



Buffalo Rocket

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New Scarecrow Trail At Botanical Gardens



Photo provided by Buffalo and Erie Botanical Gardens.

Two gardener scarecrows shown on display at the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens.

The Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens welcomes the fall season with their new Scarecrow Trail and events like their Spooky Mini Glow Golf, Spooky Artisan Market, BOOtanical Bounce Party, garden and art classes, and more. Special events and classes are happening on select dates and times throughout the fall season. Western New Yorkers are invited to experience all that the Botanical Gardens has to offer this fall.

The Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens invites Western New Yorkers to ease on down to their spooktacular Scarecrow Trail. This new exhibit opens this Saturday,

September 19 and will be open daily from 10:00am to 4:00pm through November 2. Visitors can experience this fun-filled exhibit featuring dozens of show-stopping scarecrows of all shapes and sizes that make for a must-see exhibit this fall. For those looking for indoor fall activities, the Scarecrow Trail offers a cozy conservatory filled with scarecrow characters including an artist, a fisher, a beekeeper, gardeners, farmers, and more. This family-friendly day out is complete with the seasonal scenery of the vibrant plant collections and special seasonal displays of mums, giant pumpkins, and more seasonal surprises. The exhibit is included with regular admis-

sion to the Botanical Gardens.

On Sunday, October 18 from 10:00am to 4:00pm, the BOOtanical Bounce Party will be held for kids and families to enjoy spooky, seasonal fun. The event will be filled with activities like games, crafts, a scavenger hunt, food and beverage vendors, and the Scarecrow Trail exhibit. There will also be the opportunity to interact with and visit alpacas from Thistle Creek Farm. There will be plenty of opportunities for photo ops and selfie stations where families are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes to snap family photos.

The popular Mini Glow Golf event returns to the Botanical Gardens with a spooky twist. Mini Glow Golfers can enjoy an 18-hole course surrounded

7th Annual Run For Rhinos

The Buffalo Zoo's seventh annual Run for Rhinos presented by Reimer Home Services, An Official Partner of the Buffalo Zoo, is set for Saturday, Sept. 26. "Run for Rhinos is the perfect opportunity to not only take part in a fun, exciting 5K, but also directly support the Buffalo Zoo and rhino conservation," said Buffalo Zoo President & CEO Lisa Smith. "The event is always a favorite of our

community, and the support plus shared core values of our Official Partner, Reimer Home Services, help create an even larger conservation impact." The



Run for Rhinos is a 5K race that will take participants on a course around the Delaware

Park loop, eventually finishing in front of the Buffalo Zoo's greater one-horned rhinoceros habitat. The

Continued on page five.

Memories

From the Buffalo Rocket archives



September, 1995. St. Rose Of Lima School Makes Additions To Media Center...Students of Mrs. Ellen Milbrandt's fifth grade class are pictured above accessing computers in the media center. St. Rose of Lima School, on Winston Road recently opened a news media center. During the last few months over three hundred new books were added.

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THE BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE IN TEXAS (1982) Fri 9/25: 9:20 Sat 9/26: (2:15), 9:30 Sun 9/27: (2:15), 7:10 Mon 9/28: 9:20 Tue 9/29: (2:00), 9:20 Thur 10/1: 9:40

BATTLESTAR GALACTICA (1978) Sat 9/26: (11:30am) Sun 9/27: (11:30am), 9:45

LINKIN PARK: UNSHATTER Wed 9/30: 9:20

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SPORTS

By Bill Snyder

Catholic School Baseball!



Buffalo Rocket Sports reporter Bill Snyder has been a columnist for this newspaper for 43 years, covering the Hertel North Park Youth Baseball League since 1982.

"If it wasn't for the work from Paul Riester over the years, the Catholic School Baseball League wouldn't be as strong as it is today."

Those were the words from Father Richard "Duke" Zajac of the Buffalo Catholic Diocese this past Saturday in an interview with this newspaper about the 105 year history of Parochial Baseball here in Western New York.

Recently, the Parochial School League for both boys and girls opened their season in historic Delaware Park with three time Champion St. Marks, Nichols, Nardin and St. Benedict's playing under blue skies. Ever since 1971, Zajac and three others helped keep the games playing, even after the local Knights of Columbus withdrew their sponsorship of the League after just three years, Zajac, 77, president of the League, has been the driving force behind the history of some tremendous baseball being played since as early 1921.

Zajac, along with names like Jack Jerge, Paul Quagliana

and Fran Cleary have been the leaders in ensuring all children enrolled in Catholic School every year, has a chance to play sports for the many Schools in the area. In the Fall, Baseball is and always has been, the best sport for players to excel on the diamonds in Delaware, Cazenovia, Schiller or Riverside Parks.

