

Christmas in North Buffalo



Holy Spirit once again will host a Living Nativity on Christmas Eve.

At the 11:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve (Monday, December 24th) sheep, a donkey, shepherds and angels will come into Holy Spirit Church (85 Dakota

Street) and approach the altar, where they will find a young couple and their newborn child...as the choir sings "What Child is This?" This "Living Nativity"

inside the church has become a precious Christmas Eve tradition at Holy Spirit, and all are welcome to come and experience anew the wonder and Spirit of Christmas.

Toy Joy Drop Off

To ensure every child in Buffalo has a toy this holiday season, Mayor Byron W. Brown is encouraging all residents and business owners to participate in the first annual The Toy Joy Drop Off. From now until Friday, December 21st, the City is collecting new, unwrapped toys that will be distributed to families in need. Mayor Brown stated, "The holiday season is a time of giving, and in our City of Good Neighbors, our true goal is not to collect the most toys, but to spread the most joy among the children of Buffalo. Please help make this season merry and bright for all residents by making a

contribution." The Toy Joy Drop Off is a toy collection for some of Buffalo's neediest children and families. From



now until December 21st, residents can bring a new and unwrapped toy (for children of all ages) to the following locations:

- Lobby of Buffalo City Hall
 - The Police and Fire Headquarters at the Dillon
 - 5 Police District Headquarters
 - All Fire Houses citywide
- Mayor Brown kicked off The Toy Joy Drop Off campaign at the City's annual outdoor holiday tree lighting ceremony. Representatives from the Buffalo Police Department, Buffalo Fire Department, the Police Benevolent Association, Buffalo Professional Firefighters Local 282 and the Police Athletic League of Buffalo were in attendance, along
- Continued on page six.*

Memories

From the Buffalo Rocket archives



"But I do not want to be a bunny"
Taken at an Easter Egg Hunt around 2002.

A New Look For The New Year!



Mike and all the folks at Johnny's Meats, 1191 Hertel Avenue, are proud to show off their new sign. Just in time for the holiday rush the new sign appears, beckoning customers to Johnny's Meats and all the great specials they have to offer. From their own award winning sausage and homemade Brasciole to the best Prime Rib of Beef around. Make sure to put Johnny's Meats on your holiday to-do list.

Local Weather						
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16	MONDAY, DECEMBER 17	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19
 Mostly Cloudy High 39° Low 34°	 Cloudy High 41° Low 36°	 Mostly Sunny High 28° Low 22°	 Partly Cloudy High 39° Low 32°	 Cloudy High 36° Low 27°	 Partly Cloudy High 31° Low 27°	 Partly Cloudy High 36° Low 32°

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NORTH POLE, NEW YORK - Fri 12/14, Sat 12/15

NEVER-ENDING MAN: HAYAO MIYAZAKI - Sat 12/14, Sun 12/15

NATIONAL LAMPOON'S CHRISTMAS VACATION (1989) - Sat 12/15

A CHRISTMAS STORY (1983) - Sun 12/15

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS (1946) - Mon 12/17, Tue 12/18

SMASH BROTHERS: THE VIDEO GAME - LIVE! - Tue 12/18

MARY POPPINS RETURNS - Wed 12/19, Thur 12/20

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FREE MOVIE PASSES: D. Guerra, 576 Tacoma Ave. 14216

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Sabres Streak Reaches Six Games

The Sabres pulled out a win ending their five game losing streak. After a bad 40 minutes a strong third period and overtime finished off the NHL's last place team the Los Angeles Kings. Memories of the Buffalo Sabres winning streak had faded during the losing streak. Signs that the winning streak might be a confluence of lucky factors were present. Nine of the wins were by one goal, and seven came in overtime or shootouts.

Luck was fading as the Sabres lost three defensemen, Jake McCabe, Marco Scandella and Casey Nelson, to injury. During their absence goal scoring dried up for anyone not playing on Jack Eichel's line, the power play dried up and the penalty killers lost their edge. The net result was five straight games without a win.

But the Sabres were still third in the Eastern Conference. Unfortunately it was hard to tell that the Kings were truly the worst team as they certainly played at Buffalo's level. The Kings took a 1-0 lead at 6:11 as Jake Muzzin scored with WNY native Alex Iafallo (Eden) assisting. Zemgus Girgenons tied the score at 6:11 unassisted.

