

Buffalo Rocket

COMMUNITY NEWS

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St. Patrick's Day Parade



Photo credit: Visit Buffalo

The Valley Community Association presents 31st Annual Old Neighborhood St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 11:00 am.

The Valley Community Association (VCA) will present the 31st Annual "Old Neighborhood" St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 14, 2026. The parade will kick off at 11 AM from the Valley Community Center, located at 93 Leddy St. Buffalo, NY 14210. The streets around the parade route will close by 9 AM.

The parade will travel through the streets of the historic Buffalo River Community including South Park Avenue, Smith Street, Elk Street, Hamburg Street, and South Street.

With approximately 100 marching units anticipated, the "Old Neighborhood" St. Patrick's Day Parade is

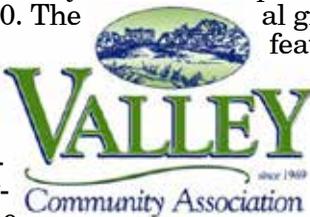
one of Buffalo's biggest celebrations. Contingents will include bands, floats, Irish dancers, social clubs, classic cars, family units, fire and police departments, and much more.

Immediately following the parade is the traditional grand Irish "Hooley" featuring live music by "Russlett; The Rogues", food, and drinks. The "Hooley" runs from 12:00 pm-4:00pm at the Valley Community Center.

The Parade and Hooley serve as a fundraiser for the VCA's services and programs. The VCA offers affordable, nurturing, and educational child care for ages 6 weeks and up, as well as programs to promote ac-

ademic enrichment and recreation among school age youth. The VCA also offers programs to support socialization and wellness for senior citizens and provides family support services such as a food pantry and assistance navigating human service systems. The VCA is dedicated to enhancing the community through events and neighborhood beautification projects such as the Buffalo River Fest Park, Mutual Riverfront Park, and the Valley Nature Park and Habitat Trail.

For more information regarding any of the Valley Community Association's St. Patrick's Day activities, contact Denise at 716-823-4707 ext. 4, or "like" the Valley Community Center on Facebook or Instagram.



Butterflies Returning To Botanical Gardens This Spring

The Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens announced that its Butterfly Experience will return this spring into summer from May 16 to July 19, 2026. Hundreds of live butterflies will take flight in the Tropical Orchard greenhouse. The live butterfly exhibit will be open

daily from 10:00am to 4:00pm, and a new Butterfly Release encounter will be available at a separate ticket price on select Saturdays. Tickets for the Butterfly Experience and the Butterfly Release are on sale now at buffalogardens.com. The Butterfly Experience is presented by

M&T Bank.

This spring and summer, the Butterfly Experience returns to welcome visitors near and far to immerse themselves into the winged world of butterflies inside the Botanical Gardens' historic conservatory. Visitors will be able to

Continued on page five.

18th Annual Edible Book Festival

Western New York Book Arts Center is proud to announce our 18th Annual Edible Book Festival, to be held at 468 Washington Street in downtown Buffalo on Saturday, March 28th, 2026 from 11am-2pm. We want to know: What does your favorite book taste like?

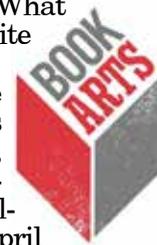
The Edible Book Festival is a family-friendly, international festival held annually on or around April 1, inviting participants to create EDIBLE creations inspired by a book. Edible Book creations are ranked by local 'celebrity judges' and the winning artist chefs are awarded with surprise prizes. Then we eat our words! All are welcome to partake in eat-

ing the books after winners are announced.

Create an Edible Book for YOUR chance to win prizes! Registration is OPEN until Friday, March 27th (9pm) to enter a 100% edible & handmade Edible Book. Community members of all skill levels and ages are encouraged to submit.

We have two age categories, 'Youth & Family' and 'Adult.' The submission fee is \$8 (\$5 for Book Arts members). Those who submit an Edible Book to the contest receive two free admissions.

Admission to the event is \$5 (\$3 for members of Book Arts). Purchase tickets at the door or pre-purchase admission tickets online. Children under 5 are FREE!



WNY BOOK ARTS CENTER

Memories

From the Buffalo Rocket archives



March, 1994. THE NEW BOARD...The Hon. H. Buswell Roberts, chief city court housing judge, swears in the new officers of the North Buffalo Community Center. Pictured above are Stan Malkinsky, Frank Gizzo, Mark Foley, Linda Kaiser.

