

Town of Lewiston to support Academy Park pavilion

BY JOSHUA MALONI

GM/Managing Editor

The Town of Lewiston on Monday voted to provide the Village of Lewiston with \$190,000 in Niagara River Greenway funds for a pavilion at Academy Park.

Supervisor Steve Broderick made a motion to accept the plan with the stipulations town Building Inspector Tim Masters be involved in the inspection of the final plans before they're sent out to bid, that the bids be sealed, that Broderick see the bids when they're received, and that Masters inspect the pavilion.

Fittante Architecture principal Jim Fittante designed the pavilion rendering. He noted the park has 249,559 square feet – more than 5 acres of green space. The new structure would only take up 2.5% of that park land – less than the Lewiston Academy schoolhouse used when it sat on the site in 1824.

Fittante added, "The architectural look of the structure was based on complementing the band shelter."

He added, "Many groups have been involved in this long process. This has been well over two years



Academy Park pavilion renderings courtesy of Jim Fittante/Fittante Architecture

in discussion with the village, the town, Kiwanis, VFW, artisan market, Anthony DiMino and many other Lewiston businesses."

Fittante is a member of the village's Historic Preservation Commission.

At the Board of Trustees meeting last week, Mayor Anne Welch said the pavilion "would house our Memorial Day (luncheon), farmers market, veterans functions, the Peach Fest, reunions, picnics."

"I think that Academy Park warrants a nice picnic pavilion."

Initial project costs range from

\$325,000 to \$350,000. Welch said donations in the amount of \$120,000 have already been received.

She initially asked for \$250,000, but Broderick said \$90,000 was already earmarked for the "Lewiston Public Art Project." That is why his board agreed to reduce this funding request.

The pavilion plan will next go before the village's Historic Preservation and Planning commissions.

At the Town Board meeting, Welch said she is hopeful the project

could be completed in time for the 2024 Memorial Day luncheon.

Town of Lewiston Greenway Funding

As part of the New York Power Authority's 50-year relicensing agreement, which took effect in 2007, NYPA is annually providing:

- \$3 million for the Host Community Standing Committee, of which the Town of Lewiston is entitled to 17%, or \$510,000.

Projects must be presented to the Greenway Commission for consistency with the Greenway Plan. Voting members include

the Niagara Power Coalition and NYPA.

- \$5 million for the Host Communities Fund – specifically for the Niagara Power Coalition – of which the Town of Lewiston gets 17%, or \$850,000.

This money can't be used for items or projects outside of the town.

Other NPC members include Niagara County, the City of Niagara Falls, the Town of Niagara, and the Lewiston-Porter, Niagara Falls and Niagara Wheatfield school districts.

You asked: (Continued)

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•What's happening with the new plaza on Center Street?

Ellicott Development Company is striving to find occupants for the units inside its plaza at Center, North Eighth and Onondaga streets.

On Tuesday, Director of Development Thomas M. Fox said, "We continue to work towards filling the remaining vacant commercial spaces in the two buildings closest to Center Street. For the vacant first floor of the rear building, we are working on plans to add additional residential units."

In late 2012, Ellicott Development purchased 756, 784-790 Center St., and adjacent vacant land on Onondaga Street. The company's plaza project went through several rounds of revisions at municipal meetings before it was approved. Ground broke at the site in June 2018.

The building closest to North Eighth Street welcomed its first tenant, Quest Diagnostics, in early 2020, while the neighboring building opened in December 2020 with the arrival of Tim Hortons. The top level of the third and largest building, on the north side bordering Onondaga Street, opened next, with residential units.

In a 2021 interview, Ellicott Development CEO Bill Paladino said COVID-19 "continuous start and stops has caused us to lose probably three or four different tenancies."

•What's happening with the main Artpark parking lot?

Teams of workers are renovating the main Artpark State Park lot.

In April 2022, Gov. Kathy Hochul announced \$5.47 million in grants from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation to "support improvements to trails in three state parks in Western New York." The grants would leverage a \$22.8 million total investment and "make key upgrades to trails" in Artpark State Park, while also extending Allegany State Park's Quaker Area trail in Cattaraugus County, and improve the Genesee Valley Greenway State Park in Allegany County.

For the Artpark State Park "Connector Trails," the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation is teaming with State Parks and NYPA to fund a \$9 million "comprehensive trail project." Hochul's team said, "When complete, the park will be better connected to the Village of Lewiston and the existing trails of the lower Niagara River Region."

