

**EDUCATORS
TOTALLY
COMMITTED**

FEBRUARY 4TH 2022

▶ **Charles Kuralt: "It does no harm just once in a while to acknowledge that the whole country isn't in flames. That there are people in the country besides politicians, entertainers and criminals."**

W E L C O M E

E T C

J E R R Y S T A R R ' S

3 4 T H A N N U A L

S L E E P O U T

Donations may be made payable to: Ken-Ton Schools-E.T.C.

2/05/2021



A sign on the Thruway warns of lake-effect snow on Friday, Feb. 5, 2021.

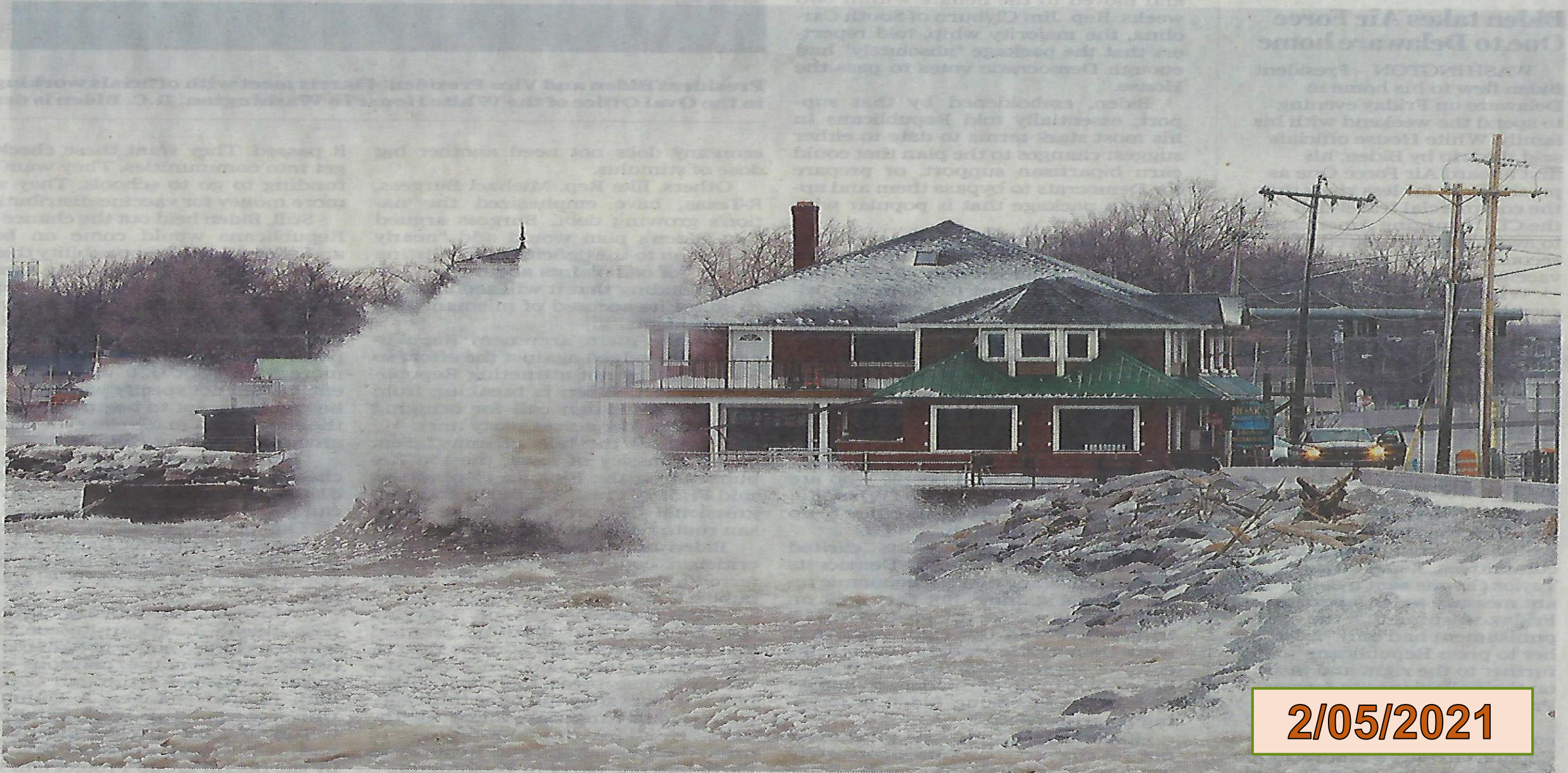


2/05/2021

Waves from Lake Erie break on shore and on homes on North Shore Drive at Hoover Beach in Hamburg, Friday, Feb. 5, 2021.

