

CENTER STREET takes CENTER STAGE in Great American Media's 'Rewinding Christmas'



Mario Lopez fans cheer outside of the Brickyard Pub & BBQ on Center Street. • Grace Frosolone with "Rewinding Christmas" star Mario Lopez. The Frosolone family and the Apple Granny Restaurant team welcomed extras to their Center Street restaurant. (Photo courtesy of Enrico Frosolone) • Taylor Kalupa and Mario Lopez on the Center Street set of "Rewinding Christmas." (See more photos + video online at www.wnypapers.com)

BEHIND THE SCREENS WITH JOSHUA MALONI

Last Thursday night, "Rewinding Christmas" leads Mario Lopez and Taylor Kalupa were joined on set by another star.

Center Street. Lewiston's main thoroughfare served as the backdrop for a key "walk and talk" between the actors leading the Great American Media holiday feature.

Lopez and Kalupa - in character - strolled down Center Street and past Apple Granny Restaurant, Second Story Thrift Boutique, Carmelo's Coat of Arms, Mastantuono Allstate and the Village Bake Shoppe.

Crews worked in front of Ashley's Lingerie & Swimwear. Down the street, merchants including Deal Realty, Inspirations on Canvas and Viva Nostalgia were decorated for Christmas.

Across the street, people watched the actors film scenes from in front of Gallo Coal Fire Kitchen and the Brickyard Pub & BBQ.

In fact, the Brickyard crowd was loudly cheering in between takes - "Action"; "Cut"; "Mario! Mario! Mario!" Production crew members said they hadn't encountered anything like that before, as they laughed and encouraged the on-lookers. When filming wrapped for the evening, Lopez walked over to the Brickyard where he took one drink with fans, posed for a few photos, and received a brand-new hoodie.

Lopez and crew later had dinner at Casa Antica Italian Restaurant.

Earlier in the day, filming took place just off Center Street, inside The Point Church on Plain Street.

During the week, movie scenes were shot at 155 S. Fifth and 401 Plain streets.

Upward Niagara Chamber of Commerce President Amanda Haseley said, "It was incredible to see Center Street filled with both local residents and visitors eager to watch the filming. The excitement throughout the village was contagious, and it was especially rewarding to see our local businesses not only featured in the movie

but actively involved in the production. Having Mario Lopez and Tony Danza visit our businesses and share their experiences on social media created a level of exposure that simply can't be purchased.

"We're especially grateful that the production team chose to keep the village name as Lewiston and preserve the names of our local businesses, allowing audiences to experience the authentic character of our community. I truly believe that, when the movie is released, viewers from across the country will be inspired to visit Lewiston and see these locations for themselves.

"With networks like Great American Family and Hallmark Media continuing to invest in productions throughout Western New York, this project highlights the tremendous opportunities film and television can bring to our region. We look forward to seeing how this exposure helps showcase Lewiston as a destination and opens the door to future productions."

"Rewinding Christmas" is set to premiere during the upcoming holiday season as part of "Great American Christmas."

There's talk another project could be set in the River Region.

Last July, Deadline reported Great American Media signed on to create more than 20 films and original series at Great Point Studios Buffalo over a two-year period. That pact reunites venue head Robert Halmi with GAM President Bill Abbott - two men who were instrumental in starting the Hallmark Channel.

BEST OF

Savory Summer EATS & TREATS

Voting Has Begun...

ENTER TO WIN A GIFT CERTIFICATE FROM AN AREA BUSINESS

From June 12 through August 28, vote for your favorite Summer Eats & Treats by filling out the entry blank below or visiting www.wnypapers.com. The winner of each category will be featured in the Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel - Island Dispatch.

When you cast a vote, you'll be entered to win a monthly prize.

Winners will be selected by random draw and notified by phone or email.

Visit www.wnypapers.com/2026-Savory-Summer-rules for a complete set of rules & to enter online.

NO PHOTOCOPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED

CATEGORIES

1. Best Summer Dining Spot _____
2. Best Custard or Ice Cream _____
3. Best Milkshake _____
4. Best Hot Dog _____
5. Best Hamburger _____
6. Best BBQ (Ribs, Chicken, Pork) _____
7. Best Fries _____

Name (Full): _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____



Since 1944

DROP OFF OR MAIL TO:
Niagara Frontier Publications
1859 Whitehaven Rd., Grand Island, NY, 14072

or visit www.wnypapers.com/savorysummer26

Lutheran Church of the Messiah



Pastor Timothy Anas
915 Oneida Street, Lewiston
716-754-4944
www.messiahlewiston.org

Worship: 9:15am | Live Stream on website

Pick up your copy of the **Niagara County Tribune/Sentinel** at



535 Division St. Twin City Highway
North Tonawanda • 716-693-2802

OPEN **MON - SAT: 7AM - 9PM**
DAILY! **SUN: 7AM - 7PM**

VISIT US ON THE WEB FOR OUR WEEKLY SPECIALS
themarketinthesquare.com

LOCAL FAMILY OWNED & INDEPENDENTLY OPERATED