

POST SENTINEL

VOLUME 17, EDITION 07

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

Dear Comrades and Auxiliary Members,

Summer is in full swing, and I hope everyone is enjoying time with family and friends while staying safe. As we celebrate Independence Day, our nation also marks an extraordinary milestone—the 250th anniversary of the United States. On July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was adopted, forever changing the course of history. As your Commander, I can't help but reflect on the generations of Americans who have stepped forward to defend the freedoms established nearly 250 years ago. As veterans, we understand that our liberty has never been free. It has been earned and protected through the courage, sacrifice, and dedication of those who answered our nation's call to serve. I hope you'll take a moment this Fourth of July to remember those who came before us and those who continue to wear the uniform today.

Our Chicken BBQ Fundraiser on Sunday, July 12th from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. is one of our most important fundraisers of the summer. Every ticket purchased helps support the programs, services, and activities our Post provides throughout the year. Pre-sale tickets are \$16, and dinners are \$18 the day of the event. See the attached flyer for the QR code or link to purchase tickets online, or stop by our lounge to purchase your tickets. You can conveniently pick up your Chicken BBQ through our drive-through, or stay and enjoy our Music on the Patio featuring Jay McDonnell Trio from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, there's still time! I truly appreciate your support and encourage you to invite your family, friends, and neighbors to enjoy a delicious meal while supporting Hamburg VFW Post 1419.

On Thursday, July 16, at 7:00 p.m., we are honored to welcome Buffalo-Niagara Honor Flight to our DeGal Room. Representatives will provide an overview of the Honor Flight program, assist eligible veterans with completing applications, and answer any questions. World War II and Korean veterans receive priority, while Vietnam veterans are encouraged to apply and will be placed on the waiting list for a future flight. It's always a good time to get your application submitted. If you are a veteran-or know someone who is—please help spread the word. This presentation is open to all veterans in our community, their families, and anyone interested in learning more about Honor Flight or volunteer opportunities.

I'd also like to extend a warm welcome to our newest life member, Jeffery Shafer, who proudly served in the United States Army. Thank you for your service, and welcome to the Hamburg VFW Post 1419 family. We are glad to have you with us.

I would also like to extend a sincere thank you to John Bluman for generously donating the new vinyl signs promoting our hot dogs, hamburgers, and our VFW Post. Contributions like these help us better serve our members, promote our Post within the community, and are truly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

As we move through July, we also pause to recognize several important military observances:

📅 July 4 – Independence Day

📅 July 27 – Korean War Veterans Armistice Day

📅 July 28 – National Buffalo Soldiers Day

📅 July 29 – Army Chaplain Corps Anniversary

Thank you for your continued support of our Post and for all you do to serve our veterans and our community. I wish you and your families a safe, happy, and enjoyable summer.

“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.” – Ronald Reagan

In Comradeship,

Amy Owczarczak, Commander

Hamburg VFW Post 1419

AmyOVFW1419@hotmail.com

(716) 432-0829

Post Sentinel Editor's Comments

**Hello fellow VFW Post 1419 and Auxiliary members,
Busy weekend so just a short and sweet message. Happy 250th anniversary of our nation's independence. Enjoy your weekend. Email: vfwpost1419@gmail.com with newsletter comments or questions.**

A Proud American,

Phil Kiefer

POST SENTINEL NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The Deadline for our next month's submissions is Aug. 6th. All submissions should be sent via email to vfwpost1419@gmail.com. Thank you.

Regarding our Post Kitchen:

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PAM

A very special thank you to our Veterans, President Joe, Commander Amy, Officers & Directors, members, volunteers, customers, and friends for your loyalty, support and encouragement. Your dedication and kindness have helped make The Liberty Grill possible, and your continued support means more than words can express.

Thank you for believing in us, standing by us through challenges, and helping create a welcoming place where veterans, friends, family, and guests can gather and enjoy great food together.

I will be having foot surgery this coming Friday and will be away for a short time while I recover. There have been a few bumps along the way, but I am grateful to be working with an incredible VFW family where the bartenders are all great to work with and continue to make everything run smoothly. With your support, we'll get through the summer, and if all goes as planned, I hope to return with a couple of additional days to serve you even better.

