

Christmas At The Buffalo Waterfront!



The Bills Mafia Sleigh in front of the Holiday tree at Ice at Canalside, 2025.

Happy Holidays from Buffalo Waterfront!

Buffalo was named the "most festive place to celebrate Christmas in the U.S." according to Travel + Leisure Magazine.

"There's snow place like a festive town around the holidays, and Buffalo, New York, has that Christmas spirit in droves. The upstate New York city was named the most Christ-

masy city in the United States by online crypto casino JB. The study, which the company shared with Travel + Leisure, lauded Buffalo for its hundreds of holiday events (up to 800) and typical December snowfall of more than 25 inches."

There's festive fun for the whole family in Buffalo during the cold winter months, no better time to come and embrace the chill

at the Ice at Canalside with a day of skating, ice bumper cars, curling, or cozying up in an igloo!

Starting on Saturday, December 13th, we're running 12 Days of Giveaways! Follow our Instagram to enter.

12 Days of Giveaways (cont.):

- 12/18 - Igloo Flash Sale (all reservations 35% off for one day)
- 12/19 - \$50 Paula's Gift Card
- 12/20 - Curling reserva-

Continued on page two.

Just for Kids Scholarship Announcement

Just for Kids School Age Programs is proud to announce its 2025–2026 Scholarship Program, which will award \$25,000 in scholarships to 25 graduating high school seniors across Western New York. Each awardee will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to support their continued education and career goals. Applications open December 5, 2025, and the deadline to apply is



January 15, 2026. Scholarship recipients will be announced by March 1, 2026. Offered in honor of the 25th anniversary of the Child-care Network of the Niagara Frontier, Inc., the non-profit that oversees Just for Kids, this scholarship initiative celebrates students who demonstrate leadership, service, and a commitment to lifelong learning — values that reflect the organization's mission to nur-

ture and empower youth both inside and outside the classroom. Scholarships may be applied toward a wide range of post-secondary pathways, including colleges and universities, trade and technical schools, apprenticeships, and certificate programs. Applicants must be high school seniors graduating from a school district that currently offers a Just for Kids School Age Program. Priority consideration will be given to students entering fields

Continued on page five.

Holiday Poinsettia Exhibit At The Buffalo Erie County Botanical Gardens

Poinsettia Exhibit Now - January 4, 10am-4pm

Included with admission!

The holidays are here, and so is our annual Poinsettia Exhibit! Step into the warm embrace of our tropical conservatory, filled to the brim with brilliant poinsettias of all sizes and colors. Allow the vibrant reds, magentas, pinks, yellows, and oranges to fill your heart with joy. This Western New York holiday tradition is sure to brighten your mood, and keep you

warm, as you explore our carefully curated collection of pretty poinsettias.

Poinsettias After Dark

Select evenings, 5-9pm

\$19/ticket | 50% off for members

Experience the magic of the holidays during Poinsettias After Dark! Thousands of twinkling lights will guide you through our magically illuminated greenhouses. See textures, shapes, and shadows that you've never noticed before as different colors bathe our

Continued on page six.

Memories

From the Buffalo Rocket archives

December, 1993. GLIMPSES OF AN IMAGINARY WORLD: A SELECTION OF MINIATURE ROOMS AND HOUSE...This and many more "Miniature Rooms and Houses," will be on display for all to enjoy at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, December 21st through to Jan 2nd.

Local Weather						
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18TH	FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19TH	SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20TH	SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21ST	MONDAY, DECEMBER 22ND	TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD	WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
Partly Cloudy High 52° Low 37°	Rain/Snow High 44° Low 22°	Cloudy High 39° Low 25°	Partly Cloudy High 28° Low 20°	Mostly Cloudy High 30° Low 27°	Snow/Rain High 38° Low 28°	Mostly Cloudy High 31° Low 26°

FREE PIZZA: William Kulp, 258 Taunton Pl., 14216

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

Christmas At The Buffalo Waterfront!

1/2 - Harry Potter Night


Ring in the New Year at the Ice with us by celebrating new experiences! Partake in a fitness class with Every Body Plus Barre + Pilates Fusion. Class participants will be entered to win a free month membership.

For more information or to get in touch with an event manager to help plan your event, send an email to info@buffalowaterfront.com



Festive fireworks at Ice at Canalside.

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Bob Schreyer

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!

