

Myers & Burg running together for Lewiston Town Council

**SUBMITTED BY JASON MYERS
WILLIAM "BILL" BURG**

Incumbent Town of Lewiston Councilman Jason Myers and William "Bill" Burg have teamed up and have been campaigning together, sharing a similar vision to keep the Town of Lewiston on a conservative, common-sense course. Myers is seeking reelection and Burg is looking to fill the empty council seat being left by Bill Geiben. They are both running on the Republican line.

Myers, who is finishing his first term in office, has a background in marketing, finance and nonprofit management. He also currently serves on the Niagara Wheatfield School Board, the Niagara County Youth Bureau, and is active in his church.

"I'm thankful to have been able



From left: Jason Myers and William "Bill" Burg (Submitted)

to serve our town, and I'm proud that we have been successful in keeping our taxes flat, providing excellent services, and maintaining a strong financial position – even with the challenges of the pandemic and inflationary pres-

ures," Myers said. "Bill Geiben has been an incredible asset to our town and will be missed, but I believe Bill Burg will be a great addition who shares a similar sensible, conservative approach to government as myself and Coun-

cilman Geiben."

Burg is a familiar face in Lewiston. He has served as a former member of the ZBA and currently as chairman of the Town of Lewiston Planning Board. Burg is a business owner who understands budgets and the needs of residents and small businesses in our community.

"As a longtime Lewiston resident, I am happy with the town leadership over the past few years and want to be part of keeping things headed in the right direction," Burg said. "In my opinion, so many things are going wrong at the national level and in New York state. At times, it seems like common sense has gone out the window. It is imperative that we keep things going right in Lewiston and protect what we have here."

Myers and Burg have been going door-to-door, talking to residents and gaining insights as they campaign. Myers noted, "When we talk to residents, the most common response is largely concern and frustrated at national and state issues. I tell them that our goal is to keep serving our community with common sense and to keep the nonsense away. Thankfully, we have good leadership locally in Niagara County and Lewiston, but it is so important to vote, get involved, and make sure that we keep good leadership at the local level who reflect the values of our community."

The general election for the Lewiston Town Council race is Tuesday, Nov. 7, from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., though early voting has already begun.

Niagara County has 'some of the best freshwater fishing in the country'

For this month's column, I'm going to tell you a fish story. And no, it's not the fish stories your grandfather or favorite uncle told you about hooking the big one in the Niagara River that somehow got away, or seeing a prehistoric sea creature from the depths of Lake Ontario. This is a story about the positive impact sport fishing has on the tourism sector of our economy.

Given that Niagara County borders the Lower Niagara River and Lake Ontario, I think most people are aware that we are home to some of the best freshwater fishing in the country. In fact, Bassmaster Magazine has ranked our area in the top 10 places for bass fishing two years in a row.

As such, sport fishing has become a very key component to our year-round tourism industry. Just to understand how significant, our tourism agency, Destination Niagara USA – which

NIAGARA COUNTY LEGISLATURE



Becky Wydysh
Chairwoman

is our regional tourism promotion agency – teamed up with the Niagara County Center for Economic Development to commission a study exploring the visitor profile and economic impact of fishing in Niagara County in 2022.

The reason for studies like this is pretty straightforward. If we know who is coming to enjoy sport fishing, how long they are staying, and if they regularly return to our area, we can better target our marketing dollars and promotional campaigns to attract those with similar profiles. This helps us further grow this tourism sector and increase the economic activity. Put in simpler terms, we want to know our

customer base.

The last time a survey of this nature was completed was in 2010 by Niagara University. At the time, the results indicated \$30.2 million in visitor spending in the county from fishing. For this most recent survey, Destination Niagara contracted with Young Strategies, a firm that specializes in research and strategic planning for the tourism industry.

The results underscored just how important sport fishing has become. According to the research, fishing generated an estimated \$58.55 million in visitor spending in Niagara County in 2022. This represents 6% to total visitor spending during that timeframe. What's even better is that this is a year-round impact, which is important for our tourism industry given that the bulk of tourism spending in our community revolves around visitors to Niagara Falls in the summer.

Any tourism engagement outside the main summer season is very hugely important.

On average, a "fishing party" is comprised of four anglers, and they spend about \$2,187 during their stay. Their average stay in our community is about 3.6 nights. This is another significant point. While Niagara County welcomes millions of tourists each year, one area of particular focus has been getting them to extend the length of their visit, as the longer they stay, the more they spend in our communities. When it comes to sport fishing, that's exactly what is happening.

