

Buffalo Rocket

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COMMUNITY NEWS

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YMCA Turkey Trot 2025



Photo provided by Trent Wellott/ YMCA Buffalo Niagara.

Family poses for a photo after the 2024 YMCA Turkey Trot.

The YMCA Turkey Trot is a time-honored Thanksgiving Day tradition. The oldest consecutively run footrace in the world, the YMCA Turkey Trot is an 8k race that attracts more than 14,000 runners and walkers annually. Proceeds raised support vital YMCA pro-



grams and services that empower youth, improve community health, and address our community's greatest needs.

Danielle Roberts, the Vice President of Community Impact, will be available Friday from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm to talk about

the Turkey Trot. Contact Paul Stockman to set up a time for the interview.

Trotters may register at YMCATurkeyTrot.org until race capacity is reached. For more information on this year's race, please visit YMCATurkeyTrot.org or contact the Turkey Trot call line at (716) 565-6000.

Erie County Department Of Health Urges Flu Vaccination As 2025-2026 Season Begins

As the 2025-26 flu season begins, the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) is urging all residents ages 6 months and older to get their annual flu vaccine.

"Getting a flu vaccine takes just a few minutes, and provides a base of protection for you, your household and our community," said Commissioner of Health Dr. Gale Burstein. "We ring the bell on this every year, but trends are pointing to a more severe flu season, with cases already rising.



The New York State Department of Health (NYS-DOH) reported a recent 30% increase in flu cases in one week. Vaccination is especially critical for older adults, pregnant people and young children, who are all at higher risk for serious complications."

She continued, "Our county has a good start on vaccine rates for this season, but still much room to improve our level of protection. About half of all adults ages 75 and older, over a third of adults ages

65-74, and a quarter of all young kids between 6 months and 4 years have this year's flu vaccine. Other age categories have lower individual risk, but they also are likely to expose more vulnerable family members and friends to flu illness. If you haven't gone for the flu vaccine, now is the time."

"Being sick with the flu means feeling miserable for up to a week – missing school, missing work, and missing out on your favorite activities, and even longer to fully

Continued on page six.

19th Annual Free Clothing And Thanksgiving Dinner Giveaway

Soul Saving Revival Center joyfully announces its 19th Annual Free Clothing and Thanksgiving Dinner Giveaway to bless families and individuals throughout the Buffalo community.

The event will be held on Saturday, November 22, from noon until 5:00 PM (or until the food runs out) at Soul Saving Revival Center, located at 664 Fillmore Ave. Buffalo, NY 14212

This annual event embodies the spirit of gratitude and giving, offering both a warm, upscale Thanksgiving dinner and free clothing to all in need, no registration or requirements necessary.

This annual event continues to be a cornerstone of Soul Saving Revival Center's mission, bringing the love of Christ beyond the church walls and directly into the community.



Community members who would like to volunteer are warmly welcomed. Please contact Elder Robert L. Robinson to sign up and receive details on roles, arrival times, and training.

For questions, to volunteer, donate, or to learn how to support this initiative, please contact Elder Robert L. Robinson at 716-517-1310 or rlarobinson3@me.com.

Memories

From the Buffalo Rocket archives



November, 1993. BILINGUAL PHONE ASSISTANCE OFFERED TO HISPANICS IN CRISIS...Margarita Santiago, acting president of Hispanics United o Buffalo (HUB), the Rev. Paul Steller, president of Crisis Services, and Dennis Walczyk, exacutive director of Crisis Services, from left, listen in as HUB's Executive Director Jose C. Pizarro announces a new bilingual counselor program.

