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Simply the fest It's time to start planning your way through WNY's festival season. Here's a guide to give you a head-start.

By Andrew Z. Galarneau

May 25, 2007

If you're the kind of person who wakes up on a summer Saturday with the sneaking suspicion that someone, somewhere must be serving up a funnel cake, have we got the list for you.

From Greek culture to Scandinavian choruses, from strawberries to cider, there's a vast variety of events to choose from during Western New York's hottest season. That's not even counting the music festivals, concert series, film festivals and other community events we didn't have room for in this list -- though you'll see many of these happenings featured in *Gusto* throughout the summer.

So get out your calendar and your pen, and start mapping out the route to summertime satisfaction.

May 25-27: Lucy-Desi Days Festival, Jamestown. (877) LUCY-FAN. Seminar and tribute concert. Contests. Vendors. Outdoor movies. Tours. Vintage collectors show. Admission: Free. Web site: **lucy-desi.com**

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June 1-3: Buffalo Hellenic Heritage Festival, 146 W. Utica St. 882-7121. Food and drink vendors. Arts and crafts vendors. Live music. Dance performances. Admission: \$2, 12 and under, free. Web site: **hellenicfestival.com**

June 1-3: Hollywood Happening, 28 Jamestown St., Gowanda. 532-6103. Live music. Dancing. Food vendors. Motorcycle parade. Tattoo contest. Admission: Free. Web site: **hollywoodtheater.info**

June 1-3: Hinsdale Community Heritage Days Festival and Trout Derby, various venues. Trout derby. Live music. Food and drink vendors. Arts and crafts vendors. Craft and car shows. Children's games. Hot air balloon lift. Admission: Free.

June 2: Renaissance Festival, Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum, 180 Thompson St., North Tonawanda. 693-1885. Simulated swordfights and other medieval pursuits. Arts and crafts vendors. Children's activities. Admission: \$5 adults, \$3 children. Web site: **carrouselmuseum.org**

June 2: Brucefest, 113 Jackson Ave., Celoron. 664-6450. Motorcycle run. Food, beer and wine vendors. Live music. Admission: \$10, 12 and under free. Web site: **brucefest.com**

June 2: Strawberry Social, History Center, 215 Niagara Street, Lockport. 434-7433. Iroquois dancers. Live music. Craft demonstrations. Strawberry shortcake and other food. Children's crafts and activities. Admission: Free. Web site: **niagarahistory.org**.

June 2-3: Ice Cream Musicale, Hull Family Home and Farmstead, 5976 Genesee St., Lancaster. 681-6451. Plant sale. Ice cream sale. Petting farm. Pony cart rides June 3. Food vendors. Admission: \$5; under 12, \$3; under 5, free.

June 3: Parade of Circles, McKinley Parkway at Dorrance. 903-7155. Marching bands. Dancers. Family picnic. Admission: Free.

June 8-10: Polish Heritage Festival, Hamburg. 998-2501. Food vendors. Live music. Talent search. Arts and crafts exhibits and vendors. Pierogi-eating contest. Cultural exhibits. Battle of the Polka Bands. Concerts. Admission to festival only: \$5, 18 and under free. Web site: **polfunfest.com**

June 9: Boat Blessing and Bike Rally, Bison City Rod & Gun Club, 511 Ohio St. 855-1139. Live music. Food and drink vendors. Admission: Free.

June 9-10: Allentown Art Festival, Delaware Avenue at Allen Street. 881-4269. Art exhibits. Arts and crafts vendors. Food and drink vendors. Admission: Free. Web site: **allentownartfestival.com.**

June 10-17: Juneteenth, Martin Luther King Jr. Park. 891-8801. Parade. Food and drink vendors. Live music and entertainment. Cultural exhibits. Arts and crafts vendors. Admission: Free. Web site: **juneteenthofbuffalo.com**

June 15-17: Church Festival at St. Mary of the Angels, 202 S. Union Street, Olean. 372-4841. Food and drink vendors. Religious processions. Classic car show. Gambling. Children's games. Live entertainment. Admission: Free. Web site: **saintmaryoftheangels.org**

June 15-17: North Tonawanda Catholic Carnival, St. Albert the Great Church, Niagara Falls Boulevard, North Tonawanda. 868-1218. Live music. Food vendors. Gambling. 5K run. Carnival rides. Admission: Free.