Convey

RAMPIT_____

Scrub

LANCE_____

Foe

MEENY_____

Flaxen

BOLDEN_____

TODAY'S WORD

“ He’s a model husband — unfortunately this model happens to be a _____ ”

Answers on page five.



The Blotter

Felonies

From "D" District

Thief Arrested For Stealing Amazon Package On West Delavan

North Buffalo
December 15, 2025
Delaware Avenue - Patrol was traveling southbound on Delaware Avenue and the officer did catch New York registered vehicle traveling northbound on Delaware Avenue. Patrol did follow vehicle which is stolen to 256 Oxford Avenue. Defendant was observed in the driver seat of stolen vehicle.

December 14, 2025
Amherst Street - Defendant was in store and did pass all points of purchase with \$116.00 in stolen merchandise.

December 13, 2025
Delaware Avenue - Complainants stated defendant did come over to their apartment intoxicated and started a verbal altercation which turned physical. Defendant did strike both complainants with his hands causing bruising on chest and did pull her hair causing pain. Defendant did strike hand causing small laceration and pain.

December 12, 2025
Kensington Avenue - Defendant traveling westbound in the Kensington Expressway Route 33 and did fail to use designated lane and did strike and collide into sand barriers at the Kensington Expressway and Scajaquada Expressway split. Defendant did have slurred speech glossy/droopy eyes and poor motor skills showing signs of intoxication. Defendant did refuse roadside SFSTS. Defendant did also refuse breath test at AIV office. Defendant previously convicted of DWI.

West Side
December 15, 2025
West Delavan Avenue - Complainant reports that the defendant did come up to the front porch without permission and then did take without permission an Amazon package in which contents are worth around \$38.00 from 657 West Delavan

Avenue. An empty package was observed in a New York registered vehicle in trunk which defendant was driving. Defendant admitted to taking the packages.

Riverside
December 12, 2025
Elmwood Avenue - Officers did respond to an accident with injury call at 2079 Elmwood Avenue. Officers arriving on scene did observe two vehicles with damage pulled into the parking lot of 2090 Elmwood Avenue. The first vehicle, a white Chevrolet Equinox, had 5 occupants, all complaining of whiplash injuries from the accident. The second vehicle, a gray Toyota Corolla bearing New York registration.

Defendant was intoxicated.

December 12, 2025
Court Street - The defendant did with the intent to cause serious physical injury did cause such physical injury by holding the victim under water causing him to stop breathing and remained unconscious. The defendant did attempt to cause the death of the victim by means of holding him under water until he stopped breathing rendering the child unconscious.

December 12, 2025
Ross Avenue - Defendant did threaten to break victim's glasses. Defendant is in violation of stay away order of protection.

December 12, 2025
Ross Avenue - Defendant did go to the porch of 98 Ross and did bang on the door window using fist, causing damage to same (estimated \$200.00). Defendant did agree to pay for damage within a week and has not done so.

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RENTSELL

an Apartment

FILL a Job Vacancy

RENTSELL

an Apartment

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King Crossword

ACROSS
1 Train alternative
4 Tease
7 Former frosh
8 Wyoming's — Range
10 Valerie Harper sitcom
11 Eventually
13 Play dough?
16 Observe
17 Concepts
18 Sailor
19 Peevish fit
20 Hardy lass
21 Winner's gesture
23 Seaboard
25 Sneaky laughs
26 Mediocre
27 Actress
28 Flinch, say
30 Gratuity
33 Work week start, for many
36 Some Algonquians
37 Smidgens
38 Where the action is
39 Family
40 Chang's brother

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41 Solo in space
9 City on the Loire
23 Couturier Chanel
10 Apt. divisions
24 African bird
25 Scene stealer
26 "The Metamorphosis" protagonist
28 Asian noodles
29 Gawking at
30 Giant
31 — uproar
32 Film ratings
34 Challenge
35 The Big Easy acronym

DOWN
1 Trailblazer Daniel
2 High hairstyle
3 Giving form to (Abbr.)
4 Uganda neighbor
5 Things
6 Nitwit
7 Loafer, for one
8 Apartment sign
12 Breadmaking need
14 Norse god
15 Decade parts (Abbr.)
19 Serena, to Venus
20 Eastern "way"
21 Snake poison
22 "The Woman in Me" singer Twain

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Answers on page six.