Enjoy your summer, stay safe and we'll see you soon.

**With gratitude,
Pam, Rich, Crystal & Al**



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of this great nation, a nation like no other on earth, it is a good time to reflect upon its founding and what it meant then and what it means today beyond sales, barbeques and fireworks.

The intent and faith of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence cannot be overstated as they “mutually pledge(d) to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.” With their signatures they signed their own death warrants. This document is the foundation upon which our Constitution and Bill of Rights rest and the footing upon which all of our laws therefore should stand. This founding document contains four references to God:

- 1) “Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God”
- 2) “endowed by their Creator”
- 3) “Supreme Judge of the world”
- 4) “firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence”

As we celebrate this most auspicious occasion, let us remember that this great nation, though imperfect at best, was founded with great personal peril upon a fundamental belief in God and that the rights we enjoy come from Him and not from human government. The rising ideals of socialism and communism recently seen in our nation are based upon the State as a god with little tolerance for the one true God; with all rights of the people coming from the State and not being inalienable. Any State that can grant or give rights can also take them away. Additionally, our Bill of Rights was designed to be an impenetrable bulwark against government attempts to curtail, restrict or remove our God given “inalienable rights.”

As VFW and Auxiliary Members, we have these words enshrined in our charter, “...to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies.”

As men and women of faith, I encourage you to be vigilant and to vigorously exercise your “inalienable rights,” liberty and freedom as though they come from God because they do, we were indeed founded upon that premise. Celebrate our freedom, our liberty and our rights!

Your Chaplain,

Brent

Please continue to keep these brother comrades in your prayers for healing and health. With a lot of help from his friends, Jerry Welsted was able to attend the Honor Guard Fundraiser. Patrick Bapst is improving. Don Hancock is still receiving treatment. Ed Jenowick (SPELLING) has just received a difficult diagnosis.

If you wish to add yourself or someone else's name from our VFW or Auxiliary who is sick, in the hospital, or has passed, please contact Brent directly at 716-310-1948 trefoilbwd@verizon.net . If you find yourself in need of conversation, comfort or spiritual advice, give him a call. Auxiliary Chaplain Terry Walker is also available for your needs. Please reach out to Terry at 716-912-6849.

WE ARE HIRING!

Interviewing for Bartender(s)

This is a paid hourly position and includes tips.

Hamburg Lakeshore Overseas Veterans (HLOV), Inc. is looking for an individual with the following qualifications:

Be a current Member of the HLOV Corporation/VFW Post 1419 or a member of our auxiliary membership.

Be physically fit to stand for long periods of time, carry a full case of beer, move a full KEG of beer.

Have basic math skills to make change at the register.

The ability to work independently.

Have good customer service skills.

Be able to problem solve.

Have no criminal offences that would prohibit selling gaming tickets.

Must be 21 years of age or older.

Have a valid driver's license or equivalent form of identification.

Be able to provide a copy of your Social Security Card.

To be considered for employment please drop off a sealed copy of your resume to our bar staff. Interviews will be set up after an initial review and approval by the HLOV Board of Directors.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As a volunteer organization we count on our members for assistance in various ways. We are a large post with 600 members and our needs are ongoing, but typically only require small amounts of your time. Even though many have moved over the years, we still have over 500 members living in WNY close to our post within a short drive. Please scroll through our monthly postings to see what available jobs you might be able to help us out with. It's a good way to work with friends or make new ones.

- Looking for a person to help report in this newsletter a recap of the previous month's activities. The ideal candidate should like to take good pictures (better than me) and attend some of the month's events for this purpose and act in the capacity of a reporter. Pictures and notes will be given to the newsletter editor and shared with our webmaster, Carlos Ortiz, so that he can put everything up on our website and Amy Owczarczak so she can post on FB. Carlos is currently taking pictures, but he can't be everywhere. So, if someone can coordinate picture taking with him and write up a couple of sentences for us that would help out. An example would be to stop into one of our weekly line dancing classes held every third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. in our Oakwood Manor Banquet Facility, take some pictures and write up a few sentences on the happenings. In this example you would need only visit one time.

