

Buffalo Rocket

COMMUNITY NEWS

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HAPPY 250TH INDEPENDENCE DAY!



The 4th of July is coming up this Weekend and the following events are guaranteed to get you into the patriotic spirit!

The Buffalo Waterfront will host two major events for the country's 250th anniversary this weekend of July 3-5.

Buffalo Waterfront, along with Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation, announced today that Independence Day weekend will see both the return of The World's Largest Rubber Duck — the six-story-tall waterfowl that last visited Buffalo in 2016 — and a summer night at the Outer Harbor's Terminal B with JoAnn Falletta and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, celebrating the spirit of America through music.

M&T Bank presents Sound & Sky on the Waterfront — July 3

From sweeping orchestral favorites to iconic Western New Yorkers can gather for a powerful celebration of America 250 on Friday, July 3, culminating in a glittering fireworks display over Lake Erie.

"There is something uniquely powerful about gathering by the water, with music as the backdrop and the city all around us," said Falletta, the BPO's acclaimed music director. "This concert is about coming together with friends, families and neighbors to share a summer night filled with energy, beauty, and connection. It is a celebration of Buffalo as much as it is a celebration of music."

The concert will begin

at 7 p.m., with fireworks immediately following at approximately 9:15 p.m. Tickets for this free performance are limited and available online, on a first-come, first-served basis. Foldable chairs will be permitted for this show but are subject to security inspection.

"A summer evening with a free performance featuring the incredible talent of the BPO is a can't-miss experience," said Michele Cicatello, marketing manager, Buffalo Waterfront. "Terminal B is the perfect place to take it all in and celebrate our country's milestone anniversary."

The World's Largest Rubber Duck at Canalside, presented by BuffaLove Apparel

The lawn at Canalside will also be bustling Independence Day weekend, with "Mama Duck" *Continued on page five.*

Shea's Buffalo Marks 100 Years

The celebration of Shea's Buffalo Theatre's 100th anniversary takes center stage again on Wednesday, July 8 at 7:30PM, when internationally acclaimed organist Richard Hills takes the bench for an unforgettable evening showcasing one of the theatre's most treasured icons, the mighty Wurlitzer organ.

The program will trace a musical timeline of the theatre's history, spotlighting Great American Songbook composers with selections spanning from 1926 to the present day, with special recognition of the artists and shows that have graced the Shea's stage.

The Mighty Wurlitzer was installed during the construction of Shea's Buffalo Theatre in 1925 and has entertained audiences for the last 100 years. Shea's Wurlitzer is one of the largest instruments built by the Rudolph Wurlitzer Company of North Tonawanda and remains one of the finest and best preserved in the country.

Shea's is delighted to welcome Richard Hills to Buffalo. Hills has had an esteemed education and career, winning numerous awards including 2010 'Organist of the Year' by the American Theatre Organ Society. Today, Hills is organist at St Mary's, Bourne Street in *Continued on page six.*



Memories

From the Buffalo Rocket archives



July, 1995. RICH PRODUCT CORPORATION CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY...Pictured above is a view of Rich's Buffalo World Headquarters, including the complex at 1150 Niagara St. and Rich Renaissance Niagara (left); and Robert E. Rich, founder and chairman of Rich Products, and Bob Rich Jr., president, celebrate 50 years of Rich Products' non-dairy topping innovations.

Summer City Fitness Returns For 11th Season

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield and the City of Buffalo today announced the return of its Summer City Fitness Series. This popular, free outdoor program



has been a cornerstone of accessible wellness opportunities for Buffalo residents for more than a decade, fostering a healthier and more active community.

Now in its 11th season, the series will again transform Johnnie B. Wiley Sports Pavilion (1100 Jefferson Avenue) into an outdoor fitness hub, offering *Continued on page five.*

Local Weather

THURSDAY, JULY 2ND



Thunderstorms
High 78°
Low 48°

FRIDAY, JULY 3RD



Thunderstorms
High 55°
Low 68°

SATURDAY, JULY 4TH



Partly Cloudy
High 70°
Low 56°

SUNDAY, JULY 5TH



Partly Cloudy
High 71°
Low 57°

MONDAY, JULY 6TH



Partly Cloudy
High 69°
Low 56°

TUESDAY, JULY 7TH



Mostly Cloudy
High 72°
Low 57°

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8TH



Partly Cloudy
High 74°
Low 60°



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BOOGIE NIGHTS [4K] (1997) Fri 7/3: 7:00 Sat 7/4: 7:30 Sun 7/5: 6:45 Mon 7/6: 7:00 Tue 7/7: (1:30) Wed 7/8: 9:20 Thur 7/9: (4:15)

