

## Wydysh offers COVID-19 update

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do to assist people to get through this crisis with the least damage as possible.”

He explained, “We could see this – as soon as they started announcing closures – that this was going to be a significant problem for small businesses. So, the economic development department, which is fantastic at growing businesses, now is in a mode of trying to save businesses.”

Andres encouraged small-business owners to visit [www.niagara-countybusiness.com](http://www.niagara-countybusiness.com) for additional resources.

“It’ll link you to various grants for assistance, various programs that are being built, as we speak, to try to get businesses the aid that they need in order to stay afloat during this very trying time.”

Andres said, “I’ve reached out to my colleagues; I’ve heard from businesses; I’ve heard from families; I heard from friends and all kinds of different folks out there in the community, expressing this concern. And we looked at our policies, and we thought, ‘Maybe there’s a way that, in this situation, we could help?’ And so, in speaking with my colleagues, who have been reaching out – my fellow legislators have been tremendous – everybody’s all hands on deck, working tirelessly to make sure that this crisis doesn’t impact their communities in a terrible way.

“We’ve looked at our county tax deadline as a possible way that

we could kind of adjust the way we do business to make it work for county taxpayers, and that’s businesses, and homeowners, as well, because homeowners are, of course, stretched, just as businesses are.”

### COVID-19 Updates

Legislature Chairwoman Becky Wydysh provided an update on the coronavirus spread in Niagara County.

“I can announce today that we have two new positive COVID-19 test results in Niagara County,” she said. “The first is a 62-year-old female in the Town of Pendleton, who is isolating at her home. The second is a 59-year-old female in North Tonawanda, also isolating at home.

“That brings our total number of positive cases of COVID-19 to date to 14 in Niagara County, with 13 currently in isolation.

“The good news is one of those individuals has made it through; they are doing well; they’re recovered, and we are now not counting them in our positive cases. That person is out of isolation and recovered.

“Currently we have 67 individuals in quarantine ... with 32 people who have been released from quarantine, as well. We are also still waiting on two pending tests to come back; we did not have those results back yet.”

Wydysh explained, “If you were watching the governor’s update this morning, you’ll have heard that there are nearly 31,000 cases

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statewide, with 5,000 new cases being recorded today in New York state. We are currently considered the hot spot in the country. New York state does have the highest number of cases of COVID-19 throughout the country – significantly higher than any other state. (Of) all of those tested positive in New York state, there are currently 12% that are hospitalized, with 3% of those individuals needing ICU care.

“We continue to feel the frustration of testing here in Niagara County; we’ve said over and over again that, if we had the ability to do testing at the level that we would like to right now, that our numbers would certainly be much higher. That is frustration that’s being felt all over the state – we are not alone. Many, many counties are wishing that they had more tests available, and were able to do that.

“At this point, testing is being done by health care providers who are treating someone who

is sick, or in the hospital. Those few tests that are available are, of course, being saved for the individuals who are currently being treated and have to have a diagnosis to help with their treat-

ment options. Once those tests are done, they do go to the state Department of Health, and those results make their way back to our Niagara County Department of Health as they come in.

Wydysh cautioned the public that “most of those positive cases that we talked about were not on our radar screen to begin with. These were not individuals that we were in contact with until they received a test and the information came back to us.

“Again we tell you, please keep in mind – as we have thought all along – that COVID-19 is everywhere in our community. Just because you haven’t heard of a test result that’s come back in your town or village or city doesn’t mean it’s not there. We continue to encourage everyone to follow the social distancing guidelines and all of those guidelines and mandates put out by the governor to stay home if you are not an essential worker; don’t go out unless you absolutely need to. Keep yourself home and safe.”

## COVID-19: Municipal updates

### Wheatfield

Town of Wheatfield Supervisor Don MacSwan released the following press release on March 23:

Last week Governor Cuomo, by Executive Order, required that all businesses and government municipalities/agencies eliminate all unnecessary non-essential employees from reporting to work. Accordingly, only essential employees of the Town of Wheatfield are physically reporting to the actual work locations, the remainder of Town employees are working from home or are furloughed at home pursuant to the State mandate.

