

# Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel

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## Developers bring new life to old Kmart site in Niagara



An exterior view of Life Storage entry facing Packard Road. (Photo courtesy of Granger Development)

**BY DANIEL DAVEY**

After several years of dormancy, the former site of Kmart on Military and Packard roads in the Town of Niagara is seeing activity.

Having acquired the 10.8 acres of land in April 2021, Granger

Development Inc. had quickly laid plans for its development beginning with the restructuring of the former Kmart building. Initially slated to become an Extra Space Storage facility, Granger had to pivot and change

facility management to Life Storage. Granger has developed one other storage facility in Florida, along with numerous office and retail locations spaces in the southern U.S.

*SEE CORNER, continued on Page 10*

## Lewiston police investigating middle school bullying incident

Victim's parent expresses frustrations at Lew-Port's handling of issue; Casseri responds, promises action

**BY TERRY DUFFY**  
Editor-in-Chief

Lewiston police officers are continuing their investigations into a complaint involving a Lewiston-Porter Middle School student who, according to various reports, is said to be involved in a bullying incident with racial overtones.

In a public post this week, the Lewiston Police Department reported, "On the morning of 3-14-22 LPD was made aware of a threat made to the LP Middle School on the social media Snap-Chat involving numerous individuals. The investigation led to charges being filed against one of the suspects, a 12-year-old student, for making a terroristic threat (D-felony); menacing third degree; aggravated harassment second degree; and conspiracy, fifth degree.

"The matter will be turned over to family court due to the age of

the defendant and no further information will be released. Further arrests may be made regarding this investigation.

"We are working side by side with the school district to ensure that the school remains a safe place for students and staff."

Chief Frank Previte told WK-BW-TV Channel 7, "Obviously that's something that we take very seriously." He said LPD's initial findings revealed the possibility of a student with "an AR-15-style weapon and bringing it to school on Tuesday, and some type of incident" was to take place.

That led LPD to a middle school student whom police investigators later discover had become a victim of bullying by at least one other middle school student, with a fake Snapchat account created in his name, per a Niagara Action report.

Previte said Lewiston police *SEE LEW, continued on Page 19*

## State approves Village of Lewiston's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program

LWRP creates renewed vision for village waterfront, while identifying 20 projects to enhance waterfront, protect water & improve public access

New York Secretary of State Robert J. Rodriguez on Monday announced his approval of the updated Village of Lewiston Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP), which provides a renewed step-by-step process to advance the village's waterfront planning from vision to implementation. Lewiston's updated LWRP was prepared in partnership with the Department of State and supported by \$20,250 in grant funding from the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) and assistance by technical experts in water quality, community and economic development, and resilience.

Rodriguez's team said, "The LWRP is a comprehensive, realistic program for the beneficial use, revitalization and protection of the village's valuable waterfront

resources along the Niagara River. It also reflects the village's goal to strengthen its physical connection to the waterfront, enhance public recreational opportunities, and build resiliency for community assets while balancing sustainable economic growth.

"The LWRP proposes 20 projects of differing complexity that the village intends to implement over the next decade to achieve its renewed waterfront vision. The proposed projects address non-point source pollution to protect water quality, propose enhanced public access to the waterfront to improve tourism opportunities and promote economic revitalization, and provide for increased recreational opportunities within the waterfront. Through partnerships with property owners, busi-



ness owners, and other stakeholders, the village will continue to sustainably build on its waterfront assets."

Rodriguez said, "A vibrant waterfront can be a community's greatest natural, recreational and economic asset, but only if it is

planned, developed and protected properly. Lewiston's updated LWRP demonstrates a real, holistic commitment to responsible waterfront revitalization and stewardship. A vibrant waterfront brings together people of all ages, backgrounds and incomes, which often sparks greater community revitalization, pride and a sense of place. We look forward to continuing our productive relationship with the village in implementing the vision and the projects contained in this community-based plan."

The Village of Lewiston LWRP was adopted by the Village Board on Aug. 16, 2021. The development of the LWRP amendment included input from an advisory committee and the public during the development of the draft LWRP to guide *SEE LWRP, continued on Page 8*



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