

## Grand Island Fire Company reminder to community

**BY MARK SADKOWSKI**  
Fire Chief

During these unprecedented and challenging times, the men and women of the Grand Island Fire Company want the community to know that we are trained, equipped and prepared to fulfill our mission of protecting the life and property of our Grand Island residents and visitors.

Through diligent planning and coordination with state, county and local government, and area emergency service agencies, we have implemented measures that will ensure we are capable of responding to any type of emergency now and in the future.

Service to the public is our main mission. We are here to serve the community and to en-

sure that we are able to continue to provide the highest level of service, consistent with our mission in light of the current pandemic.

If you call 911 for a medical problem, we ask that you inform the dispatcher if you are having symptoms and/or a fever. When we respond, we will be wearing a face mask, safety glasses, as well as gloves, and will ask screening questions from a 6-foot distance. These measures are for our safety and are to ensure we will be available to respond to the next emergency.

You can do your part to help stem the spread of COVID-19 by practicing social distancing, maintaining 6 feet or more space between people; minimizing trips to the grocery store or pharmacy as necessary; self-monitoring for cold or flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough or shortness of breath; and frequently washing your hands. If you have any of these symptoms, contact your medical provider.

Thank you for your understanding, and stay safe.

## Picking up the pieces

**BY KEVIN R. HARDWICK**  
4th District County Legislator

The world has changed in the last month. The pandemic now dominates every news cycle and almost every personal conversation. Our response to this crisis will go a long way toward determining the kind of community we will have once life returns to some semblance of normal.

For the time being, we all have to determine what role we can play in combatting the virus. For some, this is obvious. Health care workers and first responders are on the frontlines of this battle and have never been more appreciated by us all. Add to them the many grocery store workers, utility workers, truck drivers, delivery persons, reporters and others who have kept our society functioning, and we have much for which to be grateful.

Elected officials are used to being on the news, leading the charge, announcing grand plans and proposals. But we are now at war and in a war, politicians need to step back and let the generals lead.

Fortunately, from what I have observed, County Executive Mark Poloncarz, Health Com-

missioner Dr. Gale Burstein and their team are up to the task. My job is to make sure they have the resources to get the job done and get out of their way. That is why last month I implored Dr. Burstein to ask for whatever additional funds she needed to supplement her budget to save as many lives as possible.

The \$5 million that the legislature subsequently approved in a special session will hopefully be enough. If it isn't, we will need to determine if more is required. Either way, I trust the money will be well spent. It makes no sense, however, for legislators to micromanage the Health Department in the midst of this crisis.

We will have a much larger role, of course, in picking up the pieces once the immediate crisis passes. The pandemic and resulting quarantine have blown holes in budgets from the federal level all the way down to the smallest village. In Erie County, we are seeing sales tax revenue plummet as businesses are shuttered and people do not spend money. This will prove disastrous for Erie County as we will lose tens of millions of dollars in sales tax, our largest source of local revenue. This will

also impact the cities, towns, villages and school districts in Erie County with whom we share our sales tax revenue.

The decisions we make regarding how to plug the budget gaps will have great consequences and we need to get it right.

Each municipality will have to make their own decision. In the county, we will have to choose among some combination of cuts, increased taxes and borrowing. These choices will be difficult, as putting more people out of work will only exacerbate our economic problem and increasing taxes will be adding insult to injury to those who have already lost their jobs or are on fixed incomes. This is where the legislature must play a major role in representing the wishes of our constituents.

Until then, however, we need to let the medical professionals do their jobs, because we cannot solve our financial problems until we resolve our health care emergency.

If you have thoughts you would like to share, I would love to hear from you. I can be contacted by phone at 716-858-8672 or via email at kevin.hardwick@erie.gov.

**COVID-19**  
**Closures & Updates**  
Go to our website  
  
**wypapers.com**

# DISPATCH SERVICE DIRECTORY

To place an ad in this section, please call NFP at 773-7676, Fax: 773-7190 or E-mail: GrandIslandSales@wypapers.com

NFP does not knowingly accept false advertising. Customer beware & thoroughly research any advertising before answering.

◆ WE ARE AT YOUR SERVICE! ◆

• Great Advertising • Low Low Price • All Four Newspapers!



NIAGARA FRONTIER PUBLICATIONS

Grand Island PennySaver • Island Dispatch  
Niagara-Wheatfield Tribune • Lewiston-Porter Sentinel

