

LEADERSHIP NIAGARA

Great Leaders. Great Ideas. Great Results.



Leadership Niagara Class of 2010

2010 PRESENTING SPONSORS

NIAGARA  GAZETTE  Union-Sun & Journal **TONAWANDA NEWS**  **FIRST NIAGARA**

2010 LEADERSHIP CIRCLE SPONSORS

The Giacomo Hotel

Ellicott Development Company

One Year That Will Change Your Life!

Leading the charge

from the Class of 2010

Most recently it involved sitting around a table at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station trying to figure out how to use a couple Styrofoam cups and a piece of masking tape to keep an egg safe when dropped from several feet in the air.

Earlier this year it involved a trip to the newly renovated Rapids Theatre in downtown Niagara Falls where we met with local businessmen and those involved in the tourism industry.

Participating in this “class experience” provides an education of a different sort.

Halfway into our year-long program, the Leadership Niagara class of 2010, has been exposed to a lot of important ideas and issues in the Niagara and Western New York regions.

Probably none more pressing than the stale local business climate.

So far this year we’ve heard from the likes of Carl Paladino, who renovated and reopened the former United Office Building, now known as The Giacomo, John Hutchins, who did the same for the Rapids Theatre, and Rob Albert, who’s gone from selling pencils to operating the successful North Tonawanda business Impressive Imprints.

There was a lot of talk about the struggles they faced and none of them had much good to say about local and state government.

What they did talk about was their love of the area and how it led them to dig in their heels and push harder to accomplish their goals — to all of our benefit.

Without that kind of dedication, we’d be talking about a few more lost opportunities, a few more blighted buildings. You read the paper, the success stories are few and far between around here.

That’s where the egg comes in.

For those of you who’ve been to staff development training or the like, you know the drill — get a group of people together and have them work on a common solution to a problem.

It’s usually nothing serious, a pretty good time even — no matter what happens to the egg.

Taken together with everything else we’ve learned throughout the past six months, the exercise this time was a little more meaningful.

It was later followed up with a conversation on how graduating Leadership Niagara classes could keep the ball rolling and continue to stay involved with issues affecting all of us in Niagara County and beyond.

That may be the best part of all this.

It’s one thing to be exposed to all that’s happening in our neck of the woods, but to be in a position to bring about real change is an exciting prospect.

I already have a taste of that working here at the Gazette. Since Publisher Peter Mio (also a member of Leadership Niagara’s class of 2010) took over last year, we’ve made real strides in trying to focus attention on the good that’s happening all around us.

But creating change is no easy task — you need a network of like-minded folks from throughout the community working together. It takes dedication and a true understanding of what’s happening around us.

And it takes a group like Leadership Niagara to bring them all together.

My group’s egg? It survived the trip just fine.



Matt Winterhalter
LN Class of 2010
Managing Editor,
Niagara Gazette

Leadership Niagara Class of 2010

Dan Aikin | New York State Senator Ranzenhofer

Denielle Ander | Orleans Niagara BOCES

Kristin Anderson | Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center

Jamie Border-Edler | HSBC Bank

Holly Curcione | American Red Cross

Doug Eoute | 107th Airlift Wing

Tracy Fletcher | Leadership Niagara

Harry Francois | NY Power Authority

Gian Giandomenico | First Niagara Bank

Becky Joyce | Niagara Falls Schools

Jeffrey Leach | M&T Bank

Teresa Lepiane | Covanta Energy

Nicholas Ligammari | Niagara Falls Police

Pete Mio | Niagara Gazette

Kristen Neubauer | Niagara County Sheriff’s Department

Glenn Osswald | Opportunities Unlimited

Lou Paonessa | NY Power Authority

Heather Peck | Lockport Main Street

Andrea Pitruzzella | 914th Airlift Wing

Carolyn Powell | Buffalo Niagara Enterprise

Lynn Reed | Niagara Wheatfield Schools

Susie Reinhardt | Verizon

Earl Smeal | Niagara Falls Schools

Bob Swanson | Niagara University

Katie Trombley | Community Missions

Matt Winterhalter | Niagara Gazette





Partnership with NFJC: Leading with Diversity

The National Federation of Just Communities of WNY, Inc. (NFJC) has a long history of working with people and organizations from the Buffalo/Niagara region. Founded in 1951 in Western NY as a regional office of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, NFJC is dedicated to overcoming racism, bias, and discrimination, by building understanding, respect and trust through education, advocacy and community involvement. NFJC has proudly partnered with the Niagara Falls School District, the Tonawanda City Schools, YWCA of the Tonawandas, Leadership Niagara, and other groups from the Niagara Region in our work.