Local Weather

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH

Rain
High 43°
Low 35°

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST

Partly Cloudy
High 44°
Low 30°

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND

Rain
High 50°
Low 45°

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD

Rain/Snow
High 47°
Low 33°

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH

Partly Cloudy
High 39°
Low 33°

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH

Partly Cloudy
High 44°
Low 34°

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH

Partly Cloudy
High 46°
Low 40°

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NORTH PARK THEATRE

PREMIERING FRIDAY
BARISTAS VS BILLIONAIRES



NUREMBERG Fri 11/21: (1:00), 8:40 Sat 11/22: (1:45), 7:00 Sun 11/23: (4:20), 9:30 Mon 11/24: (3:40 OC), 8:40 Tue 11/25: (1:15), (4:20)
KÖLN 75 Fri 11/21: (4:10) Sat 11/22: 10:05 Sun 11/23: (1:45) Mon 11/24: (1:00) Tue 11/25: 9:30
BARISTAS VS BILLIONAIRES Fri 11/21: 6:45 Sat 11/22: (5:00) Sun 11/23: 7:30 Mon 11/24: 6:45 Tue 11/25: 7:30
PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES (1987) Sat 11/22: (11:30am) Sun 11/23: (11:30am)
WAKE UP DEAD MAN: A KNIVES OUT MYSTERY Wed 11/26: (1:00), (4:00), 7:00, 10:00 Thur 11/27: (4:00), 7:00

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

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**, you will have two free passes mailed out to you.

ROCKET COMMUNICATIONS

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SPORTS
By Bill Snyder

Tom Smith Lives On



While a 16U Girls Travel Team are practicing their game, Ron Pilat and Devon Camel are ready to set up your practice time or answer questions. Go to www.smithathleticcenter.com for more information.

Walking through the big doors of the new Thomas M. Smith Athletic Center this past Saturday morning, one couldn't help but think you'd just walked into the future of North Buffalo.

From the outside, the huge building sits alongside the familiar Parking Lot that's always jammed with cars on a busy Saturday during the season of the Hertel North Park Youth Baseball League. The green and white, rectangular structure that towers over everything in Shoshone Park is a testament to all the planning and discussion that took place way back in 2017, when an idea came up to change the future of this Buffalo Park to better serve the needs of most, if not all of North Buffalo.

Tom Smith, a mild mannered man working Downtown in City Hall and living not far from this tiny Park off of Hertel Avenue near Main Street, proposed an idea to remove one of the area's Summertime pools that had fallen into disrepair and infrequent use and replace it with a place that can be used all year round, even in the winter time.

Saturday's opening Day

comes just six months before the new 2025 Season of the Hertel North Park Youth Baseball League and it'll be one of the best Summers that the 68 year old League will ever have because of Tom Smith. If not for his sudden passing from this

Earth back in 2022 due to illness, he was the man responsible for igniting this plan to help make Sports more competitive for North Buffalo when competing against Suburban Towns and Communities in the sport of baseball and softball.

Under the new Leadership of General Manager Ron Pilat and Devon Camel in charge of Operations, the Thomas Smith Athletic Center (TSAC) will strive to meet the needs of the City of Buffalo, inside the City of Buffalo and the first of its kind to help strengthen and practice the athletic pursuits of area residents involved in the numerous sports activities and competitions.

Whether your sport is Baseball of Softball, Soccer, Lacrosse, Rugby or Flag Football, the TSAC wants to be the place to help you practice and train in a place where the outside weather conditions have no

bearings on the performance you're interested in attaining in your Sport. The TSAC is located at 475 Beard Avenue just off of Hertel near Main Street. There's plenty of free parking available and can be reached by your car, public transportation of the Metro Bus or Rail or by using the nearby bicycle trail that connects into nearby Tonawanda or Kenmore.

"We're really fortunate to have a facility like this," said Franky Scaglione of North Buffalo and a longtime volunteer coach in the Hertel North Park Youth League. "For our City. It allows us to compete at the highest levels against the Suburbs and beyond. This puts us on the map as a legitimate competitor and I'm excited."


