


## Buffalo Christmas Tree Lighting



**BankOnBuffalo Presents the Downtown Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration on Saturday, December 9, 2023.**

Saturday, December 9, 2023, BankOnBuffalo Presents the Downtown Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration at Rotary Rink at Fountain Plaza. This annual event marks the official opening of the free ice-skating season in the heart of Downtown Buffalo. The Buffalo News will again serve as Media Partner of the event. The 2023-24 free ice-skating season at Rotary Rink is Presented by Evergreen Health. The event begins at 5pm with free ice-skating (weather dependent). At 6pm, Buffalo Place and BankOnBuffalo representatives will count-down the lighting of the official tree and fireworks display over Fountain Plaza. Immediately following the fireworks and tree lighting, the fun will continue with visits with

*Continued on page seven.*



## ‘Holiday Music Under The Dome’ Series In Downtown Buffalo

The annual “Holiday Music Under the Dome” series will once again bring joyful music and festive celebrations to the bank’s Fountain Plaza branch at 575 Main Street in downtown Buffalo. The community is invited to visit M&T’s prominent and beautifully decorated downtown branch — commonly called the “gold dome” — for holiday performances from Saturday, December 9, through Friday, December 15. The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra (BPO) officially kicks off the series on Saturday, December 9, with a special performance of holiday classics at 1 p.m. Local musical groups and choirs will perform every weekday at 12 noon for the remainder of the week. Each year, the series offers a platform for the BPO and local student musicians to share their talents with the community. The concerts are free and open to the public. Holiday Music Under the Dome performances are scheduled: 1:00-2:00 p.m., Saturday, December 9 12:00-1:00 p.m., Monday, December 11 – Friday, December 15 Interviews can be provided upon request with: Eric Feldstein, M&T

*Continued on page five.*

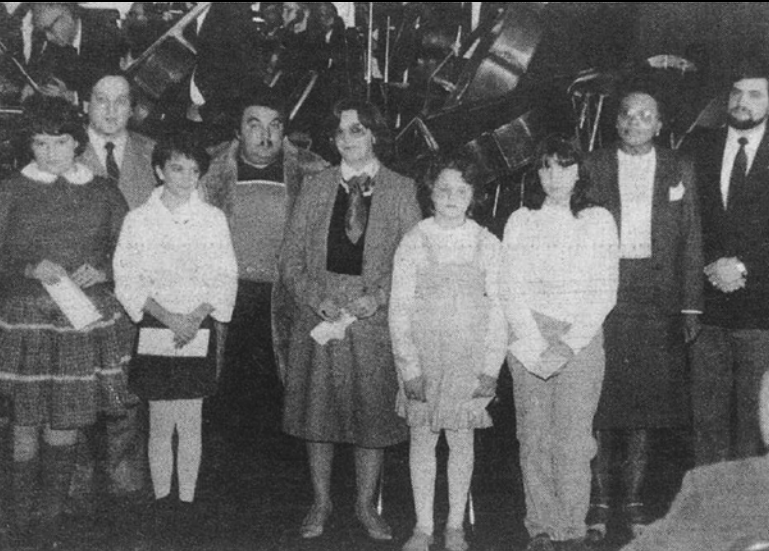
## New Play Reading Festival 2023-24 Vol. 1

First Look Buffalo Theatre Company presents New Play Reading Festival 2023-24 Vol. 1 starting December 8th-10th, at Canterbury Woods Performing Arts Center 705 Renaissance Dr, Williamsville NY 14221. Join First Look Buffalo Theatre Company, as we present a New Play Reading Festival VOL 1, written by members of our Playwright Wing. VOL 2 to follow January 19-21, 2024! Our Playwright wing features local and national playwrights! Our festival features special guest Mr. Robert Moss, who is the founder and original Artistic Director of Playwrights Horizons, in New York City. Following each performance, a response will be given by Mr. Moss, Directors and Artistic Directors from the local Buffalo theatre community, and the audience. Our new play readings are the foundation of our mission statement, to exclusively develop and produce new plays right here, in Buffalo. This year’s new play readings are next year’s season. See them here exclusively first! No reservations necessary. Donations accepted at the door.



## Memories

*From the Buffalo Rocket archives*



**November, 1984. POSTER CONTEST WINNERS...**Winners of the holiday poster contest sponsored by the HNBBA received their prizes Thursday at the North Park Theatre just prior to a Christmas concert by the Buffalo Philharmonic. Winners were: Francis Falzone, 1st, Christy Dickash, 2nd, and, Patricia Rizzo, 3rd.

