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'GREETINGS FROM NIAGARA FALLS': Mural a welcome sign



Niagara Falls Mayor Robert Restaino discusses the mural with artist Paul Clifton.

The Downtown Niagara Falls Business Association hosted an official unveiling Wednesday for the new "Greetings From Niagara Falls" public mural outside of Wine on Third.

A postcard-inspired mural, "Greetings from Niagara Falls," was conceived and painted by local freelance artist Paul Clifton. The DNFBA commissioned the work as a way to showcase Niagara County activities and welcome guests to Niagara Falls USA. Clifton created the mural over a period of four weeks.

"Greetings from Niagara Falls" includes images illustrating iconic regional assets and events including the Niagara Wine Trail, Nik Wallenda's tightrope walk, the Rainbow Bridge, the Niagara Gorge and the U.S. flag. Read the full story at www.wnypapers.com.



Lewiston Senior Center sets Sept. 1 reopening

New center director has plans for bright future

**STORY AND PHOTO
BY TERRY DUFFY**

Editor-in-Chief

At last, some good news for seniors in the River Region.

The Town of Lewiston has begun preparations toward a long-anticipated reopening of the Lewiston Senior Center, 4361 Lower River Road, on the northern end of the town. The Senior Center will reopen for business Tuesday, Sept. 1, with all the required COVID-19 preparations in place.

It has plans for a bright future.

Shut down soon after the breakout of the coronavirus pandemic in March, much has transpired since then, including the naming of a new director to replace Jeanette Collesano, who retired from that post earlier this year following 26 years of service.

At its June meeting, the Lewiston Town Board announced the appointment of Melinda Olick of Cambria to take over as the new director. Formerly a member of the Town of Cambria assessors' office, Olick, a civil service appointee, brings a wealth of experience and passion working with the Niagara County senior community to her new position.

"Before I came here I worked for the Town of Cambria in the assessor's office. Prior to that, I worked for the Niagara County Office for the Aging and the Nutrition Program, like what we have here," Olick said. "Before that, I worked for the Niagara County Community Action Program, doing food stamp outreach. I worked with a lot of elderly there. And before that, I worked for the Niagara County Head Start Program."

Familiar with the Lewiston Senior Center community, Olick said her time spent at the facility dates



New Lewiston Senior Center Director Melinda Olick is anxious to welcome seniors back on Sept. 1.

back to her association with the Niagara County Office for the Aging, when Collesano's predecessor, Betty Zucco, served as senior center director.

"When I worked for the county for the Nutrition Program, I did fill in for Phyllis, who was the previous site director here. I did work here, but that was many moons ago when I did the nutrition outreach and education program, which was the food stamp outreach program. I went to every senior site in Niagara County and spoke to the seniors. Betty was here the first time I came."

Olick said part of her responsibilities while with the Cambria assessor's office was working with senior populations.

"The reason why I went for that job is because it was working with the elderly, helping them with their exemptions," she said.

Olick said she is excited to continue her passion of serving the senior community with her new role in Lewiston. And topping her list is to make sure the Lewiston Senior Center conforms to all COVID-19

SEE OLICK, continued on Page 7

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