



The Bedford Falls Sentinel



Vol. MMXXIV

NEWS OF THE WORLD

FREE

WELCOME!

"Hey, you're wonderful!"



SENECA FALLS

New  York

“NO-ONE IS A STRANGER”

WELCOME

DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF SENECA FALLS

Welcome to Seneca Falls, NY—a charming small town where magic and nostalgia come alive. Whether this is your first visit or you're a frequent guest, you'll quickly understand why many believe Seneca Falls inspired Bedford Falls, the beloved hometown of George and Mary Bailey. Imagine Uncle Billy hurrying down the street or Mr. Potter scowling at a passersby—it's all part of the enchanting atmosphere.

Each year, the It's a Wonderful Life Festival brings this connection to life, celebrating the special bond between this Upstate New York community and Frank Capra's 1946 classic, *It's a Wonderful Life*.

Explore "The Real Bedford Falls"

The festival offers countless ways to immerse yourself in this magical experience. Stop by the Festival Information Center to purchase tickets, obtain information, or pickup a souvenir to remember your visit. Enjoy screenings of *It's a Wonderful Life* at the Little Theater and treats from Annie's Pit Stop. For extra fun, join the Participation Movie on Friday or Saturday night and become part of the action!

Wander through the craft vendors at Sam Wainwright's Five and Dime, enjoy scenic Horse-Drawn Wagon Rides, and try your hand at the new Lights, Camera, Action event. This interactive activity invites participants to recreate iconic scenes from the movie at ten downtown locations, uploading their photos for a chance to win \$100!

Be sure to visit the It's a Wonderful Life Museum, showcasing photos, artifacts,

and memorabilia from the film. Throughout the weekend, you'll also have opportunities to meet those connected to the movie's history and legacy.

Festive Food and fun is essential to any celebration! On Friday, start your evening at Mrs. Martini's Pasta Dinner or join the Wonderful Bonfire and Tree Lighting, where Harry's Hots will serve up snacks while the Calvary Chapel Worship Band plays festive Christmas tunes. Santa will be joining the Wonderful Bonfire by firetruck. Don't forget the many fine dining establishments downtown listed in this program.

Saturday is packed with highlights. Meet the original film actors, interact with costumed characters bringing Bedford Falls to life, and secure a front-row spot on Fall Street to watch the Wonderful Parade. Stay into the evening for the dazzling It's a Wonderful Run 5K, where thousands of runners light up the town in holiday spirit.

For dinner and entertainment on Saturday night, savor Bert & Ernie's

Famous Chicken BBQ, attend the live radio production of *Merry Christmas, George Bailey!*, or step back in time with *In the Mood – A 1940's Cabaret*.

Sunday Highlights, end your weekend with fun activities like Uncle Billy's Wonderful Scavenger Hunt and holiday tunes by the Wonderful Music Brass Ensemble. Don't miss the enchanting Bedford Falls Express Train, offering 90-minute rides filled with magic and memories. Be sure to reserve your commemorative tickets in advance!

Before you leave, take time to meet the actors, collect autographs, and listen to the Bells of Bedford Falls ringing through the town—a perfect send-off from this storybook experience.

Farewell, Friend

As your visit ends, you'll find that you're no longer a stranger—you are part of the Bedford Falls family. In the words of Clarence, **"No man is a stranger who has friends."** Enjoy your time at the It's a Wonderful Life Festival and the warm community of Seneca Falls.

We can't wait to welcome you back again!



The Real Bedford Falls !

Why is the Upstate New York Village of Seneca Falls thought to be the inspiration of the fictitious town Bedford Falls of the movie *It's a Wonderful Life*? There are too many coincidences to ignore...

Physical similarities between Seneca Falls and Bedford Falls are numerous and striking. In addition to the architecture along the main street and the steel truss bridge crossing a canal, Seneca Falls has many Second Empire Victorian homes like the Granville house depicted in the movie. Seneca Falls was a mill town, just like Bedford Falls, and even had a median on a portion of its main street lined with globe street lamps as seen in the movie.

Seneca Falls and Bedford Falls each has a large Italian community and each had a neighborhood where people of modest means could live comfortably. In the movie it was "Bailey Park," named in honor of the Bailey family's building and loan; in Seneca Falls it was "Rumseyville," named after one of the town's large pump manufacturers. Bedford Falls has a Genesee Street, a common street name in Upstate New York, and Seneca Falls has a Genesee Turnpike (NY Route 5).

It's hard to dispute that Frank Capra set Bedford Falls in New York State. Rochester, Buffalo, and Elmira are mentioned in the script and all three are an easy drive from Seneca Falls. And, a reference to Cornell University in Ithaca, just 40 miles south, was taken out of the

script by the studio's rights clearance lawyers.

Tommy Bellissima, a barber who lived and worked in Seneca Falls, has told a story that really clinches the case. In late 1945, Frank Capra while in nearby Auburn visiting his Aunt, stopped in Seneca Falls and had his hair cut by Tommy Bellissima. Tommy didn't know who Frank Capra was at the time, but when the movie came out, he recognized the name of his famous patron on the poster. He remembered Capra because the two had talked at length about their lives in Italy and common experiences as immigrants, and the name stuck with Bellissima because Capra in Italian means goat.

Leaving Bellissima's barbershop, Capra would have gone over the steel truss Bridge Street bridge to get to the main part of town. There he might have noticed a plaque on the bridge honoring Seneca Falls resident Antonio Varacalli, who had leaped into the icy waters of the canal in April 1917 to rescue a girl who had just attempted suicide by jumping off the bridge. Varacalli saved her but he was overcome by fatigue from the rescue and drowned. Varacalli's sacrifice would certainly have captured Capra's attention.



It cannot be a coincidence that *It's a Wonderful Life* begins with a leap from an almost identical bridge to save a would-be suicide. The film was based

upon the short story "The Greatest Gift" by Philip Van Doren Stern. The movie is remarkably true to the story: A man frustrated and beaten down by life contemplates suicide by jumping off a bridge, a guardian angel intercedes and grants him his wish that he had never been born, the man gets to see how terrible things in his small home town would have turned out if he had never lived, then he frantically goes back to the bridge and pleads to get his life back. His wish is granted and the man rushes back into town in euphoria to celebrate his life with his wife and children.

Capra was still in the early planning stages of *It's a Wonderful Life* when he visited Seneca Falls, having just signed the contract a few weeks before. Not only did the bridge over the canal and the guardian angel match the plot of "The Greatest Gift," but Seneca Falls also had the size, look, and personality of the town depicted in the story.

Of course, there is still no definite proof that Frank Capra meant to replicate Seneca Falls in his fictional Bedford Falls. Capra never mentioned Seneca Falls in his memoirs, and nothing about the town is found in his archives. Then again, perhaps his silence was deliberate. Perhaps he kept the Seneca Falls connection to himself. Making it known his set design was based on one place would have compromised its universal appeal.

We just can't know for sure. But every year *It's a Wonderful Life* comes alive again in the streets of Seneca Falls, as residents and visitors alike embrace the film's spirit and message that every life makes a difference and for one short weekend in December,

WE ARE BEDFORD FALLS.



Where to Eat...

