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THE NIAGARA REPORTER

FREE

June 27, 2018 - July 3, 2018

NiagaraReporter.com

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FREE

Residents Voice Their Opinions on Top Issues

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-Expensive Security Upgrades Planned at NF City Hall

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Bear-a-Palooza: A 'Wild' Few Days in North Tonawanda

By: Nicholas D. D'Angelo

And who says nothing 'wild' happens in North Tonawanda!

In the morning of June 22nd, 2018, around 7:30am, residents first reported seeing a black bear roaming through the NT neighborhood.

The black bear, who was described as male and two-three years

of age, was peaceful and minded his own business as he traversed the neighborhood. Although, he was a bit intrusive at times as he walked in and out of residents backyards. Taking in all of the fine gardening and landscaping work of residents I'm sure!



There was, oddly enough, another black bear seen making its way through the Town of Amherst one day before. It is unclear whether they are the same, or just related.

Perhaps the bear in NT was taking

(Cont. on pg. 10)

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NIAGARA FALLS

The Niagara Reporter
June 6 at 12:58 PM ·

"If everyone paid \$200-\$300 per year more for garbage pickup, it could cut a little into the deficit – making up for about 25 percent of what Dyster lost for us with the Senecas."



NIAGARAFALLSREPORTER.COM

Residents About to Get Trashed? - The Niagara Reporter

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Sam Archie: How about you cut some fat from the budget Like the bloated CD dept or cut the stipends or do a job evaluation and see what's necessary. Or how about cutting your special assistant You want the residents to bear more financial responsibility because of your financial irresponsibility.

LaDeen Masters: This is just nuts that with a straight face anyone could say if the residents pay more, then it will help with the deficit they created.

Danielle Hoffman: I can't help but wonder if those in charge are inten-

tionally pushing residents away. Once enough people flee, eminent domain would be a simple enough move- and then how much money could be made from this land??

Eileen Sokol: Uh forgive me, but isn't infrastructure, street maintenance, trash pick up, etc. the reason I pay substantial property tax? Sick of this nonsense! They mismanage the money they do get then expect us to pay more.

Tammy Wable-Santos: Sure! Reduce my property tax by \$200-\$300 first! Idiotic solution! This is the city's prob-

lem NOT for the residents to solve with more fees and taxes!

Frank Bauhm: Dyster blew through \$200,000,000 in casino funds and here he is asking for more ways to support his irresponsible and suspicious spending addiction. Let's cut to the chase and have city hall investigated by the FBI and State Comptroller. We ALL KNOW what's been going on for the past ten years.

Tom Vitello: If I'm paying that much more annually, then we should be able to dispose of everything, every week whether it fits in the bins or not

Sierra Nicole Blackwell: "Hey, we mismanaged your tax dollars, so give us more tax dollars so that we can mismanage the funds to fix the mismanagement of funds." Is that what I basically just read?

Frank W Kolbmann: LMAO...THIS GUY IS SUCH A BOOB. Competition for Cuomo. Can't fix the roads, can't pay the bills, barely does the job. Now when it comes to doling out taxpayer money to politically motivated welfare and charity projects...he sure excellent there. SMH. And how many of those community development projects actually get bang for their buck more than his political and business allies get the money running them?? Has that neighborhood in NF gotten running water yet? If this guy were in private sector he would have been fired long ago.

Ken Ziggy Pomichter: So the people actually paying to live here will once again get fleeced taking care of their

property while helping to subsidize the abundant population of sex offenders and violent ex cons living off the fat of the land. That's definitely garbage.

Robert Boland: Yeah, but look at that beautiful train station you have, that no one uses, and cost the city a fortune to heat, a/c and clean the windows..... Dan Dusher: Why do they keep saying Dyster lost anything. Actually pull old news and see that the state gave the land to the Seneca nation and didn't ask the city to approve. They set up the host agreement and didn't ask the city to approve. This is a state issue, not a city issue. Now, I'd like to see an option for an additional garbage tote at an extra fee per year. You pay say \$200 and you get a second tote to fill, and if you don't pay the fee for the next year, they just take the tote. Residents get more garbage they can dispose of, and alleys aren't a mess.

Karl Zaker: Here, I'm thinking of cleaning up overgrown areas on my property but then what? Can't put it to the curb- take a day off of work to run to the dump 5 times for dispose of overgrown bushes.. there are only BASIC services in this city. And yes- we can't burn shrubbery without the risk of being fined by the Marshall even if no one calls to complain. The minute I can cut ties with this city I'm out of here!

John Orefice: Just bring your Garage to city hall and throw it on the lawn. Then the Garbage trucks can make fewer stops.

John Accardo: The city is broke ! I see more illegal dumping in the future!

Delivery Locations by Town/City

Amherst

Tops (3035 Niag. Falls Blvd.)

Grand Island

Tops (2140 Grand Island Blvd.)

Lewiston

DiCamillo Bakery (535 Center St.)
Public Library (305 S. 8th St.)
Tim Hortons (2970 Saunders Settlement Rd.)
Tops (906 Center St.)
Rite Aid (731 Center St.)
Syros Restaurant (869 Cayuga St.)
Village Bakery (417 Center St.)

