

VISIT BUFFALO NIAGARA

IN THE BUUF

YOUR GUIDE TO THE
**UNEXPECTED
BUFFALO** 2022



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ORIGINAL
BUFFALO CHICKEN WING



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Although many have tried to duplicate the Buffalo wing, the closely guarded secret recipe is what makes Frank & Teressa's the proclaimed "Best Wings in the World".

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Our World-Famous Sauce is available in our Gift Shop! Take home a taste of the **Original Chicken Wing**. T-Shirts, Wing Hats, Mugs and Assorted Novelties are also available!



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www.anchorbar.com



MEET THE
UNEXPECTED
Buffalo

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

It's a new day in Buffalo. And we can't wait to show you what we've done with the place. If you haven't been to Buffalo lately—or have never been here—you haven't seen the **nearly 50 breweries, distilleries and cideries in our exploding craft spirits community.**

You've missed out on the tremendous growth of our **food truck scene**, the **revitalization of our waterfront** (is that really a tiki boat?), the **birth of new festivals like Borderland and Porchfest**, the dramatic expansion of **outdoor recreation options** (kite surfing, anyone?) and the exciting evolution of **Buffalo's culinary scene.**

Historic homes have been restored, our **parks reinvigorated**, and the landscape transformed by an **extraordinary collection of murals and public art.** With the **reopening of the Buffalo AKG Art Museum**—one of the world's great collections of modern and contemporary art—expected later this year, Buffalo is ready for company like never before. Stop by and check out the *other* New York city.

PUBLISHED BY



403 Main Street, Suite 630, Buffalo, NY 14203-1496
(716) 852-0511 | 1-800-BUFFALO
VisitBuffaloNiagara.com
info@VisitBuffaloNiagara.com

EDITORIAL & CREATIVE STAFF

Executive Editor:
Ed Healy

Senior Editor:
Karen Fashana

Assistant Editor:
Drew Brown

Editorial Assistant:
Shira Jacobson

Design:
JCharlier Communication Design



The 2022 edition of the Buffalo Niagara Touring Guide has been printed in three versions, each with a different cover.



WORLD CAPITAL OF WINGS
Discover the birthplace of the wing at all 14 locations of the Buffalo Wing Trail.

Photo by Drew Brown, photo illustration by Warren Stanek.



MOUNTAIN BIKING
From the trails to the shores, Buffalo is an unexpected escape for outdoor enthusiasts.

Photo by Grant Taylor, photo illustration by Warren Stanek.



KAYAKING
Take a relaxing paddle on the Buffalo River through the largest collection of grain elevators in the world at Elevator Alley.

Photo by Eric Frick, photo illustration by Warren Stanek.

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NORTH PARK

EVAN MCGREGOR
TRAITOR
LEGEND

48 HOURS IN BUFFALO

Two days of art, architecture and waterfront fun leave a visitor feeling reinvigorated.

By Erin Austen Abbott





A CITY OF NEIGHBORHOODS

My niece was getting married in Niagara Falls, so I decided to tuck on a couple of days and explore Buffalo. A friend told me that it was undergoing a massive transformation, buildings of former glory days repurposed, its waterfront reinvented, and the city had a new energy as a result. That friend was spot on.

My first stop was **Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House**, one of the gems of the city. This historic landmark is a must see. The estate (six structures on a 1.5-acre campus) was abandoned for nearly two decades. It recently completed a \$50 million restoration. After my tour, I spent an extra 30 minutes walking around the surrounding neighborhood. Classic American homes— Foursquares, bungalows, Queen Annes—line the streets, creating a memorable setting for an iconic structure like the Martin House.

Working up an appetite, I headed to Hertel Avenue. While Buffalo is a city, its neighborhoods give it a small-town feel. Hertel and the surrounding North Park neighborhood is unpretentious and charmingly old-fashioned, with an abundance of great restaurants, bars, shops, and friendly people. I grabbed lunch at **Lloyd Taco Factory**, which got its start in 2010 as Buffalo's first food truck. Its bustling lunch crowd was a mix of students, professionals, and families. Lloyd incorporates the street food vibe into their brick-and-mortar location. Since Buffalo is home of the Buffalo wing, I ordered the Buffalo chicken tacos— a twist on a classic. Everything was fresh and delicious, with the perfect amount of kick.

After lunch, I browsed the shops along Hertel. I popped into **Bon Fire Craft** where the owner/metalsmith Emily Sajban was creating the jewelry she sells in her shop. Next, I wandered down to **Revolver Records** to browse through stacks of vinyl. Taking in the beautiful **North Park Theatre** and the many murals tucked off the street, I marveled at how much I had experienced in only a few hours.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

“My favorite part was just walking around and taking it all in, enjoying the mild weather surrounded by locals and tourists.”



Boat, kayak, paddle board, or pedal on the Buffalo River. Or, find a spot to sit and watch a beautiful Buffalo sunset.

WALKING ON THE WATER

With plenty more to see, I headed to **Canalside** on the waterfront. The newly revitalized waterfront is a perfect encapsulation of the city's transformation. The city has turned this once dilapidated, desolate area along **Lake Erie** into its crown jewel. Walking along the water, you might stumble upon a concert, water bikers, or ice sculptures in the winter. If you want a brief escape from the urban grind, check out nearby **Tiftt Nature Preserve** along the outer harbor. What other cities can boast such beauty so close to the city center? What other downtowns have over 240 species of migrating birds pass through? Active travelers can rent kayaks and take on the **Buffalo River**, or fly down the zip line at **Buffalo RiverWorks** grain silos. Families can head to **Explore &**

More: The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Children's Museum. Beer lovers can visit **Southern Tier Brewing Company** and **Resurgence Brewing Company**. Or just head to the boardwalk and watch the sun set over Lake Erie from one of the many Adirondack chairs. My favorite part was just walking around and taking it all in, enjoying the mild weather surrounded by locals and tourists.

After a full day, I was ready to head back to the hotel. Several buildings have been restored and repurposed into charming boutique hotels throughout Buffalo, such as **InnBuffalo**, **The Mansion on Delaware Avenue** and the **Hotel @ The Lafayette**.

I chose to stay at the **Curtiss Hotel**, a century-old former office building downtown that was converted into one of Buffalo's most luxurious properties.

I was steps away from some of Buffalo's best theaters, restaurants and nightlife, and enjoyed a nightcap at the hotel's rooftop lounge overlooking the city's skyline.

As a solo traveler, it was even more important to me to be in the heart of it all. I didn't want to miss a thing. For dinner, I considered trying the twice-nominated James Beard restaurant, **Las Puertas**, but decided to wait until I came back with my family. Instead, I opted for the locally-sourced option right in my hotel, **Chez Ami**. The menu changes often, and the staff is very knowledgeable, so ask questions and let them guide your order. They certainly didn't steer me wrong. I grabbed a seat at Western New York's only revolving bar and enjoyed my meal.



Are wings your thing? Discover BuffaloWingTrail.com America's tastiest drive! Eat wings, earn prizes!

INSPIRATION AT EVERY TURN

On day two, I popped into **Public Espresso** downtown for a coffee and a salted caramel cruller made in-house, then headed out to do some more exploring. My passion for art ignited, I headed to the **Burchfield Penney Art Center** just a short walk from **Delaware Park**. Exclusively dedicated to the art and artists of Western New York, the Burchfield is one of the most impressive regional museums I've ever seen. I'm a big fan of watercolors, so for me it was a dream come true to be surrounded by the work of Charles E. Burchfield, who spent most of his life working in and around Buffalo. I spent a couple of hours exploring the inspiring exhibitions before I was overcome by hunger.

With food on my mind, I got on a city bus and headed to Main Street. I couldn't leave Buffalo without trying wings from their birthplace — the **Anchor Bar**. Besides the sign proclaiming Home of The Original, it's an unassuming building that looks

more like a corner dive bar than a destination. Once inside, you'll find a hodgepodge of goods that makes the restaurant feel like a cross between your wild uncle's house and a classic sports bar. I ate my fill of wings at the bar, but if you're in the mood for more, explore the **Buffalo Wing Trail** and sample the secret recipes and distinctive preparation styles found throughout the region. The spice, the tang, the salty goodness — they'll have you reaching for a locally brewed beer from one of the region's 50+ craft breweries. Don't say you weren't warned.

Pleasantly full from wings and lager, I wandered up **Elmwood Avenue** to check out more local shops before heading back to my hotel and getting ready for the actual reason I was in town — my niece's wedding. After two days of art, food, architecture, and good vibes, I left town feeling a lot like the new Buffalo — reinvigorated. | 🍷

LUNCH 5 TO TRY



Kevin Thurston is an owner and chef of **Cafe Godot** on Buffalo's West Side.

COMPANY B

Anchoring the block of Niagara Street between Auburn and Breckenridge is Company B. Not only is there a focused menu of sandwiches, soups, and salads—all scratch made—they also have a market where you can buy many of the New York ingredients used in your lunch.
1250 Niagara Street, Buffalo
companybtastingroom.com

REMEDY HOUSE

Tucked away in the Five Points neighborhood, Remedy House is an all-day cafe. While many folks swear by the Egg on a Roll (add aioli!) the Turkey Hoagie is where it is at. Split one with your travel companion and fuel up with a concoction made by their great baristas.
429 Rhode Island Street, Buffalo
remedyhouse.co

MONTES GROCERY & DELI

Between downtown and Larkintown you'll find Montes Grocery and Deli. Now in its third generation, Montes has some of the best Puerto Rican food around. Get there early, as they'll sell out, and drive over to Canalside to eat your lunch.
413 Swan Street, Buffalo
(716) 854-3228

AMY'S PLACE

Thankfully for Buffalo's vegetarian and vegan community, Amy's Place reopened after taking a break. With a great mix of Middle-Eastern and college/hippy favorites — I'm partial to the Wet Shoes — Amy's is also a great place to bring some young ones.
3234 Main Street, Buffalo
amysplacebuffalo.com

WIECHEC'S LOUNGE

If you say it right the first time I'll buy your lunch ;) Great mix of Polish and Western New York fare in a lounge that has all the personality and charm of your favorite hole-in-the-wall. The fish fry is amazing and if you're looking for a twist on wings, order yours "Red Sox style."
1748 Clinton Street, Buffalo
(716) 823-2828





Connect. Reconnect.

Never be the same.

From exhibitions to experiential learning, film to live performances, explore our 16 unique galleries and discover what's now and what's next at the Burchfield Penney Art Center—home to the largest collection of works by American master Charles E. Burchfield. Find your Center here, where the diverse art and artists of our region meet the world.

Plan your visit at burchfieldpenney.org

1300 Elmwood Avenue | Buffalo, New York 14222



**Burchfield
Penney
Art Center**

at Buffalo State College



ONE ARCHITECT. ONE FAMILY. **TWO HOUSES.**

Experience Frank Lloyd Wright in Western New York through the Martin family's city and summer homes, now fully restored.

