

NEED TO READ

ONLINE
wnypapers.com



► Village of Lewiston adopts new short-term rentals law

► National Grid sponsors community resources event to assist customers impacted by blizzard

► NYSEG and RG&E launch electric and gas bill relief for customers

► Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month: NYS cancer prevention efforts to protect firefighters & their families

► AccuWeather: Major storm with severe weather in south and heavy snow Midwest to Northeast

► Gather by Gallo, Hustler's Tavern: Lewiston restaurant sites reopen

► Brooks & Dunn at Key-Bank Center

► Dave Matthews Band booked for Darien Lake



► Castellani Art Museum spring public art programs

In print and online, we are your No. 1 source for local news

Niagara Frontier Publications and www.wnypapers.com

Opinions

Use of all submitted letters and editorials is at the discretion of Niagara Frontier Publications. All entries should include the writer's/organization's name, number and address. Submissions, which may be edited for content/style/accuracy, do not necessarily reflect the opinion of NFP staff.

Support of NIMAC vital for continued success of NFARS

BY JOHN A. COOPER SR.
Chairman, NIMAC

In December of 2021, the Niagara Military Affairs Council (NIMAC) began to work with five other military affairs organizations across New York state. Our purpose was to lobby for our organizations to be included in the fiscal year 2022-23 New York state budget. We spent much time and effort sending personal letters, notes and phone calls. However, we, along with many other military affairs organizations, were not funded by the state of New York.

We are thankful for the local municipalities that have taken up the slack, continued and even increased their financial support to allow us to continue our efforts.

NIMAC, a volunteer-lead organization, has a 28-year reputation for its leadership in advocating for the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (NFARS).

We have led the community effort through three negative actions against our base, and are thankful that the NFARS remains open today.

With an annual economic impact of over \$300 million, NIMAC's continued advocacy has also resulted in hundreds of millions of federal dollars being invested at the NFARS. The base is one of the largest employers in Western New York and the largest employer in the County of Niagara.

Although we continue our efforts to the best of our ability, there will come a time when the lack of financial support directly to NIMAC from the state will hinder our efforts. NIMAC has not received funding from the state of New York since 2018, which has threatened our efforts and the financial health of the organization.

We do appreciate that New York state has a consultant in Washington, D.C., that assists

our efforts, and are happy to say that we were included in the fiscal year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for \$2.8 million in design dollars. These dollars are to begin design on a new Combined Operations Alert Facility (COAF) for the 914th Air Refueling Wing at a projected cost of \$60 million. This new facility will go a long way in allowing the 914thARW to fulfill the requirements of their refueling mission.

Many thanks to our federal delegation for their efforts on our behalf. NIMAC continues our efforts on behalf of the 107th Attack Wing while also promoting that the next NDAA include a Space National Guard to comple-

ment the United States Space Force. The reserve component has well complemented our Air Force and Army for

We are thankful for the local municipalities that have taken up the slack, continued and even increased their financial support to allow us to continue our efforts.

many years, and we believe that a Space National Guard would do the same.

We are also pleased to report that the renovation of the 107th ATKW headquarters, building 901, is at 100% design, which is a \$21 million project, and to begin construction within the next year.

Many thanks to the efforts of the 107th ATKW and our delegation in making that happen.

We value your support of NIMAC and our efforts in advocating for the success of the NFARS.

Samaritan's Purse sends thanks

I am writing to thank Grand Island-area residents for sharing the true meaning of Christmas with children in need this past holiday season.

Generosity throughout contributed to a successful shoebox gift collection season at drop-off locations for the Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child. Across the U.S., the project collected over 9.3 million shoebox gifts in 2022. Combined with those collected from partnering countries in 2022, the ministry is now sending nearly 10.6 million shoebox gifts to children worldwide.

Through shoeboxes – packed

with fun toys, school supplies, and hygiene items – Grand Island-area volunteers brought joy to children in need around the world. Each gift-filled shoebox is a tangible expression of God's love, and it is often the first gift these children have ever received. Through the continued generosity of donors since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 209 million gift-filled shoe-



boxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories. This year, Samaritan's Purse delivered its milestone 200 millionth shoebox, which was packed on a countrywide tour and then hand-delivered to a young girl in Ukraine.

Across New York, shoebox packers often shop for deals on shoebox items throughout the year, and many serve at a deeper level by becoming a year-round volunteer.

Information about ways area participants can get involved year-round can also be found at samaritanpurse.org/occ or by calling 518-437-0690.

Although local drop off locations for gifts are closed until Nov. 13-20, 2023, anyone can still be a part of this life-changing project by conveniently packing a shoebox gift online in just a few simple clicks at samaritanpurse.org/buildonline.

These simple gifts, packed with love, send a message to children worldwide that they are loved and not forgotten.

Lizette Miller
Samaritan's Purse
Operation Christmas Child

Today's forgotten business stopped advertising yesterday.



716-773-7676

www.wnypapers.com

Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel

Founded February 14, 1987

PUBLISHER
Skip Mazenauer
GM/MANAGING EDITOR
Joshua Maloni
EDITOR IN CHIEF/SENTINEL EDITOR
Terrence P. Duffy
WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR
Joshua Maloni
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Colleen Rebmann, Jeff Calarco, Marcy Lombardo
ACCOUNTING/OFFICE MANAGER
Kim Stacharczyk
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Jennifer Walowitz

PRODUCTION MANAGER/ GRAPHIC DESIGNER
Wendy Juzwicki
CLASSIFIED MANAGER
Wendy Puffer
CIRCULATION
Kim Stacharczyk
CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS/REPORTERS
Michael J. Billoni, Kevin and Dawn Cobello, Michael DePietro, Karen Keefe, Nathan Keefe, Wayne Peters, Mark Williams Jr., David Yarger

©2023 Niagara Frontier Publications
1859 Whitehaven Road
Grand Island, N.Y. 14072

Phone 716-773-7676
Fax 716-773-7190

Editorial:
Dispatch@wnypapers.com
Sentinel@wnypapers.com

Advertising:
NFPDesign@wnypapers.com

Classifieds:
NFPClassifieds@wnypapers.com
Circulation:
NFPcirculation@wnypapers.com

Legals:
legalnotice@wnypapers.com
Website:
wnypapers.com

Grand Island Publishing Corp. Newspaper is printed in the U.S.A. and all rights reserved. © 2023 by Grand Island Publishing Corp. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission of the publisher. Unsolicited manuscripts and photographs will be returned only if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

All letters, news releases and photos received will be treated as unconditionally assigned for publication or brochure and are subject to Grand Island Publishing Corp's. unrestricted right to edit, comment or reject.

All original artwork, layout and design remain sole property of Grand Island Publishing Corp. Reproduction in whole or part of any advertisement is strictly forbidden.

Grand Island Publishing Corp. will not be liable for errors appearing in advertisements beyond replacement of the space occupied by the error. The

publisher reserves the right to reject any advertisement at his sole discretion. Notification must be made in writing within one week of publication. Verbal notifications will not be accepted.

Grand Island Publishing Corp. does not knowingly accept any kind of fraudulent advertising. We suggest you investigate thoroughly any advertisement before you reply.

Verbal cancellations will not be accepted. Written authorization to cancel a display or commercial classified ad must be received by Grand Island Publishing Corp. before deadline for insertion.

The Tribune is published weekly.

Display Ads Deadline: MONDAY 5 PM

New York State Press Association, Niagara County Builders Association, Grand Island Chamber of Commerce, Wheatfield Business Association Inc., Niagara River Region Chamber of Commerce, The Niagara USA Chamber.