Lockport

Lockport City Court & County Courthouse
Save-A-Lot (5770 Transit Rd.)
Tops (5827 South Transit Rd.)

Niagara Falls

City Hall (basement)
The Como (restaurant, deli, & airport locations)
DiCamillo Bakery (all locations)
Frankie's Donuts
John Duke Center (1202 Hyde Park Blvd.)
Key Bank (800 Main St.)
Memorial Medical Center (entrance to lobby)
Michael's Restaurant (3011 Pine Avenue)
Marketside Restaurant (708 E. Market St.)
Mom's Restaurant (2410 Military Rd.)
Niagara Towers (901 Cedar Ave.)
Niagara Falls Family Court (775 Third St.)
Niagara Falls Police Station (1925 Main St.)
Niagara Falls Public Library (Main St.)
Rite Aid (7804 Buffalo Ave. & 4407 Military Rd.)
Save-A-Lot (2429 Military Rd.)

North Tonawanda

Broadway Hotel (158 Main St.)
Budwey's Market (535 Division St.)
City Hall (216 Payne Ave.)
Lou's Diner (73 Webster St.)
Public Library (505 Meadow Dr.)
Olympia Restaurant (3312 Niag. Falls Blvd.)
Tops (301 Meadow Dr.)
Roman Café (797 Payne Ave.)
Save-A-Lot (1365 Nash Rd.)

Sanborn

Smokin Joes (gas station and store)
Tim Hortons (2970 Saunders Settlement Rd.)
Tops (2956 Saunders Settlement Rd.)

Tonawanda

Tops (890 Young St.)

Wilson

Lakeside Market (337 Lake St.)

Youngstown

Bandanas Bar & Grill (930 Lake Rd. (18F))
Public Library (240 Lockport St.)
Rite Aid (214 Lockport St.)
Village Diner (425 Main Street)

Spallino Towers

(720 10th St.)
Supermarket Liquor (8438 Niag. Falls Blvd.)
Tops (Niag. Falls Blvd., Portage, & Military)
Tim Hortons (all locations)
Wedge Liquors (825 Pine Ave.)
Wrobel Towers (800 Niagara Ave.)

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NIAGARA



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The Niagara Reporter
June 13 at 1:19 PM • 4

"Dyster will soon be proposing this upgrade to the city council for approval. The cost – when it is all done – which may be in phases – may be upwards of \$100,000."



NIAGARAFALLSREPORTER.COM

Expensive Security Upgrades Planned at Niagara Falls City Hall - The Niagara Reporter

[Learn More](#)

Sam Archie: where is the MONEY coming from?!

Greg JJ Sitek: Why not just move the city hall offices to that train station, nobody goes there. It's completely safe.

Duffy Fitzpatrick: So he cuts the police department manpower due to his wasteful spending, and now he moves more officers off the street to protect whom from whom? Hire a security guard.

Maria Fabiano: What exactly is he afraid of? Does he realize that he screwed up and people are tired of

him? He's nothing special and needs to be removed from office ASAP!

Laurel Sheehan-Wasik: If he's worried then he should buy a gun with his own money instead of sticking it once again to the tax payers. Or did he spend all his own money on soy lattes?

Tim Huether: So the mayor and probably other city hall employees feel unsafe and need more security to work there but we have paving crews, clean team crews, golf course workers, parks workers and even ramps workers that deal directly with the public every day

with NO security (even legal pistol permit holders cannot carry while on the clock) but city hall needs security? THE CITY IS BROKE! SCHOOLS ARE BEING SHOT UP NATIONWIDE AND CITY HALL NEEDS MORE SECURITY? Which employees are gonna lose their job so city hall can pay for enhanced security? This is an outrage! They cannot be serious! See you guys at the next council meeting!

Rosalia Stone: If they expect visitors to use the front doors, will they also be installing a ramp for the handicapped visitors? Using the basement back doorway is right next to the handicap parking area... Somebody at City Hall needs to think this through.

Robert Michael: And this is why the mass exodus will continue from the city to outlying suburbs of Niagara county. Were on a strict (no extra) budget and here Dyster is making more strain on the tax payers.

Lorena Lee: Ya and there are talks of cutting more police, really i didn't vote him in and next election whomever voted for him needs to vote him out. Crime and criminals are running rampant. I am afraid to venture out at night. People ask need for directions to the falls and I send them right over to the Canadian side. It's a shame that you can't feel safe in this city. And until we the citizens make a change there

will not be a change

Frank Bauhm: Dyster has a pistol permit to carry. He attended the permit class in spring 2014. Dyster supports "Wear Orange Day" which is a program supported by former NYC mayor Bloomberg to disarm the US citizens. Dyster is hypocritical to an amazing extent. He wants others to give up their guns but gets his own gun and gun permit. Hypocrite. He turns the city over to sex offenders, homeless and the poverty industry and THEN wants the city police to sit in city hall and protect him from the people he's worked to bring into the city! Hypocrisy. Breathtaking, record breaking hypocrisy.

