

First Night Buffalo At Home



First Night® Buffalo At Home kicks off their 32nd annual celebration virtually this upcoming New Year’s Eve for 2021.

The Independent Health Foundation, in partnership with John R. Oishei Children’s Hospital, today announced the full, virtual line-up of performances and activities for First Night® Buffalo at Home, which will be accessible online for free on New Year’s Eve. First Night® Family Party Packs, including every-

thing a family of four needs to celebrate the new year at home, are now on sale at select Tops Friendly Markets, both for in-store and online purchases.

A First Night® Buffalo at Home digital media kit containing soundbites, b-roll footage, photos, and assets for social media is available. As the event that led

to the establishment of the Independent Health Foundation in 1992, First Night® also marks the beginning of a year-long celebration of the Independent Health Foundation’s 30th anniversary in 2022.

Oishei Children’s Hospital has teamed up with the Independent Health Foundation to provide First Night® programming for families to enjoy from the safety of their homes as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.




New Doners Needed For The American Red Cross Blood Drive

Nearly two years into the pandemic, everyone has earned a holiday break with their family and friends. But as the nation gathers again for celebrations this season, the American Red Cross, which provides 40% of the country’s blood, is facing historically low blood supply levels.

Busy holiday schedules, breaks from school and winter weather all contribute to a drop in blood and platelet donations this time of year. Those factors, combined with the ongoing challenges of COVID-19, make it vital for donors to make an appointment to give as soon as possible. If more donors don’t come forward to give blood, some patients requiring a transfusion may potentially face delays in care.

Donors are urged to



schedule an appointment now by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). There is no blood donation waiting period for those who have received a flu shot. To encourage donors to help address the historically low blood supply this holiday season, all who come to give Dec. 17-Jan. 2 will receive an exclusive Red Cross long-sleeved T-shirt, while supplies last.

Buffalo Riverworks To Present "Once Upon A Holiday"

Get lost in a winter wonderland with Explore & More - The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Children’s Museum, Buffalo Riverworks, and Second Generation Theatre at Once Upon a Holiday, a family-friendly holiday festival. On December 18th, families are invited to Riverworks to enjoy holiday cheer, music, dancing, skating, and shopping!

The Vendor Village will feature dozens of local craftsmen and artisans, the perfect opportunity for Santa to fill his sleigh! While you shop, enjoy live music performed by students from the Kenmore East High School Band Program.

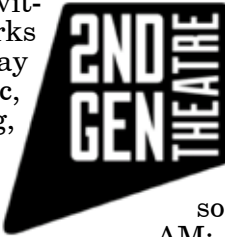
Follow your beloved fairy tale heroes as they embark on a magical, musical journey in Once Upon a Time- an original 40 minutes musical written by Philip Farugia,

SGT Artistic Director Kelly Copps, and Amy Jakiel- performed by Second Generation Theatre.

Then cozy up with a mug of hot cocoa for the character skate and wander the vendor village to support local artisans!

The schedule for the day is as follows: Once Upon a Holiday takes place December 18th from 10 AM - 5 pm at Buffalo Riverworks 359 Ganson St. Buffalo. 10:30 AM: Once Upon a Time by Second Generation Theatre \$20/admission. 12:00 PM-1:30 PM: Character Skate \$10/admission. 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM Live music by Kenmore East High School Band Program, free and open to the public. 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM: Vendor Village, free and open to the public

More information can be found at <https://exploreandmore.org/event/once-upon-a-holiday/>.








Memories

From the Buffalo Rocket archives



Between Hertel Avenue and North Park Theatre. Whoops.

Local Weather

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9TH	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10TH	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12TH	MONDAY, DECEMBER 13TH	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14TH	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
 Rain High 35° Low 34°	 Mostly Cloudy High 45° Low 41°	 Snow High 59° Low 34°	 Mostly Cloudy High 42° Low 40°	 Snow High 46° Low 37°	 Cloudy High 48° Low 44°	 Mostly Cloudy High 51° Low 50°



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Save the date for

50th Class Reunion

1972 (P.S.) 66.

June 15th 2022 5pm- 9pm

At Russell's Steak House on Transit Rd.


This is a free event to all alumni of the Class of 1972. You are welcome to bring one guest.

The event will include open bar, Food Buffet and music.

PRESENTED BY ABBE S. SULL , CLASS PRESIDENT.

