

Mount St. Mary's Hospital sponsors Chalk YOUR Walk Competition

Mount St. Mary's Hospital has once again stepped up to sponsor Lewiston Council on the Arts' online Chalk YOUR Walk Competition.

"We are so proud to support and sponsor our friends at the Lewiston Council on the Arts through the Chalk YOUR Walk Competition," Mount St. Mary's Hospital President C.J. Urlaub said. "Our partnership has become such a wonderful tradition, and we are happy to join with our community to support the arts."

The event is still open to anyone in New York state, and is in lieu of the traditional Center and Fifth streets competition held as part of the Lewiston Art Festival.

The LCA said, "You can compete from the comfort of your driveway, parking lot, path or park. This year's theme is 'Imagine, Explore & Create!' Nature, music, animals, hobbies, books, sports ... anything can be the inspiration for your mural."

Prizes will be awarded, including \$500 for Best of Show, \$250 for the People's Choice Award, and \$50 Honorable Mention for



children ages 10 and under.

Guidelines and instructions can be found on the LCA website, <https://artcouncil.org/>, and on its Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/lewistonartscouncil/>. For more information, call 754-0166 or email artstaff@artcouncil.org.

Pictured are LCA Executive Director Irene Rykaszewski, Mount St. Mary's Hospital Manager of Public Relations and Community Affairs Karrie Gebhardt, and Mary Helen Miskuly, a member of the LCA board of directors.

First Lewiston bicentennial coin released

Lewiston keepsake kicks off limited commemorative series

Lewiston's 200th anniversary celebrations are about to commence, and a series of commemorative coins will be issued featuring Lewiston's iconic landmarks. The first coin has just been released and is available from the Lewiston Museum.

The coin highlights Lewiston's First Presbyterian Church – the first church in the area and the center of the Lewiston's earliest cultural and religious activities. It was also a safehouse on the Underground Railroad for the enslaved seeking a new life of freedom in Canada. Four more coins, featuring other Lewiston landmarks, will be released in the future to complete the series.

The coin is a large, 2-inch-diameter coin in highly polished silver illustrating both the three-dimensional Lewiston bicentennial logo on the front and the First Presbyterian Church on the back, each surrounded by textured recessed metal. The bicentennial logo highlights a silhouetted Frontier House. Both sides include a rope edging that symbolizes Lewiston's historic relationship with the water – not only as an integral part of the Portage, which opened the West to trade and commerce, but as one of the busiest Great Lakes ports of call at the beginning of the last century.

Historical Association President Ken Slaughaupt said, "If you love Lewiston, or have memories of Lewiston you and your family cherish, this is the keepsake you want to include in your collections. Only 200 of these coins will be minted, so it's important to get yours today before they sell out. Coins can be obtained for only a \$10 donation to the Historical Association of Lewiston. All proceeds go to support



the upcoming bicentennial events and activities. Call 754-4214 to make arrangements to pick-up or have it mailed. And yes, we accept

credit cards! Thank you for your support as we kick-off Lewiston's 200th birthday celebration."

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Vacation Bible School (cont.)

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"Week three, we're talking about when Jesus calms the storm and that even when we're afraid, Jesus loves you and Jesus is there," the director said.

Stevens said she grew up in Niagara Falls.

"When I go into the city, it's not the city I used to know. It just seems like there's a lot of unhappiness." COVID-19 seemed to "put a focus on all the underlying issues that have been going on – just the need to love one another. I think the community is starving for that – to be with each other and to be a community again," Stevens said.

"We're excited," the Rev. Deeks said. "We're going to really have kind of a church picnic situation at a pavilion at different parks and take the games and the fun and hope that some parents will bring their kids and that we can celebrate and do that same kind of ministering. There will be treats and snacks and prizes and also sharing things they can learn about Jesus and how you get to know him."

Going outdoors with the sessions can ease any lingering concerns about COVID-19, Deeks said. He added that, like for many gatherings, the pandemic has been tough on attendance for the church's ministry to both adults and children.

"Not all of our folks that are saying, 'You're my church' have felt ready to come back. In part, children aren't vaccinated, for instance, so they have to make some difficult decisions," Deeks said. "I think, too, the pandemic has helped people get out of the habit of going to church, because you do it online."

"In that sense, it's been hard on the traditional church, but we also have to reach out and have new ways of doing church."

He said that, while Colonial Heights Free Methodist Church isn't livestreaming yet, it is posting video of each week's service on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ColonialHeightsFMC. One can also find out more about the church at <https://www.ColonialHeightsFMC.org>.

To volunteer to help with Colonial Heights' VBS, email deekstrev@aol.com or call 297-5320.

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