

# The Downtowner

Vol. 2, Issue 5

Buffalo, New York

May, 2007

A  
**FREE**  
PUBLICATION

## MEMORIAL DAY



WWII Veterans



Soldiers and Sailors Monument



Perl Harbor



Negro Veterans



WWI Veterans



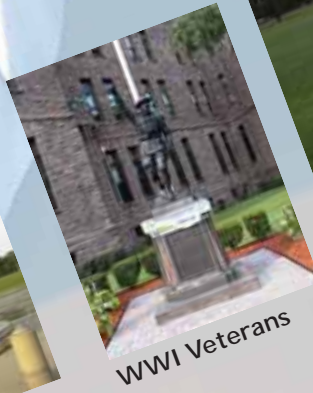
War of 1812 Soldiers



Civil War



Perry Monument



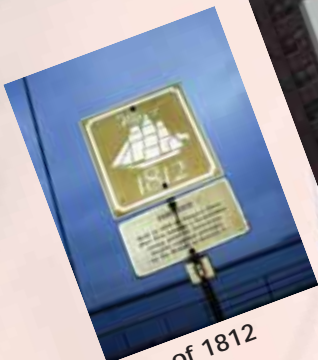
WWI Veterans



Korea



Western New York Vietnam Veterans Memorial



War of 1812



US Marine Corps



Merchant Marines



## MOTHER'S DAY

This Issue:

**WILLIAM J. DONOVAN**  
BUFFALO'S OWN  
"WILD BILL"

**MEMORIAL DAY**  
IN  
BUFFALO

**CONGRESSMAN BRIAN HIGGINS**  
WATERFRONT

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## FACES OF DOWNTOWN

by Nancy Siegel



Don't know who Sue Gonzalez is? Well if you've ever eaten at the Taste of Buffalo, dribbled a basketball at the Gus Macker Tournament or purchased a poster at the Allentown Art Festival, then you've experienced her handiwork. As the Director of Special Events for the City of Buffalo, Sue has played a major role in the planning of all of these events.

"We seek to improve the quality of life for families and children throughout the region," says Sue "So many people are passionate about the events they are planning. They are usually regular citizens and my job is to assist them through the process. I'm concerned about the safety and welfare of the attendees to the event and to the community residents who are often impacted by the event."

Last year, her office coordinated over 300 events in the city ranging from large events like the Taste of Buffalo and the Gus Macker to the smaller, less well known ones such as neighborhood clean-ups and block parties. "This year, we've already processed 400 applications. Our summer event season may not be long but we pack so much in!"

Sue, always looking for ways to improve the events planning process, is currently implementing some new ideas. "We're working on getting our applications on-line and we hope to have a special events calendar on-line soon."

Sue's Special Events office on the 2nd floor of City Hall is where she spends only part of her day. That's because she then goes upstairs to one of the upper floors where she serves as Executive Director of the Police Athletic League (PAL), an independent non-profit organization that is one of the largest fund-raisers in the area. "We like to call ourselves 'friend-raisers'-not just fund-raisers," says Sue. PAL sponsors the New Year's Eve Ball Drop from the Electric Tower and is the co-sponsor of the immensely popular Gus Macker Basketball Tournament. "It's a huge event that brings thousands to downtown Buffalo and takes a great deal of planning."

Sue loves working in City Hall and feels that relocating the PAL office there has

been a perfect fit-both for the agency and for herself. "It's been well worth the effort to move the PAL office here since they work so closely with the city. But, in addition, I get to appreciate the views from my window. On one side I can see from Niagara Square to the Central Terminal and on the other side I can see our beautiful waterfront. I can even look down and see my house!"

Personally, Sue lived in North Buffalo for about 20 years until she became an empty nester when her daughter went out on her own. She has lived on the Waterfront for the last 4 years. "The Waterfront is a tremendous community. People often don't realize how many families live here. I feel so safe and I can see the water from my home. Who could ask for more?"

"I'm proud to say that I live in Downtown Buffalo," Sue says. "There are really not many services that I have to leave the city for. There are almost TOO many choices for food-whether it be for take-out or a fancy dinner. There are just so many things to do-the hardest part is figuring out how to fit it all in!"

When asked what she'd like to see improved in downtown Buffalo, Sue has a hard time coming up with an answer. "I'd really have to search for an answer because my life here is so good. I guess that I'd have to say that I'd like to see more home ownership options available in the downtown area-in all price ranges."

"Everything has changed here in the past four years. There's something new on every block. It's such an exciting time to be here and I'm just happy to be part of it!"

### To contact Sue about your Special Event:

Susan Gonzalez  
65 Niagara Square Room 224  
716-851-6508  
[sgonzalez@city-buffalo.com](mailto:sgonzalez@city-buffalo.com)

## Message from the Editor

by Paul McQuillen

This month The Downtowner reaches a milestone; our 12th edition is on the streets. We've come a long way in twelve months and we acknowledge and look forward to the challenge of the next twelve. What started as one person's dream has become an avocation to those of us committed to the newspaper and to those who believe in its niche in the Downtown Buffalo community.

What started last June as a four-page, two color publication with a staff of four, has grown to eight pages of full color and a staff of ten and dozens of contributors. But more importantly, our sponsorship and readership continues to grow and has become more diverse.