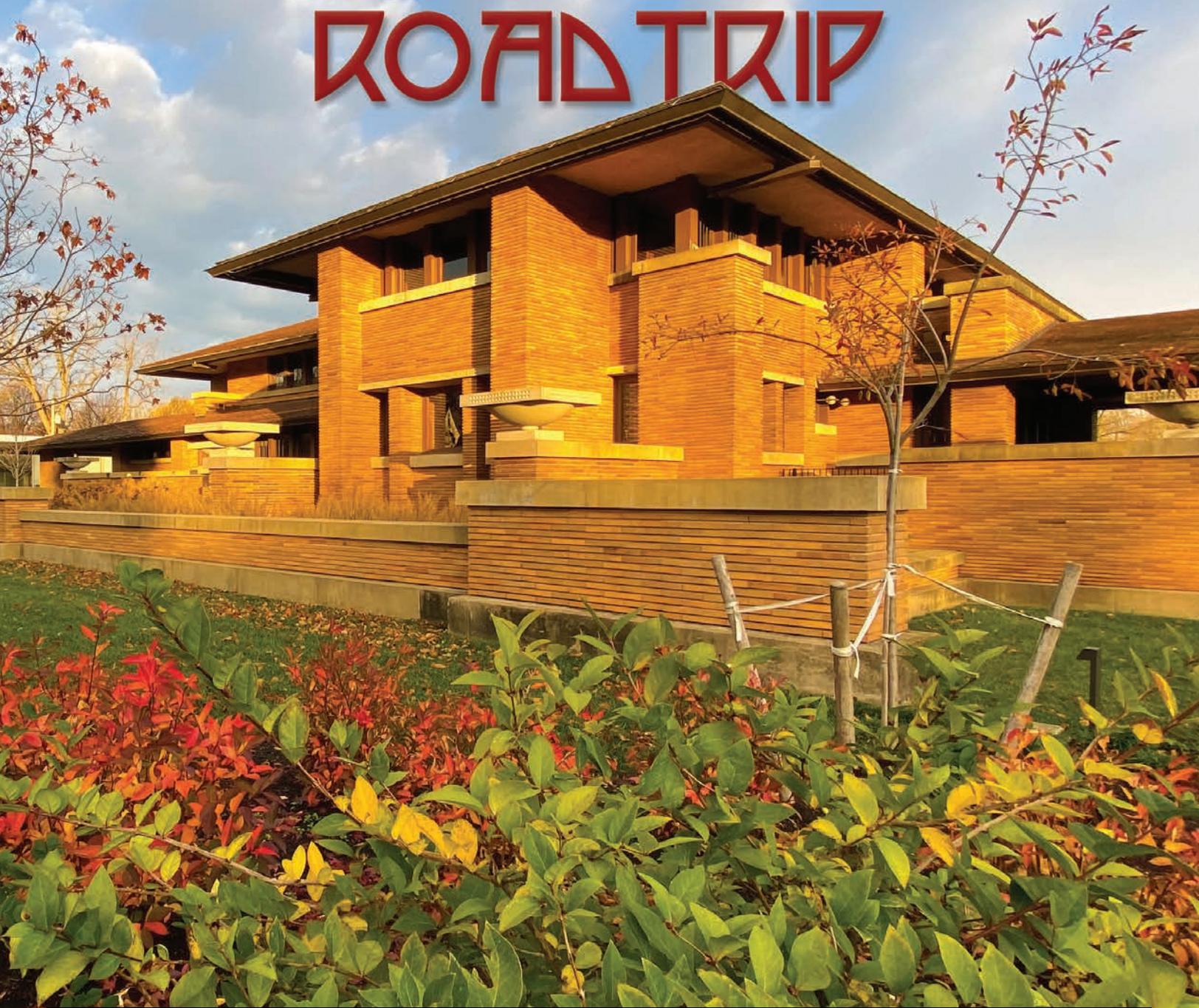


PHOTOS: Matthew Digati

Martin House --- **GRAYCLIFF**

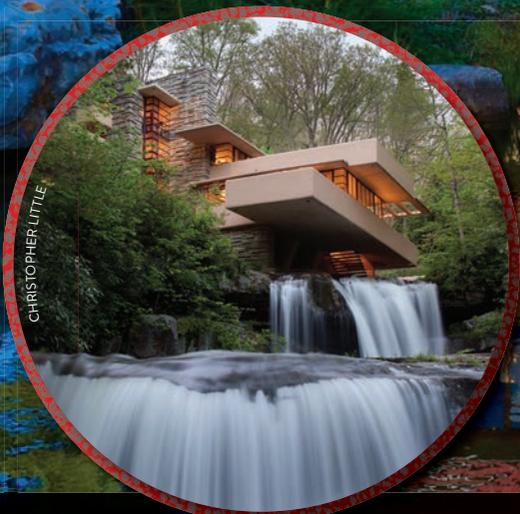
[VISIT WRIGHTINWNY.ORG](http://VISITWRIGHTINWNY.ORG)

THE GREAT WRIGHT ROAD TRIP



FIFTY YEARS OF FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

The **Great Wright Road Trip** allows you to easily explore the career-spanning breadth of Frank Lloyd Wright's genius—from the largest Prairie Style house he ever designed at the **Darwin D. Martin House** to one of the most extensive summer estates of his career at **Graycliff** to the epic grandeur of **Fallingwater** to the burst of brilliance found at **Kentuck Knob** that was a highlight of Wright's final years.



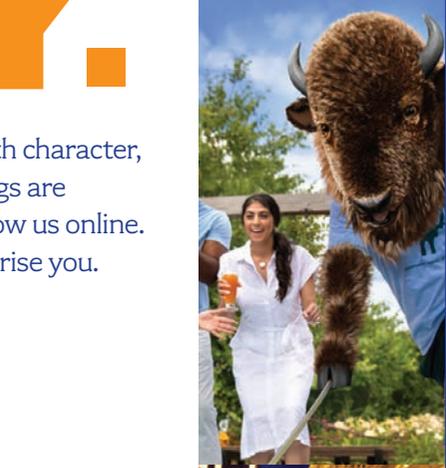
Lovingly-cared for homes, restored masterpieces, reinvigorated landscapes, posthumously-built projects, stunning vistas and furniture from the imagination of the master himself can all be found on this memorable road trip between Buffalo, New York; Erie, Pennsylvania; and the Laurel Highlands south of Pittsburgh.

Highlights of the Wright Road Trip can be done in as little as 2-3 days, but if you choose to explore the highways and byways, cities and small towns that lie between and within the two regions, you can easily spend 5-6 days experiencing the work of this American master and the region's distinctive American heritage. 🐾



DISCOVER THE OTHER NEW YORK CITY.

Buffalo is another kind of New York city, with character, charm, and authenticity all its own. Big things are happening here, so it's not a bad idea to follow us online. Better still, come visit. We can't wait to surprise you.



The Buffalo Transportation Pierce-Arrow Museum & The Buffalo Filling Station by Frank Lloyd Wright Celebrating 25 Years!

263 Michigan at 201 Seneca - Downtown Buffalo, NY 14203

pierce-arrow.com

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See web site for hours &
general admission information

*Group guided tours
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NYS Non-Profit 501 (c)(3)



Chowdown in Upstate



SCHWABL'S

TED'S HOTDOGS



DREW BROWN

There may not be another cluster of regional dishes in the entire country like the one you'll find along the highways that connect **Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse** and **Binghamton**. The menu includes culinary traditions going back generations to a time when the region boomed with the opening of the Erie Canal and the flood of immigrants who followed.

So, sink your teeth into some **sponge candy** in Buffalo, **salt potatoes** in Syracuse, and **spiedies** in Binghamton. Grab a **garbage plate** and a **ground round** in Rochester. Feast on the **wings** and **white hots** of Western New York.

Discover some of the country's most inspiring history and extraordinary scenery along the way. This is a road trip for the ages (and the hungry). Dig in. | 🐾

PARKSIDE CANDIES



BRENDAN BANNON

SPONGE CANDY





THERE'S MORE THAN ONE NEW YORK CITY WITH AMAZING THEATER.

Buffalo has a varied and sophisticated theater scene that appeals to every taste in live entertainment, from the experimental to the best of Broadway. It's time to come and see why Buffalo — the other New York city — deserves a standing ovation of its very own.

visit
Buffalo Niagara
.com

Fresh Arabic Sweets

There aren't many places in Buffalo where you can get fresh, homemade baklava. Luckily, there doesn't need to be when Fresh Arabic Sweets is doing it so well. Owned by a family who arrived from Syria in 2016, this small Arabic bakery is serving up the most delicious crispy, syrupy baklava. Don't let the modest storefront turn you away –inside, the kindest family is waiting to share their homemade pistachio and walnut filled sweets with you.

560 Amherst Street, Buffalo

Butter Block

Butter Block is all about traditional French technique and high-quality ingredients. They don't cut corners, which is evident in their use of imported French butter and perfectly laminated croissants. Everything they do, they do perfectly –from a beautifully flaky and decadent Kouign-Amann to a brioche bomb with fluffy brioche dough and a brown-butter streusel topping. You can't go wrong with anything from this bakery.

426 Rhode Island Street, Buffalo
butterblockshop.com

Cake Crazy

At Cake Crazy, you can stop in and pick up a deliciously frosted cupcake from the case, with a wide variety of tasty flavors offered ranging from banana pudding to chocolate toffee crunch. And Cake Crazy can make almost any cake you might want: pound cake, carrot cake, wedding cake—even a 7-Up pound cake. Like the name says, Cake Crazy is where you go for all your crazy cake desires.

2525 William Street, Cheektowaga
cakecrazybakery.com

HEY HO, LET'S DOUGH!

By Shira Jacobson

Buffalo's bakers are whipping up exceptional desserts and baked goods. Immigrants are bringing new flavors to their neighborhoods; professionally trained pastry chefs stock their dessert cases with immaculate pastries; certified gluten-free bakers make tasty desserts that everyone can enjoy; and old school spots keep tradition alive and continue to spread the joy of time-tested treats. Buffalo's bakeries are sure to have the very best version of whatever you might be craving.

Vin-Chet

Gluten-free folks unite! This is the only CSA certified, exclusively gluten-free bakery in Western New York, which means it's safe for those with Celiac Disease. Vin-Chet has spent years perfecting their baked goods to rival the taste of traditional gluten-filled desserts. The fact that their products are carried in major grocery stores around New York and Pennsylvania should tell you just how good these gluten-free cakes, cookies, pies and pastries are.

2178 Kensington Avenue, Snyder
vinchet.com

Blue Eyed Baker

This insanely aesthetically pleasing bakery is situated in the adorable town of East Aurora. French inspired, one of Blue Eyed Baker specialties is its French macarons—perfectly chewy, little sandwich cookies with cream in the middle. Blue Eyed Baker offers these in a gorgeous array of flavors and colors, so whether you're looking for something fruity or chocolatey, they have you covered. They also have top-notch croissants, scones, and other pastries.

33 Elm Street, East Aurora
blueeyedbaker.net

Luigi's Family Bakery

There aren't many old-school Italian bakeries left, and Buffalo is lucky to have Luigi's, which has been serving the area for over 65 years. A small brick building bursting with Italian heart and soul, this spot is baking pastries that taste just like Nonna made them. Buffalo is also known for pastry hearts, beautiful heart-shaped frosted pastries, and Luigi's makes some of the best in the city.

83 Forest Avenue, Buffalo

Chrusciki's

Chrusciki's was started by two Polish immigrants who came to Buffalo in search of the American Dream, and they have brought so much joy to Buffalo in the form of their delicious treats. Some of their notable Polish baked goods include paczki (filled donuts), kolaczki (jam-filled cookies) and chrusicki (flaky pastry dusted with powdered sugar).

