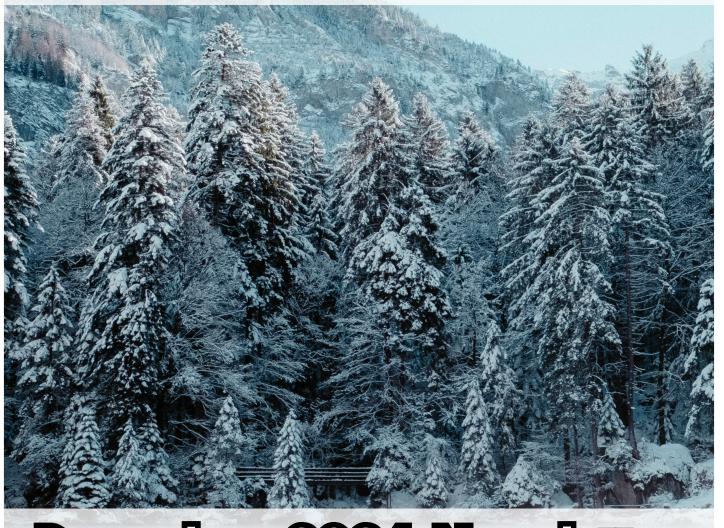
Jessen Geunsy Office for the Acting



December 2024 Newsletter

Christmas Word Search

jingle bells north pole reindeer rudolph jolly bells holy spirit mistletoe stocking eggnog angel santa gingerbread christmas holiday family elves star

nutcracker ornament cookies tinsel gifts tree

candy cane december snowman sleigh merry joy

Preparing Your Home

Winter Tips: Take the time now to get your home ready for the winter season by following there tips:

- Have your heating system checked annually by a professional. This will ensure that your system is
 working safely and efficiently which, in turn, will save you money. If you heat by wood, clean your
 fireplace or stove. Have your chimney flue checked for any buildup of creosote and then cleaned to
 lessen the risk of fire.
- Replace batteries of smoke, heat, and carbon monoxide detectors. If you did not do it when you set the clocks back, do it now.
- Keep pipes from freezing by wrapping in insulation, UL approved heat tape, or layers of old newspapers and covering newspapers in plastic to keep out moisture. Seal any leaks that allow cold air inside where pipes are located.
- Gather and store emergency supplies, including:
- -A battery-operated radio and flashlight, as well as a supply of batteries, candles, and matches.
- -Water, medications, and foods that don't require refrigeration or cooking
- -A telephone that does not require electricity to operate
- -A list of emergency telephone numbers
- -Extra blankets, coats, hats, and gloves
- -A first aid kit and manual
- -A fire extinguisher

Staying Warm Indoors

Safety Tips: If your heat goes out during a winter storm, follow these tips:

- Use only safe sources of alternative heat such as a fireplace, small well-vented wood or coal stove or portable space heaters. Always follow manufacturer's instructions.
- Dress in layers of lightweight clothing and wear a cap.
- Close off rooms you do not need.
- Know the signs of hyperthermia (shivering, drowsiness, slowness) and how to treat it (wrap the person in warm clothing, move to a warm location and seek medical help).
- Check on people with special needs (elderly or dependent on life-sustaining or health-related equipment such as ventilators and respirators).

Taking Precautions

Carbon Monoxide is a deadly gas that also be produced by poorly vented generators, kerosene heaters, gas grills and other items used for cooking and heating when used improperly during the winter months. Protect yourself from carbon monoxide poisoning:

- DO NOT operate generators indoors; the motor emits deadly carbon monoxide gas.
- **DO NOT** use charcoal to cook indoors. It, too, can cause a buildup of carbon monoxide gas.
- **DO NOT** use your gas oven to heat your home -- prolonged use of an open oven in a closed house can create carbon monoxide gas.
- Make sure fuel space heaters are used with proper ventilation.
- Know the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning (sleepiness, headaches and dizziness). If you
 suspect carbon monoxide poisoning, ventilate the area and get to a hospital.

