

Nativity Comes to Life at Holy Spirit Church



Last year’s Living Nativity at Holy Spirit Church drew record attendance.

This was the scene last Christmas Eve inside Holy Spirit Church...complete with angels, shepherds, donkey and sheep (courtesy of Lakeview Animal Sanctuary), and of course, an image of the Holy Family. Parishoners David and Katie Cultrara and

their infant son, Adam, helped transport all who attended spiritually to Bethlehem. Some of Holy Spirit’s youth served as shepherds and angels, while the choir sang sacred Christmas hymns. The Living Nativity will take place at Holy

Spirit again this Christmas Eve at the 11:00 pm Mass on Wednesday December 24th. Doors will be open at 10 pm and music starts at 10:40 pm. Holy Spirit Church is located at 85 Dakota Street, and everyone is most welcome to join in prayer.

Choir of St. Louis Church to Present *Lessons and Carols*

The Choir of St. Louis Church, under the direction of Frank Scinta, will present a *Festival Service of Lessons and Carols* on Sunday, December 21st at 4:00 pm in St. Louis Church, 35 Edward Street at Main, Buffalo. Featured will be carols and anthems of Willan, Ord, Posten, Willcocks, Waters, Yon and others. The service of *Lessons and Carols* traces, in scripture and song, the Nativity story as foretold by the Old Testament prophets

and narrated by the Gospel writers. Begun in King’s College Chapel, Cambridge University, nearly a century ago, the service is repeated *Continued on page 4*



The Choir of St. Louis, led by Frank Scinta, will perform *Lessons and Carols*, a century-old service tracing the Nativity story in scripture and song.



Celebrate the New Year at First Night

Plans are underway for this year’s ultimate drug and alcohol-free New Year’s Eve celebration—Independent Health Foundation’s First Night Buffalo, being held from 5 to 10 pm, Wednesday, December 31st, at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center. The annual holiday family tradition, now in its 26th year in downtown Buffalo, offers safe, family-friendly activities for all ages to ring in the New Year with rides and amusements including Eclectic Improv, Pyromancy, Nickel City Rep-tiles & Exotics, The Red Trousers Show, Kevin McCarthy and a wide variety of exciting street performers.

New this year, the Buffalo Bills will provide a Challenge where families can visit stations and experience hands-on football-themed fitness activities. “Each year, thousands of Western New York families come out to celebrate a drug and alcohol-free New Year’s Eve at First Night Buffalo,” said Carrie Meyer, executive director, Independent Health Foundation. This year will be no different. The Independent Health Foundation is proud to continue pre-

senting this fun, affordable and safe event every New Year’s Eve. We have a great lineup of entertainment and activities for attendees of all ages.” “Independent Health is pleased to support First Night Buffalo, one of our region’s mainstay events, which engages our community in healthy and fun activities to ring in the New Year,” said Michael W. Cropp, M.D., president and chief executive officer, Independent Health. “All of us have the opportunity to create healthier habits for ourselves and our families, and First Night Buffalo is the perfect place to make that commitment and start the year off right. Thank you to all of the sponsors and volunteers who make this outstanding event possible.” Tickets are now on sale at all area Wegmans locations for \$10, which include all rides, attractions and activities. Children ages 2-years-old and under are free. Tickets are \$12 at the door. Free parking is available for attendees at the Fernbach and Main Place Mall parking ramps. For more information and a complete schedule of events, visit the First Night Buffalo website at www.firstnightbuffalo.org, or call 635-4959.



Local Weather						
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21	MONDAY, DECEMBER 22	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24
 PM Snow Showers High 35° Low 27°	 AM Clouds/PM Sun High 31° Low 25°	 Mostly Cloudy High 34° Low 28°	 Partly Cloudy High 36° Low 28°	 Mostly Cloudy High 40° Low 30°	 Partly Cloudy High 46° Low 36°	 Rain High 42° Low 31°

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The Adventures of...

Rocket Man

by Doug Smith



'The Guns of Christmas'

Playwright Gary Earl Ross' "Guns of Christmas" provides a new perspective on the season, appropriately staged in manger-like conditions by the Subversive Theatre Collective.

An ensemble cast, many of whom fought unprecedented snows to maintain the drill of rehearsals, dramatizes events of precisely 100 years ago when warring British and German troops declared a Christmas truce. Some today dismiss it as myth, but more than 500 soldiers' letters confirm that for 36 hours, peace broke out on earth. A recent Niagara Gazette sports-page article describes the football (soccer) games on the killing fields: "Fritzies 4, Tommies 3."

