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Food & Lifestyle

Coffee & Stone Café plans North Tonawanda site on Webster

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Chris McCann, Will Corbett and his father, Bill, are partners in Coffee & Stone Cafe in North Tonawanda.



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Will Corbett
Person

William "Bill" Corbett
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Chris McCann
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Coffee & Stone Café is planning a September opening in North Tonawanda in space vacated late last year by Spot Coffee.

The coffee shop at 54 Webster St., across from the Riviera Theatre, will fill a void on the block left with the departure of Spot in February 2021 as well as the closure later that year of Lou's Restaurant at 73 Webster.

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"The area that we're in now is definitely lacking. There's not a lot of lunch spots and not a lot of places to get a cup of coffee and sit down with your laptop," said [Will Corbett](#), co-owner along with his father, [William "Bill" Corbett](#) and [Chris McCann](#). "That's something we're trying to get in on and exploit."

With seating for 70, the café will offer counter service and grab-and-go options. The menu will include a full range of coffee products as well as baked goods, Belgian waffles and breakfast sandwiches, deli sandwiches and paninis, soups and salads, house made pizza and smoothies. They're also hoping to get a beer and wine license in the future to capitalize on potential business before or after shows at the Riviera.

As for the coffee selections, visitors will find coffee, espresso and lattes made with a custom fresh roasted blend from New Day Coffee.

"Me and my dad are a bit of coffee snobs. We definitely love coffee and a café has always been an interesting idea for me," [Will Corbett](#) said.

"Everybody is a coffee drinker here and everyone's a cook," Bill Corbett said.

All three bring industry experience: Bill Corbett ran a pizzeria in Niagara Falls in the '90s; [Will Corbett](#), who will be general manager, and McCann, executive chef, were most recently at Brownie's Sports Bar & Tavern in North Tonawanda and Canal Club.

[Will Corbett](#) has worked as a cook or chef for 15 years, including stints at Romeo & Juliet's, The Mahoney, Briosio by Butterwood, Seabar and restaurants at Seneca Niagara Casino.

"It's a good business model with how restaurants are going, with less sit-down service and more ordering at the window," he said.

Plans call for opening by end of September, with hours from 7 a.m.-6 p.m.

- In other restaurant news:
- **Chipotle Mexican Grill** is opening a location in Olean at 2727 W. State St. at a location previously occupied by Ponderosa. The franchise operates nearly 200 stores across New York, including Western New York sites in Amherst, Buffalo, Batavia, Cheektowaga, Niagara Falls and Williamsville. A second Amherst site is under development at 3030 Niagara Falls Blvd. at Robinson Road.
 - **Taffy's**, a seasonal hot dog/hamburger stand in Orchard Park, is closing on Sundays for the remainder of the season due to staff shortages, according to a Facebook post. Open at 3261 Orchard Park Road since 1949, the restaurant specializes in milkshakes, offering 130 flavors, as well as ice cream.
 - **Just Pizza & Wings Co.** at 5445 Transit Road in Clarence has reopened its side dining room as a private event space for 15-50 people with its own bar. Under new ownership since July by Phoenix Road Management LLC, the lounge area had been closed for the last year under a previous owner. The Buffalo-based company has eight corporate and franchise sites in Western New York and Florida.

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