Because CO is odorless, colorless, and otherwise undetectable to the human senses, people may not know that they are being exposed. The initial symptoms of low to moderate CO poisoning are similar to the flu (but without the fever). They include:

- Headache
- Fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea
- Dizziness

High level CO poisoning results in progressively more severe symptoms, including:

- Mental confusion
- Vomiting
- Loss of muscular coordination
- · Loss of consciousness
- · Ultimately death

Alternative Heating Sources

Fire Hazards are greatly increased in the winter because alternate heating sources are often used without proper safety precautions.

Generator Safety – follow the generator safety guidelines such as those listed in this publication when operating a generator.

Fire Safety:

- · Always keep a screen around an open flame
- Never use gasoline to start your fireplace
- Never burn charcoal indoors.
- Do not close the damper when ashes are hot.
- When using alternative heat sources such as a fireplace, wood stove, etc. always make sure you have proper ventilation.
- Keep curtains, towels, and potholders away from hot surfaces.
- Have your chimney checked before the season for creosote buildup -- and then clean it.
- Have a fire extinguisher and smoke detectors ... and make sure they work!
- Establish a well-planned escape route with the entire family.

Kerosene Heaters- If you use kerosene heaters to supplement your regular heating fuel, or as an emergency source of heat, follow these safety tips:

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Use only the correct fuel for your unit.
- Refuel outdoors **ONLY** and only when the unit is cool.
- Keep the heater at least three feet away from furniture and other flammable objects.
- When using the heater, use fire safeguards and ventilate properly.



Santa for Seniors is a community wide project in which the Jefferson County Office for the Aging. Z93. & Froggy 97 have partnered together with local sponsors to spread holiday cheer to seniors in nursing and assisted living facilities who will be spending Christmas without friends or family.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

GO TO SANTAS4SENIORS.COM TO SPONSOR A SENIOR TODAY!

WHEN SPONSORING A SENIOR PLEASE KEEP IN MIND:

D ALL PRESENTS MUST BE WRAPPED UPON DELIVERY

2) EACH INDIVIDUAL PRESENT MUST INCLUDE A <u>VISIBLE TAG</u> INDICATING THE SENIORS CODE AND NAME

3) ALL PRESENTS MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE Z93 STATION AT
134 MULLIN STREET WATERTOWN, NY 13601
ON EITHER OF THE SCHEDULED DROP OFF DAYS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

10 AM-1 PM

Prepare Jefferson County, NY Mobile App





INTRODUCING **OUR NEW APP**

Navigating critical information has never been easier.



TO DOWNLOAD!







National Influenza Vaccination Week

National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) is an annual observance in December to remind us that there is still time to get vaccinated against flu. Vaccination is especially important for people who are at higher risk of becoming very sick and developing complications from flu infection.

While flu seasons vary in severity from year to year, people 65 years and older usually bear the greatest burden of severe flu infection. It's estimated that between 50-70% of seasonal flu-related hospitalizations have occurred among people in this age group.

The best way to protect against flu and its potentially serious complications is by getting a flu shot each year. Flu shots reduce the risk of getting sick with flu and also reduce the risk of more serious flu outcomes, like hospitalization.

In addition to getting a flu vaccine, everyone should take everyday preventative actions to help reduce spreading germs & becoming sick: good handwashing, covering coughs & sneezes and staying home when sick. Contact your local pharmacy to schedule your appointment.



Order your 4 FREE AT-HOME COVID-19 TESTS TODAY ON COVIDTests.gov!

EVERY HOME IN THE U.S. IS ELIGIBLE TO ORDER AN ADDITIONAL 4 FREE AT-HOME TESTS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 23.

COVID-19 testing can help you know if you have COVID-19 so you can decide what to do next, like getting treatment to reduce your risk of severe illness and taking steps to lower your chances of spreading the virus to others.

ORDERING TESTS IS EASY AND TAKES ONLY A FEW MINUTES:

- STEP 1
 Head to COVIDTests.gov to order.
- STEP 2
 Fill out your contact and shipping information.
- STEP 3
 Submit your order and have them delivered to your mailbox.