In 1921, the Championship game was in Delaware Park with Mount St. Joseph's Academy against St. Brigid's playing with the famed Cy Williams on the field. While St. Brigid's prevailed in that memorable game, Williams went on to have an outstanding career in Major League Baseball.

This year, 14 teams play varsity Baseball in three Leagues with, for the first time, an interleague regular season schedule.

Zajac and Riester are both grateful to the North Buffalo Baseball Softball League for their use of the Baseball Diamonds at Shoshone Park this month. Junior Varsity level games with Schools like Nichols, St. Marks or

St. Benedicts in a Park like Shoshone helps keep the travel to a minimum within the City on diamonds that are still maintained by North Buffalo Baseball.

The Junior Varsity Program at these Schools has gotten bigger and stronger thanks to Riester. Besides a 15-16 year old Division, there's also Divisions for 13-14 year olds and 10-12 year olds. For 27 years now the Diocesan League has had their own All-Star game held at the home of the Buffalo Bisons at Sahlen Field. The game is truly an event for all the players, in the dugouts and batting cages where the Triple AAA Bisons play almost every night from April to September.

Many professional players in the game today have gotten their start playing Parochial School Baseball. In 1950, St. Marks had a player named Tommy Ryan and his story is forever etched into the hearts and minds of all who grew up with him and watched him play.

Other Schools that play in the Diocesan League are St. John the Baptist, St. Amelia's, St. Christopher's, St. Stephen's and St. Gregory the Great in the Northtowns. Some Schools in the Southtowns include Notre Dame, Queen Of Heaven and the Church of the Nativity in Orchard Park.

Canisius High School and the Stransky Field will host many of the regular season games as well as the Playoffs. The Championship game will again be at Canisius University on the Demske Field.

With School back in session, the local Sports scene switches to the various area stadiums and local Parks adjacent to the School or nearby. Whichever the School you follow, be it High School or College, here's hoping their seasons are victorious with thoughts of a Championship game to be played. Best of luck to all the teams.

As far as this column continuing over the winter months of 2026, you can be assured of it. September 26th marks a two year anniversary since my friend Charles Anzalone wrote a story about my time with this newspaper. I have no intention to stop now.



The Blotter

Felonies

From "D" District

September 18

Shortly before 11 a.m. this morning, Buffalo Police and Fire responded to an accident with injury call at Broadway and Elm Street. The two-vehicle accident involved an SUV and a tanker transporting water that overturned. The adult female driver of the SUV was extricated from the vehicle by Buffalo Fire personnel and transported via AMR to ECMC, where she succumbed to her injuries. The adult male driver of the tanker was treated on scene for minor injuries and declined further medical attention. The Accident Investigation Unit responded to the scene and is investigating the cause of the crash.

September 17

At approximately 10:45 p.m. Wednesday night, C and E district officers responded to a shooting call in the first block of Donaldson Road. An adult male victim suffering from a gunshot wound to the arm was located. He was transported via AMR to ECMC to be treated for serious but non-life-threatening injuries. Gun Violence Unit detectives immediately began an investigation. One suspect is in custody. More details to follow. Anyone with information is asked to call or text 911 or the confidential tip line at 716-847-2255.

September 17

Buffalo Police Department Announces an arrest was made Thursday, Sept. 17, in connection with a shooting that occurred in the first block of Donaldson Road the night before. At approximately 10:45 p.m. Wednesday night, C and E district officers responded to a shooting call in the first block of Donaldson Road. An adult male victim suffering from

a gunshot wound to the arm was located. He was transported via AMR to ECMC to be treated for serious but non-life-threatening injuries. Responding officers determined that a vehicle fled the scene following the shooting. A suspect was located at Humboldt Parkway and E Ferry Street in the vehicle shortly thereafter. The suspect was apprehended and two weapons were recovered. The recovered firearms were a loaded, defaced Hipoint .45 ACP and a loaded Smith & Wesson G2C .40 caliber pistol. Defendant has been charged two counts NYS PL 265.03-

3, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a class C felony; one count NYS PL 120.05-2, Assault in the Second Degree, a class D felony; one count NYS PL 120.25, Reckless Endangerment in the First Degree, a class D felony; one count NYS PL 265.02-6, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Third Degree, a class D felony; one count NYS PL 145.052, Criminal Mischief in the Third Degree, a class E felony; and two counts NYS PL 265.45-2, Failure to Safely Store a Firearm in the First Degree, a class A misdemeanor.