4475 Transit Road, Suite #103, Clarence
chruscikibakery.com



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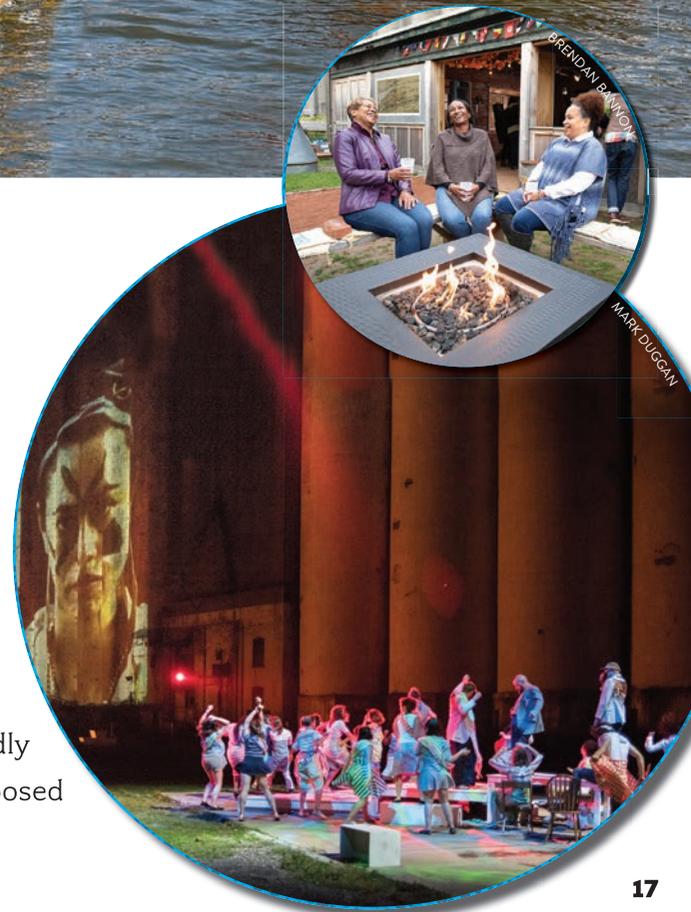
@stbcbeer_buf



SPLISH SPLASH

A ONCE-INDUSTRIAL WATERFRONT HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A HUB OF FAMILY FUN

If you had walked along the Buffalo River and the Lake Erie shoreline 20 years ago, you might have thought the heyday of this region had come and gone. Luckily for Buffalo residents and visitors, ingenuity and plenty of effort have combined to revitalize the waterfront, making it not only a hub of family-friendly activities, but a totally unique destination characterized by repurposed relics of an industrial past. [CONTINUED ON PAGE 18](#)



BRENDAN BAWOY

MARK DUGGAN

Summer Lovin'



One word: **Canalside**. This activity-filled park alongside the restored western terminus of the **Erie Canal** is the hub of Buffalo's redeveloped waterfront, hosting hundreds of special events each summer, from **artisan markets** to **free yoga classes**. New attractions include the **Buffalo Heritage Carousel** and the **Longshed at Canalside**. The carousel was made in nearby North Tonawanda by the **Herschell-Spillman Carousel Factory** in 1924 and has been returned to Western New York after a painstaking restoration.

At the Longshed, you'll be able to watch as artisans and volunteers from the **Buffalo Maritime Center** build a replica of the Seneca



Chief, the 73-foot-long canal boat Gov. DeWitt Clinton traveled on for the inaugural journey on the Erie Canal between Buffalo and New York City in 1825.

See how many types of waterborne vehicles your kids can spot as you gaze from Canalside's boardwalk onto the **Buffalo River**—keep an eye out for the occasional **tiki hut boat**, **stand up paddleboard** and the half-bike, half-boat **Buffalo Cycleboats**. You'll also spot the World War II era cruiser, destroyer and submarine floating in the river at the **Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park**, the largest inland park of its kind. **Liberty Hound**, located next to the naval park, has an irresistible patio and an even better menu of Buffalo classics like beef on weck and wings.

As you stroll, don't forget to stop in at **Explore & More—The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Children's Museum**.

This recently opened waterfront museum has four floors of interactive exhibits and play zones to explore. Get closer to the river in a

kayak, available to rent from **BFLO Harbor Kayak** at Canalside. Crane your neck as you paddle up the river within the manmade concrete canyon of **Elevator Alley**, one of the world's largest collection of grain silos (and an excellent photo op to look back on). Learn about those same grain silos on a narrated **Buffalo River History Tour**. **Fun fact:** *Buffalo was once the largest grain port in the world.*

After years of sitting vacant and underutilized, the GLF grain silos along the river have been creatively repurposed to become **Buffalo RiverWorks**, an all-in-one entertainment complex with a new **Ferris wheel**, roller hockey and roller derby, a brewery and restaurant, ziplining, rock climbing, events and more. The zipline launches visitors from the top of 100-foot-tall silos; enjoy the lake breeze and the scent of freshly toasted **Cheerios from the General Mills plant** next door as you zoom past surroundings unlike those you'll find anywhere else. Post-thrills, chill. Buffalo RiverWorks built the first ever fully functioning brewery within an existing grain silo that supplies the entertainment center's four bars. When the sun's out, **RiverWorks**



Beer Garden—carved from the ruins of former grain silos—is hard to resist. Further up the river, **Silo City** hosts poetry readings, theatrical performances, concerts and a host of other seasonal events, sometimes within the incredible acoustics of the cavernous silos. And **Duende**, a bar built in the shadow of the grain silos, is the perfect spot to wet your whistle after a day of exploring.

If biking is always on your family’s fun-things-to-do list, grab some bikes from **Reddy Bikeshare** and cross the Buffalo River on the **Queen City Bike Ferry**. You’ll find great walking and biking trails along the shoreline of the **Outer Harbor**, from the **1833 Buffalo Lighthouse** to **Buffalo Harbor State Park**. If your timing is right, you can watch the sunset over Lake Erie at the wind sculpture overlook at **Wilkeson Pointe**.



Winter Whoas!

Winter woes? More like winter whoas! Thousands of locals and visitors spend hours each winter on the waterfront at **Ice at Canalside**. This 35,000-square-foot ice rink—one of the largest in the Northeast—features skating, curling, and ice bumper cars. But the scene-stealer may be the **Ice Bikes of Buffalo**—manufactured right in Western New York and featuring a stainless-steel frame with blades that allows anyone from 8 to 80 to seamlessly glide and pedal along the ice. The Ice at Canalside is built on replica canals that were once part of the **Erie Canal**. Experience a true past-meets-present moment, riding your Buffalo-made ice bike on a recreated portion of the canal.

And be sure to check out **Southern Tier Brewing Company** at **HarborCenter** after you’ve worked up an appetite—no matter what time of the year you’re visiting. This two-story brewpub features locally-brewed craft beer along with beer-inspired main courses and appetizers—the latest addition to a waterfront that has been transformed from desolation to destination. | 🐾



DRINKS 5 TO TRY



Erin Dewan is a bartender at **Fresh Catch Poke** and the **Galley Lounge** in downtown Buffalo.

WAXLIGHT BAR À VIN

Sommeliers, Jess Railey and Tony Rials, have put together a truly special wine program. Although they are considered a wine bar—don’t sleep on the cocktails. Rials puts an emphasis on using flavor profiles from wine as well as seasonal ingredients from the kitchen to create delicious and beautiful drinks. This place is a true experience.

27 Chandler Street, Buffalo
waxlightbaravin.com

LUCKY DAY WHISKEY BAR

The place for whiskey in Buffalo. Enjoy one of the best old fashioned in the city or try one of their own creations. Don’t like whiskey? I bet bar managers Gavin Neaf and Frank Moynihan could find something tailored to change your mind. They also have other spirits/cordials to enjoy, as well as 20 beers on tap.

320 Pearl Street, Buffalo
luckydaywhiskeybar.com

ALLEN BURGER VENTURE

One of my favorite places to grab a beer and a burger. They have a wide selection of craft drafts, cans and bottles ranging anywhere from European to local—they know how to cherry pick the winners. Great whiskey selection as well, with great pricing!

175 Allen Street, Buffalo
allenburgerventure.com

THE DAPPER GOOSE

Another special wine/cocktail program, with a manageable selection of really great grapes and spirits. The space is cozy and intimate—pair your drink with a snack or entree, you can’t go wrong with the food! This is a great date spot.

491 Amherst Street, Buffalo
thedappergoose.com

BILLY CLUB

I go here for any occasion, perfect for a sit-down dinner or a night at the bar. The food, wine selection and cocktails are always on point. The atmosphere is minimal/chic but way too comfortable for my own good—set me up with a cheese board and Negroni, and it’s hard to get rid of me!

228 Allen, Buffalo
billyclubbuffalo.com





BUFFALO WATERFRONT
CANALSIDE + OUTER HARBOR

YOUR GETAWAY HAPPENS HERE

Offering year round entertainment, activities and fun in the heart of Buffalo.



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BOAT TOURS & KAYAK RENTALS



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FESTIVALS & FAIRS



LIVE MUSIC & CONCERTS



FITNESS CLASSES



PUBLIC ART

Follow us on social media for current events, classes, and news: @BuffaloWaterfront



**Honor, Educate,
Inspire, Preserve**

Visit the Largest Inland Naval Park in the Country.

Located on the Buffalo Waterfront at Canalside, the Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park is a can't-miss family destination.

The Buffalo Naval & Military Park features four decommissioned ships along with many exhibits, memorials and educational programs. Discover for yourself why the Buffalo Naval Park was voted the #1 Museum attraction in Western New York by Trip Advisor.



1 Naval Park Cove, Buffalo, NY 14202
716-847-1773 • buffalonavalpark.org

play into **possibilities**



Located in the heart of Buffalo, at Canalside, **Explore & More - The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Children's Museum** offers children & families four floors to unlock the limitless potential in all of us.

PLAY in our immersive, hands-on exhibits while igniting children's imaginations.

LEARN about Western New York's history of innovation while dreaming of new discoveries.

EXPLORE diverse cultures and unique experiences.



explore&more

THE RALPH C. WILSON, JR. CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

exploreandmore.org

ANTARCTIC DINOSAURS

The Exhibition

Uncover a lost world from
2 million years ago.

February 5 to September 4, 2022

Tickets at sciencebuff.org

1020 Humboldt Parkway, Buffalo, NY 14211

716.896.5200 | sciencebuff.org



Antarctic Dinosaurs was developed by the Field Museum, Chicago in partnership with the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Discovery Place - Charlotte, NC, and the Natural History Museum of Utah. Generous support was provided by the Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund.



TOWARD A MORE PERFECT UNION

As the hard work toward a more unified and inclusive future for all of us continues, Buffalo's Freedom Wall is an excellent place to stop and honor the past. The completion of this public art project, featuring massive portraits of 28 prominent Civil Rights leaders from Buffalo and beyond, is just one chapter in our city's long and proud African American history. Discover and celebrate more at AfricanAmericanBuffalo.com.





“BUFFALO IS A MODERN AND MULTIFACETED CITY, MORE THAN READY FOR ITS MOMENT”

THE NEW YORK TIMES

What makes Buffalo a first tier cultural and history destination? For starters, there’s the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and the Buffalo Museum of Science — not to mention the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site, the Buffalo History Museum, Shea’s Performing Arts Center, and the Buffalo Zoo. What else? Well, how about the Burchfield Penney Art Center and our renowned (and soon to gloriously reopen) museum of modern and contemporary art, the Buffalo AKG Art Museum? When you add it all up, it’s clear — there’s more than one New York city.

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Eight can't miss gardens

By Jim Charlier

In no particular order, here are eight—far from garden-variety—gardens not to miss during **Open Gardens** every Friday and Saturday in July. Around 100 exceptional gardens are on this exclusive tour.

Don't miss June's **Buffalo Style Garden Art Sale** and 16 area weekend garden tours during the summer—including **Garden Walk Buffalo**, America's largest garden tour! | 🐜



Smug Creek Garden (Shadrack Garden)

Boston

This world-class hosta and daylily collection, amassed by two hosta book authors, in the Boston Hills will transport you

even farther away. Expansive gardens in a wooded setting are sliced by a creek that flows *under* the house. It's a garden that stays with you—for life!



Evans/Hantz Garden

Williamsville

The dignified and exquisite garden of a SERIOUS gardener. Go ahead, ask Barbara anything. She's a master gardener and approaches her garden plant choices like an

art gallery curator. This is another garden that will stay with you long after you've left.



Shade & Sake Garden

(Groblewski Garden)

Lancaster

An authentic Japanese Teahouse above a relaxing koi pond? Hate to ruin the fantasy for you, but this clever deception is really

just the back side of their detached garage. You won't even see this when you enter the garden. It's a secret garden. Well, until now anyway.



Buscaglia Garden

Lakeview, Buffalo

Situated on Lake Erie (literally—their back yard IS Lake Erie—with views of Buffalo and Canada!) This clever and creative garden of artistic

vignettes are as much of a delight to you as the hosts. Come for the gardens, stay for the view.



