

# Town of Lewiston reviews solar application; hears Senior Center update

Two public hearings set for board's Sept. 13 work session

BY TERRY DUFFY  
Editor-in-Chief

Lewiston Town Board members held a routine but eventful session Monday.

Included was a public hearing to consider a ground-mounted utility-grade solar energy system at 2634 Ridge Road by applicants Kevan Thompson and Janelle Uderitz of DG New York CS III LLC. This represents the latest proposal the town has considered following its earlier lifting of a moratorium on commercial-grade utility solar installations.

With very warm weather that evening, a limited number of Ridge Road residents were on hand to speak. All were opposed to the idea. Issues raised were similar to concerns heard at earlier solar public hearings.

Mary Jane Dylan said, "I bought that house 35 years ago; it's changed with improvements some and that's what we want. We don't want any developments."

The resident told the board she was concerned about being encroached on three sides of her property by the proposed development and wished for the things to remain as-is.

Others spoke of the potential visual impacts a solar project would bring.

Town officials also heard briefly from a representative of the applicants who said the siting of the ground-mounted solar panels was purposely being shifted back from Ridge Road to address visual issues. The town announced it would be talking no action that evening as it further reviews other matters on the proposal.

On a related matter, the town announced it would hold a public hearing at 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 13, to consider another solar energy proposal – the Caldwell Solar Farm on Route 31. More information is expected to be available on the town's website, [www.townoflewiston.us](http://www.townoflewiston.us).

In other news:

•The session included a detailed activity update by Melinda Olick, director of the Town of Lewiston Senior Center. She told the board that, following the COVID-19 disruptions of the past year, the site has seen a very welcome increase in its activity.

"I thought I would give a bit of a rundown on the center from January to the end of July," Olick said. "We had 915 seniors come in and play bingo; we had 572 come to our yoga class; 1,325 attend Silver Sneakers; 423 come to resistance band exercise; and 151 quilters, crafters and knitters come in.

"I thought that would be a positive, feel-good thing to talk about today."

She also told the board the Senior Center's van service has been busy with combined medical and lunch transports for area seniors – more than 100 rides in total.

Supervisor Steve Broderick welcomed news of the Senior Center's rebound. "We've done a lot with the Senior Center; there's good things happening," he said.

Broderick announced the Highway Department is continuing its repaving work on the Senior Center's parking lot.

•The town announced Deputy Supervisor Bill Conrad has resigned his long-time position as chair of the Planning Board, effective immediately.

"He is going to remain as deputy supervisor, but is going to resign the Planning Board. The Planning Board is a big commitment; we have a lot of things going on," Broderick said. "Hopefully we'll be able to find someone as capable."

The town is accepting letters of interest from interested applicants to fill Conrad's position. For more information, visit the town's website or call Town Hall at 754-8213.

•Town Finance/Budget Director Jacqueline Agnello announced work is now underway toward developing the town's 2022 budget, with contacts being made to all town departments for their input.

"Our first tentative budget I'm hoping to have presented to the board at the Town Board meeting of 9-27, due to the state by 9-30," Agnello said.

•Broderick reported the first commemorative Lewiston bicentennial coin is now sold-out following strong sales at the recent Lewiston Art Festival. The town's second coin, which will commemorate the Frontier House, is expected to be available by Aug. 28.

"They really are nice; I'm looking forward to the Frontier House," Broderick said.

•Councilman Jason Meyers announced a public hearing would be held at the Town Board's Sept. 13 work session to consider a proposed small cell telecommunications law. The measure is expected to consider such areas as the siting of towers, town procedures and future establishing of fees and schedules to conform to federal regulations governing 5G cellular service.

The proposed law is scheduled to go on the town website in the near future.

# Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls USA names winners of Macerich Special Events Grant

Heart, Love & Soul, Community Missions received grant funding

Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls USA announced Heart, Love & Soul Inc. and Community Missions of Niagara Frontier Inc. were named 2021 winners of the Macerich Special Event Grant (SEG), a community giveback initiative offered under the Louise Marquez volunteer grant program and administered by Fashion Outlet's parent company, Macerich.

Both Niagara Falls organizations were nominated by the outlet's employees for their impressive impact on the community. They received grant money to help with program-specific expenses.

Each year, the Louise Marquez volunteer grant program awards up to \$500 for an employee-nominated nonprofit event or program. All full-time and part-time employees of Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls USA (who have worked there for more than six months) are eligible to nominate their favorite nonprofit. The program is designed to encourage employees to generously give back to the communities they serve.

"The Macerich Special Event Grant is a very special program to our employees here at the Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls. It empowers us to give back in a meaningful way and recognize deserving organizations that are truly going above and beyond to do good work here in our community," said John Doran, senior property manager, Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls USA. "Heart, Love & Soul and Community Missions of Niagara Frontier Inc. are making a real difference in the lives of the people they serve, and we congratulate them on being this year's grant recipients."

A few outlet employees combined their nomination requests in favor of Heart, Love & Soul. Founded more than 30 years ago by a prayer group of Sacred Heart Parish, Heart, Love & Soul runs a community pantry, kitchen and dining room in an effort to feed those in need – body, mind and soul. Heart, Love & Soul received \$1,000 in funding



to purchase benches and garbage receptacles for the outdoor courtyard of its new Daybreak Center, which provides showers, laundry, case management, health, housing and other services to the community.

Another group combined their nomination requests to help Community Missions of Niagara Frontier receive \$1,000 in funding to purchase business wear and other suitable business clothing items for women and men aspiring to better the future for themselves and their families. Since its founding in 1925, Community Missions has provided a unique blend of referral, crisis, spiritual, community support, recovery and residential services for youth and adults.

Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls' employees are encouraged to select their nonprofits early in the year as funding is limited and each request is reviewed thoroughly by the Macerich SEG committee. Past recipients of the grants included Opportunities Unlimited of Niagara, Empower (formerly Niagara Cerebral Palsy) and Carolyn's House.

To learn more about Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls USA, visit [fashionoutletsniaagara.com](http://fashionoutletsniaagara.com).

The 700,000 square-foot Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls USA property located in Niagara Falls is owned and managed by Macerich. Visit website, "Like" on Facebook, or follow on Twitter and Instagram at @FashionNiagara.

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  2. The **phytonutrients** (phyto- means plant) in plant-based foods are essential for health and wellness for our body and mind. Eat plenty of vegetables and low-sugar fruits (like organic berries), every day.
  3. **Rest** is necessary for your body to run optimally. The way to figure out how much sleep you need is to think about how much you sleep on a relaxing vacation, when you naturally fall asleep and wake up naturally without an alarm. The number of hours you get on a relaxing vacation per day is generally how much time your body is craving for sleep.
  4. Take time to **have fun** with your loved ones. Social support and positive experiences have been noted in studies to be very beneficial to health.
  5. Make sure to **keep your body moving** every day, even if it's just walking up and down the stairs at work or taking a noontime stroll around the block. Exercise is one of the keys to living a long, healthy life."

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**Town of Lewiston**

Applications are invited for appointment to the Town of Lewiston Planning Board. Applications may be obtained from the Town Clerk, Lewiston Town Hall, 1375 Ridge Road, during normal business hours or available on the Lewiston web-site, [www.townoflewiston.us](http://www.townoflewiston.us). Applications will be accepted until the close of business on September 30, 2021.

Donna R. Garfinkel  
Town Clerk

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