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Thursday, July 17, 2025

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BNHV seeks entries for Agriculture Fair exhibitions

By ALLISON DOLAN
Intern

The Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village, located at 3755 Tonawanda Creek Road, is currently welcoming submissions for several exhibitions to be held during their first-ever Agriculture Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 23.

Children in grades K-12 are encouraged to submit artwork of any medium for the Youth Art Show, with both 2D and 3D work being accepted. All art must be accompanied by an intake form filled out during drop off that contains information about the artist and the medium of the piece. All individuals who submit art will receive two free tickets to attend the Agriculture Fair. Cash prizes and ribbons for award-winning artwork will be distributed at the event.

All are welcome to submit scarecrows for the Scare-

crow Gallery at the fair. Scarecrows must be at least 4 feet tall and be stable enough to be displayed vertically. Those submitting a scarecrow must fill out an intake form when dropping it off. Prizes for the best scarecrows will be awarded at the fair.

The BNHV is seeking photographs, artifacts, and memories of local farms and farmers to be used for temporary display during the fair. An intake form explaining the background of the artifact or photograph must be filled out upon submission. Digital photos may be submitted.

Submissions for each exhibition are due by Friday, Aug. 15. Entries must be dropped off at the Heritage Village during operating hours.

The Agriculture Fair has been reworked with numerous new attractions to commemorate the BNHV's 50th anniversary. Benjamin Rosiek, communications coordi-

nator for the Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village, said that the fair exemplifies the BNHV's messaging.

"It's something that really connects with our mission and brings forward local produce and history," said Rosiek. "It lets people connect with their history in an exciting and tasty way."

Several family-friendly events will be held during the Agriculture Fair, including craft demonstrations, a harvest trail with produce, guided tours, and educational activities such as apple pressing, candle dipping, butter making, and historic lawn games.

There will also be several competitions that attendees can enter, including corn shucking, lassoing, and a milk mustache contest.

Admission to the Agriculture Fair costs \$20 for adults, with discounts available for seniors, students, and the military. Members of the



The Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village will hold its Agriculture Fair in August.

Contributed photo

Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village and children are free.

For more information on submissions for the Agriculture Fair, contact Deputy

Director and Curator Rachel Ravago at curator@bnhv.org. To purchase tickets for the Agriculture Fair, visit bnhv.org.

Aunt Rosie's Tournament returns to Amherst

The 37th annual Aunt Rosie's International Fastpitch Tournament concluded on Sunday, July 13 with a local team, NY Starz 14U Burch from Buffalo, winning the 14U championship.

Over the past several weekends, Amherst welcomed high-level players in six brackets – 10U, 12U, 14U 16U, 18U and open, to compete at the Maple Road complex. In all, 216 teams – more than 3,000 players – competed in this year's tournament.

Teams traveled to Amherst from throughout the northeast (New York, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Ohio, New Jersey, Connecticut, Michigan, Virginia, Massachusetts and Maryland, as well as Ontario and Montreal, Quebec). They booked an estimated 2,800

hotel room nights and visited local restaurants, shopping centers and attractions.

"This tournament features some of the best young softball players in the game today. Aunt Rosie's has a great reputation in the softball world, and teams come here because they know we are a high-level, quality tournament. Just a few years from now you'll see some of these players in the College World Series," said Tournament Director Kevin Drayer.

"Thanks to the Town of Amherst, the new fields at our complex are tremendous. The players love playing on quality fields and the complex is super convenient for parking and getting to each diamond. It has been a huge improvement."

During the 16U and 18U tourna-

ments (held June 27-29 and July 4-6, respectively) an estimated 35 coaches from top colleges came to see the high-level talent.

An 18U team from Rochester has seven players who are committed to play D1 softball. This is exceptional softball, which is growing in popularity.

As a side note, one Aunt Rosie's alumnae, Ella Wesolowski, a Williamsville East grad and state champion, was just in the news for transferring to the University at Florida.

In December 2024, in collaboration with AGSL, the Town of Amherst announced Town Board action to ensure the complex at Maple Road would be the permanent home of AGSL, one of the most elite youth softball programs in the state.

Founded in 1973, AGSL is one of the largest girls' recreational softball programs in New York with more than 600 girls and 48 teams in five divisions.

The town and AGSL have invested in the construction and operation of softball fields, making several improvements in recent years.

This included the relocation of diamonds and the construction of four new fields in 2023 and the renovation of the older diamonds.

Restrooms, pavilion, lighting and parking lot improvements were also completed. AGSL will also be adding a batting cage soon.

For additional information, visit <https://auntrosiestournament.com/index.php>.

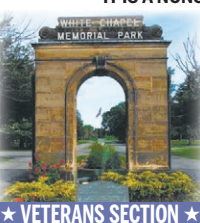
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