Name	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	ADDRESS
Avicolli's	11am-9:30pm	11am-9:30pm	11am-9:30pm	170 Fall St.
Bert & Ernie's Chick BBQ	N/A	4:30pm-7pm (or until gone)	N/A	100 Fall St.
Café 19	7am-2pm	8am-2pm	Closed	20 E Bayard St.
Dewey's	11:30am-8pm	11:30am-8pm	12:30pm-6pm	39 Bridge St.
Downtown Deli	9am-8pm	9am-8pm	10am-3pm	53 Fall St.
El Bajío	11am-10pm	11am-10pm	Closed	74 Fall St.
Fall Street Brewing	8am-10pm	8am-10pm	8am-4pm	97 Fall St.
Flint & Stave	10am-10pm	10am-10pm	10am-10pm	84 Fall St.
The Gould	11am-4pm	11am-4pm	Closed	108 Fall St.
The Gould (Dining Room)	5pm-9pm	5pm-9pm		
Harry's Hots	6pm-8:30pm	N/A	N/A	People's Park, Water St
Lin's Kitchen	11am-9pm	11am-9pm	12-8:45pm	71 Fall St.
Little Italy	10:30am-10pm	10:30am-10pm	11am-9pm	118 Fall St.
Mrs. Martini's	4:30pm-7pm	N/A	N/A	American Legion, 48 State St.
Parker's on Fall	11am-10pm	11am-10pm	12 noon-8pm	86 Fall St.
Penny's Place	7am-2pm	Closed	7am-1pm	Liberty Plaza, 20, 2109 US-20
Perfect Pair Hospitality	11am-9pm	11am-9pm	8am-2pm	64 W. Bayard St.
Red Brick Pub	11am-9pm	11am-9pm	10am-6pm	57 Fall St.
Sackett's Table	4:30pm-9pm	4:30pm-9pm	Closed	23 Bridge St.
Sugar Mama's	8am-7pm	8am-7pm	8am-5pm	41-43 Fall St.
Temperance FLX	12 noon-9pm	12 noon-9pm	Closed	31 Fall St.
Wolffy's Grill	11am-9pm	11am-9pm	11am-8pm	2943 Lower Lake Rd

Taste them all

Check their websites for any changes.

Thursday DECEMBER 12, 2024

9:00am - 8:00pm

"ALL THINGS WONDERFUL."

It's a Wonderful Life Museum Gift Shop and Photo Opportunity with Bedford Falls Mural and the "You Are Now in Bedford Falls" sign.

80 Fall St.

10:00am - 4:30pm

VISIT THE IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE MUSEUM.

Raffle for the 78th Anniversary commemorative "It's a Wonderful Quilt" that is on display.

76 Fall St.

5:00pm - 9:00pm

STOP ON DOWN TO "NICK'S PLACE".

Join us before and after the showing of It's a Wonderful Life for food and drinks at Temperance FLX, the newest speakeasy in Seneca Falls. Conveniently located next to Trinity Church, where the movie will be introduced by actors from the film, it's the perfect spot to enhance your festival experience. Take home a commemorative glass for \$12, or when filled with wine or draft beer, the glass is yours for \$6. Cheers to making memories in "The Real Bedford Falls"!

31 Fall St.

5:30pm

"IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE".

Cast members Karolyn Grimes and Jimmy Hawkins Introduce and Recall Their Roles as "Zuzu and Tommy Bailey" to launch the Celebration of the 78th Anniversary of "The Most Inspiring Film of All Time."

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

6:00pm - 8:15pm

SPECIAL SCREENING OF "IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE".

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

7:00pm - 8:20pm

MERRY CHRISTMAS, GEORGE BAILEY!

A live radio show with live sound effects in front of a live audience!

Tickets available at Fall St. Brewing, 106 Fall St, or senecacommunityplayers.org

The Bijou Theater - First Presbyterian Church, 23 Cayuga St.

8:00pm - 10:00pm

CANDLELIGHT CABARET: IN THE MOOD!

Pottersville's finest stage show featuring the Pottersville Singers. Adult beverages, hors d'oeuvres & desserts are available for purchase. Tickets available at Festival Information Center, WomanMade Products or therealbedfordfalls.com

The Pottersville Palladium, 95 Fall S.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM

DOWNTOWN DELI
"Where a Half is like a Whole"

Gift Certificates

Let The Downtown Deli Help You With All Your Holiday Catering Needs!

PARTY TRAYS • HOT DISHES • GIANT PARTY SUBS

53 Fall Street, Seneca Falls, NY
Phone: (315) 568-9943
sfdowntowndeli.com

DORAN
FUNERAL HOME

Thank you to our sponsor

**9TH ANNUAL
SENECA FALLS
POLICE DEPARTMENT
FILL THE CRUISER**



**TOY
DRIVE**

Donate New, Unused & Unwrapped Toys

Drop-off donations now through December 14th to:

Seneca Falls Police Department
Generations Bank (Cayuga Street)
Tractor Supply Co., Liberty Plaza

Century 21
Wal-Mart, Seneca Falls
Seneca Falls Historical Society
Splash

COME SEE US AT THE CORNER OF FALL ST & CAYUGA ST ON
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024, FROM 10 - NOON.

Help give to local families in need!

In Collaboration With:



LITTLE THEATER

It's A Wonderful Life
Starring
James Stewart - Donna Reed - Carolyn Grimes

SHOWTIME FRIDAY 13	SHOWTIME SATURDAY 14	SHOWTIME SUNDAY 15
10:00am - 12:15pm A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL	10:00am - 12:15pm A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL	11:00am - 1:00pm A WONDERFUL MOVIE
12:15pm - 12:40pm IAWL SHORTS	12:15pm - 12:40pm IAWL SHORTS	1:00pm - 3:15pm A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL
1:00pm - 3:15pm A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL	1:00pm - 3:15pm A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL	3:15pm - 3:40pm IAWL SHORTS
3:15pm - 3:40pm IAWL SHORTS	3:15pm - 3:40pm IAWL SHORTS	
4:00pm - 6:15pm A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL	4:00pm - 6:15pm A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL	
6:15pm - 6:40pm IAWL SHORTS	6:15pm - 6:40pm IAWL SHORTS	
8:00pm - 10:30pm "IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE" PARTICIPATION MOVIE	8:00pm - 10:30pm "IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE" PARTICIPATION MOVIE	

**Little Theater,
100 Fall St.**

It's The Cult CLASSIC
that to be
loved is
to be
loved 2

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE
Opportunities for
Singing • Dancing
Networking • Laughing

PARTICIPATION MOVIE
Friday & Saturday
Dec, 13 / 14 @ 8pm

YOU HAVE SEEN THE MOVIE!
BUT UNTIL YOU EXPERIENCE THE
IAWL PARTICIPATION MOVIE,
YOU HAVEN'T REALLY EXPERIENCED IT!

The Little Theater (total cost)

Order online
\$10
Fill up for an IAWL
IAWL movie experience
with a bonus of \$1000

the real bedford falls.com



SCCP SENECA COMMUNITY PLAYERS PRESENTS

**MERRY CHRISTMAS,
GEORGE BAILEY!**

A LIVE ACTION PLAY OF
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE
BASED ON THE 1946 FILM BY FRANK CAPRA
- LIVE SOUND THEATER - SENECA COMMUNITY PLAYERS -

"LAFAYETTE THEATER WATERLOO"
DECEMBER 6, 13 & 14 7pm December 6, 8pm
"BEDFORD FALLS BLUJOU THEATRE"
DECEMBER 13, 14 and 14 7pm December 14, 8pm

TICKETS AT LUCCI SPARKY'S - WATERLOO CANADA'S WATERLOO
THEATER BOX OFFICE AND WWW.SENECACOMMUNITYPLAYERS.ORG

\$15

Crowdlight Cabaret
In The MOOD!
1940's
CABARET

The Pottersville Palladium,
95 Fall Street

Hors d'oeuvres Available Thursday 12/12 - 8pm
Friday 12/13 - 9pm & Saturday 12/14 - 8pm
Sunday 12/15 - 5pm
Beverages Available

\$25 GENERAL ADMISSION (ADVANCE PURCHASE SAVE \$2)
VIP SEATING \$30 (INCLUDES A DRINK VOUCHER)

Photo credit: [unreadable]
[unreadable]
Reservations only recommended - Double up 1/2 hour prior to showtime

Liberty Films Backlot Catering Presents
Mrs. Martini's Pasta Dinner
and **MOVIE TRIVIA**

"Stop by anytime!"