Not surprisingly, anglers are coming mostly from places that

are a reasonable drive away, but we do see visitors from all across the United States. Outside of New York state, the destination draws large numbers of anglers from California, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Florida. When they arrive, their primary destination is Niagara Falls, Wilson, Olcott, Youngstown and Lewiston.

Last, and perhaps most important, our angler tourists expressed a high satisfaction with their fishing trip experience, and a desire to return. Let's hope they spread the word and we continue to see significant growth in the sport fishing tourism sector.

IN THE NEWS

Sanborn Historical Society sets fall flea and vendor sale

The Sanborn Area Historical Society will host a fall flea and vendor sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 18-19, at the Sanborn-Lewiston Farm Museum, 2660 Saunders Settlement Road.

Vendors will have an assortment of items for sale, including antiques, household items, tools, Christmas items, plus small furniture and collectibles. A \$1 dona-

tion is requested for all adult visitors, with proceeds going to the Historical Society's schoolhouse restoration project.

There will be coffee and doughnuts available for purchase in the morning, plus lunch in the afternoon.

For more information, contact Bonnie at 716-957-4851.



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NOTICE

TOWN OF WHEATFIELD LOCAL LAW NO. 1-980 ARTICLE III SECTION 2

Parking of vehicles is hereby prohibited on all streets within this Town between 2:00 A.M. and 6:00 A.M. from November 15th to April 1st. Violators of this section shall have automobiles towed away at owner's expense.

Section 1219 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law and Section 214 of the Highway Law of New York State, specifically prohibit the placing or leaving of snow, ice or other substance, upon any highway (which includes pavement, shoulders and ditches).

Paul Siegmann
Highway Superintendent

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HIGHLIGHTS: 16 EXCAVATORS: 2014 Sany SY335C, Komatsu PC35MR-2, Komatsu PC90-1, New AGT H12, (4) New AGT L12, (8) New AGT QH12, MOTOR GRADER: Austin Western Super 301, CARRY DECK CRANE: Grove IND-24, RUBBER TIRE LOADER: Michigan L90, CRAWLER TRACTOR: Komatsu D65WX-15, 2 BACKHOES: 2018 Kubota BX23S(4x4), 2019 LS MT125(4x4), ASPHALT ROLLER: IR DA-50, VIBRATORY ROLLER: IR SD115D, 2 TRENCH ROLLERS: (2)JR, 2 TRACKED SKID STEERS: 2016 NH C238, 2016 NH C232, 5 SKID STEERS: 2016 Case SV300, 2013 Case SR250, (3)2015 NH L220, 5 MINI TRACK LOADERS: Toro TX425WT, (4)New Agrolk LRT23, 2 TELE. FORKLIFTS: 2013 Genie GTH-1056(4x4), 2013 Genie GTH-844(4x4), BOOM LIFT: Snorkel TB60, 2 SCISSOR LIFTS: (2)2015 Snorkel TM12, 2 GENERATORS: 2016 Doosan G150, Atlas Copco QAS45, WELDER: Miller XMT 304, CONCRETE EQUIP.: Molar Mixer, 5 COMM. MOWERS: 2015 Scag SCZ52V, 2018-2015 Scag SCZ61V, 2018 Ferris IS3200Z, Cub Cadet GT2544, 3 TRACTOR LOADERS: 2023 NH Workmaster-25S(4x4), Kioti LK3054, 2017 Kubota MX5200D(4x4), 2 UTILITY TRACTORS: NH 6635, NH TC30(4x4), AG TRACTOR: 2016 Kubota M5-111(4x4), HAY EQUIPMENT: NH Self Propelled Hay Stacker, 2 WOOD CHIPPERS: 2011 Bandit 200XP, 2010 Bandit 150XP, STUMP GRINDER: Toro STX-26, VACUUM TRUCK: 1987 Ford T9000, 2 DETACHABLE TRAILERS: 2007-2004 Rogers, 2 UTILITY VEHICLES: Massimo MSU 400 EFI, Kubota RTV1140CPX, RECREATIONAL VEHICLE: Mini Bike, 4 MULTI-USE CONTAINERS, 2 CONTAINERS, 11 STORAGE BUILDINGS, 2 PORTABLE BATHROOMS, 4 SCRAP HOPPERS, 4 HEATING EQUIPMENT: (4)Propane Torpedo Heater, 7 PRESSURE WASHERS: (4)New Easy Kleen 4000psi, (2)New Agrolk 3,000psi, 2 HAMMERS, 2 ENGINES, 88 ATTACHMENTS: (78)Skid Steer, 68 NEW SUPPORT.

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