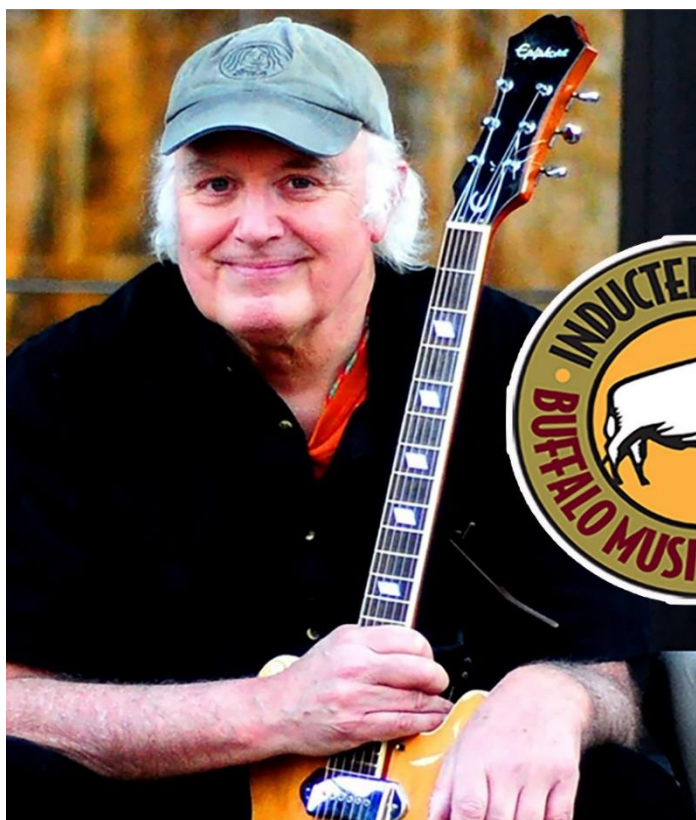
- Thank you goes out to Al St. Jacques who volunteered to assist with our hot dog cart at the Hamburg Burgerfest on Saturday July 18th. If you can help fill a shift please contact John Redmond at 716-863-3911.
 - Thank you to Auxiliary member Kevin Henry who signed up for a second tour of duty on our Oakwood Banquet facility crew. Our need continues for members to work setting up tables & chairs for events. We then tear it down, do some light cleaning and set back up for a new event. We probably average 1 to 2 events per week. Each work session is about 30 to 45 minutes. We may run 2 crews. A morning crew starts around 11:00 but is flexible. An evening crew meets sometime after dinner. We give all workers free drink chips to use at our post bar. This is not heavy work and averages 3 or 4 people. We understand if you have reluctance to commit to something ongoing which may interfere with your daily schedule. The way this job works is that all members in this group have their names and phone numbers on file with the Oakwood Banquet Facility set-up supervisor. As set-up and tear down work becomes available on the calendar the supervisor sends a group text. Each person responds with their availability. Some people may have a doctor's appointment on that day and time or something else that prevents them from helping out. That is not a problem, and it happens all the time. So, you would not have to make every set-up. We just need a larger group so that the same people don't have to do it all the time. Free drink chips are given out for volunteering. If you can help out please contact Don Welsted at 716-308-1528.
 - We are in need of 1 or 2 people (maybe do it with a friend), to do an occasional "handyman" job here & there. These jobs are light in nature and one & done. They are the type of things you do at home. We hire contractors for major work such as HVAC, concrete, roofing, parking lot sealing etc. So, we are not asking anybody to do that type of work. If you can help out please contact Don Welsted at 716-308-1528 or Chris Hull at 716-462-2195.
 - We now have 2 volunteers for this year's New Year's Eve Party committee. If it seems too early to address this, last year the committee started planning around this time. Band availability is the important component as their calendars are filling up quickly. In 2025 we had a 5 person committee so we will need at least 2 more, maybe 3. Please consider stepping up to help form this year's committee. Contact me at vfwpost1419@gmail.com and I'll put you in touch the other volunteers. Please know that if we have a NYE party this year it will need to be a self-funded event entirely. In other words, a band, food, etc. would need to be paid for by charging each attendee an admission fee. This shouldn't be a problem. Last year we had about 165 tickets sold. Once formed, this committee will need to outline all planned activities in a proposal for final approval of our board or directors. Write up your proposal bullet pointing all aspects of the NYE party and email it to vfwpost1419@gmail.com. I will then submit it to our board for review.
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SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Our Summer Concert Series, **Music on the Patio**, continues this Sunday, July 5th, with Buffalo Hall Of Music Member Bob James playing for us from 2:00 to 5:00. Stop by with some friends or family members and grab a hot dog or hamburger while enjoying one of the best bands in WNY. Special thanks to Joseph Suto III for creating this design for our concert tee shirts. We have some shirts for sale at the post bar for \$25 each. Get one before they are all gone. Shout out to Auxiliary member Sandra Coppola for joining the volunteer group working our Sunday Concerts.