MAGIC MAZE ● — STICK

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

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

Big Bread	Chop Cue	Measuring Pogo	Swagger Swizzle
Candle	Drum	Popsicle	Walking
Chap	Fiddle	Slap	

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Answers on page six.

FREE PIZZA: Ashley Setaon, 132 Sterling Ave., 14216

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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Why Won't Social Security Give Me My Benefits? - Ask Rusty

Dear Rusty: I called the Social Security office, as well as went with my husband when he went to collect his Social Security. Because I work full-time (at about \$800/week), they said I could not file for my Social Security. Yet I seem to read articles all the time about people doing so.

My husband just filed for his benefits and is now collecting them. Out of the two of us, his Social Security will be larger. Please advise me. **Signed: Wanting my Benefits**

Dear Wanting my Benefits: If you have not yet reached your SS full retirement age (FRA) and you are working full-time, you are likely being affected by Social Security's Annual Earnings Test, which limits how much you can earn while collecting Social Security prior to your FRA.

Your FRA is somewhere between 66 and 67, depending on when you were born. The annual earnings limit for those collecting SS benefits prior to FRA in 2025 is \$23,400 (changes yearly) and, if that is exceeded, Social Security will take away benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit. If you applied for your benefits and are still working, and were denied, it's likely because Social Security determined that your current annual earnings considerably exceed the earnings limit and, thus, you cannot collect

benefits. That's because the penalty for exceeding the limit would be more than your benefit amount. FYI, the earnings limit will go away when you reach your full retirement age, so after FRA, you can claim your benefits even if you are still working. Or if you stop working before your FRA, you can collect your SS benefits at that time.

None of this means you are losing money, because your monthly SS payment will continue to grow until you later claim (e.g., after you stop working, or only work part-time), or until you reach 70 years of age. When you later claim, your monthly benefit will be higher, and depending on your longevity, you may recover what you didn't get now because you are working. And that includes both your own SS retirement benefit and any spousal boost you may be entitled to from your husband.

So, my suggestion is this: as long as you are working full-time and exceeding Social Security's annual earnings limit, continue to wait to claim your Social Security. Then, when you reach your full retirement age (again, between 66 and 67, depending on the year you were born), or if you stop working before that, go ahead and apply for Social Security again. At that time, your application will be approved, and you will be awarded your own earned SS retirement amount plus any additional amount you may be due as your husband's spouse. To be entitled to a spousal boost from your husband, your own FRA entitlement must be less than 50% of your husband's FRA entitlement. But the amount you get will be reduced if you claim before your full retirement age.

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-dvisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Senior TRIVIA

Pop Quiz

Test your knowledge!

- 1) Who was the first left-handed president?

- 2) What country is home to the largest cave in the world?

- 3) Who is the voice of Buzz Lightyear in the "Toy Story" movies?

- 4) Who was the first emperor of Rome?

- 5) In what city is James Joyce's novel "Ulysses" set?

- 6) What is the name of Data's cat on "Star Trek: The Next Generation"?

- 7) What is an exploding star called?

- 8) What kind of cloud is associated with thunderstorms?

- 9) Which states have no sales tax?

- 10) What is the function of the carotid arteries?

Answers on page seven.

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ADOPT A PET

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This Week's Featured Friend: ZEBRO

OUR SHELTER IS
OVERFLOWING WITH DOGS!

Meet Zebro! This boy of about 2-3 yrs of age has been patiently waiting to go up for adoption and now, he is ready to find his forever home. Zebro is itching to get out of his kennel and embrace the world with his human pal. He can be strong on leash so he is working on his leash manners which will continue to improve better in a home, with guidance and continued training. Volunteers have been spending time with him to start the process. Zebro has a very affectionate side to him, and does love to be close to his person. He knows how to sit like a champ, and takes treats quite nicely. He also will have some fun with a toy of his choice, and can engage in some fetch and fun time, which is so important for many dogs.

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://friendsolcibas.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>



Northwest Buffalo Beat

By Dave Gallagher AKA Joe Bortz

Hanna



Hanna, my housemaid.