Local Weather

THURSDAY, MARCH 12TH



Partly Cloudy
High 35°
Low 26°

FRIDAY, MARCH 13TH



Rain
High 42°
Low 26°

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH



Partly Cloudy
High 34°
Low 25°

SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH



Snow
High 22°
Low 11°

MONDAY, MARCH 16TH



Rain/Snow
High 47°
Low 18°

TUESDAY, MARCH 17TH



Mostly Cloudy
High 24°
Low 15°

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18TH



Sunny
High 29°
Low 22°

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PEAKY BLINDERS: THE IMMORTAL MAN Fri 3/13: (2:00), (4:30), 7:00 Sat 3/14: (2:00), (4:30), 7:00 Sun 3/15: (1:15), 3:45, 6:15 Mon 3/16: (2:00 OPEN CAPS), (4:30), 7:00 Tue 3/17: (2:00), (4:30), 7:00, 9:30 Wed 3/18: (2:00), (4:30), 7:00, 9:30 Thur 3/19: (2:00), (4:30)
 TWIN PEAKS (1990): Episodes 5 & 6 Fri 3/13: 9:30 Sat 3/14: (11:30am), 9:30 Sun 3/15: 8:45 Mon 3/16: 9:30
 PROJECT HAIL MARY Thur 3/19: 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.

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Royals Look For 3-PEAT!

The memories from last summer in Shoshone Park are still so fresh for TJ Marfoglia, the manager of the Rookie Boys Royals team in the then, Hertel North Park Youth Baseball League. Names like Ryne Rojas, Liam Roehl and Kealon Sinnott were just three players of his Kansas City team in North Buffalo, who won the Championship two years in a row.

For a League like North Buffalo Baseball Softball, that's pretty impressive for a team playing in any League today. But these boys were only six or seven years old at the time and they put together two seasons in 2024 and 2025 just like the L.A. Dodgers did in the Big Leagues by winning two Championships in a row! Incredible!

In his first year coaching in Shoshone Park, Marfoglia couldn't believe how players like Sinnott, Roehl and Hendrix Garcia, a natural Shortstop on this team put together a 9-2-1 record during the regular season, good for first place in the Rookie Boys Division and prepared for the Championship again.

"It was a great season for us last year," said Marfoglia earlier this week. "The boys were fantastic all season long, hitting the ball all over the place and knocking in teammates in every game. It was a thrill watching these guys put together their second Championship in a row."

The Rookie Boys Division in North Buffalo Baseball is probably the most exciting time for a young boy playing in Shoshone Park each year. These are players ages six

and seven just up from the many t-ball teams that start a boy or girl off in the League in any given year. After learning how to hit a ball off a T, running around the bases and cheering with their teammates, all t-ballers get ready to take the next step into Rookie Boys the next season.

There, all the boys and girls get selected to play on as many as 14 teams for the boys and close to 10 girls teams. They play twice a week once the season

starts, one night during the week and then on Saturdays. They wait for their pitch from the mound and take a mighty swing. If they strike out, well, then there's always next time.

The names of the teams are Angels, Astros, Athletics, Blue Jays, Guardians, Mariners, Orioles, Rangers, Rays, Red Sox, Royals, Twins, White Sox and Yankees. Because the Division is so huge, the League breaks the competition into two Playoff Brackets and the winner is decided by the number of wins in a double elimination tournament.

The defending Champ Royals defeated the Rangers last July in two very exciting games. Ryne Rojas made the play of the game defensively for the blue and white team as a third baseman against the Texas team. With the Rangers threatening late in the game, Rojas caught an infield fly near third base and proceeded to tag a Rangers player coming towards him for the third and final out of an inning.

"He's was just a great player for us all season," said Marfoglia. "He just

didn't get off to a great start this season and it was bothering him. He'll be back this year."

Liam Roehl swung the bat for the Royals all season long and was a key player for the Royals offense this season. "Whether he played Shortstop or Second Base for us, his defense in the middle of the diamond was great," said Marfoglia. Kealon Sinnott turned out to be the best player on the team. "He was hitting homeruns for us all season long and playing an awesome first base," Marfoglia added.

Other players on the team included Beau Dearlove, Hugo Derringer, Leon King-Roman, Dominic Linselman, Elliott Marfoglia, Emmett Trottier, Benjamin Reimann, Carlisle Reyes and Ethan Wilson.

"Emmett Trottier was our leadoff hitter for us and he usually got us going at the plate," said Marfoglia. He played well defensively near the pitcher's mound.

"I would like to thank my two assistant coaches who helped me last season, Nate Linselman and Steve Wilson. We couldn't have had the success we had without their help.

