

'In the Loop' with the Lew-Port Board of Education: How are you doing?

BY **JODEE RIORDAN**

Board of Education President

How are you, Lewiston-Porter? On our homepage, you will find a quick family check-in survey. Please take time to fill it out and let us know how your family is doing, and the best way to support you and your children during this time.

The check-in asks, on a scale of 1-10, how are you and your family doing? (1 = We are struggling 10 = We are doing well). How are you doing with technology (hardware and software, resources, support), and completing work from school, and communicating with teachers and school staff? Do you need help with household necessities (e.g., food, paper products, personal hygiene, etc.), staying organized, or child care? Are you going stir crazy and need ideas on how to keep the kids occupied during these challenging times?

We want to check in on both the quantity and quality of work your child has been assigned over the closure? Is it too much/ just right/ not enough? Does it seem like busy work/ just right/ is it especially engaging?

As of May 1, there will be new learning and it will mostly be online. We need to know what support you/ your child will need to be ready. You

may be ready now, or perhaps you need a little assistance to be ready. You may be feeling overwhelmed, and need support – educational, emotional or physical. We need each student and every family to know that we are here, whatever the need. We are all in this together and we will get through this together.

The Board of Education will meet on Tuesday, in our first virtual meeting during the pandemic, in accordance with Open Meetings Law and social distancing protocol. We encourage the community to join us. The link for Tuesday's Zoom meeting can be found on the Lew-Port.com homepage: Meeting ID: 761 3357 0685 / Password: Lewiston.

On the agenda is regular Board of Education business such as policy review and district operations, as well as annual approval of the proposed Orleans-Niagara Board of Cooperative Educational Service (BOCES) administrative budget, and election of the BOCES Board of Education members. Wendy Swearingen will continue as Lewiston-Porter's representative to the BOCES Board of Ed, where she serves as board president.

The board will then further our budget discussion, with a presentation by Dr. Patti Grupka. As the state budget is set to be reassessed at

the end of this month, we continue to develop budgetary strategies to meet these unprecedented times and do not plan to adopt a 2020-21 budget until at least May 11. We will also move to amend the previous election date in accordance with executive order No. 202.13 ("Continuing Temporary Suspension and Modification of Laws Relating to the Disaster Emergency"). The order provides that "any school board election scheduled to take place in April or May of 2020 is postponed until at least June 1, 2020, subject to further directive as to the timing, location or manner of voting for such election."

In other words, we do not yet know when the budget vote and Board of Education election will take place. Our district clerk will announce details as soon as we receive official guidance. Stay tuned.

Let's continue our weekly review of the state of the ongoing school closure and how this is evolving at Lewiston-Porter:

Closure: Per Gov. Andrew Cuomo, closure of all schools will continue now through Friday, May 15. During the closure, per executive order 202.4, "the provision of school meals, childcare and distance learning are considered essential services or function."

Education: A plan of action is

now in place to finalize third marking period grades (for secondary students) and establish new learning, with graded work, for the fourth marking period. The third marking period will close on Thursday, April 30. Students will only be graded for work that was assigned prior to March 13. Report cards will be available online through PowerSchool no later than Friday, May 8. Again, this is for secondary students in grades 6-12. The fourth marking period will begin officially on Friday, May 1.

For the elementary schools (PEC/IEC), work established after May 1 will be graded and will count toward students' grades for the third trimester. All work assigned from May 1 forward, in grades K-12, will be entered officially into the PowerSchool gradebook. It is imperative that students are fully up and running with Google Classroom/Seesaw and are following the specific directions from each of their teachers in terms of assignments and due dates. Details will be forthcoming directly from building principals and individual teachers this week.

Food Service: Meals are available from 9-11 a.m. Monday-Wednesday-Friday for all students under the age of 18. Students receive meals for two days (two breakfasts and two lunches) when picked up on Monday and/

or Wednesday, and for three days on Friday (three breakfasts and three lunches). Meals are available at the Lewiston-Porter High School main entrance. Families not able to pick up should email Dr. Patti Grupka (pgrupka@lew-port.com) to make arrangements to have meals delivered.

Child care: Lewiston-Porter Central School District is partnering with the Buffalo Niagara YMCA to provide free child care for all essential workers while schools are closed due to COVID-19. Please see our website (or executive order No. 202.4) for a complete list of eligible essential workers. To register for the service, please contact the Lockport Family Branch YMCA at 734-8887 or email Office Manager Brigid Dillman at bdillman@ymcabn.org between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays.

As of Friday, per executive order, all people must wear a mask or face covering in public in situations where social distancing is not possible. Please comply with this order as you pick up meals on campus, and at any time it is necessary for you to leave your home.

Stay strong, Lewiston-Porter.

Elected leaders to residents: Do you part

Continued from Page 1

decided to do. They have brought this infection rate down – it's that simple. Nurses, doctors, did a phenomenal job. First responders did a phenomenal job. Essential workers did a phenomenal job. But that

rate came down because people changed their behavior. That's what happened.

"It is about the behavior of our people. It's that simple. It's our behavior; it's our level of discipline; it's how we educate our children; it's how considerate we are of others. What we're willing to do to safeguard others' health in our community. That's what makes all

the difference on what we're doing.

