

THE BUFFALO NEWS

Letter: Check out electric buses visiting Buffalo this week

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Check out electric buses visiting Buffalo this week

The iPhone is 10 years old, and an astonishing 44 percent of the world's population uses smartphones. Technology moves fast.

Gasoline-powered vehicles have been around for a century, so it is hard to imagine life without them, but Volvo announced on July 5 that it will

phase out internal combustion engines and build only all-electric and hybrid vehicles by 2019. Other car companies are moving in this direction.

Vehicles cause about 27 percent of carbon emissions, so transportation without gasoline and diesel is important for the health of our planet, and our health. Even with the present mix of fossil fuel and renewable power generation, electric vehicles and hybrids reduce carbon emissions, and this will improve. Several countries have had days when all their electricity comes from renewable sources. In the clean energy future that can save us from the worst effects of climate change, we do not need to give up our mobility. Mass transit should be part of the mix, but natural gas powered buses are not a good solution because they add to greenhouse gases when all the costs of gas mining and transport are included.

An all-electric bus will visit Buffalo this week, appearing at Larkinville from 3 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, at Canalside from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday and at the Shakespeare hill in Delaware Park before the 7 p.m. Thursday performance. Many cities and towns have adopted electric buses, and this is everyone's chance to try one out and get a look at the future.

Ellen C. Banks, Ed.D.

Amherst

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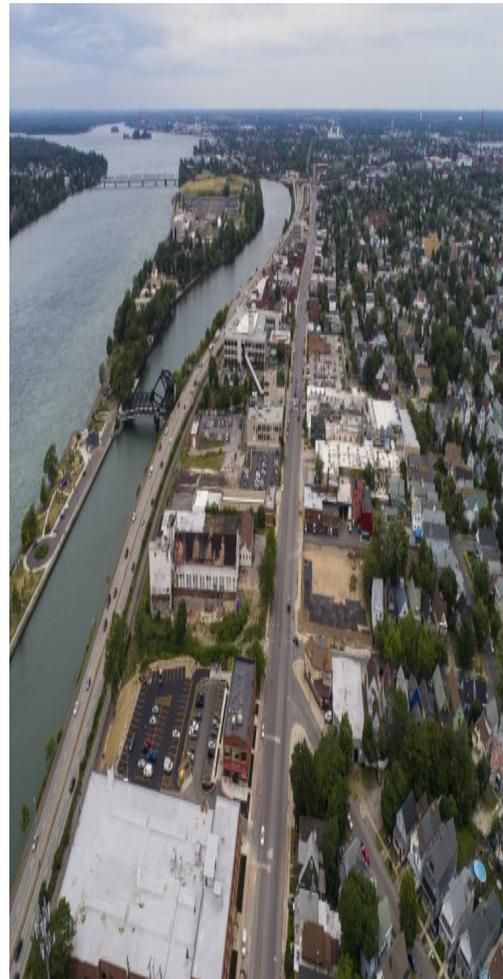
- 1.** Buffalo man fighting alongside Kurdish forces in Syria killed in battle.
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 - 2.** Niagara Parks Police are recovering a body from the gorge.
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 - 3.** Bald eagle recovery efforts in Western New York hit a record-breaking success.
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> (<http://buffalonews.com/2017/07/11/bald-eagle-recovery-efforts-wny-hit-record-breaking-success/>)

 - 4.** The DEC reports no surface contamination around Wheatfield landfill – but one ill resident doesn't buy it. (<http://buffalonews.com/2017/07/11/ill-resident-doesnt-believe-dec-tests-showing-no-leaks-wheatfield-landfill/>)> (<http://buffalonews.com/2017/07/11/ill-resident-doesnt-believe-dec-tests-showing-no-leaks-wheatfield-landfill/>)
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5. Botterill: Talks are continuing with Eichel and Lehner, but no plans for an early extension for Reinhart. (<http://buffalonews.com/2017/07/11/botterill-talks-continuing-eichel-lehner-no-plans-early-extension-reinhart/>)> (<http://buffalonews.com/2017/07/11/botterill-talks-continuing-eichel-lehner-no-plans-early-extension-reinhart/>)



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