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THE NIAGARA REPORTER

FREE June 20, 2018 - June 26, 2018 NiagaraReporter.com Vol. 19, No. 6 FREE

North Tonawanda Alderman Fined for Permit-Dodging Renovations on Home

By: Frank Parlato



North Tonawanda Alderman Austin Tylec, 26, found himself in a tempest in a teapot. He was fined by the city's building department because he failed to get a permit for work done on his home. His mother came to City Hall, got the permit and paid the fine for her son – ending an escalating battle between him and the building department that

was threatening to boil over into court action.

Tylec, who has a master's degree in architecture, and works for a company that buys and sells houses, said he bought his home on Center Ave. to live in, not flip. The house had been vacant and improperly winterized. The radiators were blown. The roof needed to be replaced.

What did he (Cont. on pg. 9)

Why The Niagara Falls City Charter is Important

By: Ken Hamilton

The only thing that kept me sane while I was combing through the consolidate city charter was me reminding

myself that it isn't a new charter, it is imperfect amalgamation of two unworkable charters with large leather stitches and electrodes to spark it to life.

There was nothing in it to suggest that we will have a better city government afterwards; all that we will know is how incredibly screwed up we are.

I am sure that it wasn't easy digging up the parts, assembling them in some sort of order, sewing them together

and putting the electricity to them; so, there are spelling errors in it (as there probably are in this article) and an "of" instead of an "if": I can live with that. But noticeably missing from the new-old charter were these glaring things: here are spelling errors in it (as there probably are in this article) and an "of" instead of an "if", I can live with that. But noticeably missing from the new-old charter were

(Cont. on pg. 2 & 3)

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NIAGARA FALLS

City Charter Cont.



Ken Hamilton

these glaring things:

1.) The charter fails to mention that a charter is not simply a document, it is a constitution between the citizens and those that shall govern them; a sub-category of the state constitution, itself a sub-category of the federal with the citizens' rights protected and the government's restrictions enumerated. In this Frankencharter, the voters are mentioned only to have the right to choose its local leaders, and its local leaders, get this, in SECTION 1.4 POWERS OF CITY; CONSTRUCTION OF CHARTER PROVISIONS, paragraph B. The provisions of this Charter shall be construed liberally[1] to effectuate its lawful objectives and purposes.

"Construed liberally?" In other words, we may make mistakes in reading what we are supposed to do and executing what we wrote, and maybe even creating grief for our citizens, but we mean well, so let's do it anyway – you know, like the new trash totes roll-out?

It would be far better if the document was written such that there is no ambigu-

ity in what our government can and are supposed to do or not, and that we will closely follow our charter.

2.) Do you know what that room that is next to the council chambers is called? It is called the Committee of the Whole Room. The other glaring thing that is missing from the charter is that there is no remedy that city councilors who fail to accept the chairman's appointment to various committees, as a duty and condition of their service, are not asked to resign. Under ARTICLE III CITY COUNCIL AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCH, Paragraph D., the Council shall be constituted, and shall meet from time to time, as a committee of-the-whole. The Council may establish ad hoc and/or standing committees of its own members to review and make recommendations relative to proposed legislation, but such legislation shall be acted upon by the Council as a committee of-the-whole. The Council Chairman shall appoint or reappoint the members and designate the Chairman of each committee to serve from date of appointment or reappointment until the next succeeding January one.

But have they been compelled to do so? The only one of which I know is the Financial Advisory Board, but which councilor was chairperson and who listened to them?

Folks, you asked for part-time counselors and begged them to reduce their benefits, and you got what you got. These are not fulltime- counselors, and even if they were, they would have an extremely difficult time becoming knowledge experts on all of the many elements that needs governing in this multifaceted city. We know that they can't by virtue of the current results. But if each coun-

cilor took upon themselves to be expert in three or four of these facets, and act as board experts, advising their colleagues, we could not help but become a better city.

One more thing, in this #metoo world, but this is near the end of the 152-page charter. While the duties of the Niagara Falls Cable Television Commission are enumerated, the Niagara Falls Human Rights Commission isn't. In fact, the virtually fund-less commission becomes a sub-department of Human Resources and remains right where it is in total ineffectiveness. The Commission once had its own executive director and staff to handle the diversity of issues that our citizens and even city employees face. I know what it was, because I was a commissioner back then.

