

## THIS ISSUE

*Keep up to date with  
community happenings  
that impact business in  
our community*

## JILL HENRY, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Rural communities aren't positioned to receive CEC-Certification
- Currently looking to see how that can be changed
- Finalizing RFP for housing
- Verona Village residents moving in to the 40 unit property in Ovid; \$9 million in renovations done

## SARAH DAVIS, IDA DIRECTOR

- Supervisors are discussing a local development corporation to lead requests for proposals regarding the Willard development project
- If all goes well, LDC could be created by the end of March or beginning of April
- Application for small housing project underway in the town of Fayette
- Former restaurant may be turned into 6 housing units and retail space

## THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

### NYC'S NON-CITIZEN VOTING LAW RULED UNCONSTITUTIONAL ON APPEAL

**Politico:** A NYC law that allows non-citizens to vote has been determined to be unconstitutional in the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Second Department. The law was challenged immediately in 2022 and never went into effect.

### NY'S DEC COMMISSIONER BASIL SEGGOS TO STEP DOWN

**Spectrum:** DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos served in the role for 15 years and entered under the Cuomo administration. Most development in the Seneca County area is handled through the DEC with Seggos' involvement.

### NY'S ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDINGS ACT TAKES EFFECT IN 2026: ARE WE READY?

**RBJ:** Bill outlaws natural gas & fossil fuels in buildings under 7 stories high; all new construction will soon need to follow the same guidelines. A lawsuit is currently in effect to stop it from moving forward.

### CEC-CERTIFIED COMMUNITIES IN SENECA COUNTY

**NYSERDA:** Seneca County has 4 CEC-Certified locations in all, one being the county itself. Lodi and Seneca Falls are included; this allows access for additional grants through local municipalities.

### WHY THIS LAWMAKER IS FIGHTING SOCIAL MEDIA FEEDS

**Politico:** A law would prevent algorithmic feeds to show on children's social media accounts. In addition stricter privacy precautions are being sought after. Hochul is working on getting it passed through NYS; there are federal efforts as well.

### CONFLICTING VIEWS ON MANDATING MINIMUM WAGE FOR TIPPED WORKERS IN NY

**Spectrum:** A new bill would phase out the current minimum wage for tipped service workers and make theirs the same minimum wage as the rest of the state. Restaurants are fighting back saying it's harmful to these worker's wages. Seneca County has a large industry made up of service workers and service businesses that this could impact.

### RELATED UNWRAPS \$12 B HUDSON YARDS CASINO PROPOSAL

**RealDeal:** \$12B casino license up for grabs downstate; proposal includes 1500 apartments, 2 million square feet office space, public school, daycare, casino, and resort.

### NY'S REMOTE WORK TAX UNDER ATTACK FROM CLOSEST NEIGHBORS

**Bloomberg:** CT and NJ are incentivizing their residents to sue NYS over the rule about income taxes for non-residents who work in NYS.



MICHELE BARAN, SBEC

**LOCAL SALES TAX COLLECTIONS NEAR FLAT IN JAN. COMPARED TO LAST YEAR**

**NYSOC:** Sales tax revenue was flat for most counties; fewer than half saw a year over year increase in NYS. Seneca County saw an increase of over 3%.

**WATERLOO HITS DRI JACKPOT**

**FL Times:** Waterloo was awarded \$10 million dollars; housing is included in the plans for how to use the funds.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- FEBRUARY:** • Ribbon cutting: Leo & Tom’s Barbershop Monday Feb. 26, 12 p.m.
- MARCH:** • Business After Hours; Generations Bank, March 20, 2024
- APRIL:**
  - April 2; Seneca Falls Acupuncture 5th Anniversary
  - April 8; Total Solar Eclipse

Do you know about an event coming up? Let us know!

[info@senecachamber.org](mailto:info@senecachamber.org)



**JOIN US FOR THE NEXT ONE SENECA MEETING**

When: Thursday mornings at 10 a.m.  
Where: Zoom  
Meeting ID: 885 5612 6750  
Password: 974642

Open to members of the community who want to know things that are happening or have something to add to the conversation.

**FAST TRACK TO BUSINESS START-UP**

Virtual Webinar

March 11, 13, 18 2024

9:00am - 4:30pm each day

ONONDAGASBDC.ORG



**AVE BAUDER, SENECA COUNTY CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

- Agriculture census statistics out for Seneca County
- Downturn in number of farms; 516 to 442
- Acreage dropped from 118,545 to 103,156; down about 15,000 acres
- Size of average farm went up by about 14 acres
- Value of land and buildings per form went up; \$1,126,952 in 2022
- Value per acre is at \$461,000