TWIN PEAKS SEASON 2: EPISODES 4 and 5 (1990) Fri 7/3: 10:15 Sat 7/4: (5:00) Sun 7/5: (4:25) Mon 7/6: 10:15 Tue 7/7: 10:15 Wed 7/8: 7:00 Thur 7/9: 10:15

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SPORTS

By Bill Snyder

We've Arrived



After a Big win over the Royals Saturday afternoon in Shoshone Park, the Rookie Boys Athletics team of the North Buffalo Baseball Softball League all received trophies from their coaches for clinching first place in the 14 team Division. The players are front row, left to right Joe Snyder, Auggie Snyder, Miles Mach and Conlan Komosinski. Row two is Justus Woods, Thomas Bingel, Bennett Szymanski, Grady Trillo, Elias Mach and Robert Ryan. Coaches include Mark Szymanski, Sean Ryan and Brandon Woods.

Congratulations to the Green and Gold Athletics team in the Rookie Boys Division of the North Buffalo Baseball Softball League who became the first team to clinch first place in the Division and receiving beautiful trophies after beating a tough Royals team this past Saturday afternoon in Shoshone Park. The A's finished the regular season with a 10-1 record, their only loss coming to the Angels in early May.

Led by Justus Woods, Grady Trillo and Bennett Szymanski, the trifecta just made contact with the ball at home plate and led the offense all season long. Against teams like the Orioles, Blue Jays, Twins, Guardians and Rangers, the A's put together a seven game win streak just after Memorial Day and never let up on the opponent. Woods was awesome with the bat in his hands while other players like Robbie Ryan and Elias Mach made plays defensively around the diamond that kept the scoring low. Now, with just a week before the playoffs start, the A's look like the team to beat when it comes to the Championship in this Division.

It's almost time for the fireworks to start and all teams are getting ready for the Playoffs. All teams make the postseason in Shoshone Park, regardless

of how they finish. Even if a team has just one or two wins on their season, they'll play in the double elimination brackets that will be posted near the Chianta Fieldhouse. Here's a best wishes to all teams from this column, in advance.

Two weekends ago, June 19-21 the 17U North Buffalo Wildcats won the prestigious NY Inferno Steve Kuhn Memorial Showcase Tournament for the first time in the Park's history. It's the first Showcase Tournament that the Wildcats team has ever played and their first victory against teams from Rochester, Canada and even Olean NY.

"We've arrived," said Scott Gallivan recently to this column as the League's vice-president and the Director of Wildcat Girls Travel for a number of years. "This puts us on the map of WNY Softball as a force to be reckoned with in the

future. I'm so proud of these girls."

Against the host team NY Inferno in Garnett Park in Amherst, the Southtown Slammers and Smash it Sports, the Wildcats were the only "house" travel team in the ten team competition that saw the girls play and win four games in a row on Sunday to win the Tournament for the first time in its history.

The winning Wildcats include Clara Rickus, Brooklyn Hornung, MacKenzie Gunnarson, Izzy Kilonsky, Ali Foglia, Chloe Claeys, Skylar Ball, Peyton Gallivan, Shea Hall, Molly Savage and Lidia Foglia. They were coached by Gallivan and longtime coaches Kelly and Justin Kilonsky, Khris Foglia and Peter Savage.

"Nobody expected us to win this Tournament when we first started," continued Gallivan. "But I knew it and had confidence in the way they have played here in this Park, all these years. This is the best Wildcat team we've ever seen."

In other Park games, Regina Sozanski and the Shamrocks have won three of their last four games for a 5-6 record and a big win over the Rebels in Rookie Girls. Gabby Peak allowed just one run over five innings and helped the Griffs beat the Bruins 9-4 in Major Girls.

Sam Coranado struck out five Orioles on the mound to help lead the White Sox to an 8-5 win. Ben Wood had two big hits for the Triple AAA Mariners over the Yankees, 9-2. Gio Nichols cleared the bases for the Dodgers with a double and teammate Mateo Todtenhagen pitched two shutout innings for an LA victory over the Cardinals.

Finn Stamback and Emmet Trotter are on the mound for the Double AA Braves in a 5-3 victory over the Brewers. Jack Ramsey had two homeruns and teammates Jackson Sullivan and Omeir Cannan each had another homerun as the Blue Jays defeated the Twins, 12 -3 in Triple AAA Boys. Greyson DiPalma and Austin Lee both homered for the Mets in a 5-4 win over the Pirates. Happy 250th Birthday America!



