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Wheatfield veterans honored in memorial dedication

STORY/PHOTOS
BY MICHAEL DEPIETRO

On Saturday, Aug. 8, a crowd of residents, including current and former military personnel and their families, joined local and state officials on a beautiful, sunny afternoon for a dedication ceremony for the Wheatfield Veterans Memorial.

“It’s my honor, not only as town

supervisor, but as a veteran,” Don MacSwan said of the occasion. “This is for the honor of all of our veterans in our community, and everything they have done.”

The memorial project was something that had been in the works in the town for many years, but only came to fruition recently through a coordinated effort between local government and a

dedicated group of veteran volunteers.

The memorial’s most visible ornaments – a pair of decommissioned military vehicles the town had in its possession – a Vietnam-era UH-1D Huey helicopter and a

Cold War-era M-60A3 army tank that was moved from the town’s highway department building last year – now stand proudly displayed at the memorial site behind Town Hall. The vehicles,

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Niagara County Peach Festival

New park arrangements in store for visitors

BY TERRY DUFFY
Editor-in-Chief

News and excitement continues to build as the 63rd edition of the Niagara County Peach Festival nears.

Lost last year to the COVID-19 pandemic, event organizers the Kiwanis Club of Lewiston were upbeat this week as they reviewed the still-developing plans for the 2021 festival, set to open Thursday, Sept. 9, and continue to Sunday, Sept. 12, at Academy Park in the Village of Lewiston.

As revealed earlier, many of the Peach Festival favorites are scheduled to return this year. Among them: the Friday evening cheerleading events, the Saturday morning parade on Center Street, the Peach Fuzz and Peach Blossom events for the younger set on Sunday, and the Peach Queen pageant throughout the weekend. And interspersed, visitors can expect many of those familiar sights – the home-grown Niagara County peaches to be had in various forms, the fabulous midway, the fun and games, dozens of vendors of all kinds and, of course, servings of those delicious shortcakes.

It all gets underway in less than a month.

Topping the news, Kiwanis organizers said festival attendees can look forward to a new layout at Academy Park. The familiar spectator stands and staging area have changed. New features include a relocated Alphonso DiMino Memorial Bandshell to the southwest corner of Academy Park at the corner of Cayuga Street and Portage Road.

The park itself has seen a number of new configurations.

“We’re just about 90% full on the field,” remarked Kiwanis

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