

Youngstown (cont.)

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get a slice of pie like you would get a slice of pizza."

Of Youngstown's resurgence, she added, "It's definitely good. It's going in the right direction. Entrepreneurs are resilient people."

For the Lefflers, opening a business in the village represents a dream come true.

"My wife and I, it's kind of been a passion to open a children's shop," Mark said of the new Sister and Brother.

He said his wife, Lisa, a member of the Assessment Review Board for the Town of Porter, had befriended the owners of the former Lewiston business and moved it to Youngstown, with a focus on personalized service.

"She developed a relationship with the (former) owners. When she finally decided to retire, they chose us over others who were interested," Mark said. "I can't give my wife enough credit for designing this place, the type of clientele we're going after and our customized service."

The couple said they absolutely love the village. Their store has been open for three weeks, and "We've been overjoyed. We've just been pleasantly surprised the amount of people that we've had. We get a lot of traffic here; we couldn't have picked a better location than Main Street in Youngstown."

In a press release, City Experiences said Niagara Jet Adventures represents the latest acquisition for the rebranded Hornblower firm that has its presence in more than 110 countries, six continents and over 125 U.S. cities, including New York City, San Francisco, Paris, Rome and London.

This diverse portfolio of major travel destinations worldwide aligns more than 25 existing Hornblower brands into a single unified identity, offering locals and tourists alike a unique offering of global tourism experiences. The firm's City Cruisers, Canada division, are operators of Niagara City Cruises in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

"As our portfolio of global experiences continues to expand, we are thrilled to include Niagara Jets' whitewater adventures, providing our guests with the best and most unique products possible," said Mory DiMaurizio, chief operating officer for City Cruises, Canada. "This one-of-a-kind offering fits uniquely within our portfolio of offerings and solidifies our continued goal to become the world's leader in experiences and transportation."

Yes, there's a new feeling in Youngstown. And it's only just getting started.

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Village of Lewiston meetings return to Morgan Lewis room; Eydt looking into waterline



The Village Board was back in session in the designated meeting room. Russ Piper is working on projects celebrating Lewiston's history.

BY JOSHUA MALONI
GM/Managing Editor

In a sign things are moving back to "normal," the Village of Lewiston Board moved out of the Red Brick Municipal Building gym last Thursday evening. For the first time since the coronavirus outbreak in March 2020, trustees met in the Morgan Lewis Village Boardroom.

The 2020-21 fiscal year came to an end, and a light agenda of procedural moves was approved. Of note, Deputy Mayor Vic Eydt said his subcommittee studying Center Street water pressure will be working with state officials to come up with both a plan and approval to add a new line.

"Basically, what we're looking to do is bring water across, underneath the (Niagara Scenic) Parkway," he said.

Eydt said a 12-inch water line would be placed "from where it dead-ends at Ridge Road, basically almost at the fire hydrant right before you get to the bridge - on the east side of the bridge - and bringing it across, over Ninth Street and then through (Academy) Park, and it will tie in to Portage Road."

This would create additional fire-fighting reserves - resources said to be lacking when first-responders battled a late-night blaze at the Brickyard Brewing Company one year ago.

Trustee Nick Conde noted the existing water line is more than 100 years old.

Eydt said the village will need

easements and right-of-way permissions to work across lands owned and operated by the New York State Department of Transportation and New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

Funding also will be an issue, with the project cost said to be at least \$1 million. The municipality will pursue grants, but Eydt said the board also should consider a low-interest bond anticipation note to finance the project.

Piper's Projects

Village of Lewiston Historian Russ Piper has been busy.

"Recently, I redecorated the village clerk's offices and the main hallway. Apart from the artwork, I redesigned the World War I memorial wall, having added an original sketch of a World War I soldier as well as restoring the American Legion charter and roster; lastly dedicating an area to the past members of Lewiston Fire Co. No. 1."

His museum room, which is down the hall from the clerk's office at the Red Brick, has "interesting new items on display," Piper said. "I just recently acquired the collection of the late village historian, Holger Gagen. Also once more, Jeff Morrow of the Book Corner afforded me the opportunity to acquire books from his vast collection of local history archives, as well as Sue Sullivan of Sue's Frame of Mind who has for the past 26 years helped to frame and restore many of the items on display. The help from Jeff and Sue



has been invaluable to me over the past couple of decades."

Moreover, Piper said, "I am working to clean up and restore the (First Presbyterian Church of Lewiston Village) Cemetery," which was added to the New York State Registry of Historic Sites.

"It has been a labor of love for me to do this to honor the prominent and the ordinary citizens who a part of Lewiston's vast history," Piper said. "This and the creation of my museum collection are to pay tribute to both my ancestors

and others' ancestors who rest within its hallowed ground."

He lauded the Lewiston Council on the Arts for its production of "The Marble Orchard Ghost Walks" at the cemetery.

"As a seventh-generation member of the Piper family and current village historian, it is a matter close to my heart to see the final resting place of those who seek eternal rest and repose within 'The Marble Orchard' to be preserved as a place of honor and respect to those interred within," Piper said.

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