NFJC is pleased to partner with Leadership Niagara to expand on their commitment and core values of "diversity and inclusion" and to present a diversity awareness workshop this month to the 2010 Class of Leadership Niagara. The sessions are powerful experiences that not only allow participants to learn more about themselves and their views on diversity, but also to examine and develop ways to celebrate the strengths and address the needs of the community.

We are grateful for our continuing partnership with Leadership Niagara and welcome future collaborations with LN as well as so many other vibrant organizations in Niagara County. For more information on NFJC programs, and to inquire how the NFJC can serve you or your organization, please visit www.nfjcwny.org.



Lana D. Benatovich
President,
NFJC of WNY



Leadership for the Youth of Niagara County



Class of 2010

Emily Gendrue | Barker Central School
Jacob Greenwald | Barker Central School
Larissa St. Louis | Barker Central School
Kimberly Alexander | Lewiston-Porter Central School
Kevin Basta | Lewiston-Porter Central School
Michael Boss | Lewiston-Porter Central School
Matthew Jones | Lewiston-Porter Central School
Robert Minicucci | Lewiston-Porter Central School
Renee Wall | Lewiston-Porter Central School
Mary Guyton | Lockport Central School
Anthony Seymore | Lockport Central School
Melanie Badding | Newfane Central School
Emily Flagler | Newfane Central School
Morgan Kilcullen | Newfane Central School
Alexandra Coleman | Niagara Catholic
Gabriella Graff | Niagara Catholic
Kristen Champoux | Niagara Falls High School
Matthew Laurrie | Niagara Falls High School
Erin McKean | Niagara Falls High School
Sonyea Sheard | Niagara Falls High School
Sarah Dinger | North Tonawanda City School
Mike Fetzer | North Tonawanda City School
Brittany Lemma | North Tonawanda City School
Conner Callaghan | Royalton-Hartland Central School
Katie Austin | Starpoint Central School
Jacob LaPort | Starpoint Central School
Avery Lynne Manders | Starpoint Central School
Amanda Breier | Niagara-Wheatfield Central School
Kelly Gravel | Niagara-Wheatfield Central School
Koreena Livergood | Niagara-Wheatfield Central School
Stephen Raglow-DeFranco | Niagara-Wheatfield Central School
Mariska Raglow-DeFranco | Niagara-Wheatfield Central School
Brad Thomas | Niagara-Wheatfield Central School

2010 Annual LYNC S

Stephen Raglow-DeFranco

Senior at Niagara Wheatfield High School



Stephen Raglow-DeFranco
LYNC Class of 2010
Niagara Wheatfield
High School

In the LYNC program, I received great information from community leaders about becoming a successful leader. For instance, we met government officials, such as the Mayor of Lockport, who talked about networking and work ethic, and we learned dinner etiquette and the value of a strong handshake from a former butler. I also interacted with a diverse group of peers from various schools and backgrounds, all who possess leadership qualities. My peers and I participated in team building exercises and shared personality profiles. What I learned from LYNC is that there is no formula for leadership. It is not about a certain set of behaviors or personality traits. Leadership is about being comfortable with who you are and always striving to be your best – regardless of position. It is about sharing whatever interests or talents you have for the benefit of the community. To that end, I feel fortunate to have been asked to film segments of our LYNC programs throughout the year which I am currently editing to create a summary of our experience. I hope I am able to convey at least a small measure of the impact LYNC has had on me and on the other participants.

Sincerely,
Stephen Raglow-DeFranco

Jonnie Fabrizio

Newfane High School



Jonnie Fabrizio
Newfane High School

Think about gathering the most prominent teens from all across Niagara County and having them meet together for almost a year. What do you get? An experience like no other, one only the Leadership for the Youth of Niagara County is able to provide.

