

## Baseball Parade Kicks Off 59th Season



The 59th season of HNPYBL baseball began with a parade down Hertel Avenue, from Saranac to Shoshone Park.

By: **Bill Snyder**

The smiles on the faces of the hundreds of boys and girls made up for the cooler temperatures and cloudy sky this past Saturday morning as they came out in full force to open the 2013 season of the Hertel North Park Youth Baseball League (HNPYBL).

At Saranac, in front of St. Margaret's School, children from age five to 13, gathered for their annual parade up Hertel Avenue to Shoshone Park, to throw out the first pitch and yell "Play Ball!"

Led by both the Buffalo Police and Fire Departments, the players marched east along the usually busy

thoroughfare to their field of dreams, located near the corner of Main Street. This site has served as their home since the league was formed almost 60 years ago.

Business leaders took time out of their busy schedules to watch the huge parade along with many spectators. Dressed in their new uni-

forms, complete with a team cap, the kids wouldn't let the baseball gods deny them of this day.

At the Park, league president Don Morris welcomed everyone for the 2013 season and expressed appreciation to the many people who volunteer their time to make the league a success. He introduced Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown and Delaware District council member Michael LoCurto, both on hand for the ceremonial "first pitch."

Michael Murphy, a long-time coach and board member for the League, will be remembered in a special ceremony to be held on Saturday, May 25th at noon on diamond #5. He began coaching for HNPYBL in 1977 and was the leagues' longest serving member, before his untimely death in January. The diamond, located in the corner of the park, near Tacoma and Parkside Court, will be named in his honor.

Four students from City

Honors High School sang our national anthem in four part harmony. They were Jose Gonzales, Merin Taylor, Lilly Kahris and Ted Rendell.

The League is composed of 65 teams, for both boys and girls, with games scheduled five nights a week and all day Saturday.

Cara Leone did a great job pitching and teammate Zoey Dobo played great at third base to help lead the Rockies over the Angels in a Major girls game. Munir Anderson, Max LaFontaine and Aidan Fell helped lead Springfield to a win over the Carthage Cubs in a Rookie boys game.

In other games, Phoebe Elardo, Hannah Murphy and Rachel Valente combined to pitch a win over the Cardinals. Jeremiah Chapman and Sean Carey helped lead Columbus to a win over Newark.

Later, Emma Foster, Erin Cavanaugh and Anne Bennett played well for the Yankees in a win over the Blue Jays.

### Shop Rock & Stroll Is Back And Better Than Ever



Shop, Rock N Stroll is back and better than ever! Mark your calendar for the last Friday of each month and come enjoy live music on Hertel Avenue while shopping and eating at Buffalo's best specialty boutiques

and restaurants. This year the party has extended from Saranac to Norwalk Avenues. 1374-1448 Hertel Avenue and begins on Friday, May 31st from 6:00 pm until 9:30 pm. featuring Buffalo City Limits.

### Forest Lawn Memorial Day Ceremony to Honor and Acknowledge Those Who Served

On Monday, May 27th, the Erie County American Legion will host its annual ceremony to honor, recognize and salute veterans. At 8:30 am, flags will be placed on the graves of veterans buried in the Field of Valor® at Forest Lawn, 1411 Delaware Avenue in Buffalo. At 9:00 am, the ceremony will begin in front of the American Legion Memorial Monument in the Veterans Section, near the Main Street gates. This event is free and open to the public; all are welcome, no reservations required.

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**Memorial Day ceremony to be held at Forest Lawn on May 27th.**

States, Forest Lawn is at the heart of Western New

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As a destination for art, history and genealogy research, Forest Lawn offers year-round guided tours, educational programming, and annual flag retirement ceremony, countywide special veteran programming on Memorial Day and Veterans Day and more. For more information, visit [www.forest-lawn.com](http://www.forest-lawn.com).

### Local Weather

THURSDAY, MAY 16	FRIDAY, MAY 17	SATURDAY, MAY 18	SUNDAY, MAY 19	MONDAY, MAY 20	TUESDAY, MAY 21	WEDNESDAY, MAY 22
 Partly Cloudy High 73° Low 53°	 Partly Cloudy High 69° Low 52°	 Mostly Cloudy High 69° Low 56°	 Isolated T-Storms High 74° Low 59°	 Isolated T-Storms High 70° Low 59°	 Scattered Showers High 75° Low 60°	 Showers High 68° Low 56°

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The Adventures of...

## Rocket Man

by Doug Smith



### ‘The God of Isaac’

Rocket Man ranks “they” as the most bigoted word in the language, as in, “they’ve got rhythm” or “they know business” or “they sure dress nicely.”