NEED HELP PLACING AN ORDER?

Call 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489)

for help in English, Spanish, and more than 150 other languages.

The U.S. government also continues to make COVID-19 tests available to uninsured individuals and underserved communities through existing outreach programs, ranging from local food banks to libraries. Free or low-cost testing also may be available at HRSA-funded health centers and ICATT locations near you.

COVIDTests.gov



Do you...

Perform housework for someone? Help them shop for food? Help them bathe or get dressed? Drive them to appointments? Get up in the night to make sure they are safe? Pick up their medication?

Feel stressed?

There is help **NewYork-Caregivers.com**



Free online training and support is available to caregivers like you

- Improve your confidence, reduce stress, and prevent burnout
- Connect with other caregivers through community chat rooms
- Access on-demand resources to suit your schedule
- Suit your learning preference with videos, articles, audios, interactive scenarios in English and Spanish

A Variety of Topics

- Communication changes
- Behavior management
- Transition from hospital to home
- Personal care
- Activities and recreation
- Your own wellness

- Heart and lung health
- Mobility and fall prevention
- · Documents and decision-making
- Meaningful activities
- Grief and loss
- · Caring for kids

NewYork-Caregivers.com



"The caregiver portal was my first support system when caring for my mother with dementia.

There is so much helpful information in one place and I learned so much about providing care."

Laura W, caring for her mother

Sign up today!

NewYork-Caregivers.com





Jefferson County Office for the Aging now provides free access to the VSC!



The VSC (Virtual Senior Center) is a vibrant community of teachers, innovators, and learners combating social isolation in older adults through technology.

VSC: A Lifeline to Learning and Laughing

80%

of VSC members reported experiencing reduced loneliness 60%

noted experiencing increased connectedness

51%

self-reported an increase in health status (well-being)

97%

said VSC improves the quality of their life

Participants also reported they appreciate how attending live online events reduces their social isolation and loneliness and increases their social network

Source: Independent evaluation by Dr. Barrie Raik and Dr. Veerawat Phongtankuel, researchers from the Division of Geriatrics at Weill Cornell Medicine.

Connect

with new friends on 2-way video chat

Participate

in 400+ live, instructor-led programs each month - exercise, wellness and 13 more diverse and engaging topics

Enjoy

a daily schedule of programs and built-in entertainment streaming



The Jefferson County Office for the Aging has partnered with GetSetUp to provide free interactive virtual classes for older adults taught by their peers- so they can ask questions, make new friends, learn new things, and most of all, have fun!

Try an Online Class Today!

https://co.jefferson.ny.us/departments/ Officefortheaging/OnlineClasses

5,000+ Online Classes Across Multiple Categories.

Mental Enrichment

- Creative Writing
- Heart Healthy Cooking

Social Connection

- Music Fun Hour
- Game Time

Technology

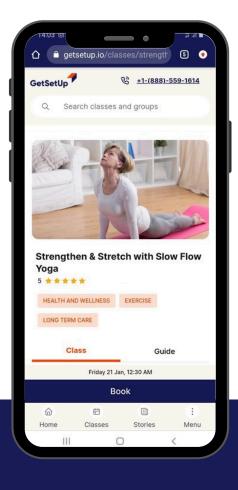
- iPhone Basics
- Google Search- Tips & Tricks

Physical Fitness

- Morning Fitness
- Core & Stretch
- Movement

Health and Wellness

- Face Yoga
- Energy & Purpose





Terri T. GetSetUp Learner

"I'm leading groups, taking nursing and social work classes to build my curriculum, and using my new Google Slide skills to present. Thank you, GetSetUp, for helping me to get my life back."