Local Weather						
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7TH	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH	MONDAY, DECEMBER 11TH	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12TH	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH
 <p>Mostly Cloudy High 47° Low 40°</p>	 <p>Showers High 41° Low 35°</p>	 <p>Rain/Snow High 42° Low 37°</p>	 <p>Showers High 44° Low 38°</p>	 <p>Showers High 47° Low 36°</p>	 <p>Rain/Snow High 40° Low 30°</p>	 <p>Cloudy High 36° Low 30°</p>



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FREE PIZZA: William Yusczyk, 170 Hinman Ave., 14216

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THE BOY AND THE HERON (SUBTITLED) Fri 12/8: (1:30), 7:00 Sat 12/9: (1:30), 7:00 Sun 12/10: (1:30), 4:15 Mon 12/11: (4:15) Tue 12/12: (1:30), 7:00 Wed 12/13: (4:15), 9:45 Thur 12/14: (1:30), 7:00

THE BOY AND THE HERON (DUBBED) Fri 12/8: (4:15), 9:45 Sat 12/9: (4:15), 9:45 Sun 12/10: 7:00, 9:45 Mon 12/11: (1:30), 7:00 Tue 12/12: (4:15), 9:45 Wed 12/13: (1:30), 7:00 Thur 12/14: (4:15), 9:45

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**Stefan Mychajliw**  
Guest Columnist

## No Man Is A Failure Who Has Friends.

Life can be incredibly busy, challenging, and time-consuming when raising a family and working full-time. I always say there's a support group for folks who work incredibly hard on the job and at home and feel like you don't have five minutes to breathe and relax: it's called "everybody." Count me in that category. My wife Ashley is a Saint. While I'm on the road working as Deputy Communications Director for Vivek Ramaswamy's campaign for President, she's at home working full time and being an incredible mother to all of our young children, ages five (Maksym Roman), four (Emeryk Francis) and year-and-a-half (Victoria). When I'm home, I'm still working on the campaign trail remotely, while being the best husband and father possible.

We do not believe in the "cry it out" method of sleep training with kids, where if in the middle of the night, children scream bloody murder some parents keep the door shut and let their kids cry until they go back to sleep. I'm not passing judgment on parents who do that, but that's not how Ashley and yours truly parent. We get up with our kids and more often than not,

hold them close in bed or on the couch until they go back to sleep. That means neither of us sleeps.

You can also imagine how challenging and time-consuming working on a Presidential campaign is. It's the "Super Bowl" of American politics and I'm working day and night (along with our entire team of dedicated professionals) helping elect Vivek Ramaswamy President.

I'm guilty of not only not taking the time for self-care, but what's worse, not taking the time for self-reflection and simply giving thanks for the wonderful blessings of my life. The Christmas season, now more than ever, is a great opportunity for all of us to reflect and give thanks for the many gifts we have, and I'm not talking about presents under the tree.

That's why this Christmas I'm going to try my best to slow down and give thanks for the "little things" in my life that are actually the most important and meaningful to me: family, friends, a roof over my head, a car to drive to work, clothes on my back, and food in my belly (which I'm consuming way too much of).

Maybe a decent idea is to start a gratitude list this

holiday season, to take ten minutes a day in reflective prayer, and write down a few things I'm grateful for. This exercise will bring me some much-needed peace and perspective while going through the hustle and bustle of family, work, and the holidays.

This also reminds me of what the angel Clarence wrote to Jimmy Stewart's character George Bailey in the closing scene of "It's a Wonderful Life." I'll never forget seeing that movie for the first time with my best friend Bobby Klinko (still is to this day) and the man who raised me, Fr. Ronald Pecci from Saints Rita and Patrick Church.

Clarence's lesson to George Bailey is that money, power, prestige, fame, none of those things are the true currency of life. Love, family, and friendship make a man truly wealthy. He wrote to George "No man is a failure who has friends." How beautiful and true.

This Christmas let's focus less on presents, the "busyness" of the season, and the materialistic culture surrounding the birth of our Lord and Savior. Rather, let's focus on what really matters: being present for our faith, family, friends, and having a deep appreciation for both blessings and struggles in our lives.

Easy for me to recommend this to others. Now it's time for me to live that mantra myself. There's no time like the present to do so. Merry Christmas, God bless you, God bless your families, and God bless the greatest nation on earth: the United States of America.

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7-Eleven.....460 Hertel Avenue  
Aspire Dental.....476 Hertel Avenue  
Bellamore Boutique.....3086 Delaware Avenue  
Black Rock Beverages.....538 Hertel Avenue  
Bob & John's Pizzeria.....1545 Hertel Avenue  
Caz Mini Mart.....572 Hertel Avenue  
Century 21.....1705 Hertel Avenue  
Corner Store.....2815 Delaware Avenue  
Daddio's Pizzeria.....1247 Hertel Avenue  
Dash's Supermarket.....1770 Hertel Avenue  
Delaware YMCA.....2564 Delaware Avenue  
Enchanted Hair Salon.....3030 Delaware Avenue  
Evans Bank.....2670 Delaware Avenue  
Fig Tree Patissille.....3062 Delaware Avenue  
Finishing Touches.....2820 Delaware Avenue  
Frank's Sunny Italy.....2491 Delaware Avenue  
Ginnane Funeral Home.....3215 Delaware Avenue  
Gloria J. Parks Community Ctr.....3242 Main Street  
Gamma Mora's.....1465 Hertel Avenue  
Great Clips.....2678 Delaware Avenue  
Hertel Coin Laundry.....1274 Hertel Avenue  
Hertel Park Senior Apartments.....1631 Hertel Avenue  
Hertel Parker Liquors.....1859 Hertel Avenue  
Home Taste (Chinese Cuisine).....3106 Delaware Avenue  
Imagine Salon.....1527 Hertel Avenue  
Macy's Place.....3100 Delaware Avenue  
Joey's Place.....83 Niagara Street  
Joe's Panini Grill.....3024 Delaware Avenue  
Johnny's Meats.....1191 Hertel Avenue  
Knights of Columbus.....1530 Kenmore Avenue  
Korona Jewelers.....1588 Hertel Avenue