Each funding entity committed to provide \$3 million to "establish a series of formal trails connecting the Shoreline Trail to the lower Niagara River trail system, which connects from the Village of Lewiston north to Fort Niagara and westward."

At that time, Hochul's team further defined the elements of the Artpark project:

- √ "Installing gateways at the Portage and South Fourth Street entrances to the park to create a more appropriate sense of arrival and assist with circulation;

- √ "Improving the signature 'Redbrick Path' running through the park;

- √ "Creating a sloped switchback trail that connects the Shoreline Trail to the upper Artpark parking area. This includes a direct scramble that

will create an adventurous climb to the overlook on the escarpment;

- √ "Transforming the existing South Fourth Street parking lot into a sustainable parking area and multipurpose space;

- √ "Improving the Artpark gorge trail system, including a pedestrian bridge ravine crossing."

It's expected the Artpark projects will tie in with New York's Empire State Trail.

State Parks noted the projects were bid out in two parts: the switchback/overlook, and the South Fourth Street entrance/parking lot.

Work began on the first section in August, will continue through next summer, and is expected to finish by December 2024. A portion of Lot D may be impacted

during the Artpark & Company season.

The second section will wrap up in April, prior to summer programming.

Real Help For Your Health

Presented by
Dr. Glenda R. Rose
Chiropractor



Don't be in the "Dark" about Dizziness!

Spooked by dizzy spells? We don't blame you. Fretting over this frightful symptom can be a chilling experience.

Dizziness ranges anywhere from being momentarily annoying...to seriously disabling. But there's no need for you to suffer any longer!

There is now evidence proving that some cases of dizziness or vertigo may have nothing to do with vascular disease! Rather, the symptoms may be from a condition called "cervical vertigo", caused by musculoskeletal imbalances in the neck.

Research conducted by a medical/chiropractic team clearly showed that patients with this condition responded very well to chiropractic neck adjustments.

In fact, over half the patients that were studied, reported complete remission of symptoms of vertigo by the end of their chiropractic program!

If you've been under stress, had a car accident, a fall or a sports injury, you may have one or more misaligned vertebrae in your neck.

Chiropractic adjustments can remove nerve interference that may be causing your dizziness. Other causes can be detected and addressed through our Nutrition Response TestingSM procedures. Low blood sugar can cause dizziness too, so watch the sweets this Halloween.

End the suspense. Find out if we can help you...BOOK your appointment soon, call (716)754-9039. Rose Chiropractic, P.C. is located at 435 Ridge St., Lewiston.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Fall Bazaar

Saturday, November 4th • 9am-2pm

10th & Michigan Ave, Niagara Falls

Everyone Welcome

Theme Baskets • Christmas Items
Handmade Items, Jewelry & Books
German Food, Baked Goods and more

Chicken Chowder available for take out
After 11:30 • \$9.00 QT

The Youngstown Village Diner
425 Main St., Youngstown • 716-745-9858

~ WEEKLY SPECIALS ~

MON CLOSED

TUE 6AM-2PM - Spaghetti and Meatballs, Chicken Parm, Eggplant Parm, Penne Parm

WED 6AM-2PM - Hot Turkey Sandwich or Fish Haddock: Breaded-Battered-Baked with Potato & Coleslaw

THURS 6AM-2PM - Polish Sausage with Parsley Potatoes & Sauerkraut or Fish

FRI 6AM-2PM - Haddock, Fish Sandwiches, Tuna Melts & New England Clam Chowder

SAT & SUN OPEN AT 6AM - Eggs Benedict, Banana Walnut Pancakes, Spinach & Feta Omelet & Our Full Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Sarah Roat WAECHTER

for Lewiston Town Council

Committed to Serving
Our Community and Working
for the Good of All

Sarah is endorsed by:
United Auto Workers (UAW)
Communications Workers of America (CWA)
Eleanor's Legacy
Niagara County Building & Construction Trades Council
Niagara-Orleans Labor Council

Sarah and husband Scott Waechter, daughters Maggie and Emma, and Sarah's parents Janet and Dale Roat

Sarah R. Waechter for Lewiston Town Council

Line A or Line D on your ballot!

Contact Sarah at: voteroatwaechter@gmail.com
Paid for by the "Elect Sarah R. Waechter" Committee