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America's 250th In Western New York!

America's 250th birthday will be celebrated across the country this Independence Day, with various special events taking place throughout Western New York.

Here's how WNY is celebrating America's biggest birthday yet:

Buffalo Bills: The Buffalo Bills will host a game against the Cleveland Browns on Sunday, July 4, at 1 p.m. at Sahlen Field. The game will be broadcast on WNYT-TV and WNYT.com.

Canalside: The World's Largest Rubber Duck is returning to Buffalo's waterfront for July 4. Giveaways, pop-ups, music and vendors will be at Canalside from July 3 to 5.

Clarence: Music, games, concessions and fireworks will be held at Main Street Town Park on June 29 beginning at 4 p.m. Fireworks begin at dusk.

Depew: A concert, food trucks and fireworks display are happening at Fireman's Park on July 3. The concert kicks off at 7 p.m. with fireworks to follow at 10 p.m.

Dunkirk: A three-day-long event from July 2 to 4 will feature music and vendors. Fireworks will kick off at 9:30 p.m. on July 4.

East Aurora: A parade and concert is happening on July 3 with fireworks at 10 p.m. at Hamlin Park.

Ellicottville: Holiday Valley Resort will have live music and fireworks from July 3 to 5. Performances include Cami Clune, Hair Nation and more.

Grand Island: The 56th Annual Independence Day Parade starts at 10 a.m. on July 4.

Lancaster: A carnival from July 2 to 4 will have rides, games, live music and more. Entry is free. Click here to learn more.

Lockport: Activities are happening from July 1 to 4 with a concert, free hot dogs and drinks, a parade and fireworks at 10 p.m. at Outwater Park.

Marilla & Wales: The towns of Marilla and Wales are hosting a joint celebration including an America 250 carnival and variety parade. Click here for updates on their planned celebrations happening on July 4 and all weekend long.

Old Fort Niagara:

Battle reenactments are happening from July 3 to 5 to commemorate America's history.

Orchard Park: A parade begins at 8 p.m. on July 4 with fireworks to follow.

Pendleton: An all-day event on July 4 will feature fireworks, food trucks, music and a parade with a contest for the most patriotic float.

The Great Pumpkin Farm: A carnival from July 3 to 5 will feature games, food vendors and fireworks. Admission and parking are free, and tickets or wristbands can be purchased for rides.

Town of Tonawanda: Kenney Park will host food trucks, performances by the American Legion Band and fireworks

on July 2. Vendors include Sweet Melody's, Anderson's, Just Pizza and more. Click here for a full itinerary.

Cities of North Tonawanda, Tonawanda: A waterfront celebration at the Renaissance Bridge and Gateway Harbor will include fireworks, a balloon artist and more activities on July 4. Fireworks will start at dusk.

Fireworks Bemus Point: Start at 10 p.m. on July 4.

Niagara Falls State Park: Start at 10 p.m. on July 4.

Pendleton: Start at 10 p.m. on July 4.

Seneca Allegany Resort & Casino: Start around 9:40 p.m. on July 4.

Seneca Niagara Resort & Casino: Start around 9:40 p.m. on July 2.

Six Flags Darien

Lake: The park will host fireworks on July 4 after their laser light spectacular show.

The City of Buffalo will not have a dedicated sponsoring of a Fourth of July fireworks display.



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

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

Anthem	Flag	Music	Pride
Democracy	Food	Parades	Sacrifice
Festivals	Liberty	Patriotism	Unity
Fireworks	Loyalty	Picnics	

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Answers on page six.

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 "Chocolat" actor

5 Audio giant

9 Prune

12 Antioxidant berry

13 Egg

14 — budget

15 Plumbing problem

16 Firsties

17 TiVo precursor

18 Foolproof

19 Sch. URL ender

20 Borscht base

21 Sailing hazard

23 — Victor

25 Daughter of Muhammad

28 Lynx

32 "West Side Story" role

33 Prefix meaning "water"

34 Ocean bottoms

36 Grapevine talk

37 Chow down

38 "— was saying ..."