Ross' script, which he also directs, is story-telling almost in parable form, and not without humor. Last Friday's sellout crowd, which happened to be at least three-quarters female, frequently filled the little Manny Fried Playhouse with laughter, particularly when the opposing belligerents got to comparing notes on the

uniform inedibility of their rations.

Or when one German soldier announced the truce, "Put down your gun," and a trenchmate responded, "Did we win?"

But there are moments, too, of unstinting queasiness on the corpse-strewn battlefield: "The smell is an indignity that cheapens the sacrifice."

Leading players include Lawrence Rowsell as the conflicted cleric who figures principally in Ross' conclusion, and John F. Kennedy as the non-com leader of the German forces. The informative playbill, like everything else produced on a shoestring, credits Kennedy and J. Tim Raymond with design of the set, which gets maximum effect out of a few soft brushstrokes and a haunting crimson light.

Raymond also is endearing as the Scottish farmer-warrior and in a stroke of double-casting genius, Ross has strident Murray Galloway as BOTH com-

manding officers. Cost-efficient? Certainly. Symbolic? Priceless.

Without ever raising his voice, Ross makes a lot of points. A young Jewish soldier declares his lifelong loyalty to the fatherland (this was World War I, remember), a conscript is embraced by both good women and bad, Lucas Lloyd's solemn scholar declares, "We will end war or war will end us."

"Guns," a great work with the potential for long life after its world premiere, goes quiet after this weekend, with performances at 8 pm tonight through Saturday. The theater, which involves either a 52-step climb or transportation by freight elevator, occupies the Pierce Arrow Building at Elmwood and Great Arrow.

Call 408-0499 to confirm ticket availability. Rocket Man did not and gained admittance only by whining. NINE ROCKETS (out of 10).

DISCORD: On the other hand, at curtain call, one cast member displayed a sign, three words, supporting another cause. Way, way out of line, the sort of diversion that gives subversion a bad name.

Fire back to Rocket Man via pollyndoug@hotmail.com.

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Northwest Buffalo Beat

by Joe Bortz

M&T

The saga with M&T Bank continues. They have now succeeded in extracting over \$5100 in fees out of our accounts without having to give prior notice or justification. Seems once they got you they do not let go. Make no mistake, they know what they are doing. It appears that instead of trying to help alleviate the situation, they encourage it to happen as it is free money with little or no risk on their part. My feelings are that this huge bank has taken advantage of a small business and if it was done to me, it had to be done to others. I have written the Better Business Bureau, and have the forms for the Attorney General. Worst-case scenario, will go to small claims court. What they have done may be legally hidden in the small fine print but the morality and the ethics are questionable. We have been in business for fifty years, done business with most local banks, never ran into something like this.

Holiday Season

As we approach the holidays we prepare for them in so many different ways. Most enjoy the spirit they bring with them, depending on your beliefs. We start with Hanukkah which is the 16th of this month. The beginning of the Jewish eight day celebration of light over darkness. That is a good thing and a nice way to kick off a festive season. We are looking for good things here, remember.

So the next big thing if you are Christian or even if you are not, is the celebration of Christmas. The birth of Jesus Christ. These all add up to a time of joy, good will and the sharing of material worth or gift giving. It is a time when people delight in going out into the vast retail world to find something they feel a loved one will desire. To frantically look

for that something special for that someone special. With the hope it will make the recipient happy. That is one huge task, as we all know. So why do we do it? It is a lot of work, a lot of time, a lot of thinking and a lot of planning. But if you pick a winner and you have pleased someone, it is all worthwhile. What was nice was when my kids were little, they were so easy to please. No matter what they got, they were happy. Having had eight of them, just the spirit of Christmas was a joy. They were happy, happy times.

The other big thing about the holidays is the poundage that is increased in our bodies. So many parties, so many dinners, so many cookies and too much candy. It is a festive time and what better way to enjoy a festival than to indulge in food and drink. We have already been to a couple of all you can eat parties. Tell me, with all that good stuff sitting there waiting to be devoured, how does one maintain control? Good food seems to be habit forming. Again here we

find ourselves baking cookies and preparing dinners, which is also added work to this busiest time of the year.

After Christmas we head downhill toward New Years and another party. New Year's Eve is both a sad and happy occasion. It is sad in the fact that we have seen another year pass. No matter if it was a good year or bad, it is gone forever. So we say goodbye and reflect on what the year brought. We then celebrate the start of a whole new year. One with great hope and expectations as we always feel it is going to be better than the last. With that the Holidays end, much to the delight of us Bah, Humbuggers. Time to get back to business, get through the cold winter and wait for the spring.

Trivia

To keep in the spirit of the holidays, the street names are a stretch. Name as many Buffalo streets that are Christmas related. Rudolph does not count; it is not in the city.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone from Joe Bortz.