June 15-16: Buffalo River Fest, Father Conway Park, Old First Ward. 823-4707. Kids area. Live music and entertainment. Children's fishing contest. Classic car show. Food and drink vendors. Admission: Free. Web site: **thevalleycenter.com**

June 16: St. Francis of Assisi Family Festival, 73 Adam St., City of Tonawanda. 693-1150. Food and drink vendors. Theme trays. Euchre tournament. Children's activities. Wine and cheese tasting. Live entertainment. Admission: Free.

June 16: Rediscover Amherst Street, Amherst Street from Elmwood Avenue to East Street. 876-7188. Parade. Children's activities and games. Sidewalk-painting contest. Food vendors. Music. Trolley rides. Admission: Free.

June 16: Swedish Festival, Augustana Lutheran Church, 3143 Eggert Road, Town of Tonawanda. 832-5720. Food, music, dancing, crafts, children's games and activities. Viking re-enactors. Admission: \$1. Web site: **swedishfestraffle.tripod.com**

June 16-17: Strawberry Fest, St. John's Episcopal Church, Main and Chestnut streets, Youngstown. Strawberry shortcake and other food vendors. Service members tribute with live music 2 p.m. June 16. Admission: Free.

June 20: Strawberry Festival, Christ Episcopal Church, 7145 Fieldcrest Drive, Lockport. 433-9229. Strawberry shortcake. Food vendors. Concerts. Children's activities. Admission: Free.

June 20: Strawberry Festival, Wales Hollow Community Lutheran Church, 5445 East Creek Road, South Wales. 655-2456. Strawberry dishes. Food vendors. Live magic shows. Admission: Free.

June 23: Wine and Cidre Festival and Farmer's Market, Buffalo Central Terminal, Paderewski and Memorial drives. Local wineries and cider makers offer samples. Food and drink vendors. Admission: \$25. Web site: **buffalocentralterminal.org**

June 23: Strawberry Festival, Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 96 Jewett Parkway. 833-1151. Entertainment and children's activities. Food and drink. Pony rides. Fresh strawberry desserts. Admission: Free. Web site: **goodshepherdbuf.org**

June 24: Crystal Beach Art Festival, Waterfront Park, Ft. Erie, Ont. (905) 894-2826. Artwork on display. Art vendors. Concert. Admission: Free. Web site: **focb.net**

June 29-July 1: Ellicottville Festival of the Arts, various locations, Ellicottville. (800) 349-9099. Concerts. Art and crafts show. Parade. Family entertainment. Admission: Per concert. Web site: **ellicottvilleny.com**

June 29-July 1: St. Andrew's Lawn Fete, Crocker and Reiman streets, Sloan. 892-0425. Live music. Beer tent. Food and merchandise vendors. Gambling. Admission: Free.

June 29-July 4: Friendship Festival, Ft. Erie, Ont. and Riverside Park. 877-0205. Bi-national festival. Carnival rides and games on both sides of border. Craft shows. Car shows. Contests. Live entertainment. Admission: Free. Web site: **friendshipfestival.com**

June 30: Amherst Celebrates the Arts, Amherst History Museum. 3755 Tonawanda Creek Road. 689-1440. Performances, exhibits, food, activities for children, including sidewalk chalk drawing, crafts and musical activities. Admission: Free. Web site: **www.amherstmuseum.org**

June 30-July 1: Lewiston GardenFest, Center Street, Lewiston. Plant and garden vendors. Garden workshops. Soil testing. Garden music. Garden tours. Admission: Free.

June 30-July 1: North Buffalo Days, Holy Spirit Church, Hertel at Delaware avenues. 875-8102. Live music. Children's rides and games. Children's crafts. Gambling. Food vendors. Admission: Free.

June 30-July 1: St Vincent de Paul Lawn Fete, 2050 South Creek Road, North Evans. 627-3382. Carnival rides. Children's games. Food vendors. Car cruise. Live music. Admission: Free.

July 1-8: Buffalo Old Home Week, various venues. 903-7155. Career fair. Seminars. Tours. Parties. Admission: Various. Web site: **buffoldhome.com**.

July 4: Lyndonville Independence Day Celebration, Lyndonville Central School. 585-765-9682. Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. Food vendors. Live entertainment. Fireworks. Children's activities. Parade. Admission: Free.