Dragon's Den

(Kreutzer Garden)

Cheektowaga

Fire-breathing dragon. Check. Penny-topped outdoor bar. Check. Modern sculpture. Check.

Curtained pergola, waterfall, koi pond with bridges. Check, check, check. This dog-friendly garden checks off everything a contemporary backyard needs, including raised vegetable gardens. Kids will love this garden too!



Bird Avenue Garden

(Ballard/Olinski Garden)

Elmwood Village, Buffalo

A bit of the tropics in downtown Buffalo—complete with a cabana bar. Serious plant collectors in a less-than-serious setting

of color, fantasy, and whimsy. If you're looking for inspiration, start here!

Whit's End Garden

(Whittemore Garden)

Hamburg

Animated, fun, and whimsy, is how the gardeners describe their garden. I think it's a kids fantasy garden—from the miniature hostas and dwarf conifers surrounding the three running, model train tracks, to the ticket booth shed. Tell me I'm wrong.

Buffalo gardeners are freakishly friendly.
Ask anyone!



Charlier Garden

Elmwood Village, Buffalo

What kind of host would I be if I didn't invite you into my own garden? Come visit my gallery of garden art and garden design laboratory. The city-sized garden was featured in "This Old House" magazine, among others.





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Photo by: Ben Read

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EXPLORE OUR CITY OF MUR



DREW BROWN

MURALS



1

By Brian Hayden

My hometown sure looks a lot more colorful these days than when I was growing up. Vibrant public art winds its way through my city's neighborhoods, enhances its busiest streets and splashes the sides of its cafes, pubs and boutiques with funky, offbeat accents. Murals are everywhere here thanks to the Albright-Knox Art Gallery's Public Art Initiative, which has attracted internationally renowned muralists and inspired local artists to make the city their canvas. I set out to re-discover Buffalo through the lens of its ever-evolving public art scene, and explored all there is to see, eat and drink along the way. Here is my guide to three of the most walkable public art clusters in Buffalo. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 30**

1 *Greetings From Buffalo, New York*, Casey William Milbrand, 461 Ellicott St | **2** *The Freedom Wall*, John Baker, Julia Bottoms, Chuck Tingley, and Edreys Wajed, Michigan Ave and East Ferry St | **3** *Wildflowers for Buffalo*, Louise Jones, 465 Washington St | **4** *Noodle in the Northern Lights*, Jessie Unterhalter and Katy Truhn, Shea's 710 Theatre | **4** *Dance Everyday* (in progress), Shantell Martin, 537 East Delavan Ave



2

ED HEALY



3

JIM CHARLIER



4

ALBRIGHT KNOX



5

ED HEALY



ED HEALY

6

Hertel Avenue

1 hour estimated round-trip walk

Hertel Avenue might just be the best place to experience Buffalo's booming street art scene, boasting Instagram-worthy murals on nearly every block among its boutiques, restaurants and cafes.



ED HEALY

7

Allen Street

30 minute estimated round-trip walk

Allentown painted its bars, pubs, stores and restaurants with colorful art long before the rest of the city decided it was cool. The murals along Allen Street seemingly blend in with the creative, artistic fabric of Buffalo's longtime bohemian neighborhood, from its rainbow-colored sidewalks to the many galleries found on the surrounding streets.



DREW BROWN

8

Downtown

1 hour estimated round-trip walk

It should come as no surprise that Buffalo's cultural and culinary hub has also become a hotspot for amazing public art. I start my journey through downtown Buffalo at a mural that implores me in big, bold letters to "KEEP BUFFALO A SECRET." (836 Main St.) No way: I add an image to my Instagram story and continue down Main.



9

10

11

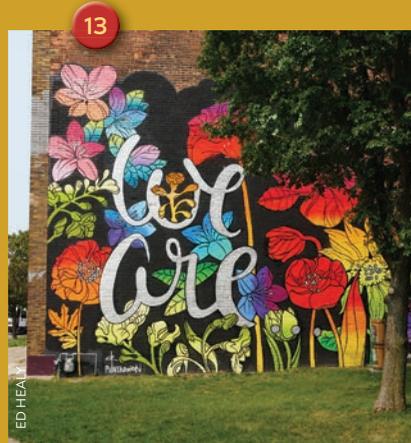
DREW BROWN

ED HEALY

ED HEALY

But Wait There's More

Looking for more amazing murals for your Instagram feed? Nearly every corner of Buffalo beyond these three neighborhoods features incredible public art. For the complete version of this story and all the details on exploring Buffalo's public art, go to visitbuffaloniagara.com/public-art



6 The Goo Goo Dolls, Philip Burke, 1212 Hertel Ave | 7 Allen Street Hardware Café, Deric McHenry, 245 Allen St | 8 Walking Back Time, Logan Hicks, 5 East Huron St | 9 Yellow Buffalo, Nicole Cherry, Hertel Alley | 10 Hamilton Houston Lowmie Architects, Christopher Guerra, 172 Allen St | 11 Untitled, Eduardo Kobra, 1188 Hertel Ave | 12 Love Black, Edreys Wajed and James "YAMES" Moffitt, 712 Main St | 13 We Are, Chris Piontkowski, 1875 Niagara St | 14 Flutterby Mural, Chuck Tingley, 257-1/2 Summer St | 15 Cobblestone Commons, Lauren McKenzie-Pearce, NFTA Yard (DL&W Terminal) 164 Ohio St | 16 1800s Bikes in Vines, Nicole Cherry, 1330 Niagara St



5 DINNERS TO TRY



Harrita West is the owner of **Park Vue Soul Food Bar and Restaurant** in Buffalo's Schiller Park neighborhood.

BABA'S PLACE

Baba's Place located on Bailey Avenue on the east side of Buffalo, in the University District is my favorite Mediterranean restaurant. Chef Bashir and team take pride in serving fresh food made to order. Two of my favorite meals are the open chicken souvlaki and shrimp stir fry served with a warm pita. Their food melts in my mouth.
3319 Bailey Avenue, Buffalo
babasplace.net

MS. GOODIES

An East Side favorite for the Sunday dinner buffet and the junkyard dog. The Sunday buffet consists of a main course and three sides, cornbread, and Kool-Aid as a beverage. Chef Celena and Team have been serving the community for 17 years.
1836 Bailey Avenue, Buffalo
(716) 936-3690

PHAT CATZ RESTAURANT & BAR

This minority and locally owned restaurant is also located on the East Side of Buffalo. Chef Kim and her team specialize in soul food cuisine—specifically southern fried chicken, seafood and much more.
965 Kensington Avenue, Buffalo
phat-catz-restaurant-bar.business.site

THE ROSE BAR & GRILL

The Rose Bar & Grill is in downtown Buffalo. The owner and staff are friendly, and they offer great food, great drinks, and a great atmosphere. My favorite is their salmon dinner.
199 Scott Street, Buffalo
therose-buffalo.com

PARKSIDE MEADOW

Located in Buffalo's Historic Parkside community. I love going there not only because of the amazing food but also the décor. Everything in the building is decorated with unique Buffalo memorabilia. The House Burger and Buffalo Chicken Wings are my favorite items from this restaurant.
2 Russell Street, Buffalo
parksidemeadow.com



EXPLORE THE UNIVERSE!

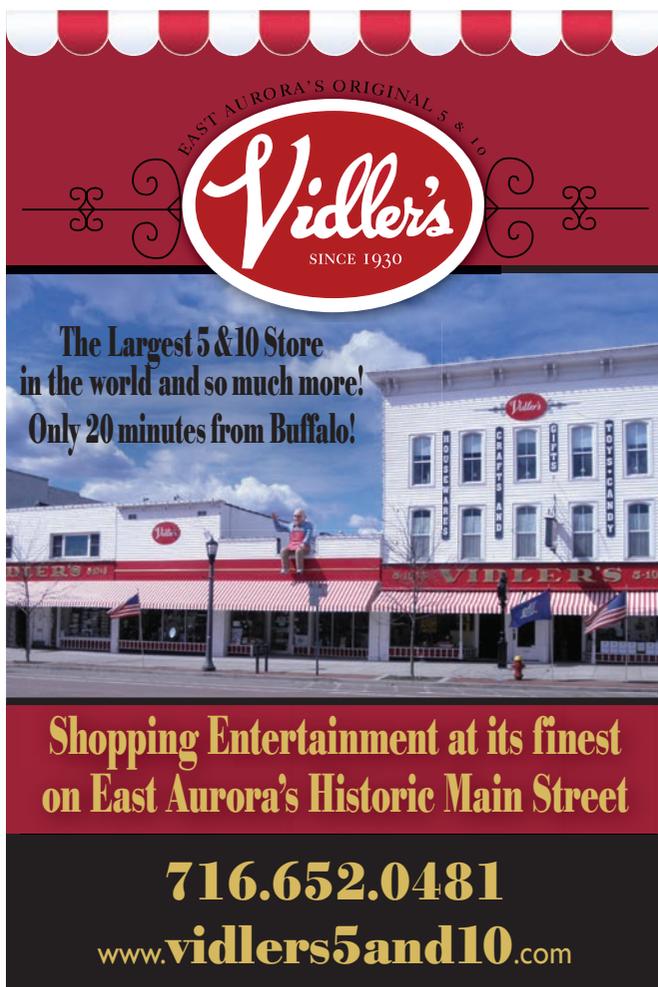
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AN OUTDOOR ADVENTURE MECCA

MAKING THE MOST OF BUFFALO'S GORGES, SHORES AND TRAILS

By Drew Brown

Buffalo has a growing reputation as a full-fledged destination for outdoor enthusiasts. Some of that buzz is being generated by Kevin Cullen and Christian Edie, owner-operators of SUP Erie Adventures, and the many friends and fans they've made on kayaking and kite surfing outings on Lake Erie.

How would you describe the Buffalo region as an outdoor destination? Is it really as good as we think?

Kevin & Christian: Buffalo is pretty special. There are so many accessible activities that you can do all within a one-hour drive. Our favorite thing to do is try and do as many activities as possible in one day! Year round there is so much to do, but in the winter the variety of activities really shines. With the variety and quality of outdoor activities it really is a world class outdoor recreation destination stacking up to places like Oregon and New Zealand.



What is it that makes the Buffalo region such a great place to visit in any season?

Kevin & Christian: The best part about Buffalo is we have such a variety of activities to do that are all weather dependent. In the fall, we have amazing mountain biking and scenic hiking trails along with our strong winds that bring great waves for surfing and kitesurfing. The winters bring incredible storms for big wave days, skiing and snowboarding. The cold temps create amazing conditions for ice climbing which most people don't know is here. The spring brings us snowmelt which raises the rivers and we get pretty stout whitewater runs and of course our amazing summers bring us perfect sailing conditions and incredible paddling opportunities.

You obviously feel a strong connection to the water, given the nature of your work. Tell us about your commitment to spreading the word about the Buffalo region's outdoor opportunities.