We've lost people who were important to this paper, Dianne to cancer, Gio to NYC. They will be sorely missed, and we must search for others to pick up where they left off. We've added people and with those people come fresh ideas and new perspectives. Welcome both to Beth and Carrie. But perhaps more importantly, the core of the Downtowner staff has remained and to them and their commitment, special thanks for the past twelve months.

We've added to our graphics, our monthly columns now include Faces of Downtown, In and Around My Downtown Neighborhood and As I See It (written by community leaders and activists on topics effecting Downtown). And, as in the beginning our focus remains in and on the Downtown community.

So, the city keeps growing and people keep

coming. Like it or not, love it or hate it, growth continues and all of Buffalo benefits. Soon, construction will begin on the new federal courthouse and the reconstruction of Fuhrmann Blvd; the temporary gaming casino will likely open in the near future. Work continues on the canal terminus and will begin on the inner and outer harbor and on the new Canal Side project. Demolition of the Aud and the Donovan Building will commence shortly.

We pay honor this month to two groups of people who have contributed so much to lives we live and the freedoms we enjoy. May is the month in which we Americans pay honor to our mothers, for all that they have given us and for all that they have meant to us, whether they are with us or not. May is also the month we pay tribute to those who perished in the military, or are still missing, for the safety and the security which we now enjoy and which remains to this day in jeopardy. It is a fitting tribute that this month we honor she who gave us life, as well as they who gave their lives to protect ours.

So, as we put this paper to print and prepare for our second year, we wish all of you all the best and we extend to you our sincere thanks and gratitude for the rewards we reap and for the benefit of providing to you some small measure of information, entertainment, amusement or diversion.

Finally, we add our voice to the growing chorus that, **WE BELIEVE**, in the Buffalo Sabres and their quest for the Stanley Cup!!

## DOWNTOWN COUNTRY MARKET

By Jacquelyn Jonmaire

In 2007, the Downtown Country Market will celebrate 25 years of bringing the freshest goods and finest wares to the heart of the Queen City. The Market provides a positive shopping experience for the burgeoning residential base and expanding number of office workers in the Downtown core. Buffalo Place manages the Downtown Country Market for 24 consecutive weeks. Each week, our 25 unique participants cater to the needs of 15,000 to 20,000 shoppers.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the summer months and early Fall, the Market transforms the 400 block of Main Street into a bustling outdoor shopping experience. Whether visitors are looking to brighten up their garden, pick up a snack for a co-worker, grab some fresh ingredients for dinner or treat their animal to an organic cookie, the Market's product variety is always the main attraction. Our partnership with WHTT-FM makes music a fun part of the shopping experience at the Market with free coffee give-aways, on-site broadcasts and prize wheel giveaways for lucky customers.

There is a pre-season and regular season for the market. This year, the pre-season will take place from May 24<sup>th</sup> to June 14<sup>th</sup> and the regular season will take place from June 21<sup>st</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>. Hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The Downtown Country Market also participates in Pride of New York, a program developed to promote and support the sale of agricultural products grown and food products processed in New York State. Each Market vendor is required to be a bonafide New York producer and our shoppers take pride in this initiative, confident that each and every product purchased at the Market is produced in New York State.

In past seasons, Buffalo Place has worked with many community organizations in conjunction with the Market. These organizations have taken advantage of our captive audiences and utilized the Market to share their message with the masses. If you are interested in participating in the Market, there are limited opportunities available. For more information visit [www.buffaloplacel.org](http://www.buffaloplacel.org) or call 716.856.3150.

## The Downtowner Staff

PAUL McQUILLEN  
JILL BENKER-BECK  
NANCY SIEGEL  
JESSICA KELTZ  
BRYAN JAMES WHITLEY  
GIO CENTURIONE  
BETH HINTERMEIER  
CARRIE GARDNER  
REED BROOKS  
STEVEN ANSELL

MANAGING EDITOR  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR  
HUMAN INTEREST  
CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST  
SPECIAL INTEREST  
WRITER AND PHOTOGRAPHER  
SALES AND MARKETING  
PRODUCTION MANAGER  
RESTAURANT REVIEW  
GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Contributors

Ben Matlock - Leith Chamberlain - Rob Rohrbach

DIANNE McQUILLEN

FOUNDER (2006-2007)

[TheDowntowner@TheBuffaloDowntowner.com](mailto:TheDowntowner@TheBuffaloDowntowner.com)  
771-9450 • PO Box 1146 Buffalo, NY 14201

On The Cover: Buffalo War Memorials

# Working For Downtown News...

by Jill Benker-Beck

Working For Downtown (WFD) is finishing up a remarkable program year. More people, both members and non-members, have attended the events and programs created by the organization's volunteers this year than in previous years. The formula for success has been providing the public with up to date information given by leading experts at enjoyable venues at little or no cost.

At last month's Brown Bag luncheon more than 45 attendees listened as Chris Jacobs described his company's development plans for downtown. This month marks the wrap up of our "Buffalo Now" series. Peter M. Cammarata, President and David Stebbins, Vice President, of the Buffalo Urban Development Corporation will jointly present a "Waterfront Development Project Update." Both gentlemen are considered authorities on the subject their presentation will be the "frosting" on the "Buffalo Now" series. The luncheon will be on May 2 at noon at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Approximately 40 members and guests attended the New Member Social that was held on the 19th floor of One M&T Plaza on Monday April 23rd. Rick Serra, President of WFD, introduced Board members and committee chairs giving a brief

overview of each committee. New members were encouraged to join the committee that most closely matched their interests.

