

# SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY 2023

## Syros wants you well-fed and happy

**BY JOSHUA MALONI**  
GM/Managing Editor

There's no doubt shopping can work up an appetite.

So, why not stop at an eatery whose past write-ups came with the disclaimer, "Come hungry to Syros"?

"Well, No. 1, as far as portion size go, we always want to make sure that people are getting more

### Syros Restaurant

869 Cayuga St., Lewiston

than enough food, as opposed to not enough food," Eli Cobti said.

"As far as the freshness goes, all the breakfast steaks – all the steaks – are cut by hand by my dad. Everything's cut by hand by

my dad, whether it's the award-winning falafel that he was recognized for years ago at the Taste of Buffalo; whether it's the avgolemono soup that we're making every day. We're not buying pre-made."

He added, "Everything's fresh. We even use local DiCamillo bread for the Italian bread. We do that because, No. 1, it tastes better. No. 2, it's a nice, personal touch anytime you can stay within

the community and use local product.

"You've got to give the people what they want. Somebody wants something a certain way, even if it's not on the menu. Guess what? We make it for them."

His father, restaurant owner Bechara Cobti, said, "Everything is homemade. We make a good breakfast, and everything is fresh. We get a good crowd for breakfast. They depend on it."

He noted, "We can accommodate any (size) table. Big tables, small tables. Veterans weekend, we had a lot of big tables. We can handle it."

Eli Cobti said it's all about that "Small-town appeal. I mean, what you're going to find at our restaurant that you won't necessarily find at a Denny's or a chain restaurant is somebody that knows you on a first-name basis. It's a tight-knit community, and customers have always been good to us – and we try to reciprocate and always be good to them."

"Somebody's always going to go around and check and see how



Bechara Cobti (File photo)

you're doing. And if something's wrong, you speak up, and we fix it for you.

"It's just one big family."

This, he said, fits perfectly with in the River Region.

"I've never met a tourist who hasn't fallen in love with Lewiston," Cobti said. "Everybody's always raving about it. It's just a vibrant business culture while still maintaining that small-town appeal. It's a tight-knit community, and we appreciate everybody that's supported us over the years."

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