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  
Buffalo Public Library.....Niagara at Porter  
BMHA Housing.....245 Elmwood Avenue  
CWJ Lock & Key.....183 Forest Avenue  
Corner Store.....Forest & Grant  
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**  
AmVets.....25 Review Place  
Black Rock Pharmacy.....431 Tonawanda Street  
Boys & Girls Club.....54 Riverdale Avenue  
Buffalo Wine & Liquors.....2067 Niagara Street  
D District Police Station.....669 Hertel Avenue  
Doyle's Deli.....1981 Niagara Street  
Faso Restaurant.....2126 Niagara Street  
Fast Stop Food Mart.....236 Military Road  
First Niagara Bank.....2141 Elmwood Avenue  
First Niagara.....201 Amherst Street  
Hearts Thrift Shop.....890 Tonawanda Street  
House of Sandwich.....800 Tonawanda Street  
M&T Bank.....788 Tonawanda Street  
Niagara Deli Pizzeria.....2043 Niagara Street  
Nickel City Bottle Return.....2209 Niagara Street  
Northwest Buffalo Community Ctr.....155 Lawn Avenue  
Pat's Pizzeria.....544 Ontario Street  
Pizza Bella.....1133 Tonawanda Street  
Riverside Market.....740 Tonawanda Street  
Riverside News Stand.....Tonawanda Street  
Roland Insurance Agency.....432 Amherst Street  
Sun Restaurant.....1989 Niagara Street  
Up To You Deli.....2189 Niagara Street



# The Blotter

## Felonies

From "D" District

**North Buffalo**  
**November 30, 2023**  
Hertel Avenue – Defendant did enter the fenced off property of Vulcan steam (located at 247 Rano) and did remain inside enclosed fence unlawfully. While inside scrap yard of business, defendant did take approximately \$500.00 in scrap metal. Defendant did throw stolen items over the fence surrounding the property. Defendant did pull vehicle on grass next to fence and load items into the back before leaving. Defendant did attempt to fight officers when being put into custody. While being searched a crack pipe was located in his left front pants pocket. Pipe recovered by patrol officer. Submitted by patrol officer.

**November 28, 2023**  
Hertel Avenue – Defendant did switch sticker price tag on Strip Loin from \$155.64 to \$41.02n (chicken) and did pay for same and left. Suspect owes \$114.62 to the store. Appearance ticket issued.

**November 26, 2023**  
Delaware Avenue – Defendant did take without payment (1) 32 inch flat-screen Vizio TV (value \$129.99) and did flee out of fire exit door. Incident occurred 11/21/23 at 2026 hours. Video available from complainant.

**West Side**  
**November 29, 2023**  
Elmwood Avenue – Defendant did conceal grill lighter in pants while in TOPS market and did pass all points of purchase without paying for same. Asset protection did stop defendant in vestibule. After retrieving lighter defendant did strike victim in the face, causing a large area of swelling, bruising, and

pain. Defendant arrested on Buffalo warrant. Store has video.

**November 28, 2023**  
Grant Street – Defendant was observed by complainant placing various items into a duffel bag. Defendant then did pass all points of purchase taking without permission merchandise totaling \$98.91. Defendant was a positive identification on show up.

**November 26, 2023**  
Elmwood Avenue – The defendant matching description of larceny suspect, was stopped by officers at 2090 Elmwood Avenue the defendant provided pedigree information of false name and was advised that providing a false name was a crime. Defendant repeated above information to officer. Defendant was found to have active Buffalo warrants.

**Riverside**  
**December 4, 2023**  
Court Street – Defendant along with three others at least, was witnessed inviting victim into men's bathroom inside club. Defendant along multiple others was further witnessed on video punching and kicking victim about the head and body. Victim was also shot in pelvis and has sustained serious physical injury. Victim is currently being treated at ECMC.

**December 3, 2023**  
Parrish Drive – Complainant reports defendant did slap both of his kids across the face, spit on kids, choked his 13 year old son, grabbed her by the throat, and threw her under the kitchen table causing pain and swelling to right side of head and face. Complainant was transported to ECMC for further medical treatment.

**November 29, 2023**  
West Avenue – Victim reports that herself and defendant did get into a verbal argument that become physical when defendant did choke victim with both hands around her throat. Defendant did also punch victim with a closed fist on her hand.

**November 28, 2023**  
Tonawanda Street – Officers responded to a domestic call at 428 Tonawanda Street. Defendant and sister got into a verbal altercation when turned physical when the defendant did strike and push victim.

**November 27, 2023**  
Laird Avenue – Officers arrived to 233 Laird Avenue where the defendant lives. Complainant stated the defendant shoved her down onto the air mattress where she had the baby in her hand.

**November 26, 2023**  
Amherst Street – Defendant did enter 601 Amherst Street (Wegmans) and did steal \$301.15 worth of merchandise and did pass all points of purchase. Supporting Deposition completed with receipt of items stolen.

