

Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel

SUMMER KICKOFF

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FESTIVALS ARE BACK!

GardenFest returns June 19 & 20



Lewiston Garden Club members reviewed plans for GardenFest 2021 with three of the sponsors for the event that will be held on June 19 and 20. Shown in the photo, from the left, are Town Lewiston of Supervisor Steve Broderick, Councilman John Jacoby, GardenFest grant writer Barbara Carter, Village of Lewiston Mayor Anne Welch, GardenFest Chairwoman Judy Talarico, and Kirsti Hunt, vice president of human resources for Modern Corporation. (Photo by Robert Albee)

Festivals – long a staple in Lewiston, but lost to the 2020 coronavirus pandemic – are returning this summer.

Lewiston GardenFest, presented by Lewiston Garden Club, will take place along Center Street on Saturday and Sunday, June 19-20. The festival runs from 10 a.m. to

5 p.m. both days and includes more than 70 vendors selling flowers, plants and handcrafted art and garden essentials. Additional highlights include a garden walk and a container garden contest.

Village of Lewiston Mayor Anne Welch said, "I'm excited to

see the return of our festivals this year starting with the GardenFest. It is one of my favorites and I'm sure it will be well attended. I think people are ready to get out and enjoy the beautiful flowers, people, businesses and just feeling a sense of normalcy again."

SEE FESTIVALS, continued on Page 8

The NACC reopens in Niagara Falls

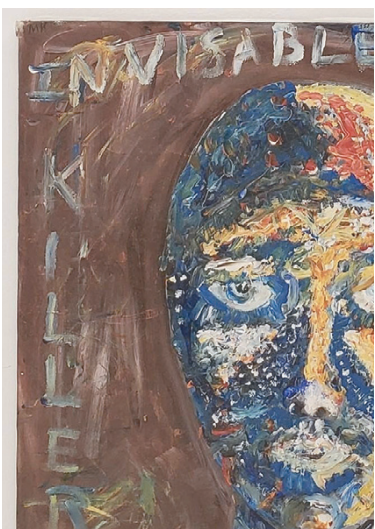
The Niagara Arts & Cultural Center has reopened its red doors to the public.

A press release stated, "The NACC is back and ready for our community and tourists to come visit us! We have many events lined up and are ready to showcase our talented Niagara County artists."

Hours of operation are noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday at 1201 Pine Ave., Niagara Falls.

On view right now is Michael Kudela's solo exhibition, "What We Think About When It Rains." The exhibit runs until June 30.

Kudela, a poet, painter, sculptor and son of former Executive Director Kathie Kudela – tragically passed away in 2014 at the age of 44. It was always Kathie's dream



Artwork by Michael Kudela

to display work in his honor. The staff at the NACC decided to see her wishes through and hold one of their biggest shows to date.

Works are highly collectible and sought-after. A silent auction will be held until Saturday, June 19 for those who wish to purchase art. The estate of Kathie and Michael donated these works to the NACC, with all proceeds going toward the gallery fund. Bidding forms can be found at the NACC or by emailing Kris@thenacc.org.

A special closing reception will be held from noon until 2 p.m. June 19. Collectors will be in attendance to place their final bids. Auction winners will be notified June 20 and payment will be due at that time.

Resurgence in Youngstown

New faces, optimism taking over village



Above, Lewis Bean with staffer Eric at the new Hill of Beans coffee shop in Youngstown. Below, Mark and Lisa Leffler at the new Sister and Brother Children's Apparel. (Photos by Terry Duffy)



BY TERRY DUFFY
Editor-in-Chief

A new page is now turning for Youngstown.

Following months of contending with the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, this quaint, picturesque village at the mouth of the lower Niagara is really starting to come back to life with some dramatic, exciting happenings.

From the corner of Main and Hinman streets up north to the Main-Lockport intersection, one finds what could only be termed exciting progress for the dormant business district and, in turn, the village economy. This is particularly so when you consider the ravages of the pandemic, not to mention the struggles many in

the River Region have had to contend with over the past year.

"We've got some great new businesses opening up here," commented Youngstown Deputy Mayor Mark Fox.

He's not kidding.

This business renaissance seen on both sides of Main Street includes the Hill of Beans Coffee Shop, just opened by village newcomer Lewis Bean at 440 Main St. – site of the Old Fyfe and Drum that fell victim to fire years ago. Across the street is Everything Youngstown, a neat potpourri of village signature wear and nautical collectibles operated by Sue McNaughton.

Back across is That Barber, a

SEE NEW, continued on Page 6



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