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Seeks answers on Lewiston WellNow design

An open letter to the Village of Lewiston mayor, trustees, building inspector, zoning officer and all village boards and commissions:

Now that the WellNow building is ready to open to the public, I would like you to consider the word-on-the-street, which is that the current design is not the one that was originally presented by the facility's owners, but is instead

a redesign of the village's creation. In other words, this is not the building that was initially envisioned by WellNow.

In order to clarify this issue and unravel the basis of this rumor, I, therefore, respectfully request that your public written response to the following questions appear in next week's Sentinel:

1. Is the design indeed a village

creation?

2. Who drew the specs, the blueprints and the structure's renderings?

3. How much did it all cost?

4. Who received the commission to do it?

My request for clarification is really an opportunity for you to provide the citizenry with transparency at our most direct level of

democracy, the very place where we live. If all politics is local, then this is it. As a resident and taxpayer, I have the right to ask questions. As an elected or appointed village authority, you have the obligation to respond.

I look forward to next week's Sentinel.

Frank Scelsa Lewiston

Lewiston residents concerned about town's efforts to counter infiltration problems

Open letter to Lewiston Town Board – to Supervisor Broderick and council members Jacoby, Morreale, Myers and Waechter:

The June 18 storm (as well as the April and January storms from 2024) left hundreds of Lewiston residents with flooded basements, ruined furniture and clothes, and tens of thousands of dollars in clean-up expenses. What makes matters worse is that we're not just talking about rain water in basements — we're talking about raw sewage!

Blaming Mother Nature on a 100-year storm (that happens every year) is no longer acceptable. The problem isn't the weather. The problem is Lewiston's neglected infrastructure caused by town boards, past and present, who have continuously avoided making the proper plans and investments to handle the rising sewer flows.

Here are some major issues that we believe need to be addressed immediately.

1) The sewer plant was built in 1978. It has a capacity of 2.75 million gallons a day. However, during rainstorms, the plant will get hit with up to 15 million gallons a day, causing all sorts of problems,

including dumping raw sewage in the river. So how and why does the rain water, which is supposed to be handled by the storm sewers, get into the sanitary sewers? The answer: leaky pipes! Simply, rain water is getting into the sewer lines by the millions of gallons. We have a very serious "infiltration" problem. What is the town doing to address this?

2) There is a large force main sewer line that goes from the Village of Lewiston to the sewer plant on Pletcher Road, along Lower River Road. Smaller sewer lines from the subdivisions, such as Morgan Farms, tie into the force main. However, during heavy downpours, there is so much pressure in the force main that the subdivision sewage is unable to merge with the force main.

In fact, the pressure from the main pushes the subdivision sewage back — all the way back into the basements of dozens of homes in the neighborhood.

One solution would be to construct a separate, 24-inch sewage line from Dutton Drive to the sewer plant that would run parallel to the force main, so Morgan Farms would not have to endure

sewer backups.

Why haven't we heard anyone from the town — elected or appointed — talk about this? And if that is not a solution, what is?

3) Lewiston has seen hundreds of new homes built over recent years, and yet, what has the town done to expand sewer plant capacity? Has the wet well at the plant been enlarged? Outside of electrical, what has the town done at the sewer plant to keep up with household demand?

4) Does the town have a regularly scheduled sewer pipe maintenance plan? How often do the lines and manholes in troubled areas get cleaned and jetted?

5) We understand the town is in possession of "flow charts" that accurately project how and where sewer backups will occur. These charts should be made public. If the Town Board knows where the problems will be happening, the citizens should know, too.

We know many other Western New York towns are experiencing similar issues, but that's their problem, not ours. We are done with the excuses. We shouldn't have to cajole or beg the people who say they want to represent us

into taking action to protect our homes and property. We elected you to take the lead, understand the problem, find the solutions and FIX IT! Stand up, take responsibility, and do something!

In the meantime, while the Town Board is implementing solutions, it should codify a policy to reimburse homeowners for backed-up sewage cleanup expenses. That would be less expensive than a prolonged legal battle between the homeowners and the town.

Signed, Mark and Beth Ann Elias Mark and Jessica Tempest Irene Rykaszewski Mrs. Marino Janelle Degregorio Dan and Theresa Behm Don and Nancy Heitler Margy Strombeck Joe Sardina Tammy Bellreng Jim Comerford Tim Rogers Donna Jaeger Chuck and Mary Larson Nancy Goodroe Robert Brennen Ellen Lord John and Sara Hunter

IN THE NEWS

Antonucci named to WNYPGA Hall of Fame

Niagara Frontier Golf Club Head PGA Professional Daniel Antonucci has been elected to the Western New York Professional Golfer's Association (WNYPGA) Hall of Fame.

Antonucci has been the club professional at Niagara Frontier since 1991. He is a past president of the WNYPGA, 2019-21. Antonucci will be only the 40th member of the WNYP-

GA Hall of Fame.

The announcement was made by current WNYPGA President Mike D'Agostino.

Hall of Fame recognition is the highest level of recognition by the WNYPGA, which was founded in 1925. Other prominent members of the Hall of Fame include Walter Hagan, Craig Harmon and Lonnie Nielson.

In his years of service, Antonucci has been extensively involved in promoting participation, including support of junior golf programs.

'Classics at the Carrousel'

The Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum is presenting the fourth annual "Classics at the Carrousel" car show from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 20. The event is free for the public to watch, and \$20 per entered car. Look for food trucks, raffles and music.

For more information, visit www.carrousel-museum.org or call 716-693-1885.

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