First presented with the idea of joining this program was by my high school principal. I sent in my application and arrived at the first opening retreat, nervous, not knowing what to expect. I entered Windy Meadows, observing everyone there. We bonded, however hesitant to believe Skip when he said we will all be sad once graduation in June comes.

Each retreat became glue for many friendships to join, while strengthening and developing an abundance of leadership skills. I can now admit that Skip was right and the LYNC graduation will be a bittersweet event, but not an

ending at all.

Realizing the leadership skills I have accumulated gives me the strength to be a leader in my community and beyond. LYNC gave me the courage to participate in various things. With my leadership skills I was able to compete abroad in Europe for an international Model UN conference without anyone from my school. This idea would have been unthinkable without my participation in LYNC. I am so proud of the person I have become. I met and gained relationships with many wonderful people, teens and adults alike with the help of this program.

Leadership for the Youth of Niagara County

Scholarship Recipients

Mike Fetzer

North Tonawanda High School



Mike Fetzer
LYNC Class of 2010
North Tonawanda
High School

LYNC has provided me with an extremely rewarding experience. One of the first activities assigned to our class was to create a tagline for the new LYNC logo. I am proud to say that my tagline "Learn Today. Lead Tomorrow." was chosen. Writing this tagline was quite simple as the knowledge and experience gained through LYNC activities have provided me with the motivation and skills to develop my leadership potential.

My experience in LYNC has given me the ability and confidence to pursue the position of Treasurer/Parliamentarian of the New York State DECA Executive Council. I have been fortunate enough to be the first such officer elected from Niagara County. LYNC has taught me the value of social networking, business etiquette, teamwork, community service, and self-awareness. These are skills that will not only provide a good foundation for my future business endeavors, but will also be beneficial in my personal life.

TS Elliot said: "What we call the beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from." As our time together with LYNC comes to an end, I am looking forward to beginning the next stage of my life, better prepared due to the LYNC experience.

Sara Oliphant

Lewiston Porter High School

Danny Kaye once said, "Life is a great big canvas, and you should throw all the paint on it you can." My name is Sara Oliphant and I am a senior at Lewiston Porter High School. Since my commencement from the LYNC program, I have consistently been trying to throw as much paint onto the canvas that is life.

Prior to my experiences with LYNC, I lived my life as a mere wallflower, and I was more than content with that. The Leadership for the Youth of Niagara County program has since taught me the error of my ways. I learned that you get out of life what you put into it. LYNC has helped me to leave behind my status as a wallflower and truly immerse myself in life. I have realized the importance of leadership, and the importance of jumping out of the woodwork once in awhile.

Since LYNC I have been elected the Secretary of my school's Key Club and Lancer Council, followed by being elected President of Key Club, and Vice President of the National Honor Society. I have delivered a presentation to the Lewiston Porter Board of Education regarding the positive effects of the LYNC program; I have delivered a speech at the 2010 National Honor Society induction. I also recently was invited to speak at a Youth Leadership convention. I was also able to attend and volunteer at the 2009 Business Leader of the Year Award Ceremony.

Since my involvement with the Leadership for the Youth of Niagara County program, my life has changed immeasurably. Recently, I have decided to join the Peace Corps and am ecstatic about doing so, as the opportunity will allow me to extend my leadership capabilities to other parts of the globe.

