

Take a break from shopping for 'something special'

BY TERRY DUFFY

Recommending an area business to check out during the Small Business Saturday holiday shopping experience means much more than simply choosing a brick-and-mortar establishment to visit for a purchase.

Oftentimes, the certain business becomes a destination in the community, whether it's one's personal choice for a service or just a place to come, relax and enjoy during the holiday shopping chaos.

Such is the case with these two uniquely different establishments – one located in the hamlet of Ransomville, the other in the Village of Youngstown.

Patti's Cut Above

For Patti Lacey, operator of Patti's Cut Above in Ransomville, it's being the go-to in this community for men, women and children desiring that favorite hair cut or style.

When asked what she should would like to chat about for a Small Business Saturday promo, Patti replied, "Oh I haven't really thought of it. Maybe I'll put together a small basket or something for somebody to try to win."

OK, that sounds good. But as we all know, there are plenty of options to think about when it comes to our own personal choices.

What about Patti's?

"It's our friendly service. And we're reasonable," she said. "I've been here a long time; we have the same hours. We do men's, women's, children's hair – colors cuts, perms, tanning – you name it."

Located at 2568 Youngstown Lockport Road, Patti views her long-established operation as a true community destination. It's a place to mingle, to chat with your friends and neighbors, and also receive that much-needed personal fix for a good price.

"I've been in business here for a long time; it's been good to me, very good to me," Patti said. "I moved here in 1990 and opened up in '97. And been here every since."

Originally from the Niagara Wheatfield area, Patti said she grew up "by the river; my parents still live there."

What of her staffers?

"Well, there's Amanda that works for me, she's part-time; and Rachal is part-time. We all do it," Patti replied when asked about



Lewis Bean of Hill of Beans Coffee Shop in Youngstown.

the services and who is the "expert." Turns out they all are.

"Everybody's trained here. Amanda, I and Rachal are all trained in tannings, colors perms – all of us know it."

And the staff at Patti's also understands the personal needs of their community and how to accommodate. During this writer's visit, one resident dropped in with a special request for a hair treatment. Patti took the time to sit with the woman, discuss her needs and to plan a visit. "It's what we do here, for men, women, anyone. We know our customers, what their needs are. We even have the Porter town justice who visits."

Turning her thoughts to Small Business Saturday, Nov. 27, Patti invited visitors to stop by and see what's happening in Ransomville.

"Maybe for Small Business Saturday I'll do a raffle of some sort. Look for something special," she said.

For Patti and her staff, that "something special" is what customers have come to appreciate when they visit. Stop by and discover the personal experience for yourself.

Hill of Beans Coffee Shop

At the Hill of Beans Coffee Shop in Youngstown, the personal touch is what sets this coffee mecca apart from others, said proprietor Lewis Bean.

Bean, as many may know, is a River Region transplant from the Houston area. He relocated to WNY following a career in the hospitality industry and is among those who discovered that special difference of being a part of the community. He likes it here.

"I love Youngstown – a small town, but I'm very optimistic.

We have a great clientele coming in and it's just growing. And it's a beautiful place!" he said. "I hated leaving Texas, but I could not have picked a better place to move to."

"Lewiston and Youngstown actually remind me of my small town in Texas – the folks."

Bean said he moved on from a career in the hospitality industry in Houston and took a stint with a hotelier in Niagara Falls during COVID-19, because it was time.

"I've been in the hotel and restaurant business for a good part of 30 years – the customer service side. I like it better here than I do in a hotel. You don't have to put up with situations," he laughed.

Of living – and succeeding – up here, he said the biggest obstacle, "basically, it's just the population. I opened in a small town – it's just a fact. Look, the Orange Cat in Lewiston – it's a much larger city. They get, what, 20 customers in an hour? I might have about two."

Like the Orange Cat, Hill of Beans offers a local touch for, as Bean was quick to note, "It's not a franchise."

Comparing Hill of Beans and Orange Cat to another local area coffee favorite, say the Remedy House on Buffalo's lower west side, Bean said it's all about the attention given to the locals. And like Patti's Cut Above mentioned earlier, Bean said it's that "something special" afforded to the customer.

Unlike Remedy, which has come to be known as a favorite for Buffalo's younger millennials, for Bean Youngstown is "quite the opposite. The average age is much, much older here. A lot of retired folks."

