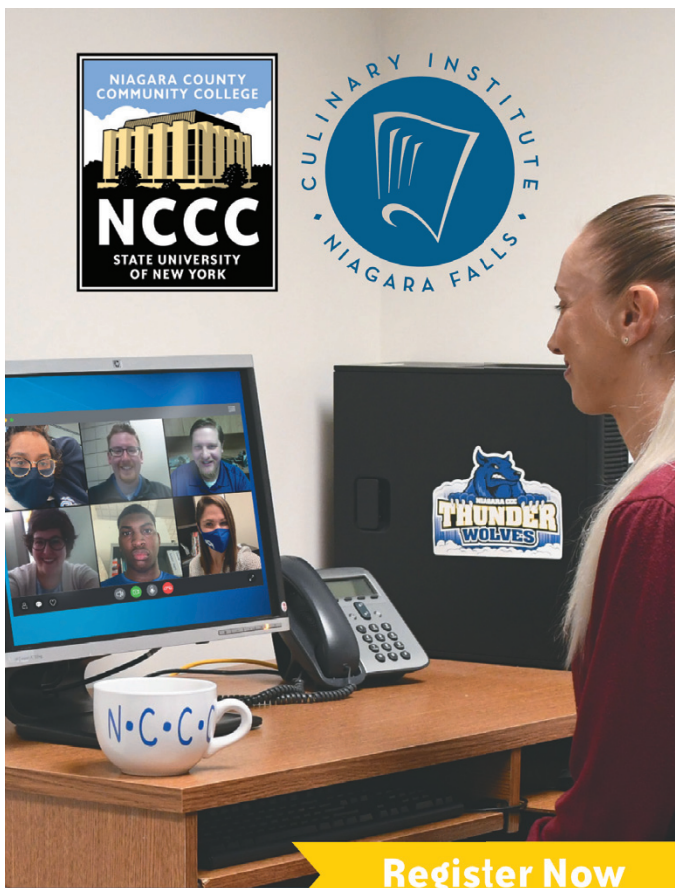


# Bills alumni help animals in need at Niagara County SPCA

On Thursday, Buffalo Bills alumni Booker Edgerson, Ken Jones and Lou Piccone visited the Niagara County SPCA to sponsor the cage of a shelter dog on behalf of Cure the Blue, a nonprofit organization that raises awareness of prostate cancer.

The "Sponsor A Cage" program was started one year ago to bring the community together to help homeless animals at Niagara County SPCA. The former Bills players love to give back to their community and figured it was a win-win to promote the two important organizations and assist an animal in need.

To learn more about sponsoring a cage, visit [www.CellinoNiagaraSPCA.org](http://www.CellinoNiagaraSPCA.org).  
(Photo by Mark Williams Jr.)



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# Operation Christmas Child aims to reach millions of children with hope this year

Even during the coronavirus pandemic, everyone can bless a child in need

### GUEST EDITORIAL BY OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause fear and uncertainty, Samaritan's Purse is calling on churches and families to pack more shoebox gifts than ever before for Operation Christmas Child – making sure millions of children experience the "Good News" and great joy of the holiday. Samaritan's Purse is committed to its mission of reaching millions of children across the globe with hope.

"Much of the world has been gripped with fear, and this is especially hard for children," said Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan's Purse. "Now more than ever, these boys and girls need to know God loves them. Operation Christmas Child delivers the hope found only in Jesus Christ."

The Samaritan's Purse project has been collecting and deliver-

ing shoebox gifts – filled with school supplies, hygiene items and fun toys – to children worldwide for more than two decades. This is a mission project that everyone can still be a part of, even with COVID-19 restrictions. Simply pack shoeboxes with school supplies, hygiene items and fun toys. Then, bring them to one of more than 4,000 drop-off locations during national collection week, Nov. 16-23. Drop-off locations will be listed starting in early November at [samaritanaspurse.org](http://samaritanaspurse.org) and can be searched by city or ZIP code.

Even if churches and groups are not yet meeting, families are encouraged to pack shoebox gifts at home. Through Operation Christmas Child's network of thousands of churches around the world, God uses these simple gifts to make an eternal impact.

The organization also offers an option to virtually pack a shoebox gift. Through this online tool,

churches and groups can also set up a goal page to rally together to reach a larger goal. It's easy – simply set a goal, invite your friends, and start packing! Whether your goal is 50 shoeboxes or 5,000, anyone can create a goal page and work together with church members, friends and family to share the hope of the Gospel with children around the world.

Those interested in more information on Operation Christmas Child COVID-19 protocols, can visit important COVID-19 updates for the latest information and answers to frequently asked questions.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, seeks to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world and, together with the local church worldwide, to share the "Good News" of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 178 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 160 countries and territories.

It's expected 26,500 shoebox gifts will be filled across the New York/Greater Niagara-area.



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\*Online pre-registration is required for all admissions events

Learn more by visiting [sjci.com/admissions](http://sjci.com/admissions)



## Back-to-school season is here!

It's important to stop for all school buses that are stopped with their lights flashing - in all lanes and even in parking lots. Keep our kids safe.

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