Friday Dec 13
4:30 - 7:00

'un bel pasto garantito'

Meal Includes:
Pasta
Meatballs
Sauce
Salad
Bread

KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL

SAM WAINWRIGHT'S
FIVE & DIME

OPEN HOURS
FRIDAY & SATURDAY SUNDAY
9:30 A.M - 8 P.M 9:30 A.M - 3 P.M

'If we don't have it - you don't need it'

**Lights
Camera
Action**

FREE CONTEST
Fri, Sat, Sun
Dec 13 - 15

Record videos & Selfies
at 10 movie scene locations
Upload photos to the
Lights, Camera, Action
sharing App - Stop into
the Festival Information
Center 100 Fall St. to
pick up an information
flyer

Chance
to Win
\$100

Be a part of
the movie!

**FINGERLAKES
AGRONOMICS**

Thank you to our Sponsor

It's A Wonderful Life
BONFIRE

Friday December 13 - 6pm to 8:30pm
Tree Lighting,
Caroling
Music by Calvary Chapel Worship Band
Harry's Hots
Concessions
and **SANTA**

The Bedford Falls Sentinel



**IT'S WONDERFUL
SOUVENIR EDITION**

9:00am -

OFFICIAL FESTIVAL OPENING

Ribbon cutting and presentation of 2024 Festival Grand Marshall.
100 Fall St.

9:00am - 2:00pm

SENECA FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Experience the Victorian Christmas grandeur and wonder in the magnificent Becker Mansion.
55 Cayuga St.

9:00am - 4:00pm

BEDFORD FALLS STATION POSTAL CANCELLATION.

Seneca Falls Post Office, 38 State St.

9:00am - 4:00pm

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF TREES

Featuring ornaments, decorations and nativity sets from 50 countries sponsored by the It's a Wonderful Life Museum and the IDEA Center for the Voices of Humanity. Plans for the Expanded "It's a Wonderful Life Museum" will be on display.
Original IAWL Museum location, 32 Fall St.

9:00am - 5:00pm

SENECA COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION/UNITED WAY

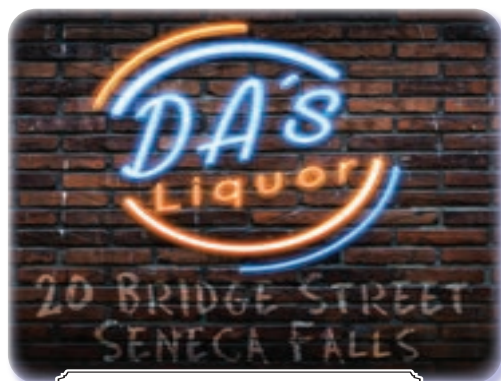
Information, resources and children's activities.

Seneca Falls Heritage and Tourism Center, 89 Fall St.

9:00am - 5:00pm

SPECIAL EXHIBIT

"For the Slave is Our Brother: Christmas and the Anti-Slavery Movement". Learn about Victorian Christmas ornaments and make-and-take your own tin ornament (craft). Bedford Falls passport stamp
Women's Rights National Historical Park, 136 Fall St.



Thank you to our Sponsor

The Bedford Falls Sentinel

9:00am - 5:00pm

FESTIVAL INFORMATION CENTER

Festival information, merchandise, souvenirs. Plus, the \$500 Money Tree
Festival Information Center, 103 Fall St.

9:00am - 8:00pm

"ALL THINGS WONDERFUL"

It's a Wonderful Life Museum Gift Shop and Photo Opportunity with Bedford Falls Mural and the "You Are Now in Bedford Falls" sign.
IAWL Gift Shop, 80 Fall St.

9:30am - 8:00pm

ANNIE'S PITSTOP

"Come sit for a spell!!!", Enjoy a hot drink, light snack and browse Festival merchandise before the movie.
The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

9:30am - 8:00pm

SAM WAINWRIGHT'S FIVE & DIME

Explore a variety of arts and crafts from local vendors.

Sam Wainwright's Five & Dime, 100 Fall St

10:00am

PRESS CONFERENCE. "THEY'RE HERE BERT, ZUZU'S PETALS."

with Actors Karolyn Grimes, Jimmy Hawkins and Don Collins from "It's a Wonderful Life." Launch of the Zuzu's Petals Project with Karolyn Grimes and Victoria Wejko, Mrs. New York American 2024.

Original IAWL Museum Location, 32 Fall St.

10:00am - 12:15pm

A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL

Screening of "It's a Wonderful life" Original B/W version - 2hr:10min
The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

10:00am - 4:30pm

VISIT THE IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE MUSEUM.

Raffle for the 78th Anniversary commemorative "It's a Wonderful Quilt" that is on display
IAWL Museum, 76 Fall St.

10:00am - 4:00pm

"ZUZU'S" NEW PROJECT: ZUZU, ALL GROWN UP PODCAST

Come and help us make "Zuzu's Petals" - a symbol of hope - for distribution in the expanded It's a Wonderful Life Museum. Original IAWL Museum location, 32 Fall St. ["Zuzu's Petals Stations" will also be available at the National Women's Hall of Fame, Women's Rights National Historical Park, Seneca Falls Visitor Center, and Art Works Gallery]

10:00am - 5:00pm

WARM UP!!!

Stop in for a snack while you enjoy a warm beverage! While you are here ENTER to WIN a \$100 Visa Gift Card.

The Summit Federal Credit Union, 123 Fall St.

10:30am

"THE REAL BEDFORD FALLS: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE.

The Town, The Movie, The Legend." A documentary by Francis DeClemente and Stu Lisson that features many experts discussing the connections between Seneca Falls and Bedford Falls.
Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

11:00am

LOCATIONS IN CALIFORNIA WHERE "IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE" WAS FILMED.

Video by Brian Rohan. Followed by: Journey to the 80th Anniversary of "It's a Wonderful Life" - "For Auld Lang Syne" - Video on the Expansion of the "It's a Wonderful Life Museum".
Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

11:00am - 1:00pm

AUTOGRAPH SIGNING BY CAST MEMBERS

Autograph signing by cast members Karolyn Grimes ("Zuzu Bailey"), Jimmy Hawkins ("Tommy Bailey") and Donald Collins ("Young Pete Bailey"). Autograph free with purchase; \$30 fee for items you bring yourself.
The Gould Hotel, 108 Fall St.

11:00am - 6:00pm

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Suicide Prevention Center of New York - information and resources.
National Women's Hall of Fame, 1 Canal St.

11:15am - Noon PRESENTATION BY VICTORIA WEJKO, MRS. NEW YORK AMERICAN 2024.

From Trauma to Triumph: Discovering 'It's a Wonderful Life' Today."
Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

Noon - 1:00pm

ZUZU'S PETALS, THE CHARLESTON CONTEST TROPHY AND MORE

Shining a Light on Wonderful Life's Iconic Props and Set Decorations." Presentation by Michael Willian, author of "The Essential It's a Wonderful Life: A Scene-By-Scene Guide to the Classic Film."
Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

Noon - 5:00pm

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE CHARACTERS ON FALL STREET

Noon - 9:00pm

STOP ON DOWN TO "NICK'S PLACE"

Join us before and after the showing of *It's a Wonderful Life* for food and drinks at Temperance FLX, the newest speakeasy in Seneca Falls. Conveniently located next to Trinity Church, where the movie will be introduced by actors from the film, it's the perfect spot to enhance your festival experience. Take home a commemorative glass for \$12, or when filled with wine or draft beer, the glass is yours for \$6. Cheers to making memories in "The Real Bedford Falls"! **Temperance FLX, 31 Fall St.**

12:15pm - 12:40pm

IAWL SHORTS

A WONDERFUL PICNIC WRAP PARTY - Footage from the Frank Capra Picnic Wrap Party - 8 min.

RESTORING A BELOVED CLASSIC - a look behind the scenes of IAWL - 12 min. **The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.**

1:00pm - 2:00pm

"A WOMAN'S PLACE"

Presentation by Mary Owen, daughter of Donna Reed. Special Screening of a classic episode of "The Donna Reed Show" from 1963 in which Donna's husband dreams what it would be like if she was the first woman President of the United States.