But Bean said he's adjusted to

this demographic quite well, pointing to the "library crowd" that has come to call Hill of Beans home. "They have their meetings here out on the veranda."

And speaking of that massive front porch gathering spot at Hill of Beans, Bean said he's now in process of getting things all-festive for the upcoming holiday celebrations in the village.

"We going to put all kinds of lights out there – make it look like something out of the Griswolds," he said with a laugh.

Bean said that "doing something different" is what helps make

Youngstown stand out, even over its neighbors such as Lewiston to the south or across river to Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

"Like the Labor day Parade. I said, 'Man, this parade is longer and larger and better participated than anything,'" he said. "And I was in it ... dressed as the Tin Man (laughs)."

Noting the village's developing theater community and the successful "Wizard of Oz" performance of last summer, Bean said that is what makes Youngstown stand out.

"I love community theater," he said. "It was a family thing out there in Texas, just something that we love. Whether it was behind the scenes. I showed up at a meeting ... I was looking for something. Turns out I come cast as the Tin Man (laughs)."

Noting the community involvement, Bean added, "That's how we do it here."

He said the theater group is now planning a Christmas production to coincide with Youngstown's annual "Christmas in the Village,"

set to take place the weekend of Dec. 11-12.

"We're gonna put it on; we're opening up the Mug and Musket for a fundraiser," he said. "Without serving dinner, we're going to be putting it on almost like a dinner-type theater. Our plan is to put it on at the Mug and Musket; we'll be using the frontage as a stage."

Bean invited River Region residents to stay tuned for updates on this still-unnamed production and put it on their calendars for "Christmas in the Village" weekend.

As far as Small Business Saturday – yes, Hill of Beans will be open and Bean welcomes shoppers to stop by for their favorite coffee, some tasty baked goods prepared by Rebecca Poletti, even a freshly made waffle customers can create themselves.

"I'm going to be open; that's basically it. You know I've expanded my menu," Bean said as he looked around the counter. "We've got our (coffee) basics; (and) we're excellent at making our flavored lattes, coffees, everything – trying out different flavors. I've expanded with the baked goods – Becky's, Mangia Cakes and Pies, but I also just hooked up with bagels from Power City Eatery."

"And look over here – you can make your own waffle! Imagine that – Holiday Inn Express, Hampton Inn or something, and go down and make your own waffle in the morning. I've got the same setup."

Bean said he loves involving businesses such as Mangia, Power City and Steamworks Coffee for some tasty java.

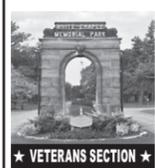
Yes, a Small Business Saturday visit at the Hill should be on the to-do list, Bean said.

"I'll also be open for Thanksgiving, all day!" he added. "Stop by for a visit!"

WHITE CHAPEL MEMORIAL PARK

3210 Niagara Falls Blvd. • Amherst • 716-692-5353

White Chapel Memorial Park is Western New York's Finest Burial Park
IT IS A NON-SECTARIAN CEMETERY AND OPEN TO EVERYONE



There are only a few cemeteries as unique as our open, picturesque, landscaped memorial park. The feeling is majestic and peaceful as you traverse through this serene setting without the obstruction of raised memorials.

10% SINGLE GRAVESITE OFF
With this ad. Expires 11/30/21

BUY ONE GRAVESITE, GET THE 2ND ADJACENT SITE 50% OFF
With this ad. Expires 11/30/21

wcmp3210.com • wcmp3210@aol.com

OFFICE: M-F 9am-Noon & 12:30-4; Sat. By Appt. Only • PARK: May 1 - Sept. 30 8am-8pm; Oct. 1 - Apr. 30 8am-5pm

CONSTRUCTION, UTILITY & AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT AUCTION

