

# Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel

SPOTLIGHT ON  
LOCAL BUSINESS

August 28, 2020 FREE 24 Pages Vol. 29 / No. 37 • Vol. 33 / No. 28



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## SWEET SYNERGY: Hibbard's Custard teams with Village Bake Shoppe, Just Desserts by Aimee on cookie sandwiches

### LEFT OF CENTER WITH JOSHUA MALONI

Like so many locally owned businesses, Hibbard's took time during the coronavirus pandemic's early stages to go back to the drawing board. The Lewiston fixture came up with a sweet plan to collaborate with two popular pastry artists.

Hibbard's co-owner Kris Trunzo said, "We've been throwing it around for many years. My dad, he wanted to, but he didn't want to; my brothers – we all wanted to do it. I think we thought this year, with COVID and everything going on, let's come out of the box and think of some new things. That's where the cookie came from."

Now, a dessert sandwich needs two things: Ice cream – or, in this case, world-famous custard from the 81-year-old Hibbard's stand – and cookies.

"We don't bake, so I thought, 'Let's bring in the people that do.'"

Seeking something special, Trunzo recruited the Village Bake Shoppe.

"We didn't want chocolate chip; SEE HIBBARD'S, continued on Page 2



Pictured, from left, holding the new Hibbard's Original Frozen Custard cookie sandwiches, are Aimee Loughran, Kris Trunzo, Mike and Lindsay Fiore.

## Residents fear DOT work on Ward Road intersection too little, too late

BY MICHAEL DEPIETRO  
Interim Tribune Editor

Earlier this week, the New York State Department of Transportation took preliminary steps to address an area long considered one of the most dangerous roadways in the Town of Wheatfield – a stretch of Niagara Falls Boulevard running between Erick and Sy roads, including the intersection at Ward Road and Niagara Falls Boulevard.

In a recent email, DOT Regional Public Information Officer Susan Surdej outlined the current plans for the area, which began Monday.

"NYSDOT is adding reflective strips on the 'Signal Ahead' signposts, noting advance street name signs (Ward Road) onto the 'Signal Ahead' signs, adding 'Be Prepared to Stop' signs downstream of the 'Signal Ahead' signs and adding hatched pavement markers on the paved shoulders on Ward SEE RESIDENT, on Page 10

## Lewiston hears about community solar benefits Ampion Renewable Energy rep visits

BY TERRY DUFFY  
Editor-in-Chief

As its local law extending a moratorium on utility scale energy system installations continues, the Lewiston Town Board learned more about the concept of community solar at Monday's regular meeting.

There, Brian Busby, community partnerships representative from Ampion Renewable Energy of Boston, discussed the benefits of community solar for municipalities, as well as residents of the town. Currently, Ampion manages the 29-acre utility scale solar farm facility at 2463 Moore Road, owned by Donald and Janice Laurie. It acquired a lease to manage

the solar facility from OYA Solar of Toronto, which constructed it last year.

Busby said, "That solar farm is actually part of a state-run program called 'community distributed generation.' What it is designed to do is incentivize solar developers to build large solar farms and then offer some of the benefits of those solar farms to members of the community, (be they) residents, small businesses, nonprofits, municipalities.

"People can subscribe to a solar farm and receive a credit on their electricity bills for their share of the power produced."

Buzby told the board the Moore SEE BOARD, continued on Page 10

## Kentucky Derby wagers, mint juleps and more at Tin Pan Alley

LEFT OF CENTER WITH JOSHUA MALONI

When Bill Castiglione and his son, chef Bill Castiglione II, took over Tin Pan Alley a year ago, the younger said he had "a few different things in the works."

One of those items – Off-Track Betting – was derailed as the coronavirus pandemic took hold, forcing restaurants to close their doors in March. Races and events, moreover, were canceled as New York looked to stop the spread of COVID-19.

As the infection rate has lessened locally, and Tin Pan Alley is now open for indoor and outdoor patio dining, the Castigliones announced plans for a grand Kentucky Derby party on Saturday, Sept. 5.



Bill Castiglione and Bill Castiglione II are hosting a Kentucky Derby party next Saturday at Tin Pan Alley.

"Now that we have OTB, we're the only one in town that actually has it," Castiglione II said.

He explained, "I'm going to be running a happy hour that day from 2 to 6. It will be buy one appetizer, get your second one half SEE TIN PAN, continued on Page 11



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