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# Wydysh: Welch, Eydt & Nichols have 'shown they have the knowledge, enthusiasm & partnerships needed' for Lewiston's success

As we approach Election Day in the Village of Lewiston, I'm often asked which candidates I support and who will be receiving my vote, because I have worked so closely with other elected officials in the area over the years. On June 16, I will be giving my support to the team of Anne Welch for mayor, and Victor Eydt and Rob Nichols for village trustee.

Over the last several years, I established a very cooperative and successful working relationship with Anne and Vic, as we worked together on projects that benefited the Village of Lewiston and

Niagara County, as a whole. Their dedication and love for their community has always been evident to me when I see just how hard they will fight for the needs of their residents and the long hours away from family and friends they are willing to endure to get the job done. And while we have never worked together in an official capacity, I have enjoyed my recent conversations with Rob about why he is running, his vision for the village, and his vast history of local projects and community organization involvement. His desire to help others in the community has

been shown time and time again in his accomplishments with the Lions Club. I am confident that he will be a tremendous addition to the board – and someone that will quickly become another trusted and effective partner in all that I work toward accomplishing in my own position.

Please take the time to research all of the candidates asking for your vote on June 16. Be informed about their proven track records of success and their visions for the future of the beautiful village we all call home. From the Frontier House revitalization, to the

all-inclusive playground at Marilyn Toohey Park, to the shoreline improvements and rebuilding of the Lewiston Landing area, Academy Park improvements and much more, this team has shown they have the knowledge, enthusiasm and partnerships needed to not just maintain, but proactively improve upon the wonderful quality of life that has drawn us all to live and raise our families in this community that we love.

*Becky Wydysh  
Former chairwoman of  
the Niagara County Legislature  
Village of Lewiston resident*

## Says Nichols' community involvement makes him uniquely qualified to be Village of Lewiston trustee

I am proud to offer my endorsement of Rob Nichols for Village of Lewiston trustee. What sets Rob apart as a candidate is his long-standing record of hands-on community involvement and service. His dedication to the Village of Lewiston is demonstrated not only through words, but through continued action and involvement within our community.

Rob Nichols has dedicated countless hours to serving not only the Village of Lewiston, but communities throughout Niagara County. His commitment to public service, volunteerism, and community improvement is unmatched, and I can think of no

one more qualified to help guide the future of our village.

Rob's involvement with organizations such as the Lewiston Community Lions Club, Niagara Falls Lions Club, and Kiwanis Club reflects his lifelong commitment to community service.

Through these roles, he has consistently shown leadership, dependability, and the ability to work collaboratively to accomplish meaningful work for the benefit of others.

Many residents know Rob as the organizer of the Lewiston Lions' annual Village of Lewiston Earth Day Cleanup, an event that brings hundreds of volunteers together

to improve and beautify our community. His dedication is equally evident during the Niagara County Peach Festival, where he volunteers countless hours year after year wherever needed.

Rob's service extends far beyond community events. He organizes and runs free annual eye clinics in Niagara County that have provided more than 600 local residents with free eye exams and eyeglasses. He also works with the Lions medical loan closet, helping deliver essential medical equipment to families in need.

What stands out most about Rob is the genuine care he has for our community. He leads by

example, brings people together, and consistently puts the needs of our community before himself. Whether supporting local organizations, helping neighbors in need, or mentoring others through service, Rob represents the very best of what community leadership should be.

The Village of Lewiston would greatly benefit from Rob Nichols' experience, dedication, and servant leadership. I strongly encourage residents to support his candidacy for village trustee.

*Regina Cecconi*

## Youngstown election results could be start of more change

The results for the mayoral and trustee race in Youngstown should serve as a canary in the coal mine that a change may be coming to the political climate in our area. The margins of victory by Mike D'Dario (mayor), Steven Suito (trustee), and Colleen Summerville (trustee) were impressive. It was a referendum. I believe the Village of Lewiston is set to see the same results.

It is a shame that candidates,

especially incumbents, are not more active in standing behind their record and clearly explaining their goals and aspirations for the town or village they serve. And in some cases, defending past positions. I believe most residents in our area are tired of seeing an utterly transparent group of surrogates do the bidding of those in power. The effectiveness of online attacks is near its nadir.

Candidates, for their part,

should engage in debates with their opponents. Conversation is a fundamental part of our democracy. This can be done easily through technology and instantly shared for voters to make up their own minds. Substantive discussion amongst those who are running for an office should be celebrated and widely disseminated. The lack of actual public conversations between candidates is a disservice to the

community. Elected office is serious business.

The well-entrenched, incumbent, political apparatus in Lewiston and surrounding municipalities should take notice of the results in Village of Youngstown. People are ready for fresh ideas, fresh faces, and decorum worthy of the positions being sought.

*Clayton Miller*

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