39 Scoff

42 Half of bi-

44 Sod

48 Napoleon's title (Abbr.)

49 Mideast gulf

50 Verifiable

51 Brit. record label

52 Get up

53 Perimeter

54 Lobbyists' org.

55 Pitch

56 Reddish brown

DOWN

1 June honorees

2 Beige

3 Two of a kind

4 Specialist in the heating/cooling industry

5 Grocery store

6 Roman poet

7 Outlying area

8 Ambulance letters

9 Zero, in tennis

10 Formerly

11 Section

20 Date night hire

22 D-Day beach

24 Some Pacific salmon

25 Passing craze

26 Chemical suffix

27 Gratuity

29 LP successors

30 NPR's Shapiro

31 Pinnacle

35 Recording site

36 Olympic swimmer

39 "M*A*S*H" vehicle

40 Tennis star

41 Grand tale

43 Legendary loch

45 Language of Pakistan

46 Carpets

47 Shoe fillers

49 Illustrations

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Weekly SUDOKU

5	7					8		1
8				3				
	1		5			3	7	
					2			
2	9			6				4
	5		3		1	2		
9					8			
7			4					2
			7	2			8	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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Why Doesn't My Social Security Record Show All My Military Earnings? - Ask Rusty

Dear Rusty: We could use guidance on optimum dates for my spouse to begin taking Social Security (SS). She doesn't have enough work credits on her own, so she will be using mine for spousal benefits. I was born in 1955, and I now get \$3,886 in monthly SS benefits. My wife was born in 1961. We currently receive about \$50,000 per year in royalties and VA disability payments that will stop upon my death. So, with that in mind, can you suggest optimum dates for my wife to claim, based on my projected death in early 2027 or early 2030? My wife is very healthy and will likely live beyond 2040. Of course no one can predict their own passing; these are just random dates I came up with based on probabilities with my health issues.

Signed: Planning Ahead

Dear Planning Ahead: First, I want to thank you for your military service. Whether your earnings while in the military would provide you with any additional Social Security benefit depends on your career earnings after leaving military service. Here's why:

Your monthly Social Security (SS) benefit is based upon the highest earning 35 years over your lifetime (with earlier years adjusted for inflation). From those highest earning 35 years, SS develops your Average Indexed Monthly Earnings (your lifetime "AIME") which is the basis of the SS benefit you get if you claim for benefits to start at your full retirement age (FRA). So, if – after you completed your military service – you had at least 35 years of other employment where you earned more money than you did while serving, then your military pay won't affect your Social Security benefit.

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curity (SS) benefit is based upon the highest earning 35 years over your lifetime (with earlier years adjusted for inflation). From those highest earning 35 years, SS develops your Average Indexed Monthly Earnings (your lifetime "AIME") which is the basis of the SS benefit you get if you claim for benefits to start at your full retirement age (FRA). So, if – after you completed your military service – you had at least 35 years of other employment where you earned more money than you did while serving, then your military pay won't affect your Social Security benefit.

FYI, Social Security payroll tax has been withheld from military pay since 1957, which is why your SS earnings record shows your military pay only for 1957 and 1958. Your SS record wouldn't show military pay prior to 1957 because you didn't contribute to SS from your military pay during those years. The earnings you see in your SS earnings record for 1954 are likely from non-military employment prior to starting active duty in October 1954.

SS does provide older veterans with "special extra credits for military service," but those credits are only a supplemental earnings amount added to your military pay record during the years you served. It is not a bonus amount added to your monthly Social Security payment; rather it is only an amount added to your military pay record used when calculating your Social Security benefit. For those who served prior to 1957, Social Security would have no record of your military earnings during those early service years. But when you claimed Social Security later in life, they would have asked if you served in the military and given you "special extra credit" in the form of presumed earnings for your service years. They likely asked for a copy of your DD-214 and would have added \$160 to your military earnings record for each active-duty month from October 1954 through December 1956, and additional earnings credits for 1957 and 1958.

But that doesn't mean you get a special Social Security bonus for your military service. If you have at least 35 years of civilian employment after serving in the Navy, your service years would only affect your SS benefit if those military service years were among the highest paying 35 years over your entire lifetime.

Senior TRIVIA

Pop Quiz
Test your knowledge!

1. Who was the only actress to appear in the 1961 and 2021 film versions of "West Side Story"?
2. Which month of the year has the most letters in its name?
3. What protects the Earth from solar winds?
4. What is the name of the bar in "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"?
5. Which state is home to the first Ben & Jerry's ice cream shop?
6. What are the names of the two brothers in the "Hardy Boys" novel series?
7. What is a polyglot?
8. Which herb is most often used in traditional pesto?
9. Membranes called pleurae cover the surface of which human organs?
10. What is the capital of South Korea?

Answers on page seven.

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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.



Grover Cleveland class of '76 50 year reunion celebration with two events (Pre-sale only) Friday, July 31 5 PM at Charlie's boatyard 1111 Furman Blvd. Buffalo, \$60 include buffet, tax and gratuity, cash bar. Contact MaryRose at 716-628-8632. Saturday, August 1, 3 to 5 PM Moondance catamaran ride 329 Erie St. (Erie basin Marina). \$30 Contact Adrienne at 716-866-8513.



