

## Niagara County student internship program begins Sept. 19

Slots still available for interested high school students

Submitted by the Public Information Office

The Niagara County Legislature internship program is set to begin Sept. 19, and there are still some openings available for students who attend any Niagara County high schools. The program, run by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Niagara County (CCE-Niagara), goes from September to February and is a commitment of about two evenings a month.

"This is one of the few county internship programs running across the state," said Kathy Bowers, community educator for CCE-Niagara, who noted the program started back in 1977. "Our goal is to introduce students to the functions of county government, have them hear from elected officials and department heads on their government experience, and have them shadow legislators in the chamber while session is going on to see first-hand the operations of a legislative body."

Bowers said the students are expected to attend legislature meetings and committee meetings, which each take place once a month. For some students, participation in the internship may satisfy the participation in government requirement at their high school. Bowers said those who may be interested in the program should email her at krc8@cornell.edu for more information and to apply.

Niagara County Legislator Rich Andres was an intern in the program while a student at North Tonawanda High School. He said, "The county internship program was a great introduction for me into the functioning of government and the many different ways county government impacts people's lives. Young people who think they may have an interest in public service, government, politics and law, among many other fields, should strongly consider taking part in this program."

## Fashion Outlets hosts annual free e-recycling drive-thru event

Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls USA has partnered with Sunnking to host its annual electronic recycling event, from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at the shopping center (1900 Military Road). Attendees will be able to visit the Fashion Outlets to drop off their electronics from the convenience of their vehicle.

"We are thrilled to be teaming up with Sunnking once again to host this annual recycling event, which has historically been pretty popular with guests," said Susie Swiatkowski, marketing manager, Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls. "This is the perfect opportunity for the community to clear out some of their unused and outdated electronics, and the drive-thru component is incredibly convenient. Participants can drop off their items and then park to enjoy a day of shopping at the Fashion Outlets."

The event is free and open to the public, but attendees must register in advance as each attendee will be given a designated time slot. Visit [www.sunnking.com/events](http://www.sunnking.com/events) and select a preferred time. Registration will close at 4 p.m. the day before or when the event is fully booked.

Upon arrival, attendees will enter the parking lot off Fashion Outlets Boulevard, near Saks OFF 5th, and proceed toward the drive-thru where the Sunnking team members will unload items from each vehicle. Attendees must remain in their vehicles at all times. They are encouraged to neatly pack recyclables in the back of the vehicle for easy unloading.

## LEWISTON POLICE BLOTTER

The following activity occurred Wednesday, Aug. 30, to Wednesday, Sept. 6, as reported by the Lewiston Police Department. For more information on arrests and other activity, visit the Lewiston Police Department's mobile app or its page on Facebook.

- Wednesday, Aug. 30**
- **Mount Hope/Green roads, vehicle/traffic stop** - Caller to 911 reported a maroon Chevy Trailblazer, heading northbound, failure to yield. Vehicle left roadway and entered a field; one male detained by patrol.
  - **700 block of Cayuga Street, assist public** - Caller said a 2-year-old child and a dog were locked in a nonoperating vehicle. Patrols on location; tow service contacted to open vehicle.
  - **5800 block of Kline Road, forgery** - Caller reported being scammed out of \$1,000 in gift cards. Patrol responded; report taken.
  - **5300 block of Military Road, Mount St. Mary's Hospital, harassment** - Caller stated a female took his cell phoner and refused to return it. Female was also posting unfavorable comments about the caller on Facebook. Patrols responded; report taken.
  - **Niagara Scenic Parkway/Ridge Road, vehicle/traffic stop** - Call officer initiated. Driver cited for making an improper right turn and unlicensed operator violations. Patrol said the driver was knowingly operating the vehicle on a permit without a valid driver. Licensed driver contacted and picked up vehicle, call cleared. Patrols reported issuing warnings to four drivers for violations at other locations.
- Thursday, Aug. 31**
- **2300 block of Printup Road, domestic disturbance (two calls)** - 911 complaints; patrols responded, report taken.
  - **5600 block of Bridgeman Road, damage to property** - Caller stated the door handle on a vehicle was damaged. No entry made or items stolen. Patrol responded.
  - **5300 block of Military Road, Mount St. Mary's Hospital, harassment** - Caller said an ex-employee left an unflattering voicemail for the human relations department. No further contact. Patrol cleared.
  - **900 block of Oxbow Lane, noise complaint** - Caller to 911 reported hearing drum noises in a