Each year WFD recognizes and presents awards to individuals and or groups that personify the mission of the organization. Nominations are being accepted for the Fernbach Award which is given to organizations or individuals whose efforts have resulted in the aesthetic revitalization of Downtown Buffalo; the Joan K. Bozer Award, which recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to improving Downtown Buffalo and the Member Recognition Award, which honors a WFD member for their contributions to the organization and for their efforts in making Downtown Buffalo a better place to live. The awards will be presented on June 19th at WFD's annual meeting. Nominations may be forwarded to: WFD PO Box 123, Buffalo 14205-0173 or online at [wfd@workingfordowntown.org](mailto:wfd@workingfordowntown.org). If you would like to attend the annual Meeting which is being held at the Statler with Richard Tobe, Commissioner of Economic Development, Permits and Inspection Services as the keynote speaker you can e-mail WFD at the aforementioned address.

# Gayborhood Watch

by Bryan James Whitley

Spring is in the air, summer is on its way, and downtown Buffalo is ready for another wonderful festival season. The winter months may keep us all inside but this time of year it's hard to not find something outdoors to do. With festivals of every type, theme, cause, and community, there is so much to see and do. While Allentown and Elmwood festivals offer a wide array of LGBT-friendly activities and products, its events like Pride Buffalo and "Summer in the City" that really cater to our community.

This year's Pride Buffalo kick-off party will be earlier than usual to really get you revved up for the parade. On Friday, May 18 from 6:00pm-8:30pm Join Pride Buffalo, Gay & Lesbian Youth Services, and the Pride Center of Western New York for an open house event. GLYS is located at 371 Delaware Ave in downtown Buffalo, NY and will have pizza, wings, and games for youth ages 14-19. The Pride Center is located across the street at 18 Trinity Place and will offer a substance free event for those 20+ to enjoy music, refreshments, and conversation. If you are in the mood to party, the official Kick-Off will begin at 8pm with a scavenger hunt that takes you all around town to show your support of our local LGBT bars and nightclubs. Transportation will be provided between Allentown and Downtown venues via shuttle this year so you there's no need to drive and one more reason to drink.

Fast forward two weeks to Pride weekend and let the party begin! Friday and Saturday are full of events including the annual Dyke March and

rally, local playwright Matthew Crehan Higgins show "Making Gay History," and a reading by local author ("Boots of Leather, Slippers of Gold") and activist Madeline Davis. The weekend culminates with the 2007 Pride Buffalo Parade & Festival on June 3. Join marchers, floats, and bystanders as we make our way from Symphony Circle down Elmwood Ave to Bidwell Park where the festival gets underway. There will be vendors, food, drinks, music, and a good time to be had by all as we celebrate diversity and community within our fine city.

Now, what festival season would be complete without a big blow out event? Not this one, that's for sure. Join us Sunday August 26 as the Pride Center of WNY presents "Summer in the City." This year's event will feature live entertainment, DJs, food, and drinks along the beautiful Buffalo waterfront at LaSalle Park. The latest reinvention of the Pride Center's annual summer bash with a new name and new location, it promises to be bigger and better than ever!

So, as you can see there is plenty to do outside in downtown for everyone this festival season. Whether your looking for a cause, looking to shop, or just looking to have a good time, Buffalo's festival season has something for everyone. For more information visit: [www.pridecenterwny.org](http://www.pridecenterwny.org) and click on the "events" tab for our Community Calendar. I hope to see you OUT!

*Bryan James Whitley is the Executive Director of Pride Center of Western New York.*

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# BUFFALO WELLFEST A Healthy Living Opportunity

Area employers are sponsoring the Downtown Buffalo Business Corridor's First Annual Employee Healthy Living Conference and Exposition. This endeavor targets 700 businesses and over 50,000 employees located in the area of Main Place bounded by the HSBC Arena and the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus. Employee groups outside of the target area are also welcome.

A comprehensive array of confidential health screenings, health risk assessments and early detection and prevention are available at no cost to participants. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to interface with 200 health care providers in an informal atmosphere. The purpose of these informal meet-

ings is to allow an individual to determine a personalized program to a healthier and happier lifestyle.

Those in attendance will also enjoy healthy living experts, healthy cooking (and tasting), medical treatment and fitness demonstrations. Also provided will be financial and retirement planning, health and life insurance and senior care providers. There will also be entertainment and recreation options and a fresh farmers' market.

The Wellfest promises to deliver a fun, professional and educational experience unlike any other. The program begins at 10:00am on Wednesday, May 16, 2007 at the Buffalo Convention Center

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# Landmark Series

by Ben Matlock

## WILLIAM J. DONOVAN



### Buffalo's Own "Wild Bill"

We are all aware by now that the General Wm. J. Donovan, State Office Building, located on Main St. across from the Aud, will soon meet the wrecker's ball. But, who was William J. Donovan and, why was he called "Wild Bill" Donovan? "Wild Bill" Donovan has to rank right at the top of the list of characters in Buffalo's all-time history.