That was just one of the many opinions shared this past Saturday of the many who came out on a beautiful fall day last weekend. John and his wife, Cynthia Hall stopped in just to see the immense size of the structure with thoughts of using it as a place to walk the perimeter of the Center for cardiovascular health and well-being. "Why not come here, instead of the Walden Galleria or McKinley Mall?" Cindy Hall states. "This is a lot closer to home."

A 16U Travel Wildcat Softball team was using half of the facility this morning. These girls are ready to play and make their voices loud and clear. On hand were Peyton Gallivan, Izzy Kilonsky, Brooklyn Hornung, Molly Savage, Ally and Lidia Foglia and Chloe Claeys.

"It's beautiful," said Peyton Gallivan. "We've been waiting such a long time for this day to come. It just leaves you with a feeling that you're not in North Buffalo anymore. That you're someplace better, because of the way it's been built."

Out the windows of a room designed to hold team meetings or classroom type instruction, the diamonds of Shoshone Park can be seen in the distance. The cold, arctic blasts of Winter await the region in the coming months but anyone who uses the TSAC before

Opening Day in May of 2025, won't have to worry about the weather. Thanks to Thomas M. Smith and his new Athletic Center.



"I'm not interested in a diet that's low in calories — I want one that's low in _____."

SCRAMBLERS
Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

List

LEAST

Rarely

MODELS

Much

REAGOL

Require

GLOBIE

TODAY'S WORD

Answers on page five.



The Blotter

Felonies

From "D" District

Armed Assailant Arrested with Multiple Drug Paraphernalia On Condon Avenue

North Buffalo
November 17, 2025
Amherst Street - Defendant got into an argument with his former girlfriend which turned physical where the defendant did throw a table at the complainant and then shoved her which caused her to almost fall down the stairs. Complainant complained of right shoulder pain but declined ADI. Complainant also stated she wanted an order of protection and fears for her life.

November 15, 2025
Delson Court - Defendant did damage complainants window.

November 14, 2025
Delaware Avenue - Defendant did enter 2626 Delaware and did take \$115.00 worth of men's Champion clothing without permission in his arm and then did walk past all points of purchase without paying.

November 14, 2025
Holling Drive - Victim states offender wanted to get high and victim told offender to calm down. Offender was told by victim to leave and a verbal argument ensued. No physical altercation took place according to victim. Defendant was found inside of house and victim does have a stay away order.

West Side
November 16, 2025
Auburn Avenue - Defendant did refuse to return complainant's 5 year old som despite having no custodial rights to the child.

November 14, 2025
Elmwood Avenue - Victim stated that the unknown female came into Citi Trends store and placed a hoodie and two t-shirts in her black purse and walked past all points of purchase without paying the total value of \$84.00.

Riverside
November 17, 2025
Condon Avenue - Officers responded to 83 Condon Avenue for reports of a known male inside with a gun who was threatening the complainant with said gun. When officers arrived the complainant

stated that the male had fled to 208 Condon Avenue and officers did locate the male in the lower of 204 Condon Avenue. A permission to search was obtained by patrol officer from the tenant of 204 Condon Avenue lower apartment. Recovered by patrol officer from the middle bedroom, from inside of a camouflage colored backpack was 96 small plastic containers containing a white rock like substance believed to be crack cocaine; total aggregate weight of 7.68g. Also recovered from the backpack was a tied off baggie containing 6 green and white pills with the marking of S489, dexamfetamine, a controlled substance. The backpack also contained more red

plastic containers, hundreds of glassine envelopes, and three scales all with residue all consistent with drug sales. \$1,679.00 was recovered from defendant's pants and hoodie pocket. The complainant positively identified the defendant by photo array.

November 16, 2025
Philadelphia Street - Defendant was parked at victim's home when victim did attempt to go inside and defendant did take victim's cell phone, did place victim in a choke hold preventing her from being able to breathe and did push her to the ground and punch her. This did happen in front of victim's child. Defendant was in violation of order of protection. Defendant repeated offense 11/17/25, with the intent to take the victim's phone and choked the victim, in front of said child.