Russell's 6675 Transit Rd

RSVP to Harvey7950@msn.com



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BEING THE RICARDOS Fri 12/10: (1:30), (4:15), 7:00, 9:45 Sat 12/11: (1:45), (4:30), 7:15, 9:50 Sun 12/12: (1:55), (4:30), 7:15, 9:50 Mon 12/13: (1:30), (4:15), 7:00, 9:45 Tue 12/14: (1:30), (4:15), 7:00, 9:45 Wed 12/15: (1:30), (4:15), 7:00, 9:45 Thur 12/16: (1:15), (4:00)

MAELSTROM Sat 12/11: (11:30am)

ELF (2003) Sun 12/12: (11:30am)

NIGHTMARE ALLEY Thur 12/16: 7:00, 10:00

1428 Hertel Ave., Buffalo, NY 14216, (716) 836-7411



FREE PIZZA: A. Stewart, 191 Norwalk Ave., 14216

If your name is found in the BUFFALO ROCKET to win a FREE PIZZA, take proof of identification to BOB & JOHN'S LA HACIENDA at 1545 Hertel Avenue to pick up your FREE PIZZA (Takeout only, must be redeemed within one week). If your name is listed for NORTH PARK THEATRE PASSES, call 873-2594 to have two free passes mailed out to you.

FREE PIZZA: M. Nawojski, 757 Crescent Ave., 14216



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By Bill Snyder

Bennett's Road to Football

The headline on Page one of this past Sunday's Sports section of our daily newspaper reads: End of the Road for Bennett.

It's the story of the Buffalo Public High School located on Main Street near Hertel Avenue that reached the Championship game of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association. Bennett hoped to become just the second Buffalo School and first since 2015 to win a State Championship from the old Harvard Cup Program. The 42-12 loss to an undefeated Carmel Team from Section I on the neutral field of the Carrier Dome at Syracuse University, sent the Tigers home last Saturday evening after just their second loss of the season in an unprecedented year.

"I'm just real proud of

the kids," Bennett coach Steve McDuffie said recently. "It goes back to my favorite quote, 'Adversity doesn't build character, it reveals it.' But they (Carmel) were the better team today."

Bennett was led all season by Senior running back Dominac Allen, an explosive runner who has rushed for over 2,323 yards and scored 24 touchdowns this season. Other players include running back Torey Anderson, Junior defensive end Rashard Perry and Senior Receiver Jayden Lewis. The Tigers won the Class AA Championship of Section VI over Lancaster 14-10 at the home of the Buffalo Bills back on November 13. They then played Section V Division Champ McQuaid from Rochester in a game that was rescheduled

to Tuesday, November 23 at Williamsville South. A 26-14 win gave the Tigers just four days to prepare for a game against Cicero/ North Syracuse the following Saturday, a 38-0 victory. That set up the School's first appearance in the Championship game ever, and the second Buffalo Public High School since South Park in 2015.

"We are very proud of Steve McDuffie and his staff of coaches who took a fifth place team and helped build character and integrity in all these players in the classroom, in the community and out on the football field,for their success and accomplishments this season," said Michael House, the director of Physical Education for the Buffalo Public School System. "Everytime I would visit Coach McDuffie at the School, I could see that this coach went above and beyond the call of duty to get these boys ready for life beyond the classroom as professionals."

For Bennett High School, the road hasn't ended. It's only just begun.

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Ask Rusty - How Do I Apply for Social Security Benefits?

Dear Rusty: I would like some advice concerning Social Security. In January, I will be 62.5 years old. I was laid off two years ago and have not had a steady income since (though I still have bills to pay). I also did not qualify for unemployment. Therefore, what little I had for "retirement" is now gone. For this reason, I have been seriously considering applying for Social Security as soon as I'm able. I remember reading something that said I should begin the "paperwork" three months ahead of time. I'd like to begin that process but don't know where to begin. Could you guide me to the right place? **Signed: Ready to Claim Benefits**

Dear Ready to Claim: Sorry to hear of your loss of employment and your current financial struggle, but the Social Security benefits you earned from a lifetime of working are

there for you. Here's what you need to know about applying for Social Security:

Since you are already 62 years of age, you can apply for your Social Security at any time now. The process is fairly simple, especially if you apply online, which you can do at www.ssa.gov. Just click on the "Retirement" icon, and you'll see a link to the online application. You simply fill out the application, save it if you need more time to work on it, and later when you're done, submit it online to Social Security. Before you do that, however, you'll need to create your personal "my Social Security" online account, which is easy to do at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Once you have your online account set up, you can fill out and submit the online application. Of course, you can also apply via telephone by calling either the national Social Security service center at

1.800.772.1213 or your local Social Security office to make an appointment to apply but applying online at www.ssa.gov is by far the most efficient way.

