



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Thomas F. O'Mara

O'Mara supports new Horseshoe Court Facility with an eye toward expanding recreational opportunities and an economic magnet for area small businesses

THOMAS F. O'MARA November 5, 2018

| ISSUE: **LOCAL ECONOMY**



Elmira, N.Y., November 5--State Senator Tom O'Mara (R,C,I-Big Flats) today joined other local business and government leaders, and members of the Twin Tier Horseshoe League, to break ground on the construction of a new Horseshoe Court Facility at Elmira's McKinnon Park.

O'Mara secured \$50,000 in state funding to support the project. The court will include 20 regulation horseshoe pits, lighting to accommodate night play, and spectator viewing. It will be located on a former tennis court near the corner of Sullivan and Thurston streets. In addition to expanding recreational opportunities for community residents, the facility is expected to be a draw for major, national events and attract visitors who will be a boost for local businesses.

Twin Tier Horseshoe League President Jerry Bernard said, "Three years ago we had an idea. We had a lack of facilities. New York state wants to do tournaments here, as long as we have the facility. Tournaments can bring about 100 competitors and their families, who will visit hotels and restaurants. It should bring in a few dollars. We hope to get bigger and better as we go."

"They (the league) started calling my office three years ago," O'Mara said. "They kept calling and finally we had some money available. This is going to be fantastic for the community."

Read more in the *Star-Gazette*, "**New Elmira horseshoe court seen as economic boost**"