

DiMino: Lewiston Tops has 'plenty of stuff for everybody'

No need for panic shopping

BY JOSHUA MALONI
GM/Managing Editor

Lewiston Tops will continue to meet the needs of River Region residents, even as demand for food and supplies increases amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

That was the message supermarket owner Anthony DiMino shared with the Niagara River Region Chamber of Commerce and local elected leaders on Monday.

"Obviously the extension of the shutdown ... it's going to affect us just as much as it's done the

last three weeks," he said. "Right now, in regards to commodities, produce is not a problem; because I have more than one supplier, besides Tops. Meat is not a problem, because I have more than one supplier for meat. Dairy is, obviously, the egg category is a little shaky. I might not have all the sizes, but I should have eggs. Same thing in the milk category. Frozen foods is in great demand, so there is going to be some outages in the frozen food category.

"In regards to nonperishables, the two to three categories that are in dire need is pasta is hit and miss. So, you might be able to get one size. Right now, we have Barilla, but not Tops. Can beans, or pork and beans, is in short supply. Rice was a commodity that was in trouble before this emergency, so that's all over the country there's a shortage of rice.

"Paper goods, as you know, toilet paper is in short supply. We'll get, maybe, 10-15 cases of one kind per order – and it'll be gone by 10 o'clock. And that's even with us limiting it to two per customer. Bottled water is now becoming in short supply, because they cannot manufacture it fast enough. And cleaning goods, you know, forget about. We ordered – in that aisle alone – almost 1,800 pieces, and we got 200. So, you know, Clorox wipes, sanitizers – pretty much you're not going to have it for a long while. That's just the way it is."



DiMino Lewiston Tops has plenty of meat, bread and produce.



He explained senior citizens are taking full advantage of exclusive shopping hours (6-7:30 a.m. Tuesday/Thursday). DiMino asked these patrons to remember the social distancing measures put in place across the state. The

store has taped lines in front of the checkout lanes separating shoppers the suggested six feet.

"In regards to social distancing, just because you're older doesn't mean that you should not follow that type of rule," DiMino said.

"People are waiting at the door at six o'clock in the morning on Tuesday."

"We have stuff," he said. "You don't have to rush in there. I understand they want to stay away from younger clientele, but it doesn't help anybody if everybody's gonna be kind of thrown together, because they want to get there before something might be gone. There's plenty of stuff for everybody."

As part of her community update on Tuesday, Niagara County Legislature Chairwoman Becky Wydysh advised, "When you are going out for those things, it's not a time to take the family out on a trip together to the grocery store, because you need to get out of the house. We all understand that people need to get out, but take a walk instead. You don't need to have the whole family go into the grocery store. One person should be doing that, if that's a possibility."

DiMino said the corporate Instacart program is running behind based on the program set in place. "But our home delivery ourselves, the Tops Lewiston home delivery, been working pretty much the same day, or maybe early the next morning.

"It used to average about 15 to 20 orders a day, Monday through Friday. Now, we're up to like 60 or 70 orders a day. I've added more help; so, we went from one personal shopper to two. I've added

SEE GROCERY, continued on Page 9

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David's Steak Hoagy – Takeout and delivery; call 283-3322 or visit www.davidsteakhoagy.com

De Dee's Dairy – Takeout ice cream! Call 297-8856

DeGiulio's Pharmacy – Pharmacy delivery; call 405-7821 or visit www.Degiuliospharmacy.com

DiMino's Lewiston Tops – Grocery Delivery (10 a.m. to 3 p.m.) / Instacart / pick-up; call 215-1350

Gallo Coal Fire Kitchen – Takeout; call 405-7596 or visit www.GalloRestaurants.com

Grandma D's Pizzeria – Takeout and Delivery; call 219-4100 or visit www.grandmadspizza.com

Great Foodini – Takeout and delivery 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; call 791-4400

The Griffon Gastropub – Curbside Pickup and Delivery; call 236-7474 or visit www.GriffonGastroPub.com

The Griffon House – Friday fish fry takeout only; call 405-7291

Johnston's Restaurant – Curbside pick-up available! Call 791-3511 or 791-3060

Just Desserts By Aimee – Pre-ordering/pickup and delivery; call 628-5892

Knead the Dough – Takeout with daily menu and favorite specials; call 791-4991

Main Street Pizzeria – Takeout and delivery only; call 745-1130

Orange Cat Coffee Co. – Takeout; call 754-2888

Ray's Tavern – Takeout 3-8 p.m. Thursday - Sunday; curbside delivery upon request; call 745-3657

Sanger Farms – Takeout orders; open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday-Sunday; call 745-7297 or visit www.SangerFarm.com

Scipione's Italian Deli & Catering – Open for pick-up orders only; 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays; call 285-8686 or visit www.scipionecatering.com/

Spice Harbor – Delivery available: soup/food mixes, pre-packaged snacks; call 754-2044

The Spicy Pickle – Takeout, pickup & curbside delivery; call 754-2044 or text 346-2459 or visit www.SpicyPickle.com

Sunshine Café – Takeout and delivery; open 6 a.m. until 2 p.m. weekdays, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekends; call 236-0051

Syros Restaurant – Takeout; call 754-1900 or visit www.Syrosrestaurant.com

Tin Pan Alley – Takeout only 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday, noon to 8 p.m. Sunday; call 754-4330

Villa Coffee House – Takeout only 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.; full breakfast with limited lunch menu; dinner options available from 4-7 p.m.; call 754-2660

The Village Bake Shoppe – Takeout and order pick-up; call 754-2300 or visit www.VillageBakeShoppe.com

Vincenzo's Pizza House – Open for pickup and delivery services on full menu; call 754-7383

The Youngstown Galley – Takeout; call 745-1517

Youngstown Village Diner – Takeout and delivery; call 745-9858 or visit www.YoungstownVillageDiner.com

* Information courtesy of the Niagara River Region Chamber of Commerce



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