

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

Lew-Port's district reopening plan continues

BY **JODEE RIORDAN**

Board of Education President

New York state released its full guidance on reopening schools last week. The 145-page document, titled *Recovering, Rebuilding, and Renewing: The Spirit of New York's Schools – Reopening Guidance*, is available online to the public on the NYSED website (New York State Education Department). We encourage you to read it, to fully understand the framework for creating a reopening plan.

New York state requires each school district to submit a reopening plan by July 31. The reopening plan must provide for in-person instruction, remote learning, and a hybrid of the two approaches. Once submitted, Lewiston-Porter will wait for NYSED approval and for the governor to make a decision as to the statewide reopening of schools. His decision is expected in early August, and from there, implementation of the instructional plans will be assessed on a regional basis.

In an effort to better understand the perspective and level of concern district stakeholders (parents/family members, students, faculty/staff), Lew-Port immediately conducted a survey regarding the reopening of schools for students in September. The survey opened last Friday and ran through midnight Tuesday. There were 1,148 responses. Thank you to everyone for your recommendations and feedback. The information and data gathered in this survey will provide the district with recommendations that will help the district de-



"School is going to be dramatically different and we must all work together to make this as successful as possible."

*Superintendent
Paul Casseri*

velop plans, protocols, and safety measures that are appropriate and aligned. Our top priority is the health, safety, and welfare of our students, staff, and families.

Lewiston-Porter is currently working hard to develop our reopening plan by the July 31 deadline. SED continues to issue clarification to the reopening guidance (School Reopening FAQs), which further clarify/complicate planning. Please watch carefully for more information from Superintendent Paul Casseri here "In the Loop," on the Lew-Port website, www.lew-port.com, and from building administrators as this process unfolds.

As Superintendent Casseri said last week, "School is going to be dramatically different and we must all work together to make

this as successful as possible." The Board of Education is working closely with administration as planning moves forward. Please know that we are all doing our very best to provide for educating our students and keeping everyone (students, faculty/staff, the community) safe.

Once Lew-Port's plan is complete and approved by the state it will be distributed to the entire school community. A series of Parent Forums will then be held during the third and fourth weeks of August. The forums will take place by building, limited to 50 people at a time/one parent per family, to offer opportunity for parents to hear the plan and ask questions. We will run as many forums as needed, by building, to accommodate all parents. Please stay tuned for details on dates, locations and registration for each forum.

Community Education will continue in the fall, offering online classes only, using (an easy to use) Zoom format. The move to a virtual format will allow Lewiston-Porter to continue to provide engaging learning opportunities to the whole community, while we comply with new protocols surrounding both nightly cleaning/disinfecting and public use of our facilities. The catalog of course offerings is being developed now. If you are interested in becoming an instructor, Lew-Port is accepting ideas for new classes through Monday, July 27. Please email Anita Muzzi at amuzzi@lew-port.com.

NFP mourns longtime reader Wanda M. Cutini

Wanda M. (Juzwicki) Cutini, 96, of Lewiston, died July 19, 2020, at Our Lady of Peace Nursing Home.

Born Feb. 14, 1924, in Niagara Falls, she was the daughter of the late Stanley and Jozefa (Gorzynski) Juzwicki. Wanda graduated from Niagara Falls High School and the International Academy of Beauty Culture. On Feb. 15, 1947, Wanda married Michael Louis Cutini at Sacred Heart R.C. Church in Niagara Falls.

Wanda and Michael made their home in Lewiston, where they raised their beloved three sons: Michael M. (Kristina) Cutini of Grand Island; James G. (Melanie) Cutini of Bradenton, Florida; and Jan Brian (Wanda) Cutini of Roswell, Georgia. Grandchildren include Kristin Cutini of Cheektowaga, Michael G. Cutini of Pleasantville, Ashley Cutini of Atlanta, Alyssa Cutini-McLain of Canton (Georgia) and Libby Cutini-Dobson of Atlanta. Great-grandchildren include Jacob Wawreniec and Ryan Wawreniec of Cheektowaga, Michael Cutini and Sebastian Cutini of Pleasantville, Katelyn Dobson of Atlanta, Madeline Dobson of Macon (Georgia), and Hannah McLain, Hayley McLain and Nick McLain of Canton. Wanda is also survived by many nieces and nephews of the Cutini, Ferguson, Juzwicki and Toponak families.

A lifelong advocate of community service, Wanda volunteered for the Board of Elections Voting Committee, U.S. Census, Upper Mountain Fire Co.'s exempts and Sacred Heart R.C. Church



and St. Peter R.C. Church Mother's Club. She was also a lifetime member of the Charles N. DeGlopper Memorial VFW Post 9249 Auxiliary and the Lewiston Senior Club.

Wanda was predeceased by her husband, Michael L. Cutini, in 1983, and her brothers and sisters: Genevieve Ferguson, John Juzwicki, Stephen Juzwicki, Benjamin Juzwicki and Judith Toponak.

Wanda's family would like to thank the wonderful staff at Brookdale Niagara, Our Lady of Peace Nursing Home and her niece, Tanis Toponak, for their loving care of Wanda, as well as Dr. Todd M. Orszulak and Dr. Sachin Wadawan.

Wanda donated her body to the University of Buffalo Medical School.

A celebration of life memorial service will be announced at a future date.

Memorial contributions can be made to Upper Mountain Fire Co., 839 Moyer Road, Lewiston, NY 14092.

Expert Bariatric and Surgical Care...Close to Home

Award-winning, compassionate surgeons **Dr. Vikram Vattipally** and **Dr. Bala Thatigotla** specialize in bariatric, gastroenterology, advanced laparoscopic and robotic surgeries, as well as advanced endoscopy procedures.

Their goal: improving the health and well-being of patients in Niagara County, with easy access close to home.

To schedule an appointment, call
(716) 893-0333



Dr. Vikram Vattipally



Dr. Bala Thatigotla

 **Trinity Medical WNY**

5320 Military Road, Lewiston | 2625 Harlem Road, Cheektowaga



TUSCARORA VILLAGE

Manufactured Home Community

4012 Seneca Parkway

Niagara Falls, NY 14304

(716) 297-6980

website: www.tuscaroravillage.com
or email: lindal@kdmdevelopment.com

- Homes starting in the mid \$80's ask about our specials or visit us online and view the homes.
- Lot rent includes: taxes, water, sewer, refuse pick up & clubhouse
- Must be Park approved and financed approved

