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**FORMER (cont.)**

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folks are retired and downsizing, and they're spending less time here – but they love our summers here. Our summers and our falls are spectacular. They want to head south or head elsewhere during the winter months. I've had a number of folks kind of waiting to see if we headed down

that path. But again, you know, being 78 years old, and I'm not in that world – I've been in the environmental business my whole life – I'm not a developer. I've talked to some folks about it. When you start carving things up, and you look at the construction costs today, it's a hard business case to make."

That said, "If someone came to me and said, 'I'm going to make all the changes, and we'll be partners on this deal' – my investment would be the land and the existing building – if I didn't have to put any capital in it, and they were capable of doing all the work and managing it, that would be a trade-off, from my perspective. I'd still be invested in it, but it wouldn't be an out-of-pocket investment; it would be what we have there – the land value and things like that."

Talarico said, "Our job is to get Gary the most money we could get him. But I live in the village, Dave in the town – we want to see something that fits as far as the community; and if it can be great for the community and great for Gary Hall, then we did our job."

**Former WTS building for sale in Lewiston**

**Hall is community-minded**

Presently, the second facility at 435 N. Second St. – the one that features tennis courts – is not available.

That is partly because owner Gary Hall uses it to play tennis. Even more so, it's because, "I'm always interested in working with the rec. department and having the kids in the village have access to it. The Lew-Port tennis team comes and practices during inclement weather during their tennis season. Both the girls and boys tennis teams are there at different times of the year. ...



And in the past, we worked with the rec. department. We had the soccer program and we had a tennis program that the kids had a lot of fun with it.

"Today, actually, Stella Niagara, every year, they have a softball game. The seventh grade plays against the eighth grade. In the past years, this time of year, the weather's a little difficult to predict. And so, for the last few years, they've come and they played a softball game inside the tennis building."

Realtor Sam Talarico said Hall is "an impressive person. To me, what he's done in the community, and who he's done it for – I mean, if something touches Gary, he's going to help fix it – and there's not a lot of those around anymore. "I think that, as important as it is for him to sell (the main building) and not have it any longer as a property, I think he's hoping that it'll be used in a way that's good for everybody."

Former Mayor Anne Welch said Hall "has been a valued member of the Village of Lewiston business community" for more than 20 years.

"Hall has taken great pride in restoring and preserving the property's historic building, ensuring that a unique piece of the village's character remained intact while giving it new life as the home of his company," she said. "Over the years, the property became much more than a business location. Hall later constructed a large recreation building for the enjoyment of his employees and family, and as a longtime supporter of local recreation, generously opened the facility to the village Recreation Department for tennis lessons and community activities. He has also supported and contributed to numerous projects and initiatives throughout the village.

"Now being offered for sale, the property presents a rare opportunity for its next chapter. The combination of a beautifully preserved historic structure and a spacious recreation facility makes it one of the most unique properties in Lewiston. Whether reimagined as a distinctive private residence, a mixed-use development, or a commercial venture, the possibilities are extensive. Its history, character and versatility offer a unique opportunity for a new owner to build on a legacy that has been an important part of the community for decades."

Hall also financed the recreation center on 66th Street in Niagara Falls, next to the former Niagara Catholic High School (now The Chapel church).

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August 3 Hot Club of Buffalo

**Lewiston Art Festival 2026: Our 60th Anniversary!**  
August 8 10am to 6pm and August 9 10am to 5pm

**BPO**

**SHAKESPEARE IN DELAWARE PARK: FOOLS AND FOES**



Images by April Radder, Ray Lonsdale, Chelsea Sears and Bill Myers

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