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# Tax season is now underway

Happy New Year! 2020 was a very different year, I wish everyone safe and positive times in 2021.

Tax season is now upon us. If you have not received your 2021 town/county tax bill, please call 754-8213, ext. 235 or 222. Taxes are collected from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays at Lewiston Town Hall. This year, the tax office

**TOWN CLERK'S CORNER**



Donna R. Garfinkel

will also be open from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 26, and 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27.

The "drive-up" mailbox located across from the main entrance to the Town Hall is a convenient way to make payments of water bills, dog licenses and tax payments. Simply place your paperwork/bill along with payment, in check form, in the box.

•Town Hall offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 21, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The January Town Board work session will be held at 6 p.m., Jan. 11, and the board's regular

meeting for January is scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28.

•Modern Disposal collects garbage and recycling for the Town of Lewiston every Monday. Both the Memorial Day and Labor Day holidays fall on a Monday, and Modern will be doing pickups on Tuesdays for those weeks.

•Residents are reminded that parking of vehicles is prohibited on all town and county roads in the Town of Lewiston, including shoulders of roadways, from Nov. 1 to April 15.

•Replacing your tattered American flag? Proper disposal of

the flag is a very important and respectful thing to do. The town now has a receptacle from Lewiston VFW Downriver Post No. 7487, which is located in the front foyer at Town Hall. Residents are encouraged to dispose of their flags properly.

•Make summer travel "E-Z'ier" with the purchase of an "E-ZPass on the Go." The town clerk's office is an authorized "E-ZPass on the Go" retailer, and the tag cost is \$25. Once a tag is registered, those monies go directly onto the tag to toll payments. Any questions, please contact the clerk's office.

## 'In the Loop' with the Lewiston-Porter Board of Education

### Community education returns in February

**BY JODEE RIORDAN**  
Board of Education President

Happy New Year, Lewiston-Porter! After a very long and difficult year we welcome the promise of 2021.

School is back in session. Students in the hybrid model returned to campus on Monday, while students in the remote model resumed their online curriculum. We remain hopefully optimistic this year will be better than the last, and that it holds great promise and opportunity for our entire community.

Here's something to look forward to in the new year – new community ed. classes. Lew-Port's community education program is slated to begin in February. Watch for the winter/spring 2021 course

catalog in your mailboxes soon.

Community ed. courses have been thoughtfully selected to appeal to everyone in the River Region community, especially seniors and students. There are technology courses for beginners through intermediate skill levels, as well as courses to better help you learn or master using your phone, laptop or that computer program that's been challenging you. There is also a full series of financial literacy courses – many free of charge – and more than 50 other interesting and inspiring offerings from wellness courses to cooking to beekeeping. For students, there are afterschool foreign language, art and technology courses – including coding for students in grades 3-12 through

CodeWizardsHQ.com. High school students can also enroll in SAT prep courses and take the required five-hour pre-licensing driver education course online.

Community ed. courses are now also offered earlier in the day and right after school, in addition to the traditional evening hours, so you can find the perfect fit for both your interests and your schedule. Classes remain 100% virtual, providing engaging learning opportunities to the whole community as we remain safe at home during these winter months. Registration will open soon.

On behalf of the Lew-Port Board of Education, I offer our heartfelt condolences to the family and many, many friends of Warren

Kahn, our longtime school attorney, who passed away Dec. 22 at age 87.

Warren was a great attorney and a wonderful man. He represented Lewiston-Porter well for many years, seeing the district through many challenges, and was crucial to the success and strength our district has today. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him, my family and me included. I have been blessed to count his son, Alan, as a friend for over 30 years, and Warren always made me not only feel like family. Every interaction, every conversation with him, left me feeling like a better person. We are all better to have known him.

## DCP urges New Yorkers to be aware of COVID-19 vaccination scams

The New York State Division of Consumer Protection (DCP) is alerting consumers about scammers taking advantage of COVID-19 vaccinations to steal personal information. Scammers are using techniques that typically arise with a major global event such as: falsely claiming to be online sellers of the vaccination; sending fake emails and texts that contain harmful links designed to steal one's personal information; and using robocalls to pitch vaccination information. DCP said people should be on the lookout for scammers looking to take advantage of public interest surrounding vaccinations.

"The arrival of the COVID-19 vaccination brings along hope for so many of us, but it also creates new opportunities for unscrupulous scammers to attempt to lure people into unintentionally providing their personal information," Secretary of State Rossana Rosado said. "As the vaccine is rolled out over the next several months, there are simple steps you can take to avoid COVID-19 vaccine scams that can help protect your hard-earned money and your identity."

New York State Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker said, "As we begin the monumental and historic task of vaccinating New Yorkers for COVID-19, we must be mindful of following verification protocols that will ensure a safe and effective vaccination process. As Gov. Cuomo has announced, the vaccine will be free to receive and should be covered by insurance. New Yorkers can do their part by keeping their personal health information safe and questioning any requests for information that are not affiliated with a trusted health or government entity."

Gov. Andrew Cuomo recently launched the Vaccinate New York website to provide New Yorkers with a one-stop location for accurate and up-to-date information on the vaccine, safety, distribution priorities and a number of other details. Upon accessing the site, New Yorkers will find not only general information about the vaccine, but also a detailed frequently asked questions section that provides facts about the vaccine's safety and efficacy. DCP said this information is critical to help instill confidence in the vaccine and to educate the public on it. Information on New York's clinical advisory task force, which approved the FDA's decision to move forward with the vaccine for New York, and on New York's vaccine distribution and implementation task force, are also available on the website.

New Yorkers can access the website by visiting [www.ny.gov/vaccine](http://www.ny.gov/vaccine). Below are tips to protect oneself from COVID-19 vaccination scams:

▶ Don't click on links from sources you don't know. It could download a virus onto your computer or device. Make sure the antivirus software on your computer is up to date.

▶ Be aware of emails coming from unknown senders. Watch for emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or experts claiming to have

information about the vaccine. For the most up-to-date information about the coronavirus in New York, visit the New York State Department of Health website.

▶ Ignore online offers for vaccinations or emails claiming you can get your vaccine sooner. If you see ads touting getting your vaccination sooner for COVID-19, ask yourself: Is an ad or sales pitch a trusted source of information?

▶ Be aware of emails asking for personal information. Do your homework when it comes to sharing personal information over email. Confirm by calling the sender.

▶ Hang up on illegal robocalls. If you receive a call about scam COVID-19 vaccines, hang up. Don't press any numbers. The recording might say that pressing a number will let you speak to a live operator or remove you from their call list, but it might lead to more robocalls, instead.

For up-to-date information on COVID-19 and vaccination information, call 1-888-364-3065.

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