Doors Open Buffalo "Opens" September 26

Experience Buffalo's architectural masterpieces during Doors Open Buffalo on September 26

Downtown Buffalo has long been known for its rich architectural history, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, guests will have an opportunity to visit and explore these marvels up close and personal during Doors Open Buffalo. This free, self-guided tour is offered exclusively through Explore Buffalo.

An annual and highly anticipated event, the goal of Doors Open Buffalo is to excite visitors about the city's unique architectural heritage ... and it never disappoints! It's an opportunity to visit building interiors that are often not open to the public, and participants can visit as many locations and in whatever order they wish.

Following are some Doors Open Buffalo '26 highlights:

- A Family Friendly Trail sponsored by C-SAAHN will be offered, where locations will host kid friendly activities.
- New locations in 2026 include the Edward M. Cotter Fireboat, Eliza Quirk House, Golisano Institute for Business & Entrepreneurship (former Buffalo News building) and Mohawk Place.
- Among the returning institutions is the Historic Colored Musicians Club, which is near the finish line of an extensive renovation.
- Helpful Information Hubs will be located in the Buffalo Convention Center and Buffalo Visitor Center at Canalside, where participants can come with questions, ask for directions, etc.

Please note that the average participant experiences between five and seven buildings during Doors Open Buffalo. This self-guided event takes place rain or shine, and visitors are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes and dress for the weather. All participating buildings are within a 1.5-mile radius of the Buffalo Convention Center.

Doors Open Buffalo is made possible with the support of grants and many sponsors, including the Margaret L. Wendt Foundation, Visit Buffalo, Ciminelli Real Estate, Highmark WNY, West Herr, C-SAAHN Fund, Lawley, National Fuel, Uniland and The Summit FCU. Explore Buffalo pro-

grams, including Doors Open Buffalo, are also made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature, and by Erie County Cultural Funding.

For more information on Doors Open Buffalo, please visit <https://explorebuffalo.org/doorsopenbuffalo/>.

Free registration is required to attend Doors Open Buffalo. To register, visit https://explorebuffalo.vbotickets.com/event/doors-open_buffalo_2026/203085.

For a map of participating locations, visit www.google.com. Printed maps will also be available at all participating locations on Sept. 26.

Also, please note each building's listed hours in advance as some will not be open for the entirety of the event.

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The Aero Club of Buffalo's October Dinner Meeting will be held on October 22nd 2026 at Rizotto's Italian Eatery and Sweetery located at 930 Maple Road, Williamsville, NY 14221. The presentation from Erasmo Piñero will go over the history of the X-22 which was developed and manufactured right here in WNY. All are welcome to attend our meetings. Registration is now open on aeroclubofbuffalo.org.



The Canisius University Contemporary Writers Series will welcome acclaimed Irish writer Doireann Ní Ghríofa and award-winning author Julie Schumacher to campus this fall for two free public readings. Ní Ghríofa will be the featured speaker at the 21st annual Hassett Reading, scheduled for Tuesday, October 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Montante Cultural Center. Schumacher will speak on Thursday, November 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Grupp Fireside Lounge. Both events will include a question-and-answer session and reception. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.



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Submit Your
Community Event to

The Grapevine

editor.buffalorocket@gmail.com

First Look Buffalo Announces 26/27 Season

The theatre season is upon us! Western New Yorkers are fortunate to have many fine theatre groups presenting plays throughout the area.

Among them is the First Look Buffalo Theatre Company based at the Canterbury Woods Performing Arts Center, located at 705 Renaissance Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221. The Center will be the site of the CABERET SHOW on Friday evening, October 2nd at 7 p.m. This fundraiser will provide a mix of music and laughter, featuring some of

Western New York's most talented performing artists.

Admission is \$35 pre-sale and \$40 at the door. Included is a complimentary open vodka/bourbon/wine and beer bar, with hors d'oeuvres. There will also be a basket and 50/50 raffle.

The CABERET will be followed on the weekend with a NEW PLAY READING FESTIVAL, beginning Saturday, October 3rd and ending on Sunday, October 11th.

Each play is written by a member of our Playwright Wing, which is made up of 11 professional playwrights both locally and from around the country. These plays are directed and performed by local WNY artists, and two of these plays will be chosen for a full production in our

2027-28 season. Each play is discussed critically by the performers, the playwrights, and the audience members. Come help First Look choose their next season!

A full festival pass is \$25, or \$10 per show. Tickets will be available at the door.

For information on the Cabaret and the Festival, visit their website, at firstlookbuffalo.com.



