

Niagara County raises flag for Donate Life Month

Niagara County Legislature Chairwoman Rebecca Wydysh and Niagara County Clerk Joseph A. Jastrzemski were joined by Sarah Diina of ConnectLife to raise the ConnectLife flag outside the Niagara County Courthouse in recognition of April as National Donate Life Month.

The county said, "During this month, we honor those who have saved lives through the gift of a donation and encourage others to consider registering as organ, eye and tissue donors."

Wydysh said, "ConnectLife is WNY's only organ, eye, tissue and community blood center, so it was fitting that Sarah Diina joined Clerk Jastrzemski and me as we kicked off Donate Life Month.

There are more than 100,000 women, men and children waiting for lifesaving organ transplants, including 8,500 people in New York state, and every nine minutes another person is added to the national transplant waiting list. Every April, we try to do our best to raise awareness of this issue and ask the public to please consider registering to be a donor."

Jastrzemski said residents can sign up to be organ donors by visiting the state registry at <https://donatelifeny.gov/> or at a Department of Motor Vehicles office when replacing, renewing or upgrading their driver's license or non-driver identification.

"The fact is that one organ, eye

and tissue donor can save and heal more than 75 lives," Jastrzemski said. "That's why I became an organ donor years ago and, today, more than 51% of all licensed drivers in Niagara County are signed up to be organ donors. If you are not, please know it's never been easier to register – and your decision could have a lasting impact for generations."

Pictured outside the Niagara County Courthouse, from left: are County Legislature Chairwoman Becky Wydysh, ConnectLife Senior Director of Marketing & Community Development Sarah Diina, and Niagara County Clerk Joe Jastrzemski. (Submitted photo)



Niagara County Department of Health holding free rabies clinic in Town of Porter

The Niagara County Department of Health is holding a free rabies clinic at the Town Porter Highway Garage, 1800 Braley Road, from 1-4 p.m. Saturday April 9. These hours changed to afternoon (from previous postings) in order to accommodate staffing.

All appointments are by reservation only. Registration is now open. Visit www.NiagaraCounty.com/health, click on the "Rabies Information" icon, and follow the link under rabies clinic to register. Those unable to register online may call 716-439-7444 for registration assistance. Once appointment slots have filled, registration for this event will close.

Rabies vaccination clinics are operated as "drive-thru" events, where attendees will remain in their car until they reach the vaccination station, and then will exit with their pet(s) to the veterinarian at the designated time.

New York state requires all residents to maintain an active rabies vaccination in their dog, cat and/or ferret. The animal's first vaccination is valid for one year, while any subsequent vaccination provides protection for three years.

The Niagara County Department of Health would like to remind residents of the following precautions to prevent exposure to rabies from wildlife and domestic animals:

✓ Do not feed, touch or adopt wild animals, stray dogs or feral cats.

✓ Be sure dogs and cats are up to date on their rabies vaccinations. Vaccinated pets serve as a buffer between rabid wildlife and humans. Protect pets with rabies vaccination to reduce the risk of exposure to rabies. Dogs and cats that receive their first rabies vaccine are protected for a one-year period. A dog or cat's second and

subsequent vaccination will protect from rabies for up to three years. Pets too young to be vaccinated should be kept indoors. By law, all cats, dogs and ferrets must have current rabies vaccinations from 4 months of age and on. The Niagara County Department of Health will conduct free rabies clinics and will post those dates on its website once the schedule is finalized.

✓ Keep family pets indoors at night. Do not leave them outside unattended or let them roam free.

✓ Don't attract wild animals to a home or yard. Keep property free of stored bird seed or other foods that may attract wild animals. Feed pets indoors. Tightly cover or put away garbage cans. Board up any openings to the attic, basement, porch or garage. Cap chimneys with a screen.

✓ Encourage children to immediately tell adults if they are bitten

by any animals. Tell children not to touch any animals they do not know.

✓ If a wild animal is on one's property, let it wander away. Bring children and pets indoors and alert neighbors that are outside. Contact a nuisance wildlife control officer who will remove the animal for a fee; or if there is danger, call the local law enforcement agency.