Any statement categorizing a subgroup of fellow travelers with a third-person pronoun is like a second-hand bra – it separates but it doesn’t lift. Both sooner and later, it demeans us all, accentuating the apart, diminishing the together.

This said, Rocket Man has seldom left a theater as enlightened as he felt after Jewish Repertory Theatre’s opening of “The God of Isaac” Thursday night. Although many Jewish people have driven him ‘round the bend down through the years, he has always admired the faith and its sincere practitioners, never quite knowing why, several weddings and bar and bat mitzvahs notwithstanding. “Isaac” took him by the hand and moved him toward understanding.

As directed by Saul Elkin, James Sherman’s script addresses its audience through

layers of fantasy and reality, like so many nesting dolls. Presumably speaking for the author, Isaac Adams, played with pleasing fervor by David Butler, is introducing his play to an audience – maybe it’s us, maybe not – over the heckled protests of his mother from the second row.

Darleen Pickering-Humert plays the mother, beautifully, forever complaining, never whining. “Pay no attention to me,” she ultimately huffs. Sorry, Charley, that’s mission impossible. She makes even “you should live so long” sound freshly minted.

Isaac has wed outside the faith to a practical glamour-puss who thinks “Jewish is cute,” perhaps the finest performance Rocket Man ever has seen by multi-honored Lisa Ludwig. Meantime, he maintains a painfully platonic relationship with Kristen Bentley’s plaintively lovely Chaya, who’d be his soul mate, if he had one.

Isaac has been a proud non-practitioner of his

faith. Only his bride lets slip a crude ethnic phrase concerning negotiations does he begin to feel it’s worth defending. Then an American Nazi rally poises on the border of his home suburb, and he moves to diagnose his simmering sense of right and wrong.

This is all seeded with fresh ethnic slants on such movies as “On the Waterfront” and “The Wizard of Oz,” with seriously playful performances by Tom Laughlin and Adam Yellen. Yellen’s Brando is definitely a contender and tailor Loughlin’s bitterly humorous recollections of Auschwitz (“I wanted Buchenwald but it was closed for the season”) about stops the show.

That would take some doing. “Isaac” can’t resist cracking wise in even the most serious moments. And when Isaac’s wife tells him “Don’t EVER ask me to skip an audition,” it’s clear that these two shall be parted long before death.

“The God of Isaac” demonstrates why people, any people, should believe, if only in themselves. The course runs through June 2 at the Seller Theatre in the Jewish Community Center, 2640 North Forest Rd. NINE ROCKETS (out of 10).

Fire back to Rocket Man via [pollyndoug@hotmail.com](mailto:pollyndoug@hotmail.com).



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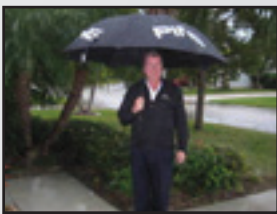
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# Northwest Buffalo Beat

by Joe Bortz

"New Location On Hertel"

The dust has settled, somewhat, in our move to Hertel Avenue. For the convenience of our loyal North Buffalo clients, who have been with us for the last 40 some years, we decided to maintain a presence in the area. More than anything else, North Buffalo has been good to us over the years. Both Gallagher Printing and the Buffalo Rocket feel it is our home and always will be.

Since our humble beginning in the little shop on Tacoma near Commonwealth, we have met and became close friends with so many neighbors, businessmen, politicians, and our customers. We officially opened the print shop in 1969 and the Rocket in May of that year. Forty four years of good times, friendly people, and an enjoyable ride making enough revenue to raise eight children. Never got rich but enough to live comfortably, and I owe it all to the North Buffalo area.

In a previous column I mentioned that over that 44 years, the Rocket photographers, and there have been many. Starting with George Campos, whose name is now famous in this area, Melissa Beckman, Michael Schafer, Etc. the list goes on. Some of the photos taken are professional shots taken by professional photographers and they are very good. Many photos in our archives are submitted photos by professional studios. So publishing a weekly paper with photos every

week for 52 weeks times 44 years, there are literally thousands of photos of North Buffalo people,

I have spent many hours trying to categorize these pictures into some kind of order. In the beginning, they were filed with headings. For example, Schools, sports, politicians, events, etc. But over the years and many moves, it is just boxes full of photos, in no order and with no captions. No way can I recall each and every picture and who the people are. Surprising enough, I do recognize lots of them and know or knew them personally. Of course the North Buffalo politicians like Tony Masiello, Sam Hoyt, Joel Giambra and the more prominent ones that served this area and the West Side. Many of the businessmen became personal friends and some still are.