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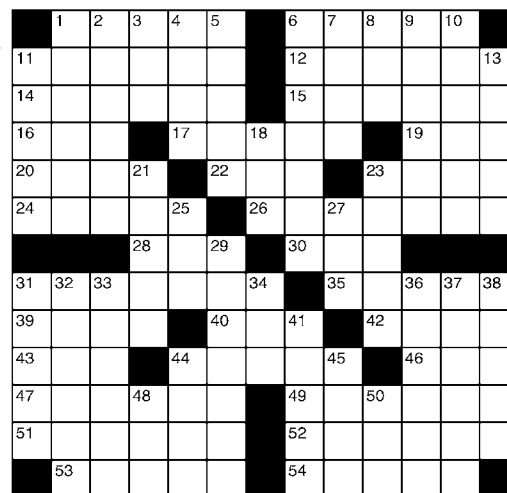
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Bath powders
- 6 Selected
- 11 Patronize, as a bistro
- 12 Cuts at an angle
- 14 Long-haired cat
- 15 Rise in defiance
- 16 Montmartre Mrs.
- 17 Wide
- 19 Big fuss
- 20 — ale
- 22 Rocker Nugent
- 23 Raced
- 24 Nosh at midnight
- 26 Bishop's district
- 28 Free (of)
- 30 Spanish gold
- 31 Pianist Arrau
- 35 Slowpoke
- 39 Fireplace shelves
- 40 Ump's call
- 42 Old U.S. gas brand
- 43 Balloon filler
- 44 Impetus
- 46 Weeding tool
- 47 Roma's land
- 49 Pub perches



DOWN

- 51 Pay off
- 52 Digital greetings
- 53 Lasso
- 54 Afternoon hour
- 6 Trucker's device
- 7 Obey
- 8 Eggs
- 9 Mexican shawl
- 10 Shakes off
- 11 Muffles
- 13 Fine china brand
- 18 British ref. work
- 21 Beige shades
- 23 Tea biscuit
- 25 Tease
- 27 Choice words?
- 29 Museum display
- 31 Desk go-with
- 32 Hang around
- 33 Rub the wrong way
- 34 Gigi's "yes"
- 36 On the beach
- 37 Tristan's love
- 38 Windblown soil
- 41 Sports bar fixture
- 44 Food regimen
- 45 Engrave
- 48 Meadow
- 50 Rowing need

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answers on page eleven.



Michael P. Kearns

Erie County Clerk Guest Columnist

Kearns Celebrates Anderson's Frozen Custard For 80 years Of Serving Erie County

Erie County Clerk Michael P. Kearns is congratulating Anderson's Frozen Custard on the occasion of its 80th anniversary, recognizing the beloved family-owned business for eight decades of serving generations of Erie County residents.



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Menu is shorter. 2. Pad is longer. 3. Finger is moved. 4. Curtain is not as wide. 5. Apron strap is moved. 6. Tie is missing.

son's Frozen Custard has been more than a place to grab a delicious meal or a frozen custard—it has been a part of the fabric of our community," said Erie County Clerk Michael P. Kearns. "The Anderson family has built a remarkable legacy based on hard work, family, quality and a commitment to the people of Erie County. I congratulate the entire Anderson family on this incredible milestone and thank them for everything they have contributed to our community."

The Erie County Clerk's Office also recognizes Anderson's for its continued participation in the Erie County Clerk's Thank-A-Vet Discount Card Program, providing benefits to local veterans and demonstrating the family's ongoing commitment to those who have served our nation.

"As we celebrate 80 years of Anderson's, we also celebrate the values that have made this family business so special—community, service and giving back," Kearns added. "I am particularly grateful for Anderson's continued support of our local veterans through the Thank-A-Vet program. Their commitment is a wonderful example of how local businesses can make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who served."

The Erie County Clerk's Office extends its congratulations and appreciation to the Anderson family, past and present, for 80 remarkable years of service to Erie County.

"We are so appreciative

of the support of the communities for 80 years and for the teammates past and present. The Thank-A-Vet Discount Card Program is a wonderful opportunity to share our gratefulness for those who have served," said Holly

Anderson, CEO and owner of Anderson's Frozen Custard.

Cheers to Anderson's Frozen Custard on 80 years—and here's to many more years of great food, frozen custard, and cherished memories!

7th Annual Run For Rhinos

Continued on page five.

race begins at 8 a.m. and is open to runners, or walkers, of all skill levels. "For the past three years, Reimer has been a proud sponsor of everything rhino at the Buffalo Zoo. This partnership allows us to give back to the community while providing critical support for the Zoo's conservation efforts," said Reimer Home Services President Brandon Bieron. "There aren't many 5Ks that I know of that take runners through Delaware Park and end with a sprint to the finish line next to the rhinos.