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

1:00pm - 3:15pm

A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL

Screening of "It's a Wonderful life" Colorized version - 2hr:10min **The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.**



Thank you to our Sponsor

2:00pm - 3:00pm

THE MUSIC OF IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Cinematic Songs and Melodies Essential to the Cultural Context and Narrative Storytelling Success of 'It's a Wonderful Life'. Presentation by Brian Peterson, History Instructor, Shasta College. **Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.**

2:00pm - 4:00pm

AUTOGRAPH SIGNING BY CAST MEMBERS

Autograph signing by cast members Karolyn Grimes ("Zuzu Bailey"), Jimmy Hawkins ("Tommy Bailey") and Donald Collins ("Young Pete Bailey"). Autographs free with purchase; \$30 fee per autograph for items you bring yourself.

The Gould Hotel, 108 Fall St.

3:00pm - 3:30pm

"IT WAS ME."

Presentation by Donald Collins, who played "Pete Bailey" as a toddler with his twin brother Ronald.

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

3:15pm - 3:40pm

IAWL SHORTS

SECRETS OF THE VAULT - The tricks & secrets of making rain, snow, sound and more... in *It's a Wonderful Life* - 22 min.

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

3:30pm - 4:15pm

"THE SHOP AROUND THE CORNER"

Extended Version of the Radio Play featuring Brian Rohan as Jimmy Stewart. **Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.**

4:00pm - 5:00pm

READING OF THE GREATEST GIFT

The short story that inspired the movie "It's a Wonderful Life" written by Philip Van Doren Stern

Seneca Falls Heritage and Tourism Center, 89 Fall St.

4:00pm - 6:15pm

A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL

Screening of "*It's a Wonderful life*" Original B/W version - 2hr:10min **The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.**

4:30pm

SHUTTLES START

Leaving the Gould Hotel for the Frank Capra's Preview Dinner.

4:30pm - 7:00pm

MRS. MARTINI'S PASTA DINNER AND MOVIE TRIVIA

Join Mrs. Martini for a homestyle meal while playing along with the fun trivia game. the Festival Information Center - 103 Fall Street or at the door.

American Legion, 48 State St.

6:00pm - 8:30pm

IT'S A WONDERFUL BONFIRE

Tree Lighting, Caroling & Santa. Music by Calvary Chapel Worship Band. Harry's Hots and concessions.

People's Park, Water St.

6:00pm - 9:00pm

FRANK CAPRA'S PREVIEW DINNER

MC: Monica Capra Hodges (Frank Capra's granddaughter).

Del Lago Resort, located off Exit 41, NY State Thruway. Route 414

6:15pm - 6:40pm

IAWL SHORTS

A WONDERFUL PICNIC WRAP PARTY - Footage from the Frank Capra Picnic Wrap Party - 8 min.

RESTORING A BELOVED CLASSIC - a look behind the scenes of IAWL - 12 min.

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

7:00pm - 8:20pm

MERRY CHRISTMAS, GEORGE BAILEY!

A live radio show with live sound effects in front of a live audience!

Tickets available at Fall St. Brewing, 106 Fall St, or senecacommunityplayers.org

The Bijou Theater - First Presbyterian Church, 23 Cayuga St.

8:00pm - 10:30pm

"IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE"

PARTICIPATION MOVIE

Experience *It's A Wonderful Life* like never before. Join fellow fans of this classic holiday film for an unforgettable time filled with singing, dancing, laughing, and even a little screaming! Perfect for *It's A Wonderful Life* aficionados with a sense of humor. Tickets can be purchased the Festival Information Center - 103 Fall Street or at the door.

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

9:00pm - 11:00pm

CANDLELIGHT CABARET: IN THE MOOD

Pottersville's finest stage show featuring the Pottersville Singers. Adult beverages, hors d'oeuvres & desserts are available for purchase. Tickets available at Festival Information Center, WomanMade Products

The Pottersville Palladium, 95 Fall St.

**IT'S WONDERFUL
SOUVENIR EDITION**

It's A Wonderful Run 5K

The It's A Wonderful Run 5K is celebrating its 16th anniversary this year. The event has seen steady growth during that time period and we are looking forward to a tremendous turnout this year. A unique start to this USATF Certified 5K Course places the field atop the famous Bridge Street Bridge which many believe was the inspiration for the bridge scenes in the holiday movie classic 'It's A Wonderful Life'. The run/walk will take you past the decorated Christmas Tree display, the lighted storefronts and shops of downtown Seneca Falls, and past historic village homes decked out and lit-up for the holiday season. The course concludes in the shadow of the Bridge Street Bridge in People's Park along the Seneca Falls Canal Harbor. Experience the lights, decorations, music, carolers, and holiday revelers around every corner throughout the town and enjoy a 5K like no other.



Join us on a 5K Run/Walk through the beautiful, illuminated, historic Village of Seneca Falls, NY at dusk. Proceeds from the Run/Walk go to local charities and scholarships.





Celebrating the 78th Anniversary of “It’s a Wonderful Life”
With Cast Members Karolyn Grimes (“Zuzu Bailey”), Jimmy Hawkins (“Tommy Bailey”)
and Donald Collins (“Young Pete Bailey”)

Special Appearance: Thursday, December 12, 5:30 pm
Karolyn & Jimmy will introduce “It’s a Wonderful Life”
which will be shown after their presentation.
Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

“Dance by the Light of the Moon” Featuring Andy Stobie & the Greater Finger Lakes Jazz Orchestra
 Saturday, December 14, 6:30-10:30 pm, Mynderse Academy Gymnasiun, 105 Troy St.

It’s a Wonderful Life Museum
76 Fall Street

More than 35 Exhibits
“It’s a Wonderful Quilt” Raffle
Friday through Sunday: 9:00 am-4:30 pm

Autographs with Cast Members
The Gould Hotel, 108 Fall St.

Friday: 11:00 am-1:00 pm & 2:00-4:00 pm
Saturday: 11:00 am-1:00 pm & 2:00-4:00 pm
Sunday: 11:00 am-2:00 pm

All Things Wonderful
IAWL Museum Gift Shop, 80 Fall St.

Friday & Saturday: 9:00 am-9:00 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am-4:30 pm

Bells for the Bridge, Exclusive Ornaments
and Angel Wing Pins, Mugs, Magnets, Special
Greeting Cards, Unique IAWL-related
products, Stocking stuffers and much more . . .

Free Photo Opportunity with the
“You Are Now in Bedford Falls” Sign

Presentations -- Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

IAWL Cast Members
Mary Owen (Donna Reed’s daughter)
Monica Capra Hodges
John Kuri, Filmmaker
Michael Willian, Author
Brian Peterson, Historian
Govan Martin, Suicide Prevention Alliance
Seneca County Suicide Prevention Coalition
“The Shop Around the Corner” Radio Play
featuring Brian Rohan
and . . . Victoria Wejko, Mrs. New York 2024




Community
BANK

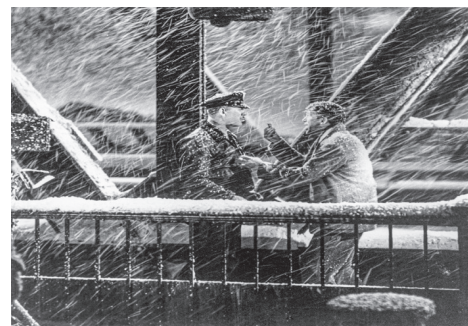
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Robinette

Thank you to our Sponsor

The Bedford Falls Sentinel





“Zuzu’s petals . . . they’re here Bert!”

Press Conference
Friday, Dec. 13, 10:00 am
32 Fall St.