July 6-7: St. Edmund's Lawn Fete, 530 Ellicott Creek Road., Town of Tonawanda. 694-5656. Children's games. Live music. Food vendors. Beer tent. Gambling. Admission: Free. Web site: **forministry.com/usnyrcathsepe**

July 6-8: Queen of Heaven Carnival, 4220 Seneca St., West Seneca. 674-3468. Carnival rides and games of chance. Live music. Food vendors. Beer. Admission: Free.

July 7-8: A Taste of Buffalo, Niagara Square and Delaware Avenue. Food and drink vendors. Live entertainment. Children's games and activities. Admission: Free. Web site: **tasteofbuffalo.com**

July 12-15: Buffalo Italian Festival, Hertel Avenue. 874-6133. Live music and entertainment. Food and drink vendors. Arts and crafts vendors. Admission: Free. Web site: **buffaloitalianfestival.com**

July 13: St. Vincent de Paul Church Summer Social, 6411 Seneca St., Springbrook. 652-3972. Live music. Gambling. Food and drink vendors. Corvette show. Admission: Free.

July 13-14: Tuscarora Nation Annual Picnic & Field Day, Walmore at Mt. Hope roads, Tuscarora Nation, Niagara County. 628-5424. Native arts and crafts vendors. Contests. Traditional foods and other food vendors. 10K run and fun run. Live music. Horseshoe tourney and other sports. Admission: Free.

July 13-15: Hobie Kenobi Regatta, South Shore Beach Club, 8966 Lakeshore Road, Angola. 549-3026. Catamaran races. Food and drink vendors. Live music. Admission: Free.

July 13-15: Northern Migration Tribal/Alternative Bellydance Festival, The Church, Delaware and Tupper. 474-3801. Bellydancing performances. Dance and drumming workshops. Food and drink, jewelry, clothing vendors. Admission: \$5 to \$20. Web site: **northernmigration.net**.

July 15: Waldfest, 3838 Two Rod Road, East Aurora. German and Bavarian culture event. Live music. Beer. Food vendors. Dancing. Admission: \$9, \$6 in advance. E-mail: **sgtvpresident@aol.com**

July 15: Summerfest and Chicken BBQ, Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center, 9324 Lakeshore Road, Angola. 549-1420. Chicken barbecue. Children's games. Live music. Admission: Adults, \$12; children, \$6; under 4, free. Web site: **pioneercamp.org**

July 15-22: CanalFest of the Tonawandas, Main Street, City of Tonawanda and North Tonawanda. 692-3292. Carnival rides and games. Food vendors. Nightly concerts and live entertainment daily. Golf tournament. Child and teen pageants. Parade on July 17. Classic car cruise on July 18. 4-mile run on July 19. Arts and crafts vendors on July 21 and 22. Fireworks July 22. Admission: Free. Web site: **canalfest.org**.

July 18-22: ESPN Bassmasters Elite Series Tournament, NFTA Boat Harbor, 1111 Fuhrmann Boulevard. Fishing tournament. Live music. Food and product vendors. Children's activities. Cook-off competitions. Admission: Free. Web site: **buffaloniagarasports.com**.

July 19-21: Victorian Dazzle Festival, Fredonia. 888-414-4818. Ghost tours by horse-drawn trolley. Victorian dancers, costumes and music. Children's activities and entertainment. Antique vendors. Architecture, home and garden tours. Victorian lunch, dinner and tea. Admission: Free. Web site: **festivalsfredonia.com**.

July 20-22: Scandinavian Folk Festival, Jamestown Community College, Jamestown. 484-0415. Scandinavian performers and choirs. Movies. Flea market. Food and drink vendors. Lectures and workshops. Craft classes and exhibits. Admission: \$2 to \$10. Web site: **scandinavianjamestown.org**

July 20-22: St. John the Baptist Parish Lawn Fete, 2021 Sandridge Road, Alden. 937-7888. Food and drink vendors. Live music. Beer tent. Admission: Free.

July 21: Burgerfest, Buffalo Street, Village of Hamburg. 983-9861. Live entertainment. Children's activities. Animal Alley. Classic car show. Taste of Hamburg food vendors. Admission: Free.

July 21-22, 28-29: Hawk Creek Wildlife and Renaissance Festival, Hawk Creek Wildlife Center, Grover Road, East Aurora. 652-8646. Educational programs about eagles, hawks and other raptors. Owls released into wild. Medieval re-enactments. Live music. Children's games. Admission \$6 to \$12, or \$30 family. Web site: **hawkcreek.org**

July 26-29: St. John Vianney Lawn Fete, 2950 Southwest Blvd., Orchard Park. Live music. 5K run. Food vendors. Rides and games. Admission: Free.