Riverside Baptist Church (corner of Ross/Ontario St.) is having a Parking Lot Give-away on Saturday, 6/27/26 from 9am-2:30pm. All items are free of charge.



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Happy 250th Independence Day!

Continued from page one. and her 10-foot-tall Baby Duck, Timmy, landing at the downtown waterfront on July 3, in an encore to her memorable visit a decade ago.

"Born at Canalside, BuffaLove Apparel is especially excited to be part of welcoming the World's Largest Rubber Duck this summer and to continually join in creating moments that celebrate Buffalo, its people, and the heart of the city," said Patty Watson, owner of BuffaLove Apparel.

From July 3 to July 5, both ducks will be available for photo ops and general viewing. There will also be plenty of duck-related special programming and a festival atmosphere, including 25 golden ducks placed around the site that can be redeemed for a gift, plus food and beer trucks and family-friendly activities. A full schedule will be released in June and will include:

- Free Play Friday by Explore & More Children's Museum, featuring duck-related kids programming
- Duck sidewalk art
- Face painting
- Duck-themed family movies on the giant videoboard
- Rubber Duck giveaway, courtesy of BuffaLove Apparel
- Live patriotic music
- Duck merchandise and vendors

"The World's Largest Rubber Duck made plenty of fans on her last visit in 2016, and we're

thrilled to welcome her back, this time on land," Cicatello said. "It's an extra fun reason to visit

Canalside on one of the most festive weekends of the year."

Summer City Fitness Returns For 11th Season

Continued from page one. ing free weekly classes led by local fitness movement Body of Wealth. Classes begin Saturday, June 27, and continue every Saturday (excluding July 4) through September 5, from 9 to 10 a.m.

"Access to healthy activities shouldn't depend on your ZIP code or your ability to pay," Mayor Sean Ryan said. "Summer City Fitness gives Buffalo residents a free, welcoming place to get active, improve their health and connect with their community all summer long. I'm grateful to

Highmark for continuing to invest in the health and well-being of Buffalo residents, and helping remove barriers to wellness by making these opportunities accessible to all Buffalonians."

Over the past decade, Summer City Fitness has served thousands of participants across the City of Buffalo, consistently growing in popularity and drawing over 1,000 attendees in recent seasons. Each session includes a dynamic warm-up, a boot camp-style workout, an energizing electric slide dance cool-down, and inspiring closing moments focused on mental well-being—open to all ages and abilities.

"Summer City Fitness has grown into a truly extraordinary program, bringing our community together each summer to get active and prioritize their health," said Jessica Cox, president, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. "What makes this initiative especially impactful is how it goes beyond free fitness—connecting participants to meaningful resources that support overall well-being."

Participants will receive free fresh produce from Urban Fruits and Veggies and complimentary water provided by Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. Additionally, Neighborhood Health Center will be on-site throughout the summer, offering preventive health screenings and connecting attendees to essential care and community services.

Cox added, "As the only health plan based in Buffalo, we're proud to continue our longstanding partnership with the City of Buffalo and Mayor Sean Ryan to help build a stronger, healthier community."

All classes are weather permitting. For more information about Summer City Fitness and other City of Buffalo programming, please visit <https://www.buffalony.gov>.



HIGHMARK

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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	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	

AKG Announces Art Alive 2026

Today the Buffalo AKG announced that this year's Art Alive celebration, the beloved event's 30th anniversary, will take place on Saturday, October 10, from 2 to 5 pm, on the museum's Great Lawn. Join the museum for a special Art Alive as we celebrate 30 years of one of the Buffalo AKG's most beloved traditions!

SAVE THE DATE! Submissions are open from June 22 through September 10. Submissions can be made here.

Art Alive invites participants to bring works of art to life through creative, living re-creations of works from the AKG's collection and Public Art Initiative. These striking interpretations—known as tableaux—use people, costumes, props, and imagination to transform artwork into a three-dimensional experience. The competition is open to everyone, including students, families, community groups, organizations, and individual participants.

To mark this milestone anniversary, we're introducing an exciting new category: Edible Art.

Professional pastry chefs, bakers, and dessert artists are invited to recreate a work of art using cake, cupcakes, cookies, or other edible mediums. Guests will vote for their favorite visual design, while a panel of judges will award prizes for taste and execution.

This year's celebration shines a spotlight on the Buffalo AKG itself. Participants are encouraged to explore the museum's collection and Public Art Initiative for inspiration, offering fresh perspectives

on the artworks that make our institution unique.