It's a unique and fun way to spend a Saturday morning. I hope everyone continues to embrace this event and support this important cultural institution in Buffalo." All participants will receive: - A Run for Rhinos race t-shirt - Single admission to the Buffalo Zoo on Saturday, Sept. 26 following the race - Race packet that can be picked up from the Zoo's main entrance from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sept. 24 or 25. Runners can also stick around for an afterparty following the race featuring food, refreshments and an award ceremony. Additionally, participants will have the chance to check out all the offerings from our Official Partner, Reimer Home Services. All proceeds raised through Run for Rhinos directly support rhino conservation efforts. Registra-

tion for Run for Rhinos is open through Wednesday, Sept. 23, and those interested can sign up here. About the Buffalo Zoo Founded in 1875, the Buffalo Zoo is a 501(c)(3) organization and the third-oldest zoo in the United States. Each year, the Buffalo Zoo welcomes nearly 400,000 visitors annually and is among the largest tourist attractions in Western New York. Located on 23.5 acres of Frederick Law Olmsted's beautiful Delaware Park, the Zoo provides interactive and educational family experiences throughout the year. As one of just over 250 Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accredited institutions around the globe, the Buffalo Zoo meets rigorous, professional standards for animal management, veterinary care, wildlife conservation and research, education, safety, staffing and more. AZA-accredited zoos and aquariums are leaders in the protection of threatened and endangered species, and are constantly working to save wildlife through Species Survival Plan (SSP) and Saving Animals From Extinction (SAFE) programs—both of which the Buffalo Zoo is prominently involved in. With a diverse collection animals and more than 320 plant species, visitors are introduced to and immersed in nature each time they visit. For more information, visit www.buffalozoo.org.

visit us online! www.buffalorocket.com



Seniority

Is My Daughter Making a Bad Decision? - Claiming Widow's Benefits Early - Ask Rusty

Dear Rusty...

My question is not for me, but for my daughter who 62 years is old. She does not want to take her Social Security now. Her husband was a doctor and passed away recently. She had been married to him for more than 10 years and, in the meantime, he married someone else. I thought the President erased taxes on earned money so that people could collect what was due them no matter what they earned. My daughter keeps telling me she has already earned too much this year and cannot collect her widow's benefits until next year. I don't understand what no tax on Social Security means then. Also, she wants to wait until she is 67 before she collects her own money. She has been a nurse and believes her own benefits may be larger than her widow's benefits. Is she correct to wait for that long?

— **Signed, Worried Mom**

Dear Worried Mom: Your daughter is likely correct. There are two factors which come into play in your daughter's circumstance – one is the Annual Earnings Test (for those collecting early SS benefits), and the other relates to Federal income tax on

SS benefits received. I'll try to clarify both of these for you:

If your daughter claims her widow's benefit at age 62, her benefit will be significantly reduced (by approximately 20+%) from what she would get at her SS full retirement age, and that would be a permanent reduction. And, if she works (which you imply she does) she would also be subject to Social Security's Annual Earnings Test (AET) which limits how much she can earn by working prior to reaching her SS full retirement age (her "FRA," which is age 67). The earnings limit for 2026 is \$24,480 (changes yearly) and, if her annual 2026 earnings exceed that amount, Social Security will take away \$1 of benefits for every \$2 she is over the annual limit. For example, if she is \$25,000 over the limit, SS would take away benefits equal to \$12,500. That would mean she wouldn't get any SS benefits for the remainder of this year and likely some of next year also. And, if her earnings are significantly more than the annual limit, she may even be temporarily ineligible to receive a widow's benefit (until she either reaches her FRA or earns less money). FYI, the Annual

Earnings Test will go away when your daughter reaches age 67 but, until then, the AET will likely restrict her ability to receive Social Security benefits if she continues to work full time.

The next factor to be aware of is the so-called "One Big Beautiful Bill" (OBBB) which the President claimed means "no tax on Social Security." This is an entirely different factor than the Annual Earnings Test (AET) described above. The above AET discussion dealt with SS earnings limits while taking benefits before FRA, whereas the OBBB deals with income tax on Social Security benefits actually received. The OBBB (enacted last year) provides an extra \$6,000 deduction per person (on the tax return filed with the IRS) for those 65 years of age or older. That extra IRS deduction is designed to offset (either totally or partially) any income tax which

is levied on Social Security benefits received by those age 65 or older. It's also important to know that the OBBB only provides temporary income tax relief, because the law expires after the 2028 income tax year.