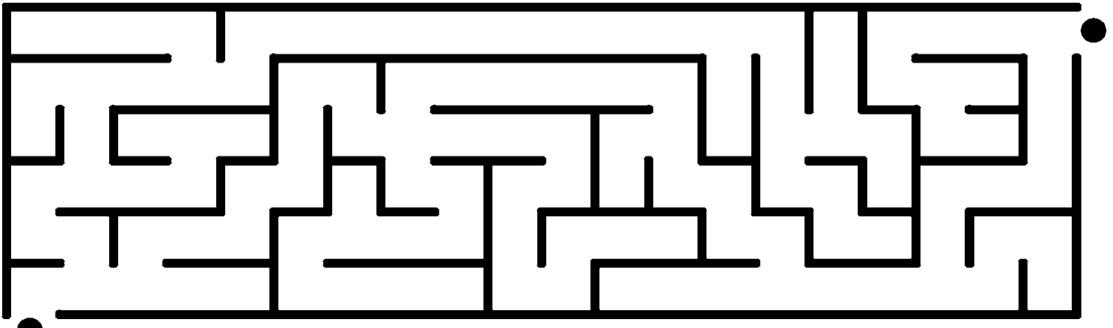
With St. Patrick's Day just around the corner, North Buffalo Baseball Softball (NBBS) is looking for a little luck with all the teams being sponsored this season on the backs of the jersey's that the boys and girls will all wear on Opening Day. If you still need to register, go to www.hnpy-bl.com and hit the registration tab on the home page. There's going to be 77 teams this season, all playing in Shoshone Park and they all want a Championship. See you there!

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Kids' Maze



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 Answers on page five.



The Blotter

Felonies

From "D" District

Assailant Assaults Victim With A Metal Grill Press

North Buffalo
March 10, 2026

Amherst Street - The defendant, after having been previously trespassed on 5/16/25, did enter 601 Amherst Street, Wegmans. While inside of the store he concealed merchandise and proceeded to leave without rendering payment. The approximate value of stolen merchandise was \$67.77. The supporting deposition was obtained at the time of the report by patrol officer and the defendant was identified by the complainant from previous incident.

March 10, 2026

Hertel Avenue - The defendant, along with two (2) unknown co-defendants, entered 1770 Hertel Avenue, Dash's Market. While inside of the store he concealed multiple packs of steak and left without rendering payment. The merchandise was valued at approximately \$90.00. The supporting deposition was acquired by detective and the defendant was identified by patrol officer.

March 8, 2026

Amherst Street - While in the kitchen area of 484 Amherst Street, Casey's Bar, the defendant repeatedly struck the victim with a metal grill press on his head. The victim suffered a concussion, required five (5) staples on the back of his head, had multiple lacerations and contusions throughout portions of his body as a result of the attack. The victim statement and video evidence were both obtained by detective.

March 8, 2026

Delaware Avenue - The defendant entered 2900 Elmwood Avenue, Aldi. While inside he stated to the victim, the store manager, "You don't have security, I should kill you right now." This statement caused the victim to fear for his safety and as a result is requesting an order of protection be put in place. The defendant was identified by patrol officer. Video of the incident as well as the supporting deposition were acquired by detective.

West Side

March 10, 2026

Hampshire Street - Officers did observe New York

registered vehicle traveling westbound on Hampshire Avenue with suspended registration. Upon stop defendant did open door to speak with officers with bags with white residue in door handle and white rock in door jamb. Search incident to arrest defendant did have clear plastic baggie with white rock between his legs he did hand to officer. Officer did also recover brown bag from center console with large bags of white residue, (2) bottles of cut from center console. Officer did recover approximately .75 grams black satchel bag from passenger floor board with clear plastic baggie

with white rock and cash. All submitted by patrol officer.

Riverside
March 9, 2026

Mayer Avenue - While in front of 44 Mayer Avenue, the defendant repeatedly struck, aided by an outstanding co-defendant stole a black Nike draw string bag containing personal items from the victim. The defendant was holding a white backpack with a black bottom, had his hand inside of it as to appear to be holding an unknown object and while tussling over the victim's bag, stated, "Drop it b****h or I'm gonna shoot you," implying that he was holding a gun inside of the bag. Both the defendant and co-defendant fled south on Mayer Avenue. The report was taken by patrol officer who also transported the victim to D-District where a statement was taken by detective. The incident took place while the victim was carrying her two (2) year old baby in a car seat style carrier.

