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# NIAGARA FALLS REPORTER

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FREE

## Two years, two boats, too bad for New York



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# Divided Opposition Gives Dyster Four More Years



**Tony Farina**

**P**aul Dyster won a third term as mayor of Niagara Falls on Tuesday thanks in large measure to the write-in campaign waged by one of his fiercest critics over the last four years, Glenn Choolokian, who refused to stop campaigning for mayor after he narrowly lost the Democratic primary to Dyster by 64 votes in September, thereby siphoning off votes from Republican candidate John Accardo on Election Day.

The unofficial count on Tuesday was Dyster with 4,267 votes, Accardo 3,468, and 1,275 write-in votes (Choolokian). Together, Accardo and the write-in vote totaled 4,743, enough to beat Dyster if the vote had not been split. Dyster won with less than 50 percent of the vote.

So Choolokian, who attacked Dyster's secretive management style, spending practices, constituent failures, and Buffalo political connections, may have actually kept Dyster in office by not dropping his campaign after the primary.

Sources tell the Niagara Falls Reporter that Choolokian would have dropped out if he had been guaranteed a high-ranking position in an Accardo administration but Accardo refused to make the promise and an angry Choolokian stayed in.

There you have it, the story of how Dyster won a third term despite high negatives, several major development failures including no Hamister Hotel as promised, and a



**Glenn Choolokian**

city on the brink of not being able to pay its bills after spending down its reserves during the gaming crisis.

Insiders in the political arena say Accardo made a grave mistake by not getting Choolokian out of the race and it cost him any chance of winning. As for Choolokian, the former council president and taxpayer watchdog did not distinguish his legacy by refusing to live by the primary result and let Accardo run one-on-one against the mayor

who he has criticized as a failure for the last four years.

Choolokian, who works for the Falls Water Board, decided a job at city hall was more important to him than turning out Dyster, and when he couldn't make a job deal with Accardo, he got angry and divided Dyster's opposition by staying in the race, guaranteeing the mayor another four years.

For his part, Dyster can claim victory, say he's still the agent for change for Niagara

Falls, and continue to run city hall the way he has for the last eight years, a mixed performance at best and not enough to keep him in office if the majority of voters on Tuesday had won the day. They didn't, and Dyster has another four years to finish what he has started, and that apparently includes building a hotel at 310 Rainbow Blvd. promised more than two years ago by Buffalo developer Mark Hamister.

Choolokian will be out come Jan. 1, and so will long-time lawmaker Bob Anderson who often supported Choolokian and former Councilmember Sam Fruscione in opposition to Dyster's policies. Fruscione lost after taking on the Hamister Hotel project, and now Choolokian and Anderson will follow, leaving Dyster with a stronger hand with the council that will include newcomers Ezra Scott and Kenneth Tompkins.

For the sake of everyone with a stake in the future of Niagara Falls, the hope is that Dyster's next four years will be better than the last eight, and that city leaders, including Council President Andrew Touma, can work together to create jobs, deliver services, and build up the reserve fund again for the benefit of all taxpayers.

Dyster may have won with less than a majority vote, but win he did and it is time for the city to come together and heal the wounds of the bitter election and concentrate on making the future a little better for the long suffering residents of the world wonder city.

Niagara Falls needs more spectacular attractions like Nik Wallenda to rise to the next level as a tourist city, and that can be done if the leaders can find a way to work together and put the bitterness of the last four years behind. But that doesn't mean a free ride for Dyster, and he should be held accountable for the job he's doing for as long as he is in office. That's the American way. The first thing he should do is open up government to the public, making it more transparent so people know what's going on at city hall. Dyster is only a tenant; city hall belongs to the people.

## NIAGARA FALLS REPORTER

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# Two Years, Two Boats, Too Bad for New York

Canadians get \$14 million while Glynn's Maid of the Mist pays little for boat tour in New York



Ontario's tour boat (left) versus New York's tour boat (right)

## Frank Parlato

This Sunday the Maid of the Mist takes its last cruise of the season, signaling the end of summer for Niagara Falls residents and businesses. Tour boats are pulled from the lower Niagara River to be stored on dry docks.

At the Niagara Falls State Park, NY, it was another successful year for Maid of the Mist Steamship Co. owner James V. Glynn of Lewiston, NY. Of course it will never be as successful as the old days when Glynn held the boat tour concessions on both sides of the Niagara. That changed in 2012 when the Steamship Co. lost its contract after 165 years and a new operator, Hornblower Canada, was given a 30-year contract to operate tours from the Canadian side.

But thanks to the generous Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who gave Glynn in effect a \$100 million discount in rent, Glynn should continue to make profits from his New York boat tour concession in the Niagara Falls State Park for years to come.

This year marks the second season that the two tour boat companies competed on opposite sides of the gorge, so we can now accurately compare. The Canadian side fared infinitely better for taxpayers while in New York a businessman fared superbly and taxpayers got shortchanged.

Ontario will get more than \$14 million this year thanks to the competitive bidding for the right to operate the tour. In New York, thanks to Gov. Cuomo's arrangement with Glynn, only about \$300,000 is picked up for the exact same tour concession.

According to Hornblower CEO Terry MacRae, his company pays about 40 percent of gross sales with a combination of base rent plus a percentage of gross sales.

MacRae said the higher rent paid to Ontario will translate to \$14 million in rent paid to the Ontario Niagara Parks Commission by the time Hornblower boats come out of the water—about three weeks later than the Maid—on November 29.

The \$14 million in rent was paid on sales to more than 1.8 million Hornblower passengers this year who paid \$19.95 (Canadian/adult) for the standard 20 minute tour below the falls.

Glynn, on the other hand, pays eight percent of gross sales on an estimated 1.1 million annual passengers who pay \$17 (US/adult) for his 20 minute boat tour.

The gross rent Glynn pays comes in at about \$1.5 million, (about 10 percent of what Hornblower pays) however Glynn's lease has an additional sweetener that Hornblower doesn't have: According to Glynn's proforma, made part of his 56 page, 2003 lease, Glynn gets some \$1.2 million in fees this year from people who visit the observation deck adjacent to his elevators which go down to his boats—since the state gifted him this concession as part of his 40 year lease.

When you subtract the \$1.2 million Glynn collects from the elevator/observation deck fees, from the \$1.5 million rent he pays, the net result is that Glynn will pay about \$300,000 net this year for his Maid of the Mist boat concession.

The \$13.7 million difference in rent paid for what is essentially the same boat tour has more to do with how Glynn and Hornblower were respectively awarded their leases than any appreciable difference in what they offer.

In Ontario, in 2012, Hornblower responded to an RFP and won the award against six other bidders including Maid of the Mist, after the Ontario Ministry of Tourism ordered the Niagara Parks Commission to open up the Niagara Falls boat tour concession to a tender for the first time in the park's 125 year history.

Hornblower's winning bid guarantees \$500 million to the Ontario government over the 30-year lease and includes minimum annual base payments in addition to 22.5 percent on boat tour sales.

Hornblower is a San Francisco based company that also won competitive bidding to operate the boat ferries to the Statue of Liberty and Alcatraz Island.

In New York, however, the state did not put the boat tour out to bid.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Glynn decided privately on what the deal would be and lawyers worked out the reasons why there would be no competitive bidding. Then it was announced to the public.

In 2013, Hornblower sued New York State to have bidding opened up on the American side of the Falls, saying Hornblower would pay \$100 million more than the Maid of the Mist would pay in New York over the life of the lease, but the trial judge, State Supreme Court Justice Catherine Nugent Panepinto, and the New York State Court of Appeals, ruled in favor of the Maid of the Mist, deferring to the governor's position that state parks can decide not to put a concession out to bid and dismissed the lawsuit.

Christopher Glynn, the son of James Glynn, and current Maid of the Mist president, said after the ruling, "The courts were never swayed by baseless claims that the plaintiffs were prepared to pay more for the U.S.A. contract."

But were they baseless?

Would competitive bidding in New York have done for New York what it did for Ontario?

In response to Hornblower's offer to pay \$100 million more, State Parks wrote that Glynn's license agreement does not need to go out to bid and remains in effect until 2043.

Parks also wrote that they dismissed Hornblower's \$100 million higher offer as the act of a company "simply behaving as would be expected of a self-interested private corporation, seeking to eliminate its competitor and favorably position itself for future negotiations with State Parks for the resulting business opportunity."

In addition to paying more in rent, it became evident this year that Hornblower offers amenities the Maid of the Mist does not.

Unlike the Maid of the Mist, Hornblower offers evening cruises, hosts private and corporate events and has within their boats offer-

ings of snacks, drinks, bathrooms, handicap access and dry areas where passengers on cold days can view the falls without being drenched by the mist.

Maid, because their boats are all pre-1987, and are grandfathered in by the Coast Guard, offers none of these amenities and has only one standard daytime tour which runs successively with passengers boarding one of their two 600 passenger capacity boats.

The standard 20 minute daytime tour of the falls however operates differently on either side of the border.

Hornblower, which has two 700 passenger capacity catamarans and a 150 passenger steamship style boat, offers timed tickets which eliminate wait times for passengers. If you buy a ticket for 3pm you arrive shortly before and depart at 3pm.

Glynn's Maid of the Mist does not offer timed tickets choosing to operate on first come, first serve basis which, during Saturdays and holidays in July and August, translates to hours-long waits for customers for its 20 minute tour.

On July 4, where attendance was more than 16,000 for the day, passenger wait time exceeded three hours for Maid of the Mist, according to several tour operators familiar with the attraction.

Now the summer has ended.

In Ontario, park commissioners reaped a windfall and were able to eliminate their years-long \$4 million annual deficits and now pay for all the services in the park without burdening taxpayers.

The NPC even enjoys a surplus and has used the extra money to pay for long neglected maintenance.

The difference being the extra \$14 million the NPC gets from Hornblower—the result of competitive bidding.

In New York, the taxpayers pay the freight and Glynn picks up a tidy profit.

It is not all profit however.

Glynn made contributions to the governor, the lieutenant governor, various elected officials, lobbyist Patricia Lynch and even made a \$25,000 donation to the Democratic National Committee.

In New York, while the cost of doing business is often said to be high and that the business climate is, governmentally speaking, decidedly hostile, smart businessmen like Glynn prove abundantly that small investments can sometimes pay off.

# Dyster's Niagara Falls "Victory" Owes Much to Spoiler Choolokian, So Thanks

## Mike Hudson

Thanks a bundle Glenn.

Soon to be former city Councilman Glenn Choolokian, formerly the loudest critic of newly reelected Mayor Paul Dyster, inadvertently handed his nemesis the election this week, a textbook example in the never ending chronicle of why Niagara Falls is so completely messed up.

That's right, the two time incumbent mayor was reelected by the residents of a nearly bankrupt city that is also the most heavily taxed in the state, has one of the highest crime rates in the country and also boasts the highest per capita population of registered sex offenders of any municipality in New York.

The man behind the crooked Hamister deal, the outrageous Holiday Market and the downright creepy Hard Rock Café concert series has been given a third term as mayor. This is a feat unequalled since Mayor E. Dent Lackey tore down the whole downtown during the 1970s in order to build a bunch of Stalin-esque nowhereville of grandiose buildings and huge open plazas during the 1970s.

The people of Niagara Falls loved him too, though now his name is spat upon.

The anti Dyster vote of 53 percent was divided between Choolokian, who received 14 percent of the vote as a write-in candidate, and Republican John Accardo, who garnered 39 percent of the vote.



Lackey Plaza 1977

Choolokian never had a chance. No write in candidacy ever does. Whether it's former mayor Vince Anello, former city councilman Sam Fruscione, or Choolokian – who Dyster squeaked past in this year's Democratic primary election – write in candidacies are vanity projects.

Choolokian's candidacy was allegedly based on the fact that he wasn't Paul Dyster. Clearly, that was absolutely the only thing he had going on. His ideas were vague, his social skills were absent and his "vision" for the



Mayor E. Dent Lackey

future of the city amounted to nothing more than, "Well. At least I ain't as bad as him."

Several sources told Artvoice this week that Choolokian had asked for a highly paid administration position in return for dropping his candidacy and throwing his support to Accardo in the general election but was told that such a deal could not be promised.

"We've accomplished a lot together, but I'm not satisfied with where we are yet in the City of Niagara Falls," Dyster told a couple hundred supporters inside the Frederick Cadillac American Legion Post in the City Market after declaring victory just 40 minutes after the polls closed.

All across the city, the thousands of voters who cast ballots against him, along with thousands more who didn't even bother going to the polls out of disgust for the way the city has traditionally been governed, silently agreed. They aren't satisfied with where the city is at either.

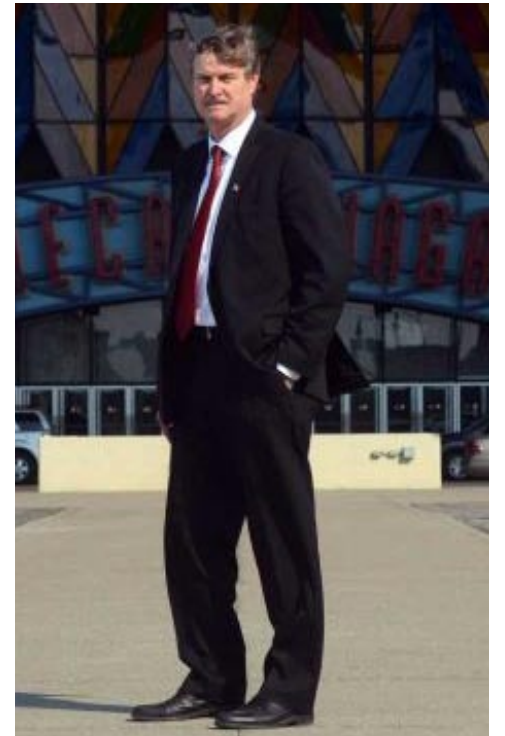
Choolokian, 48, works for the Niagara Falls Water Board. Choolokian served one year on the Council in 2005 and won a four-year term in 2011. Accardo, 60, served nine years on the City Council, ran unsuccessfully for mayor in 1999 and 2011 and has also run without luck for Assembly. He runs an insurance agency on Pine Avenue. In addition to the Republican line, Accardo also ran the Conservative, Independence and Reform party lines.

In all, Dyster received 4,043 votes on the Democratic line, 87 on the Green Party line and 137 on the Working Families Party line. Choolokian got 1,275 write in votes and Accardo's efforts landed him 2,721 Republican votes and another 748 minor party votes.

In other words, Accardo would have needed just 800 of those 1,275 anti Dyster, Choolokian voters in order to win.