Bill Donovan was born in the Old First Ward of South Buffalo in 1883. He attended Niagara University before transferring to Columbia where he starred on the Columbia University football team. He graduated with both a BA and a Columbia law degree in 1905, in the same graduating class as Franklin Roosevelt. He practiced law in Buffalo from 1907 until 1917, when the United States entered the First World War. Donovan, already a member of the New York National Guard, was assigned to the 69th New York regiment, known as the "Fighting Irish." After war was declared on Germany, the 69th was drafted into the regular army and was among the first US forces sent to France. The Chaplain of the "Fighting 69th" was Fighting Father Duffy, a Catholic priest who was the most celebrated and decorated American Army Chaplain in the war. Also in the 69th was an American journalist and poet Joyce Kilmer.

The 69th would fight in Europe during the First World War and Lt. Col. Donovan would lead them through battles throughout France. In the process he would be awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the Distinguished Service Cross (with

Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), the Italian War Cross, the Croix de Guerre (France), and the Congressional Medal of Honor (the highest American military decoration). After the war, Major General Donovan had the honor of leading the 69th up Fifth Avenue on the unit's triumphant return to New York City. This unit was immortalized by Hollywood in the movie "The Fighting 69th."

At the end of WWI, Donovan would return to Buffalo to continue his legal career. In 1922 he was appointed US District Attorney for the Western District of NY; part of his duties was the enforcement of Prohibition here. During this tenure he even conducted raids on the Buffalo Country Club and the Saturn Club. In 1924, he went to DC as Assistant Attorney General. He returned to New York and in 1922 ran for Lt. Governor; in 1932 was nominated as the Republican candidate for Governor (losing to Herbert Lehman).

From his days at Columbia, Donovan had become a close confidant of Franklin Roosevelt. During Roosevelt's tenure as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, he had appointed Donovan to the Office of Naval Intelligence. When Roosevelt was elected President in 1932 he engaged Donovan as a special envoy throughout Europe prior to the outbreak of WWII. By the time war broke out in Europe, Donovan was FDR's Coordinator of Intelligence and when the US entered the war, Donovan had begun to organize the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), the forerunner of the CIA. He was later appointed Ambassador to Thailand; however, illness caused him to resign and he died shortly thereafter. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery, and his statue is in the main entrance of the CIA Building in Washington.

In the movie, "The Fighting 69th", Pat O'Brien played the regiment's chaplain, Father Duffy and Jeffrey Lynn portrayed Joyce Kilmer, the poet who would write the poem "Trees." "Wild Bill" Donovan was played by George Brett; the movie also starred James Cagney.

Father Duffy returned to New York to a parish in Times Square and wrote "Father Duffy - My Story" on which movie "The Fighting 69th" was based. He was pastor at Holy Cross Church in Hell's Kitchen, not far from Times Square when he died in 1932.

Joyce Kilmer was killed in battle in France in 1918; he was Donovan's sergeant major at the time.

# MOTHER'S DAY

By Ben Matlock

The earliest known tributes to Mom's date back to the Greeks, who held spring festivals, dedicated to Rhea, the mother of many Greek deities and to the Romans who made offerings to their Great Mother of Gods, Cybele. Christians celebrated Mother's on the fourth Sunday of Lent in honor of Mary, the mother of Christ. England expanded the holiday to include all mothers, calling their holiday "Mothering Sunday. In the British Isles and Celtic Europe, the goddess Brigid, and later her successor St. Brigid, were honored with a spring Mother's Day, connected with the first milk of the ewes.

The English colonists in America discontinued the recognition of Mothering Day, because of the lack of time. Finally, Mother's Day returned to the U.S. almost 150 years ago, when Ann Jarvis, a young Appalachian mother organized a day to raise awareness of poor health conditions, she believed the day would best be advocated by mothers. Jarvis, in 1858, had attempted to improve sanitation through what she called Mothers' Work Days. She organized women throughout the Civil War to work for better sanitary conditions for both sides, and in 1868 she began work to reconcile Union and Confederate neighbors.

Fifteen years later, Julia Ward Howe, a Boston pacifist, suffragist and author of the lyrics to the Battle Hymn of the Republic, organized a day for mothers to rally for peace, believing that mothers

bore the loss of life more harshly than others. Howe failed in her attempt to get formal recognition of a Mother's Day for Peace.

When Ann Jarvis died, her daughter Anna, started the crusade to found a memorial day for women. The first such Mother's Day was celebrated in Grafton, WV, on May 10, 1908, in the church where the elder Ann Jarvis had taught Sunday School. During the service Anna handed out her mother's favorite flowers, white carnations, representing sweetness, purity and patience. Grafton is now the home to the International Mother's Day Shrine.

From there, the custom caught on — spreading eventually to 45 states. The holiday was declared officially by some states beginning in 1912. In 1914 President Woodrow Wilson declared the first national Mother's Day, as a day for American citizens to show the flag in honor of those mothers whose sons had died in war (with specific reference to The Great War, now known as World War I).

Mother's Day is now the most popular day of the year to dine out and telephone lines record their highest traffic. So those of you lucky enough to still have your mothers (or grandmothers or mothers-in-law) this day is a day to give thanks to those who have given so much to so many.

# IN AND AROUND MY DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD

Jill Benker-Beck

Ahh... Summer...sunshine... flowers... sensuous breezes and...people. Lots and lots of people... with cars...lots and lots of cars. Oh... did I mention trash? Lots and lots of trash. (If you're "reading between the lines" and think that this is one of those whining complaining articles...think again!)