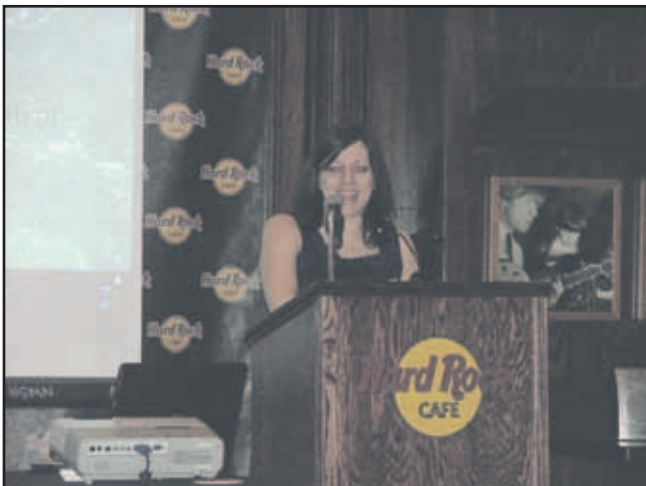
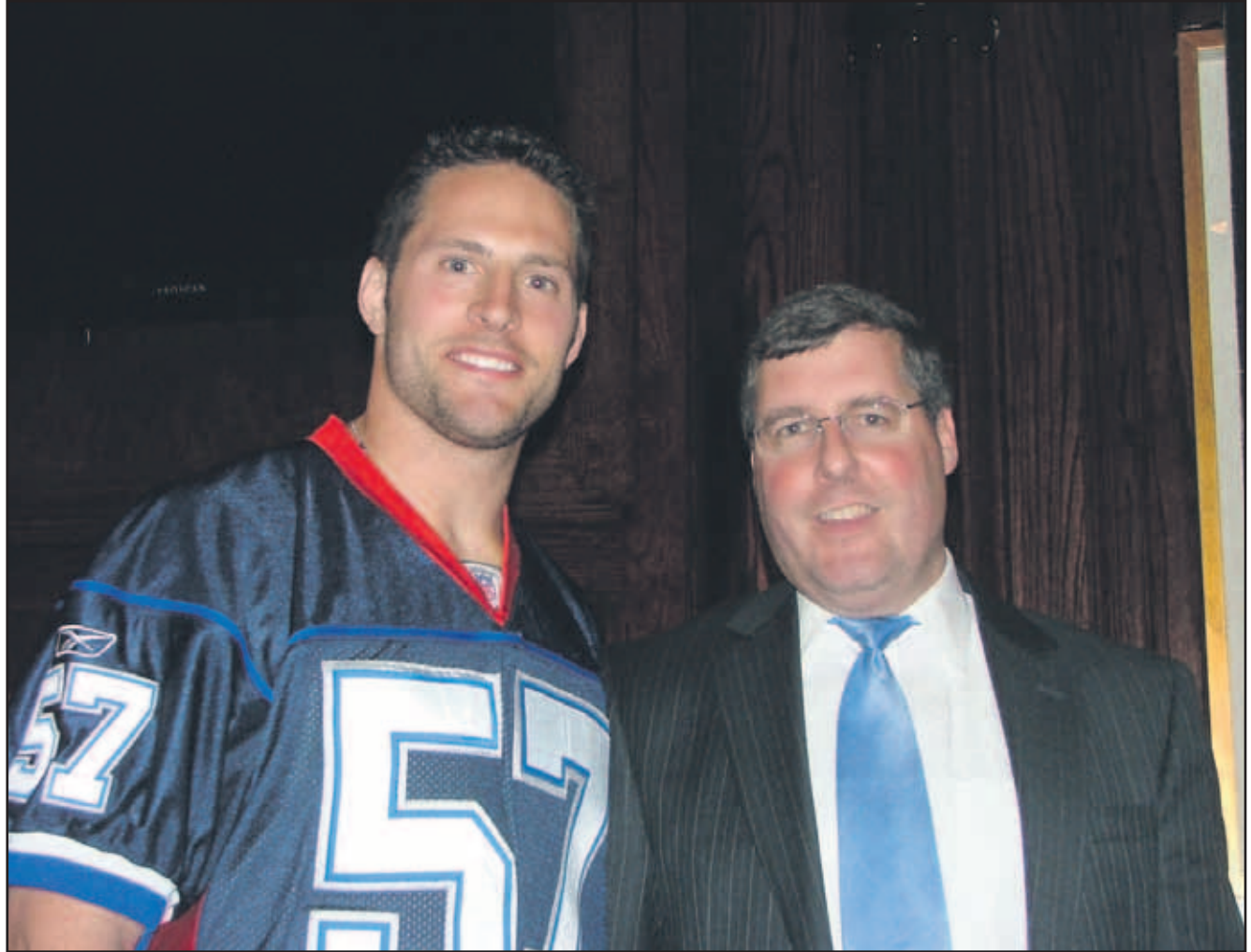
Before my involvement with the LYNC program, I was a wallflower. LYNC has helped immerse me into a lifestyle that I never knew existed. I am proud to say that I will never be just a wallflower, but instead, a strong and courageous leader within my community. LYNC has encouraged me to throw all the paint I can, onto the canvas that is my life, and for that I thank you.

