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New location, technology, allow Niagara County to better meet needs of veterans



County Clerk Joseph Jastrzemski, far left, shows one of the rooms where veterans services officers and their clients can work together to file claims. (Submitted photos)

Submitted by Niagara County

Earlier this year, the Niagara County Veterans Service Agency relocated to new office space in the Niagara County Courthouse in Lockport. Now, with more welcoming space and some significant improvements in technology, the VSA is better equipped than ever before to help veterans with any issues they may have, according to Niagara County Clerk Joseph A. Jastrzemski.

He recently welcomed New

York State Sen. Rob Ortt and Veterans One-stop Center of WNY President and CEO Adam Howard to view the new VSA office.

"We have created a first-class operation to help our veterans with anything they need, including filing important paperwork, fighting for benefits, securing medical appointments, finding counseling and so on," Jastrzemski said. "Providing services to our veteran community is really a team effort, done with the sup-

port and partnership of Sen. Rob Ortt and the Veterans One-stop Center of WNY."

Jastrzemski said Veteran's One-Stop was hugely helpful with providing some key components of the new office, including smart TVs that allows veterans and their veterans service officer to jointly view the same screen when visiting the government website for filing claims, thereby ensuring accuracy of all information.

SEE VETERANS, on Page 9

Village of Lewiston

Board votes to add fence to playground, resurface basketball court



Village of Lewiston trustees voted to replace the cracked basketball court pavement, contingent upon receiving funds from a pending property sale.

BY JOSHUA MALONI
GM/Managing Editor

Trustees in the Village of Lewiston on Monday voted to fence-in the new inclusive playground and resurface the outdoor basketball courts at Marilyn Toohey Park. They approved these improvements contingent on receipt of funds from the sale of the "Big Yellow House" at 475 Ridge St.

"The sale of that house ... I think this is a good use of the proceeds to go back into the community and into recreation," Mayor Anne Welch said.

"I think it's well worth the project, to get it done," Deputy Mayor Vic Eydt said. "We've got such a beautiful (playground) out there, and the court needs it."

SEE PROJECTS, on Page 9



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