Michael Orzolick: City Hall is Safer than Tops Market on Portage Road.

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WEEKLY HEADLINES

- Tow truck driver just tried to remove the white vehicle and the pickup is embedded into the back end of it.
- Niagara Falls police and fire responding to the 1800 of Linwood for a stabbing or laceration to the face.
- Police and Fire also responded to and assault with a cut to the arm in the 900 block of Ontario Ave.
- New York State Police attempted to stop a stolen Chevy trailblazer on Ferry Ave in the City of Niagara Falls this evening. The vehicle was reported stolen out of Lewiston, NY.
- Foot chase on the 1600 block of Willow.
- Niagara Falls fire department on location 1951 cudaback for confirmed working structure fire. Heavy Flames coming out of the ceiling two-story wood-frame structure.
- Niagara Falls Fire responding to Home Depot parking lot for car vs. stop sign with airbag deployment.
- A man chopped off the arm of his pregnant wife in a gruesome Brooklyn attack on Thursday, according to police. Lu was believed to be in the Niagara Falls, NY, area on Friday June 22 attempting to flee into Canada.
- Niagara Falls Police launched a child abuse investigation Sunday after an 11-year-old boy told them that his father told him to make a late-night delivery of drugs.
- A report of teens trying to break into a car early Sunday led Niagara Falls Police to arrest three boys – one a juvenile – after they were found to be in possession of drugs and burglary tools.
- A pair of home health care aides are pointing the finger at each other after a 66-year-old Niagara Falls man reported a theft from his home on Kies Court.
- A New York City man told Niagara Falls Police that he was robbed in his downtown motel room early Sunday by a woman he had met hours earlier on the street.
- A 78-year-old Ontario woman told Niagara Falls Police her purse was stolen from her car about 1:10 p.m. Saturday while she pumped gas.
- A thief caused about \$2,000 worth of damage to a Main Street laundromat Saturday morning while stealing about \$200 in coins.

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- Drain Cleaning

CSX Finally Begins Work to Remove Tracks Along Hyde Park Blvd. in the City's North-End



Drivers says it's been a problem for years, but Councilman Bill Kennedy says that residents became fed up and more vocal about the issue after this when winter ended and the streets were exposed again.

"The problem is they're no longer used, so they're no longer maintained. The road dips when the rail lines are, and both metal and wood are exposed. Drivers must slow down or risk damaging their cars," said Kennedy.

Niagara Falls officials say

CSX has been slow to own up to the problem until recently.

After seemingly banging the drum for months, pressure from residents and city officials forced CSX to act.

CSX will be responsible for removing the tracks, and then the City of Niagara Falls will be responsible for paving over the area.

The Council hopes to have the project done by the end of July.

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Man Wanted for Cutting Off Wife's Arms Captured in Niagara Falls

Niagara Reporter credited by numerous news outlets for breaking story on Young's arrest.

The man wanted by US Marshals and NYPD for cutting off his wife's arms in New York City has been captured in Niagara Falls, NY.

Young Lu was arrested this evening by Niagara Falls Police at the One Niagara Welcome Center.

Police confiscated a few items along with a lifejacket that Lu purchased from an area Walmart.

Police believe that Young was going to use this lifejacket in an attempt to swim across the Niagara River into Canada.

Lu chopped off the arm of his pregnant wife in a gruesome Brooklyn attack on Thursday, according to police.

The 31-year-old victim was inside her Sunset Park home — waiting on her 7-year-old son to get

finished with school — when her husband allegedly snapped, cops said.

Using a steak knife, he attacked the woman around 12:20 p.m., severing her right arm at the bicep and two fingers on her left hand, police said.

A neighbor heard what was going on and called 911.

Responding officers arrived to a grisly scene — with the victim bleeding profusely and in critical condition.

Her husband was nowhere to be found.

Paramedics rushed the woman to Bellevue Hospital, where she was placed in a medically-induced coma.

The Action Niagara Falls was



Photo courtesy of Samar Hamilton, The Action Niagara Falls

the first to obtain video footage of the arrest and their pictures of Young have been used across New

York and the nation including, but not limited to, USA Today and the New York Post.

Police Pursuit with Stolen Car Ends in Foot Chase



Photos courtesy of Samar Hamilton, The Action Niagara Falls

New York State Police attempted to stop a stolen Chevy trailblazer on Ferry Ave in the City of Niagara Falls this evening. The vehicle was reported stolen out of Lewiston, NY.

The driver failed to stop and a police pursuit began. Niagara County Sheriffs and Town of Niagara Police assisted State Police. Lewiston Police later joined in. Niagara Falls Police assisted but ended pursuit after the pursuit left city limits.

The pursuit came to an end on Mount Hope Rd near Printup Rd. & Chew Rd.

when the vehicle lost control and crashed into a field after a successful spike strip deployment.

The suspect got out of the vehicle and took off on foot. The suspect ran into the woods before being caught and taken into custody. The pursuit went east on Ferry Ave - north on Packard Rd - north on Lockport Rd - west on Walmore Rd - and east on Mount Hope Rd.