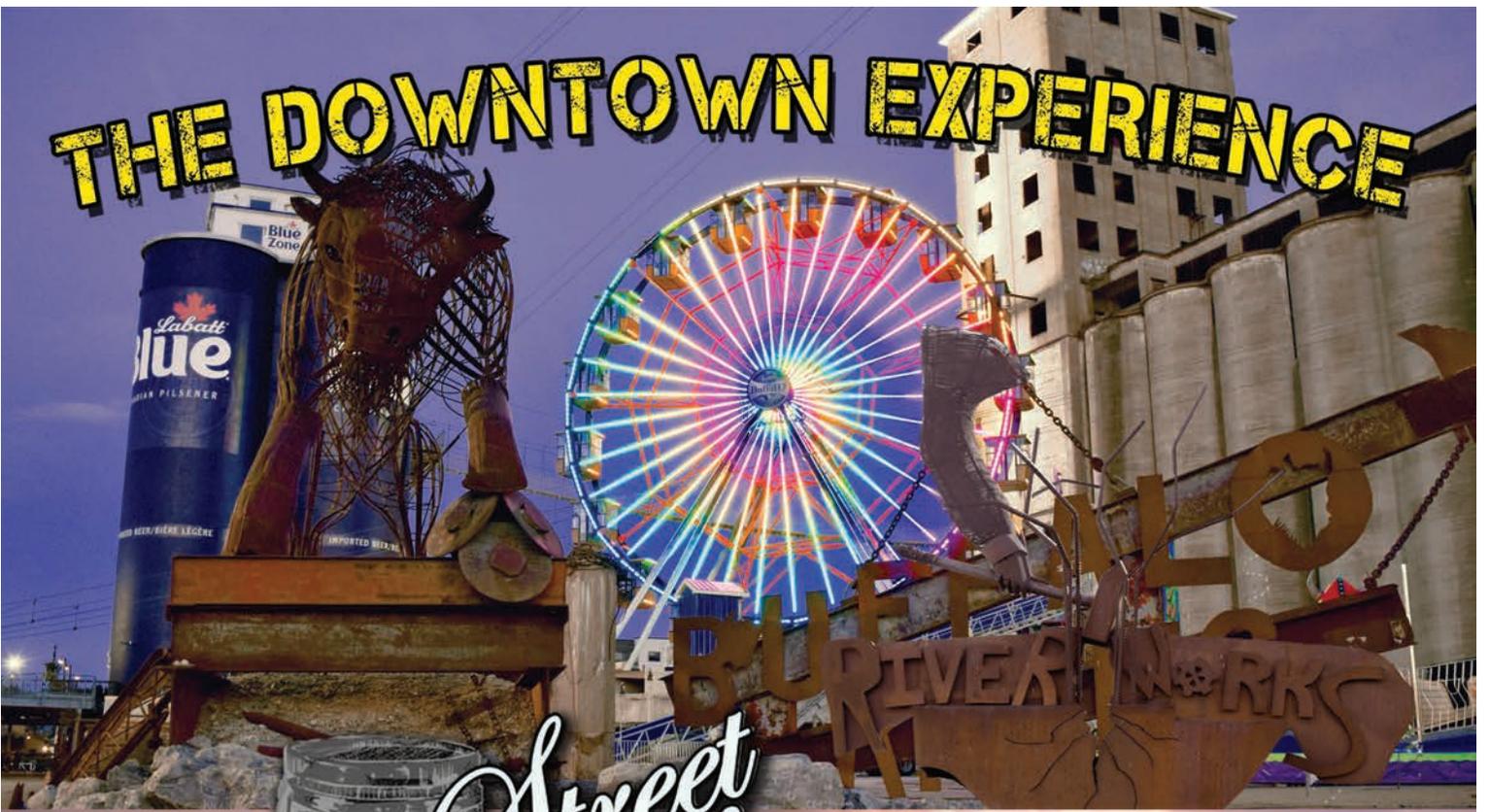
Kevin & Christian: There are so many opportunities to learn on the water here. We have been so grateful for the people who have changed our lives teaching us these incredible activities that we want to share them with as many people as we can. We started our business SUP Erie Adventures to do just that and have been sharing our love and passion of watersports with people for seven years—it has been such a rewarding experience.

If a visitor only had one weekend in town, what would be on your must-see, must-do list for them?

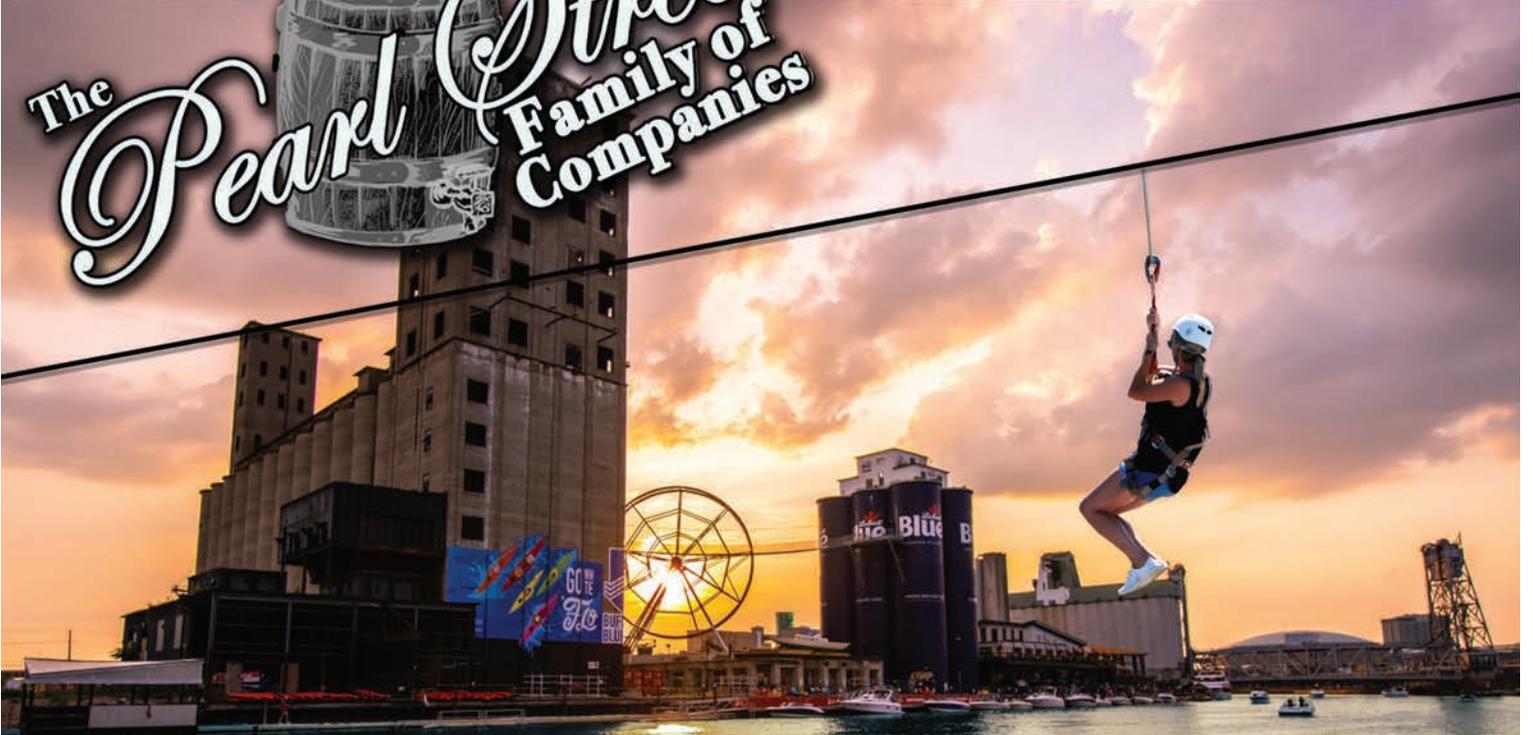
Kevin & Christian: Come visit us down at Hideaway Bay and take a paddle under some of the oldest keystone arch bridges in American and along sea cliffs on the beautiful Lake Erie coast or take a kitesurfing lesson if you're feeling adventurous. Explore whitewater rafting with Adventure Calls Outfitters through Letchworth or Zoar Valley. Go for a sail with Spirit of Buffalo and take a ride on a Whirlpool Jet Boat tour. | 🐾



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Look who's 50!

The Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site opened on September 14, 1971.

The place where Theodore Roosevelt was sworn in as the 26th President of the United States in 1901 was preserved, thanks to the tireless efforts of community organizations, local businesses and individuals.

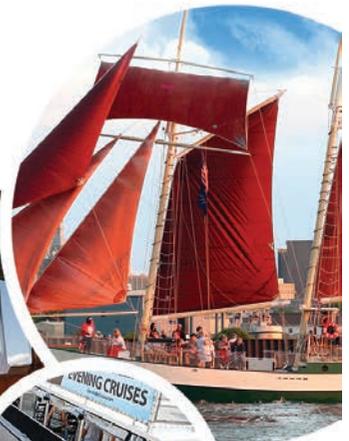
Since then, the "TR Site" has become one of WNY's cultural treasures, engaging, enlightening and entertaining visitors of all ages by transporting them back in time to one of the most pivotal moments in our nation's history.

In celebration of the Site's 50th anniversary, we'll be presenting a number of very special events and activities over the course of the next year. Be sure to stay up to date with all that's happening at trsite.org.



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A NEW GENERATION OF FANS GOES BEYOND BROKEN HEARTS AND BROKEN TABLES

By Erik Brady

Buffalo loves the Bills. This is not unusual. Many NFL cities love their NFL teams.

Ah, but Buffalo loves the Bills in a way that other cities do not. *And cannot.*

That's because of the bison on the helmets. Other professional sports teams have logos that feature their mascots—Lions and Tigers and Bears, oh my!—or sometimes simply the initials of their cities. But only Buffalo has a buffalo. It tells the world that the Bills are not merely our team. They are us.

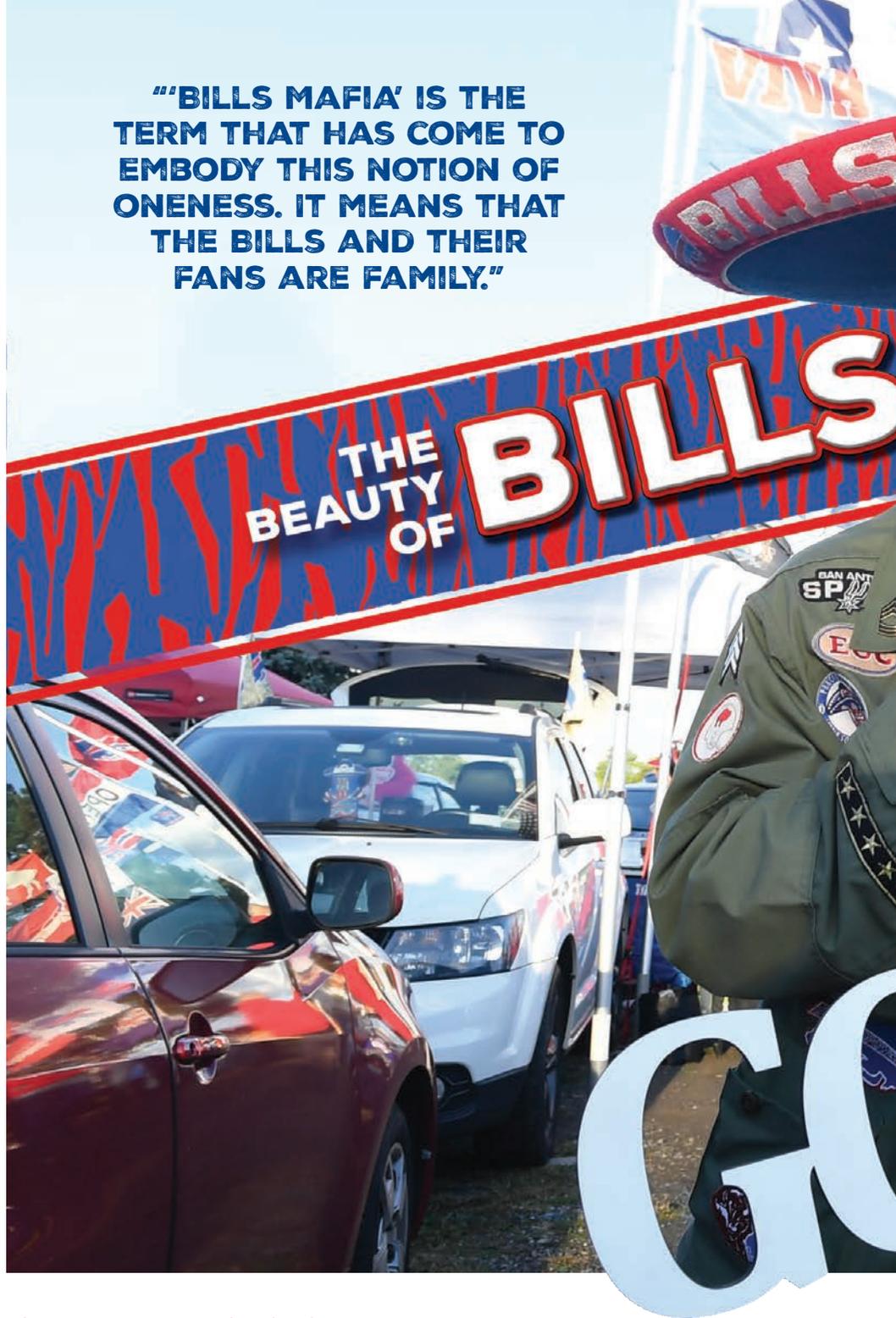
“Bills Mafia” is the term that has come to embody this notion of oneness. It means that the Bills and their fans are family.

