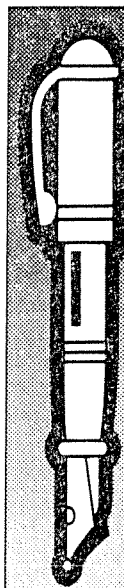


## READERS' VIEWS



### Share your thoughts

■ **Letters:** The Gazette prints letters on issues of public concern. They should be brief, no longer than 1 1/2 pages typed, double-spaced.

■ **Guest views:** The Gazette accepts columns from readers who want to discuss a subject in more depth. They should be issue-oriented and no longer than 2 1/2 pages typed, double-spaced.

Both must be signed originals and include full name and address and daytime telephone number for verification. Send to Niagara Gazette, 310 Niagara St., P.O. Box 549, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 14302-0549. Fax to 286-3895. Call the Speaking Out Phone Line at 286-3876. E-mail to 102010.453@compuserve.com

■ Writers are limited to one letter or guest view per month.

■ Writers are encouraged to enclose a photograph of themselves for publication.

■ We reserve the right to edit all submissions for length, content and clarity.

battle with cancer. Dad also died of cancer of the lung and bone, his brother is now affected and my brother at the age of 46 years is now fighting the disease. A friend of mine from school who lived in Model City died of cancer at a young age about 20 years ago.

On my mother's side, she had her thyroid removed in the 1940s, developed non Hodgkin's lymphoma (cancer) in 1984 and died in 1986. She has a sister who has had her thyroid growths removed twice, a niece who has had thyroid tumors removed just recently and other relatives who are now fighting a cancerous battle.

I am a patient at Roswell. One of my tumors is located in my neck between the trachea and the esophagus. My thyroid has also grown back on the one side even though I had a double growth removed in October of 1975. My 1975 surgical report showed that these growths were very toxic. The endocrinologist who treated me in Buffalo stated in order for me to have toxic goiters, I had to come in direct contact with a radioactive material. As far as I know, this tower on Pletcher Road is the only source I've ever been near.

I hope someone does find a solution to Lewiston and Town of Porter health

problems before it's too late for all of us in this area. Some people don't think we have a problem and/or they won't talk about it, but we all know it's out there!

**Grace K. Austin**  
**Ransomville**

### Is Lewiston 'tower' reason for her cancer?

Back in 1942 a silo of radioactive waste material (the Manhattan Project) was erected in Lewiston on the wide Pletcher Road just about one mile from where both sets of my grandparents lived. My mother's family lived on Pletcher Road where the Robert Moses Parkway now passes and my father's family lived at the corner of Model City and Swann Roads.

I was born in 1941, grew up in this area, went to school at the Lew-Port complex in the 1950s and even lived on Pletcher Road, as well as on the Balmer Road on the north side of the silo. Why am I writing now? To see if a study has ever been done on family groups to see how many people have been infected by tumors, cancer or non-cancerous. My families have suffered several types of cancers, we have also had several members with thyroid problems. In my father's family, his sister died from a long