Since my wife passed away four years ago, being that I have a house bigger than I need, I have had to hire cleaning people to help keep it clean. We did have a cleaning lady who would come periodically even when my wife was still alive. I did have her come but really was not

satisfied with her work. The last time she came she brought her husband to help as she said she was too tired. So, I looked for another cleaning person and ended up with a once-a-month cleaning service. Different cleaning people every month and not so good. One person they sent worked for about one and a half hours, you must pay for three regardless and was leaving without vacuuming the rugs. Seven rooms with rugs and having just returned from five months in Florida, the rugs needed cleaning. I asked why she did not do the rugs and her answer was "They looked clean". Problem is, down in Florida I have a much smaller house and a Mexican lady who cleans. I mean she cleans. She kind of spoiled me as now that

is what I expect from a person hired to clean. I did not get that up north from my American born cleaners. The difference was significant. So now comes Hanna.
Being that I insist on living in my house and being as I am old, I do need assistance. My one daughter, who is always at my side, suggested I get a helper once a week. Since I was able to function alright I kind of fought it for whatever reason. My daughter happens to oversee a school that teaches refugees to speak English. Refugees are escaping some form of disaster where immigrants come out of choice. My daughter had met a woman who was from Ukraine and was looking for a one day a week job to fill her schedule as she worked the other four. I met her and decided to give it a try.
Little background into Hanna. She had 12 kids, six of her own and six adopted. Tells what kind of woman she is. Her husband was in the construction business and had built a beautiful house in eastern Ukraine for the family. Then the Russians invaded and took their house. They had nothing left. So, the family that was still home escaped to the US as refugees. The one son is in the Ukrainian army fighting the Russians, the older married children fled to Western Ukraine and are still there.
So now Hanna comes once a week and helps me with housework. Laundry, bedding and cleaning. The work ethics between non-Americans and Americans is staggering. At least in this capacity. I have had both. Now I am spoiled and want a Hanna in Florida. A once-a-week helper. I like being fussed over. Especially at my age. Imagine working your life for something and then having it taken away? God Bless America. Appreciate what we have.

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Just for Kids Scholarship Announcement

Continued from page one. that strengthen the Western New York community, including early childhood education and childcare. "We're honored to invest in the next generation of changemakers," said Kristina Kleeh, Executive Director of Just for Kids. "Whether their journey leads to


college, a skilled trade, or a career in childcare, we want every student to know that their goals matter — and that our community believes in them." Full program details, eligibility criteria, and the scholarship application are available at www.justforkidsonline.org/scholarship.

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Kids' Maze

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Answers on page seven.

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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
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
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

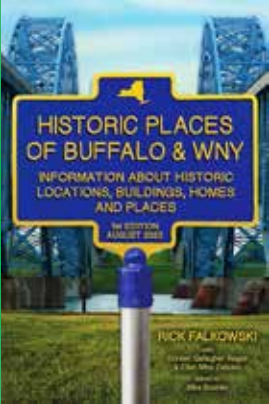
West Market.....1032 West Avenue
West Side Community Center.....Vermont at Fargo

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

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THE "BUFFALOVERS" IN YOUR LIFE!



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A trip down memory lane for those who miss home....

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.



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/>.



Kenmore Branch Library: Local author to hold book talk and signing event at Kenmore Branch Library, Kenmore, NY on Saturday, December 20 from 1 – 3PM. Last Boat to Freedom is a powerful testament to resilience,

perseverance, identity, and the enduring power of a single choice. Born on the island of Zanzibar off the coast of East Africa and coming-of-age through the bloody Zanzibar revolution and genocide of the 1960s. As a teenager, he fled his homeland under the cover of darkness as a stowaway with only 300 shillings and a passport and began a daring journey of perseverance and survival. He spent many of his formative years writing his thoughts on what had transpired during that journey that would eventually make their way into his story. More than fifty years later, Last Boat to Freedom, his debut book, provides readers with a passionate and inspiring first person look into a childhood among the clove plantations of Zanzibar, the island's descent into darkness during the little-known Zanzibar revolution and the eighteen months of unforeseen events that followed his escape. It culminates with his personal journey full of obstacles, tragedy, and perseverance to find freedom and opportunity. Now living in the United States, he teaches at the University at Buffalo.



