

# Anne Welch running for reelection in Lewiston

Mayor seeks second term

**SUBMITTED BY  
MAYOR ANNE WELCH**

Just four years ago this month, I wrote to the Sentinel and introduced myself to you and asked you to support me for mayor of the Village of Lewiston. Thanks to you, I am now Mayor Anne Welch. Thank you for believing in me and electing me four years ago. It has been an exciting and productive time for me and for our village.

It has been my pleasure working with my fellow Village Board members who have supported our many endeavors. I have also had the privilege of working with our great village staff, an excellent Department of Public Works, building and fire inspectors, historian, recreation director and the members on our boards and commissions. Recently, our village treasurer issued her report detailing our ability to operate within our budget. I am pleased to say that the village is financially sound and we will not have a tax increase. I am grateful for all their help making these past four years so successful.

During my term as mayor, the village has prospered in spite of the COVID pandemic. We did what we could to help the businesses and residents. We lowered municipal rents and waived fees for businesses and residents during COVID. We also allowed sandwich board signs for curbside pickup and dropped off road cones to designate the pickup parking spaces. This proved very successful and helped to keep our restaurants going. Residents and visitors were glad to be able to call in their menu orders and pick them up at the curb without worry and contact.

I was able to secure several grants, including \$1.2 million for the reconstruction of our damaged waterfront, \$450,000 for the all-inclusive playground and splash pad at Marilyn Toohey Park, redevelopment of Academy Park and its restroom, the relocation and expansion of the bandshell, a new bike path and two electric vehicle charging stations. There are current plans to build a large pavilion at Academy Park to house the Lewiston Market, the Peach Festival and many events, festivals and family gatherings.



Village of Lewiston Mayor Anne Welch (File photo)

As your clerk and now as your mayor, aggressive grant applications have resulted in the return of your tax dollars for these projects. I will continue to seek further grant funding to accomplish needed improvements in our infrastructure.

The sale of the Frontier House to a private developer was a major accomplishment, and it is currently being restored to its former glory. There are many new developments, like the Eighth and Center streets plaza; the Fairchild Apartments; the opening up and redevelopment of the corner of North Fourth and Center streets, featuring the new Gallo restaurant; the new building at 444 Center St., which is now the new home to Alfonso Marra Bax, Esq., Brewed & Bottled, Battle Flag Tavern, Mad Hatter's Tea House, and Sgt. Peppers. There have also been extensive recent renovations of several of our Lewiston businesses, and many new businesses have opened in the village. The faith of our business community in the village is on display with the rebuilding of the Brickyard, devastated by fire. Residents throughout the village are investing in their property, and home values continue to increase at a rapid rate.

It has been 22 years since Center Street was redone. So, I petitioned the New York State Department

of Transportation to reconstruct and repave Center Street, and to install new street signs. The brick crosswalks are being removed, because they have deteriorated and have become hazardous to pedestrians. New York state no longer permits brick crosswalks in state highways. The new, resurfaced Center Street will be a much-needed improvement to our village. As always, the health, safety and welfare of our residents is my top priority.

The Village of Lewiston covers approximately one square mile along the Lower Niagara River with a beautiful waterfront park, boat launching facilities, residential boat slips and other amenities that allow picnicking, pleasure and commercial boating, and world-class fishing. It is also home to the Whirlpool Jet Boat and the Artpark Performing Arts Center. These attractions alone draw thousands of visitors and residents every year. Lewiston also has a vibrant and walkable commercial area, many historic buildings and sites, recreational parks and bike trails. After serving on the New York State Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) Committee, the Village Board adopted this guideline that will further advance our goals to protect, promote and enhance our waterfront, business district, historic district, parks and recreation. This also allows the village to apply for more grant opportunities.

After a long career in public service – 31 years as clerk, three years as Planning Commission member and four years as mayor – I have the knowledge and experience to continue to lead our village to an even brighter future. We have made great progress in the last four years, and I look forward to continuing making Lewiston the best it can be.

Please help me by reelecting me as your mayor on June 21 in the Red Brick gym, 145 N. Fourth St., so that I may continue to serve you.