Email JBORTZE@aol.com or find him on Facebook. com/joe.bortz.3

BUFFALO TRIVIA

by Joe Bortz

Name as many Buffalo Streets that are Christmas related.

Last Week's Answers:
How many streets in Buffalo contain the word "Wood?" Did you name them all?

1. Benwood Ave.

2. Collingwood Ave.

3. Copsewood Ave.

4. Crestwood Ave.

5. Eaglewood Ave.

6. Edgewood Ave.

7. Elmwood Ave.

8. Englewood Ave.

9. Fernwood Ave.

10. Glenwood Ave.

11. Greenwood Pl.

12. Hardwood Pl.

13. Hazelwood Ave.

14. Hollywood Ave.

15. Inwood Pl.

16. Lakewood Ave.

17. Lincoln Woods Ln.

18. Linwood Ave.

19. Linwood Terr.

20. Lockwood Ave.

21. Maywood Pl.

22. Norwood Ave.

23. Oakwood Pl.

24. Randwood Ln.

25. Ridgewood Rd.

26. Rockwood Ave.

27. Sherwood St.

28. Wildwood Ave.

29. Wood Ave.

30. Woodbridge Ave.

31. Woodbury Aly.

32. Woodette Pl.


33. Woodlawn Ave.

34. Woodley Rd.

35. Woodside Ave.

36. Woodward Ave.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 "Great —!"

6 "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" composer

11 Woman's snug hat

12 Jong and Kane

14 Steve of the WWE

15 Steve of "The Jerk"

16 Edge

17 Bessemer material

19 U.N. workers' org.

20 Screen image

22 Day divs.

23 Acknowledge

24 Muddle with liquor

26 Fishermen

28 However

30 Moray, e.g.

31 Combination

35 Trunks

39 Unrivaled

40 Fond du —, Wis.

42 Garden intruder

43 Third degree?

44 Frank — Wright

46 Aye undoer

47 Steve of "Family

DOWN

1 Floodgate

2 Carl Sagan topic

3 Autumn mo.

4 Not that

5 First extra inning

6 Legal possession of

7 Kazakh river

8 Creme de cassis cocktail

9 Hardly idle

10 Tar

11 Antilean tribe member

13 "The — of Kilimanjaro"

18 Historic time

21 Aristocratic

23 Let

25 Yank

27 Understand

29 Fox hunt cry

31 Socially dominant

32 Punk rocker's coil,

Feud"

49 Steve of "Evan Almighty"

51 Just off the ocean's floor

52 Feudal lords

53 Buzzing instrument

54 Perfumery compound

land

33 Tenor Bocelli

34 Long March leader

36 Break a promise

37 Caulking matter

38 Pastoral pieces

41 Washer phase

44 Toy block name

45 Speaker's spot

48 Namely (Abbr.)

50 Pensioned (Abbr.)

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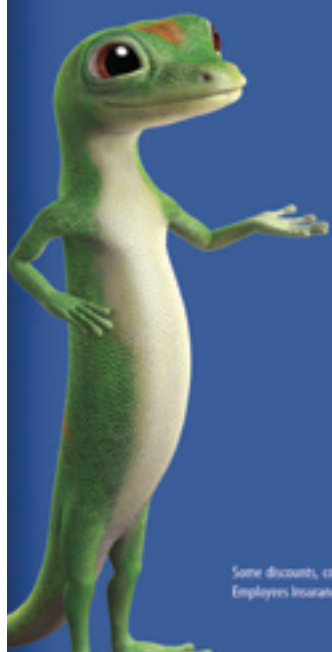
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Choir of St. Louis*From page 1*

in churches of nearly every denomination worldwide.

The Choir of St. Louis Church is an all-volunteer ensemble composed of members of the parish and other area music lovers. The choir rehearses each Thursday evening and leads the musical worship at 11:00 am each Sunday. Its repertoire covers nine centuries of sacred music and nearly every style of western composition.

In recent years, members of the choir have performed with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Ars Nova Chamber Musicians, Camerata di Sant' Antonio, Greater Buffalo Opera Company and Opera Sacra.

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Seasons Greetings from Senator Grisanti**A holiday message from New York State Senator Mark Grisanti.**

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to everyone in Buffalo, Tonawanda, Grand Island, Orchard Park, Hamburg, Evans and Brant and all of the associated villages and hamlets in these wonderful communities. Christmas is a special time of year where we pause to reflect and remember that more than 2,000 years ago a child who was born in a stable brought us the tremendous gifts of peace and salvation.