Here's another one, especially for a heavily Democratic city – not that that should matter; but SECTION 2.11 PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES, includes a prohibition from appointing or removing any person, or in any way favoring or discriminating against with respect to any official City office; employment or position because of ethnic origin, race, sex, political or religious opinion, or affiliations. Now before we go any further, what must be added is sexual preference verbiage as well. But with that said, and the city's history of ethnic group power, how then do we move to make the city's workforce look, well, more like the city? How then do we meet affirmative action goals if two candidates are otherwise equal, how then do we determine who fills the position?

But enough, let's start picking the charter merger apart to know what is in it. Again, the liberally of it concerns me. All regulations should be properly

written so that its clarity would allow strict interpretation based upon what was construed. This is a charter between the residents of the City of Niagara Falls and its government on how its government should operate, what powers are given to it and what restrictions apply.

A questionable thing about the charter is that, ideally, the mayor should be back on the council and a professional and protected city manager should be hired, one who's run a city before. The Manager should be exempt from living in the city to politically and objectively protect him or her. A good thing about the charter is the requirement that the city administrator must have proven education and experience in running government entities; but it doesn't set what the proof is. But kudos to the council in requiring the mayor to attend the administrative sessions and take filtered questions from the audience, though I have yet to find it in this charter – I am still looking. What is missing though, is that the citizens are only by rule allowed to speak during public hearings, and for as long as necessary. The speaking session during the legislative segment is at the whim of the council itself, and you are not guaranteed to do so. The 5-minute speaking opportunity should be guaranteed by the charter.

Troubling is that while it requires city council consult and consent to hire a Clerk, Corporate Counsel and a Controller (ambiguously referred to as a Finance Director in parts of the document), it doesn't take the mayor any of that to fire one for what the mayor feels is incompetence. Now he has to follow civil service rules to do so, but if the council needed consult and consent for officers that they would share with the mayor, then the

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)

Frankies 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.)

NIAGARA



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same should be afforded to them for that person's termination for any cause; else the joint employees would be more beholden to the mayor than to the council.

Tell me if you clearly understand this at your 1st or even 2nd reading: SECTION 2.8 VACANCIES; CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT, Paragraph A.

A vacancy in the office of Council member, other than by expiration of term of office, shall be filled at the next general election which is held not less than sixty (60) days after such vacancy occurs for the unexpired term of said member.

Now you see why the charter needs to be written more clearly, and why construing it liberally would be baffling?

Another point of contention would be that the mayor can fill council seats IF after a vacancy the council doesn't do so after 20 days. The rub is that the replacement must be of the same party as the one that created the vacancy.

Logical, but not necessary rational. In Ontario, no one runs on a party line until they reach the provincial (state) level, and the results show. What's party to do with competence? But what further compounds this is if the mayor cannot serve and a city councilor is chosen, by

charter, to replace him/her, and the mayor is of a party not the same as the councilor? Must the councilor be backfilled with a person of the mayor's party? The nuances go on; but if party is germane, then these issues need to be resolved prior to accepting the Frankencharter.

In the charter's address of the incapacity of the mayor, that city councilor can be selected, but that brings up the issue of separation of powers – and the signing of the contract for the new public safety building on Main Street. CASE STUDY: Then Mayor Vince Anello wasn't content with elements of the contract that the council approved, and before signing it, he decided to take a mini-vacation, assigning the duties to then-Councilman Lewis "Babe" Rotella, who voted on it and then signed it. Where were the separations of power on that?

The good thing about the charter is that for short absences by the mayor, anyone in the administration can replace him, including his city administrator; and that would be the proper thing to do. There must be clear cut – not liberally construed – wording that requires the mayor to choose the administrator or other qualified, competent department

heads of staff to fill in for his executive duties, leaving to the council the ceremonial duties upon which they have not voted. The closer that these two branches become, the more they collide.