Police also stated that some type of object was thrown out of the window in the 5600 block of Walmore during the chase.

Police Patrol Uptick Along 19th Street Corridor



Photo courtesy of Samar Hamilton, The Action Niagara Falls

With the assistance from the Niagara County Sheriffs, Niagara Falls Police stepped up patrols in the City, mainly along the 19th Street corridor. Several Niagara Falls police officers rode along with sheriff deputies.

Several people were arrested. There were two incidents where the suspects ran from police. The first was near 18th & Linwood Avenue where

the suspect ran into a house but was taken into custody shortly thereafter. The second was in the 1700 block of Cudaback Avenue.

That individual was pepper sprayed by an officer during the foot case and ultimately taken into the custody. AMR was requested for decontamination and a supervisor was requested, per use of force protocol.

James Gill

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ANALYSIS



Ken Hamilton

NY Federal Senator Kristen Gillibrand arrived in Buffalo this week and, in a beaming voice, she promoted New York's move to legalize recreational marijuana; but all that I heard was the baritone voice of the ghost of Reagan whispering, "I'm from the government. I am here to help you (black people)." She said that though whites and blacks are proportional users of marijuana, blacks are four-times more likely to be arrested and jailed for it.

Many politicians are out of touch with the root cause of the usage issue; and it's not because they're white; it's because, like Buffalo's black Assemblywoman Crystal Peoples-Stokes, they're politicians. Peoples-Stokes represents one of upstate's most repressed districts, and she has reportedly been working on the legalization for years.

Gillibrand couched her well-intentioned but political remarks by suggesting that the legalization would be good for NY's African-Americans. Does she really think that marijuana is the reason why blacks are arrested? Even if legal, blacks will still being arrested at more than 4-times the white rate for doing something else while under the influence of the drug.

Furthermore, the following factors must also be considered:

EDUCATION

In a widely circulated video, Cassandra Pinkney, the founder of a Washington DC-area public school, with several years of marijuana legalization under their belts, warned parents of school-aged children to not smoke pot around students.

In her school that takes in children between preschoolers and 3rd graders, she warned of children's 2nd-hand exposure to marijuana smoke, citing the

emotional state that the children find themselves in school, as well as their lack of attentiveness.

Pinkney makes a stark comparison between alcohol and marijuana use by saying, "If you were drinking in your home and your child went to reach for an alcoholic drink, you would say, 'No don't do that, that's not for you.'" She went on to say, "A child has no choice from inhaling the smoke of a marijuana cigarette, and so you are exposing your child to dangers and things that they are not able to handle."

Pinkney's statement is consistent with a report the was put out by the DC Department of Health's Center for Policy, Planning and Evaluation – Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance that found that marijuana use has been associated with a decline in IQ when regularly used among individuals under the age of 18. While elementary-aged children don't put the marijuana up to their lips, they certainly inhale it when their parents often smoke it around them. One would imagine that teenagers don't smoke illegal marijuana around younger children for fear of being told-on, but given legalization, all of that might change. For older students, the report did cite that "short term marijuana-related effects can include cyclic vomiting, disorientation, impaired body movement, increased heart rate, and difficulty thinking or problem-solving. Who wants their child taking an exam under these circumstances?

The report went on to say that:

- Marijuana was the second most commonly detected drug in traffic accidents that resulted in fatalities, District of Columbia in 2012; and,
- There is some evidence that marijuana use may increase cancer risk.

Here's one of interest: as we try to get the guns out of the homes that harbor troubled students, the DC report also cites that "among individuals at risk for mental illness, marijuana use may worsen symptoms."

It goes on to say that:

- 8.9% of marijuana users will transition from casual use to dependence.
- Cigarette use and binge drinking are significantly higher among marijuana users than non users.
- Marijuana use among expecting mothers has demonstrated various adverse effects, including low birth weight and pre-term delivery; and, finally,
- Throughout the U.S., marijuana possession arrests tend to occur significantly more among African Americans than any other race/ ethnicity despite rates of use are fairly similar across all categories.

Good argument can be made that the use of marijuana isn't at the root of all of the above symptoms, as other issues also can cause such results. But isn't it also fair to say that so much of what African-American's are exposed to can also lead to behavior that predisposes us to be in over-policed situations, and that marijuana isn't the root cause of the arrests, it is just the gateway that attracts the attention and through which the police often go to affect the arrest?

Good argument can also be made that if legal-

ization would reduce the arrests of African-American users, it still won't improve the conditions that lead blacks to those root cause issues that gives the urge to smoke. Therefore, one could only assume that its intent is to make inner-city denizens comfortable where they are, and not bother the Narcan-dispensing first responders.

EMPLOYMENT

The US Department of Labor and major news outlets are reporting that black unemployment is now lower than it has been in nearly 2 decades; but can that trend continue if recreational marijuana becomes legal. Marijuana use can only reduce employment opportunities for many Americans.