My hope was to be able to take some of the best of these photos and display them. I have started on this venture and spend a lot of time trying to make it work. The results to date are in the window at 1249 Hertel. It is a beginning and trying to make some kind of order is very time consuming. Although I have to say, it is kind of neat seeing photos of a lot of people who I knew well that are no longer with us. Stirs up some pleasant memories and in most cases, they make me smile. Many of the photos are of people who are still here, but were

taken many years ago and show how they have matured. We found hundreds of pictures of youngsters, who, by this point in time, are grown adults. It is too bad I cannot put names with the photos, but that is almost impossible. The only way to do that would be to go into our morgue (we call the books with former editions by year, "the morgue"), and find the picture and original caption to it. Each edition had 8 or 12 pages or an average of 10 pages. 52 weeks a year give us 520 pages times 44 years. Anyone want to look at over 20,000 pages trying to match a photo?

Since most have no captions, I have to do the best I can to identify the ones

that I can. Some do identify the school on the back, so I will put all the photos from the identified school, like St Margaret's, Nichols, etc, in one larger frame. If I can get enough larger frames and we can find a way to hang them, my hope is that by the time the Italian Festival comes around in July, there will be a wall of North Buffalo Rocket/ West Side Times/ Riverside Times, memorabilia photos for all to see.

So, if your photo has appeared in any of the above publications over the last 44 years, there is a possibility you can be part of the North Buffalo Wall of Fame. Check it out!

Send your comments to: JBORTZE@aol.com

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## HNBBBA Spring Mixer Held



The Hertel North Buffalo Business Association held its Spring Mixer at Gabel's on Hertel Avenue this past Tuesday. Forty business members were in attendance. Future mixers are in the planning stages.

## St. Mary's School for the Deaf Officially Accredited by CEASD

The Conference of Education Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD), a national authority in educational services, has bestowed upon St. Mary's School for the Deaf a designation for Full Accreditation. The five year accreditation from CEASD showcases SMSD's programming and curriculum and provides independent validation of the school's commitment to its students, staff, and other contributors.

Last month at CEASD's Annual Conference at the Arizona School for the Deaf and Blind, SMSD's Superintendent Timothy Kelly received the certificate for Accreditation alongside three other schools' representatives. Kelly is extremely proud of this recognition and expresses gratitude to all of SMSD's stakeholders and community partners; "This is a proud day for all of our staff and school

community, and will be forever remembered in our history. We believe in the dedication and talents of our staff and students," said Kelly.

Upon initial recommendation for Full Accreditation in fall of 2012, CEASD Executive Director Joseph Finnegan pointed to the benefits that SMSD would reap from the Accreditation process: "The commitment of the Board of Trustees, Superintendent, and the entire SMSD community to the rigorous accreditation process, and the completion of a thorough self-assessment, will guide the school's improvement activities over the next five years," said Finnegan.

Of the 71 member schools of CEASD, SMSD is now one of 22 to have earned Accreditation. SMSD is committed to maintaining their Accreditation as means of continuous improvement.

## PLAY BALL!

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# The Grapevine

**Congressman Brian Higgins announced a new schedule of Congress on Your Corner stops in Western New York.** Congress on Your Corner provides satellite office hours, at locations throughout the district, for residents to gain assistance with federal issues.

The next stop is on Tuesday, May 21st, from 10:30 am – Noon at Gloria J. Parks Community Center, 3242 Main Street in Buffalo.

During Congress on Your Corner, residents have the opportunity to talk directly with someone from Congressman Higgins' office about issues related to Social Security, the Veteran's Administration, passport issues, federal student loans, the Small Business Administration, or any other federal matters they may need assistance with.

Residents are invited to reach Congressman Higgins' office anytime by calling 716-852-3501.

**A Free Elder Law Day on June 20th from 8:30am-1:00pm held at the Adam's Mark Hotel** in downtown Buffalo. Elder law attorneys and experts will hold seminars on topics of interest to seniors and caregivers, such as: Avoiding Financial Scams; Grandparents' Rights; Wills, Trusts & Estate Planning; Elder Abuse & Mistreatment; LGBT Legal Issues; Medicaid & Long Term Care; Medicare; Veterans' Rights and more. The event is free and open to the public, but a voluntary donation will be gratefully accepted at the door. Pre-registration strongly encouraged at 858-8544. More details are at [www2.erie.gov/seniorservices](http://www2.erie.gov/seniorservices)

Free 15-minute private consultation appointments with an attorney can also be requested when registering to 858-8544.

The Adam's Mark Hotel at 120 Church St. in Buffalo is a new location for this event (has been held in the suburbs for more than 10 years) and offers easy access off the Thruway and free parking for the event.