Food Pantries in Jefferson County

CAPC of Jefferson County Food Pantry

518 Davidson St. Watertown, NY 13601 **Pantry Hours:** Tue-Thur/ 10am - 2pm

Cape Vincent Food Pantry

159 S. Esselstyne St. Cape Vincent, NY 13618

Pantry Hours: 1st Wed 4pm - 5pm; 2nd Wed 10am - 11am; 3rd Wed; 6pm - 7:30pm

Council of Churches Food Pantry

521 James St. Clayton, NY 13624

Pantry Hours: Mon 1pm - 3pm; Tue 6pm - 8pm; Wed 1pm - 3pm

Gwen's Pantry

36213 State Route 180 LaFargeville, NY 13656

Pantry Hours: Sat 9am - 12pm

Indian River Baptist Church Pantry

42 Main Street Philadelphia, NY 13673

Pantry Hours: Sat 9am - 11am; Wed 4pm - 6pm

Rohde Center Food Pantry

2 East Church Street Adams, NY 13605

Pantry Hours: Mon, Thu, Fri 9:30am - 12:45pm; Tue 11am - 2:30pm & 3pm - 6:45 pm

Salvation Army Watertown

723 State Street Watertown, NY 13601

Pantry Hours: On call for emergencies only;

Mon & Fri 9am - 3pm; Tue & Thu 4 - 6pm; Sat 11:30am - 1pm

Soup Kitchen: Mon - Sat 11:30am - 1pm

St. Mary's Church Food Pantry

8408 South Main Street Evans Mills, NY 13691

Pantry Hours: Sat 10am - 12pm (holidays the Wed before)

St. Paul's - Redwood Food Pantry

43668 Lake Street Redwood, NY 13679

Pantry Hours: Wed 1:30pm - 3pm & by appt.