For critical jobs, the state cannot restrict employers from screening out potential employees based upon its usage. As blacks are used as the panthers of pity in the propaganda of helping to reduce the volume of our arrests, will black Americans also be 4X more likely to be screened out of employment opportunities after legalization? Even after attaining a job, due to the neighborhoods – like those of Assemblywoman Peoples-Stokes' East-side of Buffalo – blacks still have to return to the environment where there will be even more marijuana use, and it will be used by many of the worker's unemployable friends. The attitude already is that marijuana isn't a drug – but it will remain as such for many employees. Failure to overcome peer pressure could also mean failure to make next month's bill payments.

Take the following case of all other factors being equal:

An enviably handsome young African-American man sees what he considers to be a well-connected grandfatherly community member and asks whom if he could help him to get a job. The man asks the young fellow a series of questions. "Did you finish high school?" The young man impresses his potential mentor by proudly relaying that he graduated on the honor roll with a New York State Regents Diploma. The man asks if he can pass a background investigation, and again is pleased with the young fellow's response. "Oh, yes," he says with confidence. "I don't have a criminal record."

Now, almost anxious to help what would be an inner-city prodigy, destined for success, the man confidently asks his last question. "And you stay away from drugs, right?"

"Oh, yes," said the young smiling prospect. "I don't use drugs." But here's where it all falls apart. "I only smoke weed on the weekends."

"I'm sorry," said the old fellow. "I can't help you." And the young man lowered his head in disappointment, turned and walked away – and the old fellow sadly did likewise.

With the lower employment rates of black Americans, legalization likely makes for more arrests, not less.

HOUSING

How will the legalization of marijuana impact

apartment and condominium dwellers and their children? While the US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development has strict 'no smoking' policies on occupants, nonetheless, it still goes on. While one parent in one apartment may be opposed to their children being exposed to even cigarette smoke, without the fear of arrest, to how much debilitating marijuana smoke will they be exposed after legalization; and what is their relief, even in privately-paid rental units?

POLITICS

Peoples-Stokes glowed over her bill, saying that it might bring millions more dollars into the state's coffers; but she and others ought to yield to Founder Thomas Jefferson's words concerning "government being slow and deliberate."

A slaveholder himself, Jefferson was well aware of how easily government could enslave its citizens, warning them not to be too hasty in passing legislation. Take the case of 2 prominent NY politicians, Governor Nelson Rockefeller and then-Assemblyman Charles Rangel.

Rangel went on to become a long-serving NYC congressman, but he entered into politics in the mid-1960s at a time when Harlem was being overrun by heroin. This concerned Rockefeller and many black politicians, much as politicians are concerned by the opioid crisis today. Rockefeller had aspirations for the presidency, and with growing political pressure from NY's politicians, he was urged take a strong stand on the drug issue. Given Rangel's later strong support for President Nixon's 1970s "War on Drugs", one would have to presuppose that he had an antithetical hand in Rockefellers' earlier "quick and non-deliberated" one.

But to Rockefellers' credit, the liberal Republican initially wanted to treat the Harlem crisis as a mental health issue, offering treatment and counseling to those so afflicted. In both cases, Rockefeller and Nixon, Rangel was a central character, a character who would later rail against the non-solution of which he once supported and may have initiated.

Seemingly, the pendulum has swung in the opposite direction, carrying with it the parties that had always ridden upon it. The difference is merely moral. Whereas in the past, politicians wanted to rid their communities of drugs; today, politicians, like Peoples-Stokes, seemingly want to profit from the introduction of more drugs into the community, without first fixing the broken community and the broken people that live there – her own constituents. Shades of Iran-Contra!

Before we go too far into the weeds in this legalization, perhaps we need to stop and take a deep, deep breath and think this thing all of the way through. Will it be the mirror-image of the Rockefeller/Nixon war on drugs, and yield yet the same regrettable results for those who are so much like those upon which the original war was targeted? And in the end, will it be déjà vu, 1972 moment all over again?

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NORTH TONAWANDA



The Niagara Reporter

June 20 at 11:31 AM

"Basically, he put in a hot water tank and a furnace without putting in a permit," North Tonawanda Building Inspector Cosimo R. Capozzi said. "He was told by one of my secretaries over the phone. He was told by another secretary over email. He was told by the plumbing inspector. He was told by the electrical inspector. The only reason I got involved was because nothing was getting done."



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North Tonawanda Alderman Fined for Permit-Dodging Renovations on Home - The ... Reporter

[Learn More](#)

Maggi Losito: What??? He's an Alderman yet -- at 26 years old -- his mommy had to pay his fine and get the permit for him?? "His mother came to City Hall, got the permit and paid the fine for her son"

Kim Mike Sinon: How does anyone know what is going on inside someone's home? I have had every landlord change water tanks with 0 permit. Hell, even the projects in NT. This seems like a personal witch hunt, and I think it's because people are fearing Mr. Tylec is not the typical buyable politician! Go Austin! We need more like you!