You can apply for your SS benefits up to 4 months before the month you wish your payments to start. On the application, you will tell them which month you want your benefits to begin so you can apply before you want to start benefits. Since you're applying before your full retirement age of 66 years and ten months, there are a couple of things to keep in mind:

- By claiming at age 62 ½, your benefit amount will be permanently reduced by about 29%. You only get your full benefits if you wait to claim until your full retirement age (FRA), which for you is 66 years and ten months; claiming any earlier means a permanently reduced benefit.

- If you claim before your FRA and you return to work, you'll be subject to an "earnings test," which limits how much you can earn from working while collecting early SS benefits. The 2022 earnings limit is \$19,560, and if that is exceeded, SS will take back \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit (half of what you exceed the limit by). The earnings limit will apply until you reach your full retirement age, and the allowable earnings are more in the year you reach FRA.

Applying online for Social Security benefits is a reasonably easy process, and if you have even moderate computer skills, you shouldn't be intimidated by the thought. But if you are, simply call Social Security and request an appointment to apply. They will walk you through the application process.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Alum

5 Spell-off

8 Pit

12 Taylor of "Mystic Pizza"

13 Approves

14 Satan's forte

15 Leading man?

16 Landlocked Mideast territory

18 Disney's Ariel, for one

20 Van Gogh venue

21 CBS logo

22 Mimic

23 Wedding VIP

26 "I'm No Angel" actress

30 '60s chic

31 Green shade

32 Cattle call

33 "The Great Gatsby" setting

36 Self-reproach

38 Stop — dime

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40 Skater Ohno

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2 Carousel, for one

3 Winged

4 Darkened

5 "Let's Dance" singer

6 Scratched (out)

7 Curved letter

8 Semitic language

9 Cameo shape

10 Queue

11 BPOE members

17 Carton sealer

19 Nay undoer

22 Motorist's org.

23 Upscale auto

24 Shad product

25 Egos' counterparts

26 Jo's sister

27 Brit. record label

28 Fa follower

29 Youngster

31 Links org.

34 Rattled out

35 Sufficient, old-style

36 Deity

37 Gender-neutral

39 Montana city

40 Dazzles

41 Freshener scent

42 Shoppe description

43 Unrepaired

44 Lip soother

45 Garage job

46 Panache

48 Conceit

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Answers on page seven.

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Evans Bank.....2670 Delaware Avenue

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Ginnane Funeral Home.....3215 Delaware Avenue

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Gramma Mora's.....1465 Hertel Avenue

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Knights of Columbus.....1530 Kenmore Avenue

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Marco's Deli.....1518 Hertel Avenue

North Buffalo Community Ctr.....203 Sanders Road

North Buffalo Dental.....1600 Hertel Avenue

North Park Library.....975 Hertel Avenue

Parkside Community Center.....2318 Main Street

Paul Wolf Agency.....2890 Delaware Avenue

Plaka Restaurant.....2904 Delaware Avenue

Price Rite Market.....1716 Kenmore Avenue

Salon Avanti.....3086 Delaware Avenue

Salon Coronado.....2870 Delaware Avenue

Salon D Capelli.....3104 Delaware Avenue

Scissors.....1497 Hertel Avenue

Studio Sophia.....1094 Hertel Avenue

Sunoco Gas Station.....4505 Main Street

Theater Apts.....1065 Kenmore Avenue

Terrie's Workout Center.....1481 Hertel Avenue

Vince's Pizza.....1803 Kenmore Avenue

Wesselman's Inc.....564 Colvin Boulevard

Wellington Pub.....1541 Hertel Avenue

WEST SIDE

Baptist Manor.....276 Linwood Avenue

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BMHA Housing.....245 Elmwood Avenue

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Delaware Apartments.....1217 Delaware Avenue

Dibble Hardware.....262 West Ferry Street

Elmwood Square Apts.....505 Elmwood Avenue

Fast Stop Food Mart.....326 Military Road

Frontier Liquor & Beverage Ctr.....121 Grant Street

First Niagara Bank.....Elmwood at West Utica

M&T Bank.....130 Grant Street

Military Coin Laundry.....1134 Military Road

Santasiero's Restaurant.....1329 Niagara Street

Timon Towers.....1015 Delaware Avenue

Trinity Tower Apartments.....33 Linwood Avenue

West Market.....1032 West Avenue

West Side Community Center.....Vermont at Fargo

RIVERSIDE

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Buffalo Wine & Liquors.....2067 Niagara Street

D District Police Station.....669 Hertel Avenue

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Niagara Deli Pizzeria.....2043 Niagara Street

Nickel City Bottle Return.....2209 Niagara Street

Northwest Buffalo Community Ctr.....155 Lawn Avenue

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Pizza Bella.....1133 Tonawanda Street

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Northwest Buffalo Beat

By Dave Gallagher AKA Joe Bortz

Sunrise/ Sunset, Swiftly Fly The Days



A Floridian Sunset.