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# MAGIC MAZE ● — HEADED

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
Unlisted clue hint: A MALE BOVINE

Bald	Clear	Gray	Spear
Bare	Dead	Light	Thick
Bone	Double	Pig	Wrong
Buffle	Empty	Red	

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Answers on page seven.

FREE PIZZA: Richard Benthien, 63 Hartwell Rd. Apt. Lowr, 14216  
FREE NORTH PARK PASSES: Darren Hoffmaster, 61 Redmond Ave. Apt. Left, 14216

# King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 "Kapow!"

4 British ref. work

7 Holler

12 Director Spike

13 Chemical suffix

14 Fall sign

15 Nest egg acronym

16 Large, luxurious car

18 Brooch

19 Range

20 Collections

22 — tear (ragging)

23 First lady of scat

27 Earth Day mo.

29 Transparent

31 Dolphins' home

34 Traces of smoke

35 Agile

37 Obtained

38 Bygone Peruvian

39 Flamenco cheer

41 Vacillate

45 Quick trip

47 Shoe width

48 Pungent cheese

52 Aachen article

53 Sports figures?

54 Zsa Zsa's sister

55 Speck

56 Dunkable treat

57 River blocker

58 Actor Brynner

**DOWN**

1 Radar dots

2 High nest

3 Signified

4 Fixes a squeak

5 Newspaper chief

6 Fiend

7 Pivot

8 That guy's

9 Kimono sash

10 Samovar

11 — kwon do

17 Ellipse

21 Ballroom dance

23 Radiates

24 Vinyl records

25 Back talk

26 Billboards

28 Picnic dessert

30 — Jima

31 Roman 1051

32 "There's no — team!"

33 "Better Call Saul" network

36 Bellow

37 Swiss metropolis

40 Sledded in the Winter Olympics

42 Like a neglected garden

43 Vowel group

44 Streisand title role

45 Equitable

46 Streetcar

48 Leary's drug

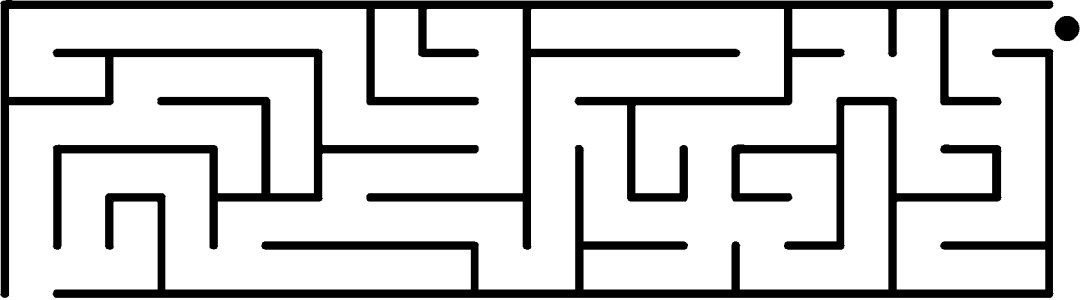
49 Jurist Lance

50 Fortify

51 A/C meas.

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# Kids' Maze



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Answers on page seven.





# Northwest Buffalo Beat

By Dave Gallagher AKA Joe Bortz

## Lucky?



LaBelle Nature Park, Florida.

So now I am in Florida for the winter. Good or bad, that is what I prefer. What bothers me is when people say I am so lucky to be able to escape the freezing weather and snow. Lucky? Lucky? I did not win any lottery; I did not inherit a penny from my parents. No one gave me anything. Whatever I have I am proud to say I worked for. That is what makes this country so great.

It all started with the 1991 Super Bowl in Tampa, Florida. My good friend Jim Griffin was able to acquire tickets to the game for me and my wife. Even though we had season tickets you had to partake in a lottery to win tickets to the game. We never won any of the Super Bowls the Bills played in. Still, we were able to go to three of the four. The first one was January 27th, 1991.

We stayed at my sister-in-law's house near Orlando. Left Buffalo in cold and blizzardly conditions and landed in Florida to sunshine and warmth. We looked

funny at the airport all bundled up like eskimos and everyone there was in shorts. Like walking into a different world. I really liked it a lot. Was not my first time in the sunshine state but I knew it was not going to be my last. After spending a few days there, on the beaches, amongst the palm trees, seeing green grass and flowers everywhere, I wanted to be a part of it. Yet I loved Buffalo and did not want to leave as we liked the changing seasons. The only way to do that was to become a "snowbird." Just go down for the winter.

Took a while as that was the beginning of 1991. Built my first house there in 1994. I bought one of those lots for so much a month in a new development. There were paved streets, water, and sewers. The company sold hundreds, maybe thousands of lots in that area. The thing is it never developed while we were there. Tiny town called LaBelle. We were able to build a house

on that lot for under \$50,000. Nice three-bedroom home, two baths. The problem was there were no neighbors, no more than a handful of houses in the whole complex. I could never figure why it did not develop but it did not, at that time. Drove by there last year and now it has construction of houses in most lots. Just as an example, I bought a lot next to me for \$3500 and eventually sold it for \$40,000.

