

## Mom's House Matters

Celebrating life and empowering parents through education and child care.

770 Harry L. Drive Johnson City, NY 13790 (607) 644-9972 www.momshouseny.org

 $\sim$  Serving Broome, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Tioga, Tompkins Counties and Northern PA  $\sim$ 

### Volume 153

December 2025

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Christmas at Mom's House is more than just a holiday—it's a celebration of hope, resilience, and the incredible power of community. During this magical time of year, our families feel the relief and joy that comes from knowing they are supported, cared for, and surrounded by people who truly care.

From heartfelt messages of hope and love to gifts both big and small, the spirit of giving shines brightly throughout our halls. Thanks to the generosity of our amazing community partners, every Mom's House family receives toys, gifts, and warm reminders that they are valued and not alone this holiday season.

It's this shared spirit of kindness that turns ordinary moments into extraordinary memories. Every smile, every hug, and every twinkling light reminds us of the true meaning of the season: love, compassion, and togetherness. At Mom's House, the holidays are a vivid reminder that when a community comes together, magic happens.



## What have we been up to?

### **Celebrating Fall and Halloween at Mom's House**

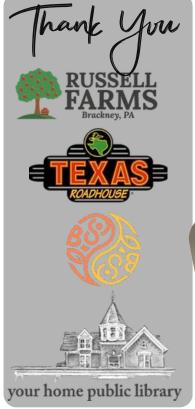




Mom's House stepped into the fall season with a slate of activities that brought our families together in meaningful, joy-filled ways. Spirit Week set the pace, giving our children and parents a chance to lean into creativity and connection. From bright tie-dye day and inside-out outfits to Wear Blue Day and the much-anticipated Costume Day, the week created an energizing sense of unity across our classrooms.

Our Fall Festival built on that momentum. Families were treated to a special visit from Andy the Armadillo from Texas Roadhouse, who stopped by with small treats that made the day feel even more festive. We're deeply grateful to Russell Farms for donating pumpkins that allowed each child to design and bring home their own seasonal creation. The Johnson City Library enhanced the experience with an engaging story time, and The Yoga Body Shop added a refreshing touch by providing smoothies for our families.

These partners helped us deliver a high-value, community-centered experience that reinforced what fall at Mom's House is all about — connection, celebration, and creating moments that matter for our children and families.





## **National Chef's Appreciation Day**

On October 20th, we had the privilege of celebrating our wonderful Food and Nutrition Coordinator, Ms. Brittney! Ms. Brittney consistently goes above and beyond in the kitchen, ensuring that every meal is not only nutritious but also exciting and delicious. Whether it's creating new and innovative menu options or making sure even the pickiest eaters are satisfied, she brings passion and creativity to every dish she prepares.

Her dedication to providing wholesome and tasty meals is truly appreciated by all, and we're so grateful for her tireless efforts to nourish our community.

Thank you, Ms. Brittney, for all that you do!

## What have we been up to?

### Honoring 25 Years of Dedication: Ms. Lynne's Legacy of Love and Learning





Mom's House had the joy of celebrating and honoring one of our very own - Ms. Lynne - for her remarkable 25 years of service and dedication to our children and families. For a quarter of a century, Ms. Lynne has been an exceptional educator whose compassion, structure, and empathy have helped our young learners grow and explore the world around them. Her care and commitment have left a lasting impact on countless families who have been part of the Mom's House community.

Affectionately known for her cheerful Duck Room, Ms. Lynne has created a space where children feel safe, curious, and loved. It's no surprise that when it's time for little ones to move up to the next classroom, many find it hard to leave — often asking to stop by just to say hello.

Ms. Lynne has a special gift for turning everyday moments into lasting memories. As one child lovingly put it, "I want to go to Lynne's House."

We are deeply grateful for Ms. Lynne's years of dedication, her nurturing spirit, and the countless lives she has touched. Thank you, Ms. Lynne, for all you have done — and continue to do — to make Mom's House such a special place to learn and grow.

## Scholarship Recipients



## Angela

**Bright Futures** Scholarship

## Kari

Ann Zappia **Scholarship** 



"This scholarship has not only eased my financial burden but also strengthened my motivation to continue moving forward."



## Sadie

Ann Zappia Scholarship Diane Avery Scholarship

"This scholarship has helped relieve much stress related to school finances. I am now able to focus more on school and my daughter."

## education with confidence and focus." **Alina**

Diane Avery Scholarship



"This scholarship is helping me purchase school supplies to make my journey easier."

purchase my school supplies and continue my

## What have we been up to?

### **New Visions- Day of Services**

Giving Back to Our Playground



Mom's House is deeply grateful to the students of New Visions for volunteering their time once again to help with a much-needed playground cleanup. Between wind, rain, falling leaves, and everyday wear and tear, our playground requires regular attention to stay safe and welcoming for our children. Their dedication keeps our outdoor space vibrant and ready for fun, active play — and we couldn't do it without their support!