Thanks Glenn. And congratulations. Your egotistical nature combined with your total lack of political savvy and rookie league career climbing ambition handed the election to a man you've called a scoundrel and worse. A man who led the city into having to grovel before the New York State Restructuring Board for Local Governments, and will agree to that agency's union busting recommendations for your fellow city employees as though they were the Ten Commandments Moses climbed up Mt. Sinai to receive.

In a little more than a month, you will be



Mayor Paul Dyster

off the city Council and continue on in the irrelevancy you so richly deserve.

And you, John Accardo, who beat then Mayor Jimmy Galie in 1998 to hand the election over to Irene Elia, then upset former state assemblywoman Francine DelMonte just to allow John Ceretto to take the seat.

Maybe it's karma. Maybe Accardo has unraveled so many political careers in his own past, only to go on and lose, that now the Universe has unleashed Choolokian to turn around and do the same to him this week.

So you've all reelected a mayor who has overseen the worst decline the city has seen in a century. Congratulations to you too. You have the cheapest looking ramshackle courthouse in the Northeast and Midwest, and your grandchildren will be paying for it. They'll be paying too, for a train station that will be a museum piece by the time they grow up.

Somebody once said, during the time of Hitler and Mussolini, that we all get the governments we deserve.

With the great help of Glenn Choolokian, the residents of Niagara Falls have demonstrated this once again.

In a very sad way.

"I've won a third term as mayor of the city of Niagara Falls, but I'm still the change agent in this race," Dyster said.

Dyster credited his win, in part, to the significant support of local labor unions and the support of African Americans, who make-up one quarter of the Falls' population. He entered Tuesday's election with announced support from several major Niagara County labor unions as well as city police and fire unions.

Good luck to them. And shame on them.

Oddly enough, it was perennial loser John Accardo who offered the most encouraging words following the election night debacle.

"I will never run for any race at all, anywhere, anytime," he said. "I'm officially finished with politics."

Please let it be true John, please let it be true.

And thanks again Glenn.

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# Choolokian Candidacy Mattered Less Than Public Apathy in Dyster Win



## Anna Howard

Glenn Choolokian had every right to continue his candidacy in this week's mayoral election.

There. I said it. Niagara Falls Reporter writer Mike Hudson has summed up the feelings of many here in his article, which portrays Choolokian as the "spoiler" in the race, which was won by two term incumbent Mayor Paul Dyster with less than 50 percent of the vote.

The Monday morning quarterbacks here argue that, by staying in the race, Choolokian split the anti-Dyster vote and handed the victory to the man he'd characterized previously as one of the worst mayors in the city's history.

That may be true. We can never know for certain.

But the fact that he had the right to do

what he did cannot be argued. We live in a democracy. After losing the Democratic primary election to Dyster by around 60 votes, Choolokian truly believed he had a shot to win in the general with his write in candidacy.

What stuns me personally is that, after eight years of decline and nearly \$200 million of casino cash squandered, 47 percent of the voting public saw another four years of Mayor Paul Dyster as a viable option for the city.

The failed Hamister hotel deal and the moribund AquaFalls project are but two examples of an administration that cannot manage to attract significant private development even when it throws scads of taxpayer money at the developers.

After the election, the mayor went so far as to tell reporters that Gov. Andrew Cuomo's Buffalo Billion program, which is now under investigation by the U.S. Justice Department,

would be the magic bullet that will lead to the city's revitalization.

"The best is still ahead here, with our participation in the Buffalo Billion, all the economic development that is going on in Niagara Falls, these next four years are going to be a great time to be mayor in this city," Dyster said.

And the mayor's shocking and disgraceful handling of the 72nd Street debacle, where more than 200 families spent two winters without running water because of a problem caused directly by a repaving project he directed speaks for itself.

The French philosopher Joseph de Maistre once wrote that people get the government they deserve. In Niagara Falls, Tuesday's election results bore this out.

It is not Glenn Choolokian's fault.

For John Accardo, Tuesday marked the

third time he has tried and failed to become the mayor of Niagara Falls.

"Some things in life are just not meant to be. I'll accept that fact now I guess that I'm never going to be mayor of Niagara Falls," Accardo said. "That's something I really wanted to do and I wanted to do it for the right reasons, but that's just not going to happen."

Accardo said the results of the vote will be apparent before the end of Dyster's next term.

"Quite honestly, I think in another two or three years, there is going to be a control board, here in Niagara Falls because the numbers just don't add up. I think there are going to be a lot of people out of work and the city is going to lose a lot of services."

Accardo said public apathy was at the root of the Dyster victory.

"The public didn't care," he said.



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# Elections Are Rigged Which Is Why 100% of Incumbents Won

## Paul Wolf, Esq.

Sadly our election process is a rigged game where an incumbent losing is a rare event. In most years incumbents win 90 plus percent of the time, with one or two losing. Tuesday's election with few contested races and a record low turn-out was a 100% success for incumbent politicians in the City of Buffalo, Erie County and Niagara County.

### THE BEST ELECTION IS NO ELECTION

The number of races where voters were not given an opportunity to make a difference was incredible:

- **ERIE COUNTY SUPREME COURT-** Two candidates running for two positions. Political party bosses who control the selection of convention delegates, worked together to ensure that voters would not decide who fills these two important positions.

- **ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE** – Only two legislators out of eleven had serious opposition. Not a single incumbent lost.

- **CITY OF BUFFALO** – A City Court Judge position, City Comptroller and four Councilmembers were elected without any opposition. Not a single incumbent lost.

- **NIAGARA COUNTY** - Eight out of fifteen county legislators ran without any opposition and not a single incumbent legislator lost. Voters were not given any choice for the positions of Niagara County District Attorney and Niagara Falls City Court. The incumbent Mayors of Niagara Falls, Lockport and North Tonawanda were all re-elected.

The dictionary definition of Democracy is: "A government by the people", "rule of the majority". With fewer and fewer contested races and fewer people voting, we are moving further away from a functioning Democracy. In Erie and Niagara counties only twenty three percent of voters took the time or interest to show up at a voting booth. Twenty years ago I had a conversation with Carl Perla who represented the Niagara Council district in Buffalo who once told me "the best election is no election". Mr. Perla would love how things are today as Instead of elections we seem to be having coronations.

### HOW ELECTIONS ARE RIGGED FOR INCUMBENTS

**REDISTRICTING** - Every ten years by law city/county legislative districts are redrawn taking into account population changes. Each district is supposed to have approximately the same number of residents. Whichever political party or incumbent is in control at the time district lines are drawn makes sure such changes are done to maintain their power. How district lines are drawn is a key way that rigs and pre-determines the outcomes of elections. Many districts are intentionally drawn to be overly Democratic or Republican, making it virtually impossible for an incumbent to lose.

**MONEY** - Incumbents have power and influence over legislation, contracts and various items that come before them and as such special interests and lobbyists donate campaign cash to incumbents. The lobbyists know that incumbents win almost all of the time so they rarely send money to non-incumbents. In most races challengers are vastly out spent.

**PATRONAGE** - Incumbents have paid staff in their offices that will obtain petition signatures, do literature drops, make phone calls etc. Incumbents also have access to other patronage employees through party headquarters, the Board of Elections, County Water Authority etc., that provide assistance. Challengers typically do not have access to an army of paid volunteers, which makes getting on the ballot to run difficult.

**NAME RECOGNITION** - Incumbents while serving in office for years get to build up their name recognition through taxpayer paid mailings, distributing tax dollars to various organizations and projects, free publicity through press releases and ribbon cutting press conferences. It is practically impossible for a non-incumbent to obtain free publicity during a campaign.

### HOW DO WE MAKE ELECTIONS MORE COMPETITIVE?

**INDEPENDENT RE-DISTRICTING** - The drawing of district lines needs to be taken away from self-interested legislators. A truly independent commission, not one appointed by legislators needs to be created. California utilizes an interesting process where individuals who want to serve on the Re-districting Commission submit applications. The applicants are reviewed by a panel of three independent auditors. People cannot serve on the Commission if they or members of their immediate family have sought or served in an elected position, have donated to a political campaign, worked as a lobbyist or work for a company that has government contracts. A list of 60 names is produced and then names are randomly drawn to serve on the Commission.

**PUBLIC FINANCING OF ELECTIONS** - People give money to a candidate because they want something whether it is a job, a tax break a change in a law or regulation. The several hundred people who fund campaigns get special access and special treatment from government officials, their interests and the public interest are not the same. We need independent candidates not beholden to party bosses or special interests to seek public office. We need individuals who are not afraid to challenge the status quo or to propose new ideas. Such candidates are not able to compete for public office because special interests will not fund them.

New York City has created an effective



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Swami Vivekananda

and well run public financing of elections program. In order to receive public funds candidates have to get on the ballot and raise a certain threshold of money from small donors (under \$175), which is then matched on a 6 to 1 basis. A \$175 contribution then becomes \$1,050 with public matching funds. This system makes small donors important, and allows more candidates to compete and be heard.

**TERM LIMITS-** Public service should not be a career for as we know power corrupts. Thomas Jefferson and other founding fathers had concerns about people remaining in elected office too long. Our country's first Constitution the Articles of Confederation at Jefferson's insistence limited federal office holders to serving 3 years. By tradition for over 150 years and then by Constitutional requirement the President of the United States only served a maximum of 8 years (two 4 year terms). Most incumbents leave by criminal arrest, death or by their own retirement after many years in office. If we don't force people out of office they simply won't leave and with a 95% re-election rate it is virtually impossible to defeat an incumbent.

**REQUIRED DEBATES** - In every election there is a debate on whether the incumbent will agree to debate their opponents. Incumbents with all of the above mentioned advantages do not want to provide any media exposure to their challengers, so they typically refuse to debate or only agree to one debate. An important part of the democratic process is for the media and the public to see candidates speak and answer questions in a debate

setting. A law needs to be passed requiring candidates to engage in debates when seeking a public office.

Any candidate that receives public funding in New York City is required to participate in two debates before the primary election and two debates before the general election. Such debates in my opinion should also include minor party candidates and not just be a debate between the Democratic and Republican candidates.

Clearly steps have to be taken to bring back meaningful competitive elections and not coronations.

Paul Wolf is an attorney and the founder of the non-profit Center for Reinventing Government, [www.reinventinggov.org](http://www.reinventinggov.org).

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# If You Want Cheap Electricity, Condemn NYPA!

## Frank Parlato

Some things don't add up. For instance, there is no cheap electrical power in Niagara Falls!

That's funny, too, because this is where power is generated.

Search around the globe, and you won't find another instance of this: A place where they generate billions of dollars worth of electricity and the local people don't get cheap electricity.

The madness of it was hammered home a few years ago when Wacker Chemie AG, a German company, with plans to hire 1000 people in Niagara Falls - changed plans because - expecting -naively perhaps - that they could get low-cost power -- found there was nothing cheap about power in Niagara Falls.

Why doesn't this add up?

1. Niagara Falls was once "The Power City" because it was the world's first and greatest generator of hydro- electric energy. The Niagara generates more than \$1/2 billion worth of electrical energy per year. It's one of our great natural assets.

2. From 1895 to 1957 that power was controlled locally and, perhaps, not coincidentally, our region prospered.

3. In 1957, Albany took control of the hydro-power generated from the Niagara River through the New York Power Authority (NYPA).

4. Although NYPA was created to deliver "low - cost electricity" we pay among the highest rates in the USA.

5. Under Albany/NYPA control, the people here get neither low-cost power, nor even the use of electricity generated by the Niagara. The board of NYPA, appointed by Albany politicians, has made it an absolute (and obscene) fact that NYPA sells our Niagara hydro-electricity to New York City, and seven other states at low -cost while people here get high-cost electricity from National



Grid (formerly Niagara Mohawk) which generates its electricity by burning coal and other methods.

6. A region has to benefit by its natural assets -- as it must compensate for natural disadvantages. For 57 years, we have not benefited from locally - generated hydro-electricity. But Tennessee, for instance, gets our Niagara hydro-power, paying less for electricity than we do. Thanks, in part, to cheap electricity, Tennessee is booming. Meanwhile, we pay for our disadvantages: NY is colder than Tennessee and, consequently, we burn more natural gas to heat our homes. If we weren't fools, we would know that to help compensate for high heating bills, we should have low - cost electricity. Instead, Tennessee gets our low-cost electricity, and, because it's warmer there, also pays less for heat. Tennesseans call that a "two-for-one."

7. Unfortunately, the 50 year license granted to NYPA in 1957 to control our Niagara hydro-power expired in 2007.

8. NYPA wanted to renew its license for another 50 years -- in exchange for an



The self-satisfied Niagara Falls residents contemplating the great deal that NYPA offered in exchange for another 50 years of control of local power.

alleged "one billion" dollars. At first blush it sounded fantastic. However, the potential value of electricity generated over 50 years by the Niagara River, factored for inflation, is estimated to be in the hundreds of billions - possibly half a trillion. NYPA offered our local communities a few million per year in cash - with no increases for inflation - and

selling a comparatively minute amount of power (less than 1% of Niagara's hydro - power) to certain municipalities at low cost. This tiny fraction of Niagara power - when resold at retail prices, and generously factored for inflation - added to the cash NYPA will pay - over 50 years - adds up to the widely advertised, but grossly misleading, "one billion dollar" figure.

9. NYPA's "one-billion offer," is the grand total for the entire 50 years. What will our region pay for electricity in 50 years - when factored for inflation? Hundreds of billions? Half a trillion?

10. So why did local leaders buy into such a deal? The seductive nature of NYPA's offer was that it gave a few million immediately toward the cash-starved budgets of local municipalities - to be controlled by local officials - for various, politically-favored projects.

11. The ratio and the absurdity of what NYPA offered is approximately: If I made \$1000 per week by controlling one of your essential assets, and I paid you a dollar a week in compensation. Meanwhile, you had to rent a similar and essential asset for the high-cost of \$50 per week - and you were too stupid (or apathetic) to realize you were being duped.

NYPA should be condemned - literally.

Locally exercised "eminent domain" (or condemnation) of NYPA's power plants for the public good might be the best, reasonable method to take our power back. For, after all, every region - like every person - has the right to prosper from their natural assets.

Just ask the good people in Tennessee.



Map of Tennessee

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# Jury Nullification Has Long History of Righting Wrong Laws

**Frank Parlato**

**B**elow is something that somehow is not taught in public schools. It is history nonetheless and easy enough for anyone who is interested to verify.

**JURY ENDED POWER OF KING**

In 1215, when the Barons of England compelled King John to sign the Magna Carta, trial by jury was established. The King now had to seek permission through 12 citizens unanimous in their verdict before he could take anyone's freedom away. That's why we have jury trials: To protect people from government oppression.

