

NCSO provides update on Niagara County Public Safety Radio Network



Submitted by the Niagara County Sheriff's Office
 Niagara County Sheriff Michael J. Filicetti announced the continued multisite expansion of the Niagara County Public Safety Radio Network has been completed. This latest expansion includes tower sites in the towns of Wheatfield, Wilson and Somerset. These sites were selected to enhance coverage areas for the digital radio system, which is utilized by police, fire, EMS and other government agencies in Niagara County.

Filicetti said "Emergency communications is vital for our first responders. We have identified and employed the latest technology in an effort to ensure connectivity within our communications network." "In addition, I would like to thank the Shawnee Volunteer Fire Co., Wilson Historical Society and Barker Central School for allowing these sites to be housed on their property. Their commitment to public safety should be commended." The construction of all three sites, at a cost of \$3.28 million, was funded by New York State Department of Homeland Security Statewide Interoperable Communications Grants, which the Niagara County Sheriff's Office received.



United Way of Greater Niagara launches little free library network

As part of the agency's continued focus on building up the next generation of the Greater Niagara Region, United Way of Greater Niagara has installed little free libraries. The large-scale community project was made possible through the support and partnership of local agencies and volunteers.

Free book boxes are now available at Youth Mentoring Services of Niagara County Inc., 86 Park Ave., Lockport; Boys & Girls Clubs of the Northtowns' Newman Family Clubhouse, 325 Franklin St., Tonawanda; Niagara Falls Boys & Girls Club, 725 17th St.; and at the United Way of Greater Niagara office, 6420 Inducon Drive West, Suite B2, Sanborn.

New children's books to fill the new boxes were donated by the Worldwide Philanthropic Literature Organization and local publishing house ImagineWe Publishers.

UAW Local 686 members gave back to the community by helping with the installation of the new boxes in Lockport and the City of Tonawanda.

"Literacy skills are absolutely crucial for the success of our kids. Reading skills are

IN THE NEWS

the foundation for learning in all subject areas in school and beyond," said William Briggs, marketing and business development associate. "Communication skills, problem solving, and critical thinking all get stronger when kids have the power to take learning into their own hands."

Learn more about United Way of Greater Niagara's growing little free library program at www.uwgn.org/impact/read-united/.

Sheeran president-elect of New York State Magistrates

By Niagara University

Dr. Thomas Sheeran, a longtime member of the faculty in the College of Education at Niagara University, was elected to the position of president-elect of the New York State Magistrate's Association at its

annual meeting in November. This position is a prelude to moving to the position of the association's presidency in the fall of 2024.

In addition to his service to the university, Sheeran has served as the town justice in Lewiston for the past 32 years and was recently reelected to a ninth, four-year term. Sheeran also serves the state's judiciary as a member of the advisory committee on judicial ethics. This organization advises judges at all levels of New York state's judiciary on the rules of behavior that must be followed in both their public and private lives. Sheeran has served in that role for the past 16 years.

The New York State Magistrate's Association represents over 2,200 town and village judges in the 1,300 local courts across New York state and is the largest judicial association in the country.

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YBPA thankful for 2023 happenings

As the seasons change, we are feeling grateful for all that's been good in 2023.

In March, we attended the mandatory meeting for the William G Mayne Jr. Business Community Enhancement Program grant program for the YBPA (Youngstown Business and Professional Association Inc.). On Oct. 30, the final report was filed, having completed all we set out to do to improve the Village of Youngstown and Town of Porter. We were able to purchase six bicycle racks – one each for Youngstown Lions Park, the Youngstown Free Library, VFW Post 313, Hill of Beans Coffee Stop, and two for Porter on the Lake Park.

We were also able to purchase 25 new Village of Youngstown village flags with the new logo. Lastly, we were able to finalize our project of a drone video of Youngstown/ Town of Porter by members K&D Action Photo & Aerial Imaging (narrated by member Colleen Summerville). This video features the best of Youngstown proper as well as Town of Porter. Our goal was to show viewers from high above how beautiful our area is to come for a visit or maybe even live someday. We truly think we've accomplished our goal!

So, we wish to thank the members of the YBPA, the Niagara County William G. Maine Business/



The new YBPA bicycle rack at Lions Park in Youngstown. (Submitted photo)

Community Enhancement grant program in conjunction with the Niagara Falls Bridge Commission, and The Town of Porter for their support.

Here is the link to the video on the YBPA page: YBPA 2023 Welcome to Youngstown / Town of Porter.

*Cheryl and Mark Butera
 Youngstown Business and Professional Association*

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