

#JusticeforGeorgeFloyd

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Niagara County tourism entities await word on when, how they can reopen



The world-famous Maid of the Mist has yet to make a 2020 debut. It's expected to remain closed until phase four of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's "New York Forward" reopening process.

Just like this photo, the status of tourism in Niagara County this summer is a little fuzzy.

BY JOSHUA MALONI
 GM/Managing Editor

Retail stores ✓
 Barbershops and salons ✓
 Restaurants ✓
 Houses of worship ✓
 Graduation ceremonies ✓
 As Niagara County prepares for phase three of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's "New York Forward" reopening process, answers, dates and procedures have been given for a number of items. The reemergence of one sig-

nificant sector, however, is still unknown. Tourism. Cuomo's plan has said arts, entertainment and recreation are part of phase four – which could come locally as soon as Tuesday, June 30. That said, the governor recently allowed houses of worship to reopen at 25% capacity, gave the OK for outdoor graduation ceremonies of 150 people or less, and reopened restaurant patios in between phases two and

three – so, it's possible tourist attractions could come back on a different date. Destination Niagara USA President and CEO John Percy said, "As far as we are aware, attractions are in phase four. Many of the attractions across Niagara County are currently working on their safety plans and submitting them to the state for approval." Two of the most prominent tourist attractions in Niagara County are the Maid of the Mist

and the Cave of the Winds in Niagara Falls State Park. Each one is closed – as is the Orin Lehman Visitor Center, Niagara Adventure Theater, and Observation Tower. Speaking on behalf of the Maid of the Mist, Kevin Keenan said, "Maid of the Mist is a concession in New York State Parks and for that reason, it is up to State Parks to determine when Maid of the Mist will open. It is not clear to the Maid whether we or

any other attractions in the park are in a particular phase. In the meantime, Maid of the Mist has made a number of revisions to our safety plan that will need to be approved by New York State Parks." State Parks would not provide details on Maid of the Mist, or indicate when the Cave of the Winds would reopen. Its website noted visitors can walk the park grounds and view the water. **SEE PERCY, continued on Page 8**

Have a seat: Local hair salons, barbershops welcome reopening, customers

BY MICHAEL DEPIETRO
 Interim Tribune Editor

Time to kiss that quarantine haircut goodbye. On June 5, Gov. Andrew Cuomo named Western New York as one of the five regions in the state to allow barbershops and salons to reopen, albeit with some noteworthy restrictions. Shops must limit their total workforce and customer presence to 50% of the maximum building occupancy at any given time. Employees are required to wear face coverings and face shields (or goggles) at all times while performing hair services. Employees who interact with customers must be tested at least once every two weeks, and shops must keep a log of customers for contact tracing in the event an employee or customer tests positive for COVID-19. Additionally, businesses can only provide hair services. Nail services, massages, and facial hair waxing and shaving are not permitted at this time. However, the state announced Tuesday that those services are set to reopen in phase three.

SEE COUNTY, continued on Page 7
 Slawich Cut N' Shave owner Mike Slawich cuts a customer's hair. (Submitted photo)



More eateries opening, as restrictions loosen

BY TERRY DUFFY
 Editor-in-Chief

As social contact restrictions impacting businesses from the coronavirus pandemic continue to lessen, slowly but surely bars and restaurants throughout the River Region are getting back into operations. Currently in place is phase two, allowing for outdoor, on-premises service of food/alcoholic beverages. Phase three will enable the indoor service of food/alcoholic beverages. It is expected to begin locally on Tuesday, June 16. In the Village of Lewiston, Lower Niagara Moose Lodge 584 has announced plans to resume limited operations with its awning-covered outdoor patio expected to open at 2 p.m. today. "We expect to open at 50% of occupancy," said member Ron Par-

ent, who serves as administrator of the private member club on Lewiston's Water Street. Parent said the lodge would be open for members, with seating and gathering space limited to the awning-covered side porch, and front parking areas and bar service to be available via a side pickup window. Sanitizers will be available with phase two restrictions in place; no inside club services will be provided other than restroom access. Bar manager Ashley Olds said the Moose Lodge is expected to be open from 2 to midnight on Friday, with Saturday hours noon to midnight; Sunday, noon to 9 p.m.; Monday, 3-8 p.m.; and Tuesday 3-11 p.m. "It's official!! Patio only starting this Friday at 2 p.m.!! Please **SEE RESTAURANT, on Page 11**

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Happy National Rose Day - June 13th
 Happy National Bourbon Day - June 14th