**RIGHT OF ASSEMBLY; FREEDOM OF RELIGION; JURY CAN'T BE PUNISHED**

In 1670, Quakers William Penn and William Mead were prosecuted for preaching to an assembly. The government did not approve of the Quaker religion and made laws against public assembly. At the end of the trial, the judge instructed the jury to return a guilty verdict. Four jurors, led by Edward Bushell, refused to return the guilty verdict. The judge then ordered the jury locked up until they returned with an acceptable verdict, the one he had asked them to return. For two days the jury refused to return a guilty verdict and the judge ended the trial. As punishment, the judge ordered the jurors imprisoned until they paid a fine. Bushell refused and spent months in jail. He was eventually released after his habeas corpus petition prompted the Court of Common Pleas chief judge to rule that a jury can nullify the law and forbade judges from punishing jurors for their verdicts.

**WITCH TRIALS STOPPED**

The Salem witch trials began in 1692. After a splendid year-long government conviction rate and the execution of 33 witches, in May, 1693, juries decided the court of Oyer and Terminer had gone too far. They nullified the witchcraft law with 52 consecutive hung juries and/or acquittals. Frustrated, prosecutors ceased bringing cases to trial. Juries made it impossible to hang or otherwise put to death known witches in Salem.

**FREEDOM OF SPEECH WON BY JURY**

In 1734, John Peter Zenger's newspaper criticized the Royal Governor of New York. It was against the law to criticize the government in Colonial America, as it still is in many countries that do not have jury trials. The British charged Zenger with seditious libel. At his trial, Zenger's lawyer, Andrew Hamilton, admitted Zenger broke the law but asked the jury to acquit because the law was bad and Zenger published the truth. Chief Justice James Delaney disagreed. "The truth is no defense," he ruled.

Hamilton urged the jury "to make use of their own consciousness and understandings in judging of the lives, liberties or estates of their fellow subjects," declaring jurors "have the right, beyond all dispute, to determine both the law and the fact."

Hamilton said if jurors cannot nullify laws, then "juries (are) useless, to say no worse . . . The next step would make the people slaves."

The transcripts of the trial were widely published and the verdict encouraged literature critical of England by such as Franklin, Jefferson, Paine and others. If Zenger's jurors had obeyed the judge's directions, the people of America might still enjoy British rule.

**JURY TRIAL IN THE BILL OF RIGHTS**

Given the jury's role in Zenger's and



many other Colonial trials, the framers of the Constitution envisioned that juries would continue this role when they guaranteed jury trials in the Sixth Amendment.

Benjamin Franklin said that jury nullification is "better than law, it ought to be law, and will always be law wherever justice prevails."

Thomas Jefferson wrote, "Were I called upon to decide whether the people had best be omitted in the Legislative or Judiciary department, I would say it is better to leave them out of the Legislative. The execution of the laws is more important than the making [of] them."

Alexander Hamilton said of some of the framers of the constitution, "If they agree on nothing else, (they) concur at least in the value they set upon the trial by jury; or if there is any difference between them it consists of this: the former regard it as a valuable safeguard to liberty; the latter represent it as the very palladium of free government."

**CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**

Juries in England and America used nullification to reject harsh applications of capital punishment forcing both countries to limit the death penalty to murder and treason.

**NULLIFIED FUGITIVE SLAVE ACT**

The fugitive slave law of 1850 was enacted to mollify slave owners from the South who were threatening to secede from the Union since slaves were illegally running away and the North was not doing enough to stop it. The law provided for stiff punishment for "criminals" who helped slaves escape.

In Syracuse, New York, 24 "criminals" were indicted for helping a slave escape from jail. A federal judge in Buffalo called the defendants "disturbers of society." Four trials ended in three acquittals and compelled the government to drop the charges.

In 1851, a crowd broke into a Boston courtroom and grabbed a slave named Shadrach Minkins and turned him loose. The judge called the defendants' actions in that case "beyond the scope of human reason."

President Millard Fillmore demanded prosecution. A grand jury indicted three people. Daniel Webster led the prosecution. After one acquittal and several hung juries, the government was forced to drop all charges.

Because of juries, a network of criminals called abolitionists organized knowing northern juries would not convict. Things got worse. The Southern States did secede. The Civil War followed and then the Emancipation Proclamation. If northern juries had simply followed the law as the judge directed, African Americans might still be human property in accordance with federal law.

**SET WILD BILL HICKOK FREE**

Wild Bill Hickok and Davis Tutt engaged in a one-on-one pistol, quick draw duel on July 21, 1865 in Springfield, Missouri. Tutt was killed. Hickok was charged with manslaughter. Mutual combat was against the law.

Witnesses claimed both men fired, but Tutt was the initiator, the first to display overt aggression. It was a question of honor. Had Hickok not fought, he would have been branded a coward.

Judge Sempronius Boyd instructed the jury that a conviction was its only option under the law. Then he famously instructed that they could nullify by applying the unwritten law of the "fair fight" and acquit. The jury acquitted Hickok.

**HELPED END PROHIBITION**

In 1920, the US Constitution was amended to prohibit the sale of alcohol because a majority wished to impose their moral beliefs on the minority of citizens. The jury protected citizens from the tyranny of the majority. During Prohibition, juries nullified alcohol control laws about 60 percent of the time. The fact

that most juries would not convict on alcohol control laws made the use of alcohol widespread throughout Prohibition. Jury resistance contributed to the adoption of the Twenty-first amendment repealing Prohibition. The jury reflecting made prohibition a toothless amendment.

**UNION RIGHTS**

In the late 19th century, vigorous prosecution on "conspiracy" charges against criminals known as striking union workers was thwarted by jury acquittals and gave unions the right to organize, assemble, and go on strike.

As you can see, throughout history, government has on occasion not always been right. Some say there is plenty wrong with our present-day government. Only the people have lost sight of their duty to know their proper role: To vote in the jury box as they vote in the ballot box.

It is also seen that government has no capacity to admit its laws are wrong. By its very nature, government must try enforce its laws - good or bad. It is for these two reasons that we have juries to protect our freedoms.

Now you might think that since the jury brought us so many of our cherished freedoms, the government would want the true role and purpose of the jury taught to every child in every public school.

I wonder why that does not happen?

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# DiCienzo Offer Shows Hamister Deal For What it is – A Complete Scam

## Mike Hudson

Michael DiCienzo, whose family owns and operates more than 3,000 hotel rooms on both sides of the Niagara River here, recently made a modest proposal to Niagara Falls Mayor Paul Dyster.

Since do nothing “developer” Mark Hamister has done nothing whatsoever except seek additional taxpayer subsidies since Dyster named him as the preferred developer for a hotel project downtown way back in 2013, DiCienzo proposed his own deal to the city.

Sell him the parcel of land Hamister has missed the deadline on closing on, and he would build the hotel for about half of what Hamister is telling people it would cost.

Dyster rejected the proposal out of hand.

Why?

Under the development agreement signed between the city and the Hamister Group’s HH 310 LLC – a contract finalized in November 2013 – ground was to have been broken in the spring of 2014. That was pushed back to the autumn of 2014 and then the spring of 2015. Now they’re saying next year.

Also under the agreement, which has been amended more times than the United States Constitution, the land deal was to have been closed – Hamister was to have paid the city a paltry \$100,000 for a piece of property appraised at \$1.5 million – back in September. He missed that deadline as well.

Mortgage brokers and bankers contacted by the Niagara Falls Reporter confirmed that Hamister has been all over Western New York looking for finance what he claims will be the \$35 million



Michael DiCienzo offered to develop the Hamister parcel.

Hyatt Place Hotel he has proposed.

The problem is that a nearly identical Hyatt built earlier this year in Amherst cost just \$18 million, and no lender in his right mind would loan \$35 million to build something that’s valued at \$18 million.

Both hotels are six stories, though the Amherst establishment has 137 rooms as opposed to the 128 of its proposed Niagara Falls counterpart. Both feature pools, spas and fitness centers, having been pressed out of the same cookie cutter responsible for 205 Hyatt Place hotels, mostly located adjacent to truck stops or airstrips throughout the country.

A building permit for the 128-room hotel was issued to R&P Oak Hill Development, a contractor for Hamister, on June 24.

The project is receiving \$3.85 million in funding from the state, upped from an original \$2.75 million after Hamister claimed the project’s costs grew. The more the hotel costs, the more Hamister receives in taxpayer funded subsidies.

The Hamister Group also is expected to save about \$4.25 million over 10 years in tax breaks approved by the Niagara County Industrial De-



Mark Hamister can’t get his hotel built.

velopment Agency. The city provided no funding to the project, but agreed to sell the land, valued at \$1.5 million, to Hamister for only \$100,000, a sale price which Dyster said reflects the fact that the city did not put its own cash incentive into the deal.

Again. Nothing has been built. And there is no realistic sign that anything will ever be built by Hamister, who has never built a hotel before.

What Hamister has done is donate significantly and act as a “bundler” of donations for New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo. Which is maybe why Cuomo personally intervened in the 2013 Niagara Falls City Council election, targeting the formerly popular councilman Sam Fruscione, for asking the simple questions about the Hamister deal.

Cuomo again intervened in the election this year, endorsing Dyster in the primary against Glenn Choolokian, who also committed the sin of questioning the Hamister deal.

Something stinks here. The \$18 million, six-story Iskalo Development hotel in Amherst represents the first incarnation of the Hyatt Place brand in the Buffalo Niagara market. Unlike its Niagara Falls counterpart, the project ran into stiff opposition from neighbors and local politicians, who



Game Changing Tipping Point Hotel to come to DC?

The exaggerated value of the smallish Hamister hotel in one of the prime locations in Niagara Falls is satirized by the locating of a Hotel 8 style Hamister hotel next to the Washington Monument in DC.



The site of the proposed hotel

objected to their height and scale, which they said was out of place with the surrounding buildings and homes. Litigation followed.

Land acquisition costs were many times the \$100,000 Hamister still has not paid the city.

So why did Iskalo manage to bring the project in for around half of what Hamister keeps telling the rubes in Niagara Falls it’s going to cost?

Dyster served as cheerleader for the Hamister hotel, a role to which he is admirably suited. The hotel project would be “transformational,” a “gamechanger” that would provide a once in a lifetime opportunity that would provide the “tipping point” that would forever serve to revitalize the city’s tourist district, the mayor gushed.

He was reelected this week, largely on the basis of these promises.



In reality the proposed \$36 million Hamister hotel is nothing more than an \$18 million Hyatt Place.

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# Despite Dyster Re-Election, GOP Wins Big Across County



Elliot Spitzer and Francine DelMonte



Randy Bradt



Mayor Art Pappas



Jim Riester

## Deborah Eddele

### WHEATFIELD

The mood at Niagara County Republican Party headquarters Tuesday was frenetic.

While most Republicans at the St. Johnsbury volunteer fire hall that sits on the border of Wheatfield and North Tonawanda milled about, drinking slightly-chilled beer and flat, oversweet pop, a coterie of top Niagara County GOP brass—including former Niagara County Republican Chairman Henry Wojtaszek—were tabulating numbers from various campaigns.

Former State Sen. George D. Maziarz, was watching the race for Niagara County Clerk attentively—this was, after all, his old office two decades ago. Finally, convinced that the numbers were bearing out a victory by Republican candidate Joe Jastrzemski, he flashed a “thumbs-up” sign to Jastrzemski’s wife, Kathy.

Meanwhile, Niagara Falls GOP chief Vince Sandonato was checking and re-checking numbers on a computer spreadsheet being constantly updated by Wheatfield Councilman Larry Helwig, shaking his head in disbelief as numbers rolled in affirmed a third-term win for Paul A. Dyster, the embattled Democratic mayor of Niagara Falls.

Noticeably absent were prominent Republican figures from Pendleton—where Republican candidates swept every office, ending a dozen years of Democratic rule—and Lockport, where Mayor Anne McCaffrey was being returned to office, but has an uncertain future with a Common Council that is, at best, divided between Republicans and Democrats.

This was the snapshot at roughly 9:15 Tuesday night.

### NIAGARA FALLS

That’s not quite how my day had begun.

I had been embedded with the Republicans for much of the afternoon, watching their get-out-the-vote operation in Niagara Falls. The first signs of worry began to creep into the GOP camp shortly after 3 p.m., when tabulation of numbers from several key precincts showed too few GOP targeted voters showing up here.

While panic was setting in with Falls Republicans about their plans to topple Dyster, county GOP leaders were feeling increasingly confident not only of a Jastrzemski win by mid-afternoon, but also of holding all 11 Republican seats, and possibly picking up one or two in the Falls.

Leaning against a table at the GOP’s makeshift headquarters at the Accardo Agency, I asked Wojtaszek what I should be watching.

“Three things. First, Joe Jastrzemski and Jamie Moxham. My gut says Joe takes it by about 3,000 votes. It might be more, though. He’s going to sweep the towns, and as long as they have decent turnout, he wins in a walk,” Wojtaszek said. (Wojtaszek’s 3 p.m. projections would prove only slightly optimistic; Jastrzemski’s margin over Moxham was 2,418 at press time, but absentee ballots may expand his lead.)

I asked if the Falls mayoral race driving voters to Moxham was a concern.

“That was always a concern for us, because it was always the Democrats’ strategy,” Wojtaszek told

me. “It won’t even be a factor today. We took a lot of steps to make sure it didn’t affect us countywide.”

Wojtaszek, who, a dozen years ago shepherded Republicans from a 9-10 minority in the County Legislature to a 14-5 majority, tells me he is confident about Republicans’ chances there as well.

“The closes races for the Legislature will be the ones inside Niagara Falls. Every seat outside the Falls is going Republican.”

This is a statement of fact from the tall, good-looking man still seen in many circles as the de facto leader of county Republicans; there is no hesitation on his part.

I ask about Democratic Chairman Nick Forster’s repeated vows to take the seat being vacated by outgoing Legislature Chairman Bill Ross of Wheatfield.

“Becky Wydysh will win by at least 10 points,” he told me. (At press time, Wydysh’s margin was closer to 8 percentage points; still an impressive win.)

Wojtaszek’s estimates did not all err on the high side of his candidates’ numbers; in his own North Tonawanda district, he boldly predicted “Randy [Bradt] by 400.”

The actual election night tally put first-term lawmaker Bradt over NT School Board President Colleen Osborn by 639 votes—a 63 percent to 37 percent blowout.

Wojtaszek later told me he was caught off-guard by the size of Bradt’s win, part of a GOP wave that locked down North Tonawanda yet again.