Just one thing about being "lucky." When my wife and I married back in the 50's, we were dirt poor. When WWII ended, hundreds of thousands of young men returned after being overseas for years. The defense factories that were built to construct planes, ammunition, and materials for the war effort were no longer needed. These men found wives, got married, and had children. Hence, the term "baby boomers." Point here is with this huge influx of men, Jobs were as scarce as hens' teeth. There were no jobs, no apartments, no money. I did find a job at AM&A's in the rug department and then stepped up to one that paid one dollar an hour at Remington Rand. \$40 dollars a week. Even that ended.

Had to live with my parents as rent was high and my pockets were empty. One of the low points in my life. When I say empty pockets that was literally. If I had to do something I had to ask my dad for a dollar. How embarrassing is that. Finally landed a job at Moore Business Forms and worked there for 10 years. Had a start in the printing business. Bought a four-bedroom house on 15th street and started my own Printing Business in the cold basement of that house. The rest is history. Gallagher Printing, Buffalo Rocket, EHP tickets, Community Advantage, Etc. Not sure where the "lucky" part comes in and it could be there somewhere.

I will take it as it comes. Sure, there are parts that people will say was luck, but to me luck is when your achievements are not of your making. I feel that I worked for all I have. In the meantime, lucky or not, I am enjoying the warmth and sunshine.

Do you have a birthday greeting you would like to see here? Birthdays, anniversaries, interesting pictures, short stories or even a 500

word column of interest to your neighbors. Send them to me and I will see what I can do. Nothing political or controversial. Send to Jbortze@aol.com  
December Birthdays.....Thank you!!!  
Joyce Charlie Gugino....  
Tues..... Dec 5th. Little Bill.....Wed.....Dec 6th.

Jim Moran.....Wed.....  
Dec 6th. Barb Kinsey.....  
Sun.....Dec 10th. Nancy Reid.....Tues.....Dec 12th. Marvy Gugino.....  
Thurs.....Dec 14th. Sharon Senear.....Fri.....Dec 15th. Brandon Leone.....  
Thurs.....Dec 21st. Renee Gugino.....Sat.....Dec 23rd.



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by Linda Thistle

		1	7			2		
5				8	6		3	
	6				9			7
		5	4					9
	7			2			1	3
8					5	4		
1		3	6			7		
		2			4			6
	4			3			2	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## Ask Rusty – I'm Returning To Work; What Should I Do About Social Security?

**Dear Rusty:** I started collecting Social Security at age 62 earlier this year. I had an opportunity to partner in a new business this year that will allow me to earn about \$200,000 in 2024. Because this is significantly above the allowed earnings when collecting early benefits, I need advice on how I handle this with the Social Security Administration. Am I supposed to call them and advise them of my change in income for 2024? If so, am I going to be penalized in any way? I expect they will stop all payments in 2024 once I alert them to the change. Will I be eligible for Social Security payments when I retire again? This is planned to take place before I reach full retirement age of 67. For information, my 2023 income will not exceed the 2023 allowable income limit.

Thank you in advance for your service as a Social Security Advisor.

**Signed: Un-retiring Temporarily.**

**Dear Un-retiring:** You have a couple of options, considering that you recently claimed early Social Security benefits but are returning to work with income significantly more than the 2024 earnings limit of \$22,320.

The first is to simply contact Social Security and tell them you are returning to the work force and tell them your anticipated 2024

income. They will suspend your SS benefits for all of 2024 (to avoid overpaying you and making you return those 2024 payments later). If you plan to continue in your new business beyond 2024, you can advise them of that as well and they will continue the suspension of your benefits, until such time as you either discontinue working or reach your full retirement age (the earnings test no longer applies after you reach your FRA). At that time, SS will resume your monthly Social Security payments and, at your FRA, will give you time credit for all months your benefits were suspended, providing you with a higher monthly payment after your full retirement age is attained (with an adjustment for benefits already paid).

Your other option is to contact Social Security soon and request that your recent application for Social Security benefits submitted earlier this year be withdrawn. You have 12 months from the date of your application to do this, but you will need to repay Social Security all money which they paid to you or on your behalf (including your monthly payments, any income tax you had withheld from those payments, and any dependent benefits which might have been paid based on your record). That will effectively "wipe the slate clean" with

Social Security and will be as though you had never claimed, allowing you to simply wait until you stop working, or until your FRA, or even beyond your FRA, to re-apply for Social Security at a higher monthly amount. The advantage of this option is that when your benefit restarts there will be no adjustment (reduction) for past benefits paid.

What I suggest you not do is simply wait to see what happens. That would result in Social Security catching up after the IRS informs them of your 2024 earnings, resulting in you receiving an Overpayment Notice from the SSA demanding repayment of 2024 benefits paid. In that case, you would need to quickly repay Social Security in a large lump-sum or have your SS benefits withheld until the debt for exceeding the earnings limit was repaid. In a nutshell, I suggest you call Social Security and tell them you are returning to work, what

your earnings are expected to be, and for how long.

Thank you for submitting your question to our Social Security Advisor department. Be sure to share our link with your family and friends.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff,

trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website ([amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).

