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LEWISTON HARVEST & HOPS FESTIVAL RETURNS THIS WEEKEND



Text and Photos Courtesy of the Upward Niagara Chamber of Commerce

The annual Lewiston Harvest & Hops Festival will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in the Village of Lewiston. This event is hosted by the Upward Niagara Chamber of Commerce and presented by Brickyard Brewing Company.

The annual fall festival will feature artisan craft, farmers market and food vendors, and a variety of beverages. A New York state-designated farmers market will be featured in the middle of the festival at Fifth Street. Village shops and dining establishments will be open to complement the fall festival.

The Lewiston Harvest & Hops Festival is a favorite among local residents and visitors featuring live music both days. The Tim Britt Band will perform from 1-4 p.m. Saturday on the BBC porch; while an "Electrify Lewiston" event hosted by National Grid, will take place the same time at Gallo Coal Fire Kitchen. Farmer

Tom Walsh will be performing his "Songs from the Farm" both Saturday and Sunday on Center Street. Shenandoah Acres will have a petting zoo for children from noon to 4 p.m. both days. Center Street will remain closed for this event on Saturday morning through Sunday evening (from Fourth to Seventh streets).

There will be no vehicular traffic allowed from Fourth to Seventh streets. The Harvest & Hops Festival is made possible by presenting sponsor The Brickyard Brewing Company / Brickyard Pub & BBQ, and Modern Disposal Services; and also by the Niagara Falls Bridge Commission, Niagara County,

Wandering Gypsy Brewing Co., Island Wraps, Renewal by Anderson and Leaf Filter. For additional information on the Lewiston Harvest & Hops Festival, contact the Upward Niagara Chamber of Commerce Office at 716-754-9500 or visit the event page at www.UpwardNiagara.com.



New York Power Authority to host annual Wildlife Festival at Niagara Power Vista

The New York Power Authority (NYPA) will host its annual Wildlife Festival between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, and Sunday, Sept. 24 – rain or shine – at the Niagara Power Vista, the visitors center for the Niagara Power Project in Lewiston. The event will feature wildlife shows, STEM activities, conservation exhibits, an astronomy exhibit, and exhibits highlighting Tuscarora culture. The free family festival is a collaboration between NYPA and the Niagara County Federation of Conservation Clubs (NCFCC).

Popular returning festival features include:
 ✓ Jeff Musial and Nickel City Reptiles and Exotics
 ✓ Hawk Creek Wildlife Center exhibits
 ✓ Sky Hunters' Birds of Prey exhibit



✓ Police K-9 demonstrations by the Lewiston Police Department
 ✓ Cultural dance performances by the Niagara River Iroquois Dancers
 ✓ Carmen Presti and the Primate Sanctuary
 Additionally, NCFCC will provide a fishing pond, archery stand and conservation activities. The Tuscarora tent will return to this year's festival to highlight Tuscarora culture, including food tastings, beading, painting and tutorials on crafting corn husk dolls. The Wildlife Festival will also feature a rock-climbing wall – open between noon and 3 p.m. both days – in addition to other activities and attractions such as face painting, air brush tattoos, balloon art and chainsaw art.

Wildlife Festival file photo

A variety of conservation exhibitors will also be in attendance, including the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the New York State Parks Interpretive Center, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services. The Niagara Power Vista offers an array of multimedia exhibits, including hands-on interactive technologies, large touch screens, and a virtual rollercoaster relating to the production of electricity, energy efficiency and the area's history. The location also provides unique views from the observation deck 350 feet above the Niagara River Gorge. The Niagara Power Vista is a stop on the Discover Niagara Shuttle's "Falls to the Fort" route. The Power Vista is located at 5777 Lewiston Road in Lewiston.

Parking is free and will be available in the Power Vista parking lot and adjacent lots at Niagara University. For more information on the festival or to register for a Wildlife Festival contest, call 716-286-6652 or 866-NYPA-FUN, email nypvista@nypa.gov or visit www.nypa.gov/niagarapowervista.

Dogs at Niagara SPCA's annual fall fest steal hearts

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY ELIJAH ROBINSON
 Contributing Writer

The Niagara SPCA held its third annual "Fall in the Falls Fest," at the shelter in Lockport on Sept. 16, to benefit its lifesaving work.

Throughout the fest, there was an adoption event. Staff and volunteers walked all over the Niagara SPCA showing off their shelter dogs, hoping one would welcome a furry friend into their home.

Adoptable dogs featured at the event have been at the shelter from eight months to a year. Some of the dogs included Loretta, Tyler and J. Cole. Music acts at the fall fest included rising Nashville country music star Trey Taylor, Michael Bly, along with 2019 Taste Of Country Riser winner Fuzzy Thurston. Taylor, who loves animals and giving back, works with organizations across the country in an effort to share the compassion he feels for companion animals.



Scenes from the Niagara SPCA's third annual "Fall in the Falls Fest," including Fuzzy Thurston on stage.

All proceeds come back to the Niagara SPCA. "It was nice of him to choose us as his local charity, so all the sponsors that we received, any money that we're making, it all comes back to us, nothing goes to him," said Liz Marshall, director of events and marketing. "He does this in all different states, so it was just nice that in Buffalo he chose us to do this for."

The fall fest is the only Niagara SPCA event in the year that features live music, and it brings the community out to show support and come face to face with adoptable dogs waiting for a good owner and a good home. Attendees in the VIP section were treated to Anchor Bar wings, Mr. Ventry's pizza and Chili's chips and salsa, two drinks in a private cash bar, and a meeting

with Taylor after the concert for photos and autographs. Also at the event, for general admission, were baked goods, concession foods, and a raffle for a Stefan Diggs signed jersey. Marshall remarked that this is one of the SPCA's four big fundraisers. Events help raise funds that provide the agency with everyday essentials and care. She said more than \$10,000

was raised, including sponsor contributions. "We made a lot of money for the shelter, so it's a good fundraiser," she said. Animals lovers, and prospective owners, have the option to adopt or pay for an animal's adoption for a lucky future owner, in case of any reason they're unable to bring a pet into their home. Loretta, a pit bull who's been at Niagara SPCA for over a year, for instance, has had her adoption fee paid for – so, if someone decided to adopt, the fee is waived. "We're just trying to give them more attention and a little more highlight," Marshall said. One lucky dog, Josephine, was adopted at the fall fest. "When people had come in, they just said that they were here to look at dogs," Marshall said. "Josephine was just selected based on if they have another dog, their household, and everything like that."

Fall Events
Smothers Brothers
 Sept 27, 6 PM
Psychic Kristie London
 Oct 14
Halloween Silent Disco
 Oct 21
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 Oct 27
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