November 15, 2025
Elgas Street - Defendant did shove and punch a 10 year old in the stomach due to thinking the child was stealing Skittles.

CLASSIFIED ADS IN THE BUFFALO ROCKET

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Listening device

4 Wrestling style

8 Wax-coated cheese

12 Cagers' gp.

13 Jannings of old films

14 Showroom model

15 Cheek

17 Pleased

18 Sports venues

19 CEO's deg.

21 Cowboys quarterback Prescott

22 Equivalence

26 London —

29 Allen or Tebow

30 "Kitchy- —!"

31 Ore deposit

32 Madrid Mrs.

33 Small bell sound

34 '50s president

35 Layer

36 Speakers' platforms

37 Chasteness

39 Fixed

40 Search for gold

41 Salad choice

45 Designer Wang

DOWN

1 Tolkien creatures

2 Help a hood

3 Hindu hero

4 — number

5 Inuit boat

6 Cambridge sch.

7 Dukakis of "Moonstruck"

8 Mystery writer's award

9 N.J. neighbor

10 "I — Rock"

11 '60s chic

16 "Frasier" pooch

20 "Kapow!"

23 "— you not!"

24 "Sula" author Morrison

25 Meditative practice

26 Radar image

27 Video-streaming brand

28 Baltic Sea

29 Attempt

32 Fox's trait

33 Tribal emblem

35 Sch. fundraising group

36 Gems from oysters

38 Apple tablets

39 Berate

42 Ninny

43 Fermi's bit

44 Deli loaves

45 Cistern

46 Punk rock offshoot

47 Shred

49 "The Matrix" hero

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Answers on page six.

MAGIC MAZE • AIRLINE LINGO

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: **Have Your Boarding — Ready**

Agent

Aircraft

Arrival

Baggage

Cabin

Carrier

Departure

Duty-free

Gates

Inbound

Layover

Non-stop

Outbound

Stopover

Tarmac

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Answers on page six.

FREE PIZZA: Nanna Tyson, 262 Saranac Ave. Apt. Lowr., 14216

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

© 2025 King Features Synd., Inc. Answers on page six.



If We Both Collect Social Security, Will Our Benefits Be Affected? - Ask Rusty

Dear Rusty: I reached full retirement age back in June, but I have not yet filed to collect Social Security. My husband currently collects SS funds, and he waited until he had reached full retirement age a few years ago. I am considering signing up now to receive my funds, but I am a little confused about whether I will receive my full benefit or is there some kind of adjustment made based on both of us collecting?

We are a simple case. We have been married for 46 years, so there are no other exes involved in this equation. He did everything on-line when he was ready to start receiving his funds, but we didn't consult with any advisor when my husband claimed. Now I think that adding me as a spouse might trigger some other things I should consider. Thank you for your advice. **Signed: Concerned Wife**

Dear Concerned: Since you and your husband have both reached your respective SS full retirement age (FRA), you are both entitled to receive your full benefits without any reduction. And since you haven't yet filed, you are now accumulating Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) at the rate of .667% additional benefit for each month you continue to delay. You will get your full SS retirement benefit (plus any earned DRCs) when you claim. The only question you need to consider is whether either you or your husband will be entitled to a "spousal boost" (an increase) when you claim.

If the SS retirement ben-

efit you were entitled to at your FRA is less than 50% the amount your husband was entitled to at his FRA, then you will get a "spousal boost" on top of your own SS retirement amount (the "boost" amount would be the difference between your FRA amount and half of his FRA amount). But if your SS amount at your FRA is more than 50% of your husband's FRA entitlement, then you will only get your own SS retirement benefit based on your own lifetime earnings record. Spouse benefits are always determined from each partner's FRA entitlement, and if one partner's FRA amount is less than 50% of the other partner's FRA amount, then a spousal boost will be given. And that also works if your FRA entitlement is higher than your husband's – if your FRA amount is more than twice your husband's FRA amount, then he will get a spousal boost from you. Otherwise, each of you will get only your personally earned SS retirement amount, and both of you collecting SS will not negatively affect each other's individual SS benefit.