I love summertime in downtown Buffalo because of all of the above. Well, not all... I don't like the trash but I have to say that generally speaking, the cleanup after the special events that take place in and around my downtown neighborhood is acceptable. The stand out clean up is done by the crew that works with the "Taste of Buffalo" folks. I have never seen such dedication to doing a great job. There are trash pickups done hourly and the workers always check the streets west of Delaware to insure that the papers and styrofoam containers are not littering the neighborhood. Keep up the good work!

During the warmer weather, reading and television definitely take a back seat to gardening, attending special events and people watching. I particularly enjoy speaking to downtown visitors attending the festivals/events. They usually ask questions about living downtown...is it too noisy? Well, it can be but if the bar owners are considerate and turn down the decibels after 11:00 PM, you can get a good night's sleep. Probably more disturbing is the "revving" of the motorcycle engines, but fortunately it doesn't last that long into the night. It comes almost like a salute to having had a good time on Chip-pewa...all those cycle enthusiasts sounding

off and going home to the 'burbs'.

I also get "aren't you afraid of all the crime?" My typical response has been "what crime?" however; I've learned that a 'flip' response usually doesn't satisfy the questioner. So, I answer that I watch the nightly news and I read the newspaper and I've noticed that there are crimes taking place everywhere and that we all have to be careful and do our best to prevent victimization. Then of course I remember a night last December when two officers were shot not far from where I live. Yes, there is crime but it comes with being part of this society. It would be great if guns and drugs were not also a part of our society.

I'm often asked about shopping and although I can't brag about a plethora of retail establishments, I can make reference to the **Washington Market** on Ellicott Street, and **Tops Niagara** for groceries. I can get a gift certificate for apparel for my son at **Get Dressed, Downtown**; I can walk to **Pitt Petri** or to **Definitely Buffalo** for gifts for my daughters; I can always go to Hyatt's for my granddaughters' art supplies and of course, I can blow the budget shopping 'til I drop at the **Allentown Art Festival** and the other special events that come to me during the summertime. I am looking forward to more retail coming downtown and I have faith that it'll soon be here.

All in all, summer is great wherever you are but there is something very special about being downtown where all the sounds, the people and celebrations take place.

Mike Lawkowski

Owner



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# CONNECTING THE WATERFRONT TO DOWNTOWN

by Congressman Brian Higgins



Did you ever try to give someone directions from Buffalo City Hall to the waterfront? It's not an easy task. I often say you can throw a rock from the Inner Harbor to the Outer

bicycle and pedestrian paths along the water's edge on Buffalo's Outer Harbor.

The City of Buffalo was one of three cities chosen nationally for a joint project by the Congress for New Urbanism and the Center for Neighborhood Technology which focuses on the economic and transportation impacts of removing elevated highways and reconnecting the urban grid with boulevards. This study, which examines removal of the Buffalo Skyway, is currently underway.

Through a community effort Buffalo and Erie County demanded a fair and equitable settlement in the 50-year Niagara Power Project relicensing agreement with the New York Power Authority. As a result Western New York will receive \$279 million to facilitate waterfront improvement.

Most recently, the Erie Canal Harbor Development Corp. approved a comprehensive plan to transform Buffalo's Inner Harbor District with a mixed-use development. The \$275 million public/private project, named Canal Side, is to include museums, a marketplace, an arcade, a marina, a public plaza, housing and a hotel and will create a 24/7 atmosphere at the water's edge. The plan also calls for the demolition of Memorial Auditorium and clearing of the site for retail development. This signed agreement is a positive step forward in rebuilding a Buffalo waterfront that preserves the integrity of our City's great history and maintains public access for residents and tourists in a setting that draws people downtown seven days a week.

Buffalo is already a great city. We have fantastic art venues, one-of-a-kind architecture and great restaurants and entertainment outlets. The goal of the efforts described above is not to create another city along the water's edge but to create a seamless connection between the cultural and historic treasures we already have in downtown Buffalo and the waterfront access that is naturally ours, making Buffalo a great waterfront city once again.

Harbor but to drive between the two you are taken on a long maze of confusing, disjointed and broken roadways. Over the next 12 to 36 months the Buffalo waterfront will take on a dramatically different look and feel. Several efforts will take place simultaneously to connect the waterfront to downtown and create new activity along the water's edge.

Fuhrmann Boulevard is currently a one-way street at various points and access to potential development parcels is extremely limited. The proposed \$48 million effort to reconstruct Fuhrmann Boulevard as a four-lane, two-way parkway on the windward side of Route 5 along the entirety of Buffalo's Outer Harbor is fully funded. The NYS Department of Transportation plans to receive the bids and begin construction by the end of this year.

Funds are also now in place to begin environmental and engineering studies to identify the best place for a new lift bridge over the Buffalo River. Two million dollars in Federal Highway funds was designated to the Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC) to start the first phase of the project.

The Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority has agreed to relinquish control of 130 acres of Outer Harbor land to the Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation. The NFTA has been responsible for oversight of this area for the last 50 years. This transfer will put the land into the hands of an agency with the singular focus of waterfront development.

The \$14 million Outer Harbor Greenbelt project is currently under construction. This project includes bank stabilization, environmental remediation and over 1.2 miles of new

## HOMESPACE... WE CAN, AND DO, MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!

By Kathy Pignatora

Every one of us can change the desperate plight of homeless families. There are solutions for lives shaped by fear, loneliness and failure.