- nearby park and wanted it quiet. Patrol responded; a 5K event was going on.
- **Lewiston Road/Power Authority Service Drive, domestic disturbance** - 911 complaint; patrols responded.
  - **Patrols reported issuing warnings to five drivers for violations at other locations.**
- Friday, Sept. 1**
- **4700 block of Tuscarora Road, theft** - 911 complaint; patrol responded, report taken.
  - **1-190/Upper Mountain Road, MVA property damage** - 911 caller reported a car-deer accident; patrol responded.
  - **700 block of Center Street, disturbance not domestic** - Caller reported a male on the property refusing to leave; subject told he was not welcomed earlier in the week. Patrols checked; male gone on arrival.
  - **5200 block of Chew Road, check welfare** - 911 call; patrols responded, report taken.
  - **100 block of N. Water Street, assist** - Caller to 911 said juveniles were swimming in the lower river. Patrol responded.
  - **Niagara Scenic Parkway/Pletcher Road, vehicle/traffic stop** - Call officer initiated. Registered owner cited for speed in zone; vehicle clocked at 77 mph in a 55-mph zone. Uniform traffic ticket issued for Lewiston Town Court. Patrols reported issuing warnings to four drivers for violations at other locations.
- Saturday, Sept. 2**
- **800 block of Oriole Lane, assist public** - Caller to 911 reported a vehicle blocking the driveway and unable to leave. Patrols responded.
  - **4300 block of Autumn Lane, assist public** - Caller to 911 said an unknown subject was putting hooks and nails around the property; neighbor issues reported. Patrols responded; report taken.
  - **Swann/Porter Center roads, shots fired** - Caller to 911 reported shots fired in a wooded area; caller said LPD advised subjects to stop on prior occasions. Patrols responded.
  - **1500 block of Swann Road, shots fired** - Caller to 911 reported hearing 30-40 gunshots in area. Patrols responded.
  - **N. Fourth/Center streets, noise complaint** - Caller said a band at

- a nearby bar/restaurant was shining bright lights at residences and playing loud music; village noise ordinance violation cited. Patrol stated there was no noise ordinance violations found and the business had a liquor license and was issued a permit for live entertainment. Resident not satisfied; patrol advised caller to discuss the matter with village and town officials to mediate concerns.
- Sunday, Sept. 3**
- **2200 block of Saunders Settlement Road, damage to property** - Caller to 911 reported a vehicle was keyed at the location. Registered owner said a blackish mark was found on the passenger front door; after rubbing the damage was removed.
  - **800 block of Foxwood Drive, harassment** - Caller to 911 reported being harassed by a neighbor over a dumpster issue. Patrol spoke with both parties; the female said she was frustrated by the lack of service from the landlord. The female vented her frustrations and the male half apologized for his initial response. All OK.
  - **Locations at Saunders Settlement/Miller roads and Pletcher Road/Niagara Scenic Parkway, vehicle/traffic stops** - Calls officer initiated. Violations per stop included one in custody for operating while the registration is suspended/revoked; and registered owner, speed in zone and expired motor vehicle inspection, vehicle clocked at 85 mph in a 55-mph zone. Uniform traffic tickets issued for Lewiston Town Court.
- Monday, Sept. 4**
- **Lewiston Road/Meadowbrook Drive, assist public** - Caller reported vehicle trouble; tow requested. Patrol provided a courtesy ride for four occupants.
  - **Location not listed, trespass** - Officer initiated call. Complainant stated that sometime between Aug. 27 and Sept. 1 an unknown party boarded a boat at a slip by partially removing the cover. Male said a used feminine hygiene product was located on board; no other items found missing. Patrols responded.
  - **200 block of N. Ninth Street, assist public** - Officer initiated call. Patrol reported a driver pull-over; the male was seeking assistance for a damaged microwave unit. Patrol inspected the damage; the driver's wife had broken a microwave plate in half. Male advised.

- **Locations at N. Eighth/Onondaga streets; and Military/Lewiston roads, vehicle/traffic stops** - Calls officer initiated. Violations per stop included registered owner cited for speed in zone, vehicle clocked at 53 mph in a 30-mph zone; and registered owner, speed in zone, vehicle clocked at 68 mph in a 45-mph zone driving up Lewiston Hill. Uniform traffic tickets issued for Lewiston Town Court. Patrols reported issuing warnings to nine drivers for violations at other locations.
- Tuesday, Sept. 5**
- **2300 block of Saunders Settlement Road, forgery** - Caller reported finding altered checks at the address. Patrols responded; report taken.
  - **5200 block of Military Road, check welfare** - Caller to 911 said a male with a cane stopped by the residence seeking a ride to Buffalo. The male had left Mount St. Mary's Hospital earlier. Patrols responded and were unable to locate the male.
  - **5800 block of West Street, theft** - Caller to 911 said a vehicle was entered overnight and items taken. Patrols responded; report taken.
  - **5200 block of Lewiston Road, MV-property damage** - Caller to 911 reported a two-vehicle accident; no injuries. Patrols responded; report taken.
- Wednesday, Sept. 6**
- **5200 block of Walmore Road, theft** - Phone complaint; patrols on location.
  - **4100 block of Creek Road, vehicle/traffic stop** - Call officer initiated. One subject in custody for aggravated unlicensed operation. Appearance ticket issued for Lewiston Town Court.
  - **5700 block of Lewiston Road, New York Power Authority, suspicious activity** - Caller reported a male wearing a green sweatshirt and jeans on location; subject making comments "to kill the sergeant of the Power Authority." Patrol said the subject made threats but no actions taken. Officers were able to identify the male.
  - **300 block of N. Fifth Street, harassment** - Caller to 911 reported being harassed by phone; caller received more than 200 unwanted phone calls over a four-day period. Officers responded; one male in custody, report taken.