Theresa Food Pantry

110 Antwerp Road Theresa, NY 13691

Pantry Hours: Sat 10am - 1pm; Thu 9am - 12pm

Town of Brownville Food Pantry

210 W Kirby St. Dexter, NY 13634

Pantry Hours: Until January; 1st Wed 2-3pm; 2nd & 3rd Wed 6-7pm

After January; 2nd Wed 2-3pm; 3rd & 4th Wed 6-7pm

VEM Food Pantry of Carthage

595 South Washington Street Carthage, NY 13608

Pantry Hours: Mon 9am - 2pm; Tue - Wed 5pm - 7pm; Fri 9am - 2pm

Watertown Urban Mission Pantry

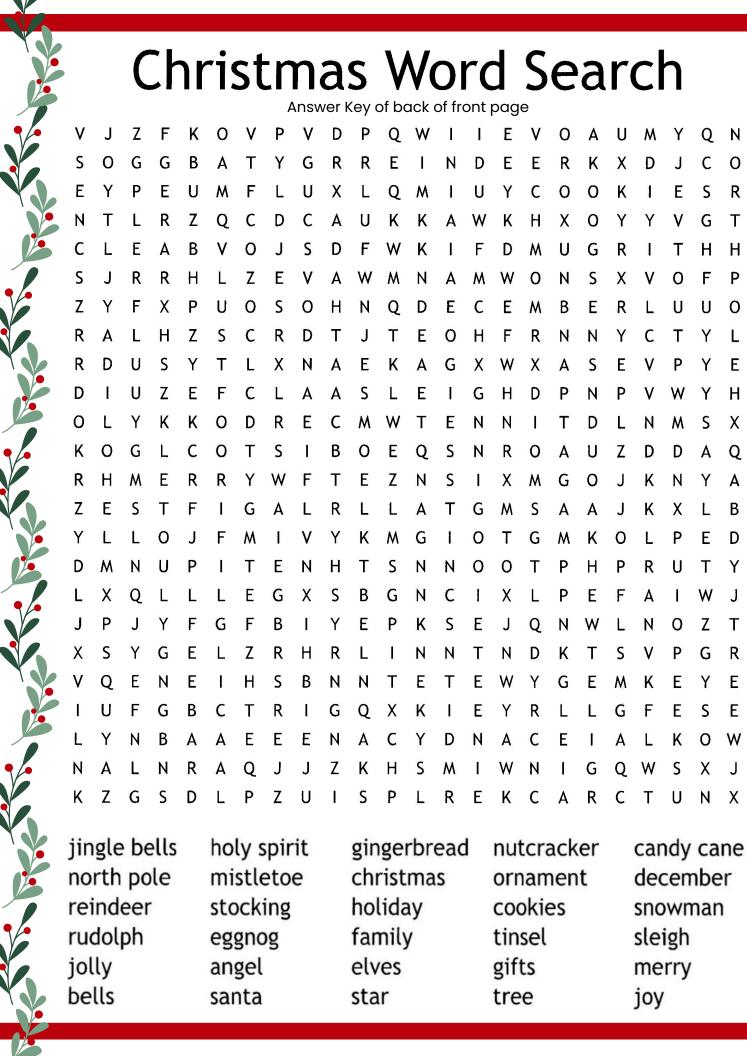
247 Factory Street Watertown, NY 13601

Pantry Hours: Mon - Fri 9:30am - 11:30am & 1pm - 3pm









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167 POLK STREET, WATERTOWN, NY 13601 PHONE NUMBER: 315-221-4021

The Watertown Senior Center Christmas Open House

December 14th / 11am to 3pm

Refreshments & Entertainment Provided Admittance is Free, New Visitors Welcome!

Volunteers Needed

December 3rd at 12pm- Cleanup Day December 5th at 12pm- Holiday Decorating

	OI OI	S .																	\}	A.		
No.	all the Center t			29					22					15			8			70 - 0	1	Sunday
***	Call the Center to sign up for classes		Boxing	10:00 Bingo			Boxing	10:00 Bingo 11:00 Balanced	23	Picture w Alicia \$12.00	"Busted Canvas"	Boxing 1:00 Christmas	ced	10:00 Bingo 16	Boxing 1:00 Snowman Craft with Sharon \$10.00	10:00 Bingo 11:00 Balanced	9	6:30 Arrythmias Big Band Holiday Music	Holiday Crafting	Boxing	10:00 Bingo 2	Monday
	asses and activ	New Year's Eve	11:15 Zoomers 12:00 Hot Lunch	CANCELLED-		12:00 Hot Lunch	11:15 Zoomers	CANCELLED- 10:00 Boomers	24	12:00 Hot Lunch	11:15 Zoomers	10:00 Boomers	9:00 Evans Mills	17	10:00 Boomers 11:15 Zoomers 12:00 Hot Lunch	8:00 Watertown Shopping	10		12:00 Hot Lunch	10:00 Boomers		luesday
No.	and activities 315-686-3553 or email: payntercenter@gmail.com		Le	j	Christmas Hanukkah Begins	CLOSED	CENTER	MERRY CHRISTMAS		1:00 Grief Share	11:00 Exercise	10:00 Coffee Hour	on	18	10:00 Coffee Hour 11:00 Exercise 1:00 Grief Share	9:00 Clayton Shopping		1:00 Grief Share	10:00 Coffee Hour 11:00 Exercise	9:00 Clayton Shopping		vvednesday
	53 or email: pay	Paynter	cember		Boxing Day (Canada) Kwanzaa Begins	11:15 Zoomers 12:00 Hot Lunch	10:00 Boomers	Shopping CANCELLED-	9:00 Clayton 26	Holiday Luncheon 6:00 Evans Mills Lights Bus Ride	11:30 Boomers	11:15 Zoomers	shoppin	9:00 Price 19	12:00 Hot Lunch 12:30 River Chorus	10:00 Boomers 11:15 Zoomers	12	Cloggers	12:00 Hot Lunch 12:30 Country	10:00 Boomers 11:15 Zoomers	5	Inursday
· · · *	ntercenter@gn	Paynter Center	oer 2					10:00 Bingo	27		With Cathy Wood	10:00 Painting	10:00 Bingo	20	by The Paynter Center Board 5:30 Piano Sing a Long with Sue	10:00 Bingo 5:00 Community	13	, u		10:00 Bingo 10:00 Thrift Shop	6	Friday
	nail.com		2024		5				28	Winter Begins		27		21	House 10 th Mountian Division Band	6:30 Bus to Clayton Opera		- 18	Clayton Christmas Parade	5:15 Bus to		Saturday
		, (_								7	111		0	7	