CLASSIFIED ADS IN THE BUFFALO ROCKET

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Makes a choice
- 5 Pear-shaped fruit
- 8 "The Black Prince" author
- 12 High point
- 13 Hostel
- 14 Central point
- 15 "Citadel" actress
- 17 Only Chopra
- 18 Brooch
- 19 Rappers' improvisations
- 21 Signaled "Hi!"
- 24 - Bator
- 25 Battery fluid
- 26 Female royal
- 30 Roulette bet
- 31 Carried on, as war
- 32 Pickles on "Rugrats"
- 33 Inmate
- 35 Chorus syllables
- 36 "I dropped the fruitcake!"
- 37 How distant stars shine
- 38 Politico Nancy
- 41 Parcel of land
- 42 Latin 101 word

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18				19		20				
21	22	23		24						
25				26			27	28	29	
30				31			32			
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36				37						
38	39	40				41				
42				43	44			45	46	47
48				49			50			
51				52			53			

- 43 Archbishops, e.g.
- 48 Get overemotional
- 49 Slithery fish
- 50 Prime-time hour
- 51 Villa d' -
- 52 Tofu source
- 53 Bigfoot's cousin
- DOWN**
- 1 Antonym (Abbr.)
- 2 Capita lead-in
- 3 - chi
- 4 Used a Zoom alternative
- 5 Twain hero
- 6 Squid squirt
- 7 More knotted, as a tree
- 8 Harmonious
- 9 Leeway
- 10 Between jobs
- 11 Beholds
- 16 Help
- 20 Royal flush, e.g.
- 21 Get bent out of shape
- 22 Computer brand
- 23 Caesar's "I saw"
- 24 Implores
- 26 Primitive flutes
- 27 Wax-coated cheese
- 28 Ledge
- 29 Do in
- 31 Courts
- 34 Mollify
- 35 Lengthy list
- 37 - Perignon
- 38 Leaf
- 39 Flightless birds
- 40 Endure
- 41 Easter bloom
- 44 Classic car
- 45 Dead heat
- 46 Sinusitis doc
- 47 Six, in Sicily

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Answers on page six.

MAGIC MAZE ● IRISH —

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

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

- American Charms
- Coffee
- Dance
- Folklore Gaelic
- Luck
- Rebellion
- Republic Roots
- Sea
- Setter
- Stew Terrier
- Whiskey

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Answers on page six.

FREE PIZZA: J. Klein, 42 Duluth Ave., 14216

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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When Will I Get Full Credit for Delaying my SS Retirement? - Ask Rusty

Dear Rusty: The time is nearing that I want to move from my current Social Security survivor benefit to my own SS retirement benefit at 70 years of age. I have been looking more deeply into the application of Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs), and I have read that DRCs accumulated in the year that I turn 70 (September 2026) will not be effective when I actually turn 70. Rather, those DRCs won't be paid until the following year. Can you verify that this is correct? I presume that if the DRC's are not applied at age 70, that they will be applied sometime after the first of the year and any increase will

be paid retroactively. **Signed: Retiring Soon**
Dear Retiring Soon: The Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) you speak of have accumulated at the rate of 8% per year (.667% per month) since you reached your SS full retirement age (FRA), which means that at age 70 your monthly SS benefit will be about 129% of the amount you were entitled to at your FRA of 66 years plus 4 months. However, your understanding of how DRCs will work for you at age 70 is not correct. If you claim for your Social Security retirement benefits to begin in September 2026 (the month you turn 70) you

will receive all DRCs, you have accumulated up to that point in time. In other words, you will get your full age 70 benefit amount immediately, including all DRCs earned until then, effective with your first SS retirement payment (which you will get in October 2026). What you have likely read about is that DRCs work a bit differently for those who claim SS after their full retirement age, but before their 70th birthday month.

For those who claim mid-year but before age 70, only DRCs earned through the end of the preceding year are initially applied, and DRCs earned during the current year are not paid until the following January. This results in a loss of some SS benefit between the time benefits start and the following January, because only the amount earned as of the end of the previous year are first paid, and the full number of DRCs earned during the current year are applied in January. But, as is the case for you, when benefits are claimed to start in the month you reach 70 years of age, all DRCs earned up to the month of your 70th birthday are immediately applied.

Congratulations on selecting a strategy which will maximize your monthly Social Security benefit.

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 gov-

ernmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/so-

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

Kiwanis Club Of Buffalo

WWW.KIWANISCLUBOFBUFFALONY.COM



March 17, Tuesday 5:30pm - All members Zoom meeting

March 21, Saturday 1:00pm -

Gliding Stars Ice Show

Paddock Chevrolet Ice Arena
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Senior TRIVIA

Pop Quiz

Test your knowledge!

- 1) Who composed the opera "The Magic Flute"?
- 2) Who wrote the novel "Wuthering Heights"?
- 3) Which sport uses a shuttlecock?
- 4) What is the next prime number after 11?
- 5) Where is Pearl Harbor located?
- 6) Who is credited with inventing the World Wide Web?
- 7) What is the name for plants that live for two years?
- 8) What is Jack-Jack's real name in "The Incredibles"?
- 9) What does VPN stand for?
- 10) Which moon is the largest in our solar system?