At Homespace, a transitional housing service for young, homeless families, some of the children we see have never had enough to eat. Some don't speak well, or at all. Some have never visited a doctor, except at the emergency room. Because when a mother is young, poor and homeless, it is tough for her to do anything.

The lives of these young women have been shaped by turmoil. Her mother may be a drug addict; her father, absent. She may have run away from an abusive situation at home to live with her boyfriend. There are so many stories, too many, each one distinctive and heartbreaking.

We can put tools in the hands of these young, inexperienced parents that will break this cycle of hopelessness. The tools are the basic life skills which most of us take for granted, such as how to manage money, cook and clean, get a job, finish school and take loving care of our children.

Community caring and support created Homespace. May is our new Annual Campaign month at Homespace and our continued success depends upon you. Please remember us in your charitable giving this month and always. You can find us on the web to make secure contributions at [www.Homespace.org](http://www.Homespace.org) or call us at 881-4600 to make donations or to purchase car wash tickets from Delta Sonic.

Financial contributions help families purchase basic household necessities; donations of new or gently-used practical items help stretch limited family budgets. The gift of your time can end isolation with friendship and good advice; your tutoring can help a young mother prepare for her GED exam.

Your generosity and commitment can bring you the same joy I get – watching the blank stare of a toddler become a grin and hearing a once silent child's voice fill a room with giggles. Together, we can change the lives of two generations...one family at a time.

## MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who died in our nation's service. There are many stories as to its actual beginnings, with over two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day. There is also evidence that organized women's groups in the South were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War. Decoration Day was established in 1868 to commemorate the dead from the Civil War and over the years it has come to serve as a day to remember all U.S. service men and women killed or missing in action in all wars. And although Waterloo, N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day. In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday to be held on the last Monday in May.

One story has it that in 1865 the first Decoration Day was observed by the liberated slaves in Charleston, SC, at a site which had been a Confederate prison camp and a mass grave for Union soldiers.

Decoration Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. During the first celebration of Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1882, the observance was more often referred to as Memorial and by 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I, when the Memorial Day changed from honoring only those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring all Americans who died fighting in any war. However, several southern states still have a separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead, called Confederate Memorial Day.

Since the late 1950's on the Thursday before Memorial Day, the 1,200 soldiers of the 3d U.S. Infantry place small American flags at each of the more than 260,000 gravestones at Arlington National Cemetery and then patrol 24 hours a day during

the weekend to ensure that each flag remains standing. Since 1951, the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of St. Louis have been placing flags on the 150,000 graves at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. More recently, beginning in 1998, on the Saturday before Memorial Day, the Boys Scouts and Girl Scouts place a candle at each of approximately 15,300 grave sites of soldiers buried at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. And in 2004, Washington D.C. held its first Memorial Day parade in more than 60 years.

Traditionally the President of the United States lays a wreath at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day.

Tomb of the Unknowns



## RESIDENTS WORK TO SPRUCE UP DOWNTOWN

by Jessica Keltz

In a duo of cleanup efforts, downtown residents met on April 14th and plan to meet again on May 5th to clean up the area where Oak and Ellicott Streets intersect with Genesee Street.

Weather permitting, on May 5th volunteers will paint over the murals ringing the first floor of 107 and 109 Genesee Street, filling in a design sketched out by local artist Andrew Youngman. Additionally, depending on turnout, we will continue the litter pick-up efforts started in April.

Early readers of this issue of The Downtowner may want to join us; if so, we will meet at 10 a.m. at The Washington Market, 461 Ellicott Street. Downtown developer Roger Trettel, who is purchasing a nearby property, and Pyramid Brokerage realtor Bob Biniszkiwicz, who is listing the buildings on Genesee Street, have donated paint and expect to be present. Buffalo Place will provide rakes, brooms, trash bags and related equipment, but please bring your own work gloves if you have them.

On April 14th, about 10-15 downtown residents and stakeholders spruced up the

intersection of Oak and Genesee streets by picking up litter, sweeping up broken glass and removing last season's leaves and debris. Buffalo Place helped to organize the effort, along with residents of Ellicott Lofts and City Center Condominiums.

As part of its core mission, Buffalo Place cleans and maintains Main, Pearl and Washington Streets from Goodell Street to the Buffalo River. But there's much more to Downtown Buffalo, especially where bringing more residents to the central city is involved. We hope these two clean-up efforts will be the first of many.

If you're a Downtown resident or property manager who would like to pitch in to help with future cleanup efforts, please contact Jessica Keltz at Buffalo Place, 716/856-3150 or [jkeltz@buffaloplace.com](mailto:jkeltz@buffaloplace.com)

*Jessica Keltz works as Downtown Living Coordinator for Buffalo Place, Inc. For more information about living downtown, to sign up for the weekly Buffalo Place E-Report or to find out more about how you can get involved downtown, call her at 856-3150 or email her at [jkeltz@buffaloplace.com](mailto:jkeltz@buffaloplace.com).*



# SPORTS

by Ben Matlock

## SABRES CONTINUE HOT STREAK

### Round 1

The Sabres advanced to the second round of the Stanley Cup playoffs by dispatching the New York Islanders four games to one. There were a lot of contributors to the Sabres success against the Islanders, most notably Chris Drury, Thomas Vanek and Ryan Miller. They must all come up big again for Round 2 against the New York Rangers, but they will need help against the Rangers' Henrik Lundqvist and Jaromir Jagr.

