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**Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation Announces Schedule for  
Independence Day Celebration at Canalside**

*Festivities to include children's activities, food & beverage vendors, musical performances and  
fireworks presented by Russell Salvatore*

Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation (ECHDC) today announced its schedule for Canalside's Fourth of July Celebration, which will take place on Friday, July 4. This free event will feature some of Buffalo's best talent, children's activities, food and a fabulous fireworks display, presented by Russell Salvatore, over the Buffalo River. Salvatore arranged the patriotic musical soundtrack that will accompany the fireworks display and also be synched on WHTT Classic Hits 104.1. The event's rain date is Saturday, July 5.

"Don your red, white and blue and join us for our annual Independence Day Celebration on the waterfront," said Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation Chairman Robert Gioia. "This family-friendly event with something for everyone is a great opportunity to experience and see all the positive changes on our waterfront while celebrating our nation's independence."

"I am so proud to once again be involved with city's fireworks display on the fourth of July," said Russell J. Salvatore. "There is so much action already happening at Canalside I am happy to be a part of it. I cannot wait to push the button and light up the skies for us all to enjoy. I have arranged for some great patriotic music to accompany the fireworks show, so don't forget to tune your radios to 104.1 to enjoy the fireworks even more. See you at Canalside, and you should plan on making a day of it.....I am."

The music-packed event will be highlighted by Buffalo favorite lounge singer and "king of charisma" Lance Diamond, who celebrates his birthday on July 4, headlining the musical performances. Other musical performers include the George Scott Big Band from 2 to 3 p.m., the Buffalo Niagara Concert Band from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and Big City Horns from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Lance Diamond takes the stage at 7 p.m.

Explore & More Children's Museum will be on hand from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., followed by additional kids' activities until 7 p.m., including arts and crafts, face painting, a puppet show and more. A color guard with Junior ROTC will take place at 9:15 p.m., followed by a flag folding ceremony on stage with Taps at 9:30 p.m. The fireworks start at approximately 10:15 p.m.

Food and beverages will be available, with local food trucks/vendors and Clinton's Dish. Soda, beer and wine will also be sold on site. No outside food or beverage will be allowed. Folding chairs and blankets are welcome.

Canalside's Independence Day Celebration event sponsors include Russell J. Salvatore and Russell's Steaks Chops and More. There will be sponsored activities by Lasertron and Candy Kids Spa, along with other activities for children.

Located adjacent to the First Niagara Center, Canalside can be easily accessed from Buffalo through city streets like Pearl, Washington and Scott, by riding to the southern end of the Rapid Transit rail system on Main Street (Erie Canal Harbor Station), or from exits off the I-190 and Skyway (Route 5). Use the address 44 Prime Street, Buffalo, NY 14202 for GPS navigation.

### **About Canalside**

Canalside is a growing regional destination and entertainment district, situated on 21 historic acres along downtown Buffalo's emerging waterfront on the Buffalo River. Canalside earns its name from its storied past, when the Erie Canal Harbor was built in 1825 as the western terminus of the Erie Canal. Until six years ago, the land was barren and inaccessible, but the area has been reclaimed by the state's Erie Canal Harbor Development Corp. and developed with public and private investment. With more than 1,000 yearly events, Canalside is fast becoming the go-to place for in- and out-of-towners of all ages to learn, play and relax. For more information, visit [www.canalsidebuffalo.com](http://www.canalsidebuffalo.com).

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