### LOCKPORT

The exuberance in Wheatfield was dampened somewhat as negative reports trickled in from Lockport, where a late-breaking revelation that the GOP’s candidate in the 2nd Ward—the most Republican-leaning ward in the city—had failed to pay taxes on a property she owned left Republican hopes of retaining a working majority in city government severely constrained.

This left Anita Mullane, a Democratic bulldog backed heavily by unions and with views normally out of step with the 2nd Ward’s voters, the only viable alternative. Mullane, who won by a three-vote margin in a special election a year ago, cruised to an easy victory over her challenger.

All the best efforts of Lockport GOP honcho Adam VanDeMark to stave off a governing crisis in the Lock City would come to naught when the venerable Joe Kibler, alderman-at-large and a loved figure among not only Eastern Niagara County Republicans and city youth, would lose a bruising citywide battle to challenger Joe O’Shaughnessy, a Democrat whose entire campaign boiled down to his complaints that the city’s decision to contract with Twin City Ambulance instead of costly unionized city fire department EMTs somehow left him in jeopardy because of his own failing health.

O’Shaughnessy’s victory, by around 250 votes, leaves the Lockport Council divided with three Republicans and three Democrats. Unfortunately for Lockport’s GOP leadership, however, only one of the three Republicans was the initial party-backed candidate.

It will be up to VanDeMark, McCaffrey, and former Niagara County GOP Chairman Mike Norris to negotiate a workable government with newcom-

ers Joe Oates and Mark Devine. Oates, an outspoken opponent of government excesses, seems well-suited to advancing Republican and conservative concerns, though he and McCaffrey are likely to bump heads.

Devine, on the other hand, is an enigma to Republican leaders here. A longtime Republican who agrees with the party on many issues, he is also a retired city firefighter and supporter of the firefighters’ union that has been locked in a contract war with McCaffrey since shortly after she became mayor.

Republicans close to VanDeMark say he is hopeful he can build a political relationship with Devine, who he considers a personal friend, and who he is said to respect for his commitment to his ideals.

The question, then, for Devine will be whether he throws in his lot with union-backed Democrats, or works with his own party going forward.

### PENDLETON

Meanwhile, even as Republicans in Lockport were watching their decade-plus with near-total control of city government seriously jeopardized, Republicans in Pendleton were launching into a boisterous celebration at their town headquarters as results from Pendleton’s six voting districts showed a Republican wave here had swept out 12-year incumbent Democratic Town Supervisor Jim Riester and taken every single townwide office on the ballot.

This was mirrored at Republican HQ in Wheatfield, where a loud cheer rang out in the room as the vote tallies in Pendleton splashed across a projection screen, showing Riester had been defeated by political newcomer Joel Maerten, chief of the local volunteer fire company.

Credit for flipping Pendleton to red—one of the GOP’s brightest points of the night—was hard to pin down, though many suggested that leaders of the town GOP had perfectly capitalized on Riester’s being “asleep at the wheel.”

Also boosting Pendleton Republicans’ efforts was a ham-handed decision by Riester’s town assessor, Kelli Coughlin, to send letters to veterans across town cancelling a popular tax exemption afforded to those who have served. Those letters, which arrived at most Pendleton addresses on Monday morning, are seen by many as the final nail in Riester’s coffin.

“We like veterans here,” one Pendleton Republican told me gruffly in a Wednesday morning phone interview.

Also buoying Pendleton Republicans’ chances was the town justice candidacy of Niagara County Sheriff’s Lt. Kevin Mack. Mack, who squared off against former AFSCME union head Ed McDonald, positively crushed his opponent. Many point to McDonald’s questionable decision to attack the police in a townwide mailer as a pivotal moment in the campaign.

Mack, whose homegrown campaign was largely managed by his wife, is said to have spent the entire summer and fall knocking on virtually every door in this town of 6,500 on the Erie Canal. He was widely viewed as a favorite heading into the final stretch, but McDonald’s political mailer—which questioned if Mack, a 32-year veteran of the Sheriff’s Office could be trusted to be fair as a judge—may have actually boosted Mack’s vote share, and helped Maerten against Riester.

Meanwhile, Pendleton’s Democratic chairman,

Jim Sacco, once vice chairman of the Democrats’ county organization, emerges as perhaps the biggest loser of the night, with his entire party swept from power in town government and town Republicans ready to put their own team in place. Given the heavy Republican registration tilt in Pendleton, Democrats will have a nearly impossible road back to power here.

### LEWISTON

County Republicans were also watching Lewiston intently, waiting for late-reporting precincts to trickle in.

While Republican Supervisor candidate Steve Broderick ultimately won a comfortable victory, it was narrower than previous reporting here projected.

With a 317-vote margin, Broderick easily bested Democrat politician Mark Briglio, the outgoing deputy supervisor—a 10-point win, but not the 20-point margin Lewiston Republicans had long planned.

“Lewiston’s future is bright!” Broderick proclaimed confidently as his lead became insurmountable.

Meanwhile, Lewiston’s other big-ticket contest seems to have ended badly for a once-powerful Democratic figure, former Assemblywoman Francine DelMonte.

DelMonte, who was attempting a comeback here, is still in the fight for the second of two seats on the Lewiston Town Board—though most political bookmakers see her odds as less-than-even.

That’s because she is trailing fellow Democrat Robin “Rob” Morreale by 20 votes, who is currently in second place. And, while 162 absentee ballots remain to be counted, many voters who cast ballots for her are likely to have also voted for Morreale. Republican leaders also expressed increasing optimism as the evening wore on that a significant number of ballots likely contain votes for first-place finisher Bill Geiben and fourth-place finisher Bill Conrad, which makes DelMonte’s task even tougher.

“The math gets very hard for Francine,” Lewiston Republican Chairman Karl Frankovitch told us.

Meanwhile, Republican efforts in Lewiston and Bergholz to turn out the vote for Ross’s replacement, Wydysh, were going better than planned.

### NORTH TONAWANDA

The same news was playing out in North Tonawanda, where tabulators were tracking another County Legislature contest. As precinct after precinct in North Tonawanda’s 9th east side came in showing lopsided margins for Bradt, once considered Forster’s top target due to his combative style, local Republicans were clapping NT GOP Chairman Mike Carney on the back.

Two months ago, they told me, Republicans invested enormous effort—much of it captained by Carney—in ensuring a big win by Bradt.

“Randy’s our guy, he’s doing a great job, and Nick Forster failed badly,” is how Carney put it to me as he waited for one sluggish precinct in the 1st Ward to report. “We’re looking at a margin of 600 votes here.”

Carney and NT Republicans including former Niagara County GOP Chairman Scott Kiedrowski were quietly celebrating a night of easy wins for

**continued on next page**



Mark Grozio and Dennis Virtuoso



Joel Maerten



Joe Jastrzemski



Dan Quinn, City Clerk

**continued from previous page**

citywide offices, with Mayor Art Pappas claiming a 1,000-vote win over his rival, former Democratic County Legislator John Tylec.

“We’re back to business in the morning,” an understated Pappas said. “It’s a good win, but we need to get back to work for NT.”

The numbers mean Pappas, who along with City Clerk-Treasurer Dan Quinn was appointed to his job as the departure of Sen. Robert G. Ortt and his chief of staff, former Clerk-Treasurer Scott Kiedrowski, left a gaping hole at the top of NT government, will begin a full term with a strong mandate.

**LOCKPORT**

I was stirred from this conversation by a murmur rippling through the crowd at Republican HQ in Wheatfield. Lockport City Treasurer Mike White—a Republican who has been at war with McCaffrey—was losing. Badly. By 60 percent to 40 percent against Democrat Sue Mawhiney.

And yet, a ballot proposition to severely cut the city treasurer’s salary was also going down to defeat by a 59-41 margin.

Sources in the Lockport Republican Party say that the news of White’s defeat was met with wolf

whistles and applause at Lockport GOP HQ, located at the city’s Flight of Five Winery—although several White loyalists, mostly from the city’s West End, were said to have been upset by the display.

The battle between White and McCaffrey—each, essentially, blaming the other for the city’s financial woes and monies that had never been properly accounted for by Treasurer’s Office staff—had spilled out onto the ballot.

For the moment, McCaffrey, and her recently-hired finance director, Scott Schrader, who was key to pushing the scaling back of both White’s duties and pay, seem to have prevailed—although many question what White’s next move will be, politically.

**NIAGARA FALLS**

In the Cataract City, meanwhile, another Wojtaszek prediction was coming true.

Democratic Minority Leader Dennis Virtuoso narrowly beat back a challenge by Republican David Zajac, who came within 115 votes of ending the incumbent’s 24-year career.

Many in the GOP credit a last-minute surge by Zajac to effective messaging by Zajac that highlighted his family’s long ties to the city neighborhood that

plays host to their funeral home, which has operated since the mid-twentieth century, as well as scrutiny of Virtuoso’s results after a quarter-century in office.

This means that at 52 percent to 47 percent, this was the closest Legislative race—certainly not where Virtuoso expected to end up after what has been one of his more vigorously partisan terms in office.

“I’m proud of what we did,” Zajac told me at Republican headquarters. “We came within five points against a guy who has been there too long. I can’t thank the people who supported me enough.”

Virtuoso, meanwhile, took to Facebook to offer his own reflections roughly an hour after polls closed Tuesday, writing simply, “I WON.”

Meanwhile, as Wojtaszek predicted, the race between Rob Bilson and Mark Grozio in LaSalle proved similarly tight, with Grozio hanging on by 134 votes.

Father-of-five Bilson shrugged and then offered this observation: “Those are just numbers on a screen. I get to go back to my wife and kids. So, I guess I win after all.”



Anne McCaffrey

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# New Rapid Response Team Will Benefit Patients Dealing With Chronic Disease



Joseph A. Ruffolo, President and Chief Executive Officer of Memorial Medical Center

bacterial pneumonia now have a new care option.

Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center today announced it has implemented an innovative program that assigns a “guardian angel” to work with patients in its ER Emergency Department.

Dubbed the Rapid Response Team Process, it’s designed to help those patients and their families cut through the red tape and transition them directly to the most appropriate level of care.

The Rapid Response project is designed to avoid unnecessary hospital admissions and to achieve healthcare cost-savings by placing patients in the most appropriate and most cost-effective level of care.

“Many patients served by the project will return to home with home care or be placed for a short stay in a sub-acute facility without an intervening hospital admission,” said Chief Operating Officer Sheila K. Kee. “These are patients who have customarily been admitted

for hospital stays, which may not have been the best placement option.”

The Rapid Response Team is one of many innovative care models being brought on line by the Millennium Collaborative Care performing provider system as part of the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program, the statewide initiative championed by Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo to improve healthcare throughout the state.

It is the only care model of its type in Western New York.

Many patients with chronic conditions go to the emergency department seeking relief, Kee said. The project will not only link patients to the appropriate level of care right from the ED, but it will also connect eligible Medicaid patients to the NFMHC Health Home to permit them to receive ongoing care management services.

At Memorial, such patients will now be met by new Rapid Response Team Coordinator Kelly Duffy, a registered nurse who will

give them focused attention.

“This ‘guardian angel’ will consult with the ER physician prior to an admission decision being made,” Kee said. “Kelly will help patients and family members understand their options. She will coordinate the system to connect patients to cost-effective home care or short-term medical assistance in a sub-acute facility such as the Schoellkopf Health Center. She will navigate the system to carry out whatever decision is deemed best for the patient.”

Kee announced the Rapid Response Team Process at ceremonies celebrating the completion of \$1.5 million in upgrades at Memorial’s Schoellkopf Health Center, a 120-bed skilled nursing facility that provides subacute, short-term rehab and hospice care.

*“A short stay in a homelike, attractive facility such as this with access to necessary care can be a very attractive option for patients hoping to avoid a hospital stay,” said Memorial President & CEO Joseph A. Ruffolo.*

People with chronic conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), congestive heart failure and

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# The Reporter Denies it's Mean, but it Doesn't Deny That it Means What it Prints

**Anna Howard**

The Reporter has been characterized many times over the years as being "mean." Most recently this claim was floated in an article reporting the new business relationship between the Reporter and Artvoice.

The "mean" discussed here is mean as an adjective as in, "unkind, spiteful or unfair."

We don't see ourselves as mean and we think those who label us as mean are being mean. But the Reporter does mean what it writes. And because we mean what we write doesn't automatically make us mean in our approach to covering elected officials.

Specifically the most recent accusation alleging our foul temperament was presented in reference to our treatment of Mayor Paul Dyster. Mike Hudson, our joke page, this columnist, and a host of other examples were offered as presumptive evidence as to the bile we've spilled in Mayor Dyster's direction.

One has to laugh at such accusations and smile at those who make them. We wonder if these watchdogs of tasteful journalism have taken a peak - in the last decade or two - at the New York Post and its coverage of the president, the governor, the New York City mayor and elected office holders in general.

Do the know-it-alls that point a judgmental finger at the Reporter watch the late

night talk shows? If so they'll see endless irreverent jokes of every kind directed at the president, national leaders and public personalities. Do the names John Stewart or Bill Maher sound familiar? Has their popular scathing political insight made you laugh... or possibly wince?

The Reporter contends that the reason for the Reporter appearing so rude and unkempt when measured against certain other media is because the Reporter has its feet on the ground and its eyes straight ahead, not tilted upward toward a rainbow filled sky.

You can accuse the Reporter of a great deal but you'll never, credibly, be able to accuse the newspaper of sitting at the feet of elected officials while heaping praise on them as they root through taxpayer pockets, grow their bureaucratic fiefdoms, and empty the common till in the name of alleged good government.

The last time we checked there were still two facts setting this nation apart from all other nations: 1) the First Amendment, and 2) our public officials are elected not crowned.

Those who don't like the content of the Reporter will have to go elsewhere to find the sort of writing that's edited with one eye on political correctness and the other eye on advertising revenue.

Hopefully this column hasn't offended anyone by appearing mean.

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# Kane Almost Clear as Alleged Victim Declines to Push Prosecution

## Tony Farina

It has been a rough three months for South Buffalo's Patrick Kane but the high-scoring right winger for the Chicago Blackhawks may soon be able to concentrate on hockey and not worry about a possible rape charge as his accuser has told authorities she does not want to continue to go forward with the case.

The decision by the former UB cheerleader to decline prosecution was reported first by the Buffalo News over the weekend although there has been no official announcement from the district attorney. That could come any day.