July 26-Aug. 5: Buffalo Infringement Festival, various venues. 408-0488. Alternative art event including theater, film, dance and live music. Admission: Varies. Web site: **infringebuffalo.org**

July 27-28: St. John the Baptist Summer Festival, 1085 Englewood Ave., Kenmore. 873-1122. Carnival rides. Live music. Food and beer vendors. Gambling. 2.3 mile run/walk. Admission: Free.

July 27-29: Lebanese Festival, St. John Maron Church, 2040 Wehrle Drive, Williamsville. 634-0669. Lebanese food and drink vendors. Dance performances. Bread-making demonstrations. Live music. Children's games. Admission: Free. Web site: **www.stjohnmaron.org**

July 27-29: St. Martin's Lawn Fete, 1140 Abbott Road. 825-8227. Live music. Food and drink vendors. Beer tent. Children's games. Admission: Free.

July 28: Sanborn Area Historical Society Farm Festival, 2660 Saunders Settlement Road, Sanborn. 946-6811. Antique farm equipment. Pony rides and petting zoo. Car cruise. Antique vendors. Native American dancers. Food vendors. Admission: Free.

July 28: Fabulous '50s Festival, various venues, Arcade. Beach party. Live music. Pancake breakfast. Soapbox derby. Kids' carnival. Road rally. Classic car cruise. Pet parade. Food vendors. Admission: Free. Web site: **fab50sfest.org**

July 28-29: Gospelfest, Johnnie B. Wiley Sports Pavilion, Jefferson and Best streets. 855-1569. Live gospel music. Choirs, ensembles, soloists. Food and drink vendors. Admission: Free.

July 29: Good Shepherd Picnic and Horse Show, 5441 Tonawanda Creek Road, North Tonawanda. 625-8594. Horse show. Food and drink vendors. Children's games. Beer tent. Admission: Free.

July 29: Marilla Car Show, Marilla. Live music. Food and drink vendors. Arts and crafts. Admission: Free. Web site: **marillacarshow.com**

Aug. 1-5: Niagara County Fair, 4487 Lake Ave., Lockport. 433-8839. Agricultural and 4-H exhibits. Classic car show. 5K fun run. Home winemakers competition. Children's activities. Antique tractor parade. Carnival rides. Admission \$3 adults, \$2 children and seniors, under 5 free.

Aug. 2-5: Eden Corn Festival, Eden Legion Grounds, Route 62, Eden. 992-9141. Parade. Food and drink vendors. Live music. Corn-husking contest. Carnival rides and midway. Arts and crafts vendors.

Aug. 3-4: Nights Under the Tent, Sts. Rita and Patrick Parish, 190 Fillmore Ave. 856-5790. Live music. Food and drink vendors. Admission: Free.

Aug. 3-5: Angelica Heritage Days, Park Circle, Angelica. (585) 466-7930. Antique tractor pull. Craft and antique vendors. Flea and farmers market. Croquet tournament. Food vendors. Live music. Admission: Free. Web site: **angelica-ny.com**

Aug. 3-5: St. Christopher's Lawn Fete, 2660 Niagara Falls Blvd., Town of Tonawanda. 692-2660. Carnival rides. Live music. Car show. Food and drink vendors. Beer tent. Gambling. Admission: Free.

Aug. 3-5: Lucille Ball's Birthday Celebration, Jamestown. (877) LUCY-FAN. Contests. Film fests. Vendors. Collectors show. Birthday cake bake-off. Admission: Free. Web site: **lucy-desi.com**

Aug. 4: Classic Car and Bike Show, Brighton Place, 999 Brighton Road, Tonawanda. 743-5189. Food and drink vendors. Live music. Children's activities. Admission: Free. Web site: **brightonplacelibrary.org**

Aug. 4: Lake View Field Day, Burke Road Diamonds, Lake View. 627-4593. Games. Sporting contests. Obstacle course. Skydivers. Food and beer. Admission: Free. Web site: **lakeviewcommunityassociation.com**

Aug. 3-5: Resurrection Church Lawn Fete, 130 Como Park Blvd., Cheektowaga. 683-3712. Live music. Gambling. Food vendors. Admission: Free.

