

Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel

April 22, 2022 FREE 20 Pages Vol. 31 / No. 18 • Vol. 35 / No. 9

2050 Cayuga Dr. Ext
Niagara Falls, NY
716-297-4500
www.elcubiletenf.com

**FRIDAY, MAY 5TH
HAPPY HOUR ALL DAY**

CINCO DE MAYO 20% OFF Entire Bill Good All Month

Only one coupon per table. Cannot be combined with other offers. Dine-In Only.

New Enchanted Florist owners planting fresh roots in community

BY LAUREN CATHERINE

Lewiston's well-established floral and gift shop Enchanted Florist, at 739 Center St., is taking on a new life, with new owners Gabrielle and Hassan Ford already making strides to grow the business and their family legacy.

"We've always had an entrepreneurial spirit, and we've always wanted to be more of an asset to our community. We want to bring money to the community and build it up," Hassan said of he and his wife, who together also own personal training business Body by Ford in Niagara.

Enchanted Florist has been in Lewiston for 38 years, opening in 1984. Former owner Peter Tagliarini approached the Fords when he wanted to sell the business, Gabrielle explained.

"He knew of our talents, and he was interested in retiring, and thought we would be able to continue the business and make it successful – if not even better," she said.

Tagliarini's daughter, Alexa, has also continued to work at the shop as a designer.

As new owners, the Fords said they saw the opportunity to purchase both the shop's Lewiston and Niagara Falls (2448 Military Road) locations as a means of helping others as well as themselves at the same time, explaining that they are happy to be



New Enchanted Florist owners Hassan and Gabrielle are shown inside their Lewiston store. (Submitted photo)

employers who can provide jobs and help put food on the table for their employees and their families.

Originally from Niagara Falls,

Gabrielle said she and her husband lived in Lewiston for roughly 15 years before moving back to the city.

SEE COMMUNITY, continued on Page 2

Town of Niagara on Amazon: 'We have to make the best decisions for the town as a whole'



BY TIMOTHY CHIPP

Town of Niagara residents living near the site of a proposed Amazon warehouse spoke up Tuesday as officials continue planning for next month's site plan review.

A total of 10 stood at the microphone Tuesday evening, calling into question a proposal to construct a 650,000-square-foot, five-story facility on what is currently a farm at 8995 Lockport Road.

Common concerns? Traffic was one. So, too, was dust that would be kicked up both during construction and by the large number of trucks entering and exiting the facility. Then there's the noise concerns, as the Amazon facility would be bordered by residents who would hear a warehouse operating 24 hours per day and seven days per week.

"I get such a sick feeling in the pit of my stomach," Janine D'Antuono told the five-man council. "I think it's insane."

Amazon representatives were not in attendance, as the meeting's agenda did not include the proposed warehouse.

D'Antuono calls Lockport Road

home. Specifically, she sits at the intersection with Tuscarora Road, which would border the facility to the east. Living at the intersection of the street and Lockport Road would put her in the crosshairs of just about all of the negative effects that come with building the facility, she said.

Traffic is a major concern, she said, as that section of Lockport Road handles a lot of vehicles already. But it's only two-lanes wide.

"Sometimes I will just sit and sit and sit in my driveway trying to get out," she said.

Trucks, she said, were mostly limited to U.S. Highway 31 north of Lockport Road. But now the truck traffic is such that the windows of her house rattle and vibrate, she said.

At a work session April 13, Amazon officials said trucks from the facility would not be using that section of Lockport Road, instead traversing Packard Road from the facility's west side from and to Interstate 190. But employee traffic of commuters coming to the facility could have

SEE AMAZON, continued on Page 20

D4F marks Earth Day with donations to food pantries

Total donations set to top \$100,000

Lewiston resident Angelo Sarkees of Deposits for Food has been busy this past week with D4F's annual Earth Day donations to the four Niagara County-area food pantries.

An initiative to benefit the area needy that's now in its eighth year, Sarkees said funds collected come directly from bottle and can returnables by the community. It takes place in observance of Earth Day and his concerns for the environment.

"The Earth Day presentation is made to commemorate D4F's practice of collecting returnable containers and scrap metal, things that might end up in a landfill, and turning them into cash that is donated to the four Niagara County pantries. All money generated is donated," Sarkees said.

In the photo, Sarkees, at left, is shown at the Care-n-Share Food Pantry in Ransomville with check donations of \$300 apiece to benefit Care-n-Share and the Wilson Community Food Pantry in northern Niagara. Joining him, from left: Linda Leaderhouse of Care-n-Share, Town of Porter Supervisor John "Duffy" Johnston, Janet Hoffman of the Wilson Community Food Pantry, and Doug Adamson of Porter Empty Return, which helps coordinate the D4F collection effort.

Sarkees said D4F would also be visiting Niagara Falls area pantries this week as part of its annual assistance campaign. The latest donations total \$2,000, and bring the D4F initiative's eight-year total to \$100,000.

For more information on the D4F campaign, or to assist, contact Sarkees at 716-200-2199. (Photo by Terry Duffy)



Body Mind & Soul Connection, Ilc.

Aromatherapy & Essential Oils,
Astrology Reports, Candles,
Crystals & Crystal Jewelry, Reiki
Products, Sage & Smudging,
Soaps, Tarot & Spiritually
Inspired Attire & Gift Items

3957 River Road
Youngstown, NY 14174
716-807-2409

your one-stop spiritual shop
www.bodymindsoul.com

Serving Niagara
For Over 84 Years

GEORGE'S
APPLIANCE
AND TELEVISION

1422 PINE AVE.
Rte. 62A & 15th St., Niagara Falls, NY

www.ShopGeorges.com • 282-2121

NOW INDEPENDENT WITH
SEVERAL INSURANCE CARRIERS

PAUL HUTCHINS
INSURANCE AGENCY
AUTO • HOME • BUSINESS

245 Portage Road
Lewiston, NY 14092

Office: 716-405-7420
Fax: 716-405-7783
paul@paulhutchinsagency.com
PaulHutchinsAgency.com