LYNC Closing Retreat



Leadership for the Youth of Niagara County

LYNC *Graduation* at Hard Rock Café



Jon Corto, keynote speaker, and Leadership Niagara Chairman Dan Conley of First Niagara Bank

Jon Corto of Buffalo Bills speaks to LYNC students about living with a purpose.

Government & Media Day



Scott Brown, Class of 2010 at WGRZ



Mayor Ted Salci of Niagara Falls, Ontario



Mayor Paul Dyster of Niagara Falls, New York





2011 Application Form

Applications will be accepted through October 1, 2010

Applicant Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
 Home Address: _____ City: _____
 Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____
 Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____
 Work Phone: _____

Employer/Sponsor Information

Contact Name: _____ Position: _____
 Company Name: _____ Address: _____
 City: _____ Zip: _____
 Email: _____ Phone: _____

Tuition Payment Agreement

Tuition for 2011 is \$2,250, which includes additional fees for overnight retreats.

I hereby agree to personally pay \$100 of the tuition cost, the balance to be paid by my sponsor.

Amount paid by applicant: \$ _____ Amount paid by sponsor: \$ _____

Applicant Signature: _____ Sponsor Signature: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

Application Requirements

A completed application includes this completed form, a current resume and essay answers to the following questions:

1. Please list what you believe to be the most significant issues of living or working in Niagara County.
2. How do you think you could contribute to the solution of these issues?
3. What is your definition of leader?
4. Please list your most notable accomplishments.

Eligible candidates will be interviewed prior to acceptance.

Full attendance at all monthly sessions and overnight retreats is required.

Please note that tuition covers all programs, materials and accommodations at overnight retreats.

Our mission: To strengthen regional leadership

Our vision: To be the premier leadership resource for our region that creates trustees of our community who work together to shape our future.

The application, essays and resume may be sent via email to tfletcher@leadershipniagara.org or mailed to:

Leadership Niagara
 1623 Military Road #332
 Niagara Falls, NY 14304

www.leadershipniagara.org - 716-949-3223



Leadership Niagara 2010 Charter Membership

LN Board of Directors would like to gratefully acknowledge the commitment and support of the following alumni and friends of our organization who have stepped forward as an annual sponsor of Leadership Niagara's 2010 Charter Membership Campaign.

It's not too late to become a charter member of Leadership Niagara.

For a tax-deductible contribution of \$49 you'll receive the following benefits:

- Invitations to exclusive networking events
- Leadership development seminars
- Special member rates at LN events
- Member-only access alumni directory
- Recognition at 2010 Leader of the Year and LN Graduation Gala
- Name/Organization listed on website
- Announcements of events, career opportunities and leadership positions

Send your check
payable to:
Leadership Niagara
1623 Military Road #332,
Niagara Falls, NY 14304.

Leadership Niagara 2010 Charter Members

Deanna Alterio-Brennen, LN '00	Diana M. Henry, LN '05	Michael Piette, LN '95
Raeanne Argy-Tyler, LN '99	Rev Robert S. Hughson, LN '95	Kristin E.N. Riemer, LN '09
Nancy P. Askins, LN '04	Wayne F. Jagow, LN '98	Wendy J. Roberson, LN '94
Ed Barauskas, LN '98	Jamie Johnson, LN '09	Lester J. Robinson
Susan D. Beich, LN '08	Rebecca Joyce, LN '10	Randy D. Roeseler, LN '84
Lana D. Benatovich	Susan Kowalewski	Daniel Rotunno, LN '09
Angela Berti	Robyn L. Krueger, LN '04	Steven Sargent, LN '09
Annemarie C. Bettino, LN '85	Thomas A. Kucharski	Kenneth Sass, LN '97
Philip Buffone, LN '85	Teresa Lepiane, LN '10	Kevin Schuler, LN '00
Steven H. Burley	Father Joseph Levesque	Maureen Siekierski, LN '98
Stephen Colan, LN '04	Lisa Lindamer	Jerry D. Slipko, LN '09
Daniel K. Conley	Sharon A. Luskin, LN '01	Darlene Sprague, LN '09
Jean Conley, LN '03	Lynn Maloni, LN '96	David Szafran, LN '09
Holly Curcione, LN '10	Senator George D. Maziarz	Michael Tambroni, LN '09
Elizabeth M. Diachun	Flora McKenzie, LN '05	Senator Antoine M. Thompson
Bob Drozdowski, LN '09	Frank Mergl, LN '06	Annette A. Tomlin, LN '08
Jennifer L. Dunn, LN '07	Tricia Mezhir, LN '84	Gabriella G. Vanille, LYNC '08
Molly A. Fitzpatrick	Gay Molnar, LN '97	Michelle Vanstrom, LN '09
Tracy Fletcher, LN '10	Howard Morgan, LN '02	Sylvia Virtuoso, LN '92
Bernadette Franjoine, LN '09	Melissa N. Morinello, LN '08	Judge William Watson, LN '98
Jane Haenle, LN '84	David Nardoizzi	Maureen Watz, LN '07
Margo Hall, LN '97	Marc J. Odien	Tom Weeks
Skip Helfrich, LN '89	Christine S. O'Hara, LN '92	Maureen A. Wendt, LN '95
	Carl Paladino	