All of which leads me to conclude that your daughter's decision to wait longer to claim her widow's benefit from her deceased ex-husband is a prudent choice. As long as she is working and earning more than the annual earnings limit before age 67, the AET will restrict how much Social Security she is able to receive. If she later stops working or goes to part-time employment, she can revisit her decision at that time. And, depending on her own personally earned Social Security benefit amount at age 67 (vs. her widow's benefit), she can assess whether to claim her personal SS retirement benefit or to,

instead, claim her benefit as her ex-husband's widow if that amount is larger than her own SS retirement. And, unless Congress later extends the OBBB prior to 2029, she will, at that time, likely need to pay income tax on the Social Security benefits she receives.

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 or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org. Because we are a non-profit organization, all services are free.

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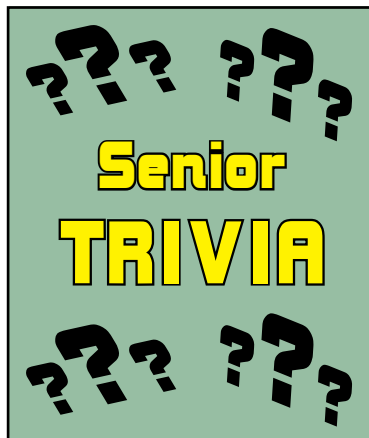
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Pop Quiz

Test your knowledge!

1. Which South American country has two capitals?

2. Which car company uses the ad slogan "Let's go places"?

3. What is a johnny cake primarily made of?

4. In which Harry Potter novel is the portkey (a method of magical transportation) first mentioned?

5. What is the most popular animal used on national flags?

6. What object is Wilson in the movie "Cast Away"?

7. Which U.S. state is the only one that has parishes instead of counties?

8. Which 1980s band released the album titled "Synchronicity"?

9. What is James Kirk's middle name in the "Star Trek" series?

10. Who is the Greek goddess of wisdom?

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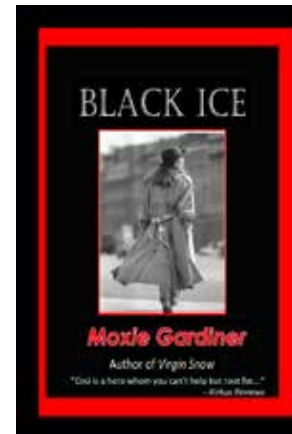
Bonus: What year was the film, "The Fast And The Furious", released?

answers on page eleven.

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Recipe's

From the McCormick Kitchen

Butternut Squash Mac & Cheese



20m • 1hr 25min • 12 • 16
PREP TIME COOK TIME SERVINGS INGREDIENTS

Our roasted butternut squash with a trio of cheeses, creating a smooth and savory sauce that attaches perfectly to

every pasta curl. With a blend of McCormick® Garlic Powder, Onion Powder, and a hint of Crushed Red Pepper Flakes, this butternut squash mac and cheese dish offers a complex flavor profile that's both gourmet and approachable. Get ready for your new favorite comfort classic.

INGREDIENTS

1 butternut squash
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 pound medium size pasta, such as shells, large elbow, fusilli, pipe regate, mezze rigatoni, cavatappi, cooked as directed
1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter
1/4 cup flour
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoons McCormick® Garlic Powder
1/2 teaspoon McCormick® Onion Powder
1/2 teaspoon McCormick® Paprika
1/2 teaspoon McCormick® Pure Ground Black Pepper
1/4 teaspoon McCormick® Ground Nutmeg

4 cups half and half
2 cups (8 oz) fontina cheese, shredded
4 cups (16 oz) extra-sharp cheddar, shredded
2 cups (8 oz) Gruyère cheese, shredded
1/4 teaspoon McCormick® Crushed Red Pepper Flakes chips, divided

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 425°F. Line a large, rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper for easy clean-up. Scoop out the squash seeds with a spoon. Rub the olive oil and 1/2 teaspoon salt over the cut sides of butternut, then place them on the prepared pan, flat sides down. Roast for 30 to 45 minutes, or until the squash is soft. Lower the oven temperature to 350°F.

Melt butter, in large pot or Dutch oven over medium heat. Once melted, add flour, salt, garlic powder, onion powder, paprika, pepper, and nutmeg and whisk to form a paste. Continue to cook, whisking constantly, until raw

flour scent is gone, about 1 minute. Slowly pour half-and-half and whisk constantly until completely combined.