VFW Post 1419 Summer Concert Series Is Proud To Present



BOB JAMES LIVE MUSIC

Classic songs for
fun & more

716-912-6172

Call or txt or email
bobjames1@aol.com

Sunday July 5, 2026 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

POST 1419 MEMBER OWNED BUSINESSES

When possible, please consider supporting our Veteran and Auxiliary owned businesses.



If you know of anyone who is interested in holding a meat raffle fundraising event, contact Kara Siulc at 716-316-4938 or Heather Strebel at 716-863-2811.

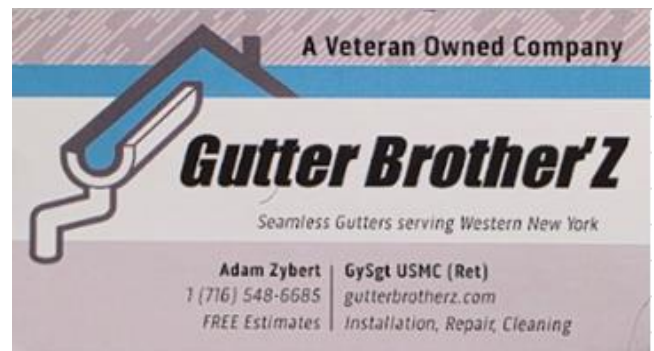
Hkevents716@gmail.com.



For all your professional landscaping needs call Bryce Beeman at 716-255-8921.



For all your travel needs call Kara at 716-316-4938



Call Adam at 716-548-6685 for any gutter work including installation, repair & cleaning.



contact Matthew Ortiz at 716-983-2452

IF YOU ARE A POST 1419 MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING, HAVE A BUSINESS OF YOUR OWN AND WANT TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION OF OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, CONTACT PHIL KIEFER AT

vfwpost1419@gmail.com



Helpful Veterans Resources:

I heard some people were not able to be taken to the sites below according to the instructions. It does work, but you may need to open this newsletter in Microsoft Word. The current Word 365 version is being used here. Each of the sites are a hyperlink, but I cannot determine it will work if you open the newsletter in Google Docs or other programs. So again, hover over each highlighted link below with your cursor and press the control button on your computer while "clicking" on your touchpad or mouse and you will be taken directly to the site.

[Veterans Crisis Line](#): 988, Option 1

[TalkSpace](#): Online counseling and therapy for Veterans

[Find VA locations](#)

[VA Helpful Phone Numbers](#)

[Dept of Veterans' Services Find Veterans Services Office](#)

[NYS Dept of Veteran's Services](#)

[National Call Center for Homeless Veterans](#): 877-424-3838 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

[Vet Center Call Center](#): 1-877-927-8387 is an around-the-clock confidential call center where Veterans, service members and their families can talk about their military experience or any other issue they are facing in transitioning after military service or trauma and get connected to their nearest Vet Center.

[Worried About A Veteran](#): is an online resource designed to help prevent suicide among veterans and service members. It was developed to be a family-focused resource to assist military families and caregivers with talking to a veteran or service member during a time of mental health distress.