More than \$4,000 in prizes will be awarded to the creators of the winning tableaux and edible art entries. Throughout the event, guests will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite tableaux and edible art creations, while a panel of local judges will select Best in Show winners in both categories.

Awards and prizes will be presented across the following categories:

- Best in K-8
- Best in 9-12
- Best in Individuals (17 & under)

- Best in Individuals (18+)
- Best in Households/Groups

- Best Tableaux
- Best Edible Art

The museum invites the entire community to join us as we celebrate 30 years of Art Alive. We will honor the artists, performers, bakers, and community members who continue to bring art to life in inspiring and unexpected ways.

About the Buffalo AKG Art Museum

Founded in 1862, the Buffalo AKG Art Museum is the sixth-oldest public art institution in the United States. For more than 160 years, the Buffalo AKG has collected, conserved, and exhibited the art of its time, often working directly with living artists. This tradition has given rise to one of the world's most extraordinary collections of modern and contemporary art.

In June 2023, following the completion of the most significant campus development and expansion project in its history, the Buffalo AKG opened anew to the public. The project was funded by a \$230 million capital campaign, the largest such campaign for a cultural institution in the history of Western New York, including \$195 million raised for construction and \$35 million in additional operating endowment funds.

Shea's Buffalo Marks 100 Years

Continued on page six. London. He is also a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists and serves as Musical Advisor to the UK's Cinema Organ Society.

The event will also welcome music and organ enthusiasts from around the country visiting Shea's as part of the 2026 American Theatre Organ Society convention with stops this year in Buffalo, Elmira, Corning, North Tonawanda, Rochester, Rome and Syracuse, New York.

Shea's Mighty Wurlitzer represents virtually every instrument in a symphony orchestra and con-

tains a complete set of percussion stops, including a large xylophone, marimba, harp, chimes, cymbal, kettle, snare and bass drums, orchestra bells, plus an array of sounds that were traditionally used to accompany silent films – auto horn, boat whistle, gong, bird whistle, etc.

The concert is a feature event during Shea's Buffalo Theatre's centennial anniversary. Tickets are just \$15 and available through Shea's Box Office at 650 Main Street or online at: www.sheas.org/performances/mighty-wurlitzer-100th-anniversary-concert.

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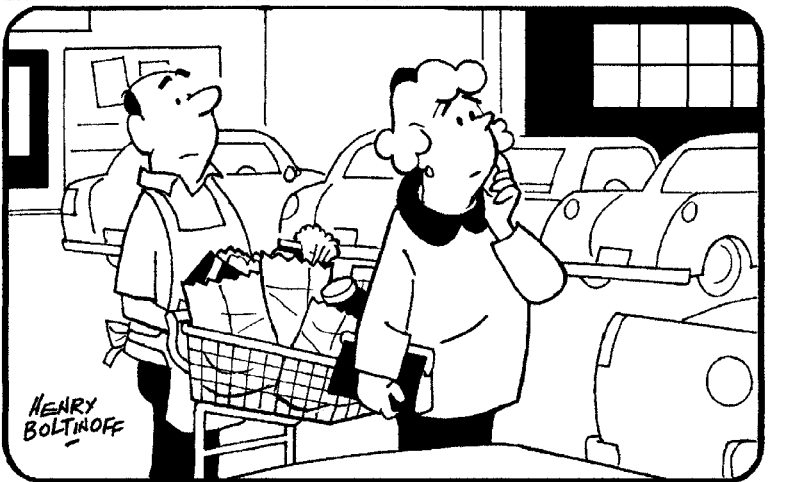
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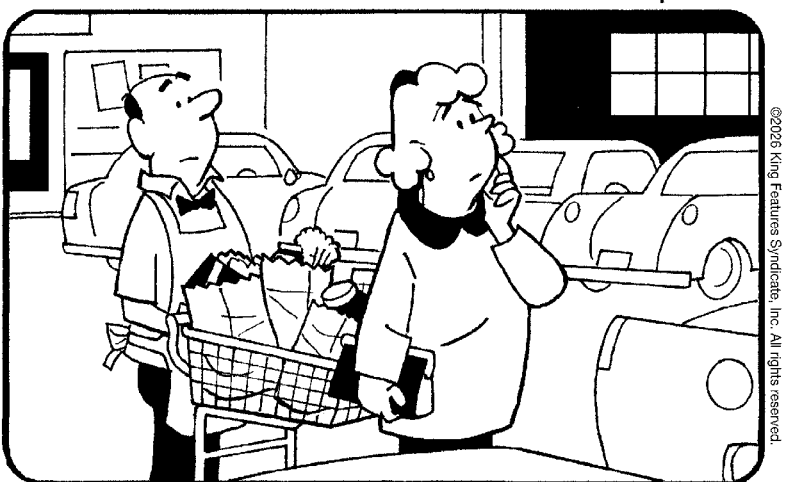