### Round 2

The Sabres took a 2-0 lead in the best of seven second round series of the Stanley Cup playoffs, both games played at the HSBC Arena. On Sunday afternoon the teams met in Madison Square Garden and the fans, whether at the Garden or here in Buffalo, got all they could ask for in a playoff hockey game. The teams were tied 1-1 at the end of regulation (each side being denied a goal after video review) and played a scoreless first overtime. They continued to play scoreless in the second overtime period only to have the Rangers' Michael Rozsival beat Ryan Miller with 2 minutes and 43 seconds left. Game 4 of the series will be played Tuesday night in New York and Game 5, where the Sabres may be able to eliminate the Rangers will be played Friday night at HSBC. A Sabres' win would propel them into the Eastern Conference Finals the next stop on the Road to the Stanley Cup.

## BANDITS BEATEN IN PLAYOFF SEMI-FINAL

In the National Lacrosse League's playoff semi-final the Buffalo Bandits took the Rochester Knighthawks 14-13 in overtime. The Bandits led 12-9 with thirteen minutes to play. Rochester scored the next four goals to take a one-goal lead and Buffalo tied it 13-13 with 1:43 to play. Rochester scored on its first possession 26 seconds into overtime.

The Bandits played without injured goalie Steve Dietrich, last years MVP for the third straight game. John Tavares finished the season with 42 goals and now has 591 goals and needs only 6 next year to become the leagues' all-time goal, assist and points leader.

The Knighthawks will now play the Arizona Sting for the NLL Championship Cup on May 12<sup>th</sup> in Arizona.

## BISONS TO RETURN HOME

The Bisons return home for an eight game homestand on Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup> against Pawtucket (2 games), Columbus (4 games) and Rochester (2 games). They will return to Buffalo on the 19<sup>th</sup> for a 4 game series against Indianapolis.

The Buffalo is currently 12-6 and in second place in the International League's North Division. Their starting pitchers are a combined 10-1 with a 2.78 ERA. The Bisons are always worth the price of admission, take the whole family.

## Find it on Foot:

by the DT Shopper

### WELCOME TO DOWNTOWN LIVING!

Although the DT Shopper usually tracks items that need to be purchased by downtown residents, workers, and visitors, this month we are focusing on the new residents of downtown living. With the opening of many new apartments this month, here is a guide to help you take care of all of those items that need to be done when you move in. Just remember: As soon as you've taken care of getting settled, you can begin to enjoy all of the advantages (and fun!) of living downtown. Welcome! We're glad you're here and we can't wait to meet you!

Gas Service	<b>National Fuel</b>	716-686-6123
Electric Service	<b>National Grid</b>	1-800-642-4272
Phone Service	<b>Verizon</b>	716-890-7100
Change of Address	<b>Washington St. Post Office</b>	716-856-4603 701 Washington St.
	<b>Genesee St. Post Office</b>	716-856-4601 229 West Genesee St.
Driver's License or Car Registration	<b>Erie County Auto Bureau</b>	800-Call-DMV
Register to vote	<b>Erie County Board of Elections</b>	716-858-7817
Dog Licenses	<b>Dog Licensing Bureau</b>	716-851-5438
Public Transportation Information	<b>NFTA</b>	716-855-7300

If you need further information about the businesses and services in the downtown area, check out [www.buffaloplac.com](http://www.buffaloplac.com)

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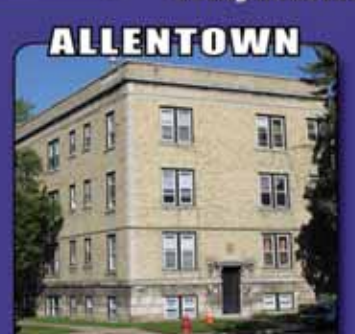


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### Newly Renovated ALLENTOWN



**520 Virginia**

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- Large Studios
- All Utilities Included
- Corner of Virginia and Pearl

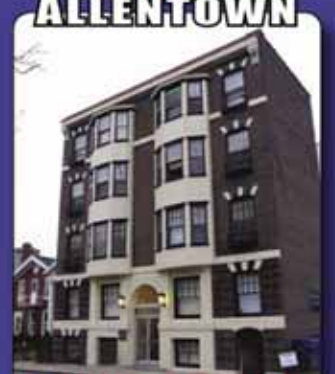
**\$375**



**197 North Street**

- Unique Studios, 1 and 2 Bedroom Apartments
- All Utilities Included
- Off-Street Parking
- Minutes from Downtown

**\$375 - \$650**



**49 Johnson Park Apartments**

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- Studios and 1 Bedroom Apartments
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- Heat and Gas Included

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Downtown's Community News

## THE DOWNTOWNER

Distributed monthly to over 100 venues in  
Downtown, Allentown & Elmwood Village  
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35,000 people come  
Downtown everyday  
send them home with  
your message!!

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## Stillwater Runs Deep

Disney-esque "Entertainment Center" Transcends



Lamb Sirloin



French Onion Soup



Courtyard bar



Starry Courtyard

and were entertained by Executive Chef Scott Donhauser's fusion Asian/Mediterranean influenced menu. All their presentations had a real flair. We then had outstanding desserts upstairs, under the faux stars of the Courtyard. Accolades to Pastry Chef Susan Larson.

