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Village of Lewiston

Center Street remodel begins



The Center Street face-lift process has commenced.

BY JOSHUA MALONI
GM/Managing Editor

Work is now underway on a long-awaited Center Street enhancement project.

“New York State DOT is resurfacing Center Street. I had asked them back in 2018, and we’re finally getting to it,” Mayor Anne Welch said Thursday.

Project cost is expected to be \$1.8 million.

“The major work will be removing the old brick/concrete crosswalks, then milling the old road surface and repaving the entire street,” Welch said. “The project includes replacing the traffic lights in the intersections, pedestrian signal devices, and *SEE CENTER, continued on Page 12*

ST. PATRICK'S DAY RETURNS!

Close to three-dozen events on calendar



Pictured is a scene from a past St. Patrick's Day event. (Submitted file photo)

BY TERRY DUFFY
Editor-in-Chief

As the comeback to normalcy after COVID-19 continues, there's one celebration that residents of Buffalo Niagara have been looking forward to for some time now: St. Patrick's Day!

Long regarded as one of the area's biggest, and certainly a harbinger to spring, better weather and good times, St. Patrick's Day anticipations have been building for some time now.

And most would add, “Thank God for that!”

As we all know too well, the “traditional” St. Patrick's celebrations have not been a part of life in Buffalo-Niagara – or anywhere else for that matter – for quite some time. Those dreaded COVID-19 shutdowns that took over life, starting in mid-March 2020, led to cancellations of St.

Patrick's Day, as we know it, for both 2020 and 2021. And the “High Holy Days,” as many fondly regard our St. Patrick's celebrations, have only started to return in full force this year.

“March is here which means St. Patrick's Day events are back in full swing. ... From parade celebrations, to drinking events, and live music, there are so many things to do this St. Patrick's Day,” Step Out Buffalo said.

Last weekend saw the kickoff of local celebrations, with 3,700 runners participating in the Old First Ward Shamrock Run benefit on streets throughout the First Ward in South Buffalo, and a “Green Beer” Parade and celebration in North Tonawanda. Continuing this week, there are Irish-themed activities to suit just about anyone.

SEE NIAGARA, on Page 10

Tonawandas Chamber welcomes new executive director

The Chamber of Commerce of the Tonawandas board of directors welcomes Sarah Nelson as the new executive director.



Sarah Nelson

Board of Directors President Bob Pecoraro said, “We are thrilled with Sarah being selected as the next executive director. She has a passion to give the membership 110%, and understands their needs. The chamber's future is very bright with Sarah at the helm.”

For the past year, Nelson worked as director of marketing and membership. She was instrumental in the creation and growth of many new programs and events for the Chamber of Commerce, along with recruiting, building relationships with the members, helping businesses, and supporting the agency's mission. She has led many fundraising programs in support of the Chamber of Commerce and the community.

Nelson is a graduate of Niagara University and Schiller International University in Switzerland. She said she is excited about this new opportunity to help the members, while also providing economic development and growth for the members.

For information on how to join the Chamber of Commerce, contact Nelson at 716-692-5120 or director@the-tonawandas.com.

Golf tournament in honor of Bruce Sutherland

Volunteers have begun working behind the scenes for a fundraising golf tournament celebrating the life of Col. Bruce Sutherland. Sutherland, a former Village of Lewiston deputy mayor, was an esteemed community leader who passed away in December. Proceeds will go to two organizations he actively volunteered for and supported: the Historical Association of Lewiston and Lewiston Museum, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Downriver Post 7487 scholarship fund.

“Bruce loved golf and participated in many tournaments,” said Ken Slaughenoupt, a friend and volunteer colleague. “He'd be very proud knowing a golf tournament was being memorialized

in his name as part of an effort to support two civic organizations close to his heart.”

Tournament Details

The tournament will be held Monday, May 16, at the Niagara Frontier Golf Club, 1058 Lake Road, Youngstown. Registration begins at 10 a.m., with lunch at 11 a.m., and a shotgun start at noon. Dinner and awards will follow.

To play, the donation is \$140 per golfer. Individual golfers are welcomed and will be assigned to teams looking for extra players. The price includes green fees, carts, lunch, dinner and refreshments on the course. A driving range and putting greens will be open for participants to practice. For those looking to attend the

dinner only, the donation is \$35.

\$1,000 Putting Contest

A unique aspect of the tournament includes a \$1,000 putting contest that everyone can join, both golfers and non-golfers alike. The event is sponsored by Deal Realty and the Simonson family.

“Putt-putt golf has never been so exciting or rewarding,” said Tom Deal of Deal Realty. “This is something everyone can play. Whether it's skill or luck, everyone who sinks a 35-foot putt will walk away with some cash.”

Donation is \$20 for four putts. Everyone who sinks a putt will share equally in the \$1,000 cash giveaway. If only one person makes the putt, he/she will walk away with the entire \$1,000. Play-



Col. Bruce Sutherland was a beloved community leader and volunteer. He also loved the sport of golf and was an accomplished and respected player. To celebrate his life, the Historical Association of Lewiston and the VFW Downriver Post 7487 are organizing a golf tournament in his name to raise money for two of his favorite causes: the Lewiston Museum and the VFW scholarship fund. The tournament will take place May 16 at the Niagara Frontier Golf Club in Youngstown. There will also be a putting contest with \$1,000 in prize money.

ers can enter as many times as they want. The more you putt, the better your chances.

Sponsorships

One of the key aspects of the

fundraising tournament is the sponsorship program that invites individuals and businesses to participate. Sponsors will be recognized at the lunch and dinner, and

SEE JUMP, continued on Page 2

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