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Is the Village of Lewiston more at risk for COVID-19 outbreak now that spring has sprung?

People flock to business district over weekend, many not wearing a mask



Many people were out along Water Street on Sunday, but few were seen wearing a mask.

BY JOSHUA MALONI

GM/Managing Editor

On Sunday afternoon, Gov. Andrew Cuomo cautioned New Yorkers about abandoning safety practices put in place to slow the spread of COVID-19.

"My gut says the weather is going to warm. People are bored. People want this over. They see the numbers going down; they can take false comfort. 'Oh, it's going down. That means it's over.' No, no," he said. "We never said it was over. We said the numbers are going down ... (but) you can see that virus pick up dramatically."

At the same time Cuomo was speaking, dozens of people were out and about in the Village of

Lewiston enjoying the summer-like weather. They were walking down Center Street, eating on picnic tables and sitting on benches, looking at monuments, licking ice cream in Academy Park, and sprawled out on Water Street, looking out on the river.

Many of those people were not wearing a mask or cloth face covering.

"How people cannot wear masks, that, to me, is ... disrespectful. It's disrespectful," Cuomo said. "It's disrespectful to the nurses, the doctors, the people who have been frontline workers, the transit workers. You wear the mask, not for yourself; you wear the mask for me. It's a sign of respect to other people.

"And you make me sick (with the coronavirus) – that's disrespectful. I have to go into the hospital. I have to call an ambulance. That's an ambulance driver. I have to go into an emergency room; that's a nurse, that's a doctor who has to put on PPE that somebody has to buy and pay for. They have to risk being exposed to the virus, because you wouldn't wear a mask. *Because you wouldn't wear a mask?*"

"You put so many people at risk, because you didn't want to wear a mask. I think that's disrespectful by you. It's disrespectful of your relationship and obligation to one another."

Cuomo has said over the past
SEE LOCAL, continued on Page 2

Elderwood resident Joanne Bodman honored with parade to mark 100th birthday



Family and friends gathered together Monday afternoon at Elderwood Residences at Wheatfield to help Joanne Bodman celebrate her 100th birthday. A drive-by parade took place outside the front door and featured the Bergholz Volunteer Fire Department, local first responders, friends and admirers.

Joanne looked on from a safe distance, joined by family members who surprised her on this special day.

The birthday girl was born on May 4, 1920. Joanne married her husband, Glenn, in Oklahoma in 1942. He served in the Navy during WWII. Afterward, the couple lived in Chicago, where he worked for Moore Business Forms. When Glenn was transferred, the couple moved to Niagara Falls and later bought a house, settling in the LaSalle area in 1951.

Joanne was a homemaker while her three children were young. She went on to work for Manpower around 1966, eventually taking a full-time job with Carborundum Corp. She became an executive secretary and worked until retirement.

Glenn and Joanne enjoyed their travels around the U.S. and Europe. He passed away in 2010, but Joanne continued driving and caring for herself and her home for another five years.

She moved to Elderwood Residences at Wheatfield in 2015. The independent living facility is a unique patio home and apartment community designed for seniors who want to enjoy retirement living.

Always curious about the world and a lover of the arts, Joanne still watches the news avidly and reads her newspaper every day. Despite the current situation, she is often able to laugh in her conversations on the phone with her children – and she enjoys "seeing" them on FaceTime.





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