FYI, the spousal boost amount stops growing at full retirement age, so if you are eligible for a spousal boost from your husband then you should claim your SS benefits now and ask for benefits retroactive to June (your FRA month). However, if you will

not get a spousal boost from your husband, you have the option of delaying even further and earning more DRCs (thus a higher monthly benefit). You can earn DRCs up to age 70, at which time you will get the maximum possible Social Security benefit (about 127% of your personal FRA amount if you delay that long).

Senior TRIVIA

Pop Quiz
Test your knowledge!

- 1) Which country sold Alaska to the United States?
2. On which continent is the Sahara Desert?
- 3) Who created The Muppets?
- 4) What was singer Miley Cyrus' alter ego when she starred in a Disney sitcom?
- 5) How many sides does a heptagon (sometimes called a septagon) have?
- 6) Which singer is featured in the biopic "A Complete Unknown"?
- 7) What is carpaccio?
- 8) In "The Jungle Book," who raised the boy called Mowgli?
- 9) Where was Mork from in the sitcom "Mork and Mindy"?
- 10) What does the phrase "doubleplusungood" mean in Newspeak, featured in the dystopian novel "1984"?

Answers on page seven.

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Michael P. Kearns

Erie County Clerk

Guest Columnist

Erie County Clerk Mickey Kearns Issues Reminders to WNY Motorists

Every start to the winter season, we make the same promise, “this year will be different.” This year, we’ll be ready for whatever blizzard Mother Nature sends our way.

It’s hard to forget that November 10 years ago, when the City of Buffalo and the Southtowns were buried under the infamous “wall of snow” — a lake-effect storm that dumped up to six inches an hour and even brought thunder and lightning. While this fall has felt more like spring, we know how quickly things can change in Erie County. One day it’s mild and sunny, and the next we’re facing snow, ice, rain, wind or fog rolling off Lake Erie without warning.

Now is the time to prepare. Take a few minutes to review some simple winter driving tips and make sure your vehicle is stocked with emergency gear before the first big storm hits.

Not all drivers are ready for winter road conditions, so slow down and drive according to the environment. Stay alert, reduce your speed, and allow extra space between vehicles — poor visibility and slick roads make reaction time crucial. Brake early and gently to avoid skidding.

Before pulling out of

your driveway completely clear snow and ice from your windows, mirrors, lights, hood, and roof. Take extra care on ramps and bridges, which tend to freeze first. And remember while four-wheel-drive vehicles can help you get going, they won’t help you stop any faster — so don’t let a sense of confidence turn into overconfidence.

Keep your automobile in good condition. A well-maintained vehicle is a safer vehicle. Have your battery, ignition system, brakes, transmission, and tires checked. Make sure all fluids — especially de-icing washer fluid, oil, power steering, and antifreeze — are full. Replace or clean spark plugs and filters, and ensure all lights and signals are working properly. Familiarize yourself with your car’s safety features, such as traction control and anti-lock braking (ABS), which can help maintain control on slippery roads.

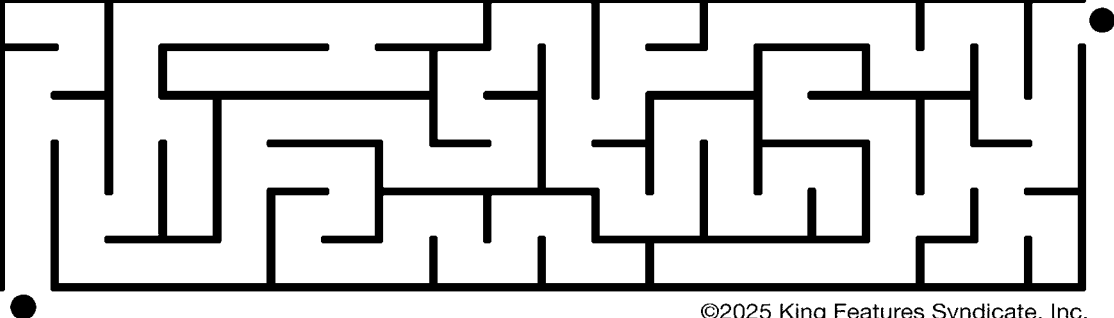
And remember this important rule of winter driving: don’t crowd the plow. Snowplow operators from the County, City, Towns, and State work hard to