Cindy Ehrenreich: He was hounded because he was caught. If you do your own, don't leave the old ones at the curb, they will hound you for a permit and an inspection. Bear in mind that permits and inspections are to keep you

safe by insuring that the work is done to code. Furnaces & hot water tanks burn gas, if not vented properly, CO2 will kill you. If fittings are not installed properly, gas leaks could cause an explosion. Just saying.

Robert McCall: There are a lot of contractors that won't work in NT because of capozzi.

Maureen Harding: I'm still mad about this. Mr. Tylec is an elected member of the Common Council and is due the respect of being treated so. Capozzi is an arrogant condescending subordinate who should be reprimanded by his comments in this article. He serves at the pleasure of the Common Council and the People of NT. The city must publish a fee schedule for building permit fees on the website. The Code Enforcement Office and Building

Inspectors cannot expect people to know what the code says. They also should have extended the courtesy of informing Mr. Tylec with civility that he needed a building permit and finally, the City Mayor and other Members of the Council should not be airing their petty political differences in public. This is shameful. Shameful what they did to Mr. Tylec. It is abhorrent and childish.

Kevin Andrews: I can't decide which is funnier, a grown man having his mom pay for a permit, or one crying that he's being singled out when, as a city alderman, he could very easily see just how many other people had to get permits for the same work as he did. While I agree it's totally ridiculous that you need a permit to work on your own home, Tylec loses me when he says, "I'm doing a good deed in this neighborhood and spending \$30,000 in renovations, so give me a break. I'm a 26-year-old trying to renovate this 100-year-old house." That kinda seems like he's implying he deserves special treatment. Like we should be thanking him for renovating the house he intends to live in.. as if he's the first the guy to ever do that and his presence in the neighborhood is a blessing from above. Here's a thought, as city alderman pass some legislation reducing or removing permit fees and any permit requirements that are not state mandated...

Mike Cichocki: I suspect he knew. But a politician pleading ignorance is oddly refreshing, benefit of the doubt granted.

Dennis Cagg: "Talked to him like a father to his son" called him a 26 year old kid? How demeaning and condescending.

Tina Ann: I have heard many contractors say they won't work in NT because of Capozzi. They said the codes are outrages and you can't talk with him. Many can't stand him.

Rion Knoell: That's freaking disgusting 135 dollars for a permit to change a 300 dollar hot water tank. I was recently house shopping and wanted to move back to NT but your taxes are ridiculous and obviously your code

enforcers are too!

David Braun: Ok so my hot water tank goes on a Friday night, by city rules I've got to wait till Monday to put a new one in after getting a permit? Is this the rules?

Bonnie Vitale: If he is an Alderman, he should acquaint himself with the laws and regulations of the city he "represents". Beside that, after he found out he was supposed to have a permit, he still disagreed that he should have needed a permit. His mother paid the fines for him. Seriously? I'm pretty sure they must cover this kind of stuff in Architecture classes. Stop making excuses for him. He needs to change his attitude and educate himself.

Marty Hubbard: You should NOT need a permit to do repairs to your home.

Ben Harms: You think that is bad, put a pool up in N.T. you need a permit for that, then you need a permit for electrical to wire the pool. Then you need a permit for the deck to the pool. And after all that you fill said pool and pay double the cost of water just for your sewer fees!

Carissa Marie: We moved out of NT just for this reason!! We went to Wheatfield .

Amy Lillibut: "...ratted me out." Mommy paid the fine? Kid- grow up.

Angelo Staub: I don't think if you're a homeowner doing the work on your own home you need a permit unless it's a certain value of repair or replace.

Rob Depaolo: Now that everyone has had an opportunity to vent please feel free to visit me in the building department at city hall. I'm in the office from 8-11 every morning and usually from 3-4 in the afternoon. I would be happy to answer any questions concerning the code, permit and inspection requirements. This text thread is filled with misconceptions. Misconceptions that I fear prevent people from getting the protection and service that they deserve from their building department.

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Dog Left Dead After Gruesome Attack in North Tonawanda

Brendan McDonough

Debbie DeVirgilio watched in horror as an unleashed dog jumped through her screen door and killed her puppy Tucker. "The dog came up my front porch and ripped my puppy out through the screen door, my grandkids ages 3 and 5 saw the whole thing," said DeVirgilio.

She lives at 398 Payne Avenue and is just one of many residents in North Tonawanda who have been terrorized by this dog. Like many residents the DeVirgilio's are now afraid to go outside, worried the dog could return.

This past week they brought their concern to the North DeVirgilio and her husband brought their concerns to Tuesday June 19th's Common Council meeting where, while holding back tears, they begged city leaders to act.

"I think that something needs to be done," she said. "Two dogs attacked the neighbors dog a year ago. The police were there and nothing was done," said her husband Jim.

In fact, Jim said that there has been numerous other reports of dogs from the home causing problem for residents.

"The dog got loose again and it attacked another neighbor's dog, less than a week before it attacked and killed our dog," said DeVirgilio.

Although the dog that killed DeVirgilio's dog was an Ankitta, the same owner also has a pit bull mix that has reportedly attacked multiple animals in the past.

One resident, who wishes to remain anonymous, said that the dogs are hardly seen. Often times not coming out of the house for days or weeks.