Soon we will experience the darkest day of the year December 21st, Winter Solstice. The day with the shortest amount of sunshine in that twenty-four-hour period. It is also the first day of Winter. Certainly not a favorite day as most people enjoy sunshine and warmth. There would be very few that look forward to this usually dreary, cold, dark, and

short daytime. Unless you like night life. It is also the day with the longest nighttime. Those who look forward to the extended darkness with delight are the people who decorate their homes with multiple lights for Christmas. Darkness is welcome and the longer the darkness the better. That does make the short day more palatable as we do enjoy seeing the lights

at this special time of the year.

My choice is the opposite, June 21st, Summer Solstice. The longest day with the most sunshine or daylight. Sun rises at about 5 AM and sets at about 9 PM depending on where you are. Here in Western New York, we have 16 hours of daylight in the summer. Did you know that in the winter, daylight is longer in Florida? The further south you go the longer the day. I am still playing golf in Florida when it is pitch black in New York. Been there and done that. We all know from grammar school that South America is enjoying their summer on December 21st, their longest day. Like Florida they decorate palm trees at Christmas.

Speaking of sunsets and sunrises, those are big events. Especially Sunsets. One of nature's beauty is on display like the fall leaves and even the first snow. It is her way of showing off. I know we have all experienced a spectacular sunset at some point in our lives. Even if you are not looking for it, they are there. Sometimes just driving you catch the vivid colors emitted by the setting sun on the remaining clouds. Some are breathtaking with a huge orange ball radiating or-

ange, pink, and purple colors that artists try to emulate. If you are watching the sunset by a lake or ocean, the sun is setting in an unobstructed view over the water, it is like you can hear it sizzle as it hits. These are the best. You can see the sunset anywhere but where there is nothing to block your vision on the horizon, the scene is hard to describe.

Where I am located on the West Coast of Florida, Sunset is the event of the day. The beach I go to at sunset is loaded with those who wait for the day to end. Hundreds of watchers return to or come to see what mother nature has to offer on this day. We see it set over the Gulf of Mexico and seldom does it disappoint. The sun shines every day in Southwest Florida, so almost every day there is a sunset. They are all different, so you never know what to expect. The beach is lined with people in folding chairs, cameras on tripods, all anxiously waiting for that special moment to arrive. The sun slowly approaches the water and finally it hits. Within minutes it disappears beneath the horizon and the day is done. With that the crowd spontaneously applauds. This is always and the better the sunset the louder

the applause. Why the applause? It is the end of the day. As beautiful as it may be, it means another day in your life is gone forever. Was it a good day or a difficult day?

I like sunsets like most people, but I also like sunrises. Starting life as a morning paper boy early rising is my thing to this day. As a young youth it did not mean that much to me to see the daylight slowly light the sky. Now it does. When we had our summer cottage in Angola I would go down to the lake and watch the sun rise. It is the opposite of a sunset. When we went on cruises, in the dark, I would venture onto the rail facing east and watch the sun rise. The sun pops out of the water and what is just a sliver becomes this massive red ball bringing daylight to all it hits. Wherever you are, it means the start of a new day. As you watch the rays shine through the clouds and hit the trees, you wonder, will this be a good day? What will it bring? The least we know is we are still here to see it happen, and if it is meant to be, we will live to see the sunset and many more to come. Life can be beautiful, so enjoy every minute of it that you can, while you can.