Please be assured however, that all essential town functions and services are being currently maintained and will continue to be maintained.

Taking into account all the recent developments and State Orders regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19), together with the State of Emergency that was declared in Niagara County and the Town of Wheatfield, I provide the following updated information and policies regarding The Town of Wheatfield.

Wheatfield takes seriously the health and safety of our residents, businesses and visitors. Therefore, we are taking a proactive approach in an attempt to limit and slow down the spread of the virus, by instituting the following measures for Town facilities and activities:

1. A State of Emergency in the Town of Wheatfield was declared on March 16 lasting until further notice. We are requesting that you limit nonessential travel as well as public gatherings and meetings.

2. The Town of Wheatfield Youth Center and Community Center including all events, senior activities, meetings, outside organization activities are continuing to be canceled until further notice. The Youth Center is no longer accepting applications for summer camp, baseball and softball as these activities are full.

3. As there have been Coronavirus (COVID-19), cases reported in our area, the Town Hall is closed to the public. The Town

Hall will still be maintained by essential staff and departments. The Town Clerk’s Office will still be accepting various payments online, by regular mail and dropbox (at front entrance to Town Hall). Building permits are still being issued. As far as this and any other Town Hall business is concerned, we strongly recommend you to complete your town business online, by telephone, email or drop box (at front entrance to Town Hall). Any documents needing to be picked up can be done with specific arraignments with the respective department.

4. The regular town board, zoning and planning meetings continue to be cancelled through the remainder of March. Special meetings may be called for necessary or emergency business.

5. Any other town and committee meetings are postponed until further notice.

6. Electronic recycling at the Town of Wheatfield Water and Sewer Department is temporarily suspended until further notice.

7. The Town of Wheatfield Highway Department Building is closed to the public until further notice.

8. Town cleaning staff will be taking extra sanitation measures on high contact areas.

9. Wheatfield Town Court shall be closed and suspending and adjourning all cases except for criminal arraignments and emergency cases/orders. Any questions from the public should be directed to court phone numbers for guidance and adjourned dates.

10. As part of the essential services, the Town Supervisor’s Office, Town Attorney’s Office, Town Clerk’s Office, Highway Department, Water and Sewer Department and Building Department remain open.

11. Please be reminded that in contacting any department by phone or email, you may need to leave a message or voicemail due to reduced staffing. Please have patience for a return call or response, but be advised that we will make every effort to respond in reasonable time. As always, emergency calls should be to 911.

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## Fish Fry Listings



### Lenten Fish / Seafood



#### The Great Foodini

2564 Academy St., Ransomville

791-4400

[thegreatfoodinipizzeria.com](http://thegreatfoodinipizzeria.com)

We deliver to all surrounding areas

Minimum \$15 order

#### Tin Pan Alley

775 Cayuga St., Lewiston

754-4330

Weekly featured  
Fish & Early Bird Specials

Dine in or Take Out

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#### Toast & Roast

4823 Saunders Settlement Rd.

Niagara Falls

Dine In • Take Out

Every Friday 11am-7pm

297-4172

#### Roman Cafe

797 Payne Ave. N. Tonawanda

692-7048

We have a large variety of fish available for dine in, take out & delivery. Starting at 11am  
[romancaferestaurant.com](http://romancaferestaurant.com)

#### Shooters Grille

at the Tonawandas

Sportsmen’s Club

5657 Killian Rd., N. Tonawanda

[www.tonsportsclub.com](http://www.tonsportsclub.com)

/shooters-grille/

#### Broadway Hotel

158 Main St., N. Tonawanda

692-9810

4:00pm-8:30 • Best In Town

Baked • Broiled

Italian • Cajun • Fried

#### Dwyers Irish Pub

65 Webster St., N. Tonawanda

692-4837

Lenten Fish Fry

Served Fridays

See more great places to  
enjoy a Fish Fry on page 9  
of today’s Tribune/Sentinel

Please note: All fish fries  
are still available for  
takout and/or delivery. For  
more information, please  
call ahead of time.