

Cota, Coppins and Collesano 'offer a clear break from the complacency'

As a lifelong member of this community, it is clear to me the Village of Lewiston is facing a critical dilemma, and that continuing along the same path, under the same leadership, is no longer adequate. We need leadership that will enforce our current code as written, restore transparency in government, and deliver the meaningful change so many residents and small business owners have been seeking.

For too long, basic rules and standards have been applied inconsistently, or not at all. Whether it involves zoning and development regulations, public safety priorities, or ethical guidelines for officials, a majority of our current leadership has allowed enforcement to become selective and, at times, seemingly optional. This erodes public trust, rewards those with

access and influence, and leaves everyone else to shoulder the consequences.

I have seen this firsthand as I have been a business owner and active participant in this community for the past 20 years. I have served on the board of the Upward Niagara Chamber of Commerce, held a position on the Village of Lewiston Historic Preservation and Planning Board, and volunteered for several organizations and festivals, including starting the Village of Lewiston Artisan Farmers Market in Academy Park. I have worked directly and indirectly with several of the current board members and have witnessed their lack of consistency in administering the codes, choosing to turn a blind eye to some, while requiring others to jump through hoops. In my opinion, this is due to a lack of leadership at the top, where per-

sonal interests and opinions are put above what is right and fair.

Equally troubling is the absence of transparency. Decisions that shape our neighborhoods and our future are too often made behind closed doors, announced at the last minute, or buried in dense, inaccessible documents. Residents are left to speculate instead of participate. A healthy democracy requires that people know not only what decisions are being made, but why, and on whose behalf.

Dan Cota, Tina Coppins and Leandra Collesano understand that transparency and fairness are not slogans, they are practices. They have pledged to open up the decision-making process, insist on clear public reporting, and ensure that information is available in plain language and in a timely manner. They are in support of having public brief-

ings and meetings, accessible records, and meaningful involvement from those who matter most – the people who live and work in the Village of Lewiston. What I have observed during this campaign season is that Cota, Coppins and Collesano don't just say what people want to hear, their actions support their message and demonstrates their commitment to it.

Most importantly, Cota, Coppins and Collesano recognize that we cannot simply "manage" the status quo. We need a change in culture and expectations. That means enforcing the rules fairly, no matter who is involved. It means setting measurable goals for our village and publishing the results. And it means admitting where our institutions are falling short, then doing the hard work to fix them rather than defending the

indefensible.

I am endorsing Cota, Coppins and Collesano because they offer a clear break from the complacency that has characterized our current leadership. They have listened to residents, identified specific reforms, and shown a willingness to stand up to entrenched interests who benefit from murky processes and lax oversight. Their campaign is grounded in the belief that government should be answerable to the people it serves, not insulated from them.

If you believe as I do, that it is time for honest, accountable and transparent leadership, leadership that will enforce our codes fairly and work openly in the light of day, I urge you to support Cota, Coppins and Collesano on Tuesday, June 16, noon to 9 p.m. at the Red Brick.

Jamie Symmonds

Collesano serves community with 'abundance of time, passion & dedication'

When my grandfather chose Lewiston to settle his young family more than a century ago, he knew this was a special place. Maybe the escarpment and local vineyards reminded him of his home in Sicily. Or maybe he recognized what I have always felt – that Lewiston has a special kind of magic that simply cannot be found anywhere else.

I grew up with a deep love and respect for my hometown, and in appreciation I gave back to the community through organizations such as the Jaycees and

the Kiwanis Club. I served as village historian, helped plan celebrations for Lewiston's 150th and 175th anniversaries, and spent over 40 years in public service as a village trustee, deputy mayor, and two terms as mayor before retiring from elected office.

I am proud to say that my daughter, Leandra, has followed in my footsteps and continued serving our community with an abundance of time, passion and dedication. She has volunteered with the Lewiston Museum since she was a child

and has served on its board of trustees for more than 15 years. She serves on the executive board of the Lewiston Kiwanis Club and chaired the committee that organized Lewiston's bicentennial celebration.

Leandra's commitment to our community makes me proud every day. I have watched her grow through her professional career and many volunteer leadership roles. Her decision to seek election as our next village trustee is a natural progression for someone with her thoughtful mindset and unwavering dedication to

Lewiston. Combined with her genuine love for our village, these qualities make her an outstanding candidate.

Please join me in supporting my daughter, Leandra Collesano, on Election Day in the Village of Lewiston, Tuesday, June 16. Polls will be open from noon to 9 p.m. at the Red Brick gym.

I respectfully ask for your vote.

*Former Mayor
Terry C. Collesano*

Cota, Coppins & Collesano the right choice for Lewiston

My name is Daniel Gibson I am a former Village of Lewiston trustee. Dan Cota for mayor, Tina Coppins as trustee, and Leandra Collesano for trustee is the right choice. I believe our village is in need of a change from the current administration.

I had the opportunity to sit down and talk with Dan at

length, and I like his vision and ideas for the future of our village. If elected, he will govern with transparency, and an open-door policy to be available all residents and businesses of the village day or night.

I served with Tina Coppins on the Village Board, and she is an outstanding trustee. As a

trustee, she has spearheaded many projects and she brings fiscal responsibility, and a practical solutions approach to our ever-changing challenges to our village.

As a member of the Historical Association of Lewiston, I served with Leandra Collesano on the board of directors.

Leandra's commitment to our village is second to none. She is very business-orientated, and if elected she would be an asset to our businesses and help bring more business into our village.

All three candidates have the same vision for the future of our village: Transparency, fiscal responsibility, rebuilding our

infrastructure.

I humbly ask you to vote for the "Three Cs" – Cota, Coppins and Collesano – on Tuesday, June 16, at the Red Brick School.

*Daniel Gibson
Former Village of Lewiston
Trustee*

Backing Cota

I am endorsing Dan Cota for mayor of the Village of Lewiston. My wife (Village of Lewiston born and raised), son, and I have lived all over the country and recently had the pleasure of moving back to the Village of Lewiston. One thing about living in many different places is

that you can start to see patterns of good governance. To me, these core attributes include transparency with a strong emphasis on creating a listening environment, collaboration, fiscal responsibility, and forward thinking.


I believe Dan Cota has the skills and experience to

bring these attributes to the job of mayor and he has my vote!

John Alduino M.S.Ed.

Circa 1944 • Sentinel Vol. 39 / No. 14 • Tribune Vol. 45 / No. 6 • Dispatch Vol. 82 / No. 5

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Founded February 14, 1987

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This newspaper is published weekly.

Display Ads Deadline: Friday 5 p.m.

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