## 'Holiday Music Under The Dome' Series In Downtown Buffalo

*Continued from page one.*

Bank Regional President Participating performers and conductors

The full schedule features:

Saturday, December 9 – Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra (1-2 p.m.)

Monday, December 11 – St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute Swing Choir (12-1 p.m.)

Tuesday, December 12 – Grand Island High School Madrigal Singers

(12-1 p.m.)

Wednesday, December 13 – Buffalo Academy of Visual and Performing Arts Honor Choir (12-1 p.m.)

Thursday, December 14 – Gemtones from Mount St. Mary Academy and St. Mary's School for the Deaf Sign Chorus (12-1 p.m.)

Friday, December 15 – Iroquois High School Choirs (12-1 p.m.)



# SERVICE YOU DESERVE...

## SATURDAY HOURS

## Erie County Auto Bureau

Reservations Are Encouraged, But Not Required

# Make a Reservation Online Today!

**West Seneca Office Hours:**

**7AM-5PM**

**Monday-Friday**

**9AM-1PM**

**Saturday**



Scan QR Code with Your Cell Phone Camera

**Eastern Hills Office Hours:**

**10AM-6PM**

**Tuesday-Friday**

**8AM-3PM**

**Saturday**

For those without internet access, please call the Erie County Clerk's Outreach Center at 716-858-8864 to schedule your appointment today!

**West Seneca: Southgate Plaza, 1088B Union Road, West Seneca**  
**Eastern Hills Mall: 4545 Transit Road, Williamsville**

Use main entrance by Duff's

## ADOPT A PET

Sponsored By The Buffalo Rocket

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

OUR SHELTER IS OVERFLOWING WITH DOGS!

Hello! My name is Bambi and I am a gal of about 7yrs of age and had some litters of pups and I am done with that. It is now time for me to embrace my own life and be pampered and treated like a queen. It appears I am still carrying around my Mom instinct because I am prone to telling other dogs what to do. I want to make sure there is order, and I am vigilant about what's going on in a situation when too many dogs are around and being rambunctious. It's probably best for me to be in a home with either a low key dog, or a dog that just wants to co-exist or maybe a home to just call my own.



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  
 380 N. Oak St. Buffalo  
[Buffalo\\_Shelter@yahoo.com](mailto:Buffalo_Shelter@yahoo.com)

**716-851-5694**



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



# The Grapevine

**Ten Lives Club Cat Adoption Group** is hosting their Beer for Cats Christmas fundraiser on Friday, December 9. The event runs from 5pm to 7:30pm and will be held at Mr. Goodbar, located at 1110 Elmwood Ave, Buffalo, NY 14222. At this event, there will be a silent auction, basket raffle and so much more. Drink tickets for 10-ounce specialty drafts will be available for purchase with the option of 2 for \$12 or 4 for \$20. There is no admission fee for this event. During this event, attendees may choose between some of the best local Western New York drafts. For more information on this event, visit Ten Lives Club's website or call their Event Coordinator at (716) 646-5577 ext. 2.

**InnBuffalo's Christmas Market** Inn premieres on December 9, 2023 at Buffalo 619 Lafayette Avenue Buffalo, NY. Join us for a festive and welcoming Christmas Market at InnBuffalo off Elmwood Avenue. We'll be transforming the first floor and billiards room into a winter wonderland featuring an array of vendors offering unique gifts, crafts, and

more. You can even have your tarot cards read for a bit of holiday fun. Indulge in some delicious kettle corn and warm up with complimentary hot chocolate and mulled wine. for more information visit our Facebook event page: InnBuffalo off Elmwood.

**Holiday Craft & Gift Show** on Sunday, December 10, 2023, 11:00am-3:00pm at Italian Club 3200 South Park Lackawanna, NY. Come on out to support your local small businesses from 11am-3pm at the Lake Erie Italian Club 3200 South Park Buffalo NY 14218. We have some fabulous and unique crafters as well as some of your favorite vendors too! **FREE ADMISSION.** Basket Raffle! Hourly Prizes! Goodies! Psychic readings! You don't need to be present to win the Basket Raffle. There's something for everyone! Bring donations for The Buffalo Animal Shelter for discounts/extra tickets for the basket raffle after initial purchase. Bookings: contact Maria, eventpreneurpro@gmail.com.

**Garden Walk Buffalo**, America's largest garden tour, is looking for submissions of original artwork to promote the 2024 event, which will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, July 27 & 28, 2024. Garden Walk Buffalo will be celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2024. Entries are due Wednesday, January 31, 2024. This is an opportunity to share your artwork with hundreds of local gardeners and tens of thousands of visitors from around the U.S., Canada, and abroad. Email your entry to [aclark@gardens-buffaloniagara.com](mailto:aclark@gardens-buffaloniagara.com). Include **ART ENTRY** in the subject line. If possible, zip your files or use a service like wetransfer. For more information, email [GardenWalkBuffalo@Gardens-BuffaloNiagara.com](mailto:GardenWalkBuffalo@Gardens-BuffaloNiagara.com) or call (716) 247-5004.

