

The Westfield Republican

"First Republican Newspaper Printed in U. S. A."

Also serving the communities of Chautauqua and Mayville since 1856

Volume 193, Number 30

WEDNESDAY, December 24, 2025

Westfield, New York

75¢

Tractor Parade A Bright Holiday Sight

By DAVID PRENATT
editorial@westfieldrepublican.com

SHERMAN — "As 6 p.m. approached, the crowd filled Main Street, under the glow of lights and falling snow," said Village of Sherman Mayor Colleen Meeder, referring to the Annual Lighted Tractor Parade earlier this month.

Not even a lake-effect snow storm, which dumped close to a foot of snow on the area, or 35 mph winds, could stop the fourth Annual Sherman Lighted Tractor Parade from taking place.

There were 27 entries, with 44 total units in the parade, Meeder said. Despite a wind chill near zero, only two entries cancelled, and both were horse groups, she said. "The crowd was slightly less, but comparable to prior years," she said. "They came dressed and prepared for the crisp winter air."

The parade was not even delayed in starting as it had been in former years, Meeder said. This was due to a change of direction. "Reversing the direction of the parade route, from West to East Main, with staging at the town and village properties, assisted with the organization and timely start to the parade," she said.

In fact, Meeder noted, the most difficult aspect of this year's parade was keeping the area free of snow as it continued to fall.

The parade has truly become a family Christmas event, Meeder said. "Families come and watch together, and



Pictured are entries and participants from the Sherman Tractor Parade earlier this month.

families participate together," she said. "Think of the kids all gathered around Grandma's table to make the traditional gingerbread house. Now imagine building a full-scale gingerbread house in Grandpa's garage!"

The most amazing aspect of the parade is the creativity of the participants, Meeder said. "There are endless Christmas and winter themes to choose from. Each one is unique," she said. "From the Cooler's Tiki Bar, to the Christmas in July float, to the crowd's favorite - Slab City Organics entry of the dancing cows on a pontoon boat,

complete with milk men handing out milk."

The first place large float was presented by the Robson family with a few tractors and wagons depicting upcoming events in the Winter Olympics. The first place small float featured the Warren County Fair queen and her court in a gingerbread house from Pittsfield, Pa.

Several of the entries traveled quite a distance despite the snowstorm, Meeder said. These included Wiggers & Sons New Holland of Clymer, the Dropsho's of Ripley, Jim Beach of North East, Karle Kenyon of Springboro and the Doug Kimmy family of Wattsburg, Pa., she said.

The crowd didn't just stand and watch, either, Meeder said. "The crowd was excited with the entrance of the Stanley Hose Co. trucks, and the much appreciated Chautauqua County Sheriff's Deputy, she said. "Announcer Andrew Campbell of Westfield Ag & Turf had the crowd cheering and engaged," she said.

The Annual Tractor Parade, sponsored by the Sherman Chamber of Commerce and the Village of Sherman, has become a much anticipated event in the area. Meeder noted the success of the parade is due to the dedication of many people and organizations.

"We appreciate the commitment of our tractor-trailer operators staging early in the day, representing Lictus Oil & Propane, Safford Services, French Creek Hauling and Burgess Enterprises," she added.