There's nothing new about SECTION 2.5 PROHIBITION ON ACTIVITIES OF CITY OFFICERS. While the charter defines "Officer" and says that it shall mean all elected and appointed officers, members of boards, agencies, commissions and like instrumentalities, head of departments and their deputies and any others so designated by or pursuant to law and this Charter; it says that an officer of the City shall not engage in private employment, render services for private interests or hold office in any other political, jurisdiction if such employment, service or office is incompatible with the proper discharge of official duties or would impair his or her independence of judgment or actions in the performance of official duties as hereinafter provided. With that said, one has to wonder about the repaving of 10th Street and other projects around the hospital. The regulation says nothing about abstaining, but I may find it when I take the Afro pick through it once more, but it is clear on employment and the likes – and that's a good thing.

Did you know that SECTION 3.2 ORGANIZATION: PRESIDING OFFI-

CER; CITY CLERK; CORPORATION COUNSEL; COMMITTEES would allow the mayor to dictate who the city council chairman would be? It says that the Council shall annually elect a presiding officer from among its members at the first meeting in January who shall be known as the Council Chairman. The Chairman shall be elected by a majority vote of all Council members and shall serve for a term of one year to end December 31 of that year. If a Chairman is not elected by January 31 of each year, then the Mayor shall appoint him or her. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings and shall then have the same powers as all Council members to introduce and vote upon all matter coming before the Council. In the event that the office of Chairman shall become vacant, the Council shall appoint another one of its members to fill the vacancy.

Now here's the ambiguity in that: can the mayor appoint a non-councilor to the chairmanship, and then thereafter, if that person resigns or is otherwise incapacitated, then the council can choose one of their own from within their ranks?

As Councilman Bob Anderson often said, "Scary!"

More to follow at the ongoing www.niagarareporter.com website and in next week's paper.

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WEEKLY HEADLINES

- Members of the Niagara Falls Police Department and Animal Control were out in the 600 block of 25th Street removing pigs from a home.
- Several Cars Vandalized on 400 Block of 20th Street.
- Super Clips in Niagara Falls goes above and beyond for homeless man.
- Massive tree and power lines down on 59th Street.
- Shocking find at Walmart in Niagara Falls, Pre-Ripped and Pre-Stained Shorts.
- Horrific motor vehicle accident with multiple injuries at 15th and Walnut.
- Man arrested in the 300 block of 19th Street after police suspect him of "driving while lit," causing damage to home, fence, and other vehicle.
- Niagara Falls Police and Fire Department on scene at a stabbing on the 500 block of 4th Street.
- Niagara Falls Police Department heading to 23rd and Walnut after caller states there is a white male, fresh out of jail, with a gun in the middle of the road.
- Niagara Falls Fire Department on scene for multiple garbage cans set on fire along Robbins Drive.
- Niagara Falls Police, State Police, & others investigating dead body found near train tracks.
- Dead body found near tracks is said to be a white woman, age 17-35, with reddish-brown hair.
- Teenagers playing with fireworks set grass near the Fashion Outlets Mall ablaze.
- One person was transported to hospital after bike they were riding crashed into the side of moving van at the intersection of 17th and LaSalle Avenue.

Super Clips in Niagara Falls Goes Above & Beyond for Homeless Man



"I just figured, you know, I think we should do something nice for him. I've seen him so many times, but I saw, I noticed, that his shoes had holes. His feet were literally hanging out. So, I figured we'd clean him up. We went and bought him socks, underwear, shirts, shorts and shoes. I think it made him feel human again."

This is not the only instance of Samantha, and Super Clips generally, being neighborly.

As of last week, Super Clips has handed out over 7,000 free hair cut cards to all of the schools in Niagara Falls.

They were also out at the Air Show over the weekend handing out cards as well.

"Well you know," said Samantha, "a lot of families just don't have the money. It's only \$10 for a kids cut, but you know, if you have 3, 4 or 5 kids, it adds up so we thought we would help out."

Take a trip to Super Clips, located at 8353 Niagara Falls Blvd., the next time you need a haircut!!

The owners of Super Clips on Military Road in Niagara Falls, displayed what it means to be a neighbor this week.

Samantha Bassett, co-owner of the hair salon, had become accustomed to homeless individuals wandering up to their storefront.

On this particular occasion, however, Samantha decided to do something a little different.