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Small Specialty Pak	28.50
Medium Specialty Pizza with Single Wings (10) and 1 Bleu Cheese. (add \$1.40 for Barbecue and/or Specialty Wings)	
Mini Specialty Pak	42.00
Large Specialty Pizza with Double Wings (20) and 1 Bleu Cheese. (add \$1.80 for Barbecue and/or Specialty Wings)	
Thirty Specialty Pak	49.25
Large Specialty Pizza with Triple Wings (30) and 2 Bleu Cheese. (add \$1.80 for Barbecue and/or Specialty Wings)	
Family Specialty Pak	64.75
Large Specialty Pizza with a Bucket of Wings (50) and 3 Bleu Cheese. (add \$2.45 for Barbecue and/or Specialty Wings)	
Specialty Party Pak 1	76.00
(1) Large Cheese and One Item Pizza and (1) Large Specialty Pizza with a Bucket of Wings (50) and 3 Bleu Cheese. (add \$2.45 for Barbecue and/or Specialty Wings)	
Specialty Party Pak 2	79.50
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KENMORE

KENMORE SENIOR CENTER - 135 Wilber Ave. Kenmore 14217 873-0737

WEST SIDE

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FATHER BELLE COMMUNITY CENTER - 104 Maryland St. Buffalo 14201 845-0485
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ADOPT A PET Sponsored By The Buffalo Rocket

This Week's Featured Friend: **DINO**

Dino is smart, sensitive, sweet and has been very friendly with everyone he has met at the shelter. He has a beautiful red brindle coat and beautiful eyes that will melt your heart. He's about 3ish or so and a bigger lad, maybe around 70 + lbs. Dino has done great in playgroups with other young energetic pitties out in the yard during playtime. friend.



Because of the COVID19 situation, the shelter is closed to the general public. If you would like to meet any of the adoptable dogs, please fill out an application online (if you are not already pre-approved), call the shelter, and leave a message with your name and phone number and the dog you're interested in. Have patience, and they will call you back when they can. From there, a time will be scheduled for you to come and meet the dog. Please be patient, and remember they are very short staffed at the moment. Applications can be found at <https://friendsofcbas.org/adopt>

City of Buffalo Animal Shelter
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Buffalo_Shelter@yahoo.com

716-851-5694



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



Joel P. Feroletto Delaware District Councilman Guest Columnist

Hertel Avenue Christmas Tree Lighting

Hertel Avenue is officially "Lit"! On Friday, December 3rd we hosted the fifth annual tree lighting ceremony in front of St. Margaret's Church. With the help of the Hertel Business Association we were able to kick off the holiday season with another successful event in coordination with the long time running Hertel Holiday Walk.

The night was filled with carols sung by the Buffalo Seminary Sema Chords, hot cocoa donated by Dash's Market, and winter hats donated by New Era Inc. Mr. and Mrs. Claus also joined in on the fun before they hopped on their sleigh and made their way around all the entire Delaware District (thanks again to the HBA). The 35-foot tree will be up on display throughout the month of December. Santa's Mailbox is also set up at the

tree this year, kids can drop off their letters and we will personally ensure that the letters make it to the North Pole in time for Christmas!

After the tree lighting ceremony, I walked down the street and was excited to partake in all the hustle and bustle. Stores and restaurants along

the street had extended hours for the evening and you could tell it was the perfect night to get some shopping done. The businesses embraced all the community support and continue to appreciate those choosing to shop local this year.

Looking back on the evening, I am still in awe of all the volunteers and sponsors who helped make this event possible. Many thanks to Tree Haven Nursery, Elber's Landscaping, Shea's Buffalo Stage Hands (Local 10), Indigo Productions, Iskalo Development, Buffalo Fuel, and Harbison Brothers who were all instrumental in making this night such a great time for the entire community.



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STILL TIME TO GET IT DONE BEFORE CHRISTMAS



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LEGAL

NOTICE OF FORMATION of a Limited Liability Company (LLC): 570 DAB 61, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on October 7, 2021. 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 Shaun Jackson, Esq., 570 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act or activity. 1

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Olivera Development L.L.C. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/12/20. Office in Erie County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of pro-

cess to the LLC, 22 Dewitt St, Buffalo, NY 14213, Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1

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RFB 22-0623-032
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RFB 22-0622E1-037
Adult & Youth Disposable Masks

Jennifer LoTempio
Director of Purchase 49

Notice is hereby given that a license, 3167921, for beer, cider, wine, and liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer, cider, wine, and liquor at retail in a ba/tavern under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 712 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14222, Erie County, for on premises consumption. High Violet Holdings LLC dba High Violet. 50

Name of LLC: 252 East LLC Date of filing of Articles of Organization with the NY Dept of State: November 24, 2021 Date of Formation: November 24, 2021 Office of the LLC: Erie County Service: The NY Secretary of State has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of any process to the LLC at: 95 17th Street, Buffalo, NY 14213. Registered Agent: Becky Powell, 95 17th Street, Buffalo, NY 14213, is to be the agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. Purpose of LLC: Any lawful purpose permitted for LLCs under NY Limited Liability Company Act. 1

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King Crossword
Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

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

Puzzle on page three.

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