We have reported for weeks now that Kane's defense team has been confident all along that no charges would be filed against the hockey star because there was no DNA evidence from Kane linking him to his accuser in her rape test kit. And we reported exclusively several weeks ago that DNA from one or more unidentified males was found in the rape kit after the alleged attack Aug. 2, but none belonged to Kane.

The case has been a bit of circus, highlighted when the former attorney for the alleged victim called a press conference to introduce what he said was the rape kit used to gather evidence after the reported assault at Kane's lakefront home after a night of partying, suggesting evidence had been compromised. It turned out to be a hoax, advanced by the accuser's mother, and was branded so almost immediately by District Attorney Frank Sedita, severely damaging



Patrick Kane

the credibility of the accuser and her family.

With the mounting stress and the apparent deficiencies in a rape case lacking any DNA evidence, the accuser has decided to no longer cooperate in any investigation. As might be expected, her decision to decline prosecution is fueling social media comments including suggestions she has been paid off by somebody, possibly even the Chicago Blackhawks. But there is no basis in fact for any of the speculation and eventually the case may just go away although Kane has suffered severe damage to his character and lost millions in endorsements as a result of the rape allegation.

Despite the cloud that has been hanging over his head for the last three months, Kane is

doing what he does best on the ice with seven goals and nine assists in 12 games, tied for second place in league scoring.

Neither Kane nor his attorney Paul Cambria, are saying anything about the investigation coming to an end, and Kane says he has not been told by his attorney that the case is over. Of course, officially it is not but the criminal saga may be put to rest in the next few days now that Sedita has won election to the State Supreme Court and most certainly would like to put the matter behind him as he prepares to leave office.

While Kane is apparently in the clear on possible criminal charges, there could still be a civil action brought against the star who not long ago signed an \$84 million contract extension with the Blackhawks who are shooting for a fourth Stanley Cup in six years with Kane on the wing.

Whatever happens going forward, Kane has been damaged and lost millions. The good news for him is that at age 26, he may be able to put the case behind him and keep his focus on hockey where he is one on the league's biggest stars. Eventually, he may be able to recover and continue to make millions. For his alleged victim, we may never know the whole story and for now, anyway, she has decided that pursuing Kane criminally was not the course she wanted to follow and we'll have to wait and see if she goes after Kane's bank account in a civil suit where the burden of proof is much less than in a criminal case.



"Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received--only what you have given."  
— Francis of Assisi

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# Letters to the Editor

## LIBRARY DOUBLE STANDARD IN WHEATFIELD

The current Wheatfield Town Board wants to spend millions of dollars to build a new library for Wheatfield. It will also take millions of dollars to maintain the building, purchase books, CD's, DVD's, audio books, computers and other materials and services; not to mention salaries and benefits for qualified librarians and staff.

The Town Board has already approved \$3000.00 for feasibility and design plans.

Just 5 years ago, this same Town Board (excluding Randy Retzlaff) had eliminated library funding in the preliminary budget, they felt \$65,000 was too much to spend. Wheatfield residents would have lost all access to the North Tonawanda and Sanborn libraries, if the funding was eliminated. Residents rallied and called town hall, sent letters and emails and presented petitions to the town board. More than 100 angry residents attended Board meetings and made their voices heard.

The Board eventually approved Library funding. Supervisor Cliffe was quoted in a local newspaper (Tonawanda News 11-4-2010) that "the library funding is one of those things that can easily be cut with a single slash" Councilman Gerbec echoed that sentiment.

Councilman Helwig addressed me at a town meeting. He stated to me that he did not want \$43.09 of his tax money to go to the library since he did not use the library.

In 2015 the same town board now wants to build a new library; yet in 2010 it was an unnecessary expense.

In this day and age, shared services seems to be the most economical way to go. Fiscal responsibility demands it.

Laurie Galbo  
Wheatfield, NY

## MEAT INDUSTRY IS SCARY

What really used to scare me was the meat industry.

This is the industry that mutilates, cages, and butchers billions of cows, pigs, and other feeling animals, that exposes thousands of undocumented workers to crippling workplace injuries at slave wages, that exploits farmers and ranchers by dictating wholesale prices, then jails those who document its abuses through unconstitutional "ag-gag" laws.

It's the industry that generates more water pollution than any other human activity and more greenhouse gases than transportation, then promotes world hunger by feeding nutritious corn and soybeans to animals.

It's the industry that threatens our public health with increased risk of killer diseases, that creates antibiotic-resistant pathogens by feeding antibiotics to animals, then bullies health authorities to remove anti-meat warnings from their public messages.

Now, that's really scary stuff.

But, instead of being scared, I decided to fight back by dropping animal products from my menu. I am no longer scared of the meat industry, and I invite everyone to join me.

Nick Guntermann  
Niagara Falls

## 72ND STREET WATER STORY

I was reading your story on the 72nd St water problem. We have another problem in the falls with a water main. On the corner of 16th St. and Walnut Ave. the water is flowing down the street. Finally, after three weeks of no action from the city or the water board, the

water board finally put out two orange cones. That's it! Just two cones. I called the Mayor's office 10 days ago. I left a message. Still no call back. I followed the mayor from city hall to his house to tell him about the problem. He told me he saw it. He said it would be a big job. That's it.

This road is the major artery into the falls. If the leaking water causes a sink hole.... Well there goes the road.

Not to mention, will this area of town have a water problem this year as well!

Feel free to contact me if you wish.

Dave Knoodle  
Niagara Falls

## ABOLISH PREDATORY PRACTICES FOR PRISON PHONE CALLS

I wanted to flag a letter signed by 22 civil rights and social justice organizations submitted on Thursday to the FCC supporting proposed reforms to the current inmate calling services (ICS) structure. I know you've written on this issue in the past, and thought you would be interested in this update.

In addition to supporting Commissioner Clyburn's leadership on prison phone reform and the FCC's consideration of caps on calling rates, the Coalition also urges the FCC to rein in so-called "site commission fees" that exacerbate the current predatory price structure for prison phone calls.

If you are interested in speaking with some of the coalition partners about this, I can connect you with them.

Daniel Herrera  
Washington DC

## NO SOUP FOR YOU SAYS CHAIRMAN TOUMA

Jerry Seinfeld had a recurring character on his sitcom who was called the soup Nazi for denying soup to certain people. Niagara Falls has its own version called No Speech For You! At the last city council meeting the public was again reminded and admonished by the chairman as to speech. Mr. Andrew Touma stated that the council affords citizens the privilege to speak and that they must adhere to his rules of conduct, time limit and his authority to curtail speech. Mr. Touma you do not grant the right of freedom of speech to others, it is God given right and is protected under the constitution.

It seems to me that Mr Gerald Skirlin was the individual that the comment was meant for. Well guess what, I stand with Mr Skirlin, who rightfully pointed out that our freedom of speech is being eroded by the city council. The city council is not a fiefdom and the chairman is not the lord of the manor. The public needs to be respected and not treated in a condescending manner, we are not students in your classroom. I will remind the chairman and the city council that your position is at the pleasure of the people through voting. The position of politician in our republic is representation of the people. How is that achieved if the public voice is quelled?

Jerry Cramer  
Niagara Falls



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**Jim Szwedo**  
Citizen of Niagara Falls

Where will Niagara Falls be in 2016?

1. The City will still be controlled by a Democrat.
2. New wordage and spending restraints will be imposed by the State on an increased percentage of Casino cash.
3. Look for increased taxable Seneca Nation investment in Niagara Falls, brought in by State negotiations.
4. District-changing investments on Main Street, sponsored by incentives and joint cooperation between both City and State governments.
5. Re-zoning of large tracts of City property to CIB, thus inviting new commercial and residential development to under-utilized areas.
6. Equalization of tax rate between homestead and non-homestead finally being realized by increased Casino cash and State-sponsored wordage imposing restraints on specific expenditures.







7. Home ownership tax reductions, based on citizen income, for the individual homeowners in Niagara Falls, sponsored by a cooperative effort between State and City government.
8. Fast-tracking of Parkway removal, thus creating a new mixed-commercial-and-residential district between Whirlpool and Eleventh Streets. That includes Main Street.
9. Local Tourism Board, created to represent local businesses and the future direction of State and City commercial development in Niagara Falls.
10. State Control Board installed to protect both the citizens and the State from what some have called "the most dysfunctional government in all of New York, and possibly the nation".

These are just a few thoughts I jotted down in my newly-found spare time.  
As always, thank you for listening.

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**FREE** Soda Pop

On purchase of adult lunch or dinner buffet at regular price.

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# NEWS OF THE WEIRD

## Chuck Shepherd

### IS IT REALLY A "PROBLEM" IF 99 PERCENT WISH THEY HAD IT?

■ Among those struggling with psychological issues in modern America are the rich "one-percenters" (especially the mega-rich "one-percent of one-percenters"), according to counselors specializing in assuaging guilt and moderating class hatred. London's *The Guardian*, reporting from New York, found three such counselors, including two who barely stopped short of comparing the plight of the rich-rich with the struggles of "people of color" or out-of-closet gays. Sample worries: isolation (so few rich-rich); stress, caused by political hubbub over "inequality"; and insecurity (is my "friend" really just a friend of my money?).

### CAN'T POSSIBLY BE TRUE

■ Stories surface regularly about a hospital patient declared dead but who then revives briefly before once again dying. However, Tammy Cleveland's recent lawsuit against doctors and DeGraff Memorial Hospital near Buffalo, New York, reveals an incident more startling. She alleges that her late husband Michael displayed multiple signs of life (breathing, eyes open, legs kicking, attempted hugs, struggles against the tube in his throat) for nearly two hours, but with two doctors all the while assuring her that he was gone. (The coroner came and went twice, concluding that calling him had been premature.) The lawsuit alleges that only upon the fourth examination did the doctor exclaim, "My God, he has a pulse!" Michael Cleveland died shortly after that—of a punctured lung from CPR following his initial heart attack—an injury for which he could have been treated.

### THE CONTINUING CRISIS

■ For an October report, Vice Media located the half-dozen most-dedicated collectors of those AOL giveaway CDs from the Internet's dial-up years ("50 Hours Free!"). Sparky Haufle wrote a definitive AOL-CD collector's guide; Lydia Sloan Cline has 4,000 unique disks; Bustam Halim at one point had 20,000 total, before weeding to 3,000. (The AOL connoisseurs file disks by color, by the hundreds of packaging styles, by number of free hours, and especially by the co-brands—the rare pearls, like AOL's deals with Frisbee and Spider Man. Their collections, said both Halim and Brian Larkin, are simply "beautiful.")

■ In 20th-century Chicago, according to legend, one did not have to be among the living to vote on election day, and a 2013 policy of the city's community colleges has seemingly extended rights of the dead—to receive unearned degrees. City Colleges of Chicago, aiming to increase graduation numbers, has awarded a slew of posthumous degrees to former students who died with at least three-fourths of the necessary credits to graduate. (The policy also now automatically awards degrees by "reverse transfer" of credits to students who went on to four-year colleges, where they added enough credits, hypothetically, to meet City Colleges' standards.)

### PEOPLE DIFFERENT FROM US

■ It would be exhaustive to chronicle the many ways that the woman born Carolyn Clay, 82, of Chattooga County, Georgia, is different from us. For starters, she was once arrested for stripping nude to protest a quixotic issue before the city council in Rome, Georgia; for another, her driver's license identifies her as Ms. Serpentfoot Serpentfoot. In October, she filed to change that name—to one with 69 words, 68 hyphens, an

ellipsis and the infinity sign. One judge has already turned her down on the ground that she cannot recite the name (though she promised to shorten it on legal papers to "Nofoot Allfoot Serpentfoot").

### JUSTICE SERVED

■ Hinton Sheryn, 68, on trial at England's Plymouth Crown Court in September, denied he was the "indecent exposé" charged with 18 incidents against children dating back to 1973—that he would never do such a thing because he would not want anyone to see his unusually small penis. In response, the prosecutor brought in a prostitute known to have serviced Sheryn, to testify that his penis is of normal size. Sheryn was convicted and sentenced to 17 years in prison.

### POLICE REPORT

■ A Jacksonville, Florida, sheriff's SWAT team surrounded a mobile home on Oct. 14 to arrest Ryan Bautista, 34, and Leanne Hunn, 30, on armed burglary and other charges, but since two other women were being held inside, officers remained in a stand-off. Hunn subsequently announced by phone that the couple would surrender—after having sex one final time. Deputies entered the home around 4 a.m. on the 15th and made the post-coital arrest without incident.

■ A 27-year-old owner of the Hookah House in Akron, Ohio, was fatally shot by an Akron narcotics officer during an October raid for suspected drugs. The man had his arms raised, according to the police report, but dropped one hand behind him, provoking an officer to shoot. Only afterward did they learn that the man was unarmed; they concluded that he was reaching only to secure or to push back the packet of heroin he felt was oozing out of its hiding place in his buttocks.

### BRIGHT IDEAS

■ In September, village officials in Uzbekistan's town of Shahartepeppa, alarmed that Prime Minister Shavkat Mirziyoyev would drive through and notice barren fields (since the cotton crop had already been harvested), ordered about 500 people into the fields to attach cotton capsules onto the front-row stalks to impress Mirziyoyev with the village's prosperity.

### UNDIGNIFIED DEATHS

■ (1) The naked bodies of a man and a woman, both aged 30, were found in August 40 feet beneath a balcony—in the moat surrounding the Vauban Fort castle on an island in the English Channel. Police speculated that the couple had fallen during exciting sex "gone wrong." (2) A woman was killed in an accidental head-on collision in Houston on June 18 as she was racing after another car. She was angrily chasing her estranged husband, who was with another woman, but neither of those two was hurt. (The driver of the crashed-into SUV was severely injured.)

### LEAST CRIMINALS

### COMPETENT

■ Jorge Vasconcelos, 25, was traffic-stopped in El Reno, Oklahoma, in October because he was reportedly weaving on the road, but deputies detected no impairment except possibly for a lack of sleep. Then, "out of nowhere," according to a KFOR-TV report, Vasconcelos, instead of quietly driving off, insisted that he was doing nothing wrong and that deputies could check his truck if they thought otherwise. They did—and found an elaborately rigged metal box in the engine, containing 17 pounds of heroin, worth over \$3 million. He was charged with aggravated trafficking.

EVERYONE WELCOME! WHAT A PARTY!!!





# Karaoke

with

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7710 Buffalo Ave., N.F., N.Y.  
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Fri, Nov 6  
9:30 pm - 1:30 am

Come, be a star!  
thousands of songs --  
1950s to 2015




## EVENTS | CALENDAR

## THURS NOV 5

### MUSIC

#### ACOUSTIC/FOLK

Asbury Hall at Babeville - 8pm Dave Rawlings Machine w/ Gillian Welch, \$30 ADV/ \$35 DOS.