✓ If a pet has been in a fight with another animal, wear gloves to handle it. Isolate it from other animals and people for several hours. Call a veterinarian. A vaccinated pet will need a booster dose of rabies vaccine within five days of the exposure. Unvaccinated animals exposed to a known or suspected rabid animal must be confined for six months or humanely euthanized.

✓ Bat rabies continues to be of particular concern. Niagara County residents must remain aware of

the risk for rabies from any contact with a bat. Once illness occurs, rabies is almost always fatal. However, timely and complete post-exposure treatment is effective at preventing illness from occurring. If one finds a bat in their home, it is important not to injure, release or discard it. Immediately contact the NCDOH environmental health division at 716-439-7444 to discuss the specifics of the situation or occurrence. For more information on bat rabies, to include instruction on proper capturing and containment of a bat for testing, go to <https://www.niagaracounty.com/health/Services/EnvironmentalHealth/Pest-Control/Bats>.

✓ Report all animal bites or contact with wild animals to the NCDOH environmental division at 716-439-7444. Further information on rabies can be obtained from the NCDOH at 716-439-7444 or www.niagaracounty.com/health.

NORLIC to hold landlord workshop

The Niagara Orleans Land Improvement Corp. (NORLIC), often referred to as the Land Bank, will host a free workshop on Tuesday, April 12, for landlords interested in better understanding their rights and responsibilities at it relates to fair housing. The event will feature guest speakers Stephen Haagsma of Housing Opportunities Made Equal.

The seminar, titled "How to be a better Landlord," is designed for landlords, property managers, land developers, or anyone else

who manages property for rental or sale. Landlords will learn more about fair housing laws and their implications for owners or managers of real property.

"The mission of NORLIC is to acquire vacant and abandoned properties and return them to productive use, creating a better community for future generations," said Matthew Chavez, project manager for NORLIC. "Hopefully that means we can build vibrant neighborhoods in places that are now weighed down with blight.

But part of that equation means landlords and tenants have to live up to their responsibilities. This is just the first of many seminars focusing on the obligations of both landlords and tenants."

The workshop will cover a host of topics including:

✓ Fair housing law and protected classes

✓ Discussion on the impact of housing discrimination

✓ How to avoid discriminatory practices

✓ Best practices in application

and screening process

✓ Reasonable accommodation and modification

✓ Landlord rights and responsibilities

✓ Evictions and small claims court

The workshop is scheduled for 5:30-7 p.m. at TRcC, 616 Niagara St., Niagara Falls. Participants may also choose to participate virtually. Registration is required at <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ej382phd184fb908&oseq=&c=&ch>.

NORLIC is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to fight blight. It is a municipal partnership that works with communities to acquire vacant and abandoned properties. NORLIC's efforts will return abandoned properties to productive use, creating a better community for future generations. To date, NORLIC has taken title to 14 properties. NORLIC was founded in 2017 with an intermunicipal agreement between North Tonawanda, Lockport, Niagara Falls, Niagara County and Orleans County.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

The Power Authority of the State of New York (Authority) will hold a public hearing as detailed below on a proposed form of Contract for the sale of hydropower to LW1 Operator, LLC, Chocolate Delivery Systems, Inc., and Workspout Ltd., and on the recommencement and Contract Extension for the sale of hydropower to Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid.

Copies of the proposed Contract forms may be inspected at the Authority's office at the address below, or online at the Authority's Web site, www.nypa.gov.

Those wishing to make oral statements at the hearing are asked to provide to the Authority, in writing, in advance of the hearing, their name(s) and the name of the organization or group they represent. Oral statements should be limited to five minutes.

Hearing Date: May 9, 2022
Hearing Times: 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Hearing Location: Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://nypa-gov.zoom.us/j/84847994265?pwd=QWVhQWdBieVlaMFFKd1FVMzd3Uk8rUT09>

Meeting ID: 848 4799 4265; Passcode: 707033
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Written statements provided to the Authority by close of business on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, will also become part of the record of the hearing. For further information, including the address of other Authority offices at which copies of the proposed Contract forms may be inspected, contact:

POWER AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Karen Delince, Corporate Secretary
123 Main Street, White Plains, New York 10601
(914) 390-8085 | secretarys.office@nypa.gov

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