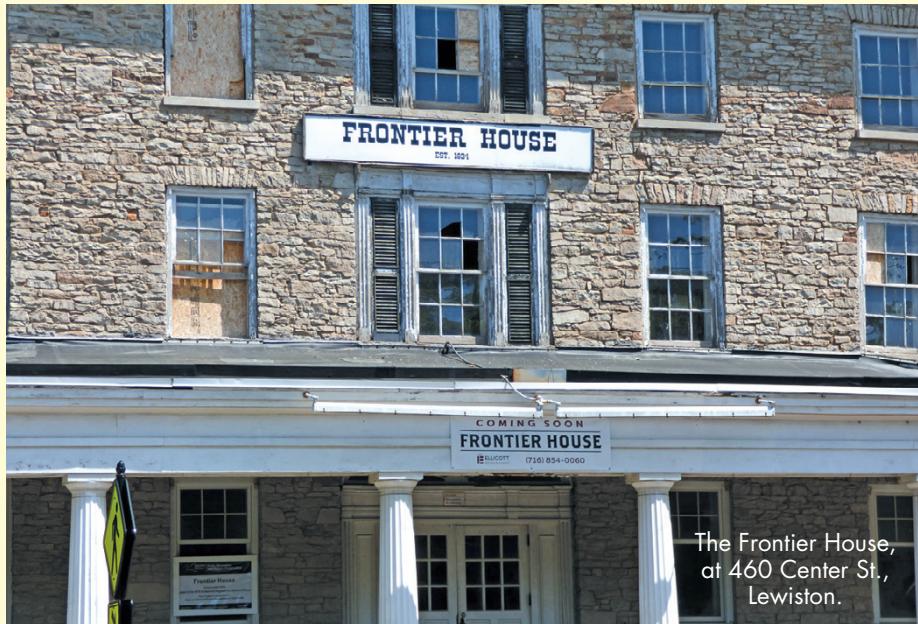


# Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel

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## FRONTIER HOUSE UPDATE:



The Frontier House, at 460 Center St., Lewiston.

### Windows ordered, exterior work to continue this summer

BY JOSHUA MALONI

GM/Managing Editor

With the summer tourism season about to start in Lewiston, new questions have arisen as to the status of the village's most famous building, the 199-year-old Frontier House.

On Thursday, Ellicott Development Company Director of Development Thomas M. Fox provided an update. An edited Q&A follows.

*Q: With regard to the interior work that's going on right now, I've been told that "it's down to the studs" in there. What's the update?*

**Fox:** Yeah, that's the truth. A lot of the work we're doing, and with kind of the change in program and use and everything else, it was determined that – with the conditions of a lot of the walls in there, to get the former plaster, and drywall in some cases, non-historic stuff that was added, so on and so forth, layered on over the years – in order for us to run new electrical and plumbing and everything else, it just made a lot of sense for us to get a clean look at everything.

Outside of removing the wall finish, nothing else has happened; and we're not moving walls or doing anything else worse. In line with our historic review and approval, in terms of SHPO (New York's State Historic Preservation Office) and National Park Service, there's no interior layout-type changes. Minor stuff here and there, where we've got to move door open-

ings and stuff like that, but we're respecting the interior layout as it was historically.

*Q: There was a notice on the window with regard to asbestos removal, and there were some people seen coming in and out of the building dressed appropriately for that kind of thing. What can you tell me about that?*

**Fox:** Just standard protocol. There was some asbestos-containing materials for certain interior cleanout and demolition. It's just the process we have to go through. That work was completed, and then they were able to continue with just the regular interior cleanup.

*Q: The exterior windows on the front of the building, in particular, it seems like they have gotten worse over the past couple of months. People have said everything from winter wear to side effects of the mortar work to even vandalism. There seems to be some question with regard to whether or not the plan is to repair them or to replace them. What can you tell me about that?*

**Fox:** They're all getting replaced. The windows that are in there now, except for a couple of those oval windows up on the attic level on the side elevations, pretty much everything is non-original. There was a replacement done – I think the best we can tell it was in the '80s. It was a pretty decent attempt to match the original windows, but there are some inaccuracies with the windows that are in there.

**SEE FRONTIER, continued on Page 8**

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## 'Hometown Heroes' program growing in Niagara County



Town of Porter "Hometown Hero" Clyde Burmaster is honored in the hamlet of Ransomville. (Photos by Kevin and Dawn Cobello, K&D Photo and Aerial Imaging)



Town of Porter "Hometown Hero" John R. Johnston's service is displayed on Lockport Street in the Village of Youngstown.

host community, plus the honored service member's name, photo, branch of service, and rank and time served. They are mounted to utility poles.

These markers have taken to the sky on roadways in Niagara County communities from North Tonawanda and the Town of Niagara to the towns of Lewiston, Porter and Newfane, and Village of Wilson. They will adorn poles in seasonal timeframe covering a period from Memorial Day to mid-fall, approaching the Veterans Day holiday.

"There are nearly 100 'Hometown Hero' banners hanging in the Town of Niagara," said Peter Ames, Town of Niagara historian.

"I try to put them in some kind of order with the help of Phil Mitchell and his crew from the Town of Niagara Parks Department. Since there are so many, we try to have a fairly consistent plan, so persons can locate them. Every year, we attempt to rotate them

**SEE 34, continued on Page 13**

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