keep roads open and safe. Give them space to do their jobs. Stay alert, be patient, and always keep a safe distance behind plows to avoid damage from flying salt or debris.

Winter driving can test even the most experienced motorists. Preparation and caution are your best defenses. Take it slow, buckle up, and stay safe on the roads this winter season.



Kids' Maze



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Answers on page seven.

ADOPT A PET

Sponsored By The Buffalo Rocket

This Week's Featured Friend: CANDY

OUR SHELTER IS OVERFLOWING WITH DOGS!

Because she is so sweet, the volunteers named her Candy. She loves all of the human attention and will beg for it unashamed. Candy is curious and inquisitive and will be your best buddy. Sadly Candy does not like other 4 legged furry babies so she is looking for a human only home; which is probably why she has been with us so long. So please share Candy with your friends and family who only want a 1 pet household. Please stop by Pets Supplies Plus on Delaware Ave in N Buffalo during regular business hours to see this darling girl (bring treats and become her new best friend). For more information contact Patty via text or call at 716-361-9452.

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://friendsofcas.org/adopt>

City of Buffalo Animal Shelter
380 N. Oak St. Buffalo
Buffalo_Shelter@yahoo.com

716-851-5694

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



SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Slate; 2. Seldom;
3. Galore; 4. Oblige

Today's Word

DOLLARS

Puzzle on page two.

FREE NORTH PARK PASSES: Robert Piccoli, 80 Ramsdell Ave., 14216

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at the following locations or online at www.buffalorocket.com

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7-Eleven.....460 Hertel Avenue
Aspire Dental.....476 Hertel Avenue
Bellamore Boutique.....3086 Delaware Avenue
Bertha's Diner.....1430 Hertel 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 Patisserie.....3062 Delaware Avenue
Finishing Touches.....2820 Delaware Avenue
Ginnane Funeral Home.....3215 Delaware Avenue
Gloria J. Parks Community Ctr.....3242 Main Street
Gramma 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
Johnny's Meats.....1191 Hertel Avenue
Knights of Columbus.....1530 Kenmore Avenue
Korona Jewelers.....1588 Hertel Avenue
North Buffalo Community Ctr.....203 Sanders Road

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 Urica
M&T Bank.....130 Grant Street
Military Coin Laundry.....1134 Military Road
Santasiero's Restaurant.....1329 Niagara Street

TIMON TOWERS

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
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Northwest Buffalo Community Ctr.....155 Lawn Avenue
Pat's Pizzeria.....544 Ontario Street
Pizza Bella.....1133 Tonawanda Street
Riverside Market.....740 Tonawanda Street
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The Grapevine

Afternoon Drive Host WEBR AM 1440 AND FM 105.3 is one of Buffalo's most iconic radio stations. We are celebrating our 100TH Anniversary in 2024 and would like you to join our family!! We are currently looking for an Afternoon Drive host to be on air from 2PM-6PM Monday-Friday. Bring your energy and ability to relate to our listeners. Experience preferred, but will consider someone who is willing to learn and take direction. College radio would be a big plus!! Great support with local ownership. Have fun, be yourself and grow at the same time!! Please email a recent air check to: Tony Venturoli, Program Director, WEBR AM 1440, FM 105.3. Email address is: ajthedj104@hotmail.com. Phone 716-481-8836.



