

# Lewiston trustees receive attraction proposal, will view demonstration before making any decision

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and Niagara Falls. Our proposed route includes picturesque views of the gorge while telling the story of how the beautiful escarpment was formed.

"This land/water tour gives visitors a good idea of what Lewiston has to offer, and our commentary will be designed to provide information about the key points of interest in the Village of Lewiston as well as Niagara Falls."

The water-land tour would be conducted in a Hydra-Terra, a 17,000-pound vehicle that is 40 feet in length, 102 inches wide, and 11 feet, 6 inches tall. The Hydra-Terra has a 2007 Cummins ISC 8.3 engine, 250 square-feet of work deck space, and can accommodate 49 guests plus two crew members.

Moreover, Gray Line said a unique design makes the Hydra-Terra unsinkable.

It stated, "The Hydra-Terra amphibious is unique in that it retains a perfect safety record while in the water. Hydra-Terra amphibious vehicles possess the patented safety feature of being unsinkable thus making them unique. All of C.A.M.I.'s amphibious vehicles are UNSINKABLE due to a patented and patent pending use of positive floatation foam. The hull design also provides unprecedented stability in the water."

"C.A.M.I conforms to the stringent rules of the ABS, DOT, EU, MCA, NHTSA, SAE, USCG, and other marine and safety authorities."

As it pertains to Lewiston, Gray Line has requested approval "to enter the water and exit at the Lewiston docks as part of this new and exciting experience."

It stated, "We are aware that this is a very popular place, especially in good weather as mem-

bers of the public are launching their boats.

"If the town is able to approve the concept for this tour, Gray Line Niagara Falls/Buffalo will meet with the representatives for the boat launch to discuss the logistics of our vehicle entering and exiting the waterfront."

"A safe, easy and convenient loading area in Niagara Falls would start the tour."

The company acknowledged, "The main challenge is community support for this vehicle to operate within the city. In the past, the vessels put forward have been former military vehicles that were never designed for tour use or to frequent city streets. The vehicle we are proposing is a purpose-built unit that is currently used in more than 22 countries. Furthermore, it is unsinkable, visually appealing, and suitable for use on city streets and protected waters

and is comfortable for guests."

Gray Line is the dba ("doing business as") of Niagara Majestic Tours. The company claims to be "the largest operator of Niagara Falls USA tours," and "the largest operator of traveler assistance and tourist information centers and provider of hotel concierge services in the region with 32 permanent and 70 seasonal team members."

It stated, "At Gray Line Niagara Falls/Buffalo, we love our city and the surrounding areas, and at the end of each tour we know that we've been able to share something special in our community."

"It is with that same excitement that we bring internationally proven approaches to delivering the best of Niagara Falls and Lewiston to local families and visitors. There are still many new opportunities to highlight the area and broaden the scope of the tourism

sector, employing more people, and drawing in more visitors and local families.

"Lewiston continues to grow, and Gray Line Niagara Falls/Buffalo would like to help further diversify the options to those who have come to explore our area and beyond."

Gray Line noted, "amphibious vehicles have evolved into purpose-built, modern vessels designed to deliver safety, fun and comfort around the world."

The document stated amphibious tours are currently offered in locations including California, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, Grand Cayman Island, and Halifax, Nova Scotia. Listed retail rates range from \$33.75 to \$49.99 per person.

NFP tried to contact Gray Line for further comment, but was unsuccessful as of press time.

## Village of Lewiston (cont.)

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• A third public hearing will be held in regard to rezoning:

√ Moving the following properties from B-1 (general business, multiple family, townhouse) to R-2 (residential, two-family, townhouse): 120 N. Seventh St. (SBL 101.11-1-53), 140 N. Seventh St.

(SBL 101.11-1-54), 160 N. Seventh St. (SBL 101.11-1-55), 170 N. Seventh St. (SBL 101.11-1-56), 715 Onondaga St. (SBL 101.11-1-57), and 725 Onondaga St. (SBL 101.11-1-58).

This is contingent on prior approval from the Niagara County Planning Board.

Meetings are held in the Morgan Lewis Village Boardroom inside the Red Brick Municipal Building at 145 N. Fourth St.

Board members also awarded Candella Construction a contract to remodel the Academy Park bathrooms, in an amount not to exceed \$32,076.18. The village

received three bids, and this company presented the lowest-priced proposal. Welch said the project would be funded by a New York State Department of Public Transportation grant.

Since Ken Candella is the village's building inspector and zoning officer, the structure will be

reviewed and certified by Tim Masters, his contemporary from the Town of Lewiston. Trustee Tina Coppins said Candella Construction must contact the town to apply for a free inspection permit.

## IN THE NEWS

### Lewiston Spring Fling is May 14

Submitted by the Village of Lewiston Recreation Department

Spring has finally arrived in Lewiston, and with it the 28th annual Lewiston Family Spring Fling.

This is a way to celebrate that

winter is over, and the time to renew old friendships and make new ones. The Spring Fling is scheduled for Sunday, May 14, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Red Brick School, and is sponsored by the Village of Lewiston Recreation Department. The event is held rain or shine.

The Spring Fling committee

has kept all of the favorite events this year, and brought in several new ones! The Spring Fling will open with a One-Mile Family Fun Run. The race will start at 11 a.m. and is all on flat ground. You must preregister for the race online at [www.villageoflewiston.net/recreation-home](http://www.villageoflewiston.net/recreation-home). Race shirts and medals will be given to all registered youth ages 14 and under. There is

no fee for the fun run.

Starting at 11:30 a.m., there will be chalk available for street art for all school ages. Children can choose their own theme to beautify the sidewalks around the Red Brick Municipal Building.

A basket auction will run from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and there is a wide selection of prizes from local businesses and attractions for children and adults.

All proceeds will go toward recreational programming.

Activities at the event include a petting zoo, fun-putt golf, face painter and balloon sculpture.

The event is open to residents and non-residents. There is no charge for the events.

For more information, call 716-754-1990 or email [recreation@villageoflewiston.net](mailto:recreation@villageoflewiston.net).

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