In a statement to Totally Buffalo, Samantha described her motivation for going above and beyond for a stranger:

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Shocking Find at Walmart in NF; Pre-Ripped & Pre-Stained Shorts



Photo courtesy of Samar Hamilton, The Action Niagara Falls

The Action Niagara Falls was disturbed to find what appears to be clothing with a stain on it on the shelves at the Walmart in Niagara Falls, New York.

Without touching or smelling it, the discoloration appeared to be residue from a bodily fluid.

Upon bringing it to the attention of supervisors, the shorts were quickly taken off of the table and removed from view.

The supervisor then apologized for the stain not being noticed prior to being returned to the sales shelf.

Several Cars Vandalized on 400 Block of 20th Street



Photo courtesy of Samar Hamilton, The Action Niagara Falls

Niagara Falls, NY – Earlier this morning, several cars were vandalized in the 400 block of 20th Street.

Large bricks were thrown through windows.

The Action also noticed that the 7-Eleven in the 2600 block of Niagara Street was targeted too but it's unknown to us when that happened and if it was done by the same person who vandalized the cars.

Horrific Motor Vehicle Accident at the Corner of 15th & Walnut



Photos courtesy of Samar Hamilton, The Action Niagara Falls

Man Arrested After Driving While "Lit," Causes Damage to Home, Fence & Car



Man arrested in the 300 block of 19th Street, suspected of driving intoxicated. Possibly both via alcohol and drugs.

The suspect is said to have collided with a fence, car, and home before finally stopping

Photo courtesy of Samar Hamilton, The Action Niagara Falls

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Restaurant Review: KP Kitchen



Jamie DePetris
Food Expert/Critic

If you've noticed in recent weeks, it's been a focus of mine to find hidden gems throughout Niagara County that YOU might not know about!

This week is no exception, and boy are you going to love it.

KP Kitchen, located at 5407 Walmore Road, Lewiston NY (which is on the reservation), is definitely a spot that will have you going back for seconds!

KP Kitchen is owned and managed by Kimberly Kraft-Stewardson, who was an absolute sweetheart! You could tell right away that this was a family business and, sure enough, turns out it was as her daughter, Kelsey, was running the kitchen while Kim was out sitting with us.

Not only was the food amazing, but the entire place is decked out with Prince memorabilia! The walls are purple. The chairs are purple. Even Kim's earrings were purple!

As we sat listening to the music (which, you guessed it, was Prince!), Kim told us about the restaurant.

90% of the food is homemade and they use all local farmers. They have daily

specials and usually sell out before dinner, so you better get there early!

The deserts are made fresh daily and, although KP Kitchen has been open since November of 2016, they just moved into their brand-new building in the last month!

Starting out in a shed with a dream, a table-top electric grill, a bbq grill, and a fryer, I would say KP Kitchen has come a long way!!

So now to the food!

We ordered so much food it took up two tables!

On the one, we had a steak & cheese sub, poutine, and a strawberry milkshake. On the other a chicken finger sub, the grilled Hawaiian chicken sandwich, loaded taco fries, and a root beer float.

The steak & cheese sub was phenomenal. There were huge chunks of tomato, onion, and fresh banana peppers. The cheese was melted but not burnt and the steak was cooked just right.

The poutine was also perfect and, as it turns out, is one of their best sellers! Now I know why.

Sometimes with poutine you find that the French fries are soggy before they even get to the table. Not here!

The fries were still crispy and hot when they came out slathered with gravy and the chunks of cheese were just the right temperature.



Kim and her daughter Kelsey.



The strawberry milkshake, poutine, and steak & cheese sub.



The root beer float, loaded taco fries, Hawaiian chicken sandwich, and chicken finger sub.

The strawberry shake was, perhaps the best part, as it is made from scratch and with fresh strawberries! I know because I ended up using a spoon to eat the last half of it.

My friend had the chicken finger sub, but that stopped me from having a bite! The chicken finger wasn't too crispy and there was something extra special about the hot sauce. I ended up having two bites I liked it so much!

My favorite food overall came next though. The grilled Hawaiian chicken sandwich is possibly one of the most amazing things I have ever had. The fresh slide of pineapple on top of the chicken and gooey cheese was perfect. It was a combination I had never thought of before, but definitely

one I'm glad KP Kitchen stumbled upon! The loaded taco fries was also great. Talk about taste bud overload!

KP Kitchen? They should have named it KO Kitchen because that's how good the food was!