Hertel Holidays: The Holiday Season is right around the corner, and Hertel is ready for another great experience! Join us December 5th and 6th for our Hertel Holidays Weekend event! Join us on Friday December 5th, starting at 6PM until 9PM, at St. Margaret's Parish, for the annual Tree Lighting, sponsored by councilman Feroletto. Get a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus! Then on Saturday get started on your holiday shopping on Hertel! Join us throughout the day for great deals and meals from the local businesses and restaurants along the street!



Shea's Performing Arts Center announced registration is now open for "Sing Your Story," a camp for students ages 10 – 17 running during the February school break. Through a song of their choice, students in this camp will explore their unique life experiences to create a personal monologue and sing their story. Under the guidance of Shea's lead teaching artist Alejandro Gómez, participants will develop their own ideas, lighting, and costumes, culminating in a one-of-a-kind performance where they are the star! Sing Your Story concludes with a community showcase on the Shea's Smith Theatre stage, celebrating each student's

creativity and voice. The week-long camp will run February 16 – 20 from 9:00AM – 4:00PM daily. Space is limited. The cost of the camp is \$250 for the week, with assistance available to those in need. To register, visit: <https://www.sheas.org/camps/sing-your-story/>.



Tim Bohen, author of Emerald Thread: The Irish in Buffalo, will give a talk entitled "How the South Buffalo Irish Shaped Our City and Nation" November 18th at the Cazenovia Neighborhood Library, 155 Cazenovia St., Buffalo, NY 14210. Bohen will share the inspiring stories of Buffalo's Irish men and women—politicians, writers, athletes, entertainers, journalists, military heroes, and philanthropists—who have shaped our community. From the first baseball World Series to the Battle of Midway, from the Stanley Cup to the Olympics, and even to Hollywood's bright lights and the halls of Congress, the South Buffalo Irish have made their mark on history and led the way. Don't miss this celebration of their extraordinary legacy. Free & open to the public. Call 716-821-0564 to reserve your seat.



Submit Your Community Event to
The Grapevine
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Erie County Department Of Health Urges Flu Vaccination As 2025–2026 Season Begins

Continued from page one.
recover," explained Dr. Burststein. "When making the choice to get a flu vaccine, remember that one dose will reduce the risk of serious illness or even a hospital stay for you or a family member."

Flu vaccines are widely available at:
Pharmacies
Primary care providers
Community health clinics

Most insurance plans cover flu shots at no cost. Uninsured individuals may qualify for vaccines at no cost through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program available at most medical offices or Vaccines for Adults (VFA) program available at ECDOH.

Last year's flu season saw an estimated 47 million illness, 610,000 hospitalizations, and 26,000 deaths, including a record 216 pediatric deaths nationwide. Seasonal influenza remains a serious, and preventable, health threat, particularly for:

Adults 65 and older, who are more likely to experience severe illness and hospitalization.

Pregnant people, whose immune and respiratory changes increase the risk of complications such as premature labor.

Infants under 6 months, who are too young to be vaccinated and rely on maternal antibodies for protection; children younger than 2 years old

People who are pregnant or who could become pregnant, and up to 2 weeks after the end of pregnancy

People who live in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities

People with chronic medical conditions – lung, heart, endocrine, blood, kidney, liver, neurological, and metabolic

including obesity (BMI of 40+)

People with a weakened immune system due to disease (such as people with HIV or AIDS, or some cancers such as leukemia) or medications (such as those receiving chemotherapy or radiation treatment for cancer, or persons with chronic conditions requiring chronic corticosteroids or other drugs that suppress the immune system)

People who have had

a stroke

Updates to published flu data trends from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are unstable and incomplete. Fortunately, the New York State Department of Health maintains robust and regularly updated state- and county-level data for laboratory-confirmed respiratory illness cases, respiratory illness hospitalizations and flu and COVID-19 vaccination rates.

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