

Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel

July 28, 2023 FREE 20 Pages Vol. 36 / No. 25 • Vol. 39 / No. 20

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Give 'em a brake

Town of Niagara investigating pumping brakes on large vehicle parking on private property

BY TIMOTHY CHIPP

Contributing Writer

Town of Niagara officials are taking a look at how to curb large vehicular obstructions throughout the town.

Boats, RVs and other vehicles, town officials said, are sometimes parked in areas blocking the views of neighbors as they try to exit their driveways.

It's an issue causing dangerous situations for both those neighbors and drivers already on these roads, as vehicles can seemingly appear out of nowhere.

"The Building Department can't even handle all the calls that are coming in about this," Town Clerk Sylvia Virtuoso said.

And, so, Virtuoso went digging for answers. And help.

She contacted a number of other Niagara County town clerks for information on how their towns handle the obstructed views. She didn't hear back from all of them, but she did receive feedback from three.

And the results? According to Town Attorney Michael Risman, those three samples weren't exactly helpful.

"I'll need to do more research," Risman said following the Town Board's meeting July 18. "Those laws are all over the place."

Risman said the towns each handle their laws differently, designed to address their individual needs and concerns. What works in a town like Wilson may not address the needs in Niagara, or vice versa.

And the Town of Niagara already has a number of laws on the books designed to regulate what items can be on private property, Building Inspector Charles Haseley said. And where they can be located.

Town code definitely weighs in on what can be placed on public property, including the end of driveways. For instance, vehicles without motors need to be attached to motorized vehicles if parked on public property like streets, Haseley said. Such requirements allow said items, like towable trailers, to be moved immediately if an emergency situation arises.

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The North Tonawanda Farmers Market will host the Niagara County Corn Fest from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19. From left, in front of the NT Farmers Market mural, are North Tonawanda Mayor Austin Tylec, mural artist Nicole Cherry, David Chevrolet owner Joe Smith and Farmers Market Manager Chris Delprince. Smith donated the money to pay for the mural. (Submitted photo)

NT Corn Fest to highlight City Market farmers

BY KAREN CARR KEEFE

Senior Contributing Reporter

Niagara County farmers are proud of the exceptional taste of Niagara County corn, and their produce is eagerly awaited each year at the North Tonawanda City Market at 365 Payne Ave.

Now, the market farmers' sweet corn will be the center

of the county's first major Corn Fest. The inaugural event will take place from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the City Market on Saturday, Aug. 19. There will be an overlap of the City Market's regular Saturday business and the festival, since the market is open from 7 a.m. through 1 p.m. The market activity will jump-start the event,

then the transition to festival will be underway.

"This is going to be such an exciting event for the entire family, and I firmly believe that it will fast become the Corn Festival of the north," NT Mayor Austin Tylec said in a news release.

Other dignitaries on hand at the announcement included

Lockport Mayor Michelle Roman, Niagara Falls Mayor Robert Restaino, Assemblyman William Conrad, Niagara County Sheriff Michael Filicetti, Joe Andalora of David Chevrolet, and Market in the Square owner Brian Kusmierski – whose business in the Budwey's Plaza is the presenting

SEE NT, continued on Page 10



A new era in law enforcement training

County and state officials break ground (in the rain) Tuesday for the new Niagara County Law Enforcement Academy training facility. (Photo by Terry Duffy)

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