The occasions when the dogs were seen usually ended with death or serious injury.

"We had been told numerous times that the dogs would be put down," said DeVirgilio, "but nothing was ever done. It has put such a terrible strain on our community. "The citizens need to know that there is no one out there to help them," she continued. "I was told to call the health department, then the health department tells us they area not involved with dogs but if I need rabies shots for me and my grandchildren, they can set that up."

The DeVirgilio's say they were told by police that they were going to designated



this as a dangerous dog and that the owner would be allowed to keep it, so long as it was kept isolated and in a cage. However, this did not last long as the dog was spotted one day later outside.

"My neighbor who lives behind me was chased by the dog into his car on the same night that our dog was killed. I do not understand the City cannot do something about a dog that is harassing the neighborhood, especially when it has been proven that it will attack another dog," said DeVirgilio.

One of the problems is that North Tonawanda does not have an animal control officer. Common Council members are promising to take action on this incident and prevent it from happening going forward.

"I do not know what we can do at this point," said North Tonawanda Mayor Art Pappas.

"I know the police are looking into it and the dog in question is supposed to be put down. I think we need to look into this because it may come up again with another family and another neighborhood, which is unacceptable."

In the meantime, the DeVirgilio's are trying to move forward but admit the memories of the dog attack still haunt them.

"My grandkids are starting counseling now because I can not even leave my front door unlocked because they are afraid the dog is going to come through," said DeVirgilio.

"I just began using the front door to get the mail because of this whole incident. I might be able to get a replacement of my screen, but I will never be able to replace my dog. I am not looking for a monetary gain, I just want the citizens of North Tonawanda that they are protected and can play with their kid on the front lawn."

Lumber City Pizza Closes



The parking lot is empty, and the doors are closed. Without warning Lumber City Pizza closed its doors for good.

The popular North Tonawanda Restaurant gave no reason for the shutdown.

A sign on the door of the Erie Avenue pizzeria thanked custom-

ers. It read, "Lumber City Pizza is closed. Thank you for your patronage."

It is unclear as to why the restaurant closed or what will do in its place in the future.

The Niagara Reporter will keep you informed of the latest developments.



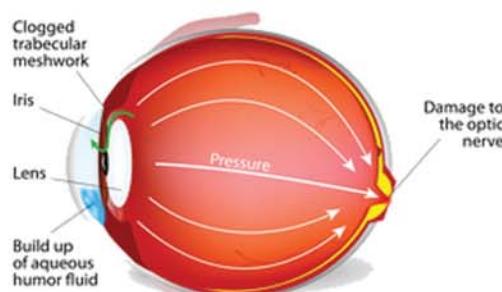
Everyone is at Risk for Glaucoma

Glaucoma is among the reasons why eye exams should be a regular part of your preventive health care. Glaucoma, a leading cause of blindness, has no symptoms in its early stages. In the United States alone, nearly three million Americans have glaucoma, but only half of them know it. Once glaucoma is detected, steps can be taken to slow its progression, but any vision that's already been lost cannot be regained. Diagnosis is the first step in preserving your sight.

Glaucoma is a group of eye disorders that damage the optic nerve, a cable of nerve fibers in the back of the eye that carries visual information to the brain. This damage, which is irreversible and in most instances goes unnoticed in its early stages, is most often caused by elevated pressure inside the eye. As glaucoma progresses, blind spots develop first in a person's peripheral (side) vision. A person may notice that they are seeing objects directly in front of them but missing those to the side. As the disease advances, the field of vision continues to narrow until total blindness occurs.

To reduce your risk, make regular vision checkups that include a comprehensive dilated eye exam that allows an eye doctor to view the optic nerve are the best way to detect glaucoma and other vision-robbing conditions before they cause serious damage to your sight. An eye doctor will also measure eye pressure and inspect the drainage angle of the eye. Medicare Part B covers an annual comprehensive dilated eye exam for some people at high risk for glaucoma. The Laborers' Health and Safety Fund of North America's Nutrition and Fitness for Laborers program can help Laborers improve dietary and exercise habits that can benefit general physical well-being, including eye health. Your training facility offers this class and can provide this information to you upon request.

GLAUCOMA



Summer 'Blast Off'



Brendan McDonough

The rain couldn't dampen the spirits of people at the annual summer blast off party at Payne City park in North Tonawanda.

"I think it is great for the city and it is also great for the kids," said Michelle Menkena, North Tonawanda resident. "The kids just love it. They love coming here during the summer and being here at the park. There is so many great things for them to do."

The event is hosted by the North Tonawanda Department of Youth, Recreation and Parks.

Inside the pool kids of all ages were splashing around in the pool, while others were enjoying everything from miniature golf to a delicious meal.

"We have a lot of activities and it basically signifies the opening of all of our summer activities," said Alex Domaradzki, event organizer. "Today we partnered up with the Community Hub, have a bunch of outreach organizations here. They have information for parents and kids about programs. We also have a lot of activities such as the bounce house, game stations, prize raffles, a balloon artist will be here, face painting and many more things for the community to come and enjoy."