DID YOU KNOW....

- All of the previous month's Post Sentinel Newsletters are archived on our Post website at vfw1419.org. If you missed one you can check it out there.
- Our post has 422 male members for 72.38%
- 161 members are women and represent 27.62%

Member Submission

Auxiliary member Nicole Franz sends this helpful information for all dealing with the heat of the summer. Thank you Nicole.

Same message as for the Helpful Veterans Resources Above. Each of the highlighted sites are a hyperlink, but I cannot determine it will work if you open the newsletter in Google Docs or other programs. So again, hover over each highlighted link below with your cursor and press the control button on your computer while "clicking" on your touchpad or mouse and you will be taken directly to the site.

You can utilize the [New York State Cooling Center Finder](#) to find a Cooling Center in your area.

- Some counties do not report cooling centers to the Department of Health. If you don't see cooling centers in your county, you can also check your [local health department website](#) to see if they have additional information.
- Visit [NYC Cool Options](#), [Suffolk County Cooling Centers](#) and [Erie County Cooling Centers](#) for additional cooling center locations in those areas.
- New York State Department of Health [information on Cooling Centers](#) suggests calling before you go to make sure the cooling center is open. Some cooling centers are open daily, while others are opened as needed during heat waves.
- Visit the [NYS Dept of Health](#) for more information on heat waves and keeping cool.



MUSIC = *on the* = PATIO

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

★ Hosted by VFW Post 1419 ★

WHERE & WHEN

— VFW POST 1419 —



2985 Lakeview Rd
Hamburg, NY 14075



EVERY SUNDAY

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

RAIN OR SHINE

★ **FREE EVENT** ★

**OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC!**



SEATING:
Bring your
own chair
or blanket!



FOOD:
Hot dogs and
hamburgers
available for
purchase.



DRINKS:
Strictly NO
outside alcohol
permitted.

★ WHAT TO KNOW ★

★ GREAT MUSIC ★ GREAT FOOD ★ GREAT COMMUNITY

★ SUMMER LINEUP ★

- | | |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| 6/7/2026 | — Friends |
| 6/14/2026 | — Major Thirds |
| 6/21/2026 | — David Adrian Solo |
| 6/28/2026 | — Rockabilly Steve & BR3 |
| 7/5/2026 | — Bob James Solo / Bob James |
| 7/12/2026 | — Jay MacDonell Trio |
| 7/19/2026 | — Brothers James |
| 7/26/2026 | — Argyle Street Band |
| 8/2/2026 | — Blues Infusion |
| 8/9/2026 | — Eliza & The Fishercats |
| 8/23/2026 | — Billy Bob Duo |
| 8/30/2026 | — Crash Cadillac |

This is going to be one fun day!!! We have the BBQ running from 1:00 to 4:00 and The Jay MacDonell Trio playing in our **Summer Concert Series** Music On The Patio from 2:00 to 5:00. Put July 12th on your calendars so you don't miss a great afternoon. Please try and support this important fundraiser. If you are unable to stay for the Jay MacDonell Trio band playing this day, you can just drive through the Chicken BBQ line, pick up your food without even getting out of your car and take it home.



CHIAVETTA'S

CHICKEN BBQ FUNDRAISER



**SUNDAY,
JULY 12TH**



1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
(PRE-SALE MUST BE PICKED
UP BY 5:00 PM)

PREPAY ONLINE:

<https://square.link/u/gSGDE04?src=sms>





**HAMBURG
VFW POST 1419**
2985 LAKEVIEW ROAD,
HAMBURG, NY

\$16
PRE-SALE

\$18
DAY OF

**Meal
INCLUDES:**



CHIAVETTA'S
1/2 BBQ
CHICKEN DINNER



SALT
POTATOES



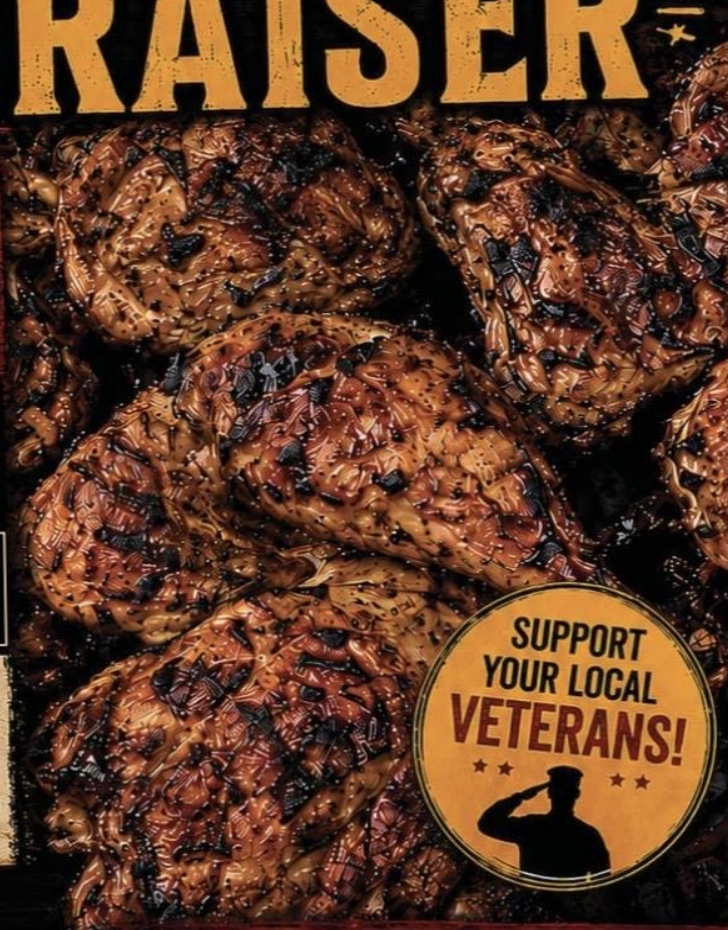
BAKED
BEANS



DINNER ROLL
W/ BUTTER

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT HAMBURG VFW POST 1419

★ **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS AND COMMUNITY!** ★





★ Buffalo-Niagara ★

— ★ *Honor Flight* ★ —

SUPPORT THEIR JOURNEY.

— ★ HELP VETERANS VISIT THEIR MEMORIAL ★ —

★ WILL BE AT ★

**HAMBURG
VFW POST 1419**

★
THURSDAY

★ **JULY 16** ★

AT 7:00 PM



**2985 LAKEVIEW RD.,
HAMBURG, NY 14075**

Representatives will be in our **DeGal Room** to help veterans fill out applications for flights.

★ **World War II** and **Korean War** veterans take priority.

★ There is a waiting list for Vietnam Veterans. *It moves quickly, and getting on the list now is the best way to secure your spot!*

★ ★ ★



**OUR FLIGHT IS ALSO
LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!**

There will be a presentation on how the flights work and what is needed for volunteers.



**THIS IS OPEN TO
ANY VETERAN AND
THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS
WHO WOULD LIKE
MORE INFORMATION.**

★ ★ ★
**YOU DO NOT
HAVE TO BE A
VFW MEMBER
TO ATTEND!**
★ ★ ★

*Together,
we can keep
their memories alive.*



For more information,
please contact Hamburg VFW Post 1419.
2985 LAKEVIEW RD., HAMBURG, NY 14075



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Corporation Meeting 6 PM Post Meeting 7 PM	2	3	4
5 Bob James plays 2 - 5PM	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 POST Chicken BBQ by Chiavetta's 1-4PM Jay MacDonell Trio plays 2-5 PM	13	14	15 Honor Guard Meeting 7 PM Line Dancing 7-10 PM In Oakwood	16 Buffalo/ Niagara Honor Flight 7PM	17	18
19 Brothers James plays 2 - 5 PM	20 Auxiliary Meeting 7PM	21	22	23	24	25
26 Argyle Street Band plays 2 - 5 PM With Buffalo Music Hall Of Fame Member Doug Morgano	27	28	29	30	31	