~ Niagara Frontier ~

SAT., NOV. 27TH @ 9:30 AM • BUFFALO, NEW YORK

ADDRESS: 4060 Lake Ave., Lockport, New York 14094

HIGHLIGHTS: 5-Excavators: 2017 Hitachi ZX85-3, Hitachi ZX50, Cat 304.5, JD 50C, 2013 IH 17VXE, 10-Rubber Tired Loaders: 2016 Cat 908M, (2)2020 Cat 906M(300hrs), JD 644E, JD 444E, (2)Komatsu WA250-3, Komatsu WA180-3PT, Daewoo Mega 250-3, 2012 Wacker WL50, 2-Crawler Tractors: 2012 JD 750JLGP, 2012 JD 450JLT, Backhoe: Case 580K(4x4), 4-Vibratory Rollers: 2019 Dynapac CA2500D(like new), 2019 Dynapac CA1500D(200hrs.), 2018 Dynapac CA1400D, Hyster, Asphalt Roller: 2007 Wacker RD12A, Trench Roller: Wacker, 3-Skid Steers: 2014 Terex TSR60, Case SV185, NH LS180, 3-Tele. Forklifts: 2014 Skytrak 10054, (2)2014 Skytrak 8042, 4-Boom Lifts: JLG 600AJ, JLG 600S, Grove MZ66B, Skytrak SJB-66TK, 10-Scissor Lifts: (2)Skyjack 713RT, (2)SJ6826, (3)Skyjack SJ3219, (3)Hybrid 1430, 2-Air Comp.: (2) Sullivan 185CFM, 8-Light Plants: (2)2017 Chicago Pneumatic CPLT V4, (6)Magnum 6Kw, Landscape Equip.: Bannerman BTD-30 Top Dresser, Straw Blower: Finn, Hydroseeder, 2-Ag. Tractors: (2)NH T6020(4x4), Tractor Loader: NH TC30, Wood Chipper: Bandit 150XP, Boom Truck: 1990 Ford, Truck Tractor: 2012 IH 7400, 12-Tagalongs: (12)2021 New Delta 20'(t/a, tilt), 9-Dump Trailers: (9)2021 Delta(14ft., t/a), 3-Reefer Trailers: 2009-2001-1997 Great Dane 28ft.(s/a), Multi-Use Container: New 40ft. High Cube, 7-Storage Bldgs: New Golden Mount 40ft.x80ft.x20ft., New Golden Mount 20ft.x30ft.x12ft., (2)New Golden Mount 20ft.x20ft., (3)New Golden Mount 40ft.x20ft., 3-Portable Bathrooms: (2)New Bastone 110V Portable Toilets w/Shower, New Bastone 110V Portable Toilet w/Double Stall, 4-Scrap Recycling: (4)New Greatbear 1-yd. Self Dumping Hopper, Heating Equip.: Heat Wagon VG1000, 4-Pressure Washers: (4)New Easy Kleen Magnum Gold, 15-Attachments: (15)Skid Steer, 55-New Support Equip.

Go to WWW.LYONAUCTION.COM for Complete List, Descriptions, and Pictures.

SALE SITE PHONE: (315) 250-1400 Tony

ALEX LYON & SON

SALES MANAGERS & AUCTIONEERS, INC., BRIDGEPORT, NY 13030

Phone: (315) 633-2944 • Fax: (315) 633-5635

Mike Marino participating in 11 Day Power Play

Nussbaumer & Clarke CEO and Village of Lewiston Engineer Mike Marino is once again participating in the 11 Day Power Play fundraiser, this year at River-Works in Buffalo.

"As many of you know, back in 2017 my teammates and I broke the world record for longest continuous ice hockey game (251 hours!) as part of the 11 Day Power Play, on our mission to raise over \$1 million for cancer

research and patient support," he wrote. "Well, a team from Canada broke our record, so we are on a mission to regain the world record."

He noted participants are hoping to raise \$2 million for Make-a-Wish, Camp Good Days and Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

"There are just two teams of 20 players playing against each other for the entire event and living at the arena for the duration," Ma-

rino said. "As you can imagine, this is a physical challenge and a fundraising challenge given the limited number of players."

He explained players are shifting in and out for four hours on, eight hours off, from 6 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 14, through 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 24.

"I'm the only Niagara County resident among the 'Frozen 40,'" Marino said.

DON'T MISS A THING! Go to our web site www.wnypapers.com

LOCAL NEWS, STORIES, CLASSIFIED, COUPONS, SERVICE DIRECTORY!

NIAGARA FRONTIER PUBLICATIONS: Niagara-Wheatfield Tribune • Lewiston-Porter Sentinel • Island Dispatch • Grand Island PennySaver