Aug. 5: Pennies to Heaven & Chicken Barbecue, Our Lady of Victory Basilica, 767 Ridge Road, Lackawanna. 828-9444. Food and drink vendors. Children's activities. Admission: \$8 adults, \$4.50 children.

Aug. 8-12: Gerry Rodeo, Route 60, Gerry. 985-4847. Rodeo events. Western beef barbecue. Clowns. Vendors. Admission: Adults \$12, children \$6. Web site: **gerryrodeo.org**

Aug. 8-19: America's Fair, 5600 McKinley Parkway, Hamburg. 649-3900. Musical entertainment. Chinese acrobats. Historical exhibits. Livestock competitions. Quilting, canning, baking, horticultural and other competitions. Food vendors. Midway rides and games. Concert series. Demolition derby and other motor sports. Parades. Admission to fairgrounds: \$4 to \$9; under 5, free. Web site: **americas-fair.com**.

Aug. 11: Music Is Art Festival, at America's Fair, Hamburg. 886-6300. Live music. Photography and art exhibitions. Admission, including access to America's Fair: \$4 to \$9; under 5, free. Web site: **musicisart.org**.

Aug. 12: Annual Chicken Barbecue, 495 Skinnersville Road, Amherst. Live music. Theatrical revue. Children's activities. Admission: \$8 adults, \$4 children.

Aug. 10-12: Lewiston Art Festival, Lewiston. 754-0166. Art exhibitions and sales. Sidewalk-chalking contests. Food vendors. Live entertainment. Admission: Free. Web site: **fineart.org**.

Aug. 18: August Fest. Route 78, Newfane. 778-5273. Food vendors. Live entertainment. Parade. Art show. Arts and crafts sale. Farmers' market. Admission: Free. Web site: **newfanebusiness.com**.

Aug. 18: Scottish Festival, Amherst History Museum. 3755 Tonawanda Creek Road. 689-1440. Contemporary Scottish and Celtic music, Scottish food, bagpipers, dancers, vendors, sheep herding. Admission, including museum buildings and grounds: \$8; children under 12, free. Web site: **www.amherstmuseum.org**

Aug. 19: South Park Italian Festival, 195 Reading St. 824-9942. Italian food and drink. Singing. Ethnic costumes, dancers, and other entertainment. Admission: Free.

Aug. 24-26: Buffalo Irish Festival, Hamburg Fairgrounds. 743-9348. Live music. Vendors. Beer. Food. Dancing. Admission: \$10; \$7 seniors and children. Web site: **shannonpub.com**

Aug. 24-26: Lewiston Jazz Festival, various sites. 754-9500. Live jazz. Classic car show. Antique show. Food and drink vendors. Admission: Free. Web site: **lewistonjazz.com**

Aug. 25: Buffalo Brewfest, Buffalo Central Terminal, Paderewski and Memorial drives. New York State brewers offer samples. Live entertainment. Food and drink vendors. Admission: \$25. Web site: **buffalocentralterminal.org**

Aug. 25: Sunset Bay Experience, Sunset Bay Beach Club, Iola and South Shore drives. 934-3835. Live entertainment. Food and drink vendors. 5K run/walk. SCUBA/snorkel treasure hunt. Children's beach treasure hunt. Sandcastle and chalk art contests. Admission: Free, but fees for many events.

Aug. 25-26: Polish Harvest Festival, Corpus Christi Parish, 199 Clark St. 896-1050. Traditional cultural celebration. Food and drink vendors. Music. Admission: Free.

Aug. 25-26: Elmwood Avenue Festival of the Arts, Elmwood Avenue at Auburn Street. 830-2484. Art on exhibit and for sale. Art opportunities for children, and kids parade. Dance and music performances. Food vendors. Admission: Free. Web site: **elmwoodartfest.org.**

Sept. 1: Middleport Festivities, Main Street, Middleport. 735-7538. Children's parade. Food and drink vendors. Live entertainment. Craft show and vendors. Goat chip bingo. Admission: Free.

Sept. 1-2: Chicken Wing Festival, Dunn Tire Park. 565-4141. Pageant. Eating contests, including U.S. championship wing eating bout. Food vendors. Sauce contests. Children's activities. Live music. Admission: \$5; 8 and under free. Web site: **buffalowing.com.**

Sept. 1-2: Youngstown Firemen's Field Days. 745-7721. Carnival rides. Food vendors. Car show. Antique and craft shows. Firemen's parade. Admission: Free.