With Karolyn Grimes (“Zuzu Bailey”),
Jimmy Hawkins (“Tommy Bailey”)
& Donald Collins (“Little Pete Bailey”)

Launch of National “Zuzu’s Petals”
Project with Karolyn “Zuzu” Grimes
& Victoria Wejko,
Mrs. New York American 2024

“Zuzu’s Petals” Stations

32 Fall St. (Original Museum Bldg.)
National Women’s Hall of Fame
Women’s Rights National Historical Park
Seneca Falls Visitor Center
Artworks Gallery

Make a “Zuzu’s Petal” to be distributed
our Expanded Museum as
a Symbol of Hope

International Festival of Trees
Friday, Saturday & Sunday
32 Fall St.
(Original Museum Building)

Christmas Ornaments &
Nativity Sets from 50 Countries

Sponsored by:
It’s a Wonderful Life Museum &
IDEA Center for the Voices
of Humanity

Expansion Plans for the
Museum on Display

Make a “Zuzu’s Petal” for our
Expanded Museum



THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE BELIEVED IN US: Generations Bank, The Bonafiglia Family Foundation, Town of Seneca Falls, Seneca County, Nelson B. Delavan Foundation, The Gould Hotel, Workhouse PR Agency, James Auto Group, It’s a Wonderful Run 5K, Chemung Canal Trust Company, the Seneca Stone Corporation, and all our Visitors, Founders, and Supporters.



Saturday, Dec. 14
4:30pm - 7pm
 or until they're gone!

Eat in OR Take out.
• 100 Fall Street •
 prepaid orders must be picked up by 7pm
 tickets available online at www.bedfordfallsfestival.com or
 during the festival at Festival Information Center




It's The Cult CLASSIC
 You'll be
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE
 Opportunities for
 Singing - Dancing
 Screenwriting - Laughing

PARTICIPATION MOVIE
Friday & Saturday
Dec, 13 / 14 @ 8pm

YOU HAVE SEEN THE MOVIE!
BUT UNTIL YOU EXPERIENCE THE
IAWYL PARTICIPATION MOVIE,
YOU HAVEN'T REALLY EXPERIENCED IT!

The Little Theater (1000 Main)
10
 Order online today!
 Fall of Fun and Laughter for
 IAWYL movie brochure
 with a bonus of AMIGO!

SENeca COMMUNITY PLAYERS PRESENTS



**MERRY CHRISTMAS,
 GEORGE BAILEY!**

A LIVE HOLIDAY PLAY OF
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE
 BASED ON THE 1946 FILM STARRING ALAN ARKIN
 - LIVE ORCHESTRA - CHORUS - DANCE TROUPE

"LA FAYETTE THEATER WATERLOO"
 DECEMBER 6, 10pm December 8, 8pm
 "BEDFORD FALLS BUJOI THEATRE"
 DECEMBER 12, 10pm and 14pm December 15, 8pm

TICKETS AT TUCO'S FARMER'S MARKET WATERLOO GENERAL THEATER BOX OFFICE AND WWW.SENECACOMMUNITYPLAYERS.ORG

2024 FESTIVAL BUTTON



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 Festival Information Center, 103 Fall Street.

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SAM WAINWRIGHT'S
FIVE & DIME

OPEN HOURS
FRIDAY & SATURDAY SUNDAY
9:30A.M - 8P.M 9:30A.M - 3P.M

'If we don't have it - you don't need it'

It's a Wonderful Life
 Craft Fair
 Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024
 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Support our local crafters as they
 display their unique handmade items.

FREE Collector's Chocolate
 Homemade Baked Goods

Light lunch available for purchase
 Kiosk - Coney Island American Legion
 441 Albany Street
 Bedford Falls, NY

**VISIT THE
 AMERICAN LEGION
 SUPPORT THEIR
 WONDERFUL CRAFT
 FAIR**

7:30am - 11:00 am

IT'S A WONDERFUL BREAKFAST.

Eggs, Sausage,`, O.J, coffee, tea, hot chocolate. Tickets \$10 at the door
Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

9:00am - Noon

BEDFORD FALLS STATION POSTAL CANCELLATION.

Seneca Falls Post Office, 38 State St.

9:00am - 3:00pm

SENECA FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Experience the Victorian Christmas grandeur and wonder in the magnificent Becker Mansion.

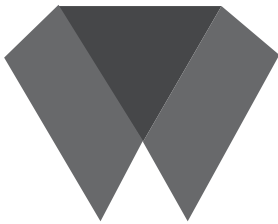
55 Cayuga St.

9:00am - 4:30pm

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF TREES

Featuring ornaments, decorations and nativity sets from 50 countries sponsored by the It's a Wonderful Life Museum and the IDEA Center for the Voices of Humanity. Plans for the Expanded "It's a Wonderful Life Museum" will be on display. Make a Zuzu's petal for the new Museum at the Zuzu's Petal Station.

Original IAWL Museum location, 32 Fall St.



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**WATERLOO
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*Supplier of Wine Bottles,
Caps, Corks and Closures*

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9:00am - 4:30pm

VISIT THE IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE MUSEUM.

Raffle tickets available for the It's a Wonderful Quilt.

IAWL Museum, 76 Fall St.

9:00am - 5:00pm

SENECA COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION/UNITED WAY

Information, resources and children's activities.

Seneca Falls Heritage and Tourism Center, 89 Fall St.

9:00am - 5:00pm

FESTIVAL INFORMATION CENTER

Festival information, merchandise, souvenirs. Plus, the \$500 Money Tree Raffle provided by Generations Bank, benefiting the Seneca County House of Concern. Lost & Found, First Aid.

Festival Information Center, 103 Fall St.

9:00am - 5:00pm

SPECIAL EXHIBIT

"For the Slave is Our Brother: Christmas and the Anti-Slavery Movement". Learn about Victorian Christmas ornaments and make-and-take your own tin ornament (craft).

Bedford Falls passport stamp
Women's Rights National Historical Park, 136 Fall St.

9:00am - 8:00pm

"ALL THINGS WONDERFUL"

It's a Wonderful Life Museum Gift Shop and Photo Opportunity with Bedford Falls Mural and "You Are Now in Bedford Falls" sign.

IAWL Gift Shop, 80 Fall St.

9:30am

FREE ROASTED CHESTNUTS

provided by the Knights of Columbus (as long as they last).

Corner of State and Fall Streets.

9:30am - 8:00pm

ANNIE'S PITSTOP

"Come sit for a spell!!!" Enjoy a hot drink, light snack and browse Festival merchandise before the movie.

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

9:30am - 8:00pm

SAM WAINWRIGHT'S FIVE & DIME

Explore a variety of arts and crafts from local vendors.

Sam Wainwright's Five & Dime, 100 Fall St.

10:00 am

21ST ANNUAL GEORGE BAILEY AWARD

Presented by Karolyn Grimes on behalf of the IDEA Center for the Voices of Humanity.

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

10:00am - 12:15pm

A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL

Screening of "It's a Wonderful life" Colorized version - 2hr:10min

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

10:00am - 3:00pm

**FREE HORSE-DRAWN WAGON RIDES
Fall St.**

10:00am - 3:00pm

**IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE OPEN HOUSE
AND CRAFT FAIR**

Free Coffee/Hot Chocolate, Homemade baked goods. Many wonderful crafts. Light Lunch available for purchase.

Kirk Casey American Legion, 48 State St.

10:00am - 3:00pm

**IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE CHARACTERS
ON FALL STREET**

10:00am - 4:00pm

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Suicide Prevention Center of New York - information and resources.

National Women's Hall of Fame, 1 Canal St.

10:00am - 5:00pm

**ZUZU'S NEW PROJECT: ZUZU, ALL
GROWN UP PODCAST**

It is hosted by Karolyn "Zuzu" Grimes and her psychotherapist husband, Dr. Chris Brunell. Together, the pair interviews guests who make miracles happen, from ordinary people who are making a difference in extraordinary ways to celebrities who inspire and entertain. Come check out our information table and enter to win a special podcast gift. You can also enjoy the podcast at: zuzunetwork.com

Seneca Falls Heritage and Tourism Center, 89 Fall St.

