

United Way of Greater Niagara holds awards breakfast & campaign kickoff, awards local community members

United Way of Greater Niagara held its annual awards breakfast and campaign kickoff on Friday, Sept. 23, at Niagara Riverside Resort, located at 7001 Buffalo Ave., Niagara Falls. Its annual campaign also officially began.

This year's campaign is co-chaired by Denise Abbott, CWA Local 1168 of DeGraff Medical Hospital; and Nick Mannica of KeyBank; as well as honorary campaign co-chair Niagara County Sheriff Michael Filicetti.

The first donation of the campaign, made by the AFL/CIO Niagara Orleans Labor Council, was \$24,400 – the proceeds of this year's annual "Labor's Night at the Races." The event has raised \$184,000 for United Way programs over the past 13 years.

In addition to serving as the official start of United Way's annual campaign in across Niagara County and the Tonawandas, this event also honored local organizations and individuals who have helped to make a difference in the Greater Niagara Community over the past year. This year's awards and honorees include the President's Award to the AFL/CIO Niagara/Orleans Central Labor Council, the Horizon Award to KeyBank, the Shining Star Award to Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Western New



United Way leaders and honorees (Submitted photo)

York, the Service Cup Award to Youth Mentoring Services, the Norman Sinclair Humanitarian Award to Robert Kazeangin, the Joseph C. Weber III Think Positive Think United Way Award to Melissa Mazzarella, and the recently renamed AFL/CIO Russell Quarantello Community

Services Award to Denise Abbott.

A press release stated, "At United Way of Greater Niagara, we believe that we live in a vibrant region where all individuals and families can achieve their potential through the support of our community. Our mis-

sion is to invest in the programs that focus on building education, income and financial stability, and health and wellness to deliver measurable results, improve the Greater Niagara Region today, and strengthen it for tomorrow."

Obituary

Buddy Guy Stevens

Buddy Guy Stevens, 87, of Wheatfield, passed from this life on Sept. 28, 2022, at Our Lady of Peace Nursing Care Residence.



Born on Dec. 26, 1934, in Buffalo, he was the son of the late Frederick and Thelma (nee Smades) Stevens. On Aug. 19, 1972, Bud married Marlene Davis in St. Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church in Williamsville.

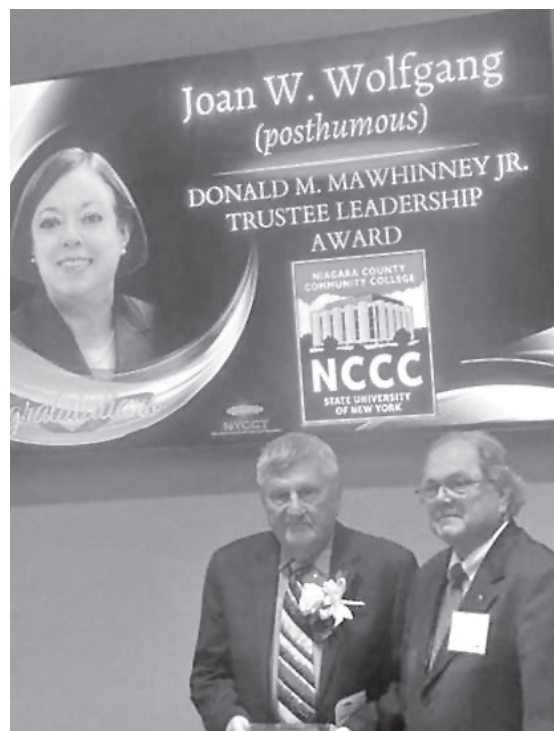
Buddy attended schools in Buffalo and later moved to Sanborn, where he lived for over 40 years, and recently to Wheatfield. He worked for several local automotive shops, learning all aspects of the industry, and retired as a senior insurance appraiser for Commercial Union Insurance in Buffalo. Bud was a member of Immaculate Conception Church in Ransomville, and the Sanborn Historical Society. He enjoyed boxing, camping, writing, gardening, music and playing the organ. Buddy loved to travel, especially to Letchworth State Park.

Buddy was the beloved husband of Marlene, for over 50 years; father of Sandra Guerin and her daughter, Alexis Guerin; Mark Stevens and his children; late Michael Stevens and his son, Jesse; MaryRose Srock and her daughter, Crystal; and the late Robert Stevens and his daughter, Misty. He is also survived by great-grandchildren and several nieces, nephews and cousins. Besides his parents, Bud was predeceased by siblings June (late Robert) Collopy, Shirley (late William) Felschow and Fred (late Vicki) Stevens.

The family will be present on Friday, from 4-7 p.m., at the Otto Redanz Funeral Home, 2215 Military Road, Niagara Falls. Buddy's Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 9:30 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Church, 4671 Townline Road, Ransomville, with the Rev. James Bastian serving as celebrant. Friends are invited. Prayers of committal and entombment will follow in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Tonawanda.

Professional arrangements are under the care of the Goodlander family. Share condolences and view his tribute video at goodlandercare.com.

Former NCCC trustee Joan Wolfgang earns state award posthumously



Niagara County Community College board member Jerald I. Wolfgang, of Lewiston, left, accepts the New York Community College Trustees Donald M. Mawhinney Jr. Trustee Leadership Award on behalf of his late wife, Joan Wolfgang. Also attending the conference was NCCC President William Murabito.

Board chairperson, was honored this past weekend as the recipient of the Donald M. Mawhinney Jr. Trustee Leadership Award. The accolade is presented at the annual meeting of the New York Community College Trustees, held in Saratoga Springs.

Wolfgang was appointed to the board of trustees by the Niagara County Legislature in 1982. She served as the chairperson for three different terms during her tenure, which

lasted 26 years. She was recognized as the second-longest serving member of the board.

A press release stated, "While serving on the board, Wolfgang was instrumental in bringing to fruition many of the college's higher-profile projects, including state-of-the-art campus housing on the Sanborn campus.

"She passed away in 2010, leaving a legacy of the lasting impact of service and leadership on her community and NCCC.

"The Donald M. Mawhinney, Jr. Trustee Leadership Award is presented to a trustee who demonstrates a significant commitment to the community college mission through exceptional leadership, inspired vision, and outstanding professional contributions to support their local institution."

Niagara County Community College announced the late Joan W. Wolfgang, a former

chairperson for three different terms during her tenure, which

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