Who said, "You can't please all the people all the time?" It certainly wasn't the management and staff of The Stillwater. With diverse atmospheres and pockets, niches, nooks and crannies, menus, entertainment and clientele...it's...it's a veritable Disney World in Downtown Buffalo! For anyone looking for something different, it's almost magical.

We started our adventure in an upscale dining room (the former Lord Chumley's)

As dinner was winding down, we were getting our second wind. We finished our after dinner drinks, watched our beloved Buffalo Sabres polish off another opponent and listened to house band Party Squad rip our requests in the courtyard bar. An eclectic mix performs Tuesday through Saturday from 10pm to 1am.

Multi-dimensional and multi-generational...choice makes Stillwater a must experience.



RATINGS

★★★★★

FOOD 8 SERVICE 9

DECOR 10 VALUE 8

ON A SCALE OF 1 TO 10

TRAVELER'S MENU:

FIRST/SHARING PLATES:

\*ROAST BREAST OF DUCK

FRENCH ONION SOUP

STILLWATER SALAD

LARGE PLATES:

SHRIMP AND SCALLOP

\*FREE FORM LASAGNA

\*LAMB SIRLOIN

DESSERTS:

\*MOLTEN CHOCOLATE CAKE

CRISP BANANA

SPRING ROLL

WINE FAVORITES:

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ESTANCIA

\*CABERNET,

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# DOWNTOWN HAPPENINGS

Through May 6<sup>th</sup>  
**SPAMALOT**  
Shea's Performing Arts Center



Through May 13<sup>th</sup>  
**A TIME FOR LOVE -  
SONGS FROM A MARRIAGE**  
Studio Arena Theater



Through May 20<sup>th</sup>  
**FAR AWAY FROM HOME**  
A Retrospective of Masterworks by  
Frances Crohn  
Wilcox Mansion - 641 Delaware Ave.



May 4<sup>th</sup> - 11:30 - 1:30  
**2007 PRESERVATION  
AWARDS LUNCHEON**  
Asbury Hall at the Church  
Tupper & Delaware

May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> - 8pm  
**JUDY COLLINS**  
Kleinhan's Music Hall



May 11<sup>th</sup> - 8:00pm  
**70'S SOUL JAM**  
Shea's Performing Arts Center



May 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>  
**THE GUYS**  
Based on a true story of NYC Firefighters  
lost in the WTC  
Studio Arena Theatre  
856-5650



May 6<sup>th</sup> - 2:30pm  
**THE FIREBIRD**  
Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra  
Kleinhan's Music Hall



May 12<sup>th</sup> - 8:00pm,  
May 13<sup>th</sup> - 2:30pm  
**SCHUMANN'S SPRING**  
Kleinhan's Music Hall



May 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>  
**STARS & STRIPES FOREVER**  
US Air Force Liberty Pops  
Kleinhan's Music Hall



June 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8:00pm,  
June 3<sup>rd</sup> - 2:30pm  
**TCHAIKOVSKY VIOLIN  
CONCERTO**  
Bob Koop Memorial Concert



## ONGOING EVENTS

### Working for Downtown

May 2<sup>nd</sup> - 12 noon - WFD luncheon  
- "Waterfront Development Update" - Peter M.  
Cammarata and David Stebbins of the Buffalo  
Urban Development Corporation at St. Paul's  
Cathedral.

### Tuesday Talks

Tuesdays from 12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

Free and open to the public.

Buffalo Architecture Center,  
Market Arcade, 617 Main St.

Celebrating 175 Years of Buffalo's Creative  
Community, 1832-2007"

May 1<sup>st</sup> - Buffalo's Urban Pioneers: Creating  
Buffalo's Renaissance

Speaker - Rod McCallum of Queen City Farm.

May 8<sup>th</sup> - Buffalo's Neighborhoods: Each One a  
Historic Preservation

Speaker - Michael Clarke of Lisc Buffalo

May 15<sup>th</sup> - Repurposing Buffalo's Existing  
Structures. TBA

May 22<sup>nd</sup> - Uniquely Buffalo. TBA

May 29<sup>th</sup> - The Nature of the Niagara Frontier. TBA

### Tuesday Tours

"DOWNTOWN BUFFALO"  
WALKING TOURS.

Market Arcade 617 Main Street 1:15 p.m. \$10.

May 1<sup>st</sup> - "Buffalo: Best Designed City in America"

May 8<sup>th</sup> - "Three 19th Century Presidents"

May 15<sup>th</sup> - "Chicago Meets Buffalo"

May 22<sup>nd</sup> - "Underground Railroad"

May 29<sup>th</sup> - "Underground Railroad"

\*Group tour information: please call 852-3300.

Weekdays - City Hall Walking Tour. Noon-1 p.m.

Free, maximum 15 people. Meet at Info Desk in lobby.

(Not offered when City Hall is closed.) \*Group tour

information: please call 852-3300.

### Buffalo 24/7 Self- Guided Audio Tours

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learn about fifty different Buffalo landmarks! These  
tours will be featured in the forthcoming 2007 Buffalo  
Tours brochure, which is coming off the press any day  
now. They will also soon be available as downloadable  
MP3 files! Meanwhile, the best way to experience the  
Audio Tour is to first go to this web link and follow  
the directions! <http://buffalotours.org/audio.html> or  
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Have a Downtown event? List it in the Buffalo Downtowner

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