10:30am - 11:15 am

PRESENTATION BY MONICA CAPRA HODGES

Granddaughter of Frank Capra, about her grandfather and "It's a Wonderful Life."

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

10:30am - 12:30pm

RUST DYING AND COLLAGE WORKSHOP.

This workshop is sure to be a fun-filled two-hour workshop for ages 17 and up. All materials are provided and no prior experience needed. Each participant will learn a quick rust dye technique using silk organza due to its quick reaction time. While the fabric is "cooking", you will learn about collaging with fabric. Each participant will take away their dyed fabric and their own original Tiny Dress collage. Fee \$35. Advance Registration Required (call 315-568-8060).

National Women's Hall of Fame, 1 Canal St.

11:00am

GIANT CINNAMON BUN EATING CONTEST

\$5.00 entry fee.

Café XIX, 20 East Bayard St.

11:00am - Noon

READING OF "THE GREATEST GIFT"

The short story that inspired the movie "It's a Wonderful Life" written by Philip Van Doren Stern

Seneca Falls Heritage and Tourism Center, 89 Fall St.

11:00am - 1:00pm

AUTOGRAPH SIGNING BY CAST MEMBERS

Karolyn Grimes ("Zuzu Bailey"), Jimmy Hawkins ("Tommy Bailey") and Donald Collins ("Little Pete Bailey"). Autographs free with purchase; \$30 fee for items you bring yourself.

The Gould Hotel, 108 Fall St.

11:15am - Noon

"FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT, FROM DESPAIR TO HOPE"

How 'It's a Wonderful Life' Can Save Lives from Suicide." Presentation by Govan Martin, Founder and Executive Director, Suicide Prevention Alliance, Harrisburg, PA.

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

Noon - 12:40pm

"EVERYONE NEEDS A MARY BAILEY."

Presentation by Mary Owen, Donna Reed's daughter. Special Screening of "A Very Merry Christmas" - a Classic Episode of The Donna Reed Show from 1958 featuring Buster Keaton.

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

Noon - 9:00pm

STOP ON DOWN TO "NICK'S PLACE"

Join us before and after the showing of It's a Wonderful Life for food and drinks at Temperance FLX, the newest speakeasy in Seneca Falls. Take home a commemorative glass for \$12, or when filled with wine or draft beer, the glass is yours for \$6. Cheers to making memories in "The Real Bedford Falls"!

Temperance FLX, 31 Fall St.

12:15pm - 12:40pm

IAWL SHORTS

SECRETS OF THE VAULT - The tricks & secrets of making rain, snow, sound and more... in It's a Wonderful Life - 22 min.

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

1:00pm

IT'S A WONDERFUL PARADE

Sponsored by the It's a Wonderful Life Festival Committee.

Fall St.



1:00pm - 3:15pm

A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL

Screening of "It's a Wonderful life" Original B/W version - 2hr:10min

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

2:00pm - 3:00pm

"THE TIMELESS MESSAGE OF 'IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE'"

'Never Again Will There Be Anyone Like You (Frank Capra).'" A panel presentation drawing connections between this classic movie and life today, featuring Monica Capra Hodges granddaughter of Frank Capra's, the Seneca County Suicide Prevention Coalition/United Way, the Suicide Prevention Alliance (Harrisburg, PA), and mental health resources like "Be the One" veterans' campaign and 211/988 Lifeline resource.

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

2:00pm - 3:00pm

BOOK SIGNING WITH MICHAEL WILLIAN

Author of "The Essential It's a Wonderful Life: A Scene-By-Scene Guide to the Classic Film."

Seneca Falls Visitor Center, 89 Fall St.

2:00pm - 4:00pm

AUTOGRAPH SIGNING WITH CAST MEMBERS

Karolyn Grimes ("Zuzu Bailey"), Jimmy Hawkins ("Tommy Bailey") and Donald Collins ("Young Pete Bailey"). Autographs free with purchase; \$30 fee per autograph for items you bring yourself.

The Gould Hotel, 108 Fall St.

2:00pm - 4:00pm

SPECIAL LIVE-STREAMED AMA / IN-PERSON Q&A PODCAST EVENT

Meet the makers of the exciting new Wonderful Life podcast from iHeart, George Bailey Was Never Born, as well as townspeople, IAWL next of kin and surprise call-in guests featured in the show for this live-streamed Q&A hosted by Seth Kennedy and a live musical performance by The Carolyn Sills Combo.

First Presbyterian Church, 23 Cayuga St.

3:00pm - 4:00pm

"WHY AND HOW FRANK CAPRA MADE 'IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE,'"

Presentation by John Kuri, Filmmaker, Author, Musician, Son of Emile Kuri (Set Decorator, "It's a Wonderful Life").

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024

3:15pm - 3:40pm

IAWL SHORTS

A WONDERFUL PICNIC WRAP PARTY -

Footage from the Frank Capra Picnic Wrap Party - 8 min.

RESTORING A BELOVED CLASSIC - a look behind the scenes of IAWL - 12 min.

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

4:00pm - 6:15pm

A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL

Screening of *"It's a Wonderful life"*

Colorized version - 2hr:10min

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

4:30pm - 7:00pm

BERT & ERNIE'S FAMOUS CHICKEN BBQ

Tickets can be purchased online at therealbedfordfalls.com, the Festival Information Center - 103 Fall Street or at the door.

100 Fall St.

4:40pm

IT'S A WONDERFUL RUN 5K.

Started by Karolyn Grimes ("Zuzu Bailey").

Bridge St. Bridge.

6:15pm - 6:40pm

IAWL SHORTS

SECRETS OF THE VAULT - The tricks & secrets of making rain, snow, sound and more... in *It's a Wonderful Life* - 22 min.

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

6:30pm - 7:30pm

DANCE LESSON BY GROOVE JUICE SWING (FROM ROCHESTER)

Mynderse Academy Gymnasium, 105 Troy St.

7:00pm - 8:20pm

MERRY CHRISTMAS, GEORGE BAILEY!

A live radio show with live sound effects in front of a live audience!

Tickets available at Fall St. Brewing, 106 Fall St, or senecacommunityplayers.org

The Bijou Theater - First Presbyterian Church, 23 Cayuga St.



Thank you to our Sponsor

The Bedford Falls Sentinel

7:00pm - 9:15pm

SPECIAL SCREENING OF "IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE."

Free Admission.

Douglas Avery Performing Arts Center, Mynderse Academy, 105 Troy St.

7:30pm - 10:30pm

DANCE BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON.

"Music by Andy Stobie and the Greater Finger Lakes Jazz Orchestra (18-piece swing band). Free Admission.

Mynderse Academy Gymnasium, 105 Troy St.



8:00pm - 10:00pm

CANDLELIGHT CABARET: IN THE MOOD

Pottersville's finest stage show featuring the Pottersville Singers. Adult beverages, hors d'oeuvres & desserts are available for purchase. Tickets available at Festival Information Center, WomanMade Products

The Pottersville Palladium, 95 Fall St.

8:00pm - 10:30pm

"IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE"

PARTICIPATION MOVIE

Experience *It's A Wonderful Life* like never before. Join fellow fans of this classic holiday film for an unforgettable time filled with singing, dancing, laughing, and even a little screaming! Perfect for *It's A Wonderful Life* aficionados with a sense of humor. Tickets can be purchased online at therealbedfordfalls.com, the Festival Information Center - 103 Fall Street or at the door.

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.



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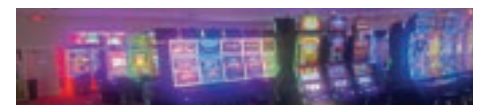
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Goodnight Cabaret

Go The MOOD!