Nietzsche's - 5pm The Afternoon Trio w/ John, Paul, & Bill, free.

#### BLUES

Hot Mama's Canteen - 7-9pm John Brady

The Gypsy Parlor - 7pm Anita West presents the return of David Miller "Miller and the Other Sinners".

Wagon Wheel Restaurant - 9pm Chicago Blues Connection feat. Jason Moynihan

#### COUNTRY

Sportsmen's Tavern - 7pm Lydia Lovess/The Elliot Breed \$17 ADV/\$20 DOS.

#### DANCE/DJS/ELECTRONIC

Town Ballroom - 8pm Cash Cash & Tritonal. \$25-30.

#### JAZZ

Buffalo State College Rockwell Hall - 8pm David Sanborn, saxophonist, Great Performers Series. \$45 & \$40, \$37 seniors, \$15 students.

Daily Planet Coffee Co. - 5pm Fred Caputi Jazz Guitar.

Nietzsche's - 9pm Ellen Pieroni & Donny Fruenhofer, free

#### KARAOKE

Maple Entertainment Complex (The Library) - 8pm Karaoke w/ Michelle.

The Backstage Pub - 8pm Open Jam & Karaoke w/ Jimmy Zigzag & Wally B.

#### OPEN MIC

Buffalo Irish Center - 7:30pm Open Mic w/Tim Weir, free.

Hilltop Inn and Grove - 7pm Open Mic Hosted by Danny Lynn Wilson.

Hydeout - 9pm Randy California's Open Mic.

#### ROCK

Buffalo Iron Works - 9pm Start Marking Sense (Talking Heads Tribute), \$10 ADV/\$12 DOS, 18+

Pausa Art House - 8pm Banda Manix (latin/rock), Jon Nelson's new project explores salsa, funk & rock through the Mexican banda instrumentation w/ John Bacon Jr., Steve Baczkowski, Drew Azzinaro, Tom Marinaro, Dave DeWitt, Tim Clarke, & Kathy Haynes. \$7.

Waiting Room - 5:30pm Alesana, I Wrestled A Bear Once, Entheos, Artifex Pereo, Cabaret Runaway, \$15-\$17.

#### ZYDECO/CAJUN

Shango Bistro - 7pm Ron Davis aka LeeRon Zydeco.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### CRAFTS

Brighton Place Library - 1:30-2:30pm Cardcrafter's Club, Meet with other card crafters to share materials, ideas, & conversation. No experience needed. Call 332-4375 for info.

#### EXHIBITS

Karpeles Manuscript Museum (Porter Hall) - 11-4pm Ottoman Cartography & the Age of Discovery, an exhibit feat. hand-drawn maps, originally included in various educational atlases, produced between the 14th and 17th centuries. www.karpeles.com

The Steel Plant Museum, Heritage Discovery Center - 10-5pm Fascinating Forms: A Patricia Layman Bazelon Retrospective.

#### FILMS/SCREENINGS

Buffalo Central Library - 5-7:45pm Harry Potter & the Half Blood Prince, Main Floor, Ring of Knowledge.

Riviera Theatre - 7:30pm Airplane! (1980), \$5.

The Screening Room Inc. - 5pm Buffalo First Run Premiere of Anthem Of The Heart, \$15; 7:30pm The Amazing Nina Simone, \$8/\$7/\$6

#### FUNDRAISERS

Big Orbit Gallery - 5:30-8:30pm CSA Pick-Up Party & Fundraiser, hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, music by ABCDJ, unveiling of CEPAs Season One CSA shares, announcement of CEPAs CSA Season Two artists, \$20 at the door, free admission for CSA Shareholders & CSA Artists.

#### LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

Buffalo Central Library - 2-2:30pm Lakeshore Savings Check Presentation, Main Floor, Ring of Knowledge; 4-6pm Educator Preview: Milestones of Science Exhibition, (reservations 858-8900), Collections Gallery, 2nd floor.

Buffalo Central Library - 5-7:30pm Small Business Workshop, Central Meeting room, 2nd floor.

Dreamland - 8pm Tiq Milan, Discussions on Black Transgender Lives & Wellness

First Presbyterian Church - 7pm Fall Adventures in Buffalo History Part 3: Ellsworth Statler & Buffalo's Foremost Family: The Hamlin Legacy. \$10, Students \$5, Passholders free.

#### LITERARY

Buffalo Central Library - 12-1pm The New Neighbors Series/The Blg Read: The Beautiful Books That Buffalo Brings, speaker Barbara Cole, The Buffalo Literacy Center, Main Floor, Ring of Knowledge

Burchfield Penney Art Center - 5:30-7pm Himself: A Civil War Vetran's Struggles With Rebels, Brits, and Devils, book discussion with author Bill Donohue.

Talking Leaves ...Books - 7:30pm Longing For The Bomb, reading by author Lindsey A. Freeman

#### RECREATION/GAMES

Shenannigan's Bar & Grill - 7pm Trivia w/ Quiz Night in Buffalo.

#### SPECIAL EVENT

Brighton Place Library - 5-6pm Adult Coloring, a great way to relax and meet new friends. This is not a class and is very casual. Come to one or both sessions. Call 332-4375 for information.

#### TOURS

Phoenix Brewery - 5pm Tour of The Old Phoenix Brewery. \$25.

Shea's Buffalo Performing Arts Center - 10am, 1pm Historic Theatre Tour. \$8/\$4 Seniors, Students, & Groups of 20 or more. Reserve at 847-1410 ext. 184. sheas.org

Tiftt Nature Preserve - 10-noon Wellness Walks. Drop by Tiftt Nature Preserve and enjoy the fresh air and the sights and sounds of the season with a healthy outdoor walk on our beautiful and accessible trails! Please call 825-6397 to confirm walk will be taking place. \$2 donation per person appreciated. All ages.

## FRI NOV 6

### MUSIC

#### ACOUSTIC/FOLK

Daily Planet Coffee Co. - noon Acoustic Lunch w/ Drew Azzinaro.

Dwyer's Irish Pub - 6pm Darrell Porter

Wine on Third - 8pm Michael Krisch

#### BLUES

Buffalo St. Grill - 9:30pm River Dogs Blues Band

Hot Mama's Canteen - 8-11pm Black Rock Band

Vizzi's - 10pm Red Hot Blues Band.

#### CELTIC/IRISH

Buffalo Irish Center - 8pm Blarney Bunch, free.

#### DANCE/DJS/ELECTRONIC

31 Club - 9:30pm DJ Pauly Paul spinning hits from the 70's to today. the31club.com

Club Marcella - 11:30pm Flashback Party-Thanksgiving Edition, DJ Charles Masters & Jayme Cox w/ cast of Life's

A Drag. 80's, 90's music, Drag shows @ 11:30 pm & 1:30 am + drink specials. Before 1 a.m. \$3 (21+), \$5 (18-20), After 1 a.m. \$4 (21+), \$7 (18-20) Cover: VIP's are free all night long! Before 1 a.m. - \$3 (21 and over), \$5 (18, 19 & 20) After 1 a.m. - \$4 (21 and over), \$7 (18, 19 & 20)

#### DOO WOP

Fredonia Opera House - 7:30pm The Corvettes, Doo Wop Revue performing 1950s classics, \$17, \$15 students.

#### JAM BAND

Sportsmen's Tavern - 5:30-8pm Skiffleminstrels at Happy Hour; 9:30pm Little Mountain Band, \$5.

#### KARAOKE

Say Cheese Pizza - 9pm Parrot Karaoke w/ John Dudley.

Waiting Room - 10:30pm Rock, Pop, and 90's Live Band Karaoke (Studio Upstairs), free

#### OPEN MIC

Woodside Community Chapel - 7-11pm Woodside Coffee House Open Mic

#### POP

Raintree Bar & Grill - 9:30pm Nerds Gone Wild, 80s Tribute Band.

#### ROCK

Angry Buffalo at the Rose Garden - 8-11pm Busted Stuff

Attitudes Bar and Grill (Lockport) - 10pm Triple Threat Band

Buffalo Iron Works - 9pm The Garcia Project w/ Sonic Garden Acoustic Duo, \$12 ADV/\$15 DOS, 18+

Central Park Grill - 6-9pm Five To One Band, free.

Mac's on Hertel - 6pm CT Scan

Mohawk Place - 5pm Happy Hour: The Plagiarists, Mom Said No, Kavorka, free. ; 8pm X-Whites, Vores, Kill the Clock, Aligns, \$5.

Nietzsche's - 6-9pm A Band Named Sue, free.; 10pm The Card Cheats, Bighorn Sheep, Super Killer Robots & Fredtown Stompers, \$5.

Roycroft Inn - 8:30pm Tom Stahl And The Dangerfields

Santora's Pizza Pub & Grill (Millersport) - 8pm Off The Grid

Santora's Pizza Pub & Grill (Transit Rd.) - 9pm Ron Rocco's 9 Lives

The Gypsy Parlor - 10pm Kharlos, The Multiple Cats, DeadWolf.

The Rapids Theatre - 7pm Theory of A Dead Man w/ Pop Evil & Aranda, \$24.

Wine on Third - 8pm Brian Beaudry

#### SOUL

The Tralf Music Hall - 7:30pm What's Going On: Anthology of Marvin Gaye's Music

#### VARIETY

Wagon Wheel Restaurant - 9:30pm Dave Thurman's Singer Songwriter Showcase

Waiting Room - 6:30pm Lumberjack Matt, Big Tim, Young World, Jaali Cypher, Conscious, (Studio Upstairs), \$10

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### COMEDY

Helium Comedy Club - 7:30pm, 10pm Tom Segura

#### CRAFTS

Brighton Place Library - 10-noon Knitting Club, experienced or beginner. Knit, crochet, chat, or come w/ questions & materials.

#### DANCE

College at Brockport Rose L. Strasser Studio - 7:30pm 12th Annual New Dancers Showcase, short choreographed works by 32 dance majors, free.

#### EXHIBITS

Karpeles Manuscript Museum (Porter Hall) - 11-4pm Ottoman Cartography & the Age of Discovery, an exhibit feat. hand-drawn maps, originally included in various educational atlases, produced between the 14th and 17th centuries. www.karpeles.com

#### FILMS/SCREENINGS

The Screening Room Inc. - 7:30pm Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho, \$6.

#### LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

Church of Scientology of Buffalo - 7pm Clear Body, Clear Mind

UB O'Brian Hall - 11:30-3pm Regional Fulbright Association Alumni Chapter Announces Fall Conference, Presentations on different Fulbright awards, keynote speaker Reha Mallorids.

#### LITERARY

Barnes & Noble's (Clarence) - 5-8pm Former Buffalo Sabres Clint Malarchuk author of Matter of Inches: How I Survived in the Crease and Beyond, discussion & book signing w/ 6 other local authors Jeffrey Miller, Sandra Block, Alice Loweecey, Beverly Allen, Stephen Nawotniak, Patrick Fievald.

Brighton Place Library - 7pm An Evening w/ Wade Stevenson-Poetry, Passion, Remembrance

Hallwalls - 7pm Rustling The Leaves: Buffalo Noir Book Launch

Just Buffalo Writing Center - 8:30pm Studio: Trio of poets: Quadir Lateef, Buck Downs & Tina Darragh. cash bar with wines by Paradise Wines, free.

Western New York Book Arts Center - 7pm Poetics Plus: Rob Halpern

#### MAGIC

Ship N' Shore Restaurant - 7-9pm Magic & Balloon Art by Joe & Gary, free.

#### SPECIALTY/COMMUNITY THEATER

Ellicott Creek Playhouse (St. Edmund Campus) - 7:30pm Camelot by the Niagara Regional Theatre, \$18 General, \$16 Students/Seniors, \$15 Presale.

Lancaster Opera House - 7:30pm The Foreigner, A Comedy by Larry Shue, Lancaster Regional Players, \$20 (Adult), \$18 (Student and Senior).

## SAT NOV 7

### MUSIC

#### ACOUSTIC/FOLK

The Tralf Music Hall - 7pm The Lone Bellow w/ Anderson East, \$18 Adv/\$20.

Transit Lounge - 9:30pm Cue the Sun, free.

Wagon Wheel Restaurant - 9:30pm Mombrea Brothers

#### BLUES

Buffalo Irish Center - 8pm Brothers Blue, free.

Pierce Arrow Bar & Grill - 2-7pm Buffalo Blues Crew with Jack Civiletto, Chas DelPlato, Bob Price, Andy Romanek & Speedy Parker.

Raintree Bar & Grill - 2pm Blues Daddys

World of Beers - 9pm The River Dogs Blues Band

#### CELTIC/IRISH

Nietzsche's - 4:30pm Celtic Seisians

#### CHORAL

North Presbyterian Church - 4pm The Red Blazer Men's Chorus presents "A Concert Honoring Veterans". \$10, Vetearans free.

#### CLASSICAL

Kleinhans Music Hall - 8pm The Ukelele Wizard, Jake Shimabukuro plays with the BPO, World's First Ukelele Concerto, JoAnn Faletta conducts.

#### COUNTRY

Yellow Jaguar - 9pm Wasted Whiskey

#### DANCE/DJS/ELECTRONIC

Buffalo RiverWorks - 9pm Pyramid Presents Jeff Button.

Club Marcella - 11:30pm Salvation Saturdays w/ DJs Deb & Lil Joe, Keke Vasquez-Lord performs midnight drag show & hosts The Sexy Underwear Contest. Before 1 am \$3 (21+), \$5 (18-20), After 1 am \$4 (21+), \$7 (18-20).

Ukrainian Cultural Center DNIPRO - 9pm Mental Bass w/ Seven (UK), Feonix (UK), LSN live (UK), Indiji (UK), Joe Raygun (UK), Bloodthinnerz (LA) & Codd Duz (NYC), 18+, 2 Room Dubstep & Bass Music event, \$18 Presale/\$25 Door.

#### FUNK/SOUL

Hydraulic Hearth - 9:30pm Ron Davis & Ray Hangen, Acid Funk.

#### HOUSE

The Gypsy Parlor - 9pm Return to Rendezvous, Acid Jazz and House music followed by DJ Bflo Lydia

#### JAZZ

Albright-Knox Art Gallery - 7:30pm Dave Douglas Quintet, \$29, \$24 for memebers.

Hot Mama's Canteen - 1-3:30pm Jazz line ; 4-5pm Dr.

#### Jazz

Pausa Art House - 8pm Blue Stone Groove (jazz/funk). Buffalo based 6 piece band \$7 / \$5 (students).

