' for early detection. If you're over the age of 45, talk to your doctor about scheduling an exam.

Cayuga Health Gastroenterology is located at 1020 Craft Road, Suite C, in Ithaca. Arnot Health Gastroenterology is located St. Joseph's Hospital, 571 St. Joseph's Blvd, Suite 307, Elmira.

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Thur. Fri. & Sat. March 19, 20, & 21, 2026

THURSDAY AUCTION INCLUDES:

7:00 Driving of Sale Horses **8:00** Tack Auction
9:30 Cataloged Harness Horse Auction

FRIDAY AUCTION INCLUDES:

9:30 Farm Equipment Millwood 2 row corn planter, Pioneer Homesteader w/cultivator & tiller attachments. White horse 410 2 way hydraulic plow w/16" kv bottoms, spring colters & off set tongue for tandem hitch. 6' basket roller harrow w/tongue. 10' Lower Valley basket roller harrow rebuilt by Peachey, never used. JD KBA 28 blade disc 8' wide. Gravity wagon on steel w/new farm built front end

Stoltzfus Machinery:
(Brand new Equipment) Fore cart w/torsion axle, Farmbuilt Wagon gear, 715 White horse spring reset plow, 85 bu. Lancaster Spreader. **8:30 Driving of Sale Horses**, **10:00 New Tack** from Locust Lane Harness Shop. **10:30 Draft Horse Auction**, **10:30 Antiques:** Old Coins, Daisy butter churns, Griswold, Butcher equipment, Mini Anvils, & lots more... **11:30 Semiload Groceries**, Includes: Meat, Cheese & Snacks... **12:00 Book Auction** by WS Bargain Shop. Lots of hard to find rare books. Good reading material. **3:00 Tools Air Works:** Full line of Dewalt & Milwaukee power tools, New hand tools etc... **4:30 Sporting Goods**

SATURDAY AUCTION INCLUDES:

8:30 Quilts (mail your quilts to Yerkes Rd address) Finished Quilts, Quilt Tops, Lone Stars, Log Cabins, Aplicated, Wall hangers, etc.. **Crafts** Gift Baskets, Bird Houses, Planters & More **8:30 New Furniture** Rustic Furniture: Bedroom Suites, Hickory Rockers, Sassafras. **Penns Valley Woodcraft:** Oak extension table & chair sets, Oak glider rockers, 4 pc solid oak bedroom suits, Toy chest, Roll top desk, Oak & cedar blanket chest, Queen & Full size beds, Oak sewing machine cabinets, Floor book cases. **9:00 Wagon Loads of Misc. Tools & Small Items.** **6:30 Check-in of Small Animals** (No Cats, Dogs or Pigs accepted) **9:00 Small Animals** (All small animals must come in see through cages, or they will be put in new cage at sellers expense). All animals/poultry must be free from contagious or communicable diseases. Any animal showing signs of sickness must be removed from sale grounds (No cats, dogs or pigs accepted) **9:00 Tools** (From Air works): Full line of Dewalt & Milwaukee power tools, New hand tools etc. **9:30 Building Materials** (metal roofing, trusses, lumber etc) Followed by **Lawn Furniture, Playsets & Sheds.** **10:30 (Approx.) Antiques:** Old Coins, Daisy butter churns, Griswold, Butcher equipment, Mini Anvils, & lots more. **11:00 (Approx.) Fork Lifts. Sawmill Equipment** (New Timber Buddy MJ24 Sawmill w/13 Hp engine, 24" x 12' capacity, New Timber Buddy MP362 Sawmill with 35Hp engine 32" x 20' capacity. Followed by **Shop Equipment Misc. Items** 44 Used Seneca Dairy Tie Stall Stanchions w/clamps & water bowls. 10' Headlock section. Truckload treated fence post (various sizes). 20 Qt Holbart mixer dough sheeter. Propane baker oven. 9' exhaust hood w/accesories. 2 coolong racks. **11:00 Tack followed by Buggies, 11:30 Semiload Groceries**, Includes: Meat, Cheese & Snacks... **12:00 Cataloged Ponies**

and lots more...

Terms Cash or good check, no buyer premium. All quilts must be here by Wed. March 18th by noon. All furniture must be here by Fri. at 5 pm. No consignment taken Saturday morning except Pet & Ponies. We will receive consignment Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday Auction week 8 AM - 5 PM Friday 'till dark. All item **MUST BE REMOVED** by Wednesday March 25th at 5:00 pm unless otherwise arranged

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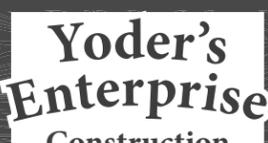


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Crafternoon: Kinusaiga	March 14, 11am-1pm
STEAM Night	March 18, 5-7pm
Craft Circle	March 21, 10:30am-noon
The Artistry Guild: Acrylic Painting on Canvas with Basil	March 27, 5-7pm
Veggie Seed Starters with the Lodi Community Garden	March 28, 11am-1pm

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THE HECTOR LIBRARY HAS NEW HOURS! Tuesday 12-8; Wednesday 9-12; Thursday 12-8; Saturday 9-12; Second Sunday only during Firehouse Breakfasts 8-12pm. Books, Videos, DVD's, audio books, free computer use, childrens programs, and more.

INTERLAKEN PUBLIC LIBRARY: 607-532-4341, www.interlakenpubliclibrary.org. Winter Hours: November thru April: Mon., Wed., Fri. 9-1; Tues., Thurs. 11-5, Sat. 9-12. Summer Hours: May thru October: Mon., Wed., Fri. 9-1, Tues., Thurs. 1-7, Sat. 9-12.

LODI WHITTIER LIBRARY: 8484 South Main St., Lodi. Hours: Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 10am-4pm; Wed. 1-7pm; Sat. 10am-2pm; Closed Sun. & Mon. 607-582-6218, www.lodilibrary.net.

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 Ovid Local Development Corporation

Our Mission: To assist the redevelopment of the Town of Ovid, with an initial focus on Main Street.

Who Are We:

- We were established by Town of Ovid Resolution #9 of 2025.
- We are a Not-For-Profit 501(c)(3) organization
- Made up of passionate local volunteers – past and present Ovid residents who care deeply about our town.

Meetings?



When: 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month
Time: 5:30 – 7:30pm
Location: Ovid Fire Hall Community Room

Get Involved!
 We are going to need your help, as there is a lot to do! We welcome new faces, fresh ideas, and anyone who wants to help make a difference. Whether you're a business owner, resident, or simply someone who loves Ovid, there's a place for you at the table.

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