LA led 2-1 on a goal by Matt Muff at 0:52 assisted by Muzzin. The play showed the challenges of playing rookie defenseman

as Rasmus Dahlin fanned on an airborne pass rather than play the man, allowing Muff to skate in alone and score. Muff also appeared to play the puck forward with a high stick which should have been whistled down but the officials missed the call.

The bonehead play of the season occurred in the second period. With the Kings on the attack in the Sabres zone, an LA player hit the puck with a high stick. If an LA player is the next to touch the puck then the play is whistled down for a faceoff. So both LA players stood passively with Sabres defenseman Lawrence Pilut nearby and showed no interest in playing the puck. After a brief delay Pilut slapped the puck forward direct-

ly to the Kings for a shot to the net. The rebound eventually went to Adrian Kempe

who scored to put the Kings into a 3-1 lead. If Pilut had just let the puck sit there and no one played it for the next three or four seconds, the referee would have blown the whistle for a faceoff.

Three bad breaks led to two unlucky goals. That's how losing streaks perpetuate themselves. The Sabres were booed off the ice at the intermission. It looked like the losing streak would reach six games. But not this night.

Jack Eichel continued his torrid stretch of 33 points in 24 games beating Calvin Peterson high on the short side with a sizzling wrist shot from the off wing at 3:47 while on a power play to pull the Sabres within a goal trailing 3-2. The "Angry Larry" Johan Larsson scored when Pilut's point shot deflected off Larsson's skate to tie the score at 3-3.

The Sabres started the overtime on a four on three power play. Eichel, Dahlin, Skinner and Ristolainen were on the ice for the

Continued on page six.



Eichel vs LA Kings.

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Lonestar fajita Grill.....1857 Hertel Avenue
Marco's Deli.....1744 Hertel Avenue
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North Buffalo Dental.....1600 Hertel Avenue
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Parkside Community Center.....2318 Main Street
Plaka Restaurant.....2904 Delaware Avenue
Realty USA.....2427 Sheridan Drive
Scissors.....1497 Hertel Avenue
TC Jr's.....2941 Delaware Avenue
Terries Workout Center.....1473 Hertel Avenue
Theater Apts.....1065 Kenmore Avenue
Thrifty Treasures.....3163 Delaware Avenue
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Dibble Hardware.....262 W Ferry Street
Buffalo Public Library.....Niagara at Porter
CWJ Lock & Key.....183 Forest Ave
Concerned Ecumenical Ministry.....286 Lafayette Avenue

Corner Store.....Forest & Grant
Delaware Apartments.....1217 Delaware Avenue
Elmwood Square Apts.....505 Elmwood Avenue
Ferry Street Laundry.....277 West Ferry Street
Frontier Liquor & Beverage Ctr.....121 Grant Street
First Niagara Bank.....Elmwood at W. Utica
M&T Bank.....130 Grant Street
Santasio's Restaurant.....1329 Niagara Street
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Trinity Tower Apartments.....33 Linwood Avenue
West Market.....1032 West Avenue
West Side Community Center.....Vermont at Fargo
YWCA.....Grant Street

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Nickel City Bottle Return.....2209 Niagara Street
Northwest Buffalo Community Ctr.....155 Lawn Avenue
Riverside Cafe.....Tonawanda Street
Riverside Marketplace.....740 Tonawanda Street
Roland Cannizzaro Insurance Agency.....432 Amherst Street
Tops Market.....385 Amherst Street
West Hertel Liquor.....699 Hertel Avenue

The Grapevine

On December 16th from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, treat your family to a beloved holiday tradition with Breakfast with Santa at the Buffalo Zoo. Merrily start your day with a breakfast buffet, enjoy arts and crafts and a visit and special gift from Santa Claus. After breakfast, stroll the grounds, see the beautiful holiday decorations and say "Happy Holidays" to your favorite animals on exhibit. Space is limited, so make your reservation today. Pre-paid non-refundable, non-transferable tickets are required to attend Breakfast with Santa at the Buffalo Zoo. Visit buffalozoo.org for more information.

On Saturday, December 15th at the Central Library 1 Lafayette Square in downtown from 1-2 pm there will be Preschool Story-

time. Kids' Space, main floor 1:30-2:30 pm: Reader's Quest Book Club: Nevermoor: The Trials of Morrigan Crow by Jessica Townsend. Grades 6-8. West Room, main floor 2-3 pm: Buffalo Never Fails: The Queen City and World War I. Free public guided tour. Collections Gallery, second floor 3-4 pm: Rising Voices Book Club: Dread Nation by Justine Ireland. Grades 9-12. West Room, main floor. For more information visit www.BuffaloLib.org.