Saigon Cafe - 8pm Alfie Alessandro Duo, free.

#### KARAOKE

Kate's - 10pm Karaoke w/ Eclectic Sound.

Tudor Lounge - 4-7pm Jony James Karaoke.

#### METAL

Mohawk Place - 6pm Orius, Lost Elysium, Dredneks, Lunar Eyes, The Last Reign, \$5.

Town Ballroom - 7pm Gwar w/ Battlecross & Born of Osiris, \$22-25.

#### R&B

Osteria 166 - 7-10pm Artistry in Autumn, \$40.00 which includes dinner by Chef Jeffrey Cook Jr., http://www.mickhayesmusic.com/

#### ROCK

Broadway Hotel - 4pm Community Service; 4pm Community Service

Broadway Hotel - 9pm Roadhouse Rebels

Buffalo Iron Works - 8pm Leon Russell w/ Special Guests, \$31.50 ADV/\$35.00 DOS/\$50 VIP, 18+

Evening Star Concert Hall - 8pm Heidt & Swill, 18+, \$5

Jack Devine's South (Hamburg) - 10pm Rock Angel

Nietzsche's - 10pm The Tins CD release party, Kopps, Midnight Hollow, Humble Braggers, \$7.

Raintree Bar & Grill - 10pm 10 Delaware Band

Santora's Pizza Pub & Grill (Transit Rd.) - 9pm Echo City

Seneca Allegany Casino - 10pm Sky Sportsmen's Tavern - 9pm The Twang Gang, \$3

Strikers Lanes - 9pm Breakaway

The Cove - 6-10pm Pooch & The Howling Cats

The Grill @ the Dome - 8pm Off The Grid

#### VARIETY

Pizza Plant Italian Pub (Transit Rd) - 8-11pm Getting Better Band, free.

#### ZYDECO/CAJUN

Sportsmen's Tavern - 3:30-6:30pm Ron Davis Combo, \$3

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### COMEDY

Helium Comedy Club - 7:30pm, 10pm Tom Segura

#### DANCE

College at Brockport Rose L. Strasser Studio - 7:30pm 12th Annual New Dancers Showcase, short choreographed works by 32 dance majors, free.

Fredonia Opera House - 1pm Live broadcast of the Bolshoi Ballet performing ballet masterpiece, Giselle. \$15, \$10 students.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo - 7:30pm Queen City Contra Dancers, 8-11PM, Contra Dance taught & called by Joe Kwiatkowski. Music by Esteemed Clams. Basics at 7:30. No Partner or Experience Needed, \$10.

#### EXHIBITS

Karpeles Manuscript Museum (Porter Hall) - 11-4pm Ottoman Cartography & the Age of Discovery, an exhibit feat. hand-drawn maps, originally included in various educational atlases, produced between the 14th and 17th centuries. www.karpeles.com

The Steel Plant Museum, Heritage Discovery Center - 10-5pm Fascinating Forms: A Patricia Layman Bazelon Retrospective.

#### FASHION

Freshly Dipped Lifestyle Boutique - 6pm Celebration of fashion, music & culture, DJ Heat and DJ Chuck, free.

#### FILMS/SCREENINGS

Fredonia Opera House - 7:30pm Film screening of Pawn Sacrifice, \$7 (adults), \$6.50 (seniors & Opera House members), \$5 (students).

The Screening Room Inc. - 5pm The Amazing Nina Simone, \$8/\$7/\$6; 7:30pm Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho, \$6.

#### KIDS STUFF

Buffalo Central Library - 1-2pm Mr. David's Marvelous, Magical Murals. Take part in creating a huge mural w/ Mr. David, ages 6-12, 858-8900, reservations required, Main floor, West room.; 2-3pm STEM Survival challenge: Can You Survive a hostile Environment Using only provided Supplies? ages 13-17. Central Meeting Room, 2nd floor.

Buffalo Zoo - 11-3pm ZooperSaturday (feat. the Bison), celebrate National Bison Day,

#### LITERARY

Western New York Book Arts Center - 6pm Liqueurs & Letterpress, letter pressing demonstration, make your own hand printed materials, local food & cocktails event, \$35 single, \$50 couples.

#### SPECIAL EVENT

Barnes & Noble's (Clarence) - 11-6pm First Ever Mini Maker Faire, hands on learning experence for kids & adults of all ages, workshops w/ Buffalo & Erie County Library, Buffalo Museum of Science, First Lego League, Clarence DI Boosters, Lockport Robotics, Manga Cosplay Costume Making, and more. Free.

Clarence Town Park - 10-5pm 39th Annual Clarence Arts and Crafts Society's Holiday Arts and Crafts Show, 50 artisans feat. handmade crafted gifting selections, Buffalo themed note cards & novelty items, exquisite gem stone & sea glass jewelry, floral arrangements, handcrafted wood & inlays, pottery, copper art & jewelry, wide variety of novel fiber/textiles, cork art, decorative teddy bears, homemade soaps, photography, tole paintings, fine line drawings & more.

PVT. Leonard Post VFW Hall - 6-10pm Friends of 554 Fall Meat Raffle, \$5 Admission includes Beer, Wine & Snacks & entry for grand prizes of Freezer, Snowblower or TV.

#### SPECIALTY/COMMUNITY THEATER

Ellicott Creek Playhouse (St. Edmund Campus) - 7:30pm Camelot by the Niagara Regional Theatre, \$18 General, \$16 Students/Seniors, \$15 Presale.

Lancaster Opera House - 7:30pm The Foreigner, A Comedy by Larry Shue, Lancaster Regional Players, \$20 (Adult), \$18 (Student and Senior).

#### TOURS

Buffalo Central Library - 2pm Milestones of Science Exhibition Tour, Collections Gallery, 2nd floor.

First Presbyterian Church - 11pm Inside First Presbyterian, \$15, Students \$5, Passholders free.

Shea's Buffalo Performing Arts Center - 10am, 1pm Historic Theatre Tour. \$8/\$4 Seniors, Students, & Groups of 20 or more. Reserve at 847-1410 ext. 184. sheas.org

## SUN NOV 8

## OPEN MIC

Mr. Goodbar - 8:30pm Open Mic hosted by Mikey Mike feat. talented musicians of all genres welcome. PA, microphone available.

## ROCK

Mohawk Place - 8pm Jonny Two Bags (of Social Distortion), Jesse Dayton, \$13 advance/\$16 day of show.

Nietzsche's - 6pm Ann Phillipone

Sportsmen's Tavern - 4:7pm Professor Louie & The Crowmatix w/ The Hitmen Horns Paly the Music of The Band, \$25.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### COMEDY

Helium Comedy Club - 7:30pm Tom Segura

### DANCE

Ship N' Shore Restaurant - 4-8pm Ballroom Dancing & Fun Music w/ Frank & the Shipmates, free.

### EXHIBITS

Karpeles Manuscript Museum (Porter Hall) - 11-4pm Ottoman Cartography & the Age of Discovery, an exhibit feat. hand-drawn maps, originally included in various educational atlases, produced between the 14th and 17th centuries. www.karpeles.com

### FILMS/SCREENINGS

The Foundry - 12-6pm LBGTQ History Film Festival by No Labels Clothing Cooperative, fundraising event feat. documentaries about Stonewall Riots, AIDS epidemic, Queer youth homelessness, history of underground art films and queer culture, namely Derek Jarman's work, \$5/\$3 w/ clothing donation.

The Screening Room Inc. - 7:30pm Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho, \$6.

### LITERARY

The Gypsy Parlor - 6pm Pure Ink Poetry

### PERFORMANCE ART

Hallwalls - 3pm Sex/Body/Self, Performance, Lecture, Rant by author & performance artist Tim Miller.

### SPECIAL EVENT

Barnes & Noble's (Clarence) - 11-5pm First Ever Mini Maker Faire, hands on learning experience for kids & adults of all ages, workshops w/ Buffalo & Erie County Library, Buffalo Museum of Science, First Lego League, Clarence DI Boosters, Lockport Robotics, Manga Cosplay Costume Making, and more. Free.

Clarence Town Park - 10-5pm 39th Annual Clarence Arts and Crafts Society's Holiday Arts and Crafts Show, 50 artisans feat. handmade crafted gifting selections, Buffalo themed note cards & novelty items, exquisite gem stone & sea glass jewelry,

floral arrangements, handcrafted wood & inlays, pottery, copper art & jewelry, wide variety of novel fiber/textiles, cork art, decorative teddy bears, homemade soaps, photography, tole paintings, fine line drawings & more.

Niagara Gorge Discovery Center - 10am Hike For The Climate, Promoting awareness of the "Rise Up for Climate Justice" campaign. Sponsor ADK Niagara Frontier Chapter.

### SPECIALTY/COMMUNITY THEATER

Ellicott Creek Playhouse (St. Edmund Campus) - 3pm Camelot by the Niagara Regional Theatre, \$18 General, \$16 Students/Seniors, \$15 Presale.

Lancaster Opera House - 2:30pm The Foreigner, A Comedy by Larry Shue, Lancaster Regional Players, \$20 (Adult), \$18 (Student and Senior).

## MON NOV 9

### MUSIC

#### ACOUSTIC/FOLK

Nietzsche's - 8pm Songwriter Showcase, free.

#### BLUES

Abbey Square - 8pm Blues Night feat. Harvey & the Hurricanes.

#### DANCE/DJS/ELECTRONIC

Duke's Bohemian Grove Bar - 8pm DBGB Does Monday Night Football feat. a free halftime buffet w/ team inspired foods. 100" TV, followed by resident DJs playing best in Rock N Roll.

Essex St. Pub - 10pm Vinyl Monday w/ Eric Kendall

#### OPEN MIC

Nietzsche's - 9pm Open mic w/ Josh Gage.

The Alley Cat - 8pm Open Mic w/ Bobby Angel.

#### POP

Sugar City - 7:10pm Iji (groovy pop music from Seattle) w/ Welks Mice (Vibraphone songwriting duo) & Peter Kirsch, \$5

#### ROCK

Sportsmen's Tavern - 7pm Jason Heath & The Greedy Souls, \$10.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### COMEDY

Tudor Lounge - 10pm Open Mic Comedy hosted by Mama Rag.

## KIDS STUFF

Buffalo Zoo - 6-8pm Arctic White Out Pre-Party at Alex & Ani, includes snacks & refreshments, visits from the Zoo's animal ambassadors, and more! Free.

## LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

Buffalo State Ketchum Hall - 6:30-8:30pm The Uses of Anger: The Poetry of Black Rage and #blacklivesmatter, Shanna Benjamin lecturer.

Church of Scientology of Buffalo - 7pm Dianetics Lecture

Martin House - 6pm The Visuality of Space and The Space of Vision, On Mies van der Rohe's Photomontages, lecture by MoMA's Chief Curator of Architecture & Design, Martino Stierli, free.

## LITERARY

Lockport Public Library - 6:30pm The Big Read: The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears Book Discussion.

## RECREATION/GAMES

Epic Restaurant & Lounge - 8pm Epic Movie Trivia Night!

Shenannigan's Bar & Grill - 9pm Trivia w/ Quiz Night in Buffalo.

The Century Grill - 8pm Geeks Who Drink Trivia, \$5.

## TUES NOV 10

### MUSIC

#### BLUES

Rafferty's Bar & Grill - 7-7pm Tuesday Ladies Night-Blues Jam/Dance Party, The Amazing Street Kings with Dave Rinow, Todd Mazurek, Joe Dimino, Bruce Maple & Speedy Parker.

#### CABARET/BROADWAY

UB Center for the Arts - 7:30pm Colm Wilkinson: Broadway & Beyond, from the original Les Miserables and Phantom Of The Opera, performs his most famous musical theatre hits, Irish classics & more, \$61, \$51, \$43.

#### CELTIC/IRISH

Sportsmen's Tavern - 9pm John Culliton Mahoney, free

#### CLASSICAL

Buffalo State College Rockwell Hall - 7:30pm The Buffalo State Wind Ensemble, \$10, students free.

#### FUNK/SOUL

Duke's Bohemian Grove Bar - 8pm Neo Soul feat. Verse Band w/ DJ Lopro.

#### KARAOKE

Essex St. Pub - 10pm Buffalo's Best Karaoke, Essex St. Pub's own unique style of Karaoke Buffalo has loved for 10 years.

## OPEN MIC

Clarence Center Coffee Co. - 7:30pm Clarence Center Open Mic.

The Alley Cat - 8pm Open Mic w/ Amanda Markovich & Leigh Stoner.

## ROCK

Buffalo Iron Works - 8pm Honey Honey w/ Special Guests, 18+, \$12 ADV/\$15 DOS.

Central Park Grill - 7pm Jamie Sunshine band debut, w/ Rafi Bloomberg, Cody Barcroft & Tyler Madell.

Mohawk Place - 5pm Time And Distance, Rosedale, City Under Siege, 3 Hour Power Shower, Pity Sweater, One Less Today, Crazy's, \$7 ADV/\$10 DOS.

Sportsmen's Tavern - 6-9pm Twang Gang, \$3

## SWING/BIG BAND

Sportsmen's Tavern - 12-2pm Joe Baudo 17 piece Blg Band, free

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### COMEDY

Nietzsche's - 8pm Rust Belt Comedy presents: Setlists Against Humanity, an improvised adventure in stand up hosted by Rick Matthews. Ages 21 & up. \$5

### CRAFTS

Brighton Place Library - 6-8pm Knitting Club, experienced or beginner. Knit, crochet, chat, or come w/ questions & materials.

### DANCE

Nietzsche's - 10pm Joe Donohue followed by the Stripteasers.

### EXHIBITS

Karpeles Manuscript Museum (Porter Hall) - 11-4pm Ottoman Cartography & the Age of Discovery, an exhibit feat. hand-drawn maps, originally included in various educational atlases, produced between the 14th and 17th centuries. www.karpeles.com

The Steel Plant Museum, Heritage Discovery Center - 10-5pm Fascinating Forms: A Patricia Layman Bazelon Retrospective.

### FILMS/SCREENINGS

Fredonia Opera House - 7:30pm Film screening of Pawn Sacrifice, \$7 (adults), \$6.50 (seniors & Opera House members), \$5 (students).

The Screening Room Inc. - 7:30pm Alfred Hitchcock's Psycho, \$6.

### LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - noon 2nd Tuesday Series: Architecture/Design, Noon-12:30 pm "Imagine the Pursuit of Happiness", The Cathedral: Reims, the Royal Cathedral, Great Courses Video #15,

12:30 - 1:00 P.M. "Imagine a Healthy, Wealthy & Sustainable Community: Imagine Spiritual Guides Today-Charles Burchfield" Speaker: Nancy Weekly, Burchfield Penney Art Center, Head of Collections.