The hashtag began as a joke and morphed into a movement.

The short version goes like this: Bills receiver **Stevie Johnson** dropped a game-winning touchdown pass in 2010. On Twitter, he blamed God. (“I praise you 24/7! And this is how you do me!”) This made national news. ESPN’s **Adam Schefter** tweeted about it a day later, which is an eternity in Twitter time. Some Bills fans mocked him for being late to the party: “**Man Invents Fire #SchefterBreakingNews.**”

The hashtag **#BillsMafia** was born of this back and forth. Bills fan extraordinaire **Del Reid** coined the term after being blocked by Schefter on Twitter. He meant it to convey twin thoughts. First: Hey, national media, we are going to stand up for our team. Second: Hey, Buffalo Bills, we’ve got your backs.

“‘BILLS MAFIA’ IS THE TERM THAT HAS COME TO EMBODY THIS NOTION OF ONENESS. IT MEANS THAT THE BILLS AND THEIR FANS ARE FAMILY.”



The term was an inside joke that Reid figured would soon be forgotten, like most things on Twitter.

But then the Bills signed linebacker **Nick Barnett**—and he embraced #BillsMafia giving the term a massive boost. Soon other Bills did, too. From there it just snowballed, as things in Buffalo tend to do.

The Bills are best known nationally for losing four consecutive Super Bowls, and Bills fans for leaping on folding tables. But broken hearts and broken tables don’t come close to telling the whole story.

“THE BILLS ARE THAT EXTRA FAMILY MEMBER IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD IN WESTERN NEW YORK”



NANCY J. PARISI

And that's the beauty of the Bills Mafia. It tells the tale in two words. "The Bills are that extra family member in every household in Western New York," Reid says. "Families have disagreements. We don't always see eye to eye. But families love each other. And we all love the Bills."

Buffalo styles itself as the City of Good Neighbors.

Reid remembers how local fire halls and VFW posts regularly raised money for folks in need. So, he figured it was only natural that Bills Mafia should do the same. That hashtag has raised hundreds of thousands for charities near and far, usually in small increments—such as \$17 for **Josh Allen's** number—that add up to big amounts.

"LOVE DOESN'T KNOW CITY LIMITS."

Bills Mafia raised more than \$1 million for the Oishei Children's Hospital, in honor of Patricia Allen, Josh Allen's late grandmother.

They even donated \$500,000 last winter for Blessings in a Backpack, **Lamar Jackson's** favorite charity, after the quarterback was injured in the Bills' playoff win against his Baltimore Ravens. "Love doesn't know city limits," Reid says. "This is who we are."

The Bills Mafia is a movement born of a happy accident, but what it represents was always here. It's just that now we have a name for it. | 



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Located on the campus of Buffalo State College, the Burchfield Penney Art Center is one of the finest regional museums in the entire country.

Foremost among the Burchfield's credentials is the fact that it's home to the largest collection of work by the great American watercolorist **Charles E. Burchfield**, who spent most of his life in nearby Gardenville. Since 1966, the Burchfield has collected, nurtured and celebrated the work of artists from throughout Western New York.

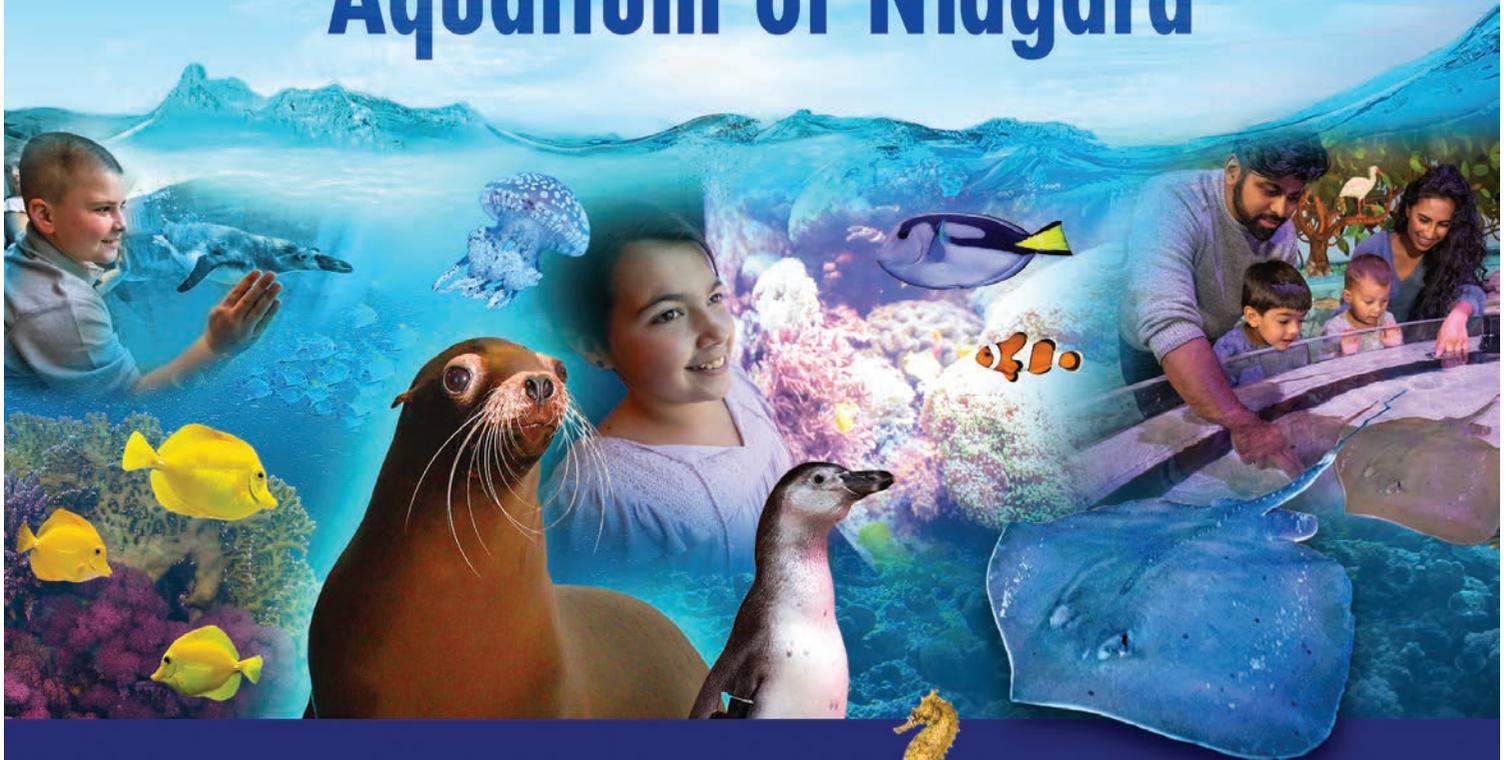
Charles Burchfield is a major American artist. His work was the subject of the first solo artist exhibition in the history of the **Museum of Modern Art**. Regular exhibitions of his work at the Burchfield Penney examine his creative process, sharing journal entries, sketches, notebook jottings and finished work. Of special interest: his studio has been reassembled and installed on the premises.

The Burchfield Penney also serves as the museum of record for Western New York art and artists. Its collection offers a broad and deep look at the art of the region in paintings, watercolors, photographs, sculpture, works on paper and a variety of craft media. A highlight of its annual exhibition calendar is the **Art in Craft Media** exhibition, which shows off the rich tradition of handcrafted artistry in the region.

The Burchfield is a community gathering place as well as an art museum. A busy calendar of **concerts, lectures, classes** and **workshops** keep the museum humming throughout the year. There's a relaxed and unpretentious vibe here that will make anyone feel welcome. | 🐛



Aquarium of Niagara

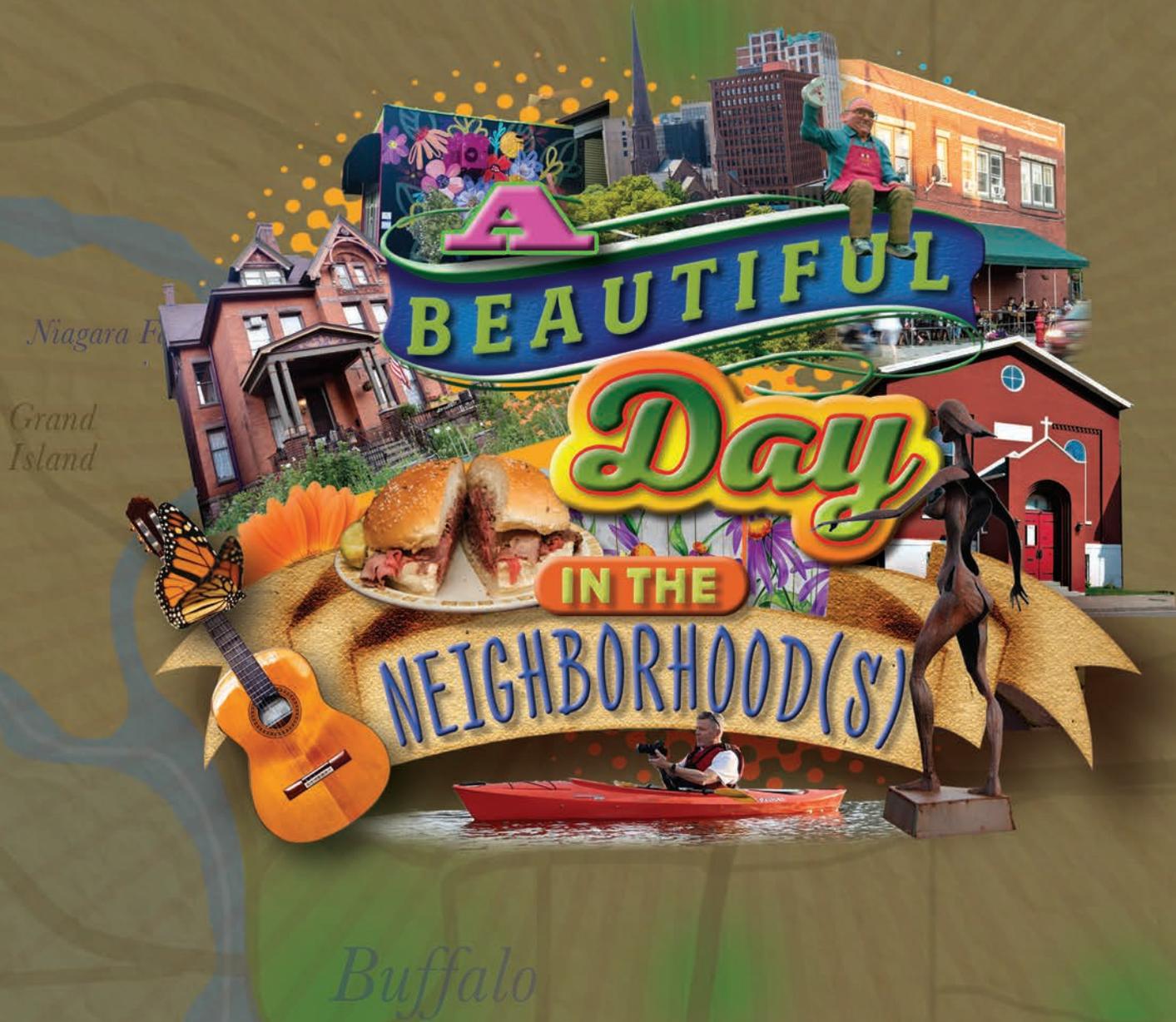


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aquariumofniagara.org



EXPLORING BUFFALO'S DISTINCTIVE DISTRICTS

Buffalo and Erie County are bursting with colorful neighborhoods, each offering its own unique niche. Whether you're interested in a small-town feel that's rich in history or an up-and-coming, hot-spot sprinkled with art galleries and live music, we've got it. A laid-back beachy scene, or a culture-heavy shopping experience? Those are here too! Our flourishing neighborhoods, distinct in their traits and traditions, are ready for you.

