

Niagara Wheatfield Central School District's Community Education FALL PROGRAM WELCOMES ALL

BY CINDY TRAVERS

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The leaves are beginning to fall and school bells are ringing! Niagara Wheatfield Central School District's Community Education fall 2023 program welcomes all to "Fall into Learning," as classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 13, and run through Dec. 13.

Community members can register for face-to-face classes as well as remote offerings, allowing registrants to participate from anywhere in the world. We offer remote classes in finance, music, cooking, health and fitness/body, mind, and spirit, as well as notary public, business training courses, as well as free remote and face-to-face technology classes funded specifically for residents within the Niagara Wheatfield Central School District.

Loretto Thompson will hold her fun and engaging course "Basics of Acrylic Painting," along with a new offering, "The Lost Art

of Chair Caning."

We are excited to welcome back Sanborn's own Mr. Glenn Wienke, who has graciously offered to hold his popular classes, "Ancient Craft of Basket Weaving I and II."

Nora Saintz returns with her "Garden Design for the DIY'er," as does David Wantuck with his "American Sign Language - Intro to ASL" class.

This session, there are three different offerings for point and insurance reduction defensive driving courses to choose from. We welcome All-Pro Tutoring, and Ray Ammerman's fun and interactive defensive driving class (pictured). All-Pro Tutoring also offers many college prep courses.

Niagara Wheatfield CSD's own Norm Utech; Marilyn Schlehr, R.N.; and Sean O'Brien once again offer private pilot ground school, adult/pediatric first aid/CPR/AED training, and adult morning lap swimming.

Our ever-popular fitness in-



structors, Lisa Lariccia, Kathy Noakes and Rebecca Howell return with their fun and beneficial fitness classes.

Richard D'Angelo's face-to-face and Jesse Wicher's remote body, mind and spirit classes are once again on the schedule this session.

Tess Georgakopoulos is offering remote cooking classes where registrants can learn solo or with a significant other within

their household. These fun cooking classes open up the opportunity for family and friends to come together from anywhere in the world.

In addition to our many amazing, returning instructors, we welcome Chris Ferguson, who will lead classes in Christmas ornament making, holding her first class in the middle of October.

New to our program are "Mobility for Golfers" with Savana

Bevacqua; "Weight Loss Plan and Support" and "Jeti Indoor Fitness Walking" with Linda Feagin; Lynn Catalano's "Navigating Toxic Relationships"; and Janice Novak's online self-improvement classes.

We are proud to offer classes for children and families. The Enrichment Company joins us again with a six-week afterschool offering, "Spanish for the Elementary Years"; and Rebecca Howell's Saturday morning "Parent and Child Yoga" and "Kids Yoga - Grades K-5."

Niagara Wheatfield CSD Community Education fall 2023 program welcomes all to join us to learn, share, grow and "fall into learning." Early registration is advised - visit <https://nwcsd.coursestorm.com/> or by phone at 716-215-3034. We are recruiting instructors for our spring 2024 program. Instructors are encouraged to submit proposals to "Teach with Us" at <https://www.nwcsd.org/Page/108>.

NT Farmers Market ranked nationally

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Delprince - a nationally recognized retailer - is a believer that marketing builds momentum. He said improvements to the market since he began as manager last January have been steady and noticeable.

"It's building like a snowball rolling down the hill - just getting bigger and bigger," he said. "Everybody wants to help the market - the big transformation that we've made over there. I feel it, and that's what I'm there for, right? - To market the market!"

Delprince has implemented a strategy to enhance the market's appeal.

He said there were three main components of his plan: beautification, vendor variety and marketing. A key to implementing the transformation, he said, was the support of Tylec.

The first goal was to fix up the deterioration of the building.

"We painted the building and put the mural on it and created that beautiful Veterans Wall in the back," he said.

Delprince learned from vendors that there had been a grant to beautify the market, but it had gone unused since 2018. He alerted City Hall and the mayor made sure sidewalks and paving were added, he said.

"The second was we wanted to make sure we had good product mix and variety at the market," Delprince said.

He noted that, prior to his coming on board, the city had a different philosophy and wanted to get rid of the variety - sticking to just fruits and

vegetables. Delprince recruited vendors to get the desired product mix, adding baked goods, wine and spirits, ethnic and popular prepared foods such as pierogi, empanadas, pizza, gelato, Asian food and Tomaso's food truck; and expanded the offerings in flowering plants, fresh-cut flowers, meats, seafood, cheeses and even dog treats.

Under his direction, marketing was raised to a new level, he said. A logo was created for the first time; a webpage was launched and will be expanded this year; and events were added to draw crowds. These included an event where more than 300 kids planted flowers - donated by vendors - for their moms for Mother's Day, NT Fall Fest, and Corn Fest.

Delprince said he brought in over \$40,000 - in money or in-kind services - from the private sector to add to the \$900 budget he had been allotted to fix up the market. Among those he credited for their assistance are Sherwin-Williams, Cortes & Sons Construction, David Chevrolet, mural artist Nicole Cherry, J. F. Krantz Topsoil & Nursery, and the farmers/vendors who bring their produce, pumpkins, flowers and more to the market.

"As you can see, it's a whole collaboration of the community, the businesses, the market vendors - everybody coming together and, quite honestly, under the direction of the mayor, who really wanted to shine a light on that market and fix it up," Delprince said. "The turnaround that we did so quickly got notice from the New York State Farmers Market Fed-

eration, and they asked me to come speak at their annual conference in the spring, which I did.

"A lot of the markets were struggling after COVID - especially the markets that were producer-only markets. That's kind of where our market was trying to go, and I explained to them that, if you really want to support that model, you have to still have variety there."

Last year, NT City Market ranked as the No. 2 Best Farmers Market in New York state and 13th best in the U.S. Winners receive a share of the \$15,000 prize pool.

"This is much bigger than just North Tonawanda" Delprince said. "There's a real sense of urgency to vote now because winning this and becoming the No. 1 farmers market in the nation will bring great honor and recognition to all of Western New York."

The 15th annual America's Farmers Market Celebration (AFMC) showcases the essential markets across the nation making a difference for farmers, ranchers and communities.

In addition to recognizing the top markets in each region of America, the AFMC will crown an overall "People's Choice" winner as the top-endorsed market in the country.

A press release noted, "AFMC believes that every farmers market in America is special in its own way. Big, small, in cities, or rural towns, farmers markets nourish their communities while helping local farmers, food makers, and artisans thrive."

22nd NIAGARA CELTIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL

& Highland Games

September 16 & 17

Niagara County Fairgrounds

Five Regions to explore

Five Music Stages

Forty+ Music Acts

Two Event Fields

Seventy+ Vendors

Highland Games • Food & Drink • Clans
 Pipe Bands • Artisans • Special Events
 Pageantry & Ceremonies • History Groups
 Attractions • Storytellers • Competitions
 Kids Wee Folk Shire • Animals • Demos

Enjoy a weekend of Family Friendly Fun!

Find it all and more at NiagaraCeltic.com

This festival is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant program, a regrant program of the NY State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by Arts Services Inc.

Everyday People with guest appearance *The Heatwave*

Sunday, September 10th • 3pm at the Lewiston Peach Festival

Top Row: Russ Previte, Tom Greco, Frank Fracassi, Carl Filbert

Bottom Row: Bob Volkman, Tony Beccari, Rich DelZoppo

Top Row: Frank Fracassi, Frank Geracitano

Bottom Row: Marie Navarolli Smothers, Rich DelZoppo, Carl Filbert, Peggy Williams Beach