Burchfield Penney Art Center - 6pm Re-Energize Buffalo: An evening with Robin Kimmerner, Indigenous Knowledge For Biodiversity Conservation, 6pm Reception, 7 pm presentation, free.

## RECREATION/GAMES

Maple Entertainment Complex (The Library) - 8pm Trivia Tuesday's Hosted by Buzztime Trivia.

## SPECIAL EVENT

Brawler's Back Alley Deli - 7pm Buffalo Trivia Night, \$10/non-members & Bronze members/Free for Silver, Gold & Platinum members, up to 6 players per team.

Brighton Place Library - 12-1pm Adult Coloring, a great way to relax and meet new friends. This is not a class and is very casual. Come to one or both sessions. Call 332-4375 for information.

## TOURS

Shea's Buffalo Performing Arts Center - 10am, 1pm Historic Theatre Tour. \$8/\$4 Seniors, Students, & Groups of 20 or more. Reserve at 847-1410 ext. 184. sheas.org

## WED NOV 11

### MUSIC

#### ACOUSTIC/FOLK

Nietzsche's - 6pm, 6pm Tyler Westcott's Pizza Trio, free.

#### BLUES

189 Public House - noon Ron Davis.

Macaroon's Nite Club - 7-7pm Blues Jam/Dance Party, Jack Civiletto, Speedy Parker, with Bob Price, Jim Ehinger & Harvey Murello.

Sportsmen's Tavern - 7pm Charlie Parr, \$5.

#### CELTIC/IRISH

Shannon Pub - 6:30pm Joe Head

#### CLASSICAL

Riviera Theatre - 7pm BPO Veteran's Day Concert, free!

#### DANCE/DJS/ELECTRONIC

Dreamland - 8pm Michael Parallax w/ wildly ecstatic electro-pop extravaganza, \$5 suggested donation.

#### FUNK/SOUL

The Traf Music Hall - 7pm Lettuce, \$26.

## HARDCORE

Sugar City - 6-10pm Spine (from Kansas City), Blindside USA, New Vision, & Blinded, \$6.

## JAZZ

Marinaro's Larkin Tavern - 5:30-8pm Alfie Alessandra & Phil Sims, free.

Sportsmen's Tavern - 12-2pm Joe Baudo Quartet, free

## KARAOKE

Macaroon's Nite Club - 9pm Super Sound karaoke w/ Bud Night

Mr. Goodbar - 10pm Karaoke upstairs. Come show off your singing skills!

Triple Play Sports Bar - 9pm Karaoke

Waiting Room - 10pm Punk Rock Karaoke (Studio Upstairs), free

## OPEN MIC

Maple Entertainment Complex (The Library) - 8pm Open Mic w/ Jeremy.

Peace of Mind Coffee Shop - 7-10pm Peace of Mind Coffee Shop Open Mic hosted by Keith Shuskie, free.

Tudor Lounge - 10pm Open Mic hosted by Todd Allan.

## ROCK

Buffalo Iron Works - 10:30pm Dead & Co. After Party w/ Dead Alliance Buffalo, 21+, free.

Hydeout - 8pm Randy California's Open Jam.

Nietzsche's - 9pm Frontstreet Men, free.

Sportsmen's Tavern - 4-7pm Brittany Reilly Grateful Duo & members of Grass Is Dead, \$7.

## ZYDECO/CAJUN

189 Public House - noon Ron Davis.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### DANCE

The Gypsy Parlor - 8pm Bohemian Belly Dance

### EXHIBITS

Karpeles Manuscript Museum (Porter Hall) - 11-4pm Ottoman Cartography & the Age of Discovery, an exhibit feat. hand-drawn maps, originally included in various educational atlases, produced between the 14th and 17th centuries. www.karpeles.com

### KIDS STUFF

Niagara County History Center - 10-1pm Trenches, Tanks and Truces, Veterans Day lecture/workshop on World War I for kids ages 7-12. Make your own mini U-Boat & tank, role play, identify artifacts, \$10, reservation required, 716-434-7433.

# SEE YOU THERE!

# DAVE RAWLINGS MACHINE W/ GILLIAN WELCH

7pm. Asbury Hall at Babeville, 341 Delaware Ave. (852-3835/babevillebuffalo.com) \$30



Heavy hitters on the Americana scene, the **Dave Rawlings Machine w/Gillian Welch** will bring their hot string band music to **Asbury Hall at Babeville** on Thursday night. Rawlings and Welch have been musical collaborators for many years, and they are out on a tour in support of the acclaimed album *Nashville Obsolete*

[Acony], just released on September 18. That same month, the duo received the Lifetime Achievement Award for Songwriting from the Americana Music Association in Nashville. Not strictly Bluegrass, and anything but tired old folk music, they perform an energetic and beautiful blend of finely crafted originals and delightfully reimagined covers—buoyed by Welch and Rawlings' homespun harmonies that ring like songbirds in a mountain hollow, while being held down to earth by a backing ensemble that is as sturdy and comfortable as a well broken-in pair of jeans. This will likely be a show that will be talked about by local Americana aficionados for years to come. Don't miss out.

> BY BUCK QUIGLEY





## BATMAN: EARTH ONE, VOLUME TWO

By Geoff Johns (Author), Gary Frank, Jon Sibal, Brad Anderson (Illustrators) DC Comics (Publisher)

> REVIEW BY GABRIEL ALLANDRO

In case you missed the 2012 debut of Batman: Earth One, don't fret: you've got another chance with Volume Two. The Batman: Earth One series of graphic novels reimagines the Dark Knight at the beginning of his journey to become a legend. This second volume, timed six months after the events of the first volume, takes place in the aftermath of the mayor's death. The new mayor, Jessica Dent, and her brother, crusading District Attorney Harvey Dent, are trying to clean the criminal elements from Gotham City.

But the criminal empire of the former mayor has been taken over by five city officials hell-bent on keeping business as usual. Unfortunately for them, business is not usual, not with a serial killer with a penchant for riddles stalking them and blowing up portions of the city. Batman, who is notably not a detective at this point in his career, ends up fighting a war on two fronts as he contends with the deadly machinations of the Riddler while trying to assist the Dents in their own investigation. Add in the debuts of Killer Croc, an insane recreation of Two-Face and a very sly, subtly perfect introduction of Catwoman, and the Dark Knight has his hands full. Geoff Johns, whose stellar career includes turning burned-out hero franchises Green Lantern and Aquaman into must-have titles, crafts a fast-paced storyline full of twists and turns that even a veteran comic book lover won't expect. And the art team of Gary Frank, Jon Sibal and Brad Anderson delivers images worthy of the tale—lots of shadows and sharp-edged lines, which are perfect when telling tales in Gotham City.

## KINGDOM COME

By Mark Waid (Author), Alex Ross (Illustrator) DC Comics (Publisher)

> REVIEW BY GABRIEL ALLANDRO

The near-dystopian future world of Kingdom Come, crafted by Mark Waid and Alex Ross, sent shockwaves across the comics industry when the four-issue series debuted in 1996. In this futuristic DC Universe, Waid takes on the "grim and gritty" interpretation of superheroes that prevailed in the 1990s by showing what would happen if the "classic" heroes retired, leaving those wild, unrestrained, so-called "heroes" to inherit the Earth. Indeed, the so-called heroes, as noted by protagonist and narrator Norman McCay, "number in the nameless thousands ... inspired by the legends of those who came before... if not the morals." One memorable page not only asks how much people "missed the concept of human achievement," it hammers the point home with an image of a signed baseball from the 2002 "last-ever World Series." Biblical prophecy runs alongside a tale of personal discovery and redemption as McCay must bear witness to the events that might spark the end of the world. Ten years after Superman abandoned the fight for truth and justice, he returns to make things right, building a new Justice League with the intent of reining in the newer, deadlier generation of heroes. But humanity has had enough of superhumanity running riot, and is prepared to end the problem once and for all. And caught in the middle is the Batman, trying to keep both sides from tipping the balance into world destruction. Words can't really describe the rich complexity of the plot, a blend of superheroics, politics and an analysis of the human condition. Waid's words are deftly complemented by Ross' hand-painted pages, bursting with color that shifts with each page's individual mood. If you're looking for a classic, self-contained spectacular storyline with fantastic art, this is the book for you.



## FLYING BISON BREWING COMPANY BISON WARMER

ABV: 7%

> ERIK WOLLSCHLAGER

Despite current the here-and-gone again nature of the cold weather Buffalo knows so well, winter is indeed on its way—let us not forget, just three weeks from now, we celebrate the anniversary of Snowmageddon, when the southern half of the city and its surrounding suburbs were buried under house-high piles of snow. In preparation for the potential weathering of another storm, Flying Bison has released their prescription for cabin fever—Bison Warmer. Bison Warmer is a nicely spiced ale, brewed in the traditional manner of the American Winter Warmer. A beer drinker's answer to mulled cider, the American Winter Warmer often incorporates cloves, orange peel, cinnamon and nutmeg, among other traditional spices. Bison Warmer is no exception, and the clove and ginger flavors balance the malt character for a perfect winter brew. The diverse range of spices makes it a great beer to pair with just about anything; the clove and ginger pair well with ham or game meats, and the sweet maltiness is a nice background for any dessert. Here's a secret no one is telling you, though—this beer is fantastic with your kid's Halloween candy! Sift through that giant bowl you have balanced precariously on top of your refrigerator, and pull out anything with caramel, peanut butter, or coconut. You (and your dentist) can thank me later. You can find Bison Warmer in 6-pack bottles at any of your local grocers or bottle shops.



## GENESEE BREW HOUSE SALTED CARAMEL CHOCOLATE PORTER

STYLE: ENGLISH STYLE PORTER

ABV: 6.5%

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The first time I visited the Genesee Brew House back in 2012, I was truly floored by what was coming out of the "small" 20 barrel brewery on Cataract St. in Rochester. Brewmaster Dean Jones was brewing at least a half dozen solid styles, only available at the two bars located inside a renovated, former Genesee packaging facility. In the years since, Jones has brewed at least 40 different styles to much praise including their latest package release, Salted Caramel Chocolate Porter. A scaled up recipe originally brewed as a limited edition collaboration with Hedonist Artisan Chocolates takes a traditional English style Porter and inserts layers of complexity brought by a massive dose of French chocolate, caramel and sea salt. For beers typically packing this much flavor, you would expect to see an ABV north of 9%; not so with this, clocking in at 6.5%. This beer has the ability to be several different things depending on what temperature you serve it. Cold from the fridge, the beer pours deep brown with aromas and flavors of bittersweet chocolate, deep roast and salt with a slightly thinner body than one might expect. As the beer warms, roast takes a back seat to bittersweet chocolate, enhanced by salt, making a perfect dessert beer. Just in time for indoor party season, pair it with like flavors or your favorite Baklava. Pick up a 4-pack to share with friends and have a toast to the new Genny! #thinknydrinkny

# Your Weekly Horoscope

By Jean Topascani



**Aries: (March 21 - April 19)**

This week you will ask a stranger, "What are you doing in my bedroom at this time of night, and why are you grinning at me with those sharp teeth." Your wish comes true if you take up a life of crime. Sat. a.m.: Losing weight will make you look slimmer.



**Cancer: (June 21 - July 22)**

You will have meeting with exciting Virgo who is (fortunately) skilled at the Heimlich Maneuver. Your brain should play a big part in your decisions today. Change your sign to Pisces. You have a good heart, but bad breath. Sat. a.m.: You win screaming contest.



**Libra: (September 23 - October 22)**

Your personality resembles a Labrador's nose: cold, black, and wet. Rub medicine on feet to combat fungus growth. Purchase a BMW rather than a Chevrolet because it is easier to spell. You visit a haunted house and come out with a job application! Consider moving. You are depriving some poor village of its idiot.



**Capricorn: (December 22 - January 19)**

The stars indicate you should ignore people who say you are illogical, unreasonable and self-centered. The stars also say they are absolutely right. Whatever kind of look you were going for, you missed. Laser hair removal helps distinguish your back from your hair.



**Taurus: (April 20 - May 20)**

"Baggydrawers" is not the nickname you expected from coworkers after you purchased new green, polyester fat pants. Financial institution adds "fees" to your accounts. You like travelling and if you had money then you would do so. Nose hair glistens in rain after a sneeze.



**Leo: (July 23 - August 22)**

Even if you lose weight, you will still have an obnoxious personality. While wearing an outfit made entirely of cuttlebones, you meet winsome stranger who has narcolepsy. Saturday p.m. best time to choke loved one. Weds. p.m.: Elope with the village idiot.



**Scorpio: (October 23 - November 21)**

Stars point out that you were boring in your past and will be so in the future. Gambling with your possessions always seems like a good idea at the time. Wear ugly sweaters to distract people from seeing your face. A promotion is just around the corner for someone more talented than you.



**Aquarius: (January 20 - February 18)**

Hoped-for date responds to proposed meeting time with "How about never? Is never good for you?" Ask your parents to increase your allowance to ten cents a week. Avoid unnecessary death. Boss shakes you off like a bad case of fleas. Get out of your room on Friday.



**Gemini: (May 21 - June 20)**

Feathers and fresh tar will figure in your sudden decision to relocate. Your fingerprints are on "blunt instrument" that caused fatal depression in your boss's skull. Wipe croquet mallet clean. Tues a.m.: Using words may help communicate your thoughts. Tues. p.m. Remember: Take and you shall receive.



**Virgo: (August 23 - September 22)**

Finances improve for co-worker who takes your job. Increase your medication. Don't forget to purchase two tickets when you visit the zoo. You'll need one to get out. Sat: p.m. don't pick at scabs. Weds. p.m.: Look both ways before crossing street.



**Sagittarius: (November 22 - December 21)**

Stop kissing the mirror with admiration. Be ready for an unexpected trip when you fall screaming from an open window. You become so famous in your area that every policeman knows you. Be enthusiastic about the success of others, since you will have none yourself.



**Pisces: (February 19 - March 20)**

Your desire for justice and truth is overshadowed by desire for fast, illegal money. Future looks bleak. You will get a job where you meet people, with plenty of air. It will involve standing on street corners and shaking a tin cup. A tender, romantic encounter is out of the question.

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Registration: 5PM  
Auction Start: 6PM

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#### CITY OF N. TONAWANDA

Sat., Dec 5, 2015

Registration: 9AM  
Auction Start: 10AM

Sale Location: 216 Payne Ave, North Tonawanda, NY 14120  
(Auction will be held in the Council Chambers)

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