Enjoy music of the season performed by the region's favorite caroling quartet, the American Caroling Company, Wednesday, December 19 at 12 Noon at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 724 Delaware Ave, Buffalo. The festive group performs traditional and

contemporary Christmas classics while dressed in authentic Dickens attire. All are invited. Wednesdays@Westminster is designed to give friends and neighbors an uplifting moment in the day; to feed the spirit and the body; and to delight in the beauty of our historic Sanctuary.

Arts Services Initiative of Western New York, a non-profit arts service provider, will relocate to a larger office space and work area at the Tri-Main Center (2495 Main Street, Suite 422 in Buffalo, NY) in January 2019. Arts Services Initiative is a nonprofit organization that promotes the cultural sector's vital role in economic development and the community since 2011. More information about Arts Services Initiative of WNY can be found at www.asi-wny.org

Submit Your Community Event to

The Grapevine

editor.buffalorocket@gmail.com

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Leno's network

4 Plant bristle

7 Outdoor garment

11 Cupid's alias

13 Luau dish

14 "Do — others ..."

15 Hindu wrap

16 Type measures

17 Adolescent

18 Gear parts

20 Tempo

22 Gratuities

24 In the same place (Lat.)

28 Swiss Guards' site

32 Japanese cartoon art

33 Verve

34 Fix the soundtrack

36 Smile

37 Harsh

39 Pavlova performances

41 Improved

43 Sticky stuff

44 Aware of

46 16 ounces

50 Overly proper person

53 Witty one

55 — gin fizz

56 Apiece

DOWN

1 Bird's home

2 Scottish hillside

3 Heart of an apple

4 Gorilla

5 Sonogram area

6 Some Japan-

7 Acting without restraint

8 Individual

9 Devoured

10 Heavy weight

12 Not budging

19 Toper's interruption

21 "The — Daba Honeymoon"

23 Cushion

25 Tragic

26 Send out

27 Clothing store section

28 Part of speech

29 Lotion additive

ese-Americans

30 Without slack

31 Gist

35 Satchel

38 Coop dweller

40 Prune

42 Plied the oars

45 Appellation

47 Arm bone

48 Agrees silently

49 Dilbert's furniture

50 Church seat

51 Cheery remark?

52 "Rocks"

54 Fellow

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Northwest Buffalo Beat

by Joe Bartz

Flying Bowling Pins

One of my earliest hourly pay jobs as a kid was setting pins at the Strand Bowling Allies on Niagara Street. Did not last long as it was one of the dumbest things one can do. You would set the pins up and go as far back as you can and wait for the bowler to send this 16-pound bowling ball flying down the alley and splattering the pins in every direction. No protection, only a place for you to sit a little above the pit that the pins fell into. However, occasionally the pins would hit you and they hurt. I would swear the bowlers were trying to hit us dumb pinspotters. Who would want that job? Someone who needed money really bad. Even so, I left after a week or two. Not sure if I quit or got fired as I was slow and far

too careful. They had trouble filling this position. So, the future of bowling meant they had to find a machine that would automatically set pins. Enter my father-in-law, John Zuercher.

Recently I heard there was a program on Channel 2 about the first automatic pin spotter being set up in a garage on Connecticut street. Just so happens I was at the introduction of the first pinspotter by AMF at the 174th Armory on Connecticut street. I did not see the show on television, but I do know the true story as I was there. I happened to marry into

the family of the man who owns many of the patents for the AMF automatic pinspotter. He had been working on some designs for the pinsetter before he started working for AMF (American Machine and Foundry). I had seen some wooden replicas he had made in his attic of some of his designs. He did not have the resources to develop such a gigantic undertaking. So, he ap-



AMF automatic pinspotter.

plied for employment at AMF which at that time was located within walking distance of his home on Forest and West Avenue. It was a natural fit.

I will say some things about my late father-in-law. No question he was a brilliant man with many ideas in his mind. I have seen some that never developed and may still some day come to light. When he had an idea, he would make rough models to see if the principal worked. Some of the things he was working on if implemented could change a lot of things today.

He was born in Switzerland and left school in fourth grade. Other than taking drafting classes here in the states, that was the extent of his education. He spoke good English and as I understand came to the US at nine years old. He still carried a German/Swiss accent. His mind was full of ideas and our discussions were

interesting as we were on different levels when it came to science and just plain every day living. Have to remember he had no social development and some things that are common sense to us, he had problems understanding. He was a good man but lacked social contact. We played chess together.