## Fire Prevention Week



Mom's House was proud to welcome the Johnson City Fire Department for Fire Safety Week! Safety is a top priority here, with monthly drills and regular trainings, and having the firefighters on-site provided a hands-on, engaging way for our children to learn important fire safety skills while connecting with local heroes. Thank you for all that you do!



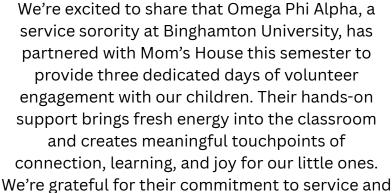








## Omega Phi Alpha at Binghamton University



their investment in the families we support.



## Event Updates

### **Fundraiser Updates:**

### Night of Hope





A heartfelt thank-you to our sponsors, partners, and every guest who stepped into this year's Night of Hope. With more than 120 attendees in the room, the energy was unmistakable — a community rallying around possibility, resilience, and the belief that hope doesn't just inspire change...it drives it.

Our theme, Hope in Action, came to life on stage through Kari — a Mom's House graduate and current client — who shared her journey with grace and grit. Her story underscored what we know to be true: when our families rise, it's because this community stands behind them. Your support isn't just appreciated; it's catalytic.

Our emcee, Avery Copeland from WBNG's Around the Tiers, brought an incredible level of energy and connection to the room, keeping the evening moving with ease and enthusiasm. We were also honored to recognize John Sacco, owner of A Great Choice Landscaping, with this year's Solution of Hope Award. John has consistently gone above and beyond – giving his time, expertise, and resources to strengthen Mom's House. His leadership reflects the very spirit of service our mission is built on. And for a little added fun, our brand-new prize wheel was a breakout success completely selling out and creating plenty of laughter and friendly competition throughout the night.

Thank you for investing in the work, the mission, and the families we serve. Your commitment fuels real outcomes, real progress, and real hope. Together, we're moving the needle for single parents chasing a stronger future for their families — and we're just getting started.





# thank Zyou Sponsors

Gold





























Friend



## Upcoming Events

Texas Roadhouse Dine-In



Monday, January 26, 2026

3:00pm - 10:00pm Vestal, NY 13805 %

of your food purchase goes back to Mom's House when you mention us before checking out!

Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

> Chef's and Aspiring Chef's WANTED!

Soup'er Bowl Cook Off

Monday, February 2, 2026

5:00pm - 8:00pm

Our Lady of Sorrow's Cafe Vestal, NY 13805



Volunteer & Employee Appreciation Luncheon

Thursday, April 30, 2026 11:00am-1:00pm



Flower Sale

Order forms will be available at the beginning of April

**Flats** 



Hanging Baskets

## Upcoming Events



## Mother's Day Luncheon

Friday, May 1, 2026

10:00am - 12:00pm

Mom's House





## Graduation Ceremony

Thursday, June 4, 2026

5:00pm - 7:00pm

Mom's House



Join us for Mom's House First ever Clambake!

### Clambake

### **Hosted by Mountain Top Grove**

Adult Tickets \$\\$60

\$30

6-12

5 and under FREE

June 20, 2026

Menu: Raw and Steamed clams, Grilled Ribeye Steak Sandwiches, Marinated Chicken Breast,

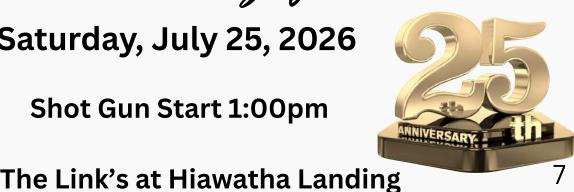
Hot & Sweet Sausage and much more!

## Hart & Hills Memorial Golf Tournament

Saturday, July 25, 2026

**Shot Gun Start 1:00pm** 





## Mom's House Graduate

Clare McGovern-Lind



Since 1988, Mom's House has directly assisted hundreds of parents continue their education by providing loving support to parents choosing life for their children, support that very often started a cascade of positive effects for their entire family and community. I was one of those parents, starting in 1998, while I was pregnant with Brenna as a college sophomore. I had intention of continuing my education, but had no idea how to do that until I was referred to Mom's House.

From the moment I walked into the previous house in Endicott for my initial interview, I felt the encouragement that I needed during that time, and a peace in knowing that Brenna and I could do this, a very clear memory even 20 plus years later.

