

# Celebrating ST. PATRICK'S DAY in Youngstown



**PHOTOS BY WAYNE PETERS**

A large crowd came to Youngstown for the annual "O'Riordan" St. Patrick's Day parade. Members included Irish wolf hounds, a kazoo band,

troops from Old Fort Niagara, elected officials, clowns and the MacKenzie Highlanders' Pipes and Drums – in addition to several shopping cart floats. There was free potato soup



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courtesy of the Village Diner, bottles of wine courtesy of Anchor Spirits and, of course, plenty of candy for the kids in the crowd.

The Youngstown Business Professional Association's Cheryl Irish Butera said prize winners included: The Youngstown Village Diner, This Must Be the Place Guesthouse, the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown and the MacKenzie Highlanders Pipes and Drums.

"On behalf of the Youngstown Business and Professional Association, we are most grateful to everyone who joined the fun and participated this year," Butera said. "It started with just one small shopping cart 'float' to what is now an annual event that kicks off spring in the Village of Youngstown."

"We thank Judge David Truesdale for his judging of the floats, and a shout-out to the elected officials of both the Village of Youngstown and the Town of Porter, as well as the Youngstown Police (and) Town of



Porter Supervisor Duffy Johnston, who stepped in for Councilman Tim Adamson this year as grand marshal. (Also) Niagara County Sheriff Michael Filicetti, the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Co. and the Youngstown Lions, Friends of the Youngstown Free

Library, Niagara Clown Alley, the Ontario House, Bandanas, KI-PO Motors of Ransomville, and most especially Bob Emerson and the soldiers of Old Fort Niagara who have led this parade every year for 12 years!"

## Greenway plans met with unanimous approval

**Continued from Page 1**  
\$400,000 in renovations to our outfall building that weren't covered by Greenway funds – that was secondary funding from the (town's) fund balances. We're moving on to our second phase of the park, which is a kayak launch, a fishing pier/boardwalk and a handicapped-accessible ramp.

"GHD, our engineering firm, is going to handle all the permitting with the DEC. I included the original plan for the park; there's also a diagram of the river's edge. There's going to be 140 feet of boardwalk; it's going to be up to 17 feet wide. There will be enough room for some people to sit on benches, some people to fish. It will be cantilevered over the river."

"We've had people out there already fishing in the water. This (the new boardwalk) is a safer avenue, I believe. And we've had people launching kayaks from

our property already. So, this is a necessary amendment to the park.

"It's also to include a second pavilion. The original plan called for three pavilions, and when we got down there and put our first pavilion up, we said, 'Two pavilions is all we want.' It (the park site) looks like a lot of room until you start putting stuff down there and want to keep it very simple."

"There's a financial breakdown. Approximately, with the new pavilion of \$600,000; \$200,000 for the kayak launch; the boardwalk, \$500,000; the pathway and miscellaneous benches, things like that, are \$100,000. And engineering is \$60,000. So, what we're asking today is approval for \$1.46 million in additional funding."

City of Niagara Falls Mayor Robert Restaino presented a motion to accept the funding resolution. He said, "It's really beautiful."

The town's request was determined to meet all the necessary criteria and went on to be approved by an 8-0 vote.

The third project involved a funding redirect of \$17,000 toward the Wheatfield Lions Nature Trail and Fishing Pond project, located at the Lions Five Senses Park at 6535 Ward Road in the Town of Wheatfield. The HCSC approved funding of \$115,000 in 2021 toward the project. At this session, attorney Thomas Burgasser requested the redirect, stating that it was intended to go toward construction costs associated with the project. He noted the funding would go to pay for the construction of fencing and gates around the ponds that comprise the project at the Five Senses Park.

This funding request also was found to meet Greenway criteria and was unanimously approved.

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