

Audio file

[Independent Perspective #1857 \(Ryan Brehmer\).mp3](#)

Independent Perspective 1857 with Ryan Brehmer on the celebration of the Olmstead decision from Supreme Court and other ILNC activities

Transcript

00:00:00 Speaker 1

Welcome to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of Western New York Independent Living (WNYIL). Our guest today is Ryan Brehmer, director of Independent Living of Niagara County (ILNC), and I'm your host Ernie Churchwell. Welcome to the program, Ryan.

00:00:14 Speaker 2

Thanks, Ernie. Glad to be here.

00:00:16 Speaker 1

It's our pleasure. And you have the full story of something that ILNC has done the last two years, which is the Olmstead celebration.

00:00:28

Now, if people think of a city park when they hear that name, there's a good reason for that. What was the Olmstead decision by the Supreme Court that we were celebrating?

00:00:41 Speaker 2

So, the decision by the Supreme Court that we celebrate for Olmstead Day was that disabled people, people with disabilities should be allowed to live in the least restrictive environment possible.

00:00:57

Meaning, if they don't have an urgent, justifiable need for institutional care, they should be allowed to live in the community with formal and informal supports.

00:01:09 Speaker 1

Well, that certainly makes a lot of sense. Exactly when and where will you be doing this celebration?

00:01:16 Speaker 2

So, the last several years we've combined the two celebrations, actually the marking the Olmstead anniversary as well as the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. So, this year we're hosting the event on July 11th.

00:01:33

And it'll be in the Haeberle Plaza parking lot.

00:01:36

From 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

00:01:39

And this year, for the first time, we're going to have partner organizations joining us to present educational information, some games, some food, and some music.

00:01:50

It should be a fun time. We're expecting a nice turn out again this year.

00:01:54 Speaker 1

Yeah, you got me when you said food, so.

00:01:58 Speaker 2

It's a big hook. Yep, I'm still working out the details.

But we have a new neighbor running an adult daycare right next door to us in the old Rent-A-Center.

00:02:09

And he has just agreed to sponsor most of the lunch. So, I'll have more details on that maybe the next time we meet.

00:02:17 Speaker 1

Wonderful. Uh, can you mention the name of his business?

00:02:20 Speaker 2

Compassion Corp.

And they do breakfast and lunch. They do yoga, and they have a variety of activities inside and outside.

00:02:34 Eligible for Medicaid is the only thing they've got on their list of requirements.

00:02:40 Speaker 1

Alright. Are there other happenings in Cataract City, particularly in Haeberle Plaza, that you feel deserve to be mentioned?

00:02:50 Speaker 2

At this time, we're doing the usual spring cleaning, so if anybody is looking for a few hours of volunteer time, I'd be happy to put them to work in our parking lot in preparation for the event.

00:03:03

Any takers on that you send them my way.

00:03:07 Speaker 1

Sounds delightful.

00:03:10 What else is happening there at ILNC?

00:03:16 Speaker 2

As we head into the later summer, we're doing our I believe it will be the 9th Annual Overdose Awareness Day Rally. That'll be up in Lockport at the park up there. I know there's several celebrations planned for Juneteenth.

00:03:33 Over at Legends Park here in Niagara Falls.

00:03:37

I'm kind of skipping around on the time on you there, I went to August and then I went back to June.

00:03:44

Always, always something happening in the Cataract City.

00:03:48

The two big events this summer are ADA celebration, the Overdose Awareness Day rally, and then getting into the fall. We have a corn hole tournament, again up in Lockport that will be our second annual fundraiser.

00:04:04

People that are in recovery get together and play a corn hole tournament against each other. It was a lot of fun last year we had about had a good hundred people show up at the Christ Community Church, play corn hole for a Saturday.

00:04:18 Speaker 1

OK, we will have another show on the Disability Pride celebration. If people have questions about your event, how can they contact you?

00:04:26 Speaker 2

They can reach us at the ILNC main office and that number is 284-4131.

00:04:33

And if they can catch Cindy.

00:04:35

Great. If they can't catch Cindy, they can try me, but we'll give them a call back if they leave a message.

00:04:40 Speaker 1

Thanks so much for being with us, Ryan.

00:04:42 Speaker 2

Thank you so much for having me here. It's always a pleasure.

00:04:45 Speaker 1

You've been listening to Independent Perspective, a public affairs presentation of WNYIL. Our guest today was Ryan Brehmer, director of ILNC, and I've been your host, Ernie Churchwell.