Come on over and eat where the prices are low and the portions are high!

Oh, and don't forget to tell them Jamie sent you!



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NORTH TONAWANDA

Historical Signage of the Tonawandas Unveiled at Lumberjack Patio Grill

Historical signage of the Tonawandas was unveiled at Lumberjack Patio Grill this past week.

Mayor Pappas was in attendance along with Alice C. Roth, President of Historical Society of the Tonawandas, Greg Stevens, Director of the Niagara Greenway Commission, Niagara County Legislator Rich Andres, Alderman-at-Large Bob Pecoraro, and Senator Ort's Constituent Relations Manager, Bob Welch.

These signs are currently along Niawanda Park in Tonawanda and are going up along Gratwick Riverside Park in North Tonawanda.



What YOU Missed: North Tonawanda Holds Opioid Awareness Meeting

Brendan McDonough



They did not come to talk about ways to treat drug abuse, but instead were focusing on ways to stop it before it starts. Inside the Spruce Elementary School local official met with members of the community to talk about what can be done.

The event was hosted by the Community Health Alliance of North Tonawanda

or CHANT.

Superintendent of the North Tonawanda City School District, Gregory Woytala, says it takes a village to raise a child, that include both school officials and the students' parents.

"It starts at the home, we have the kid 6 hours a day and if we do some programs or if we have a health class, I think that parents can do a lot with just being persistent and telling them why you are worried, parents need to start this conversation much earlier than they think, do not worry until they are in high school but it starts now in elementary school" said Wattala.

Others says the want to see drug addiction classified as a chronic disease.

Dr Gale Burnstein, Commissioner of Erie County Health says if kids start taking drugs and a young age it can have a life long effect on their brains.

"People get exposed to these substances and it really has some permanent damage to the brain, especially with young people because their brains are not fully developed until about 25. People who are addicted to opioids are not bad people, they just had bad luck. Nearly 80 percent of those who are addicted had their first legitimate expose though legitimate pain medication, either from a prescription or from a friend that gave them a prescription

they had," said Burnstein.

They say it's important to also tell your pharmacist that maybe you need a lesser strength medication. Joe Mesi knows all about pain. He is a former Heavyweight boxing champion. Ironically, Mesi now works in the pharmaceutical field and says learning about the drugs in your house is key.

Mesi says he was never addicted to drugs but admits he did try some things during his boxing career.

In fact, just last year he noticed he still had many of the drugs from his boxing days still in his house.

"I recently says all of my expired opioids way in the back of the shelves, I never took them and while they were expired I am sure they still had damage to them. We need to educate ourselves about this crisis and get rid of any medications in your house that could get into the wrong hands," said Mesi.

Changing the way we think about drugs is one thing, but enacting tougher laws is also something that needs to be done. Rebecca Wydysh, a Niagara County Legislator for the 2nd District, is doing just that.

"I think we need to look at why is this happening, where is this starting and really get to the root of the problem. At the

County level we are working to improve our statics and tracking, we need to know what the problem is," said Wydysh.

Organizers are hoping the kids out there will hear their words and make the right choice to stamp out opioid use before it starts.

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As questions are raised about Alderman's repairs on home, Tylec fires back at building inspector



Cosimo Capozzi disputes Austin Tylec's claim he was rude to him.

do wrong?

"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."

Tylec said the reason he didn't get a permit was because he didn't know it was required.

"In my line of work, I do a lot of commercial architecture, not residential, so out of sheer ignorance of just not knowing, I did the heat without getting a permit," Tylec told the Reporter. "We were replacing a tankless water heater, so I figured, 'why would you need to pull a permit on my own home that I'm living in for things that just don't work that need to be replaced?'"

How did he get caught?

Tylec explained, "I pulled a permit to get the water meter done and that guy must be tied in somehow and he took a photo of the tankless water heater and then ratted me out."

Is this politics?

Tylec is a registered Independent, endorsed by Democrats. The North Tonawanda City Council is controlled by Republicans. The Mayor is Republican.

Council President Eric Zadzilka, also a Republican, said politics wasn't the issue. He told the Reporter he spoke with Building Inspector Capozzi about Tylec only after it had gotten out of hand.

