

WNY Lions partner with WNY restaurants, purchasing 850 meals for frontline medical staff at 9 medical facilities

It was announced Monday that 850 purchased meals for medical staff would be delivered to nine local medical facilities over the next two weeks. The first of 17 deliveries arrived at ECMC that morning. The scheduled deliveries will continue through May 8 at various other facilities.

The 46 local Lions Clubs in WNY Lions were awarded a \$13,149 grant, part of a Lions Club International Foundation emergency grant of \$200,000 being used across New York. Funds are being utilized to purchase meals for frontline medical staff dealing with COVID-19-related care. Lions has responded with 121 COVID related grants to date – over \$2.6 million in The United States alone.

After conferring with various area medical facilities about their staff needs, WNY Lions decided on purchasing meals, and also decided to use locally owned restaurants as part of the project. Restaurants were chosen in part for their reputation for giving back to their communities before the COVID-19 crisis.



This group of volunteers pictured in front of Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center features Lions from Niagara Falls Community Lions, Lewiston Lions, Youngstown Lions, Grand Island Lions, Tonawanda Erie Canal Gateway Lions and Town of Niagara Lions Club. (Photo courtesy of Jacob Flemming Sr./Lions Club)

A press release noted each medical staff will also get a “COVID comfort kit” of “helpful items to make their heroic efforts a little easier, even if it is for a moment during this pandemic.” The hospitals recipients include

ECMC, St. Joseph’s Hospital, Sisters of Charity, Mercy Hospital of Buffalo, Kenmore Mercy Hospital, Mount St. Mary’s, Buffalo General, Millard Fillmore Suburban and Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center.

WNY Lions District Gov. Regina Cecconi said, “This particular grant could only be used for respite care for our essential workers, and WNY Lions worked together nonstop to come up with a plan, gather all the necessary

information, letters, quotes and, most importantly, our cabinet was able to meet via Zoom three times to discuss, plan and finalize this giving initiative.

“We know essential workers often forget to eat due to their hectic schedule and ensuring they receive a meal is helpful to them and everyone around them. The ‘COVID comfort kits’ contain items identified by those on the front lines. Both the meals, which are independently packaged, and ‘COVID comfort kits’ will also have a 3-by-3 logo sticker prominently displaying ‘Lions Clubs International Foundation Kindness Matters.’”

WNY Lions are part of the 100-year-old-plus Lions Club International, one of the largest and oldest community service organizations in the world. The clubs focus on the local communities and help with initiatives improving peoples’ lives, combating vision problems, responding to major catastrophes, solving hunger, helping the environment, and providing valuable life skills to youth. Visit wnylions.org or lionsclubs.org for more information.

IN THE NEWS

Convent tower bells to ring during collective moment of daily prayer

The Sisters of St. Francis of Penance and Christian Charity, located at Stella Niagara near Lewiston, invite the community to join in a collective moment of prayer beginning on Friday, May 1.

The convent’s tower bells will ring out at 10 a.m. each day as the convent’s sisters pray for those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, for all the first responders and health care workers, and for an end to the suffering caused by the pandemic.

The sisters’ leadership proclaimed, “We are taking our powerhouse of prayer from the inside

to the outside ... a powerful moment when a community comes together and our energy is directed to a common purpose.”

2019 Wheatfield Family Picnic canceled

The Wheatfield Family Picnic committee announced the Wheat-

field Family Picnic, originally scheduled for Aug. 16, has unfortunately been cancelled.

Secretary Donald Dee and the committee said they reluctantly concluded members could not ask or expect loyal sponsors to support the picnic given the unprecedented strain local businesses are undergoing. Added to that, the unknown level of social

distancing that may be required in August “made planning impossible.”

The committee is already making plans for the 2021 picnic. In the meantime, members ask everyone to support local businesses and organizations whose donations have made the past 40 picnics possible.

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 SKREWBALL Peanut Butter Whiskey \$26.99 <small>750</small>	 THE DUKE Bourbon \$30.99 <small>750</small>	 KAHLUA Coffee Liqueur \$35.99 <small>1.75</small>	 YUKON JACK Whiskey \$38.99 <small>1.75</small>	 JAMESON Caskmates Stout \$38.99 <small>LTR</small>	 PATRON Single Barrel Tequila Reposado \$45.99 Anejo \$48.99 <small>750</small>	 DON JULIO Tequila Blanco \$49.99 Reposado \$51.99 Anejo \$60.99 <small>750</small>
 LARCENY 92° Single Barrel \$25.99 <small>750</small>	 OLD FORESTER 90° Single Barrel \$30.99 <small>750</small>	 SMOOTH AMBLER Old Scout 107 \$35.99 <small>750</small>	 JEFFERSON'S Small Batch Single Barrel \$35.99 <small>750</small>	 TACONIC Single Barrel Rye \$35.99 <small>750</small>	 WILD TURKEY Kentucky Spirit \$39.99 <small>750</small>	 JACK DANIELS Single Barrel \$45.99 <small>750</small>
 LINE 39 California Wines \$7.99 <small>750</small>	 APOTHIC Red or Dark \$8.99 <small>750</small>	 MENAGE A TROIS Red Blends \$8.99 <small>750</small>	 ANGELINE Pinot Noir \$8.99 <small>750</small>	 RODNEY STRONG Sauvignon Blanc \$9.99 <small>750</small>	 OLD SOUL Old Vine Zinfandel \$9.99 <small>750</small>	 JOSH CELLARS Chardonnay \$10.99 <small>750</small>
 KENDELL-JACKSON Chardonnay \$10.99 <small>750</small>	 SLOW PRESS Cabernet Sauvignon \$10.99 <small>750</small>	 RODNEY STRONG Merlot \$12.99 <small>750</small>	 KLINKER BRICK Zinfandel \$13.99 <small>750</small>	 STEVE & STEEL Bourbon Barrel Cabernet \$13.99 <small>750</small>	 FRANCIS COPPOLA Claret \$14.99 <small>750</small>	 THE CALLING Visionary Red \$17.99 <small>750</small>
 TIDAL Chilean Cabernet or Sauvignon Blanc \$4.99 <small>750</small>	 BAROSSA VALLEY ESTATE GSM \$7.99 <small>750</small>	 LINDEMAN'S Australian Wines ALL TYPES \$7.99 <small>1.5</small>	 PERRIN Cotes du Rhone \$8.99 <small>750</small>	 DOMAINE DE LA CHAPELLE St Victor Rose \$11.99 <small>750</small>	 CAVIT Pinot Noir \$11.99 <small>1.5</small>	 BURGO VIEJO Rioja \$12.99 <small>750</small>