After my graduation from Binghamton University with a BS in Biology, and Brenna and I graduated from Mom's House (pictured with Judy Murphy at our Mom's House graduation), I pursued careers in biology as a zookeeper and community educator.

## Where are they now?

Brenna started preschool in the Catholic Schools of Broome County (where she and her brother both graduated from) and her dad and I married in 2001, with our son Seamus being born in 2004. During this time, I returned to Binghamton University to obtain my Master's Degree in Biology. I have been a Biology Teacher at Union Endicott High School since 2008, where I have mentored new teachers, student teachers, been named a NYS Master Teacher, and serve as club advisor for student organizations.

Brenna attended Slippery Rock University for her undergraduate Exercise Science degree and to play field hockey, where she was also accepted into the Doctorate of Physical Therapy program. She has been practicing as a Physical Therapist since 2023, primarily in the field of long term care. She and her husband, Nate, recently welcomed their first child, Grace, and our first grandchild! I honestly don't think my family as I know it today would exist without my involvement with Mom's House and for that I am eternally grateful.



Since 2021, I have served on the Mom's House Board of Directors in an effort to return even just a fraction of the benefits my family and I received, and to assist the other dedicated board members and staff in continuing the Mom's House mission. Mom's House was truly more than just a daycare when I was a parent, and has continued to respond to the changing needs of our community in order to best provide the loving support that forms the basis of Mom's House. Thank you to all of you, our community of supporters who are the reason that Mom's House continues to tremendously impact the educational journey of our parents, thereby starting their entire family on a path of success.

## Golden Grandparents 2025

Each year Mom's House likes to honor our Golden Grandparents, individuals who throughout the course of the year donate \$1,000 or more to our program.

Ms. Mary Beth George

Ms. Mary Ellen McGory

Thrivent-Thrivent Choice

(pledges)

Ms. Pauline Putnev

Dr. Robert Lalor & Dr. Mary John

Mr. & Mrs. Angelo Macchiano

Mr. & Mrs. David Ziebarth

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Holly

Mr. & Mrs. James Good

Mr. & Mrs. James Melby

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Conti

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Konrad

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Goodwin

Mr. & Mrs. Martin Lawson

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Hills

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Fidler & Jeri

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Sopchak

Mr. & Mrs. Ray Barnard

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Avery

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Brady

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Trencansky

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Skrobacz

Mr. Dan Coleman

Mr. James Wilcox

Mr. Patric Lowe

Mr. Zachary Mider

Mrs. Retz Bernardo

Ms. Christina Edwards

Ms. Denise Carroll

Ms. Jessica Miller

Ms. Karen Gates

Ms. Karen Stonebraker

Ms. Kelsey Ostrander

Ms. Kristen Gentile

Ms. Margaret Blaha

Ms. Margaret Robinson

### Memorials

Vilello, Philip- Dominic & Blanch Frisina Halan, Margaret- Jennifer Thrall Betty Keyes- Tim and Margarett Keyes Robison, Margie- Patricia & Allen Lynch

### Honors

Kristine Cunningham- Kathleen Cotte

Mullen, Martha & Jim- Bih-Lian Huang & Michael Wovkulich

wovkutich

Tager, Dr. Patricia- Bih-Lian Huang & Michael Wovkulich

Wardlaw, Mary & William- Bih-Lian Huang & Michael

Wovkulich

Wovkulich, Sally & Peter- Bih-Lian Huang & Michael Wovkulich

### Memorial/Honor Sponsorship

Did you know that you can honor/memorialize your loved one at our annual event through a \$50 sponsorship?

Contact Sheila to find out more or look online at our Annual Sponsorship Package!







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Build a Life...Together

December 2025

## Wish List

ead Infant/Toddle

Teacher

### **Reoccurring Needs**

- Paper towels/ Toilet Paper
- Copier/printer paper, 20 & 24 lb
- Ink Cartridges: HP 62, HP564,
- HP Laser Jet 148 A
- Envelopes- #10
- Batteries (all sizes)
- Art Supplies paper, stickers, etc.
- Science kits
- Baby Wipes
- Diapers (all sizes)
- Swiffer wet pads
- Baby laundry detergent -HE
- Diaper Cream
- Disposable Gloves
- Paper plates/cups
- **Gift Cards**: Michaels, Walmart, Sam's Club, Wegman's, Target, Gas Stations

### One-time Purchases/Holiday Needs

- New Vacuum Cleaner
- New/unused toys ages 6 weeks 5 years old
- Cricut Machine
- Holiday craft supplies
- Mom's House Ribbon for bow making
  - Wicker Baskets



Mom's House is seeking volunteers to read to the children one a week or once a month.

Call 607-644-9972 to

find out more!

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