Get out and explore!



ELMWOOD VILLAGE Walk and Gawk

Imagine a neighborhood where visitors linger at **open-air cafes** and browse **farmer's market** vendors on a tree-lined parkway in the summer, and gather at cozy coffeehouses and pubs in the winter. Picture a district where independently-owned and artisanal are the descriptors used for retailers instead of chain and franchise. Think of a place where public art can be seen on nearly every block. That's Buffalo's Elmwood Village, named by the American Planning Association as one of the country's 10 best neighborhoods and home to some of the city's most popular shops, bars and restaurants.

CAN'T MISS

Talking Leaves, Buffalo's beloved independently-owned bookstore.



EAST AURORA Quaint and Quirky

The village where **America's Arts and Crafts** movement began over a century ago continues to embrace a creative vibe today. Located 20 minutes from downtown Buffalo, East Aurora is full of distinctive attractions, from the **only house built by a U.S. president** with his own hands to a family owned **5 & 10 store** and a variety of **cafes, boutiques, breweries** and **restaurants**. It's easy to see why so many visitors stay an entire day or a weekend in the village.

CAN'T MISS

The handiwork of the **Roycroft Renaissance** artisans at the **Schoolhouse Gallery**.



PARKSIDE Legendary Landscape

Designed by legendary landscape architect, **Frederick Law Olmsted**, Parkside's tree-lined, curving streets and stately homes provide a pleasant, park-like appeal. Parkside is best known as the home of **Frank Lloyd Wright's Darwin Martin House Complex** and the **Buffalo Zoo**. After strolling through this classic American neighborhood, stop at **JAM Parkside** for a cup of coffee or lunch at the **Parkside Meadow**.

CAN'T MISS The **Polar Bear Exhibit** at the **Buffalo Zoo**.





MICHIGAN/JEFFERSON African-American Heritage

The corner of Michigan and Broadway is the heart of Buffalo's African-American history and heritage. Here you'll find the **Colored Musicians Club and Museum**, the **Michigan Street Baptist Church** and the **Nash House**—three institutions that made significant contributions to the life of the community and today form the foundation of Buffalo's efforts to create a heritage tourism district. Plans are in the works to restore a building adjacent to the Baptist Church that will include a visitor center designed to tell the stories of the people who lived, worked and passed through this historic neighborhood. A few blocks away, you'll find Jefferson Avenue, the commercial heartbeat of Buffalo's near East Side and businesses like **Zawadi Books**, **Golden Cup Coffee**, and **Doris Records**.

CAN'T MISS

The Colored Musician's Club: *Upstairs, for the live music. Downstairs, for a hip history lesson on the meaning of jazz.*

OLD FIRST WARD Blue Collar Buffalo

One of Buffalo's oldest neighborhoods has become one of its hippest neighborhoods. Built close to the **Buffalo River** and the dockside jobs it once promised, the Old First Ward has been reinvigorated in recent years by **kayak launch sites**, new **breweries**, a cool **coffee shop**, seasonal **pop-up dining**, a **rowing club**, **bike paths** and a **climbing gym**. Despite this infusion of entrepreneurial activity, the Ward remains true to its blue-collar roots and home to some of the **city's oldest corner taverns** where you can always find a cold one and friendly conversation.

CAN'T MISS

The bar at **Gene McCarthy's**, the quintessential Buffalo corner tavern and one of the stops on the **Buffalo Wing Trail**.



A SMALL
TOWN IN
THE CITY

ERIC FRICK



FIVE POINTS

A Colorful Cast of People

A diverse range of small businesses, restaurants and artisans call Five Points home. Among the dozen or so businesses there's a **cafe** that would be at home on the streets of Paris, a traditional **African clothing maker**, a **yoga studio**, a **frame shop**, a well-stocked **wine retailer**, an artisanal **chocolate maker**, a couple **places to get plants** for the vase or the garden, **a James Beard-nominated chef**, and some of the best **baked goods** you'll find anywhere—all owned and operated by a colorful cast of people that live and play in the neighborhood. Just like the streets that come together to create the neighborhood's namesake, the Five Points is the perfect union of diversity and culture that you could only find on the West Side.

CAN'T MISS

The to-die-for truffles at **Blue Table Chocolates**.

SPRINGVILLE

Multifaceted Main Street

Springville may appear to be the quintessential American small town, but take a closer look and its appeal is much more multifaceted. Yes, it has a traditional Main Street with small, locally-owned **shops**. And, yes, the **Springville Auction**, which happens every Wednesday, does feel like a snapshot of days gone by when farmers and their families came to town to shop, meet their neighbors and maybe even buy or sell some livestock. But that's just part of the story. Check out the **Springville Center for the Arts**, an innovative regional arts hub with theater, visual arts and musical programming and don't miss nearby **Griffis Sculpture Park** where hundreds of whimsical sculptures dot the rolling hills. And if you're inclined to **hiking** or **kayaking**, **Zoar Valley** has some of the most breathtaking scenery in Western New York.

CAN'T MISS

The freshly baked bread and other goodies at **Art's Café**.



NANCY J. PARISI

THE FLOWER STAND

A "GROWN, NOT FLOWN"
FLOWER FARM LETS U-PICK-EM

By Nancy J. Parisi

Transforming a portion of her third-generation family farm, Ellen Krzemien (née Rumfola) has created a unique U-pick of a myriad of fresh flowers.

It's agri-tourism, and a fun, family-friendly destination in **Springville**, New York that's an easy 36-minute drive from downtown Buffalo. **The Flower Stand**, located along Route 240, typically opens around the Fourth of July. Krzemien, her husband Jon, her dad Joe, and other helpers plant thousands of seeds for a yield lasting through the first frost, usually mid-October, when several varieties of pumpkins enter the mix.

Visits for posy picking are by appointment only; reservations may be made via their website for a 90-minute time slot on one of their days of operation. This, Ellen says, keeps the farm's plants and grounds healthy by limiting visitors during their open hours Tuesdays-Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Flower Stand also features already-cut bouquets, vegetables grown on the farm, flower-related gift items like themed T-shirts, tea towels, pots, and dried herbs.

"The Flower Stand is part of the 'Grown, not Flown' movement of flower farms," Ellen says. "It's a different vibe, and it's organic. It's also about mixing native plants with others for a more diverse, natural look.

"A lot of good things happen here on the farm, people have a visceral reaction to this field," she adds. "I always say 'Come with your people, or alone.' It's a meditative experience and there are benches, and butterflies to just sit and be." 🐛

The Flower Stand
13187 Vaughn Street, Springville
theflowerstand716.com
(716) 913-0626



Come with your people, or alone. It's a meditative experience and there are benches, and butterflies to just sit and be.





“...A LIFE-CHANGING, INSPIRATIONAL
FLOWER EXTRAVAGANZA”

TERESA WATKINS, RADIO HOST/GARDEN WRITER

Not every New York city necessarily smells like flowers, but Buffalo sure does. Why? Well, for one reason, there's Garden Walk Buffalo — the largest free garden tour in the US, presenting over 400 gardens to over 60,000 visitors from around the world. Come join us July 30-31, 2022 to celebrate a gardening scene that continues to bloom and grow.



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FIND YOURSELF IN THE QUEEN CITY



AN INTRODUCTION TO LGBTQ BUFFALO

Buffalo is a welcoming place from the moment you set foot here, with an energetic LGBTQ community and pride flags hanging from homes and businesses across the city year-round. The Queen City doesn't just welcome LGBTQ+ individuals—we embrace them.

Our LGBTQ community has found a safe and vibrant home in our diverse city. Not only do we honor Pride month with a huge festival and activities throughout June, but we also believe in celebrating and supporting our LGBTQ community all year long with educational and nurturing gatherings, thrilling dance parties

and other fun events that happen every month, such as Gay Bingo and Queer Dodgeball.

From our many LGBTQ bars and LGBTQ-owned businesses to

our rich history and thriving arts and music scene, this progressive city with a small-town vibe is the perfect place for people of all identities. | 





BREAKFASTS 5 TO TRY



Kartika Carr is the owner of **Khari's Café**, 128 Fargo Avenue, an ideal spot for coffee lovers, café aficionados, and those yearning for a warming bowl of savory grits.

BROTHER'S

I'm honestly obsessed; their shrimp and grits, their fried lobster, I STAN! Brother's has always served amazing food, given great service, and handled last-minute requests with diplomacy, I can't say enough about them.

475 Ellicott St, Buffalo
716brothers.com

CAMPFIRE GRILLE

I was invited there back in 2019 and my life was forever changed. They have these amazing home fries that are perfectly seasoned. And I can't forget their cinnamon roll pancakes. They are to die for and I can't help but get them every single time.

3003 Walden Ave, Depew
campfiregrill.org

LA CASA DE SABORES

La Casa makes homey Dominican food and they've been filling my need for good mangu! The traditional Dominican breakfast includes mangu (mashed plantains), fried cheese, eggs, and salami. It's a filling meal for a long day and is paired nicely with a fresh cup of coffee.

1 Letchworth Street, Buffalo
(716) 370-1484

UNDERGROUNDS COFFEE HOUSE AND ROASTERY

There's something heavenly about chipotle apricot jam. This is the signature spread on Undergrounds' Colonel Francisco sandwich. The pairing of the jam with the pepperjack cheese is a unique play on sweet and spicy. The kick may be mild, but the sandwich is full of flavor.

580 South Park Avenue, Buffalo
undergroundscoffeebuffalo.com

TRAPHAUS CATERING

I truly can say there are no better cooks in Buffalo than Thomas and Marquita Page. They have mastered breakfast. They, hands down, have the best grits in Buffalo, and their banana fosters French toast is something magical. They can be found on Facebook for ordering instructions.

(716) 316-0094
facebook.com/traphauscatering

LGBTQ BUFFALO: At a Glance

THE GAYBORHOOD- ALLENTOWN

The largest concentration of gay bars in Buffalo is located in Allentown. Did we mention bars are open until 4 a.m. here?

PRIDE FESTIVAL

With LGBTQ+ icons taking the main stage, the Pride Festival attracts a diverse crowd of more than 15,000 fun-loving individuals—making it a party like no other.

THE GOLDEN AGE OF DRAG

Club Marcella is a LGBTQ+ dance club that hosts regular drag nights. See local queens take the stage and you may even be invited up yourself!

NIGHTLIFE: AMBUSH

Ambush is a monthly event where lesbians take over a different bar in Buffalo. It's a fun, low-key way to hang out with your friends and meet other lesbians in the area.

PHOTOS BY ERIC FRICK



HOSTEL HOSPITALITY

By Nancy J. Parisi

The independent non-profit **Hostel Buffalo-Niagara** is three stories of hospitality in a prime spot in the heart of downtown's **Theatre District**.



Established in 1996, it is the oldest not-for-profit independent hostel in Western New York, serving more than 6,000 guests annually. On the hostel booking site hostelworld.com the Buffalo hostel garners a “Superb” rating of ten in more than 1,000 reviews posted by former guests in categories including security, cleanliness, and location.

