

# Niagara County is 'Reelin' for a Cure'

All-female fishing tournament raises funds for women fighting cancer

**SUBMITTED BY DESTINATION NIAGARA USA**

"Reelin' for a Cure" is returning to Olcott and Wilson harbors from 6 a.m. to noon Friday, Aug. 19. In its seventh year, the fishing tournament will host hundreds of women angling for prize money, bragging rights and the opportunity to raise money for women battling cancer.

The event was started by Stephanie Pierleoni in 2016 as a way to introduce women to the sport of fishing – while raising money for a good cause. She participated in a similar event at the east end of Lake Ontario, and realized this was something she could replicate in her own backyard.

"Initially, I noticed that I was the only woman at many fishing tournaments, but now so many more females get involved in the sport," she said.

At the time "Reelin' for a Cure" was conceived, Pierleoni had multiple friends and family members battling cancer, so the tournament evolved to become a benefit for women's cancer causes.

Each year, the "Reelin' for a Cure" committee designates a different cancer-related benefactor for donations, with the funds being raised through raffles and sponsorships. This year, the proceeds will benefit the Ovarian Cancer Project, a local charity dedicated

to providing education about the risk factors and symptoms of ovarian cancer, as well as support for those battling the disease.

The \$250 registration fee per team is pooled to create prize money for tournament winners, with an expected pot of close to \$10,000. Cash prizes and trophies will be awarded for first through fifth places, as well as a plaque for the biggest fish. Every participant is required to purchase a one-day fishing license, which can be done online through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation website, or at an outdoor store or tackle shop.

Teams can have a maximum of six female participants, but boats may carry up to two additional men to assist with the vessel, as long as they do not participate in fishing. Following the weigh-in, participants enjoy an after-party in Krull Park, and can even take home their catch from the day.

Pierleoni noted the "tremendous support" she receives from the community and sponsors.

"Everyone at the event has been touched by cancer at some point, so it's an important cause, but it's also important to bring people into the fishery," she said.

Frank Campbell, outdoor promotions director with Destination Niagara USA, volunteers for the annual event.



Participants in "Reelin' for a Cure" show off their catch of the day. (Submitted photo)

"'Reelin' for a Cure' creates a unique opportunity for participants to explore the beauty of Lake Ontario and enjoy fishing, while simultaneously benefitting a local cancer charity. It's truly a win-win for everyone involved,"

Campbell said. Groups interested in participating can still register via a registration form on the "Reelin' for a Cure" website. For more information or to register, visit <http://reelinforacure.com/>.

The mission of Destination Niagara USA is to expand the economic prosperity of the Niagara Falls USA communities by generating individual and group visitation. For more information, visit [niagarafallsusa.com](http://niagarafallsusa.com).

## IN THE NEWS

### Ortt & Filicetti announce grant for Niagara County Sheriff's Office

New York State Sen. Rob Ortt and Niagara County Sheriff Michael Filicetti announced the Niagara County Sheriff's Office has been awarded a \$15,000 grant to support and enhance its taser program.

The funding, requested through Ortt, was secured as part of the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program passed in the 2018-19 state budget.

"Our law enforcement officials sacrifice so much to protect our communities," Ortt said. "As an elected official, one of my top priorities will always be to support our men and women in uniform, and ensure they have the resources and equipment they need to do their jobs safely and effectively. I'm glad to have helped secure this grant, which will go a long way toward replacing aging equipment and ensuring the safety and well-being of both our officers and our communities."

Filicetti said, "I appreciate Sen. Ortt's continued support of law enforcement. This funding will assist in providing updated equipment that keeps our deputies safe."

Funding will be used to replace aging tasers currently in use.

### Mount St. Mary's unveils new nuclear medicine machine

Mount St. Mary's Hospital recently acquired a new nuclear medicine machine, which it said comes with many enhanced capabilities that provide improved performance and patient outcomes. A press release stated, "The

NM830, a GE model, is a state-of-the-art machine, providing reduced scan times of up to 25%, reduced noise and greater detection capabilities to better diagnose and treat patients. With a focus on patient comfort, the high-performing machine will be utilized for numerous diagnostic scans in the hospital's radiology department."

### Child Advocacy Center 3-year VOCA grant

The Child Advocacy Center of Niagara, a service of Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, has received a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant totaling \$1,102,974 over a three-year period.

The grant, which is funded by the New York State Office of Victim Services, will be awarded beginning Oct. 1, 2022, and ending Sept. 30, 2025. Yearly anticipated

payments are \$367,658.10, and will be used toward direct services for victims of crime.

"The support from NYS Office of Victim Services is imperative to the CAC's mission and the mission of the larger Niagara County Child Abuse Intervention Project," said Shelley Hitzel, executive director of The Child Advocacy Center of Niagara. "Funding will allow for the continuation of free, timely, criminal/civil justice services, forensic, medical, mental health and victim advocacy services for the most vulnerable of victims, in locations close to their homes."

Hitzel added, "In addition to continuing to provide critical services to children impacted by physical, sexual and domestic violence, as well as human trafficking, the OVS funding will allow the Child Advocacy Center to begin to address the impact that gun and other com-

munity violence has on children in Niagara County."

The Child Advocacy Center of Niagara is a multidisciplinary program that responds to reports of

physical and sexual child abuse by coordinating a unified response by criminal justice, medical and mental health services all at a single location.

Dear Mom,  
You are not forgotten, though on earth you are no more. Still in memory you are with us as you always were before.

We love and miss you Mom

Love,  
Teresa, Rosann, Maryanne and Dominic Jr.  
and your grandchildren



Save now with **50% OFF\*** Your First Application

Get the most out of your lawn this summer.

**SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!**  
**1-855-399-5227**

\*Requires purchase of annual plan. Special price is for first Lawn application only. Requires purchase of annual plan, for new residential EasyPay or PrePay customers only. Valid at participating TruGreen locations. Availability of services may vary by geography. Not to be combined with or used in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Additional restrictions may apply. Consumer responsible for all sales tax. †Purchase of annual lawn plan required for Healthy Lawn Analysis, which is performed at the first visit. \*Guarantee applies to annual plan customers only. BBB accredited since 07/01/2012. ©2022 TruGreen Limited Partnership. All rights reserved. In Connecticut, B-0153, B-1380, B-0127, B-0200, B-0151.

**nfp NIAGARA FRONTIER PUBLICATIONS**  
Since 1944 TRIBUNE/SENTINEL • DISPATCH • PENNYSAVER

**ADVERTISING SALES MEDIA CONSULTANT FULL OR PART-TIME**

Niagara Frontier Publications is seeking an enthusiastic & eager sales professional to work on a commission basis assisting businesses with their web advertising. This is a fantastic opportunity to join the area's most influential weekly newspapers in a vital position. You will be selling online advertising and commercial printing to existing and prospective businesses. Strong communication skills and computer knowledge a must.

Direct your resume with cover letter to  
**Human Resources**  
1859 Whitehaven Road  
Grand Island, N.Y. 14072  
or email to  
**nfpassist@wnypapers.com**  
Telephone Inquiries 716-773-7676