Scoop out roasted squash flesh and add to milk mixture in pot. Using an immersion blender, blend squash into milk mixture until smooth. Bring sauce to a simmer over medium heat and gradually whisk in 3/4 of the fontina, cheddar, and Gruyere, about 1/2 cup at a time, until smooth and creamy, 5 to 7 minutes.

Fold in cooked pasta to fully coat in sauce. Lightly grease a 9- by 13-inch baking dish with non-stick spray and add pasta mixture into prepared dish and smooth surface into an even layer. Top with remaining 1/4 of the cheese mixture and optional top with Crushed Red Pepper Flakes.

Bake on upper-middle rack until browned and bubbling, 35 to 40 minutes. Remove from oven and let cool for 15 minutes. Serve.

FREE PIZZA: R. Gale, 219 Linden Ave., 14216

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Salon D Capelli.....3104 Delaware Avenue
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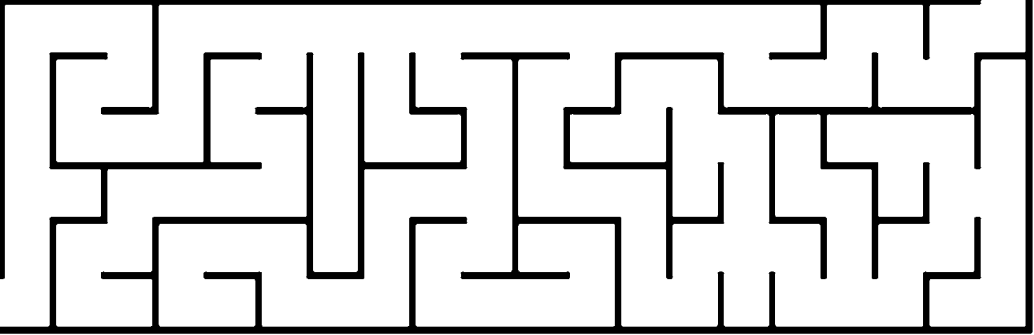


To see more great pets, visit: <http://www.petfinder.com/pet-search?shelterid=NY341>

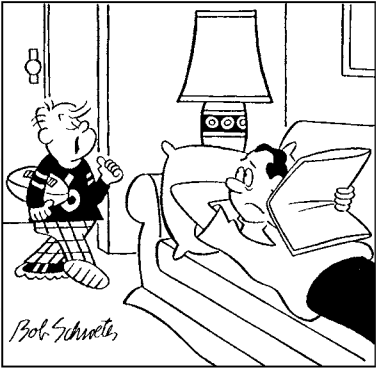
GAMES CORNER

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Kids' Maze



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answers on page eleven.



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Bob Schwab

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!

Write

CRAWLS

Gift

WORDE

Idiom

LOGIN

Thing

TIME

TODAY'S WORD

answers on page eleven.

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MAGIC MAZE • FALL

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

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

Acorns
Bonfire
Chilly
Color

Corn maze
Equinox
Fall
Foliage

Football
Halloween
Hayrides
Pine cones

Pumpkins
Scarves
Sweaters

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answers on page eleven.

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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New Scarecrow Trail At Botanical Gardens

Continued from page one.
by glowing plants throughout the entire conservatory. This one-of-a-kind Spooky Mini Glow Golf experience will be taking place on October 15 from 5:00pm to 9:00pm and returns for a 21+ Date Night on October 29 from 5:00pm to 10:00pm. Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase at both events. Tickets are \$25

per person and includes access to the glow-in-the-dark golf course, a custom scorecard, and admission to the Botanical Gardens.

The Spooky Artisan Market hosted by the AVA Collective also returns to the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens on Friday, October 23 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. Local artisan vendors have been

selected and curated to showcase their hauntingly unique and botanically inspired jewelry, art, crafts, and more. Attendees will enjoy an array of vendors with one-of-a-kind creations that celebrate nature, artistry, and the Halloween season. This event is included with regular admission to the Botanical Gardens.

Various seasonal classes are

also being hosted for those looking to learn something new. Classes include: Sip and Create: Candlemaking, Linocut Leaves, Halloween Terrarium for Kids, Sip and Plant: Spooky Terrariums, a Butterflies: Pin and Preserve Workshop, and more. For more information about classes and workshops, visit their event calendar.

The Botanical Gardens is

open daily from 10:00 to 4:00pm and tickets can be purchased online at buffalogardens.com. Tickets for Adults are \$19.00, Seniors and Students are \$17, Kids ages 3-12 are \$9.50, and Botanical Gardens members are always free. A full list of special events, classes, and exhibits can be found on the organization's event calendar at buffalogardens.com.