M&T Bank Presents Third Thursdays at the Buffalo Zoo will continue for one more Thursday in 2025 – December 18 – and three Thursdays in 2026 – January 15, February 19 and March 19. To participate, guests will need to reserve their free tickets online before arriving at the Zoo. Tickets can be reserved at mtb.com/ThirdThursdays. There will be a limit of 10 tickets per group, with timed ticket entry still available between 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. While tickets are honored all day, visitors are asked to arrive at the time they signed up for. Special programming on November 20 will feature several Zoo-keeper Talks including: 11 a.m. – Snow Leopard Keeper Talk at the Vanishing Animals North Exhibit 12 p.m. – Tawny Frogmouth & Wallaby Keeper Talk at the EcoStation Exhibit 2 p.m. – Bison Keeper Talk at the Bison Exhibit Current members of the Zoo are always admitted, even in the event of a "Third Thurs-

day" sellout. Please note that rides, concessions and parking are not included in the free admission. As the Buffalo Zoo marks its 150th anniversary this year, the M&T Bank Presents Third Thursdays at the Buffalo Zoo program adds to the Zoo's ongoing celebrations, which are taking place through December 2025. M&T is a longtime partner of the Buffalo Zoo and remains the lead sponsor of the M&T Bank Rainforest Falls exhibit. To learn more about the Buffalo Zoo and its latest special events, visit buffalozoo.org.



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



Holiday Poinsettia Exhibit At The Buffalo Erie County Botanical Gardens

Continued from page one. plant collections in a whole new light. Escape Buffalo's cold winter nights and enjoy a charming and calming evening at the Botanical Gardens.

Horticultural Heroes
December 19 - March 1, 10am-4pm

Included with admission!

The Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens welcomes you to enjoy an extraordinary collection of diverse and visually striking portraits in Horticultural Heroes, in our Arcangel Gallery. This collection of works pays homage to the groundbreaking contributions of thought leaders in the world of gardening, botany, horticulture, agriculture, and conservation. Each portrait masterfully cap-

tures the essence of these Horticultural Heroes, celebrating their tireless commitment to advancing plant knowledge, fostering community, fighting injustice, and championing the preservation of vital ecosystems.

Through the expressive strokes and artistic ingenuity of the creators and artists, viewers are invited to discover the stories and legacies of these influential figures, both familiar and unsung, who have shaped the world of horticulture throughout history. This exhibition serves as a vibrant tribute to the trailblazers who have left their mark on the world of horticulture, offering an enriching experience for all who appreciate the beauty and significance of art and nature.



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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF ERIE

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCAF ACQUISITION TRUST,
-against-
MICHAEL S. HANSON, ET AL.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Erie on November 6, 2025, wherein U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCAF ACQUISITION TRUST is the Plaintiff and MICHAEL S. HANSON, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the "CLOSING ROOM" OF THE ERIE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, 92 FRANKLIN STREET, FIRST FLOOR, BUFFALO, NY 14202, on January 20, 2026 at 10:10AM, premises known as 130 STOCKBRIDGE AVENUE, BUFFALO, NY 14215; and the following tax map identification, 79.79-5-15.

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATED IN THE CITY OF BUFFALO, COUNTY OF ERIE AND STATE OF NEW YORK

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: 813353/2024. Courtney DonahueTasner, Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. *LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.

CLASSIFIED

LEGAL

Notice of Formation of Buffalo Digital Press, LLC, LLC Articles of Org. filed with the Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/29/25. 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 David Pinero: 188 W. Ferry St. Upper, Buffalo, NY 14213. Any lawful purpose. 2

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ERIE; Index No.: 807346/2025 Filed April 25, 2025 PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION V. UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JUDITH A. CIPOLLA A/K/A JUDITH ANN CIPOLLA ; JANET PATTON, AS DISTRIBUTE; MARLENE PACIORKOWSKI, AS DISTRIBUTE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA O/B/O INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the Subject Property described in the Complaint, PUBLICATION TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JUDITH A. CIPOLLA A/K/A JUDITH ANN CIPOLLA ; YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Amended Complaint in the above captioned action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the Plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner than by personal delivery within the State.