PLUS! Service Directory can be found on our website! wypapers.com

<p><b>CARPET</b></p> <p><b>The Carpet Mill Outlet SALE</b></p> <p></p> <p>Carpet Mill Outlet 2941 Military Road Niagara Falls, NY 14304 297-7705</p>	<p><b>CARPET</b></p> <p><b>The Carpet Mill Outlet</b> Sample Showroom &amp; Warehouse Largest Selection in Niagara County Carpet, Laminate &amp; Vinyl</p> <p><b>Over 600 Carpet Remnants on Floor!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low Prices</li> <li>• Largest Selection</li> <li>• Brand Names</li> <li>• Expert Installation</li> </ul> <p>M-T 10-6; W-Th 10-8 Fri 10-5; Sat 10-4 2941 Military Road Niagara Falls, NY 14304 Ph 297-7705 • Fx 297-7401</p>	<p><b>ELECTRICAL</b></p> <p><b>COMPLETE ELECTRICAL SERVICES</b></p> <p> ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential</li> <li>• Commercial</li> <li>• New Wiring</li> <li>• Repairs</li> </ul> <p><b>Mike Sexton</b> <b>773-1995</b> www.wny-ec.com</p>	<p><b>CALL TO PICK UP YOUR BUSINESS</b></p> <p></p> <p>CALLING 773-7676</p>	<p><b>KITCHEN CABINETS</b></p> <p><b>CLASSIC CABINETS VISIT OUR SHOWROOM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt;Free Design</li> <li>&gt;Free Estimates</li> <li>&gt;Family Owned &amp; Operated</li> </ul> <p>2709 Elmwood Ave. Kenmore <b>464-3573</b></p>	<p><b>LAWN CARE</b></p> <p><b>Natural Lawn Care</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lawn Cutting</li> <li>• Spring/Fall Clean-Ups</li> <li>• Landscape Design &amp; Installation</li> <li>• Topsoil/Mulch/Stone Delivery</li> <li>• Snowplowing</li> </ul> <p>Serving Grand Island for over 20 years <b>774-8983</b></p>
<p><b>LAWN CARE</b></p> <p><b>Michael's Lawn Service</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Per Service and Seasonal Contracts</li> <li>• Insured</li> <li>• Free Estimates</li> <li>• Commercial &amp; Residential</li> <li>• Spring Clean-ups</li> </ul> <p>Lifetime Grand Island Resident <b>418-2779</b></p>	<p><b>MASONRY</b></p> <p><b>WAGNER Construction Co.</b></p> <p>Commercial Residential Brick • Block • Stone New Construction &amp; Repair Work</p> <p><b>773-3655</b> Serving Grand Island for over 60 years</p>	<p><b>CHARGE IT!</b></p> <p></p> <p>We proudly accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover for placing ads</p> <p>Niagara Frontier Publications Call...773-7676</p>	<p><b>PAINTING</b></p> <p><b>DAVE &amp; PAULS PAINTING AND PLASTERING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drywall / Water Damage</li> <li>• Popcorn Removal</li> <li>• Wallpaper &amp; Wallpaper Removal</li> <li>• Plumbing &amp; Carpentry</li> </ul> <p>10% DISCOUNT ALWAYS FREE ESTIMATES • INSURED VERY NEAT &amp; CLEAN</p> <p><b>903-6966</b> <b>773-3023</b></p>	<p><b>PAINTING</b></p> <p><b>PROFESSIONAL PAINTING CO.</b></p> <p>Interior • Exterior <b>3 rooms</b> starting at \$285 Price includes: Sherwin Williams Paint Free Estimates • Insured 2 Year Warranty With Exterior</p> <p><b>583-5365</b></p>	<p><b>PAINTING</b></p> <p><b>UNITED PAINTING &amp; PLASTERING</b></p> <p><b>292-4576</b></p> <p>Painting Plastering Staining Drywall 10% OFF Limited Time</p> <p>COMMERCIAL &amp; RESIDENTIAL Interior &amp; Exterior (2 yr Warranty) FREE ESTIMATE • FULLY INSURED Louisunitedpainting@gmail.com "Not All Doctors Are The Same"</p>
<p><b>PLUMBING</b></p> <p><b>Reach Over 31,000 Homes</b> (Over 125,000 Readers including our website)</p> <p>Call <b>773-7676</b> Buy a Service Directory in 4 local papers and receive a <b>FREE</b> classified each and every week (a \$32.00 value)</p>	<p><b>PLUMBING</b></p> <p><b>DOUBLE D CONSTRUCTION</b></p> <p>LICENSED PLUMBING SEWER CLEANING SEWER WATER LINES &amp; SEPTIC SYSTEMS</p> <p>Installed or Repaired <b>773-1642</b> Owner &amp; Operated By <b>Dan Drexelius</b></p>	<p><b>PLUMBING</b></p> <p><b>Need Work Done? Best Prices Around!</b></p> <p><b>FREE ESTIMATES 10% DISCOUNT</b></p> <p><b>603-0327</b> EMERGENCY: <b>448-8967</b></p>	<p><b>ROOF REPAIRS</b></p> <p>Everett Tilkins Mr Roofer</p> <p><b>repairs only!</b></p> <p>siding trim roofing <b>870-6230</b></p>	<p><b>STORAGE</b></p> <p>Harbor Towne, LLC <b>Office / Mini-Storage</b></p> <p><b>STORAGE UNITS</b> ranging from 5x5 to 20x30 1763 Baseline Road Grand Island <b>773-2000</b></p>	<p><b>Place Your Ad Here</b></p> <p>Contact Colleen at grandislandsales@wypapers.com</p> <p><b>Schedule Your Ad Today!</b></p> <p>Your Service Directory Ad will be posted on NFP's website, www.wypapers.com at no additional charge!</p>