**Erie County Master**

**Gardeners Plant Sale** - Choice selection of sun and shade perennials, natives, herbs, annuals, shrubs and vines direct from the gardens of Erie County Master Gardeners will be available for sale on Friday, May 24th, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and on Saturday May 25th, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at 1071 Amherst St. in Buffalo. Master Gardeners will be on hand throughout the sale with advice on selecting and growing plants. Funds raised by this annual event support Master Gardener projects and outreach programs for adults and children in Erie County. Great plants at Great prices! for more information please call Vicki at 649-5337.

**Free Rabies Clinic** - Erie County Legislator Lynn M. Marinelli is announcing that the Erie County Department of Health will conduct a free rabies clinic from 4:00-7:00 pm on Wednesday, May 22nd, at the American Legion Post #1041, 533 Amherst Street, Buffalo.

Pet owners should know that: pets must be at least three months of age to receive a rabies vaccination; proof of previous rabies vaccination must be provided to receive a three-year certificate, otherwise a one-year certificate will be issued; all dogs, cats and ferrets must be restrained using a leash and/or pet carrier, and no person shall be allowed to have more than three pets in line at one time.

The clinic, for dogs, cats and ferrets, will be conducted in association with the Niagara Frontier Veterinary Society and the SPCA Serving Erie County. For more information, please call the Erie County Department of Health at 858-7690 or Legislator Marinelli's office at 832-0493.

**Local historian, author and educator, John Percy** will present, a program of wide-interest from the World War II era, when he tells the history of the Curtiss-Wright Corporation and its role in the once-great aircraft industry of Western New York.

Mr. Percy's First Wednesday presentation, on June 5,

will be hosted by the Steel Plant Museum of WNY, located at 100 Lee St., in South Buffalo. Summer hours will be in effect for this event with museum doors opening at 6:00 pm and the program beginning at 7:00 pm.

There is no admission fee and plenty of off-street parking is available behind the museum building. Snacks and refreshments will be available for purchase. For additional information, please call 821-9361 or 675-4006.

**"Be Active Erie County" Guided Walks in Erie County Parks** - County Health Commissioner Dr. Gale Burstein announced that Erie County Department of Health is again sponsoring with the Wellness Institute of Greater Buffalo "Be Active Erie County!" a guided walk for all ages in our beautiful Erie County park in the city.

"Regular physical activity helps people get and keep a healthy weight," said Burstein. "Adults need at least 2 and 1/2 hours (150 minutes) a week of aerobic physical activity. Inactive adults have higher risk for early death, heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, depression, and some cancers."

The "Be Active Erie County!" walks for this year is June 2, 2013 Sunday, Tow-

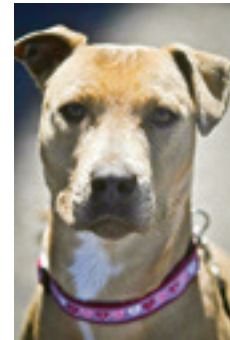
path Park (Foot of Hertel Avenue).

The Erie County Sheriff's Office Mounted Reserve unit will lead the walks. Health screening including blood pressure, BMI and others will be available. Assorted health education materials and smoking cessation services, products, and cessation program enrollment will be available at the walk. Registration for the walks begins at 9 am.

For information on the "Be Active Erie County!" and other programs visit <http://www2.erie.gov/health>.

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OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION  
Nanette Luczak, Principal Manager of the Carl Tripi Foundation, wishes to announce the foundation's annual return for the year ending December 31, 2012, is available for inspection at the principal office (located at 69 O'Hara Road, Tonawanda, NY 14150), during regular business hours. Any citizen who wishes to inspect it may do so within 180 days from the date of this notification. A free copy of the return will be provided upon request by Freed Maxick CPAs, P.C.

Bids will be received by R&P Oak Hill Development LLC for the Buffalo Arts & Technology Project located at 1219 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14209 on Thursday, May 23, 2013 at 2:00 PM. Please email (jkinney@rpoakhill.com), or fax bids (716-822-4367) prior to 2:00 PM. The entire project is out to bid. The bid documents can be viewed at the Construction Exchange (www.conexbuff.com) & R&P Oak Hill Plan Room (3556 Lakeshore Road, Suite 620, Buffalo, NY 14219) or can be purchased at Avalon Document Services, (716-995-7777). This project is a capital improvement and is not prevailing wage. \*\*\*W/M/DBE participation is strongly encouraged. Union Bidders are also strongly encouraged to bid.\*\*\*

110 Pearl LLC filed Arts. of Org. with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/31/13. Office location: Erie County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 350 Essjay Rd., Ste. 304, Williamsville, NY 14221. Purpose: any lawful activity.

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