John Hickey

The clamor before the storm



2/05/2021

John Hickey/Buffalo News

Lake Erie waves crash along the shore Friday on Route 5 in Hamburg as strong winds buffet the area in advance of a lake-effect storm expected to bring heavy snow – as much as a foot – by Sunday morning. Temperatures will dip as well, with today's high reaching 24 and a low in the upper teens. *Story on Page C3*



Key
BLUE

2/05/2021



2/05/2021



2/05/2021



2/05/2021



2/05/2021

Getting out of the cold



2/05/2021

Two men grab items from a car and run into an apartment building on Anderson Place in Buffalo, Saturday, Feb. 6, 2021.

Plowing



2/05/2021

A pair of snowplows clear Niagara Falls Boulevard in the Town of Tonawanda Saturday, Feb. 6, 2021.

Sharon Cantillon / Buffalo News

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, the Educators Totally Committed Sleep Out members were unable to meet. Members were still able to sleep out. The following pictures were taken at the 2020 Educators Totally Committed Sleep Out.

FIRST AID FOR CHOKING



02/07/2020

2020



02/07/2020





02/07/2020





02/07/2020





02/07/2020





02/07/2020



FOR
IDEALLY
COMMITTEE

02/07/2020

ITS NICE TO MEAT YOU

LET'S KETCHUP
SOME TIME

WE'RE
ROOTING FOR YOU!

Always
be nice.

02/07/2020



To help the homeless, Ken-Ton students spend a night out in the cold themselves

By Ed Adamczyk
SUN CORRESPONDENT

With temperatures dipping into the low 20s on Friday night, you know that somewhere, homeless people were sleeping outside. At Hoover Middle School, some of the more fortunate tried it.

The 33rd annual "Jerry Starr Sleepout," a fundraiser by the teachers' group Educators Totally Committed and the Ken-Ton School District, invited participants to spend a night sleeping outdoors in a cardboard appliance box. Police and paramedics were on duty, a welcoming fire burned in a steel drum and volunteers learned through experience how certain people, in Ken-Ton and elsewhere, get through life.

"It's time we realize that some people do this every night," commented Brett Moore, 6th grade teacher at Franklin Elementary School. "The bottom line is helping people less fortunate."

For retired teacher Steve Ash, a founder of the event, it is more of a crusade of awareness. Ash seeks to identify the first Friday of every February as a worldwide day of acknowledging and helping the homeless, and hopes to enlist the United Nations to the cause.

"Even the most prosperous places have people in need," he said. "This changes perceptions of what homeless people look like. It opens the kids' eyes. What if you had to stay out, night after night?"

The evening opened with festivities, raffles and speeches, but



Ed Adamczyk / Special to The Sun

Participants in the 33rd annual Jerry Starr Sleepout warm themselves by a fire prior to spending the night sleeping outside, in cardboard boxes. The event raises funds and awareness to combat homelessness.

by 10:30 p.m. it was bedtime. About 25 families participated, a number lower than usual, and some chose to overnight indoors on the school's cafeteria floor, but the intent and the spirit was present. Clean cardboard boxes, meant for refrigerators, were provided.

Teacher Felix Coniglio, a 20-year veteran of these events, starting with church groups, noted that some were participating en route to National Honor Society commendations.

"It's amazing, but after a couple of years you can actually get com-

fortable" in a cardboard box, he said.

Named in honor of longtime Kenmore West teacher Starr, the founder, the sleepout now has the involvement of St. Joseph Collegiate Institute, Mount St. Mary Academy and St. John the Baptist Church. The Clarence school district has followed

Ken-Ton's lead with a similar event of its own.

It was over by 6 a.m., and Ash offered some parting thoughts.

"Uncomfortable in the midst of cold, content knowing/hoping that our collective efforts may help in a small way," he said in an email.



Ed Adamczyk / Special to The Sun

Participants in the 33rd annual Jerry Starr Sleepout warm themselves by a fire prior to spending the night sleeping outside, in cardboard boxes. The event raises funds and awareness to combat homelessness.



02/07/2020





PTA

02/07/2020