Zadzilka said, "Apparently one of the guys who was going to do an electrical inspection tried to remove himself from the situation, basically saying he did not want to do it because so many serious things had been done that it needed to be dealt with by Cosimo, the boss. "Cosimo said to me, 'Austin Tylec didn't have the right plumbing permit and then he lied to me and said he didn't do the work and then I made him go back and get the right permits,' Zadzilka said.

Tylec had a different take on events.

"I get a call from our building

inspector [Capozzi] who says, 'this is a sensitive situation' because of my political standing. I also heard that there were Republicans breathing down his neck about going after me for it, which is ridiculous."

A dispute over the inspection Capozzi did an inspection of the house with Tylec.

Tylec said, "He was telling me all these things that needed to be done and I was hardly following what he was saying, which is funny considering I'm in that line of work."

Tylec added that Capozzi was "incredibly" rude.

"That was the surprising thing," Tylec said. "I can take the heat, but I can only imagine the way he speaks to residents and that's the sad part. I have heard stories of lawsuits and threats and that's not the department we need."

Asked whether Capozzi swore, Tylec responded, "Yes. If I could record the conversation I had with him, it would say a million words."

Capozzi flatly denied Tylec's description of their meeting.

"I tried to be nice to this kid because he's new," Capozzi said. "He just got elected. I told him, 'In your position, you cannot give the appearance of impropriety and, you should not put my department in that position. I get it, you're 26. At 26, I thought I knew it all.' He says he knows it all because he has a degree in architecture. I told him 'I have a master's degree in life.' I wish he had taped the conversation. I did not swear at him. I spoke to him as father to son. 'You're new to the game. You're new to this position you're in. You cannot give the illusion that you are doing something improper or that you are getting a benefit.'"

Roof done with permit

It was not that Tylec did nothing right. He got a permit for a new roof. Even here there was an issue.

About a week before the roof was finished, Tylec, along with other members of the common council, department of public works, other city employees, and the public, attended a workshop where trash removal in the city was discussed. The problem is some residents throw out construction debris - instead of placing it in dumpsters - a code violation. Discussing solutions, Tylec agreed with his fellow aldermen that violators be fined.

A week after the workshop took place, somebody called the city about garbage piled in front of Tylec's house. Code Enforcer Rob DePaolo went there and found 17 bags of garbage. Upon inspection of the contents, he found there were bags of roofing shingles - the very violation discussed at the workshop where Tylec agreed violators should be fined.

Tylec told the Reporter he had a dumpster, but "the roofer people had too much stuff so they had some extra black bags left after the dumpsters were full."



Despite council holding workshop on individuals taking advantage of bulk pickup week prior, Building Department finds contractor waste in front of home.

Zadzilka pointed out that Tylec's not getting a permit, and evidently trying to throw out construction debris as trash, was exasperating since Tylec "dwells so much on ethics."

"He is always the first to declare that others should follow the rules," Zadzilka said.

Tylec, who is in his first term as City Alderman, ran on a platform of ethics and the need for accountability. He recently floated the idea of creating a special North Tonawanda ethics panel.

As for Zadzilka's suggestion of hypocrisy, Tylec argued he is being singled out because he is not aligned with Republicans.

"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."

Where does it end?

The normal fee for the permit Tylec failed to get is \$145. Capozzi ended up charging him \$290.

"My intention of doubling the permit fee was to give him an out," Capozzi said. "He's not the first guy to work without a permit. We catch them every other day here. This was a way for him to acknowledge he did some-

thing improper and make it right. Then move on. ... All he needs to do right now is get the rest of the work done, have the final inspections, and move into his beautiful new house."

While admitting he was wrong not to get permits, Tylec added that he is going to press for changes in the building department.

"Now that I know, I can't refute that people need to get [permits], but I do believe that a lot of residents have a problem with how our department is run. A lot of people have a problem with how difficult they make it for people to do renovations on their own house. Basically, that the entire process is over the top. Even for people like myself, he was intimidating. I think Cosimo needs to be more approachable and less intimidating."

Again, Capozzi disputed Tylec's assessment.

"I bend over backwards to help people. As long as you are willing to accept the help. If you want to argue and fight us, we have a job to do. Our number one job is safety," he said.

But Tylec paid the fine, and is in compliance?