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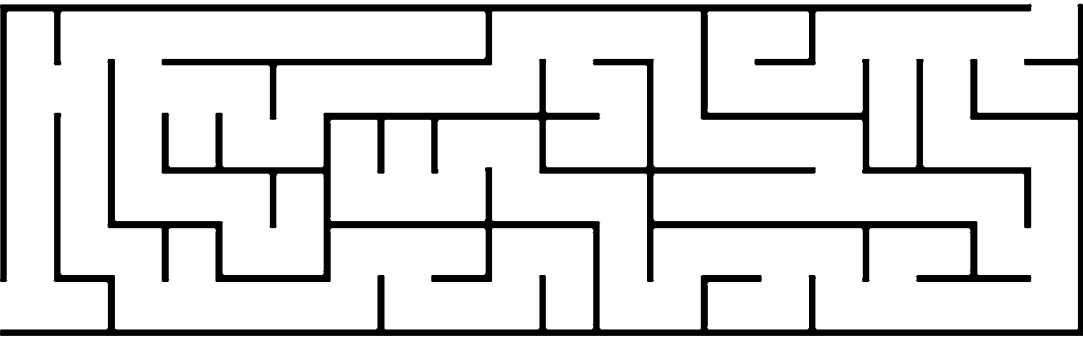


Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Store windows are moved. 2. License plate is missing. 3. Bow tie is added. 4. Bumper is missing. 5. Coat is longer. 6. Hair is longer.

Kids' Maze



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Answers on page five.

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!

Shield	MARRO				
Laud	XELOT				
Mug	NITES				
Tower	PIERS				

TODAY'S WORD

Answers on page seven.



"Of course, all those prices are just

_____."

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LEGAL

NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County of Erie Nationstar Mortgage LLC, Plaintiff AGAINST Linda M. Hawkins a/k/a Linda Hawkins if living and if any be dead, any and all persons who are spouses, widows, grantees, mortgagees, lienor, heirs, devisees, distributees, or successors in interest of such of the above as may be dead, and their spouses, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors in interest, all of whom and whose names and places of residences are unknown to Plaintiff, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on May 7, 2026, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Erie County Hall, 92 Franklin Street, in the Closing Room on the First Floor, Buffalo, NY 14202 on July 15, 2026 at 11:00 AM premises known as 2087 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the County of Erie, State of New York, SECTION: 88.24,

BLOCK: 1, LOT: 14. Approximate amount of judgment is \$24,375.74 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 803315/2025. This sale may be subject to the US Dept of the Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network Real Estate Reporting Rule. In such event, all purchasers are required to provide the information needed for proper reporting in accordance with the terms of sale. Courtney Donahue Tasner, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 01-101377-F00 901 81 27

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ERIE Index No.: 807145/2024 SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS Mortgaged Premises: 242 15th Street, Buffalo, NY 14213 WEST COAST SERVICING, INC., Plaintiff, -against- SALINA FIGUEROA

AKA SELENA MARI FIGUEROA, ERIC FIGUEROA, CINDY EARLEY, JOSE FIGUEROA, JR., THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF JOSE DAVID FIGUEROA, STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION & FINANCE, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CHIEF CLERK OF THE CITY COURT OF BUFFALO, ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, SHERMAN ACQUISITION L.P., and INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, Defendants. TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS(S): YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear by serving an answer to the annexed Complaint upon Plaintiff's attorney, at the address stated below, within twenty (20) days after service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within thirty (30) days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in the case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint, together with the costs of this action. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME: If you do not respond to this summons and 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 summons and protect your property. Sending a 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 (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The foregoing second supplemental summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an amended order of the Hon. Edward A. Pace, a Jus-

tice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Erie County, granted on the 18th day of June 2026, and filed with the Second Amended Complaint and other papers in the office of the County Clerk of Erie County. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage encumbering the premises described below, executed by Jose David Figueroa to Banc One Financial Services of New York, Inc., to secure the sum of \$46,651.68, and recorded in the Erie County Clerk's Office on August 20, 1999 under Book 12851 Page 9264. Said premises being known as and by 242 15th Street, Buffalo, NY 14213, and known on the Tax Map of the County of Erie as Section 99.51 Block 4 Lot 10, which is more fully described in the Schedule "A" attached to the Second Amended Complaint. Michal Falkowski, Esq. 28-07 Jackson Avenue, 5th Floor, Long Island City, NY 11101 Phone: 212-390-8872 Email: mfalkowski@rfllegal.net Attorneys for Plaintiff 29