1940's CABARET



The Pottersville Palladium,
95 Fall Street

Hors d'oeuvres Available Beverages Available

Thursday 12/12 - 8pm,
Friday 12/13 - 9pm & Saturday 12/14 - 8pm,
Sunday 12/15 - 5pm

\$25 GENERAL ADMISSION (ADVANCE PURCHASE SAVE \$2),
VIP SEATING \$30 (INCLUDES A DRINK VOUCHER)


Reservations highly recommended - Doors open 1/2 hour prior to 8pm



OFFWD

Thank you to our Sponsor

SENeca COMMUNITY PLAYERS PRESENT



MERRY CHRISTMAS, GEORGE BAILEY!

A TRUE HOLIDAY PLAY BY
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

CASTING BY THEATRE BOX OFFICE
- THE SENeca FALLS - WATERLOO - BEDFORD FALLS -

"LaFAYETTE THEATER WATERLOO"
DECEMBER 4, 10pm December 4, 8pm
"BEDFORD FALLS BUJO THEATRE"
DECEMBER 12, 10 and 140 1pm December 12, 8pm

TICKETS AT: THEATRE BOX OFFICE, WATERLOO GENERAL THEATRE, WATERLOO THEATRE BOX OFFICE AND WWW.SENECACOMMUNITYPLAYERS.ORG

\$15 \$15

UNCLE BILLY'S Wonderful SCAVENGER HUNT



FROM 10-2 ON SUNDAY.


TEST YOUR POWER OF OBSERVATION DURING

It is really very easy to play Uncle Billy's Wonderful Scavenger Hunt. All you have to do is visit our lovely downtown businesses and you will find all the clues hidden in plain sight! Find all the items pictured on your Game Card, and you will be eligible to win one of dozens of prizes donated by members of the Seneca Falls Business Association.

Pick up a Game Card at the
Festival Information Center, 103 Fall Street.

THE BELLS OF THE REAL BEDFORD FALLS

Each year, the "It's a Wonderful Life" Festival ends with the ringing of the bells of the Real Bedford Falls. This year to close the festivities on Sunday, December 15th at 4:15pm, the bells of Seneca Falls will all ring simultaneously from the town's churches. The ringing of the bells is our way of honoring those individuals who have left such an impact on the community around them.



With a donation of \$25, you will receive a certificate with your honoree's name and the bells will be rung for all the Angels.

As Frank Capra's inspirational film reminds us, each person's life touches so many others and of course, we always remember,
"Every time a bell rings an angel gets his wings."

WEB ORDERS CLOSE DEC SATURDAY 14TH.




THE KINDNESS TRUST

Leading with the heart

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Thank you to our Sponsor

SAM WAINWRIGHT'S FIVE & DIME

OPEN HOURS

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 9:30A.M - 8P.M SUNDAY 9:30A.M - 3P.M

'If we don't have it - you don't need it'

8:30am - 10:30am

A TOAST TO KAROLYN . . .

Karolyn Grimes 22nd Anniversary Celebration Breakfast. Advance Tickets Required, Arrive by 8:45 to secure your seat.

The Gould Hotel, 108 Fall St.

9:00am - 3:00pm

“ZUZU’S” NEW PROJECT: ZUZU, ALL GROWN UP PODCAST

It is hosted by Karolyn “Zuzu” Grimes and her psychotherapist husband, Dr. Chris Brunell. Together, the pair interviews guests who make miracles happen, from ordinary people who are making a difference in extraordinary ways to celebrities who inspire and entertain. Come check out our information table and enter to win a special podcast gift. You can also enjoy the podcast at: zuzunetwork.com

Seneca Falls Heritage and Tourism Center, 89 Fall St.

9:00am - 4:00pm

FESTIVAL INFORMATION CENTER

Festival information, merchandise, souvenirs. Plus, the \$500 Money Tree Raffle provided by Generations Bank, benefiting the Seneca County House of Concern. Lost & Found, First Aid.

Festival Information Center, 103 Fall St.

9:00am - 4:30pm

VISIT THE IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE MUSEUM

Raffle tickets available for the It’s a Wonderful Quilt.

IAWL Museum, 76 Fall St.

9:00am - 4:30pm

“ALL THINGS WONDERFUL”

Visit the It’s a Wonderful Life Museum Gift Shop; Free Photo Opportunity with the “You Are Now in Bedford Falls” Sign.

IAWL Gift Shop, 80 Fall St.

9:00am - 4:30pm

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF TREES

Featuring ornaments, decorations and nativity sets from 50 countries sponsored by the It’s a Wonderful Life Museum and the IDEA Center for the Voices of Humanity. Plans for the Expanded “It’s a Wonderful Life Museum” will be on display. Make a Zuzu’s petal for the new Museum at the Zuzu’s Petal Station.

Original IAWL Museum location, 32 Fall St.

9:00am - 5:00pm

WOMEN’S RIGHTS NHP VISITOR CENTER

SPECIAL EXHIBIT: “For the Slave is Our Brother: Christmas and the Anti-Slavery Movement”.

Learn about Victorian Christmas ornaments and make-and-take your own tin ornament (craft).

Bedford Falls passport stamp

Women’s Rights National Historical Park, 136 Fall St.

9:00am - 5:00pm

SENECA COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION/UNITED WAY

Information, resources and children’s activities.

Seneca Falls Heritage and Tourism Center, 89 Fall St.

9:30am - 11:00am

BEDFORD FALLS EXPRESS TRAIN RIDE

Academy Square, Cayuga & Sth Park St.

9:30am - 3:00pm

SAM WAINWRIGHT’S FIVE & DIME

Explore a variety of arts and crafts from local vendors.

Sam Wainwright’s Five & Dime, 100 Fall St.

9:30am - 4:00pm

ANNIE’S PITSTOP

“Come sit for a spell!!!”, Enjoy a hot drink, light snack and browse Festival merchandise before the movie.

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

10:00am - 2:00pm

UNCLE BILLY’S WONDERFUL SCAVENGER HUNT

Visit downtown businesses to find all the clues hidden in plain sight! Find all items to be eligible to win prizes donated by the Seneca Falls Downtown Business Association

Festival Information Center, 103 Fall St.

10:00am - 3:00pm

FREE HORSE-DRAWN WAGON RIDES

Fall Street

10:30am - 3:30pm

IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE CHARACTERS ON FALL STREET

11:00am

WONDERFUL MUSIC BRASS ENSEMBLE

Seneca Falls Heritage and Tourism Center, 89 Fall St.

11:00am - Noon

READING OF “THE GREATEST GIFT

The short story that inspired the movie “It’s a Wonderful Life” written by Philip Van Doren Stern

Seneca Falls Heritage and Tourism Center, 89 Fall St.

11:00am - 1:00pm

A WONDERFUL MOVIE

Screening of “It’s Happened One Christmas” The female version of IAWL starring Marlo Thomas, Wayne Rogers, Orson Welles, and Cloris Leachman as the angel.

Based on “It’s a Wonderful Life”

1hr:50min

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

11:00am - 2:00pm

AUTOGRAPH SIGNING WITH CAST MEMBERS

Karolyn Grimes (“Zuzu Bailey”), Jimmy Hawkins (“Tommy Bailey”) and Donald Collins (“Young Pete Bailey”).

Autographs free with purchase; \$30 fee per autograph for items you bring yourself.

The Gould Hotel, 108 Fall St.

11:15am - Noon

“THE SHOP AROUND THE CORNER”

Extended Version of the Radio Play Featuring Brian Rohan as Jimmy Stewart.

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

11:30am - 1:00pm

BEDFORD FALLS EXPRESS TRAIN RIDE

Academy Square, Cayuga & Sth Park St.

Noon

“THE REAL BEDFORD FALLS - IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE.”

Emmy-award winning documentary co-produced and co-directed by Francis DiClemente and Stu Lisson on the history of the connections between Seneca Falls and Bedford Falls.