Getting back to the automatic pinspotter, because there was such a need for this machine, many companies were in the hunt. Here at AMF, walks in a fellow who spoke broken English with design ideas for most of the larger mechanical parts to construct just such a machine. Within a few years the first working model was in production. Since it was developed right here on the

West Side of Buffalo it was only natural that the first working model at a bowling alley was right here in Western New York. He invited me to see it working at the 174th Armory. They had a glass window, so you could see it working from the side. He explained the parts and what they did and how he came up with the designs. The big wheel in back to lift the pins, the heart shaped distribution of the pins. He said he had trouble figuring how to take care of the five pins. The pin in the center, hence he came up with the heart shape. It was the first working model of the machine. That I know for a fact as I was there. Once they had the glitches worked out, they put one in the Pentagon in Washington DC. My father-in law had to go there to make sure it worked right.

This is not a fictional story, it did happen and is easy to prove. Like the old Television program "You are There" I was there. Where the story of it being in a garage is strange but then again, a lot of what you see on the news is strange. I looked it up on Wikipedia and they also do not have the facts straight. We have copies of the patents under the name of John Zuercher who was in fact credited with most of the designs on the automatic pinspotter. I may even have to challenge Wikipedia.

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.

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New Osteoarthritis Treatment

Osteoarthritis [OA] is the leading cause of aches and pains as we grow old. In fact, the National Center for Biotechnology Information reports that OA is the most common joint disorder in the world and one of the most common sources of disability in the elderly.

But, now there may be a new non-addictive, holistic treatment for OA, according to the senior advocacy organization, the Association of Mature American Citizens.

Currently, the most common way of treating the disease is to simply deal with the pain using NSAIDs [non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs]. But, a new non-surgical, non-opioid approach to dealing with the disease is in the offing. It's a gene therapy treatment originally developed for dogs with OA. And, some researchers believe it could put an end not only to the often-agonizing discomfort

it causes in humans, but also to the need for hip and knee replacements.

The treatment, which proved itself safe and effective in canines, is already in FDA-approved human clinical trials.

University of Colorado Professor, Dr. Linda Watkins, developed the pioneering procedure. Watkins joined the University's Department of Psychology and Neuroscience in 1988 and, as one publication put it she quickly "began to rock the boat in the field of pain research."

She theorized that glial cells, which are found throughout the body's central nervous system, might be the real cause of chronic pain. Little was known about glial cells at that time, and so she was greeted with skepticism. But that didn't stop her. And, she eventually proved that those cells drive pain when you get sick or are hurt. As you get better those same cells produce Interleukin

10, a potent naturally occurring anti-inflammatory. Watkins explains that "all animals, from humans back through lizards and fish, have the DNA 'recipe' in the nucleus of their cells to make the interleukin-10," which is important in keeping inflammation under control.

The problem is osteoarthritic cells do not make enough IL-10 to keep inflammation under control. But, she says, "our IL-10 gene therapy provides the cells within the osteoarthritic joint with the 'recipe' for making IL-10 far more efficiently and effectively. One single injection leads to very prolonged relief of pain and disability."

AMAC president Dan Weber describes this pain management gene therapy as a potential game changer. "Our life spans have increased rapidly in recent years and chronic pain can make it difficult, at best, to engage in even the simplest activity as we grow older. It is estimated that more than 30 million Americans, mostly older Americans, suffer from Osteoarthritis. That's more than 12% of the population. A medical breakthrough such as this one rarely occurs but it can have an incredibly positive, long-term impact on the elderly. For many of them it can give them a new lease on life."



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Senior TRIVIA

Christmas Trivia

Flag Colors

- 1) Color of Rudolph's nose?
- 2) Bing Crosby Christmas?
- 3) Elvis Christmas?

Movies

Christmas Vacation

- 1) Name of Eddie's dog?
- 2) Nick name for Clark?
- 3) His wife's name?
- 4) Christmas gift wrapped in a box?
- 5) Bonus money use?

Christmas Story

- 1) What Ralphie wanted for Christmas?
- 2) Bully's name?
- 3) Song Chinese waiters sang?
- 4) Younger brothers name?
- 5) What was punishment for bad word?

Wonderful life

- 1) Name of angel who got his wings?
- 2) Main actors real name?
- 3) What happened to the money?
- 4) Police officers name?
- 5) Wife's name?

Religious

- 1) Birth town?
- 2) How many Kings?
- 3) Name of Kings?
- 4) What did they bring as offerings?
- 5) Hotel name?