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LEGAL

Notice of Formation of Home Innovation Strategies, LLC Articles of Org. filed with the Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on May 28, 2026. 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 Eric D. Werling 50 Fennec Lane, Buffalo, NY 14051. Any lawful purpose. 38

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ERIE INDEX NO.: 802707/2026 D/O/F: February 12, 2026 SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS Premises: 86 Austin Street Buffalo, NY 14207 Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, Plaintiff, -against- DARYL BILLS; DAVID BILLS, JR.; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF LEROY DAVID BILLS III, his respective heirs-at-law, next-of-kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees,

assignees, lienors, creditors, and successors in interest, and generally all persons having or claiming, under by or through said defendants who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance lien or otherwise, any right, title or interest in and to the premises described, all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to Plaintiff; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff's Attorney(s) within 20 days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or

within 30 days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); the United States of America may appear or answer within 60 days of service hereof; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing Summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. Dennis E. Ward, a Justice of the Supreme Court, Erie County, entered August 21, 2026 and filed with the complaint and other papers in the Erie County Clerk's Office. THE OBJECT OF THE ACTION is to foreclose a mortgage recorded in the Erie County Clerk's Office on Sept. 15, 2022 in Book 14067, Page 7463, covering premises k/a 86 Austin Street, Buffalo, NY 14207 a/k/a Section 88.25, Block 6, Lot 30. 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. DATED: August 24, 2026 Ryan Hertz, Esq. HILL WALLACK LLP Attorneys for Plaintiff 261 Madison Avenue, Ste 940 New York, NY 10016 Phone: 929-594-2228 Email: rhertz@hillwallack.com New York, New York #103167 39

Notice of Formation of Armada Supersports, LLC, LLC Articles of Org. filed with the Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/19/2026. 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 1048 Niagara st., Buffalo, NY/14213. Any lawful purpose. 44

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ERIE DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR MORGAN STANLEY ABS CAPITAL I INC. TRUST 2004-HE3, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-HE3, -against- LEAH FROST AS ADMINISTRATRIX, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF ANGELA KLOS, ET AL. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Erie on September 2, 2026, wherein DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR MORGAN STANLEY ABS CAPITAL I INC. TRUST 2004-HE3, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES,

SERIES 2004-HE3 is the Plaintiff and LEAH FROST AS ADMINISTRATRIX, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF ANGELA KLOS, 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 October 29, 2026 at 10:20AM, premises known as 43 GLOR STREET, BUFFALO, NY 14207; and the following tax map identification: 88.27-1-31. 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.: 813375/2023. John Kennedy Rottaris, 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. 42



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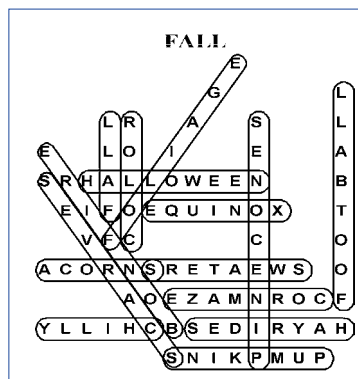
GAME ANSWERS

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.



Puzzle on page four.



Puzzle on page nine.

Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

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

Puzzle on page nine.

1. Bolivia, Sucre and La Paz.
2. Toyota.
3. Cornmeal.
4. "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."
5. The lion.
6. A Wilson-brand volleyball.
7. Louisiana.
8. The Police.
9. Tiberius.
10. Athena.

Bonus: 2001

Puzzle on page seven.

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SCRAMBLERS

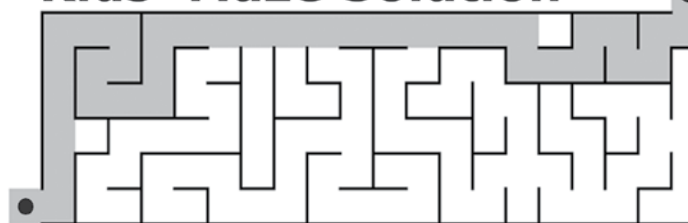
Solution

1. Scrawl;
2. Dower
3. Lingo;
4. Item

Today's Word WINDOW

Puzzle on page nine.

Kids' Maze Solution



Puzzle on page nine.

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 Cloudy High 64° Low 59°	 Mostly Cloudy High 51° Low 48°	 Partly Cloudy High 54° Low 52°	 Partly Cloudy High 57° Low 51°	 Showers High 51° Low 48°	 Cloudy High 49° Low 44°	 Showers High 54° Low 50°