They are activities that organizer and city leaders hope will help to keep the kids busy this summer, off the street and out of trouble.

"This event is very much specialized for families and for families to come out here and teaming up with the Parks Department is outstanding," noted North Tonawanda Alderman-at-Large Bob Pecoraro. "We will continue to work together to help residents understand all the services they have to offer."

The Parks Department will have a number of activities throughout the summer.

For more information about any of the services going on this summer you can contact them at 716-695-8520.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of
LA HACIENDA RESTAURANT & PIZZA LLC

LA HACIENDA RESTAURANT & PIZZA LLC, filed Articles of Organization with the NY State Secretary of State ("NYSSS") on May 4, 2018; the LLC is located in Niagara County; NYSSS is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it can be served; a copy of any process served upon NYSSS will be mailed to the LLC at 2902 Pine Avenue, Niagara Falls, NY 14301; the purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act of activity.

a page out of Yogi Bear's playbook and looking for a left-behind picnic basket. Personally, I think he was coming to NT for the famous farmer's market that is held on Saturday mornings. He has stuck around in the area, so anything is possible, right?

In all seriousness, people at the farmer's market this morning should stay alert just to be safe.

After the bear was first spotted in the morning, North Tonawanda Police Department personnel formed a perimeter around him while simultaneously trying to push him in a northerly direction outside the residential area.

The Department of Environmental Conservation, who came in to assist with the situation, remained in the area till the afternoon hours to ensure the bear did not return back to the residential area.

The last seen location of the bear was in Wheatfield.

Stories, such as these, are always a 'wild' roller coaster ride to cover. There are constantly updates coming in and it is impossible, while at the same time

trying to keep the public up-to-date with what is happening on the ground, to verify everything.

There were reports yesterday from multiple residents in North Tonawanda that the bear was either shot or tranquilized. These reports ended up being false.

There were even reports from more than five residents that there were, in fact, two bears roaming through the city. These reports also ended up being false.

Although we prefaced all reporting yesterday by saying that "there are reports" coming in about whatever topic, they are, until verified, merely that; reports / updates.

The aftermath of the North Tonawanda Bear-a-Palooza has been incredibly entertaining to watch.

TWO, yes two (2), different businesses in the city are selling t-shirts about surviving the bear encounter! So the important question is then, where can you find these t-shirts?

A comic book store in the city, Pulp 716, has teamed Shaley Cre-

ations to design T-shirts (\$18.99) and car decals (\$4.99). The first batch of each are available this morning.

Another business, Submasters NT, will be selling and offering a free slice of pizza with every t-shirt purchase, which will cost \$15. The t-shirts will be available in both orange and pink.

The proceeds are going to Stella, a young girl in North Tonawanda that is fighting cancer. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt, please visit Submasters or call (716) 946-3715.

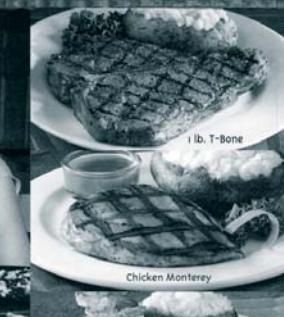


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As Summer Season Commences, the Niagara Falls Water Board Addresses Annual Odor Control

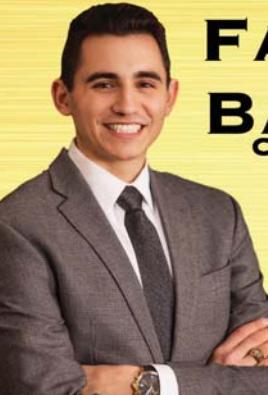
With the arrival of warmer weather and the summer season, the NFWB has commenced annual odor control procedures at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. As a result, the NFWB reminds local residents that the odors are a byproduct of seasonal temperatures and we are working diligently to minimize odors throughout the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

To combat the odors, the NFWB is implementing a number of counteractive treatment measures at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, including:

- Constantly monitoring for odor
- Utilizing a comprehensive solids and liquid treatment to ensure that waste moves through the system as quickly as possible
- Hosing down treatment basins whenever they are emptied for maintenance or as part of normal operation
- Maintaining minimal amounts of sludge
- Utilizing chemical oxidizers and disinfectants in our carbon filter backwash water to minimize sulfide odors

More information about the NFWB's odor avoidance and control efforts can be found under the Outreach tab on www.NFWB.org.

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- REPLACE INTERIOR DOOR

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- FIX GARAGE DOOR
- JUMP START VEHICLE
- PAINT ROOM (12' BY 15')
- CLEAN SEWER
- REPLACE SHOWER FIXTURES
- CLEAN WINDOWS (4, DOUBLE HUNG)
- REPLACE LIGHT FIXTURE (2 PER CALL)
- FIX ROOF LEAKS (1 SQUARE)
- INTERIOR PAINTING (1 HOUR)
- VEHICLE TOW WITHIN 15 MILES
- REPLACE TOILET
- FIX TILE (ONE SQUARE)

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