

# Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel

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## Tylec announces mayoral run in North Tonawanda



Austin Tylec

**BY MICHAEL DEPIETRO**  
Tribune Editor

North Tonawanda Alderman-at-Large Austin Tylec announced his candidacy for mayor Tuesday in a campaign event at Platter's Chocolate. The youngest face on the city's Common Council, Tylec was elected to the alderman seat in 2017, having run as an Independent with endorsements from the Democratic Party.

"I'm here ... because I believe in North Tonawanda and, as your mayor, I will be committed to building stronger communities together," he said.

Tylec was introduced Tuesday by New York State Assemblyman William Conrad, who praised Tylec for his determination, having long been the only non-Republican-backed member of the Common Council. (2nd Ward Frank DiBernardo, a registered Independent, was appointed to the council in September in a 4-1 vote [Tylec].)

"Austin handily won an election for (his) council seat at a time when the leadership in North Tonawanda was staunchly Republican. Ever since, he has served as the only non-Republican, pushing back on the firmly rooted ways of doing business in NT, and calling for greater transparency, more input from residents and smarter money management," Conrad said. "Instead of discouraging him, the lack of support he has had from city leadership has only made him fight harder."

SEE TYLEC, continued on Page 7

## Youngstown families displaced by fire

Cause remains under investigation

**ARTICLE AND PHOTO BY TERRY DUFFY**  
Editor-in-Chief

Niagara County fire officials are continuing their investigations into a structure fire on Tuesday evening that caused extensive damage to an apartment complex at 310 Main St., in the Village of Youngstown.

According to Greg Robertson Sr. of the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Co., the first alarm was sounded at approximately 8:30 p.m. at the two-story apartment complex located across the street from the Youngstown riverfront gazebo at Falkner Park. Robertson said fire responders encountered challenging conditions in the blaze that had spread through an apartment and travelled into the attic of the complex.

SEE 2, continued on Page 7

Fire responders battle a stubborn fire that displaced four families Wednesday night at a two-story apartment complex at 310 Main St., Youngstown. Crews from Youngstown, Lewiston Fire Co. No. 1, Ransomville Volunteer Fire Co. and the Niagara Falls Air Force Base team battled the apartment blaze for hours.



## Event, arts & entertainment venues can reopen at 33% capacity beginning April 2

Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Wednesday announced that, beginning April 2, event, arts and entertainment venues can reopen at 33% capacity, up to 100 people indoors and up to 200 people outdoors. If all attendees present proof of negative testing prior to entry, capacity can increase up to 150 people indoors and up to 500 people outdoors.

Social distancing and face coverings will be required by all attendees, as well as strict adherence to all applicable Department of Health guidance.

Cuomo also announced that beginning March 22, residential gatherings of up to 25 people can be held outdoors. Indoor residential gatherings remain capped at 10 people to reduce the continued risk of spread. Also, non-residential social gatherings of up to 100 people can occur indoors and up to 200 people can occur outdoors.

"New Yorkers have done a tremendous job working to de-



feat COVID, and we're gradually loosening restrictions as the numbers reduce and the public health improves. It's clear that if we remain vigilant, we will reach the light at the end of the tunnel," Cuomo said. "While we continue to expand access to the vaccine throughout the state, New Yorkers should double down on the

behaviors that make such an important different fighting this pandemic - washing hands, wearing masks and social distancing. This is a tough footrace, but the infection rate is down and the vaccination rate is up, and New Yorkers will get through this together as long as we stay touch and keep this momentum head-

- ✓ Venues will be able to host up to 100 people indoors & up to 200 people outdoors; with testing, up to 150 people indoors & up to 500 people outdoors
- ✓ Social distancing and face coverings required
- ✓ Domestic travelers no longer required to quarantine or test-out within 90 days of full vaccination; international travelers must continue to follow CDC guidance
- ✓ Beginning March 22, outdoor residential gatherings expanded to 25 people; nonresidential social gatherings expanded to 100 people indoors & 200 people outdoors

ing in the right direction."

Budget Director of the State of New York Rob Mujica said, "We started up with opening large event spaces, which was 10,000 or more for arenas starting with the Buffalo Bills. Subsequent to that, last night, the Rangers had a couple thousand people at their

SEE ARTPARK, continued on Page 2



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