

Supports Quinn, Stephens & Reynolds in election

BY SHAWN D'LUHY

In a recent conversation with Larry Quinn, he spoke of his love for Youngstown and that he would like to see smart prosperity and growth that benefits the people who live here. Larry had his boat in Youngstown beginning in 2009 and moved here last year. He was asked by several people in the village to run for trustee in Youngstown and he decided to do so.

Larry's experience has well prepared him for this. Having been a managing partner of the Buffalo Sabres, he helped to build the arena along with the countless tasks required by this position. He has also worked with a wide variety of people and different levels of governmental rules and regulations, yet he remains down to earth. Larry is approachable and easy to talk to.

Larry has also served for five years on the board of directors of the Youngstown Yacht Club. Of most value to him during his tenure was his ability to help make the Junior Sailing program open to all, not just members of the Yacht Club. Seeing this program

grow and flourish has been very fulfilling for him. Larry strongly believes that everyone in the village should be able to benefit from Youngstown's resources, not just a few.

As a village, Larry knows that keeping expenses down as much as possible without adversely affecting the quality of life is an ongoing challenge. Larry would like to see our beautiful, natural resources be developed so everyone can benefit by using them. He is oriented toward recreation and, with his background in development, this is a perfect match. He would like to see Youngstown work with the Wilson Foundation. Larry would like his vast experience to help find a good solution to the cold storage building in a way that will benefit many. Larry is very civic-minded and I appreciate his willingness to serve the Village of Youngstown. He is a good man and will serve Youngstown well.

Kristel Stevens is also running for one of the trustee positions in Youngstown. Yes, Kristel Stevens is a Republican, yet she willingly answered the call from the

Democrats to run for office. Kristel has great respect for Raleigh Reynolds and all he has done to keep our village the wonderful place it is. She also believes in people first, before party, and the quality of the person is the most important. She was born and raised in Youngstown, as were her parents, grandparents and great-grandparents.

Kristel is a mother of three boys: her two older boys joined the Navy. Her youngest lives at home. Kristel is a PA (physician's assistant) and hopes her medical training and experience would be beneficial if we had another challenge as we have had with COVID. She could be helpful with medical recommendations, especially ones with common sense.

Kristel would like to help wherever she can. With two of her boys out of the house, she can become more active in the village. She is a member of the Recreation Committee in Youngstown. She hopes activities for families will continue and grow, and that more opportunities will be created for our veter-

ans and seniors. She also would like to see more family activities. Kristel would be an asset to the board.

Raleigh Reynolds has served as the mayor of Youngstown for 10 years. Raleigh has a wealth of experience in the inner workings within the village, the Town of Porter, Niagara County and New York state and the United States government. He has learned how to navigate the myriad requirements, restrictions and challenges of running a municipality. It is not an easy task, and the learning curve was steep.

Thankfully, Raleigh was elected a trustee in 2008 and then he became the deputy mayor. Having worked in the village office, I was shocked at the depth of knowledge and expertise that is required in so many areas. For such a small town, the responsibilities are varied and huge!

Raleigh is open, honest and approachable – so much so that his job often becomes full-time rather than the part-time job he is paid for. Raleigh lives by the principle that when he puts his head on his pillow at night, he

can go to sleep knowing that he has done the right things and has been true to himself and those he serves. He is a good man through and through.

Raleigh would love to see senior housing brought to Youngstown. Too many residents have had to leave Youngstown because we don't have the housing they require. They would love to continue to live in Youngstown, and hate to go somewhere else later in life. Raleigh has served Youngstown well and would like to continue to do so.

We are so blessed to have such a strong slate of candidates running in our village election this year. The synchronicity of all the candidates loving and valuing the joys of small-town living in Youngstown and who want to see Youngstown flourish in healthy and beneficial ways is exciting. Change is inevitable. Good change requires planning, vision and research. It often takes time.

Please come out and vote at the election May 17 in the Red Brick Community Center Gym from noon until 9 p.m.

Youngstown needs leadership

BY JOHN 'DUFFY' JOHNSTON

As chairman of the Town of Porter/Village of Youngstown Republican Party, I am excited that we have the best three candidates for election the Village of Youngstown has ever seen.

Rob Reisman for mayor, also Rick Stortecki and Catherine Stella for village trustee. Their

background has a mix of business, financial and community wisdom that will help the village get back on track to make the village succeed. These candidates will be accessible to the public, answer their phones and emails, but most of all will be transparent. This means having village meetings that are open and not going into executive

sessions constantly.

As the supervisor of the Town of Porter, I have worked with Trustee Reisman on several occasions, including getting a grant writer for the town and village. Working together as a town and village is how projects get done. I know these three candidates very well and it will be a pleasure to work with them. Their

hearts are all about the village and keeping it a village. You want a trustee that knows what the village wants and needs and is a

resident of Youngstown.

Bring Youngstown back; bring business back! Vote May 17 for Reisman, Stella and Stortecki.

Encourages vote for Welch

To my community:

Reflecting back on the summer of 2020, I can share the scariest time for me and my family. I can honestly share how frightened I was that my family was going to get ripped apart. Due to unforeseen circumstances. During this period, my husband and I were forced to terminate his Canadian sponsorship process and instead rush to complete mine for the USA, or be split apart as a family as the pandemic was ravishing and turning everyone's world upside down.

Last July, my husband and I started to eagerly look to find a home in Lewiston, as my husband had shared how welcoming, kind and supportive of a town it was, and it wouldn't be such a culture shock coming from Canada. So, off we went using a well-seasoned Realtor, who, too, boasted about the area. With her guidance, caring and professional advice and opinions, we settled in the village.

The village, although scarce

and quiet like everywhere else due to the pandemic, was still quaint, charming and lovely. Lewiston had charm like no other and seemed very inviting. I had met a few people from a distance while masked, who were very friendly. I ran into trouble while renovating our house, because I was unaware that it was historically designated and needed approval from the Village Historic Board. I met Mayor Anne Welch, who reached out to help me. After attending several meetings, which did not go well, compromises were made and, through the support of the mayor, and my neighbors, and I now enjoy this wonderful community.

Anne Welch is the true Lewiston way: welcoming, kind, caring, supportive, who cares abundantly about her community. It matters to her that the people are safe, cared for and are heard. Anne is real.

After starting off with a very challenging experience, I was able to see and experience the true beauty of Lewiston and

what it all stands for. Anne went above and beyond for my family and I. We will never forget the true compassion and kindness she demonstrated our entire time of being here. Anne always encourages the community to get involved and that they all know they matter. She works diligently at always finding a balance and what is fair for all, the best she can. She always factors in the community, her fellow constituents and the expectations put before her. Anne does this wholeheartedly and it shows.

Anne has done an amazing job during COVID and the unpredictability of the pandemic in which we have had to all endure and continue to on a lesser scale. I can honestly say I am extremely proud to be a Lewistonian and owe a lot of this to our Mayor Anne Welch. I urge all of you to consider giving your vote to Anne Welch in the upcoming mayoral elections and reelect Anne Welch! Your voices matter.

Linda Napolitano
Lewiston

School (cont.)

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ditures or meaningfully cover changes in programs.

Many people do not vote because they feel their vote is irrelevant, when the only alternative is a contingency budget of al-

most the same amount of money. Rejecting the proposed budget should have meaningful consequences and, at a minimum, require the district to operate using their last approved budget. The current statewide budget process

needs to be overhauled, so that people are empowered and have ownership of their local schools.

Jeff Manning
Lewiston

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