It is also the time of year where we are called upon to love and spend time with our families and friends. From longstanding traditions to brand new celebrations, I hope whatever you choose to do this year to observe the holiday season is joyous and helps produce many memories you can cherish for years to come.

Please remember and try to help those who

live in our community whose holidays may be a bit tougher than ours. I also ask that you pray for the safe return of all of the military troops who are protecting us and helping to preserve the many freedoms that we enjoy. Please join me in remembering those who may be struggling personally and/or professionally, including those who are currently out of work and seeking new opportunities as they pursue full-time employment.

Christmas is the time of year when we remember these things and when we demonstrate our charity and compassion by helping our neighbors. I believe Western New York is the best part of New York State because of the hard-working people who live in communities that are wonderful places to raise a family.

The people who live in my district inspire me and constantly remind me that our focus should be on growing our economy to help produce more unique career opportunities so families do not feel they have to leave New York to find good paying jobs.

I hope that your holiday season is filled with warmth, joy and laughter and that 2015 brings you health and happiness.

I wish you all Happy Holidays and a very Merry Christmas. May God bless each and every one of you!

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The Grapevine

The Breast Cancer Network of Western New York will hold their monthly meeting at its Bella Moglie building, 3297 Walden Avenue in Depew (just east of Transit Rd) at 6:00 pm, Tuesday, January 13th.

This month the speaker will be Lisa Anllo, PhD, LLC talking about Taking Control and Managing Your Emotions.

Contact the Breast Cancer Network of WNY at 706-0060 or email bcwnyny@live.com to make reservations.

The Museum of disability History will host a unique Dialogues on disability Workshop called "Tourette Syndrome and Associated Disorders in the Classroom," presented by Susan Conners, M.Ed., president and founder of the Tourette Syndrome Association of Greater New York State on Saturday, January 24th from 8:30 am to 3 pm. The workshop will focus on a number of top-

ics, including criteria for diagnosing Tourette syndrome, associated disorders and their behaviors, impact on performance and behavior, as well as classroom strategies. The workshop is recommended for parents, educators and

human service professionals. To reserve your spot, complete the registration form available online at museumofdisability.org or call 629-3626 with payment information.

Submit Your Community Event to

The Grapevine

Email
editor.buffalorocket@gmail.com

AREA DEATH NOTICES

MONTANTE - Tracy L. Of Buffalo, entered into rest December 15, 2014, devoted mother; loving daughter; dear sister and cherished granddaughter. Also survived by relatives and many friends. Arrangements made by the LOMBARDO FUNERAL HOME (Northtowns Chapel), 885 Niagara Falls Blvd. near Eggert/Sheridan Dr.

SZCZYGIEL - Robert A. Of Buffalo, entered into rest December 13, 2014. Loving son and grandson; dear brother; cherished uncle. Also survived by relatives and many friends. Arrangements made by the LOMBARDO FUNERAL HOME (Northtowns Chapel), 885 Niagara Falls Blvd. near Eggert/Sheridan Dr. www.lombardofuneralhome.com

LODICO - Crescentia (nee Wutz) "Chris" Of Tonawanda, entered into rest December 11, 2014. Devoted mother; cherished grandmother; loving daughter; dear sister. Also survived by relatives and friends. Arrangements made by the LOMBARDO FUNERAL HOME (Northtowns Chapel), 885 Niagara Falls Blvd. near Eggert/Sheridan Dr.

SHANAHAN - Courtney Of Niagara Falls, entered into rest December 12, 2014, beloved husband; devoted father; cherished grandfather Sha-

nahan; adored great-grandfather; loving son and dear brother. Also survived by relatives and friends. Arrangements made by the LOMBARDO FUNERAL HOME (Northtowns Chapel), 885 Niagara Falls Blvd. near Eggert/Sheridan Dr.

CICATELLO - Angeline (nee Chiavaroli) Of Buffalo, entered into rest December 13, 2014, beloved wife; devoted mother; cherished grandmother; adored great-grandmother; loving daughter and dear sister. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Arrangements made by the LOMBARDO FUNERAL HOME (Northtowns Chapel), 885 Niagara Falls Blvd. near Eggert/Sheridan Dr.

TOCZYNSKI - William E. Of Cheektowaga, entered into rest December 9, 2014. Arrangements made by the LOMBARDO FUNERAL HOME (Northtowns Chapel), 885 Niagara Falls Blvd. near Eggert/Sheridan Dr.

PAYNE - Robert L. Of Tonawanda, entered into rest December 6, 2014, beloved husband; devoted father; cherished grandfather and great-grandfather; loving son and dear brother. Arrangements made by the LOMBARDO FUNERAL HOME (Northtowns Chapel), 885 Niagara Falls Blvd. near Eggert/Sheridan Dr.