"And it is the simple things. It's wearing a mask. It's washing your hands. It's the hand sanitizer. It's the social distance. It's making sure your children understand what to do, what not to do. It's all of these simple procedures that seem almost insignificant but, on a collective basis, make all the difference in the world. And it is mak-

ing smart choices.

"I want to get out of the house. I'm going crazy. I need to do this. I need to do this." I know, but be smart. Be smart and engage what you're doing relative to everyone else and relative to the overall goal."

Spice Harbor in Lewiston has cloth face masks available for purchase. Owner Kristen Brolinski said, "Spice Harbor is open and has

added cloth masks to their already well-known homemade specialty food mixes! Stop by 476 Center St., Lewiston, for curbside pickup of today's choices. Our masks are two-sided (one patterned, one plain) and machine-washable for everyday wear.

"Please stay safe and cover your face when outside of your home!" Call Spice Harbor at 622-0405.

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So, testing is still very limited. We were able to get those hundred; those hundred are going specifically for the first-responders, health care workers, pregnant women, people that are most at

Physical distancing working

risk for (coronavirus).

"So, we're doing those. We're doing drive-thru sampling activities in order to have the first-responders, police, fire, EMTs, coroners have them being able to make sure that they are diagnosed, if they have any symptoms.

"So far, we've been fortunate that we haven't had a lot of positives from our first-responders and our health care workers. But we want to make sure that the testing is available exclusively for them. And that's why, with 100 test kits – and we got a few more from a local hospital partner – we want to make sure that those are very pinpoint, in terms of who they're dedicated to."

Wydysh said, "The governor ... mentioned this morning in his press conference that New York state has reached now over 10,000 COVID-19-related deaths. Yet we see the hospitalization rates continuing on a downward trend, which is a good thing. He stated that if – and this is a big *if* – we continue to follow our distancing policies in the 'New York on PAUSE,' everyone's staying home, that the worst is probably over.

"But he also stated – and this needs to be said time and again – that the public really following those (safe at home restrictions) will help to lower the trajectory of that spread."

She added, "I know that here we've said it time and again that we believe we are slightly behind the timeframe of the downstate area – that we won't see our peaks and surges until slightly after they have. So, again, I think we need to remind all of our viewers that, even if you're hearing that we are flattening the curve, it's because these social distancing, physical distancing guidelines are being followed – and that is certainly helping the situation.

"And the worst thing that we can do is to revert back immediately to our normal lives. We can't just send everyone right back, or we'll see that second surge, or peak."

LEWISTON-PORTER CHURCH DIRECTORY

Lutheran Church of the Messiah

915 Oneida Street, Lewiston
Phone: 754-4944 Fax: 754-0903
www.messiahlewisston.org

The Reverend Ashlin Marchese, Pastor
The Reverend Thomas R. Mason, Pastor Emeritus
Sunday Worship Service 8:15am & 10:00am

Sunday School / Adult Bible Class 9:00am
2nd Sunday in September to third Sunday in May (Dates can vary)

Messiah Lutheran PreSchool Rose Aloian, Director

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of Brawn Property LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/14/2020. Office location: Niagara County. designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. shall mail process to: c/o the

LLC, 916 Ridge Rd, Lewiston, NY 14092. Purpose: Other
Publish
Sentinel
Mar. 21, 28 and Apr. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

Village of Lewiston
Notice of Public Hearing
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Village Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 20, 2020 at 6:00 PM virtually at <https://zoom.us/j/7167548271> on the

proposed 2020-21 budget effective

June 1, 2020.
Shannon Fundis
Clerk
April 15, 2020
Publish
Sentinel

LEGAL NOTICE

312 Fredericka LLC. Filed with SSNY on 8/5/2019. Office: Niagara County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 312 Fredericka St North Tonawanda NY 14120. Purpose: any lawful
Publish
Tribune
Mar. 12, 19, 26 and Apr. 2, 9, 16, 2020

LEGAL NOTICE

Faded Bit LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/11/20. Office: Niagara County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 584 Woodward Ave N. Tonawanda, NY 14120. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.
Publish
Tribune
Mar. 12, 19, 26 and Apr. 2, 9, 16, 2020

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of MyOrthos NY, LLC Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/27/20. Office location: Niagara County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 02/18/20. Princ. office of LLC: 2840 Military Rd., Niagara Falls, NY 14304. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity.
Publish
Tribune
Mar. 12, 19, 26 and Apr. 2, 9, 16, 2020

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of Pathfinder Pest & Wildlife Services LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. Of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/24/2020. Office location: Niagara County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 1089 Kinkead Ave STE103, North Tonawanda, NY 14120. Purpose: any lawful activity.
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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY Sparrow Gull LLC filed Articles of Organization with the NY Department of State on February 7, 2020. Its office is located in Niagara County. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the Company upon whom process against it may be served, and a copy of any process shall be mailed to 4965 Devonshire Lane, Lockport, NY 14094. Its purpose is any lawful business.
Publish
Tribune
Mar. 12, 19, 26 and Apr. 2, 9, 16, 2020

LEGAL NOTICE

Ride & Groom Mobile Pet Service LLC. Filed 2/24/20. Office: Niagara Co. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: Barbara Mastrocovo, 6750 Aiken Rd, Lockport, NY 14094. Purpose: General.