Answers on page seven.

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"He hasn't spoken to me since I gave him _____ shoes for his birthday!"

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!

Trap: NEARS

Mature: PRINE

Smear: DUGEMS

Tend: RUNES

TODAY'S WORD

Answers on page seven.

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.

Reunion for ALL YEARS of Nativity of the BVM School on Albany Street in Buffalo will be held July 12th (from noon-5pm) at Buffalo River Grove (formerly Fontana's Grove)-2299 Clinton Street, Buffalo, NY 14227. Reservations are a must! RSVP by 6/30 to Rosie Mendolera at 716-881-1306.

Polka Lessons at Skoobs! Skoobs will be hosting Polka Lessons getting you ready for Dyngus Day! Wed. Evenings - March 11, 18, 25, 2026. Check-in 6:30 pm, Lessons 7-8 pm, \$10 a week, sign up for one or all four weeks. Call (716)983-5084 to register. Menu for drinks and dinner available. Skoobs is located at 50 Central Ave., Lancaster.



"Authors, Titles, & Talk," Tuesday, March 24, 2026, 6:30-8:30 pm: an evening of conversation with local authors Gary Earl Ross, Julie Berry, Chera Thompson, David Heraty, Frances Schmidt & James Costa at the Cazenovia Neighborhood Library, 155 Cazenovia St., Buffalo, NY 14210. Free & open to the

public. Call 716-821-0564 to reserve your seat.



St. Patrick's Day Music Fest: Rusty Nickel Brewing is happy to announce the return in collaboration with the Ebenezer Ale House, on Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 1:00 PM to 10:30 PM at 4350 Seneca St., West Seneca, NY. This year's festival is raising the bar by adding Irish Punk

Rock cover band, Gates of Steel, and Irish dancers from Harris-Grieco Academy. It will also welcome back another performance by the Greater Buffalo Firefighters Pipes & Drums. Tickets: \$19 Pre-Sale | \$22 Day-Of | \$96 VIP Tickets may be purchased online at www.eventcreate.com/e/stpatricksmusicfest For more details and ticket purchases, follow Rusty Nickel Brewing on social media or visit our website.

Butterflies Returning To Botanical Gardens This Spring

Continued from page one. get up close and personal with a flock of live butterflies, flying high, low, here and there. The experience allows the public to be surrounded by hundreds of butterflies that are native to the continental United States to capture the beauty and magic of the butterflies while also learning about the important role that pollinators play in their ecosystems. The experience will open on Saturday, May 16 and will be open daily from 10:00am to 4:00pm through Sunday, July 19, 2026.

Hundreds of bold and brightly colored butterflies will fly through the exhibit with various species like swallowtails, monarchs, painted ladies, red admirals, and many more. The 1200 square foot Tropical Orchard greenhouse will be home to the butterflies as well as dozens of fruit-producing and nectar rich plants and flowers for them to feed on. The space

will also feature a pupa display, known as an emergence case, that gives visitors an inside look at the beginning of their journey at the Botanical Gardens. Here, visitors will have to chance to see the butterflies emerge from their chrysalides as they make their way into their home.

For those looking for an even more up-close encounter with the butterflies, a limited number of tickets will be available for their new Butterfly Release encounters. This exclusive event offers early-access to the Botanical Gardens before they open to the public, and participants will learn about the butterflies, including their life cycle, their behavior, and their role in the ecosystem, and will end with the opportunity to help release a new butterfly into the exhibit. The Butterfly Releases will take place on May 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20, 27, July 11 and July 18 from 9:00am to 10:00am.

Pre-purchased tickets are highly recommended.

The Butterfly Experience is free for Botanical Gardens members, but all attendees must have a ticket. The overall visit time is expected to be between 1-1.5 hours. The expected time in the butterfly space will be approximately 15 minutes. This window will provide plenty of time to see the butterflies and capture the magic of this special experience with candid photos and selfies. While touching and holding the butterflies is not permitted, there is a chance that they briefly land onto visitors making for an exciting photo opportunity. The Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens also notes that their butterflies are sourced from USDA certified butterfly farms in Florida, Kentucky, and South Carolina. Their butterflies have been raised specifically for educational purposes. The Botanical Gardens has provided a full list of what visitors can expect, guidelines, policies and more at buffalogardens.com.

FREE NORTH PARK PASSES: S. P. Denny, 96 Chatham Ave., 14216

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