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To see more great pets, visit: <http://www.petfinder.com/pet-search?shelterid=NY341>




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SERVICES

Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company(LLC): Name: BARRE FITNESS AND BEYOND, LLC , Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 9/4/2014. Office location: Erie County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: Rene Giglia Heitzenrater C/O BARRE FITNESS AND BEYOND, LLC, 1599 Hertel Avenue , Buffalo, 14216. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date. 46-51

NOTICE OF FORMATION of a Limited Liability Company (LLC): Beachwood Land II, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on September 18, 2014. Office location is Erie County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon who process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process served upon him/her to David H. Baldauf, Esq., 7978 Cooper Creek Boulevard, Suite 100, University Park, FL 34201. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity. 47-52

DEEP ROOTS BOOKSHOP, LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 7/28/14. Office location: Erie County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC, 163 Stratford Rd., Buffalo, NY 14216. General Purposes. 46-51

Buffalo City School District
Advertisement for Bids

Sealed proposals for the following project will be received at the Office of Plant Services, 403 City Hall, Buffalo, NY 14202. On January 14, 2015 at 11:00 a.m., proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

District-Wide Classroom Door
Security Upgrades Phase II

Beginning Thursday, December 18, 2014, bidding document packages may be viewed and purchased through Avalon Document Services online Planroom website at www.avalonbuff-planroom.com, under "Public Jobs", or ordered by phone at 716-995-7777. Owner can assume no responsibility for errors, omissions, or other misinformation obtained via other bid document distribution resources. Please note that required bid bond is 10%. The work will be subject to the equal employment opportunity requirements. Any questions regarding this project, please refer to Juan Perez, AIA, 716-816-3610. 51

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PRAYER TO THE
BLESSED VIRGIN

(Never known to fail)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3X). Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3X). Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine.
The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days, the request will be granted. This prayer must then be published after the favor is granted. R.G.C.

Lifestyle Exercycle - Low-impact cardio, total body motion. Best offer. 875-8890

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Angel Books (4) - \$10. 877-4682

Snow Thrower - Sunbeam 3HP, gasoline, 220 throwing radius. \$30. 877-4682

Princess House Pilsner Glasses - Set of 2. \$5. 877-4682

Denim Jacket - Ladies size Medium, heavyweight, like new. \$10. 877-4682

Dog Jacket/Blanket - Gray, 19" length, fits medium to large dog. \$10 or B.O. 877-4682

Ladies Boots - Gisela JCP black leather dress w/low heel, size 7.5. Worn only once. \$30. 877-4682

Necklace - Small pearls in the form of a cross on 16" silver chain. \$50. 877-4682

— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

S	C	O	T	T	D	U	K	A	S		
C	L	O	C	H	E	E	R	I	C	A	S
A	U	S	T	I	N	M	A	R	T	I	N
R	I	M	S	T	E	E	L	I	L	O	
I	C	O	N	H	R	S	A	V	O	W	
B	E	S	O	T	A	N	G	L	E	R	S
A	M	A	L	G	A	M	T	O	R	S	I
L	O	N	E	L	A	C	W	E	E	D	
P	H	D	L	L	O	Y	D	N	A	Y	
H	A	R	V	E	Y	C	A	R	E	L	L
A	W	E	I	G	H	L	I	E	G	E	S
K	A	Z	O	O	E	S	T	E	R		

Puzzle on page 3

HELP WANTED

Head Men's & Women's Cross Country
Coach/Assistant Track & Field Coach

Buffalo State, State University of New York, seeks candidates for the position of Head Men's & Women's Cross Country Coach/Assistant Track & Field Coach.
For a full job description and to apply: <https://jobs.buffalostate.edu>.



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Buffalo State is accepting applications for General Mechanics (starting pay \$39,384) and Maintenance Assistants (starting pay \$33,306). General Mechanic applicants need a minimum of four years and Maintenance Assistant applicants need a minimum of two years, full-time paid experience in a trade under a skilled journeyman which provided training equivalent to that given in an apprenticeship program. Apprentice training in a trade or training gained by the completion of technical courses in a trade, at a school or institute, may be substituted for the above experience on a year-for-year basis. Experience in one or more of the following trades preferred: commercial/industrial electric, plumbing and HVAC.
Applications are available on the Human Resources website <http://hr.buffalostate.edu/employment>.
Completed applications must be postmarked no later than December 26, 2014 and mailed to: Buffalo State College, Human Resources Management, Cleveland Hall 403, 1300 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14222. NO CALLS WILL BE ACCEPTED.



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