"He didn't ultimately comply, but his mother did," Capozzi said.

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Fireman's Parade



Brendan McDonough

The crowd may have been smaller but there was still plenty of support for Fireman across North Tonawanda. At the annual firemans day parade people of all ages lined the streets to watch the parade, for many it is an annual tradition. "The boys really like all the fire trucks and it's nice to get out," said Sara Roberts from North Tonawanda.

The parade combines both the City of Tonawanda and North Tonawanda. In it there was trucks from both companies, antique fire trucks and bands that had everyone giving thanks and appreciation for what the Fire Men and Women do. "It's great it is a long standing tradition and gets everyone out and get a chance to show what the fire departments have to offer the community. The volunteers and the paid firemen working together, they have really done a lot for this town, all through its history and we like to maintain that tradition," said Art Pappas, Mayor of North Tonawanda.

City officials admit the attendance is low and has been declining over the past few years. Next year they are hoping to change the start time from 2pm to earlier in the day, when more people might be available to watch it. Through Facebook and other social media outlets they have been trying to get the word out about the parade. "I think the parade is wonderful, but I am really disappointed that more people did not come out to watch it. Just by looking at the groups that are marching there is a lot less than there used to be, we have a shortage and need more volunteer firefighters," said Charles Stuart, North Tonawada Fire Department.

There may have been less people watching the parade but one thing that is still popular is the older fire trucks. One even dates back to the 1920's. They can be difficult and expensive to maintain. There is a 1957 LaFrance pumper that is especially popular with North Tonawanda residents. Fire officials says it was still in service until the year 2000.

For many it's not the trucks that many the day special but seeing the men marching. hits home for some residents. "It is a great parade and my son is a fireman, so it is a great parade. I think it is good that we see the people that do the first responders and are there and put their life on the line for us, this is just an awesome thing to come to every year," Karen Melvaugh, NT Resident.

The parade began at the City of Tonawanda's Fire headquarters on Fletcher Street and merged onto Main Street. Then crossed over the Renaissance Bridge into North Tonawanda and finished on Goundry Street.

Canal Fest 2018 Wrist Band Presale



For 2018 Canal Fest there will be a new opportunity to save on Canal Fest ride prices.

Pay-one-price wrist band bracelets will be available every day the rides are open: Monday, July 16 – Sunday, July 22.

Bracelets are \$25 each on the midway. They are good on all rides on the day of purchase. The Speed ride may require an additional ticket or two.

Discounted, presale wrist band vouchers may be purchased for \$22 each at the Carrousel Museum in North Tonawanda, Tops Friendly Markets on Young St. and Niagara St. in Tonawanda, and Meadow Dr. in North Tonawanda.

They may also be purchased at Market in the Square in Budwey's Plaza on Division St. in North Tonawanda and Lane Jewelers on Seymour St. in Tonawanda.

For on-line purchases visit the Carrousel Museum website, www.carrouselmuseum.org.

These vouchers may be used any day of the event, but will only be good for the one day you choose to use them.

The vouchers will be exchanged for the wrist band at any ticket booth on the midway. Presale individual ride tickets will not be available this year. However, individual tickets may be purchased at the midway ticket booths.

Powers Great American Midways will be providing the rides and midway. A percentage of the proceeds from ride tickets will benefit the daily operation of the Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum.

The Carrousel Society of the Niagara Frontier invites all Western New York residents to take advantage of this cost saving opportunity.

Canal Fest attendees are invited to visit the Carrousel Society booth at the corner of Main and Niagara Streets in Tonawanda for information about the Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum and its year round events.



Information is also available on-line at www.carrouselmuseum.org.



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Meadow Elementary Schools Says Goodbye with Memorable Photo



On Tuesday, June 12th, 2018, the entire school gathered together and took a picture to commemorate the end of its last year. Meadow Elementary School in North Tonawanda is closing at the end of this year and being transitioned into a middle school – Jr. High – next year.