# County legislators looking to enact gas sales tax reprieve



Following the passage of a New York state budget that included a 16-cent reduction per gallon in state gas taxes beginning June 1, several Niagara County legislators are looking to provide additional relief to motorists from the county sales tax.

The state budget gives counties the option to cap their sales tax on gas purchases at any one of three price points – \$2, \$3 or \$4 a gallon – if they so choose. The current Niagara County sales tax is 4%.

“Motorists need relief from high gas prices, and we have the ability to add to what the state has done to further lower prices,” Niagara County Legislator Chris Voccio said. “I have been talking about this even before the state budget was passed, and now I believe there is bipartisan support to move this forward.”

Niagara County Legislature Minority Leader Chris Robins said he supports this plan, as well, but has one major concern.

“I want to talk with state leaders about how we can ensure that these reductions are going to translate to lower gas prices,” he said. “The full amount of any state and county gas tax reduction needs to be passed along to consumers at the pump.”

Niagara County Legislature Majority Leader Randy Bradt

said he has asked the county manager and budget director to look at the impact of the different scenarios on the county budget.

“It’s important to make sure any gas sales tax reduction does not create a significant budget gap that impacts property taxpayers,” Bradt said. “However, I’m confident, given that sales tax revenue has been increasing since the height of the pandemic even beyond budgeted expectations, that we can adjust our budget as needed.”

The Niagara County Legislature expects to review options at committee meetings on April 25. The intention is to have a plan in place to coincide with the state gas tax reduction that takes effect June 1.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE Donna Kates, owner of 775 Page Avenue, Lewiston, NY 14092 Tax ID #101.07-5-34 is requesting a 7-foot side setback variance from the permitted 10-foot setback requirement for a carport addition. The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 6:30 PM in the Board Room at the Red Brick Municipal building, located at 145 N. 4th Street, Lewiston, NY 14092. All persons interested in this matter may appear and be heard at the aforesaid time and place. Tribune/Sentinel April 15, 2022

## Village of Lewiston Democrats to caucus

A Democratic caucus to nominate candidates for the office of Village of Lewiston mayor (four-year term), and also for two four-year terms as trustee, will take place Wednesday, April 27, in the Morgan Lewis Boardroom inside the Red Brick Municipal Building, 145 N. Fourth St.

The event begins at 7 p.m. Candidates selected must reside in the Village of Lewiston. Those wishing to nominate or vote at the caucus are asked to bring photo identification. Only registered Democrats who reside in the Village of Lewiston are eligible to nominate and vote for candidates at the caucus.

Niagara County Democratic Party Chair Christopher Borgatti appointed resident Savana Bevac-

qua as chair of the caucus.

Attendees must comply with any public safety requirements put into place by the village, if any, on the date of the caucus.

The village election will take place Tuesday, June 21.

**30<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
10 Mile  
GARAGE SALE**

**Friday, June 10, Saturday, June 11  
and Sunday, June 12, 2022**

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Kids 4-6 years, 7-9 years and 10-12 years may participate. **3 winners in each group will win great prizes!**

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### Chiropractic and Sciatica

Your sciatic nerve is your longest and largest nerve. It is made up of five roots that leave your low back, join in the pelvis and then travel to the muscles and joints of your thigh, knee, calf, ankle, foot and toes.

If your sciatic nerve becomes inflamed, the condition is called sciatica. The pain can be intense and often follows the path of the nerve. It can also radiate to your back or even your hips! Along with burning, sharp pains, you may also feel nerve sensations such as pins-and-needles, tingling, prickling, crawling sensations or tenderness. Your leg could also feel numb.

Like most other conditions, sciatica has a wide variety of causes. The most common is from an unhealthy spine that is misaligned or distorted or has protruded discs, which can irritate the sciatic nerve causing sciatica. The piriformis muscle in the buttocks can also irritate the sciatic nerve to create pain in the hip and leg.

**Chiropractic spinal adjustment improves spinal alignment relieving the stress on the spinal nerves, joints and discs.** The piriformis muscle can be helped through applying the five factors that can influence muscle function.

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