

Audio file

Independent Perspective 1860 with Mike Benzin on the NFRRS Summer Bash Fundraiser

Transcript

00:00:01 Speaker 1

Welcome to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of Western New York Independent Living (WNYIL). Our guest today is Mike Benzin, executive director of Niagara Frontier Radio Reading Service (NFRRS), and I am your host, Ernie Churchwell.

00:00:15

Welcome to the program, Mike.

00:00:16 Speaker 2

Thank you, Ernie.

00:00:18 Speaker 1

It's our pleasure. And you've got a really big event coming up in the very near future; that's all about Niagara Frontier Radio Reading. Wondering what you can tell us about the Summer Bash.

00:00:32 Speaker 2

Well, July is Disability Pride month in Western New York and as part of that celebration, NFRRS is going to have a Summer Bash.

00:00:43

It's going to be on Saturday, July 19th and it's going to run from 1:00 to 6:00 in the afternoon, and it's going to feature the Boys of Summer band.

00:00:53

Which is a great party band. They've been around for decades. They're in the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame. So, I think it's going to be just a wonderful celebration. It's at the Buffalo River Grove, which used to be called the Fontana's Grove. It's on Clinton Street near Harlem in West Seneca.

00:01:14

2299 Clinton St. if anybody's writing it down.

00:01:17

And for \$40, folks, will get the entertainment, outdoor games, cornhole, things like that, beer, soft drinks, coffee, water. We've got Mineo & Sapio Italian sausage, Sahlen's hot dogs, hamburgers, Perry's ice cream, watermelon, corn on the cob. All the picnic kind of stuff. We'll also have raffles. We'll have a basket auction. There'll be a special Buffalo Bills tailgate grand prize for people that are there, and there'll be a cash bar on top of all that. If you know, folks want something more than just beer and soda.

00:01:57 Speaker 1

Ah, just wondering what's the grand prize for the Buffalo Bills tailgate?

00:02:02 Speaker 2

Uh, it's a tailgate package. We've got a 10 x 10 Buffalo Bills theme tent, pop-up tent, cooler and other things that you would need for a tailgate party.

00:02:14 Speaker 1

Oh, sounds exciting.

00:02:18

It's the only one of our several events that we've got going for Disability Pride month that has a price connected to it, but then again considering with the wealth of foodstuffs and other sundry things that are going to be provided to those who take advantage of it.

00:02:38 It jolly well, it should be.

00:02:42 Speaker 2

It's a fundraiser, so it's there's, you know, it's to raise money for NFRRS so we can bring our print and publications to our listeners. So, for that 40 bucks, 20 bucks goes to pay for the party and everything else. And the other 20 bucks is a donation.

00:03:00 Speaker 1

You know, I'm betting that there's probably some people listening that are not aware of the valuable service that NFRRS provides as your slogan goes, helping the blind to read. What are some of the things that your volunteers do for them?

00:03:18 Speaker 2

The money from this fundraiser will help bring Buffalo newspapers, magazines, books and other publications to people who are blind or have a print disability. So, we read like the daily paper every day, we read weekly newspapers. We read popular magazines and those are shared on air over a private radio signal or online. Folks can stream them from our website, or they can download our dedicated mobile app and access that information online.

00:03:50 Speaker 1

Boy, you've got a wealth of avenues that people can use to get the information recorded. And when you say books, it's both fiction and nonfiction books from the New York Times bestseller list, is it not?

00:04:06 Speaker 2

New York Times bestsellers, fiction and nonfiction, but we also will do some local authors and books that means something that are relevant to our listeners.

00:04:17 Speaker 1

Well, it's good to know that the local authors get their say in this. I'm sure people are going to have questions. How can they reach you to get them answered?

00:04:27 Speaker 2

They can find more information online at our website, nfradioreading.org, or they can call us at 716-821-5555.

00:04:37 Speaker 1

Thanks for being with us, Mike.

00:04:39 Speaker 2

Thank you, Ernie.

00:04:41 Speaker 1

You've been listening to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of WNYIL. Our guest has been Mike Benzin, executive director of NFRRS, and I've been your host, Ernie Churchwell.