Mayor Pappas Joins Members of DPW to Roll Out New Paving Machine



Common Chemicals Create Risk for Hearing Loss

Everyone knows that using jackhammers and other loud construction equipment without noise protection can be harmful to your hearing. What we are also learning is that exposure to a number of solvents, varnishes and other products commonly found at construction sites can also damage your hearing. A new informational bulletin developed by OSHA and NIOSH calls attention to the fact that many of these items contain ototoxic chemicals. In other words, they are poisonous to your hearing. Regardless of noise exposure, over time, the fumes, mists, gases and vapors from these substances can damage nerve fibers and hair cells in the inner ear, causing hearing loss, ringing in the ears (tinnitus) and problems with balance. Ototoxic chemicals enter the body and bloodstream through inhalation, skin absorption, and ingestion. Chemicals that can cause problems with hearing and balance include:

- Benzene – plastics, paints, cleaning agents, cigarette smoke
- Carbon disulfide – pesticides
- Carbon monoxide – cigarette smoke, welding, gasoline-powered tools and vehicles
- Styrene – plastics, insulating material
- Trichloroethylene – paints, waxes, pesticides, lubricants, rug cleaners, spot remover
- Toluene – paints, lacquers, adhesives, rubber, leather tanning, spray paint
- Xylene – paints, varnishes, thinners

While it doesn't have to be noisy for ototoxic hearing loss to occur, working around noise makes this hazard more likely to affect workers. That's because the combination of chemical and noise exposures have a synergistic effect – the combined effect is greater than the effect of either individually. LIUNA members working in construction and other industries are already at increased risk for hearing loss due to noise on the job. This risk increases further when workers use ototoxic chemicals. It's important for LIUNA signatory employers and members to recognize this silent and prevalent hazard to hearing and take steps to prevent it. Depending on the level of noise, the dose of the chemical and the length of exposure, ototoxic hearing loss can be temporary or permanent, and there is no treatment for it. Symptoms of ototoxic exposure are similar to that of most solvents and neurotoxins. If you experience headache, a feeling of fullness in the ear, dizziness or blurry vision seek fresh air.

Replacing products that contain ototoxic chemicals with less toxic substances can help protect worker hearing. Key words to look for when reviewing a chemical's SDS for the potential to cause hearing loss are "neurotoxicant" and "nephrotoxicant." If hazardous chemicals can't be replaced, engineering controls that assist with ventilation can reduce risk. When possible, OSHA requires employers to install exhaust fans, jets, ducts, hoods and separators to draw fumes, mists, gases and vapors away from the work area. Personal protective equipment including gas/vapor respirators, goggles and gloves to reduce skin exposure can also help protect against ototoxic hearing loss. Employers should also institute a comprehensive hearing conservation program that includes controlling on-the-job noise, hearing protection, hearing tests and toolbox talks on noise and hearing loss.

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.

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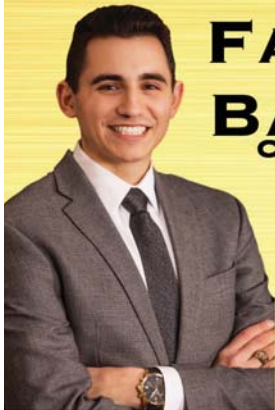
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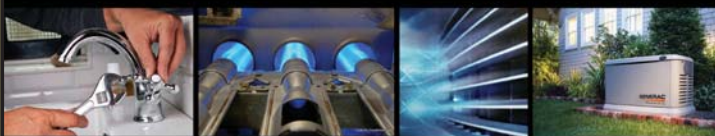
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- REPLACE SMOKE DETECTOR OR CO (4)
- RE-ROUTE CABLE FOR TV
- FIX HOLE IN WALL (UP TO 12")
- REPLACE MIRROR
- MOVE FURNITURE IN HOUSE
- ASSEMBLE STORE • FIX SIDING BOUGHT PRODUCTS
- INSTALL DRYWALL (3 SHEETS UNFINISHED)
- FIX MINOR FENCE PROBLEMS
- REPLACE INTERIOR DOOR

PLATINUM PACKAGE (\$135 MONTHLY)

3 JOBS PER MONTH FOR TOTAL OF 3 HOURS

- INCLUDES ALL FROM SILVER & GOLD PACKAGES
- INSTALL CEILING FAN (WIRING MUST BE PRESENT)
- REPLACE HOT WATER TANK
- REPLACE EXTERIOR DOOR
- 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)

**TREATING YOUR HOME AS
OUR OWN SINCE 2002**