

# Frontier House (cont.)



The back of 460 Center will have an elevator leading up to the top floors, as well as a rebuilt porch on the lawn.

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The president of Fittante Architecture said seeing the Frontier House back on track and likely reopening in 2022 is “a dream.”

“It’s pretty cool going from ... a vague memory of my dad up on a ladder for the fire company fighting a fire there one time, to doing all this stuff that McDonald’s had to offer with the playground and going there a couple times a week as a kid in the summertime. And then I worked there to get some gas money when I got driving (laughs). I even worked there for a while as a grill closer. We snuck up sometimes and looked at the rooms upstairs.”

Fittante is an HPC board member. He recused himself from vot-

ing on the project.

“My main goal, when I got on that Historical Preservation Commission, was to figure out ways to get that back into the hands of someone who really wanted to restore it. And then for me to be on the project – it’s a dream; almost surreal,” he said. “I take pride and joy in everything I do in Lewiston.”

Fittante said Ellicott Development is the right company to restore the Frontier House.

“They’re very good at their property management, property maintenance, property upkeep,” he said. “They’re a well-developed company that should do very well.”

# YBPA eyes return of street dance

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William Mayne, and William had the idea for a program that would encourage our businesses to enhance their communities, with the goal to draw more visitors and repeat business. And in the end, help grow our local economy.

“(This) has evolved into the William G. Mayne Jr. Business Community Enhancement Program, which is now 24 years old and going strong. The Youngstown Business and Professional Association has been one of the more active participants in the program since its inception, working hard to beautify and promote the Village of Youngstown to the world. We’re so proud to have them in the Town of Porter.”

Butera said, “This is the most we have ever gotten.” She noted the grant funding enables YBPA to pursue a number of improvement initiatives to benefit the Village of Youngstown. “We will be ordering brand-new USA flags as well as brand-new Village of Youngstown logo flags that line both Main Street and Lockport Street, as well as in front of the village offices. ... We have needed new replacement flags for a very long time. Our hope is to have them on display by Memorial (Day) weekend.”

Butera said the funding would also allow YBPA to replace a number of holiday snowflake decorations that brighten up the village during the holidays.

“The original lights were also purchased by YBPA, but they have been showing wear and tear for the last couple of years as well,” she said.

Butera added the new snowflakes will be larger and in color, as opposed to the traditional white.

Still another project the Mayne grant provides funding for is YBPA’s “Welcome to Youngstown/Town of Porter” informational brochures that are distributed throughout the River Region.

“These brochures are complete with all the businesses and organizations and events within the Youngstown area, including parts of Ransomville,” Butera said.

Myers expressed her appreciation to the Niagara County Legislature and to its economic development committee for providing this program. And she went on to praise the YBPA for its sound organizational structure as a business chamber.

“I applaud you guys for all the businesses and the people who participate in the Youngstown Business Association, because ... you guys have a nice support group; it’s nice that you all work together and it just goes to show that you can accomplish many things,” she said. “It’s nice that you guys are all so active and participate.”

Butera closed by reporting the YBPA remains hopeful for its popular “Here Comes Summer” street dance to return to Main Street. She said YBPA has tentatively scheduled the event for Thursday evening, June 17, and is hopeful for a favorable decision by state and local officials.

“Depending on guidelines from the state of New York and local officials, the much-loved street dance is (still) up in the air at this time,” she said. “Whatever is decided, it will be done with the best advice and guidance (available) for any outdoor event.”

For more on the YBPA and its activities, visit [www.youngstown-newyork.com](http://www.youngstown-newyork.com).

# Niagara Area Habitat for Humanity to host Chiavetta’s chicken dinner at First Assembly of God

Niagara Area Habitat for Humanity will hold a drive-thru Chiavetta’s chicken dinner fundraiser from 3:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 20, at Niagara Falls First Assembly of God, 9750 Niagara Falls Blvd. The fundraiser will be held in partnership with the Niagara Regional Construction Alliance to help raise funds for Habitat for Humanity’s newest upcoming home, to be built this summer on 61st Street in Niagara Falls.

Dinner includes Chiavetta’s legendary chicken with potato salad and coleslaw as sides. Pre-sale tickets can be purchased for \$12 by calling 265-9010 or online at <http://niagarahabitat.eventbrite.com/>. Dinners can also be purchased May 20 for \$14 while supplies last.

Customers can stay in their cars and event volunteers will load dinners into backseats or trunks.

NRCA President George Lodick said, “This has been a tough year for Habitat to fundraise due to COVID-19. They have had to cancel all of their fundraisers over the past year, so the Niagara Regional Construction Alliance is hoping to make this Chiavetta’s chicken dinner a huge success for them.”

Niagara Area Habitat Executive Director Gina Beam said, “We are trying to raise some much-needed funds for Niagara Area Habitat. Since it is a drive-thru, we are hoping to see a lot of supporters who have been hesitant to go out in public or at restaurants during the pandemic. This way, folks will be able

# IN THE NEWS

to support Niagara Area Habitat while still getting a very tasty Chiavetta’s dinner and staying socially distant.”

A press release stated, “Niagara Area Habitat for Humanity makes homeownership possible for local families. Since 1993, it has built 29 homes in Niagara County, helping more than 100 families achieve their dream of homeownership. Families in Habitat’s homebuyer program are able to purchase a decent, safe affordable home. This is attainable for low-income families because Niagara Area Habitat subsidizes the cost of the house through grants, donations and volunteer labor. The homebuyer repays a low-interest, 30-year mortgage, which supports the ‘Fund for Humanity,’ a revolving account used to build additional homes.”

# HAL presentation on Fort Niagara

The Historical Association of Lewiston’s next program is titled, “The 28th Infantry Regiment and Fort Niagara: A Proud History.” Edward Jackson will present this event at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 27, at the First Presbyterian Church, 505 Cayuga St.

Jackson’s presentation will explain why the 28th Infantry Regiment has an interesting history – and Fort Niagara’s connection. One of the most important parts of that history was the Battle at Cantigny, which was fought May 28-30, 1918. This would be the first battle on European soil by any U.S. forces. The 28th was the lead and main unit in this battle. They would be successful in driving the Germans out the village of Cantigny and stopping the forward advance into France. One of the most important elements of this operation was it was fully

planned and executed by American officers and fought by American troops.

Jackson grew up in Lockport and attended local schools, graduating in 1965. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam as a combat infantryman. Returning home, he attended Niagara Community College. After a long break of about 40 years, Jackson was able to finish and go on to Niagara University. He majored in business management and history and received his Bachelor of Science degree with a minor in history.

Jackson worked in many management positions for several companies and would own two companies, the last of which was a warehousing and trucking company located in Lockport. Due to health issues, he was forced into changing directions. He has done research and presentations on several military topics. Jackson has done presentations at Niagara University on his experiences in Vietnam. He also works with returning veterans in the Niagara County Veterans Court. He is a past commander of Vietnam Veterans of America Charter 268 and also is the present commander of VFW Post 313 of Youngstown. Jackson serves as a tour guide at Old Fort Niagara.

This community event is free and open to all. This is a new meeting location. Attendees are asked to use the back entrance next to the church parking lot.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all present must wear appropriate facial covering and practice social distancing during the presentation. Hand sanitizer will be available. There will be a 100-person seating limitation. There will be no refreshments served at this meeting.

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