A guest from last year commented: “Great location! 15-minute walk from **Anchor Bar** and **Gabriel’s Gate** (best wings in town IMO). Very helpful staff member on check-in gave me lots of cool ideas of what to see and do in Buffalo. Extremely clean...Free tea coffee and porridge oats are a bonus. Highly recommend.”

Hosteling—staying at low-cost, communal hostels—is perfect for budget-conscious (prices start at \$38/night) travelers, groups, and those who like to hunker down and get to know the locals and fellow travelers. The youth hostel concept got rolling in the early 20th century and remains a popular way to see the sights, while connecting to like-minded visitors from all over the globe.

“We get Europeans, Canadians, Asian, South American visitors as well as families and organized travel groups, and independent travelers,” says hostel manager J.P. Piret. “They come to downtown and most times they’re coming to visit **Niagara Falls**. We get a lot of people who come to town for the New York State bar exam, too. We have also inspired a few people to move to Buffalo after their stays here.”

Amenities for guests include free Wi-Fi, free bicycle sharing, laundry room, a movie library and book exchange. There is also bike storage in the building for bikepackers—and the hostel has installed a self-help bike stand in front of their building. Another back room hosts small concerts. Brochures and publications promoting dozens of local attractions and events are on display prominently in the sunny lobby near some comfy chairs: hundreds of posters and flyers from past events in the city wallpaper floor-to-ceiling behind the front desk.

“When people stay here they get a good impression of Buffalo,” adds Piret. “It’s almost like a springboard and they find their community through here—they’ll connect with other people at art openings, the music world, and festivals.” | 🐘



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-TRIP ADVISOR REVIEW



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RHYTHM OF THE CITY



BUFFALO'S MUSIC SCENE IS ENERGIZED AND INSPIRED AFTER ITS PANDEMIC HIATUS

By Michael Farrell

The music of Buffalo supplies the rhythm of the city. It moves the region through our seasons, tells our distinctive stories and connects generations through power chords and percussion. It's not only a vital part of what we are; it's who we are, comprised of the Buffalo-bred-artists that amplify it all.

So, what happens to these artists when a worldwide pandemic hits the pause button on their performances inside places like **Nietzsche's**, **Sportsmen's Tavern** and **Buffalo Iron Works**, and eliminates an essential element of life for locals? We checked in with a few of the city's favorite musicians to learn how they managed to persevere through challenging times, and what it feels like to be back playing live music Buffalo's been waiting to hear.

Visit Buffalo Niagara: *How would you describe the Buffalo music scene to someone playing the city for the first time?*

Sonny Baker: This town has some serious heavy hitters, with top-notch players and songwriters. Buffalo doesn't really get its due when it comes to recognizing the talent here; and for the most part, every[musician] is pretty supportive of each other.

VBN: *What does being a Buffalo musician mean to you?*

Maria Aurigema: I am Buffalo. I live in Buffalo, I spend winter in Buffalo, and I am super proud of the unbelievable amount of talent that is in Buffalo and has come out of Buffalo. I'll always be



Buffalo, and when I get the winter blues, I just play the blues—and then I feel better.

VBN: How did you spend your time away from the stage?

Eric Crittenden: Lots of walking, lots of eating and binging shows/movies and games. Eventually, I got with [Buffalo singer/songwriter] David Cloyd and we opened the Buffalo Music Club. We wanted to create the love child of [online freelance services site] Fiverr and Etsy for Buffalo music—a marketplace for Buffalo musicians—so we did. It was ignited during COVID, but a longtime coming, given our collective desires and visions beyond our own stages and studios.

VBN: You returned to the stage in June, with two sets upstairs at Mr. Goodbar. Can you describe your emotions during and after that first performance?

Sonny Baker: It was exhilarating. All the familiar feelings rushing back at once. I couldn't stop smiling—and then after a few songs, I was thinking, "Oh wow, I'm incredibly out of shape."

VBN: How did the crowd respond to your first show back?

Eric Crittenden: Hugging and dancing and partying and getting all-the-way lit up. As a live performer who has basically made an entire career in the jam band scene, that kind of music doesn't exist without the audience, so it was an insanely special experience.

VBN: What will you need to see to know that Buffalo's music scene is fully back to its pre-pandemic form?

Maria Aurigema: Things will be normal when friends start to argue about which club to go to see which act because there's so much going on at the same time—and my phone will be ringing with gig offers!

VBN: Now that you can reflect on the past two years, did you learn anything new about your connection to music?

Maria Aurigema: I get very blue when I don't play music, and I wonder about my purpose. When I'm back out there playing shows, I feel satisfied that I'm using my gift to make people feel good, energized and inspired. | 🐾



EVEN OUR LAKE IS **GREAT.**

As a destination, Buffalo is an outdoor recreation sensation. We've got some of the best freshwater fishing in North America. We've created miles of parks and trails along our beautiful lakeshore. And we've converted a concrete canyon of grain silos into a hub for kayaking, zip lining, and rock climbing. This is a great place to visit if you love the great outdoors — which, let's face it, is not something every New York city can say.



#INTHEBUF

By Nancy J. Parisi

They come from across the United States and Canada. From the four corners of the globe. From as near as Rochester and as far away as Australia. They are young families, couples with kids, ex-pats, cultural tourists, festival lovers and Bills fans.

Some are visiting relatives, celebrating an anniversary or just looking for a change of scenery. In a world of travel options, they found their way to Buffalo in 2021. Here are a few of their stories

*Dahana & Duffy
Armstrong*

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT



SPOTTED AT ERIE COUNTY FAIR

Dahana and Duffy Armstrong of Hartford, Connecticut were visiting **Erie County Fair** for the first time, excitedly walking along the midway. The couple was in Buffalo for a weekend of fun with family and friends but made alone time to go to the Fair. Also on their travel docket were plans to go out in Allentown. “We’re going to go to **Allen Street Hardware** later tonight,” says Dahana, “we heard that they renovated and can’t wait to see it. We also like walking around that neighborhood, and have been out to other bars and restaurants on Allen Street.” “I’m looking forward to having some sausages, and going on some rides,” says Duffy. “And buttered popcorn!” says Dahana, “I’m not a kettle corn girl, it’s got to be hot and buttered. We did come for the food, mainly!”

#INTHEBUF

SPOTTED AT WILKESON POINTE

In the BUF spotted Juan and Xiomara of Patterson, New Jersey, relaxing in the distinctive turquoise-colored Adirondack chairs at Wilkeson Pointe on a Sunday afternoon. They were in town visiting their daughter Joeli and her boyfriend Rob.

Joeli translated. Juan and Xiomara visit a couple of times a year. “We love Buffalo, and we like to see our usual spots – **Niagara Falls, Elmwood Village, and downtown Buffalo.** This trip we went to see the **Cave of the Winds** for the first time,” says Juan. “It was really a perfect thing to do on a summer day. We like walking around downtown, looking at the architecture along Main Street and near **City Hall.**”

Juan & Xiomara Ramos
PATTERSON, NEW JERSEY



NANCY J. PARISI

SPOTTED AT BUFFALO CENTRAL TERMINAL

A PLAY/GROUND 2021 SITE

Visiting Buffalo Central Terminal for the first time was mom-son travel team Jennifer and James from Bloomington, Illinois. They were checking out several **PLAY/GROUND 2021** sites that they'd learned about online. They were also happy to participate in what the PLAY/GROUND website called a community-involved art project where visitors prime, install and paint park benches. “We’re in Buffalo for five days and have been finding fun activities for each day. We visited, and loved, **Canalside** and we rented **paddleboats,**” says Jennifer. “We really like that Canalside is a great place to chill and the paddleboats were super-reasonably priced,” adds James. “It’s a great place to relax and be in the city, it’s so easy here to get outside.”

Jennifer & James Mroz
BLOOMINGTON,
ILLINOIS



NANCY J. PARISI

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The secret is out

BILL WIPPERT



Donn Esmonde is the retired Metro Columnist at The Buffalo News. The transplanted Long Islander's love affair with Buffalo began upon arrival in 1982, continuing unabated as the city's long-untapped resources were gradually revealed.

Buffalo used to be the classic insider's town. If you lived here long enough, or if you knew people in the know, then its hidden charms would be revealed, its untapped potential obvious, its camouflaged resources uncovered.

No more. From **Canalside** to cultural amenities, from lakefront to **Larkinville**, Buffalo's cocoon-bursting transformation is abundantly apparent. Call it a renaissance. Label it a transformation. To this 40-year transplant, it's more like a big reveal.

A downtown waterfront that once was a collection of weeds, parking lots and chain-link fencing has transformed into Canalside. What was the historic western terminus of the **Erie Canal** morphed into a communal destination on the **Buffalo River**. From a restored **carousel** to **riverfront restaurants** overlooking a passing parade of kayakers, boaters and the occasional lake freighter, a once-barren landscape now bustles with the energy of rediscovery. Anchored by the **KeyBank Center**, home of the **NHL Sabres**, a new **Children's Museum** and an enhanced **Naval and Servicemen's Park**, the homestretch of the historic canal is now a playground for **winter ice skaters** and **summer paddleboaters**.

The civic playground stretches along the river south from Canalside. Once the site of Earth Day cleanups, riverfront sights feature the **Ferris wheel** and signature "six pack" cluster of **grain elevators** of the **RiverWorks** restaurant/entertainment complex. Beyond it lies the industrial canyon of **Silo City**, the towering collection of grain elevators bears testament to Buffalo's former glory as a crossroads of Great Lakes rail and shipping. The once-desolate grandeur is now a setting for performance art and special events, with apartments and commercial space to come.

Downtown emerged from faded glory to a *de facto* architectural museum. It's a short walk from the art deco **City Hall**, turning its broad shoulders to **Lake Erie**, to the preservationist-rescued **Guaranty Building**—Louis Sullivan's prototypical steel-skeletal skyscraper—to the mosaic-tiled lobby of the **Ellicott Square** building, once the world's largest office structure. Surrounding the centerpieces are dozens of grand 19th Century structures, vestiges of Buffalo's heyday as a hub of Lake Erie commerce. Once vacant or neglected, they in recent years were reborn as apartments, office buildings and hotels—highlighted by the **Hotel @ Lafayette**, whose circa-1904 grandeur barely escaped the wrecking ball.

In downtown and beyond, century-old warehouses and factories were repurposed as brewpubs, distilleries and restaurants.

Destination pocket neighborhoods like **Larkinville** and the **Chandler Street** section of **Black Rock** popped up like spring flowers on neglected industrial wastelands. A decades-long exodus to the suburbs seemingly reversed, with millennials and empty nesters drawn to the buzz of urban and waterfront revival. The city for the first time in decades added population, largely driven by an influx of immigrants and refugees to the diverse **West Side**.

A mural on the side of a downtown building states, Keep Buffalo A Secret. Sorry, too late. Witnessing a city of promise finally fulfill its potential, realize its resources, is beyond gratifying for this longtime resident. No more is this a place appreciated only by those in the know.

Now, everybody knows. | 

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DREW BROWN

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It's a city that treasures its past even as it looks toward a bright future, and for people who love American architecture, it's a museum without roof or walls. It's a place that will surprise you and one you won't soon forget.

Buffalo

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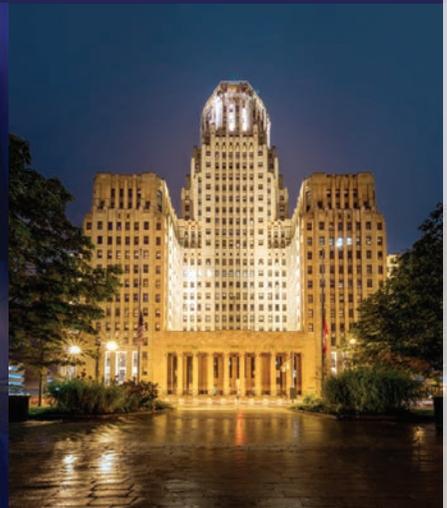


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