**First Look Buffalo Theatre Company:** New Play Reading Festival 2023-24 Vol. 1 December 8th-10th, 2023  
**Canterbury Woods Performing Arts Center** 705 Renaissance Dr, Williamsville NY 14221.  
Plays: Deconstruction By Adam Hahn Directed by Mike Doben Saturday, December 9th at 3pm, The Appliance Department By Bella Poynton Directed by Kate Powers Saturday, December 9th at 8pm, The Day I learned to Fly By Wendy-Marie Martin Directed by Jason Francey Sunday, December 10th at 1pm. No reservations necessary. Donations accepted at the door.

**Submit Your Community Event to**  
**The Grapevine**  
**editor.buffalorocket@gmail.com**

??? **Senior TRIVIA** ???

Pop Quiz

Test your knowledge!

1) Which Disney animated movie features the song "Whistle While You Work"?

2. Which two oceans are on Russia's shores?

3) What is the fear represented in the condition called euphobia?

4) What is "The Simpsons" home address?

5) How many dimples are on a golf ball?

6) Earth's place in the solar system is how many planets from the Sun?

7) What is the only country in South America whose official language is Dutch?

8) What is a sweetbread?

9) In which century was "The Canterbury Tales" written?

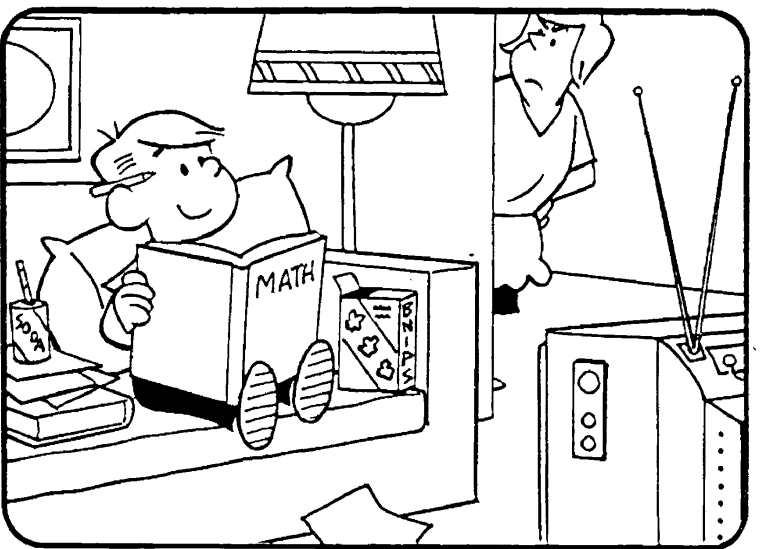
10) Who is considered the father of modern astronomy?

Last Answers: 1. David Hasselhoff. 2. Olympia. 3. 15-30 days. 4. "Animal Farm." 5. Talc. 6. The River Thames. 7. Hangover. 8. "Fast & Furious" (2009). 9. Anaheim, California (1955). 10. Torch.

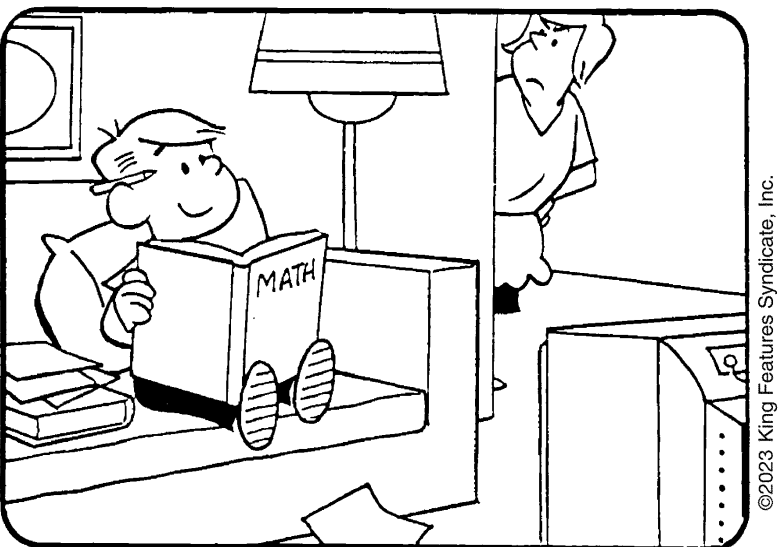
FREE NORTH PARK PASSES: K. Kusmierski, 233 Sanders Rd., 14216

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Can is missing. 2. Pillow is smaller. 3. Lamp shade is different. 4. Box is missing. 5. TV controls are missing. 6. Antenna is missing.

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# Buffalo Christmas Tree Lighting

*Continued from page one.* Santa, and holiday gifts. Hartland Carriage will offer free horse and carriage rides around Fountain Plaza. Thistle Creek Alpaca Farm and their friendly alpacas will roam throughout the event site. The Buffalo AKG Art Truck and Fat Bob's Smokehouse food



truck will also be on-site. Ice-skating is free and ice-skate rental is available; \$2 for children and \$3 for adults. Guests are encouraged to bring their own ice-skates and avoid waiting in the ice-skate rental line. Santa will visit with children from 6:30pm to 8pm. Details and updated

event information available on our Facebook event page: Rotary Rink at Fountain Plaza.

Call our office at:  
**632-0808**  
for details!