The members of the Buffalo Board of Education are reviewing resumes for the vacant North District seat. Persons interested in applying should send or deliver a letter of notification with attached biography, resume, or vitae. This information should be sent to: Buffalo Board of Education, Attn: Sydney Neasman, Board Clerk 801 City Hall Buffalo, New York 14202

Letter must be time stamped and received by 4pm on Monday, July 13, 2026. The information may also be e-mailed, by the deadline, to: sneasman@buffaloschools.org

Qualifications include the following:
A citizen of the United States
A qualified voter of Buffalo City School District
A resident of Buffalo for at least three (3) years
No felony convictions
A resident of the sub-district (North District) for at least one year prior to appointment
Other qualifications listed in Education Law 2553 27

GAMES

1. Rita Moreno. 2. September. 3. The magnetosphere, an invisible magnetic bubble generated inside the Earth. 4. Paddy's Pub. 5. Vermont. 6. Frank and Joe. 7. A person who speaks several languages. 8. Basil. 9. The lungs. 10. Seoul.

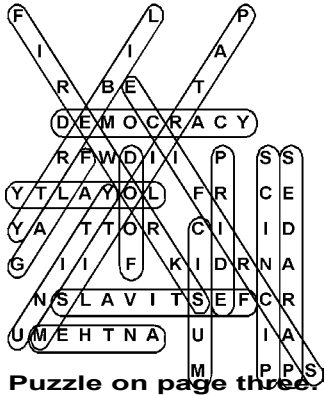
King Crossword
Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Puzzle on page three.

ASSOCIATED WITH
INDEPENDENCE DAY



Puzzle on page three.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

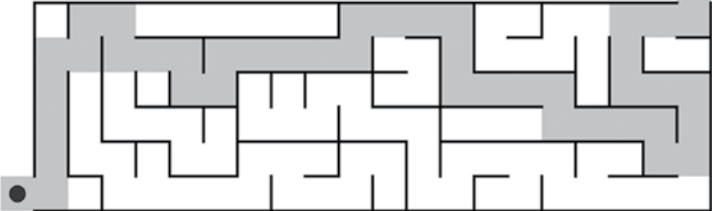
Puzzle on page three.

HELP WANTED

Compliance Specialist; Buffalo Homecare Inc. (Buffalo, NY); F/T position. Ensure that the homecare agency operates in accordance w/ federal, state, & local regulations. Monitor internal processes & documentation to ensure compliance w/ healthcare, employment, & licensing laws. Assists in developing & maintaining policies, procedures, & training programs for staff. Collect, analyze, & report on compliance-related data to management. Conducts audits & investigations of operational procedures to identify gaps & recommend improvements. Maintain knowledge of legal & regulatory changes & provide guidance to management & staff. Coordinate w/ external auditors or regulatory agencies as req'd. Must have bachelor's in management, legal studies or related field. Salary: \$52,187/yr. Email resume to gary@homecarebuffala.com

GAMES

Kids' Maze Solution



Puzzle on page two.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Armor; 2. Extol
3. Stein; 4. Spire

Today's Word

ESTIMATES

Puzzle on page four.

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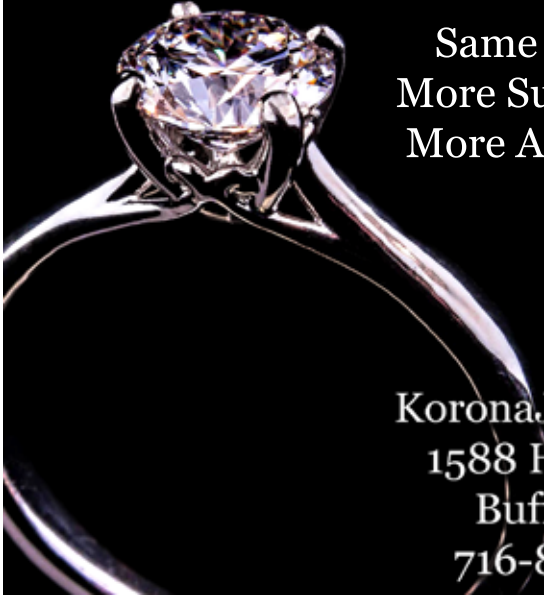
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