LEADERSHIP NIAGARA NETWORK

Don't miss the opportunity to stay connected with the leaders in the Niagara region.

Please send us your updated email and contact information to tfletcher@leadershipniagara.org

2011 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Presenting Sponsor **\$7,500**

- Industry exclusive primary sponsorship of Leadership Niagara in 2011
- Tuition for one participant from your organization in our 2011 Class Experience
- Premier placement of company name/logo on our website and communications
- Name/logo on all LN and LYNC binders, certificates, and announcements
- Recognition of your company at all Leadership Niagara events
- Member access to all LN social/community forums
- Special recognition at our 2011 Leadership Niagara graduation

Leadership Circle Sponsor **\$5,000**

- Tuition for one participant from your organization in our 2011 Class Experience
- Company name as member of Leadership Circle on our website and communications
- Recognition of your company at all Leadership Niagara events
- Member access to all Leadership Niagara social/community forums
- Special recognition at our 2011 Leadership Niagara graduation

Visionary Leader **\$2,500**

- Name listed as "Visionary Leader" on our website and communications
- Member access to all Leadership Niagara social/community forums
- Opportunity to volunteer with Leadership Niagara

Please contact the Leadership Niagara office for more information or to become a sponsor today.

716-286-7908

www.leadershipniagara.org



**Shotgun at Sunrise
Golf Tournament**

**Friday, August 27th
@ 7am**
**Lockport Town &
Country Club**



Leadership Niagara

 1623 Military Road #332
 Niagara Falls, NY 14304

 716-998-0351
 tfletcher@leadershipniagara.org
 www.leadershipniagara.org

Sponsorship

Yes! I am interested in participating in the Leadership Niagara, Shotgun at Sunrise Golf Tournament at the following level:

- Gold Sponsor—\$3,000**
Includes: 2 Foursomes, continental breakfast, lunch, 2 tee signs and logo on all print materials, and recognition at luncheon.
- Silver Sponsor—\$1,000**
Includes: 1 Foursome, continental breakfast, lunch, 1 tee sign and recognition at luncheon.
- Bronze Sponsor—\$500**
Includes: 2 Golfers, continental breakfast, lunch and 1 tee sign and recognition at luncheon.
- Tee Sponsor—\$150**
1 tee sign with company name &/or logo

Sponsorship Deadline is August 13th, 2010.

Please contact Tracy Fletcher at 716-998-0351 or tfletcher@leadershipniagara.org for more information.

Golfers

7:00am Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:00am Shotgun Start

Included for golfers:

- Greens fees
- Cart
- Continental Breakfast
- Lunch
- Door Prizes
- And much more!

Golf Opportunities:

- Individual Golfer.....\$135.00
- Foursome.....\$540.00
- Lunch Only 1pm.....\$40.00



Lockport Town & Country Club
 717 East Avenue
 Lockport, NY 14094

Sign Up

Company: _____

Contact: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Player Names:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

For more information call:
 Molly Fitzpatrick at 716-949-3223
 Tracy Fletcher at 716-998-0351

Please enclose a check payable to Leadership Niagara and mail to:
 Leadership Niagara
 1623 Military Road #332
 Niagara Falls, NY 14304