The United States of America, if designated as a Defendant in this action may answer to appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this Summons and Amended Complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the publication and protect your property. Sending payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. To the above named defendants: The foregoing Publication is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Hon. Michael A. Siragusa J.S.C, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of N.Y., dated December 2, 2025 and filed along with the supporting papers in the Erie County Clerk's Office. This is an action to foreclose a mortgage on the property located 91 Bedford Avenue , Buffalo, NY 14216 Section: 89.06 Block: 01 Lot: 35 Erie County is designated as the place of trial based upon the location of the property being foreclosed. Attorneys for Plaintiff: STERN & EISENBERG, PC, 20 Commerce Drive, Suite 230, Cranford, NJ 07016 T:(516) 630-0288. 2

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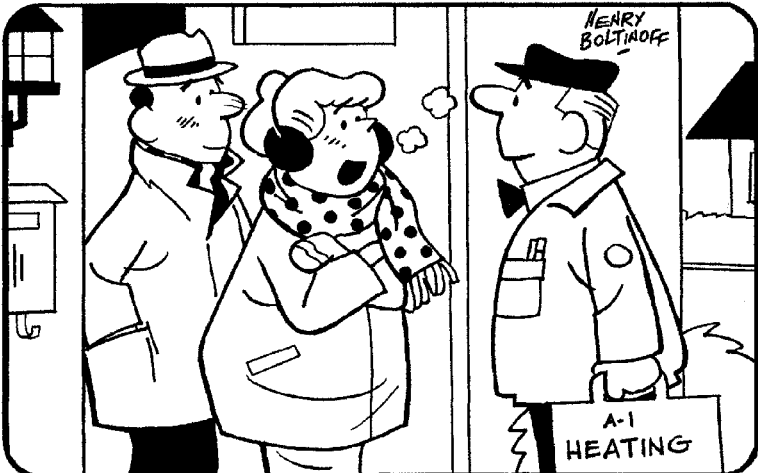
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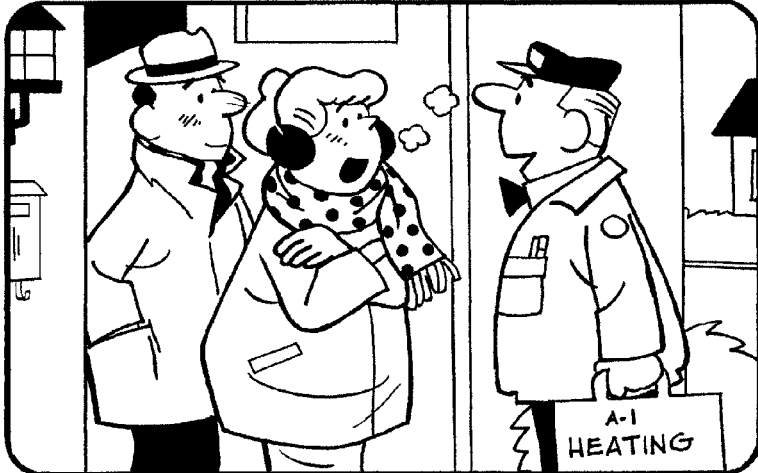


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

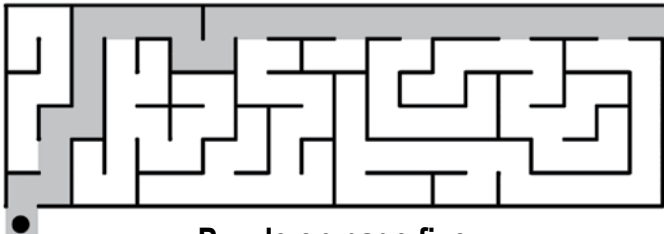


Differences: 1. Mailbox is smaller. 2. Patch on sleeve is higher. 3. Mouth is open. 4. Roof is smaller. 5. Cap is different. 6. Mitten is missing.

GAMES

1. James Garfield. 2. Vietnam. 3. Tim Allen. 4. Augustus. 5. Dublin, Ireland. 6. Spot. 7. A supernova. 8. Cumulonimbus. 9. Five states have no sales tax: Alaska, Delaware, Montana, New Hampshire and Oregon. 10. They supply oxygen-rich blood to the face, neck and brain.

Kids' Maze Solution

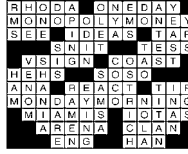


Puzzle on page five.

King Crossword

Answers

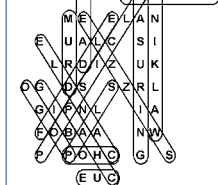
Solution time: 24 mins.



Puzzle on page three.

STICK

Answers



Puzzle on page three.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Puzzle on page three.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Rocket; 2. Devour; 3. Brain; 4. Escort

Today's Word

BREAK

Puzzle on page two.

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