

Lewiston youth baseball, softball and T-ball programs to return in 2021

The Town of Lewiston announces the return of youth baseball, softball and T-ball in the spring of 2021. After the program was shelved due to state COVID-19 guidelines in 2020, the town said it has been working hard to bring the program back in a safe and responsible way this year.

"While guidance from both the CDC and the State Department of Health has been fluid, Lewiston will always follow the latest guidelines and standards to make sure we are doing everything we can to mitigate the risk of CO-

VID," Recreation Director Mike Dashineau said. "Currently, the state lists baseball and softball as 'moderate-risk' youth activities and outlines a few areas to reduce contact."

The first is what he referred to as "shared equipment." Players often share helmets and bats while playing, especially in T-ball. The Town of Lewiston is highly recommending each player intending to participate in the 2021 programs purchase his or her own helmet.

"In the likely event that some

sharing will take place, we will provide each team and each game enough disinfectant during games and practices to be able to disinfect areas of shared touching," Dashineau said. "We will be encouraging all players, coaches and game personnel to 'mask up' when 6 feet of distancing is not possible. Games themselves may look slightly different, as player huddles and player contact is discouraged."

Dashineau said that, even with the small changes the Rec Department was asked to make while in

a pandemic, "We can guarantee that players, families and friends will be thrilled to get back outside into a small sense of normalcy. Baseball and softball, and sports in general, help our kids develop lifelong habits of physical fitness, gain lifelong friendships, and grant an opportunity for competition."

"Lewiston Recreation, and our partners at Youngstown Recreation and the Village of Lewiston, are excited to see all of our little sluggers out on the ball fields in 2021."

Dashineau noted that, for those who want to be part of the league, even if your "little ones" are full grown, Lewiston baseball and softball is always looking for coaches, sponsors and volunteers.

For more information, visit www.LewPortSports.com or "Like" Lewiston Rec's Facebook pages at www.Facebook.com/LewistonBaseball and www.Facebook.com/LewistonParksandRecreation.

'In the Loop' with the Lewiston-Porter Board of Education

Keeping the music alive at Lew-Port

BY JODEE RIORDAN

Board of Education President

Musical theater is a vibrant, vital part of life at Lewiston-Porter. Traditionally, one major production is staged each school year in the high school, usually in February. This month, the stages remain dark, but we are pleased to announce that the show will go on. An alternative production is in the works. Watch for an announcement soon from the Lew-Port music department.

Fabulous past productions include "Mama Mia!" (2020), "The Addams Family" (2019), "Into the Woods" (2018), "Guys and Dolls" (2017), "The Drowsy Chaperone" (2016), "Annie" (2015), "Thoroughly Modern Millie" (2014), "Seussical the Musical!" (2013), "Beauty and the Beast" (2012), "The Sound of Music" (2011), and "Bye Bye Birdie" (2010). Visit www.lew-port.com (and follow the "Fine Arts" tab on the homepage) to view photos, posters and programs from the past productions.

When I say "fabulous," just how fabulous do I mean? Three recent productions have been honored as finalists for the coveted Kenny Award. Last year's production of "Mama Mia!" plus the 2018 production of Stephen Sondheim's "Into the Woods" and 2015's production of "Annie."

The Kenny Awards are the Western New York high school equivalent of the Tony Awards, with honors given in 14 categories and "The Kenny" presented for outstanding musical production. As finalists, Lewiston-Porter students engaged in workshops and master classes at Shea's Buffalo, before taking to the stage

as part of the Kenny Awards ceremony that evening.

Like I said: Fabulous!

While Lew-Port's annual musical theater production will not run in its typical form this year, our students join artists and musicians everywhere in keeping music alive. Due to the pandemic, live musical performances have been restricted worldwide. The lights of Broadway have dimmed, concert halls have shuttered and artists have worked tirelessly to get music out into the world through bold acts of creativity. But as creative as we are, music and musicians are suffering.

Curricular musical programs have been seriously affected by the safety restrictions currently in place. While high-risk extracurricular athletics have now been cleared for play in New York, in-school programs (specifically performance music and physical education classes) remain restricted. For example, as per the state-required reopening plans, there must be 12 feet of separation between students while singing, playing wood instruments and in physical education classes.

As approaches to – and the science surrounding – public health continues to change, the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) has appealed to Gov. Andrew Cuomo to take a new look at the standing recommendations regarding music in our schools. Music, along with athletics and arts education overall, support the well-being of the whole child. In these difficult times, students need all the outlets and all of the support we can provide for their mental health

and social-emotional wellness.

Advocacy played a strong role in the state's decision to allow students to play sports this season. While there is always a discussion of equity between the arts and athletics, it is important to realize that most of our children participate in both and each are vital. Advocacy for athletics is often more organized, and we just witnessed how positive a force it can be.

As we head into national Music in Our Schools Month in March (MIOSM), consider how you can advocate for music, too. For more than 30 years, Music in Our Schools Month has raised awareness of the importance of music education for all children and to display the benefits that school music brings to students of all ages. Our music students are hurting deeply and need support. Reach out to state elected officials, contact NYSSMA, or email the Lew-Port music department or music boosters with your support. Check out the MIOSM and advocacy page at nafme.org for tips on supporting music education and getting music at the forefront of the conversation at the state level.

Virtual Comfort Study!



WANTED:
50 people to take part
in a no-cost study.

Get a \$10 Amazon Gift Card
for your participation!

Are you
Cold
in your
Home?

Visit www.VirtualComfortStudy.com
or Call/Text 585-703-5488 for details.



Expert Cardiology Care in Niagara County.

If you're seeking high quality, expert cardiac care close to home, Dr. Benjamin Rueda and Dr. Arif Syed are accepting new patients now. Their goal: engage and educate you to provide the most personalized care plan and achieve the best possible outcome.

Make an appointment at one of our two convenient locations.

Catholic Health
Mount St. Mary's Hospital

Mount St. Mary's Health Center Lockport
6000 Brockton Drive, Suite 106
Lockport, NY 14094
(716) 342-3026

Mount St. Mary's Cardiac Center
5290 Military Road, #10A
Lewiston, NY 14092
(716) 284-3278

THE MARKET IN THE SQUARE
535 Division St. Twin City Highway
North Tonawanda • 693-2802
OPEN DAILY! MON - SAT: 7AM - 8:30PM
SUN 7AM - 7PM

VISIT US ON THE WEB FOR OUR WEEKLY SPECIALS
themarketinthesquare.com

LOCAL FAMILY OWNED & INDEPENDENTLY OPERATED

NOW 2 LOCATIONS

GENTLEMEN'S CLUB BARBER SHOP
1040 Payne Ave.
North Tonawanda, NY • 990-9149

SENIOR HAIRCUT SPECIAL \$8.00
Tues.-Fri. 8AM-10AM
Mon.-Fri. 10AM-7PM | Sat. 7AM-3PM
Owner: Kyle Kabel Cash & Walk-Ins Only

GENTLEMEN'S CLUB BARBER SHOP
5839 Buffalo St.
Sanborn, NY • 804-4363

SENIOR HAIRCUT \$10.00 ALL DAY
Sun. & Mon. Closed | Tues.-Fri. 10AM-6PM | Sat. 7AM-4PM
Cash & Walk-Ins Only

ALL OTHER CUTS \$12.00

Geeks on Site

GET YOUR COMPUTER FIXED IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME

Remote Support for:

- Adware/spyware
- Speed up computer
- Install software
- Email issues
- Pop-ups
- Printer & scanner support

\$40 OFF
FLAT FEE UNLIMITED SERVICE
Must mention code 86407 for promo price

Call Us Now at 844 245 3414