48 Hour Prior Notice Required	December 14th @ 11am - 3pm - Christmas Open House at the Senior Center- Refreshments & Entertainment Provided	ipm - spm /cnristmas run Game Day
Sign in for OFA's Linches at (680)222-7038		12pm - 1pm / OFA Lunch or BYO Lunch
Every Day- 3pm Close	5th @ 12pm - Volunteers Needed for Holiday	share (Sign-Up at Front Desk)
Every Day- 9am Meet & Greet	December 3rd @ 12pm- Volunteers Needed for Cleanup Day	9:00am - 10am / Chair Exercise W/ LU Ann 11:30am - 12pm/ New Years Eve Potluck Party- Hors D'oeuvres to
		Monday 12/30
1pm - 3pm /Life Bio Class 2 (Limit 14 Sign-Up at Front Desk)	Merry Christmas & Happy Holladys:	12pm - 3pm / Ora Lunch or BYO Lunch 1pm - 3pm / Christmas Fun Game Day
10am - 11am/ Nickel Bingo 12pm - 1pm / OFA Lunch or BYO Lunch		Desk)
9:00am - 10am / Chair Exercise w/ Lu Ann		9:00am - 10am / Chair Exercise w/ Lu Ann
Friday 12/27	Wednesday 12/25	Monday 12/23
	/ OFA Lunch or BYO Lunch	1:30pm - 3pm / Discover Live -Holiday in Paris, France
12pm - 1pm / OFA Lunch or BYO Lunch 1pm - 3pm / I ife Bio Class (Limit 14 Sign-Up at Front Desk)	12pm - 3pm / Holiday Potluck Party & Secret Santa (Sign up at Front Desk)	Last Class
9:00am - 10am / Chair Exercise w/ Lu Ann 10am - 11am/ Christmas Crafts w/ Sandi (Limit 12 Sign-Up at Front Desk)	9:00am - 10am / Chair Exercise w/ Lu Ann 11am - 12pm/ Parkinson Support Group	9:30am - 10:30am/ Hat Making w/ Rose 10:30am - 12:30pm / Senior Wellness Initiative Class 6 by PIVOT -
Friday 12/20	Wednesday 12/18	Monday 12/16
1:30pm - 3pm /Discover Live - Holiday in Ljubljana, Slovenia- OFA Set Up	12pm - 1pm / OFA Lunch or BYO Lunch 2pm - 3pm / Catherine Quencer Estate Planning	12pm - 1pm / OFA Lunch or BYO Lunch 1pm - 3pm / Making Christmas Ornaments w/ Rose (Limit 12 Sign-Up at Front Desk)
10am - 11am/ Tai Chi 2 w/ MaryBeth - Last Class - Registration Closed 12pm - 1pm / OFA Lunch or BYO Lunch	Registration Closed 12 Sign-Up at Front Desk)	10:30am - 11:30am / Hat Making w/ Rose 10:30am - 12:30pm / Senior Wellness Initiative Class 5 by PIVOT
9:00am - 10am / Chair Exercise w/ Lu Ann		9:30am - 10:30am/ Tai-Chi 2 w/ Marybeth - Registration Closed
Friday 12/13	Wednesday 12/11	Monday 12/9
1pm – 3pm / Hat making w/ Rose		
1pm-3pm / Riki w/ Sandi Smith	5	1pm - 3pm / Christmas Movie & Popcorn- Polar Express
Make sure uou call Senior Center to reaister: 315-221-4021		12pm - 1pm / OFA Lunch or BYO Lunch
12pm - 1pm / PIVOT Lunch and Happy Birthday Cake for all	OT	10:30am - 12:30pm / Senior Wellness Initiative Class 4 by PIVOT
10am - 11:30pm/ Tai-Chi 2 w/ Marybeth - Registration Closed		10:30am - 11:30am / Hat Making w/ Rose
9am - 10am/ Christmas Card Makina w/ Ginger		9.30cm - 10.30cm / Tai-Chi 2 w / Marubeth - Registration Closed
Friday 12/6	Wednesday 12/4	Monday 12/2

Watertown Senior Center December Calendar