The answers will be in next week's Rocket OR you can find them on our Facebook page.

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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Differences: 1. Jewelry rack is missing. 2. List is shorter. 3. Feathers are missing. 4. Pendant is missing. 5. Skirt is different. 6. Sign is different.

The Blotter

Felonies

From "D" District

North Buffalo

November 30, 2018
Delaware Ave. - Complainant reports for retail store he manages. Defendant concealed merchandise on his person and passed all points of purchase without paying.

November 30, 2018
Linden Ave. - Complainant reports that unknown person(s) charged over \$1,000 on her credit card by unknown means.

December 1, 2018
Hertel Ave. - Complainant reports for retail store he manages. Defendant concealed merchandise on her person and passed all points of purchase without paying.

December 1, 2018
Tennyson St. - Complainant reports that unknown person(s) entered the residence through an

unlocked window. Taken, without permission, a computer, camera and laptop computer, valued over \$3,000.

December 6, 2018

Hertel Ave. - Complainant reports for grocery store he manages. Defendant concealed 18 cans of Red Bull on his person and passed all points of purchase without paying.

Riverside

November 30, 2018

Amherst St. - Complainant reports for grocery store she manages. Defendant concealed merchandise on her person and passed all points of purchase without paying.

December 2, 2018

Germain St. - Complainant reports that unknown person(s) gained entry into the residence through an unlocked win-

dow. A large screen television, gaming system, controllers and games were taken from the residence without permission.

December 3, 2018

Gorton St. - Complainant reports being assaulted from behind while on the street. Assailant took off with complainant's prescription pills and \$175 cash.

West Side

November 30, 2018

Forest Ave. - Complainant reports that the suspect keeps coming into the shop and harassing the employees. Suspect has been told multiple times to stay out, but keeps coming back to bother the staff.

December 1, 2018

Harvard Pl. - Complainant reports that unknown person(s) vandalized her car and put sugar in the gas tank.

December 1, 2018

Lafayette Ave. - Complainant reports damage done to the exterior of his home by unknown means. Siding is scratched and several windows were broken.

Toy Joy Drop Off

From page one.

with a Blue Santa. Mayor Brown also introduced BPD's newest musical sensation: Buffalo's 'Caroling Cops'. The Buffalo Police Officers made their singing debut at the tree lighting ceremony and toy drive kickoff. They will be performing at the Broadway Market on December 22nd at 1 pm,

followed by a performance at the Queen City Pop Up, located at The Shops at the Market Arcade, on December 22nd at 2:30 pm.

The lighting of the outdoor City Hall holiday tree, which is located on the façade of the fourth floor portico of Buffalo City Hall, began four years ago. Mayor Brown

reminded residents and visitors that he will light the top of City Hall in a variety of holiday colors throughout the season as part of his Home of the Dome initiative, and he encouraged the Buffalo Landmark Illumination Team to do the same. He also encouraged residents to shop local this holiday season.

Sabres Streak Reaches Six Games

From page two.

entire man advantage and in the Kings zone passing the puck around the perimeter cautiously for 1:49 until Eichel took a pass from Dahlin and one timed a slap shot which left a rebound for Jeff Skinner who slammed the puck into the net for a 4-3 win.

The Sabres won be-

cause they got two goals from players not on the top line. This was the first game that Girgensons and Larsson have scored in the same game.

Despite the euphoria over the Sabres success so far, it is worth noting that the Sabres have won only three times in regulation time, three times in their

last 17 games. The Sabres are living on the edge. Despite ranking up at the top of the league standings, the Sabres need to improve on their 60 minute game if they want to run with big boy teams like Tampa Bay consistently win in regulation and do so convincingly by multiple goals.

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Apartment For Rent: North Buffalo - Hartwell Rd. 2 bedroom plus den upper, off street parking, immaculate condition. new carpeting, hard wood floors, laundry hookups. \$980. no pets. 875-8890, leave contact info. 50

Apartment For Rent: Upper West Side - 3 bedroom, front & back porch, air conditioning, hardwood floors, full attic and basement, garage. Call 634-6330. 50

Elmwood Village - Charming 1,500 sq ft, woodwork galore, 2 bedrooms + den, parking, laundry. No pets or smoking. \$1,000 + security. 352-4633. 50

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LEGAL

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Buffalo, New York
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BID# 19-0919-067 due 12/21 at 11:30 a.m.

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Michael S. Yeates
Director of Purchase

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— **King Crossword** —
Answers
Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Puzzle on page three

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