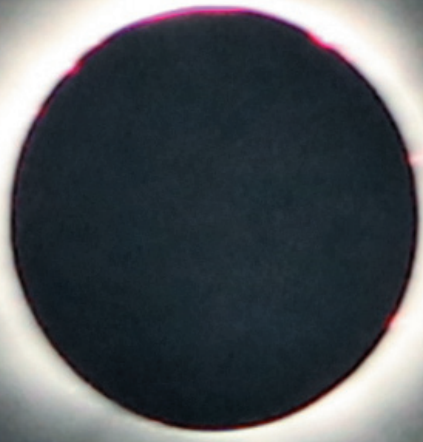


Eclipse offers memorable moments



The solar eclipse fought its way through the clouds across Western New York on Monday.

On Grand Island, photographer Nathan Keefe took this photo that shows totality. The moon, in an extremely close encounter on its earthly orbit, blocked out the sunlight along a diagonal path that included Grand Island and points southwest and northeast.

Suddenly, it was as dark as midnight, and the temperature drop was palpable. Some took their eclipse glasses off for the moments when the sky went all black, at the predicted 3:18 p.m. In four minutes that held us in their grip as if in an eternity, the skies unveiled a surprise, then returned to normal.

This photo was taken in front of the 7-Eleven, where there was a clear view as the solar event unfolded.

In the Town of Wheatfield, the Lions Club hosted a gathering at Five Senses Park.

"Amazing," Lion Walt Garrow said. "We only got to see pre-eclipse slight slivers of sun, through the clouds. However, the total eclipse presented an awesome spectacle. There was significant darkness and a noticeable coldness in the air. At peak, all those present broke out into an applause. We could even hear fireworks in the distance. The Lion's Club's outdoor solar lights went on."



Lions Club • Babies born at Catholic Health's Sisters of Charity Hospital and Mercy Hospital of Buffalo this past weekend and today, including Theodore and Vivian pictured here, are modeling the latest in solar eclipse baby gear, including a onesie that says, "Hello darkness my old friend." • Members of the First Presbyterian Church of Lewiston joined Pastor Cathy Rieley-Goddard in celebrating the 2024 solar eclipse at their service on Sunday. The eclipse-themed reception even included authentic moon pies. (Submitted photos)



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