# Fall Home Improvement, Design & Decorating

## A beginner's guide to fall planting and maintenance

Metro Creative

Spring and summer are perhaps the busiest times of year for gardeners. However, fall also is a prime time to tend to gardens.

The tree and bare root retailer Bower & Branch advises that soil temperatures in many regions of the country may still be warm enough to encourage root growth well into the start of winter. Furthermore, fall is often the ideal time to plant, fertilize and keep a garden going or to get a head start on next year's bounty.

Here are some tips to make the most of the fall gardening season.

- Think about fall annuals and bulb planting. Near the end of September, start planting cool-weather-loving pansies and violas for pops of color as summer flowers fade. Also, sow salad seeds. Lettuce, spinach, radishes and arugula

tolerate cooler temperatures. Try new and interesting lettuce varieties and enjoy salads well into the fall season.

- Take inventory of the sun. Positioning a garden carefully means maximizing hours of sunlight, which begin to dwindle in the fall. Experts say gardens grow best in sunny locations that receive six hours of direct sunlight each day. This is where container gardens can be helpful, as they allow gardeners to move plants into spots that will get ample sunlight.

- Fill in landscaping gaps. Some fall plants can add color around the landscape and brighten up homes to add curb appeal. In addition to pansies and violas, asters, kale and chrysanthemums are fall blooms. Keep in mind that mums can come back year after year. So take them out of those flower pots and get them into the ground. They can be enjoyed next year as well, sprouting in early spring and developing leaves and buds through late summer.

- Clean up unwanted growth. Fall is an ideal time

to cut back spent vegetable plants and get rid of errant weeds. Rather than bagging leaves, mow them with a grass catcher and then add the mix to a vegetable garden as an excellent soil insulator. The nitrogen and carbon will fertilize the soil, enhancing growing possibilities and limiting weed growth.

- Propagate plants in the fall. As temperatures gradually begin to cool, start taking cuttings from perennials, gathering seed pods from azaleas and rhododendrons and dividing hardwood cuttings, says the resource Gardening Know How. Consult with a garden center or horticulturist on the proper ways to propagate stems using rooting hormone and other techniques.

- Continue to water plants. Water is essential in the fall and winter as roots can still be growing. Gradually reduce watering duration as plants go dormant.

Fall planting and maintenance can extend gardening season and improve the chances of growing a healthy spring garden.

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## Fireplace trends help create attractive, comfortable rooms

Metro Creative

Fireplaces are useful features in a home. Fireplaces are sources of ambient heat and also add style to indoor spaces.

Fireplaces can complement just about any interior style. Fireplaces can be traditional and burn wood or connect to a home's natural gas supply for on-demand ambiance. What's more, fireplaces may come in vented or ventless varieties, depending on homeowners' preferences and what is allowed by community building codes. That means a chimney or flue may not be needed — expanding the list of rooms where a fireplace can be installed.

Certain trends have emerged among fireplace fans in recent years. Here's a look at what's getting consumers fired up about these home decor elements.

- Minimalist style: Many fireplaces are designed in neutral colors with minimal trim that directs focus on the fire and not the appliance. When the fireplace is not in use, it blends in with surroundings and will not compete for attention with other design elements.

- Convertible fireplaces: Homeowners can choose between open or sealed fireplaces. A convertible

fireplace enables homeowners to have the best features of these options. A convertible fireplace can be converted to wood from gas, or the opposite, in as little as 30 minutes.

- Nature-inspired materials: Natural stone continues to be a material of choice in fireplace surrounds. Light colors work well for a fireplace, and also fit with today's lighter-color interior design preferences. Natural stone also works perfectly with both contemporary and rustic decor.

- Vintage fireplaces: Vintage continues to be a buzzword in 2023, and the choice to go vintage also applies to fireplace styles. A room decorated in vintage elements can be complemented with a vintage fireplace or one designed to look vintage.
- Integrate into wall decor: Fireplaces that are built right into a wall save space. One can have a television and a fireplace on the same wall. These types of fireplaces work well in modern home designs. Other fireplaces may be built into bookshelves or other wall features.

Fireplaces can improve the appeal of a home. Various trends are popular this year, making fireplaces highly coveted features.

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