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Niagara County

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Shown are marchers with a parade of flags at the 2021 Ransomville Community Faire. (Photo by Wayne Peters)

## Ransomville: Fillmore Chapel celebrates 200; Flag Day Parade returns

BY TERRY DUFFY  
Editor-in-Chief

The month of June opens with some interesting happenings to check out in Ransomville.

This weekend, The Fillmore Chapel United Methodist Church

celebrates its 200th anniversary at 2523 Youngstown Wilson Road, just north of the hamlet. Pastor Anne Cole welcomes the River Region community to visit, with events taking place both days.

On Saturday, events include

an open house on the church grounds from 2-4 p.m., where visitors can check out a number of historical displays, go on guided tours of the building and grounds, and purchase flowers and various

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## Youngstown fire displaces residents

This past Monday evening, a fire disrupted a quiet Memorial Day in the Village of Youngstown.

According to reports by the Niagara County Sheriff's Office, the NCSO Communications Center received a 911 call at 7:38 p.m., reporting a residential structure fire at 420 Main St. Officials with the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Co. confirmed a working structure fire with flames visible through the windows and roof of the two-story apartment building. A call for assistance soon followed.

Responding companies included Youngstown Volunteer Fire, the Ransomville Volunteer Fire Co., Lewiston No. 1 Fire Co., the Upper Mountain Fire Co. and the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station Fire Department. Fire company members managed to extinguish the blaze via a compressed air foam system.

The fire heavily damaged the structure, with lesser damage to a neighboring building that housed the former Mug and Musket restaurant. All occupants managed to evacuate the building and were accounted for at the time of the incident; however, fire responders were said to be searching for pets of a resident.

An investigation into the incident was continuing this week by the Niagara County Origin and Cause Team. (Facebook photo by Colleen Mary Johnson Summerville)



## Griffon begins new chapter on Water Street



The Griffon Brewery & Gastropub owners Ken Scibetta (pictured) and Ed Webster have converted the former Water Street Landing into a Lewiston culinary masterpiece.



### ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY TIMOTHY CHIPP

It's a thought experiment made real, 17 years in the making.

Ken Scibetta and Ed Webster met each other while on staff at Water Street Landing. Over a short period of time, Scibetta found himself serving as the restaurant's general manager. Webster was bar manager.

Secretly, they dreamed together of what could happen.

"Ed and I talked about it so many times over the years," Scibetta said. "What would we do if we owned Water Street Landing? Well, it's time to put our money where our mouth is."

"Honestly, it feels surreal. I sit up in my old boss' office and now that's our office. I sit in the conference room where we had all those meetings and now that's our conference room. I stare out at the water and think about it. It's crazy."

Of course, with Scibetta and Webster at the helm now, there are some big changes. Most notably, the name.

It's a new era for 115 S. Water St., under their banner of Griffon Gastropub. But a lot of what Scibetta remembers is still present in the famed restaurant. Including the idyllic views of the Niagara River beckoning to be enjoyed.

It just comes with a fresh coat of paint and significant remodeling – mostly to the wall between the sidebar and main dining area – that tied the owners and a small crew up beginning in mid-February.

"We did this all ourselves," Scibetta said, admitting "ourselves" means mostly Webster and the crew. Scibetta focused on building the restaurant's menu, which features cuisine and liquid refreshments Griffon has become

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