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► Catholic Health to resume limited hospital visitations

► Lew-Port's 'One District, One Book' underway in River Region

► Buffalo City Mission: \$500,000 commitment from KeyBank & First Niagara Foundation

► 31st annual 'Doctors with a Heart Day' is Feb. 13

► Arts Services Inc. celebrates 10 years

► Birds on the Niagara set for Valentine's Day weekend

► The Weekend announces his return to the global stage



► Artpark & Company announces updates

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WorkSourceOne offers job placement resources, career counseling

The COVID-19 pandemic has wreaked havoc in so many ways across our community, impacting our collective health and safety, hurting countless small businesses, and costing many Niagara County residents their jobs. For those who have lost their job, or for any job seeker looking for a new opportunity, Niagara County has resources available to help you through WorkSourceOne.

NIAGARA COUNTY LEGISLATURE



Becky Wydysh
Chairwoman

Niagara's WorkSourceOne is our local agency run by the county Department of Employment and Training to provide employment, reemployment and recruitment assistance. WorkSourceOne is the largest employment and training

initiative in Niagara County. They harness the resources of various organizations in Niagara County to provide a seamless array of services to both local businesses and to job seekers who are unemployed, underemployed, or "dislocated" due to business closure or significant layoff of the workforce.

So, what kind of services can a person find at WorkSourceOne? First, there is the "hot jobs" board that posts jobs from local employers who have openings. There are additional opportunities to meet directly with businesses through events like weekly business recruitments, open recruitment sessions, and job fairs. Also, published monthly, is a calendar indicating what activities will be held at the One-Stop center.

WorkSourceOne also offers career counseling for those struggling with their job search, or thinking of changing careers but

not really sure where to begin. Counselors can offer resume preparation assistance and review services to help make sure you are marketing yourself in the best way possible. They also run networking groups called POD (professional opportunity developers) for mid- to upper-management-level individuals seeking reemployment. Various additional services include mock interviews to help you prepare, open interview sessions for companies that are hiring, and other workshops on topics to aid your search. There is even a clothing closet that can lend business attire to women and men for their interviews.

For businesses looking to recruit, the staff members at employment and training are able to assist by matching prospective candidates with employers seeking to fill open positions. This includes offering to help offset

a portion of those prospective candidate's wages while they are in training.

WorkSourceOne currently operates in two locations, one at the Trott Access Center in Niagara Falls (1001 11th St., 278-8108) and the other in the Department of Labor Building in Lockport (272 S. Transit St., 280-6185). The Lockport location is still temporarily closed due to COVID-19. Many of the services offered by WorkSourceOne are available through their website at www.worksource1.com and can be arranged virtually.

Trying to find work can be difficult, especially given the negative economic impact of the pandemic. However, there are still employers hiring and resources available to help in your search through WorkSourceOne. I encourage anyone looking for a job to take advantage of these services.

BBB tip: Don't share your COVID-19 vaccine card on social media

By the Better Business Bureau

Did you get your COVID-19 vaccine? Better Business Bureau is issuing a warning to everyone not to share a photo of your vaccination card on social media. The self-identifying information on it makes you vulnerable to identity theft and can help scammers create phony versions.

What to watch out for:
 ✓ You got your COVID-19 inoculation, and you are excited to share the good news and encourage others to do the same. You take a selfie holding your vaccination card and post it to Facebook,

Instagram, or another social media platform.

✓ Your card has your full name and birthday on it, as well as information about where you got your vaccine. If your social media privacy settings aren't set high, you may be giving valuable information away for anyone to use.

✓ Sharing your personal information isn't the only issue. Scammers in Great Britain were caught selling fake vaccination cards on eBay and TikTok. It's only a matter of time before similar cons come to the United States and Canada. Posting photos of your card can

help provide scammers with the information they can use to create and sell phony ones.

Share safely on social media:
 ✓ Share your vaccine sticker or use a profile frame instead. If you want to post about your vaccine, there are safer ways to do it. You can share a photo of your vaccine sticker or set a frame around your profile picture.

✓ Review your security settings. Check your security settings on all social media platforms to see what you are sharing and with whom. If you only want friends and family to see your posts, be sure that's how your privacy settings are config-

ured.
 ✓ Be wary of answering popular social media prompts. Sharing your vaccine photo is just the latest social trend. Think twice before participating in other viral personal posts, such as listing all the cars you've owned (including makes/model years), favorite songs, and top 10 TV shows. Some of these "favorite things" are commonly used passwords or security questions.

For more information on vaccine scams, visit www.BBB.org. To report a scam, visit www.BBB.org/scamtracker.

People with disabilities to let their voices be heard at WNY Independent Living's virtual Legislative Education Week

Western New York Independent Living Inc. (WNYIL) is participating in the New York Association for Independent Living (NYAIL)'s 2021 virtual Legislative Education Week from Feb. 8-12. People with disabilities in the Western New York area will have the opportunity to speak with local, state and federal elected officials and make their representatives aware of the issues that are important to them.

Elected officials confirmed to

participate so far include: Assembly members Crystal Peoples-Stokes, Stephen Hawley, Pat Burke, Angelo Morinello, Karen McMahan, David DiPietro, Monica Wallace, Michael Norris, William Conrad and Jonathan Rivera, and State Sens. Patrick Gullivan and Rob Ort.

A press release said, "Even before the pandemic prompted restrictions on businesses, which greatly decreased employment and tax revenues, New York state had a

multibillion-dollar budget shortfall, which the leaders seemed intent on reducing somewhat by cutting back on programs, services and legal protections for the state's citizens with disabilities. That temptation has only been increased by the pandemic's circumstances. Legislators will soon be meeting to hammer out details of the state budget, which is due to be finished on April 1, 2021."

Participants wishing to hear from

(and talk to) their representatives can use the Zoom meeting online platform or call in to speak with the officials participating. Register for these virtual meetings by contacting Jillian Moss at 836-0822, ext. 146, or by email at jmoss@wnyil.org, by Feb. 6.

The Western New York Independent Living family of agencies offers an expanding array of services to aid individuals with disabilities to take control of their own lives.

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