

North Tonawanda update

From Mayor Arthur Pappas:

A debt of gratitude goes out to all NT police and fire employees who put their lives in peril every day for our safety. A thank you also to the auxiliary police, volunteer firefighters for their help, as well as the DPW, Parks and Rec. Department, volunteers, and grocery/medical store staff for continuing to assist us every day while isolated.

Presently, the City Market remains open as an essential service, but with social distancing still in effect. It is mandatory to wear facial masks and it is advisable to wear gloves when shopping there to help protect yourself and others from the spread of COVID-19.

The bulk pick-up is scheduled to continue the week of May 3, but residents are asked to please put extra articles in plastic bags when possible.

Niagara County cases are still rising with 326 (and 44 in NT), so we have not hit the peak of infec-

tion to date. Therefore, it is imperative that everyone continue to remain compliant with the executive orders and not put others in danger of contacting the virus. With improved weather, it will be difficult for families to refrain from going out unless necessary, but we must continue to remain resilient.

Unfortunately, social distancing is here to stay for now. We do not want to have the entire community to be in total lockdown if the virus should return in the cooler fall weather.

All federal, state, county and local guidelines remain in effect. For us to enter phase one of the federal guidelines, we will need to trace, test, isolate first before moving into transitioning out of lockdown. As soon as social distancing is lifted, the virus could spread even quicker. Please stay home as much as possible, stay calm, and stay optimistic, so one day – hopefully sooner than later – we will return to a “new normal” lifestyle.

STAY STRONG!

The following comes from Jodee Riordan, Lewiston-Porter Board of Education president:

“With the extension of the closure now extending through May 15, it is becoming less likely that we will return this school year. We must anticipate that, even if we were able to come back to school, there would be significant restrictions and limitations on social gatherings and events. As a result, all trips, field trips and events are canceled for the remainder of the year. Class advisers, club advisers, coaches and individual teachers will be contacting students involved for specifics on cancellations.

“The only events not yet cancelled are the senior prom and graduation. Superintendent Paul Casseri is working diligently with the high school to come up with a way to maintain these rites of passage and celebrate the achievements of Class of 2020.

“Our community has rallied around the senior class, in many thoughtful and creative ways: Green and white ribbons adorn trees and light posts, inspiring messages pop up everywhere, and every senior has a beautiful sign proudly displayed in front of their home. Thank you to the amazing Lewiston-Porter United Teachers for commissioning and delivering the Class of 2020 lawn signs seen throughout our community. We are all with you, Class of 2020 – stay strong!”



Niagara Falls goes purple to honor hospitality employees



On Monday, Niagara Falls was illuminated purple for #HospitalityStrong, to honor hospitality industry workers worldwide who have been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. The color purple was selected to represent hospitality as not only a symbol of luxury but also as a blend of red and blue, which represent confidence (red) and comfort (blue).

Destination Niagara USA President and CEO John Percy said, “Tourism is one of the top revenue generators for our local economy. During this crisis, the loss of visitation has hit not only the industry incredibly hard but also the community. Lighting Niagara Falls purple in honor of our dedicated and hardworking hospitality industry employees sends a message of our commitment to them and our gratitude for all that they do.”

(Photo by K&D Action Photo and Aerial Imaging)

N-WHS Class of '20 makes generous contribution



From left, Bobby Zito and MacKenzie Patterson hold a \$250 check for Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center in front of the Niagara-Wheatfield High School campus. Zito and Patterson are both Class of 2020 students. (Submitted photo)

Class might not be in session at the moment, but that didn't stop the Niagara-Wheatfield High School Class of 2020 from doing good for the community. Recently, this year's graduat-

ing class donated \$250 to Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. Yard signs donning “Home of a Niagara-Wheatfield High School senior, Class of 2020,” were sold for \$10 each. The group ordered over 100 signs, dropping the price to \$7.50 each plus tax. The difference of the purchase was donated to Roswell. The N-W National Honor Society was supposed to hold a fundraiser for Roswell on April 4, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was cancelled. The signs might not have made as much money as the basket auction/vendor fair would have, but the thought for Roswell still counts during these tough times.

If school resumes, the school is looking to reschedule the event for some time in June.

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