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

12:30pm - 1:30pm

A SEAT AT THE BAILEY DINING ROOM TABLE

Exploring how Capra and Kuri Make Wonderful Life Scenes So Captivating. Presentation by Author Michael Willian,

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

1:00pm - 2:20pm

MERRY CHRISTMAS, GEORGE BAILEY!

A live radio show with live sound effects in front of a live audience!

Tickets available at Fall St. Brewing, 106 Fall St, or senecacommunityplayers.org

The Bijou Theater - First Presbyterian Church, 23 Cayuga St.





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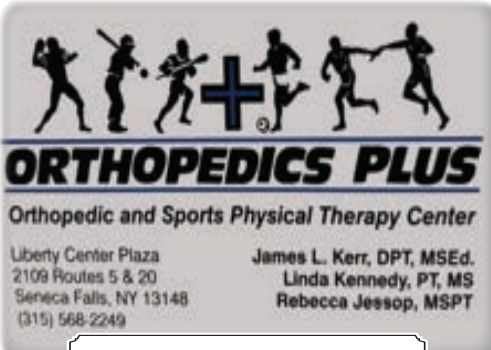


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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024

1:00pm - 3:15pm

A WONDERFUL MOVIE SPECIAL

Screening of "It's a Wonderful Life"

Original B/W version - 2hr:10min

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

1:30pm - 2:30pm

"THE CREATION OF BEDFORD FALLS."

A Conversation with John Kuri, filmmaker and son of Emile Kuri (Set Decorator, "It's a Wonderful Life").

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

1:30pm - 3:00pm

BEDFORD FALLS EXPRESS TRAIN RIDE

Academy Square, Cayuga & Sth Park St.

2:30pm - 3:30pm PRESENTATION

BY JIMMY HAWKINS: "FROM IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE TO THE LIFE OF EVEL . . . KNieVEL, THAT IS."

When Jimmy Hawkins decided he wanted to be a producer, he left behind 25 years as an actor appearing in over 400 movies and TV shows ... all dealing with positive uplifting themes. Jimmy will talk about the first movie he ever produced -- EVEL KNieVEL starring George Hamilton. From raising the money to premiering at Grauman's Chinese Theater in Hollywood. Come listen and learn how Jimmy Hawkins left a wonderful acting career to enter the dog eat dog world of producing. He will also take questions.

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

2:30pm

SCAVENGER HUNT PRIZES AWARDED

Festival Information Center

103 Fall St.

3:15pm - 3:40pm

IAWL SHORTS

A WONDERFUL PICNIC WRAP PARTY -

Footage from the Frank Capra Picnic Wrap Party - 8 min.

RESTORING A BELOVED CLASSIC - a

look behind the scenes of IAWL - 12 min.

The Little Theater, 100 Fall St.

3:30pm - 4:00pm

"LITTLE MISS KAROLYN"

Presentation by Carolyn Grimes about working with John Wayne in "Rio Grande" on her tenth birthday.

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

3:30pm - 5:00pm

BEDFORD FALLS EXPRESS TRAIN RIDE

Academy Square, Cayuga & Sth Park St.

4:15pm

THE BELLS OF THE REAL BEDFORD FALLS.

Gather at 32 Fall Street across from Trinity Church to hear the bells ring throughout the town in honor of those who have impacted our lives.

Trinity Church, 27 Fall St.

5:00pm

SHUTTLES

Start leaving The Gould Hotel for the Final Scene Dinner.

Gould Hotel, 108 Fall St.

5:00pm

SENECA SINGERS ANNUAL HOLIDAY CONCERT

Directed by Dr. Susan Avery. No admission charge, but donations accepted.

First Presbyterian Church,

23 Cayuga St.

5:00pm - 7:00pm

CANDLELIGHT CABARET: IN THE MOOD

Pottersville's finest stage show featuring the Pottersville Singers. Adult beverages, hors d'oeuvres & desserts are available for purchase. Tickets available at Festival Information Center, WomanMade Products or therealbedfordfalls.com

The Pottersville Palladium, 95 Fall St.

6:00pm - 9:00pm

"FOR AULD LANG SYNE - THE FINAL SCENE DINNER."

Seneca Falls Country Club, 2790 NY-90, Seneca Falls.





Friday: 4:30 – 10:00 pm
 Saturday: 9:00 am – 10:00 pm
 Sunday: 9:00 am – 10:00 pm

SHUTTLE STOPS:

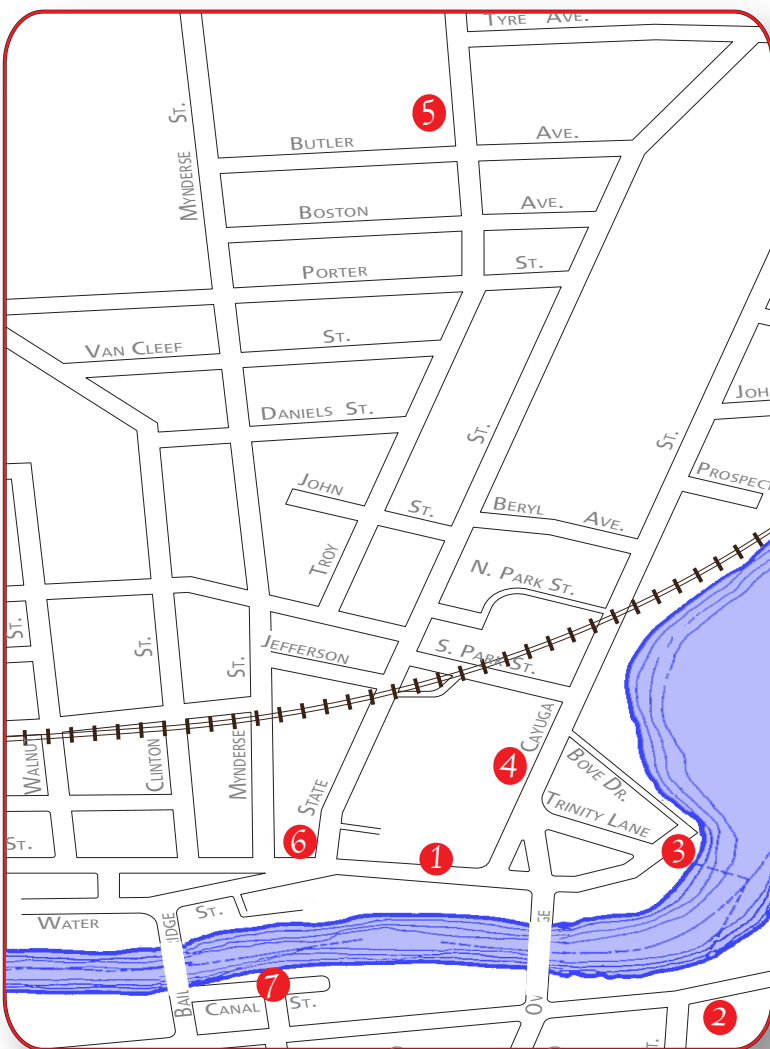
Hampton Inn,
 1950 Balsley Rd, Seneca Falls, NY

Lux Hotel and Conference Center,
 1133 NY-414, Waterloo, NY

Microtel.
 1966 Route 5 and, US-20, Seneca Falls, NY

Del Lago
 (for Friday Preview Dinner); 2468 NY-414, Waterloo,

Country Club
 (for Sunday Final Scene dinner) 2790 NY-89, Seneca Falls,



Seneca Falls Shuttle Stops

- 1 It's a Wonderful Life Museum
- 2 Generations Bank (Bayard St.)
- 3 Trinity Church
- 4 Presbyterian Church
- 5 Mynderse Academy High School
- 6 The Gould Hotel
- 7 National Women's Hall of Fame



December 11 - 12 - 13 2026

"It's A Wonderful Life

80th Anniversary - Come, Join the party!

The Bedford Falls Sentinel



**IT'S WONDERFUL
 SOUVENIR EDITION**