The Buffalo Rocket

## AREA SENIOR CENTERS

- NORTH BUFFALO**  
GLORIA J. PARKS COMMUNITY CENTER - 3242 Main St. Buffalo 14214 832-1010  
NORTH BUFFALO COMMUNITY CENTER - 203 Sanders Rd. Buffalo 14216 768-1004
- RIVERSIDE**  
NORTHWEST BUFFALO COMMUNITY CENTER - 155 Lawn Ave. Buffalo 14207 876-8108
- KENMORE**  
KENMORE SENIOR CENTER - 135 Wilber Ave. Kenmore 14217 873-0737
- WEST SIDE**  
WEST SIDE COMMUNITY SERVICES - 161 Vermont St. Buffalo 14213 884-6616  
CONCERNED ECUMENICAL MINISTRY (CEM) - 286 Lafayette Ave. Buffalo 14213 882-2442  
FATHER BELLE COMMUNITY CENTER - 104 Maryland St. Buffalo 14201 845-0485  
RICHMOND-SUMMER SENIOR CENTER - 337 Summer St. Buffalo 14222 885-3290

## CLASSIFIED

### LEGAL

Buffalo City School District  
Request for Bid/Proposal

RFPQ 24-0625E3-039 MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL AND PLUMBING ENGINEERING CONSULTANT SERVICES

Offering Specifications posted at:  
buffaloschools.bonfirehub.com/portal

Jennifer LoTempio  
Acting Director of Purchase 49

Buffalo City School District  
Request for Bid/Proposal

RFB24-0624-030 TI-NSPIRE GRAPHING CALCULATORS

RFB24-0624-041 CORNHOLE BOARDS

RFP 24-0625-029 USDA PROCESSED FOOD COMMODITIES

Offering Specifications posted at:  
buffaloschools.bonfirehub.com/portal

Jennifer LoTempio  
Acting Director of Purchase 49

Notice of Formation of Thermo King Northeast, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York on 10/26/2023. Office location: Erie County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Thermo King Northeast, LLC, 583 South St., New Britain, CT 06051. Purpose: any lawful activity. 52

Notice of formation of Zen Zone Property Maintenance LLC. Articles of Org. filed with the Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/20/23. Office in Erie County. SSNY is the designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 200 ayer rd buffalo NY 14221. Any lawful purpose. 52

KATHERINE MILLER-PROCKNAL PSYCHOLOGIST PLLC. Articles of Organization for KATHERINE MILLER-PROCKNAL PSYCHOLOGIST PLLC were filed with the NY Department of State on August 28, 2023. The Office of the PLLC is in Erie County. 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: 73 Fayette Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14223. The purpose of the PLLC is any lawful purpose permitted for this PLLC under NY Limited Liability Company Act. The duration of the PLLC is perpetual. 1

### HELP WANTED

#### Digital Content Specialist in Marketing and Communications Office

Buffalo State, State University of New York, seeks candidates for the position of Digital Content Specialist in Marketing and Communications Office

For a full job description and to apply:  
<https://jobs.buffalostate.edu/postings/7214>



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The State University of New York

Buffalo State is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and committed to respect for diversity and individual differences.

#### Assistant Director in Residence Life Office

Buffalo State, State University of New York, seeks candidates for the position of Assistant Director in Residence Life Office

For a full job description and to apply:  
<https://jobs.buffalostate.edu/postings/5998>



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#### — King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

Puzzle on page three.

#### — Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

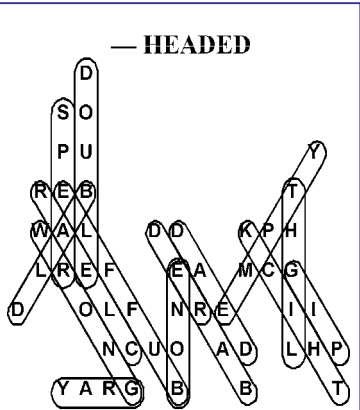
4	9	1	7	5	3	2	6	8
5	2	7	1	8	6	9	3	4
3	6	8	2	4	9	1	5	7
2	3	5	4	7	1	6	8	9
6	7	4	9	2	8	5	1	3
8	1	9	3	6	5	4	7	2
1	8	3	6	9	2	7	4	5
7	5	2	8	1	4	3	9	6
9	4	6	5	3	7	8	2	1

Puzzle on page four.

### LEGAL

#### TO PLACE YOUR LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE BUFFALO ROCKET  
**CALL 632-0808**



Puzzle on page two.

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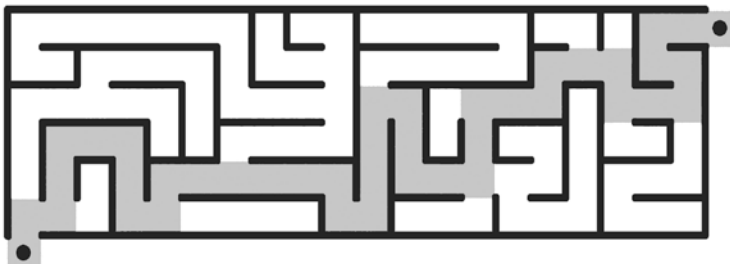
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#### Kids' Maze Solution



Puzzle on page three.





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